



OFFICE OF THE MODERATOR

224th General Assembly (2020)

May 2, 2022

Dear Commissioners and Advisory Delegates,

As we gather to do the work of our church, we, the Co-Moderators of the 224th General Assembly, commend your focus on reparative economic justice as a priority. The racial wealth gap has more than tripled over the last 30 years to just under \$14 trillion and without correction it will continue to expand. Average white household wealth has grown exponentially while the average wealth of Black and Indigenous households have experienced much more modest growth followed by modest decline in the last 15 years.

In response to this economic injustice, we invite you to participate in an offering supporting *Restorative Actions* (www.restorativeactions.org) during the opening worship service of the 225th Assembly. *Restorative Actions* is one way to apply the transformative gospel of Christ to begin repairing harm that has been done. Hebrews 11:1 convinces us that our faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. Therefore, our actions, restoring what has been destroyed or taken away becomes the evidence of faithful discipleship on our journey from lament to hope.

Restorative Actions is an economic justice initiative providing a mechanism for organizations and individuals to examine assets, determine what portion of their wealth can be attributed to white supremacy, and to surrender that amount. Funds will be held in private trusts and private charitable trusts for the purpose of increasing opportunities for Indigenous and Afro-American individuals and communities in the United States to flourish by advancing education, wellbeing and leadership.

This initiative continues the grassroots work that has been going on in these respective communities for decades. Restorative Actions is not imposed on these communities rather it supports Afro-American and Indigenous people by surrendering agency back to where it belongs, to the communities themselves.

Restorative Actions is a response to God's abundant grace and provides a credible witness to the possibility of repair by surrendering ill-gotten gains for the advancement and flourishing of Afro-American & Indigenous communities. It seeks to answer the question, "what can we do?" by providing one avenue to work toward decolonizing wealth and creating parity in this country. A commitment to *Restorative Actions* is a living symbol to the world that people of faith believe that a national program of Reparations for Afro-Americans and Indigenous peoples in the United States is right, necessary, and possible.

Thank you for taking the time to learn more about the work of *Restorative Actions* and how it is taking steps to address economic injustice in the US. Thank you also for signifying your first step toward personally addressing the issue with your participation in this offering. Information on how to participate in the offering is below.

In Solidarity,



Co-Moderator Elona Street-Stewart



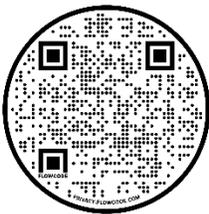
Co-Moderator Gregory Bentley

If you, your congregation, or mid-council would like to financially support our partnership with Restorative Actions, you may participate by:

Credit card:

Please go to: <http://pcusa.org/give-GA225>

Or scan this QR code:



By check:

Please use the enclosed envelope or mail your check to:

Presbyterian Church (USA)
PO Box 643700
Pittsburgh, PA 15264-3700

Please write "Restorative Actions" in the memo line.