

January 31, 2017

Dear Grace Church Family and Friends,

On Saturday, the Episcopal Diocese of Washington held its annual convention, a daylong gathering devoted mostly to worship, diocesan business and governance.

Recent political events were on the forefront of every delegate's mind, however, and this was reflected in the passage of one resolution, which I thought I would share with you:

**Resolution to Reaffirm the Church's  
Commitment to Social Justice  
in a Divisive Political Climate**

**Resolved**, that the One Hundred Twenty Second Annual Convention of the Diocese of Washington reaffirm that we believe that every person is created in God's image, imbued and blessed with inherent dignity and worth. We welcome all people in our communities of faith and support other communities of faith, including particularly Muslim communities who may fear persecution. Where we have not sufficiently supported other communities of faith, we will recommit ourselves to doing so.

**Resolved**, that consistent with our Baptismal Covenant to "strive for justice and peace and respect the dignity of every human being," we recommit ourselves and our congregations to fight discrimination in all of its forms, including racism, Islamophobia, homophobia, and sexism.

At Grace, we join the diocese in reaffirming our commitment to social justice and striving for justice and peace among all people, respecting the dignity of every human being.

One way we intend to live out our commitment is through *Wade in the Water: A Ministry for Racial Justice*, which we kick off this coming Sunday, February 5. I hope you will join us to learn about this new ministry and ways you can get involved.

See you in church,  
*Andrew*