



# The Synod of the Covenant

Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

To: Synod Assembly  
From: SOC Leadership Committee  
Date: May 7, 2024  
Re: Recommendation from the Leadership Committee

## Recommended Motion:

The Synod of the Covenant urges the Administrative Commission (AC) for the Presbytery of Detroit (POD) to pay particular attention to matters of representation in its actions. Further, we encourage the AC to consult the Racial Ethnic Caucuses and the Committee on Representation within the Presbytery of Detroit to assist in identifying Members of Color to serve on Presbytery entities and staff positions moving forward.

## Rationale:

The Leadership Committee wants to affirm the diligent work that the Administrative Commission for the Presbytery of Detroit has done to help the POD return to order thus far. We also want to recognize that the recent concern brought to the attention of the Synod Assembly in January 2024 related to the overwhelmingly White slate of nominees presented was harmful to all members of the POD, particularly racial-ethnic members. The Leadership Committee is also aware that racial-ethnic concerns are a common thread present within the structure and are a contributing factor to the disorder.

Although we know that it was the work of the POD Nominating Committee that assembled an overwhelmingly White slate of nominees, members of the Administrative Commission decided that it should be presented for an advisory vote rather than return it to the Nominating Committee for further work and an amended slate.

The Synod of the Covenant Leadership Committee believes it is appropriate to acknowledge good and diligent work while recognizing that sometimes, with the best of intentions, we make mistakes that cause harm. In that spirit, we present the above recommendation to acknowledge the harm caused to our siblings. We, as the Synod of the Covenant, continue our commitment to hold one another accountable and endeavor to correct harm.