

A Letter to the Church on Racial Justice & Healing **December 15th, 2021**

As a community, we have witnessed one tragic event after another that have shaken our nation and our church to its core. The ongoing challenges of living through a global pandemic have been compounded by the unjust and tragic deaths of our black brothers and sisters, and have newly awakened many to the longstanding inequity, injustice and systemic racism that exists in our country and communities. There are no words to adequately describe the personal and collective grief that we feel as a church and as a community. We must do better.

Makers Church has always believed in liberty and equality for all and that each and every person is created in the image of God and deserving of love. We see this as a cornerstone of the gospel: “for Christ’s love compels us, because we are convinced that one died for all” (2 Corinthians 5:14). This love of Christ and love for all compels us to look critically at the choices we have made at Makers Church. While we have always been a community that strives for diversity that truly reflects the kingdom of heaven, we recognize that we still have a long road ahead of us. We are committed to making progress and always moving forward.

As a leadership team, we are dedicating our time to listening, learning, and educating ourselves, not only for our own growth and development but also to ensure that the structures and systems at Makers church reflect our commitment to diversity and racial healing. While the process of understanding our own privilege and biases, as well as inviting everyone to the table with us, is not a quick or easy one, we are committed to doing this challenging and ongoing work.

We encourage you to join us in this commitment and have provided additional resources to support further education and awareness of this movement. We are humbled and honored to lead this church into what we believe will be one of the most powerful and culturally shifting moments in our history. On behalf of the elders, board of directors and ministry team leaders at Makers Church, we want to thank you for trusting us to lead you in this work, as we follow the lead of Jesus by the empowerment of the Holy Spirit. We look forward to making important, meaningful and transformational progress with all of you.

Sincerely,
Makers Church Pastoral Team