

KANSAS CITY DISTRICT

ANTIRACISM TEAM

February 2021 - Worship & Education Opportunities

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St. James UMC, a Kansas City, Missouri historically African American congregation, is graciously welcoming all the churches in our district who choose to participate to join in worship as guests on Feb. 28 in partnership with our KC District Antiracism Team. This will be a chance for our congregations, especially our mostly white congregations, to experience black United Methodist worship in a time when it has never been easier to visit another church. Rev. Dr. Emmanuel Cleaver III will begin a new sermon series on that day, "Stories of Restoration" which lines up with their theme for the year, The Promise of Restoration.

You can take part in worship on that day at <https://sjumckc.org/worship-online/>. Please feel free to sign in toward the bottom of the page and let us know how many people are worshipping with you. The service is archived on that site as well if you'd like to share it throughout the week.

We recommend offering a time for reflection if your congregation chooses to participate. Host a zoom gathering to debrief the service. Some questions might be: how did God speak to you? What surprised you? Where did you feel God's comfort? What questions do you have?

Questions? Contact Rev. Hyemi Jones – hjones@greatplainsumc.org

WORSHIP ONLINE WITH ST. JAMES UMC

Sunday, February 28 - 9:00am

KANSAS INTERFAITH ACTION NETWORK (KIFA) - "AMERICA'S ORIGINAL SIN: A PROGRAM ON RACISM AND ANTIRACISM FOR PEOPLE OF FAITH IN KANSAS"

Tuesdays, Feb. 16 - March 23 - 7:00pm - 8:30pm \$35/person or \$20/person for 5 in one church

White people of faith in Kansas may be concerned about racial injustice, especially after dramatic events or periods of social unrest. But the moment passes. And it's hard to know what to do -- what actions to take -- to help address the issue. They may also never have been taught the historical background and cultural issues surrounding America's racial history. This six-session series will give Kansans of faith both historical knowledge of the racial history of the US and of Kansas, as well as specific tools and strategies that can be used to further this conversation, both within their faith community and in the public square. Each session will include opportunities for discussion in breakout rooms, as well as supplemental materials to shape self-awareness as participants confront deeply-embedded and -embodied racialized bias. Target audience: predominantly white congregations in Kansas. We invite clergy and one or two other "influencers" from the congregation to participate as a group. We want to avoid a clergy-only focus.

https://actionnetwork.org/ticketed_events/americas-original-sin

UMKC MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. LECTURE WITH IBRAM KENDI

Monday, February 15 @ 6:00pm Free Zoom Registration

Ibram X. Kendi is the Andrew W. Mellon Professor in the Humanities at Boston University, and the founding director of the BU Center for Antiracist Research. He is a contributing writer at The Atlantic and a CBS News racial justice contributor. Kendi is the 2020-2021 Frances B. Cashin Fellow at the Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study at Harvard University. He is the author of many books including *Stamped from the Beginning: The Definitive History of Racist Ideas in America*, which won the National Book Award for Nonfiction, making him the youngest ever winner of that award. He also authored three #1 New York Times bestsellers, *How to Be an Antiracist*; *Stamped: Racism, Antiracism, and You*, co-authored with Jason Reynolds; and *Antiracist Baby*, illustrated by Ashley Lukashevsky. His newest books are *Be Antiracist: A Journal for Awareness, Reflection, and Action*; and *Four Hundred Souls: A Community History of African America*, co-edited with Keisha Blain, which will be out in February. In 2020, Time magazine named Kendi one of the 100 most influential people in the world.

https://umsystem.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJ0scuivqDssGt1o4aRL_IVQcQuI3HrKZcEb?fbclid=IwAR2R9vUFeK6I1hdISgy6fU3pLA7rz1A_Y5CVuludHKuSmJLPWSos2OgHVbo

KCK PUBLIC LIBRARY AUTHOR TALK WITH ISABEL WILKERSON

Thursday, February 18 - 7:00-8:00pm

Cost: Free Zoom Registration

Isabel Wilkerson, author of the Oprah Book Club pick and New York Times #1 bestselling book *Caste: The Origins of Our Discontents* will join us via Zoom. The event will include a keynote address from Ms. Wilkerson followed by a moderated question and answer session.

<https://kckpl.librarymarket.com/events/isabel-wilkerson>

KC SCLC MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY VIRTUAL MASS CELEBRATION

Previously held online on January 18 - Recording Available

o Held on January 18, The Mass Celebration this year featured U.S. Representative Emanuel Cleaver II, D-5th MO who led a panel discussion with three influential and high-profile Congressional leaders who hail from congressional districts representing voters which turned the nation in the November election. We honored persons in the Kansas City community who, in the spirit of Dr. King, have made significant contributions towards the continued advance of justice work!

<https://www.sclcgkc.org/>

KANSAS CITY DISTRICT ANTIRACISM TEAM

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