

Manhasset, NY, May 30, 2020

The Greater New York Conference (GNYC) joins countless voices in expressing shock and outrage at the horrific events of this past week. This conference of Christian believers holds firmly to the biblical principle of the equality of all humans, as a fundamental tenet of our faith and practice.

The culmination of recent overt racism and inequality speaks with increased volume each passing day. Tragically, this growing malady has either been ignored by too many or embraced by others as the new normal. The pain and suffering to the families, and by extension the communities affected, is no less devastating when perpetrated by those entrusted with the responsibility of maintaining law and order or by mere vigilantes. The GNYC extends condolences and prayers for the families of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, Ahmaud Arbery and others who have suffered pain and loss by these egregious acts of violence against humanity.

While we do not advocate or condone a corresponding response of violence and hate to combat evil, we encourage our members to provide a voice for the silenced. We condemn every act of racism, every act of injustice and every act of violence against humanity of every color, ethnicity and race. Following the example of Jesus, we are reminded of our mandated response to human ills: “The Spirit of the Lord *is* upon [us] . . . to heal the brokenhearted, to set free those who are oppressed.” Luke 4:18. We encourage this Christlike response in using every means at our disposal to combat these aberrations of human nature.

We stand as a church, with the black community, and with all minority communities whose spirits have been broken by the clearly warped perception of others. We prayerfully submit to all the only time-tested and proven solution to all evil— Jesus.