

As one of the first steps of embracing this ministry, starting today, TFCE will proudly display banners on Broad Street and Washington Street in support of the Black Lives Matter movement that has captured the attention of America and, finally, focused its attention on the systemic racism that exists in our country. As followers of Jesus and his way of love, we need to lend our voices to this principle. If we believe that God loves all of God's children, we must speak out and work to make sure that justice and equity is extended to all people as well.

The banner quotes the words of the prophet Micah:

*And what does the LORD require of you  
but to **do justice, and to love kindness,**  
**and to walk humbly with your God?** (Micah 6:8)*

This is a small step in the long work ahead of us, remembering the words of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. "the arc of the moral universe is long, but it bends towards justice." These signs are bending us towards justice. They complement our ministry of presence standing with our brothers and sisters at the Falls Church Presbyterian every other Friday afternoon from 5:00 pm – 6:00 pm on Broad Street in witness to racial justice. Our ministry of presence is also seen through our radical hospitality by our distributing water, snacks, and spiritual support to those standing against injustice at the city of Falls Church Rally in June, the Tinner Hill Heritage Foundation Banner Unveiling, and many of our members joining with me at St. John's Lafayette Square, the epicenter of the Washington, D.C. peaceful protests in June.

The radical hospitality of the Gospel we embrace at TFCE includes people of all colors and persuasions and your vestry and I believe it is important to be clear about where we stand. By doing this, we believe we continue being a welcoming beacon of faith, hope, and love to the world.

**THIS FRIDAY, AUGUST 28, WE STAND AGAIN IN WITNESS ON BROAD STREET. PLEASE JOIN US AT 4:45 P.M. (JUST PRIOR TO THE 5 P.M. GATHERING) FOR PRAYERS OF DEDICATION OF OUR BANNER ON BROAD STREET.**

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