

## **Resolution 2025-5: A Renewed Commitment to African American Congregations in the Diocese**

**Resolved**, that this Convention of the Diocese of East Carolina recognizes the historic and ongoing witness of African American Episcopal congregations as vital to the spiritual, cultural, and theological life of our Church; and be it further

**Resolved**, that this Convention affirms that the experience and struggle of African Americans in the United States are distinct and cannot be fully understood or addressed within the broad framework of *multiculturalism*; and be it further

**Resolved**, that this Convention commits the Diocese to a renewed partnership with African American congregations that honors their unique history, nurtures their future vitality, and addresses the systemic and structural inequities that continue to affect them; and be it further

**Resolved**, that this Diocese will establish a **Task Force on the Future of African American Congregations** to engage African American clergy and lay leaders in discerning specific strategies for sustainable ministry, leadership development, and equitable resource allocation for historically Black congregations; and be it further

**Resolved**, that this Convention calls upon every parish and diocesan body to learn from the African American Church's distinctive spiritual traditions, prophetic witness, and resilience as essential gifts to the whole Body of Christ.

Adopted the 14<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2025 by the 142<sup>nd</sup> Annual Convention of the Diocese of East Carolina.

Shurley Ray Weddle

Secretary of Convention