

1. The Executive Council of the Episcopal Church has received the Manifesto of the National Black Economic Development Conference. We recognize the continuing poverty, injustice, and racism, in our society to which it speaks, but do not accept the Manifesto as it is presented.
2. However, we do recognize that Christians are called to their responsibilities under God in strange and unusual ways. Our task is to listen so that we may hear how in the human discontent the divine discontent speaks.
3. Because we have begun to listen, this Church has established ongoing programs and made commitments toward the elimination of injustice and the alleviation of poverty.
4. These programs are the direct result of consultations with black, brown, and white people from within and without this Church, especially with victims of poverty and injustice. The programs are aimed toward self-determination, self-respect and self-help by the poor and powerless, the equal dignity of all men, and the reconciliation of all segments of our society.
5. Among the efforts of this Church which are presently committed directly to the fulfillment of these purposes are:
 - a. The budgeting of \$9,440,000.00 over a three-year period, 1969-1970, in top-priority funds for grants and services to community organizations and other efforts throughout our land to enable the poor and powerless in rural and urban ghettos to participate in decisions that affect their lives;
 - b. The deposit as of this date of nearly \$1,460,000.00 of our Church's funds in over 80 depositories throughout our nation, owned and operated by black people; and
 - c. The allocation of \$3,440,000.00 for investment in ghetto enterprises.
6. It was clear to us from the outset that these commitments were limited in scope, but recognizing the need and with such means as were immediately available, we took these actions by reason of our concern, as a first step.
7. We are determined that this Church, in consultation with the Union of Black Clergy and Laymen in the Episcopal Church as well as with representatives of the poor, both within and without our Church, will mount further strategic attacks upon poverty and injustice, which will call for great sacrifices.

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8. Wherever possible we will work toward these goals and objectives on an ecumenical and inter-faith basis.
9. In conclusion, we reassert our conviction that the central contribution of the Christian Church to the crisis in our society cannot be measured simply in terms of money. In our judgment the crisis is not primarily one of money but of the human spirit and of how men deal with one another. The Church's primary concern is that she may be able to strengthen the spirit of all men by affirming and practicing -- in word and action, and as well with money -- the spirit of reconciliation and the further involvement of Christian people to meet the deep human needs of our society.