

Resources from the Racial Justice Team – July 2, 2020

In his *Pastoral Response to the Death of George Floyd*, Travis asked the Racial Justice Team to provide concrete examples and practices to “show the way for the broader Judson community to make the beloved community a reality.” We recognize that there isn’t one way to approach this work because we are all at different stages of awareness, ability, and readiness. Some of us are just beginning to explore the idea of systemic racism and grapple with the ways those of us in white bodies have benefited from it. Others have been working to become an “antiracist,” as Ibram X. Kendi calls it, for a very long time.

As a team, we don’t pretend we have all the answers (we are still learning ourselves), nor do we have perfect resources or suggestions. What we will try to do is provide a range of options for exploring and educating ourselves about racism. We will offer ideas for actions or ways to be an ally to the Black leaders in our community and country who are already doing the work and are asking that we support them in it. We will send resource suggestions bi-monthly. If you find resources that have been helpful to you and want to add them to our resource “bank,” please share them with Carley Watts – carleybwatts@gmail.com.

As Travis reminds us ... “stay with the moment, listen to the pain, and seek to be a part of the solution.” We hope these resources can help with that.

Educational Resources (books, articles, podcasts, films)

- **Walking While Black** by Garnette Cadogan, Jamaican man’s essay on “walking while black” and encountering racism in the US. [Walking While Black](#)
- **The 1619 Project** – Essays in an ongoing initiative by the New York Times. It aims to reframe the country’s history by placing the consequences of slavery and the contributions of black Americans at the very center of our national narrative. Link the magazine and to the podcast

<https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2019/08/14/magazine/1619-america-slavery.html>

<https://www.nytimes.com/2020/01/23/podcasts/1619-podcast.html>

Activities

- **Unpack your invisible knapsack of privilege** – This article contains a reflective exercise that is helpful for understanding white privilege. It was written in 1989 by Peggy Macintosh, American feminist, anti-racism activist, scholar, speaker and Senior Research Scientist of the Wellesley Centers for Women and still has something to teach us about privilege in

• <https://www.racialequitytools.org/resourcefiles/mcintosh.pdf>

- **Take the Racial Bias Test** – This test was developed by researchers at Harvard University. It can help you discover your hidden cognitive biases. You need to take this on a computer. The test is not supported on Kindles, Nooks, or Smartphones.

<https://implicit.harvard.edu/implicit/user/agg/blindspot/indexrk.htm>

Community Actions:

- **Visit 38/Chicago and/or the 37 and Park Memorials**
- **Volunteer for We Win Institute** - Assist with grocery deliveries and book drops. Contact Karla McGray if you would like to be added to the volunteer list, karlamcgray@hotmail.com
- Support community groups rebuilding neighborhoods and feeding people on the north and south sides. Some suggestions below:
 1. **Lake Street Council** <https://www.visitlakestreet.com/>
 2. **West Broadway Business and Area Coalition** <http://westbroadway.org/>
 3. **The Judson Emergency Fund** www.judsonchurch.org – click on Give Tab

Resources for Parents (books to guide discussions about race with children)

- **Let's Talk About Race – Julius Lester**

This picture book introduces race as just one of many chapters in a person's story" (*School Library Journal*). "Lester's poignant picture book helps children learn, grow, discuss, and begin to create a future that resolves differences" (*Children's Literature*).

<https://www.cokesbury.com/9780064462266-Let-s-Talk-about-Race?cid=6663109565&aid=79443367579&keyword=907913987190%3A%3Apla-907913987190&kid=9079139871>

- **Something Happened in Our Town: A Child's Story about Racial Injustice** by Marianne Celano, Marietta Collins, Ann Hazzard (ages 4-8)

Two families -- one White, one Black -- as they discuss a police shooting of a Black man in their community. The story aims to answer children's questions about such traumatic events, and to help children identify and counter racial injustice in their own lives.

<https://www.charisbooksandmore.com/book/9781433828546>