

## Everyday Anti-Racism: Opportunities, Updates, and Invitations

“Everyday Antiracism” reminds us that seeking justice and living the gospel’s call to peacemaking is the work of a lifetime, not a moment. Nonetheless, on this week in particular, **we do stop and “take a moment”** to remember the life of George Perry Floyd, Jr., beloved child of God. As we mentioned in [our post on Facebook](#) and [our website](#), we pause and remember this week by gathering virtually or in person, and by [taking private devotional time](#), because we are called by our faith to do so... as we are also called to *be transformed as we go forward*. To that end, here we highlight the ongoing work of antiracism that we are working to embed in our lives together as congregation and presbytery community.



### Webinar June 9<sup>th</sup>! A Spiritual & Strategic Lens on Antiracism Work

The presbytery’s Antiracism Task Force (ARTF) talked to almost a dozen PTCA congregations from rural, suburban and urban contexts, small and medium and sizes... and they shared their antiracism and journey and stories, missteps and goals in the service of helping us all think about how we can keep moving and bring people along. Join **ARTF from 7-8:30 pm on Wednesday the 9<sup>th</sup>** for a group conversation around “next steps” for congregations digging deeper with antiracism efforts.

>> [Click here to register](#)

### Congregational Questionnaire!

**“Knowing the little things fosters *Belonging*... knowing the BIG things fosters *Justice*.”**

The most important thing to remember about antiracism work is that it’s not “only” about race -- it’s fundamentally about *how we live the gospel together*. We have a chance to live into this truth over the next few weeks as we pitch in as congregations and encourage our siblings in Christ to complete the brief “congregational questionnaire.”



These few questions about **how we talk about ourselves when it comes to race, gender, and more** will give congregations some deeper insights into their community and help the Race & Equity Assessment for a future deeper survey about race and equity in the presbytery and its congregations.

For more information, there are two information sessions for clerks & moderators of session on June 5<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> and more resources for spreading the news to congregations will be offered at that time, including bulletin

inserts, brief videos, a minute for mission and more. For a little more about this effort and more updates, here's a link to the [most recent report from our Anti-Racism Task Force](#) from May 11<sup>th</sup> 2021 to the presbytery.

## Our values for the Race & Equity Assessment

([as developed by the Presbytery Leadership Team \(PLT\) in 2019](#))

- To **understand and claim the gospel imperative** to undertake anti-racism as work that examines structures, systems, and norms ... rather than solely focusing on "attitudes" or "opinions."
- To **build a common understanding as a presbytery about how racism functions within systems** like our committees, interactions, and norms.
- To be **honest about our complex history as a presbytery** regarding race & equity, but to also develop a path of concrete steps toward transformation.
- To develop, from intentional outreach and analysis, **tools for self-analysis, change, and further growth** that we use together as a presbytery.

## The PTCA 2020-21 Anti-Racism Spiritual Pilgrimage



The first 100+ member cohort of the PTCA's inaugural anti-racism pilgrimage will be "launching forth" on May 31<sup>st</sup> into the rest of antiracist daily living. While it's been an enriching and powerful year, we're already looking toward September 1, 2021, when we plan to offer another chance to be a part of the pilgrimage for our congregations.

If you or folks from your congregation may be interested, we are going to have some suggested "pre-reading/watching"

opportunities for those wanting to be a part of this journey. More to come later in June, but watch E-Merge or sign up for antiracism "news" and updates from the PTCA by [clicking this link](#).

## Coffee?

We're starting to build networks and cohorts of people doing antiracism work in creative ways in their own contexts and following the Holy Spirit. Connect with me at [ptca.anti.racism@gmail.com](mailto:ptca.anti.racism@gmail.com) to chat about what *your* church is doing related to anti-racism, what resources have helped you, and if there are ways that I, the ARTF (Anti-Racism Task Force) and the wider PTCA might support your efforts. Looking forward to collaborating! - Anna

