



## Pauli Murray Chapter The Union of Black Episcopalians (UBE)

### RESOLUTION

**Title:** Renaming of the “Maryland Chapter (MD), The Union of Black Episcopalians” (UBE) to “Pauli Murray Chapter, The Union of Black Episcopalians”

**Submitted by:** Executive Board and Members of the  
Pauli Murray Chapter, The Union of Black Episcopalians

**RESOLVED** that at this 2018 Annual Rev. Absalom Jones Commemoration, the Executive Board and members of the MD Chapter confirm its name change to “Pauli Murray Chapter” in honor of Rev. Dr. Pauli Murray, effective February 17, 2018; and be it further

**RESOLVED** that the MD Chapter was established in 1989 and has operated under said name for 29 years; and during the June 2016 MD Chapter meeting, the members voted unanimously to rename the MD Chapter, which would be officially presented during a future Rev. Absalom Jones Commemoration; and be it further

**RESOLVED** that members of the Murray family have officially endorsed the name change. Therefore, the MD Chapter renames its Chapter in honor of a native of Maryland, Rev. Murray, whose contributions and advocacy reflect the mission of UBE.

#### EXPLANATION:

Rev. Murray spent her entire life fighting for justice, healing, and reconciliation. She was a civil rights activist, poet, author, professor, lawyer, and priest. Her birth name was Anna Pauline “Pauli” Murray and was born on November 20, 1910 in Baltimore, Maryland. At age three, after the passing of her mother and the illness of her father, she went to live with her maternal grandparents (Cornelia and Robert Fitzgerald) and aunt (Pauline Fitzgerald Dame) in Durham, NC.

Rev. Murray was an active and committed civil rights advocate, which was shown as she fought against segregation laws, specifically discrimination based on race and sex, and she participated in many marches and sit-ins. She also valued education, which is evident by her degrees from Hunter College, Howard University Law School, University of California at Berkeley, Yale Law School, and Virginia Theological Seminary. She used her educational achievements to pursue various employment opportunities. In addition to her law practice, she was employed by The Worker’s Defense League, Congress of Racial Equality, Benedict College, Ghana School of Law, Brandies University, and was California’s first Black Deputy Attorney General. Rev. Murray was an accomplished author. Some of her works included *States Laws on Race and Color*, *The Constitution and Government of Ghana*, *Dark Testament and Other Poems*, *Proud Shoes: The Story of an American Family*, and *Song In A Weary Throat: An American Pilgrimage*.

Rev. Murray continued her achievements, and at age 62 she entered the General Theological Seminary. She was the first African American woman to be ordained as a priest in the Episcopal Church (1977). She completed her career in the priesthood at the Church of the Holy Nativity in Baltimore, Maryland. At the 2012 Episcopal General Convention, she was voted to be included in *Holy Women, Holy Men: Celebrating the Saints*, which is commemorated on July 1, and is the anniversary of her death (July 1, 1985). Based on her accomplishments and contributions, UBE believes Rev. Murray deserves the honor of her legacy.