

Anti-Racism Educational Resources for Local Churches



A curated list of resources designed to help individuals and groups deepen their understanding of racial injustice and engage in practices of healing and wholeness.

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The Circle of Protection is a broad coalition of church bodies and Christian organizations: Roman Catholic, Mainline Protestant, Evangelical Protestant, African American, and Latino. We have invited other church leaders to join us in a call to action, God’s Call to Action Against Racism and Poverty 2024 (released 5/1/2024). Find the statement at circleofprotection.us. We are all alarmed that poverty and the threat of racism in our country have increased, and hope that Christian people and our elected leaders will be moved to help overcome the twin evils of poverty and racism.

Local churches inform the faith and discipleship of their members and people in their communities. We hope local churches will find God’s Call to Action Against Racism and Poverty 2024 helpful. This companion document shares anti-racism educational resources that church bodies and organizations in the Circle of Protection have found to be effective in local churches.

The title of each resource below contains a hyperlink. Click on that title and open the link for more information.

Curriculum and Study Guides

Politically Divided Congregations Curriculum

Sojourners

Equip your congregation with practical tools for civil dialogue on anti-racism and justice work.

The 8-session curriculum offers a biblical framework and discussion prompts to deepen understanding and build bridges for faith-inspired engagement in justice.

Sacred Ground

The Episcopal Church

Foster dialogue and understanding with a film- and reading-based dialogue series on race.

The 11-part series explores the history of racial injustice in the United States through guided reading, discussion, and film.

Roadmap to Reconciliation

Seminary Now

Explore a roadmap designed for churches to be a force of reconciliation in the world.

A 13-part video series companion to the book [Roadmap to Reconciliation](#) by Brenda Salter McNeil.

Curriculum and Study Guides Continued

Racial Wounding and Racial Justice in Quaker Communities Guide

Friends Committee on National Legislation

Understand how white supremacy culture may be impacting your community.

This document outlines examples of how white supremacy culture can harm and what interventions you can take to create a more just community.

Right Relationship Tool Kit

Friends Committee on National Legislation

Teach your congregation Quaker tools to promote conversations and cultivate a multi-racial community.

Discover Quaker principles for raising awareness of racial injustice, particularly in the Native American community. The workshop guide includes actionable steps as well as discussion prompts.

Intercultural Competencies

United States Conference of Catholic Bishops

Build and support cultural diversity in your church.

A five-part pastoral guide for church leaders to understand and support diverse cultures within a congregation.

Christians and Racial Justice Discussion Guide

Sojourners

Spark discussion about how to live out God's call for justice in our world.

Four sessions include articles, questions for discussion, and recommendations for further study.

Study Guide on Martin Luther King, Jr.'s "Letter from Birmingham Jail"

Christian Churches Together

Facilitate a conversation about the present reality of racism in church and society.

A joint statement led to the six-session small group study guide that can be accessed [here](#).

A Devotional Guide Commemorating the Quad-Centennial of the Transatlantic Voyage of Enslaved African Peoples to Jamestown, VA

Bread for the World

Facilitate a conversation about the present reality of racism in church and society.

This devotional guide celebrates the hope, faith, and resistance of African-descended people, while also lamenting the horror of enslavement, racism, and inequitable policies, many of which are still present today. It seeks to inspire readers to address the resulting consequences of hunger and poverty through advocacy.

Activities

Racial Wealth Gap Simulation

Bread for the World

Help your congregation understand the connections between racial equity, hunger, poverty, and wealth.

This interactive simulation for groups of 4 or more shows participants the impact of racial policies in recent decades—policies that have helped white people accumulate wealth while excluding African Americans.

Creating a Culture of Encounter

United States Conference of Catholic Bishops

Build relationships through one-to-one meetings.

Learn how to conduct one-to-one meetings and build stronger relationships in your community.

Audio and Visual

Top 5 Lessons from the 2018 Pastoral Letter Against Racism

Society of St. Vincent dePaul

Watch a visual summary of five key lessons on how racism contradicts Catholic social teaching.

This video shows a series of slides that summarize “Open Wide Our Hearts,” the Catholic bishops’ pastoral letter on racism.

Video and Podcast Resources on Race and Reconciliation

The Cooperative Baptist Fellowship

Explore the legacy of racial injustice in America through online media.

In these lists, you’ll find streaming videos and podcasts to share with your congregation, increasing awareness of the history of racial injustice. [Find additional resources](#) on their website.

Racial Justice Assessment

National Association of Evangelicals

Discover pathways to advance racial justice and reconciliation through a brief survey offering guidance and actionable steps.

The 3-minute survey helps individuals evaluate their own attitudes on racial justice issues and the role of the church in reconciliation. The assessment also includes a short video presentation on racism and the Bible.

Emanuel

Steph Curry and Viola Davis

Organize a watch party for a film that explores racial hatred and the transformational power of forgiveness.

The documentary explores the intersection of race and religion while examining how faith and forgiveness healed a community in the aftermath of a deadly church shooting in Emanuel AME Church. Follow with Sojourners’ [companion discussion guide](#).

Audio and Visual Continued

4 Ways to Have Healthy Conversations about Race

TED-Ed Educator Talks

Learning how to have productive conversations about race.

In a brief video, educator Afrika Afeni Mills discusses overcoming fear in conversations about race

Love and Truth in the Most Difficult Issues

National Association of Evangelicals

Learn how the church can confront polarizing political issues.

In this podcast, Justin Giboney and Walter Kim discuss how to bring truth and love to challenging conversations.

Wayne Bugg Keynote Address

St. Vincent de Paul

Listen to a first-person story about the power of mentorship.

Wayne Bugg, the executive director of St. Vincent de Paul Twin Cities, talks about growing amid gangs and poverty and how mentorship helped him. He outlines 4 steps to be a successful mentor.

Hope in the Face of Racism

St. Vincent de Paul

Hear about a Vincentian approach to addressing systemic racism.

In this webinar series, learn how to transform concern into action. Sessions [three](#), and [four](#), and a session on [modeling civil dialogue](#) can be found online.

From Where We Stand: A Conversation on Racism, Faith, and Policing in this Nation

Sojourners

Connect systemic racism with its historical roots.

This webinar explores how the systemic challenges of today are rooted in problems of the past and discern next steps for racial justice.

Faith Rooted Activism without White Christian Nationalism

Sojourners

Learn how white Christian Nationalism is harmful for racial justice.

In this webinar, learn how white Christian Nationalism contributes to racial injustice and use discussion prompts for your group discussion

Reading Lists

Anti-Racism Reading List

Sojourners

Find a contemporary list of books on racial justice.

This curated list includes Black and brown authors who shine a light on issues of racial justice.

Books to Learn About Becoming Anti-Racist

Friends Committee on National Legislation

Learn about becoming anti-racist.

In this short list of FGG Quaker book selections, explore conversations about racial reconciliation.

Book Resources on Race and Reconciliation

The Cooperative Baptist Fellowship

Explore books about race and reconciliation.

This comprehensive list of books spans a generation of voices and includes books from W.E.B. Du Bois to Michele Alexander.

Additional Educational Resources

The False White Gospel

Georgetown Center for Faith and Justice

Learn about six biblical texts to critique the heresy of Christian White Nationalism.

Rev. Jim Wallis' New York Times best-seller uses six basic biblical texts to critique the heresy of Christian White Nationalism. Its final chapter includes questions and follow-up ideas for discussion in churches and other faith communities.

Combatting Racism

United States Conference of Catholic Bishops

Deepen your congregation's understanding of racial justice with resources for all ages.

Find parish and educational resources, including pastoral aids, teaching guides, prayers, fact sheets, and church statements compiled by the USCCB Ad Hoc Committee Against Racism.

Open Wide Our Hearts

United States Conference of Catholic Bishops

Read a pastoral letter against racism.

The document outlines the theological basis for doing justice with five key lessons on how racism contradicts Catholic social teaching.

Additional Educational Resources Continued

Racial Equity Definitions and Key Terms

Racial Equity Subcommittee, Interreligious Working Group on Domestic Human Needs

Understand the difference between equity and equality and why it matters.

A companion fact sheet to support discussions about racial justice.

PBS KIDS Talk About Race and Racism

PBS

Help children accept diversity and talk about race and racism.

Website includes several resources for addressing race with children, including videos and books recommendations. See also a webinar of experts who answer questions for parents and Sesame Street's Coming Together initiative.

Racial Justice Resources

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA)

Explore a wide variety of racial justice resources for use in congregations.

Website includes resources targeted to specific communities as well as materials to help Christians of all backgrounds build relationships with neighbors across lines of difference.



“The Christian gospel moves us to love our neighbors, without exception. Loving our neighbors means being concerned about the well-being of every neighbor, including neighbors facing the injustices of racism and poverty.”

Excerpt from “God’s Call to Action Against Racism and Poverty 2024 .” Read the statement at circleofprotection.us