

BELOVED INSIDE OUT Preparing for Service to Justice-System-Involved Communities

We are honored to invite you into a sacred opportunity to serve our brothers and sisters who are impacted by the justice system in your local communities. This is an ongoing, multi-layered formation journey designed to prepare your heart, mind, and spirit for meaningful, compassionate, and informed service. We are inviting multiple participants from churches around the country to engage in this important work. The project is a joint venture with Nurturing Justice, Inc, the Onesimus Ministry, Wisconsin, Brookfield Congregational Church and other national and local ministries and groups.

Our work together will unfold in several phases:

Learning & Formation We will begin by growing together through deep, reflective conversations on two powerful books: *Just Mercy* by Bryan Stevenson and *Dead Man Walking* by Sister Helen Prejean. These texts will ground us in the realities of injustice, mercy, and the transformative power of presence.

Community Building We will gather virtually on **June 15, 2026** to meet one another and begin forming a diverse, multi-state community committed to healing, justice, and accompaniment.

Summer Preparation Throughout the summer, we will prepare for service by exploring our cultural competence, learning how to minister to the needs of our siblings in Christ who are system-involved, and discerning our spiritual “why.” Participants will receive a spiritual journey journal to document insights, prayers, and discoveries along the way.

Pilgrimage for Justice In the fall, we will raise resources and travel together to the Equal Justice Initiative sites in Alabama. This pilgrimage will help us witness firsthand the historical through-line from enslavement to modern criminal justice policies and practices.

Service Discernment & Action Finally, we will gather—both virtually and in person—to share the unique ways each of you feels called to serve. Your ministry may take many forms: supporting families of incarcerated people, writing letters to those inside, advocating for policy change, or creating new expressions of care and justice in your community.

Tentative Schedule

- **June 15, 2026** – Virtual meet & greet
- **June 29, 2026** – 90-minute book discussion; additional summer reading assignments distributed
- **Early July** – Spiritual journey journals distributed
- **July 13, 2026** – Cultural assessment forms distributed
- **August 10, 2026** – Cultural assessments due
- **August 17 & 24, 2026** – Virtual gatherings to explore mission opportunities in your communities
- **September 7, 2026** – Review of cultural competency results and recommendations for service with system-involved communities

The cost of this opportunity is \$325.00 per person. This does not include the trip to the Equal Justice Initiative sites which we are hoping to get funded independently.

To join us or for additional information, please contact: Kris@nurturingjustice.org, pastor@brookcc.org, or maurapackham@att.net