



BLACK  
METHODISTS  
FOR CHURCH  
RENEWAL

BMCR

*Our Time Under God Is Now!*

*EASTERN PENNSYLVANIA CONFERENCE  
PHILADELPHIA CAUCUS*

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Grace and Peace!

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The Philadelphia Caucus of Black Methodists for Church Renewal condemns the recent acts of violence against Emmanuel United Methodist Church of Philadelphia. The acts of burglary, destruction of property, and the racist hate mail sent to the church are acts of evil and an attack against the black community, the church, its parishioners, and the institution.

BMCR stands in solidarity with Emmanuel UMC ready and willing to support the church, Pastor Duckett, and the congregants as they navigate this challenging time and chart their path forward.

Genesis 50:20 says, "You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives." Isaiah 54:17 says, "no weapon forged against you will prevail, and you will refute every tongue that accuses you." As the congregants of Emmanuel lean into the hope and encouragement through these passages of scripture, BMCR leans in with you. We are reminded of that Negro spiritual hymn "we shall not, we shall not be moved, just like a tree planted by the water, we shall not be moved!"

While we are called by God to extend grace and forgiveness, we are also commanded to do justice and love mercy. We are in prayer for Emmanuel and support their path forward for a just resolution and restoration.

In God's Service,

Rev. Eric W. Carr, Jr.  
BMCR Coordinator - Philadelphia Caucus