



Sunday Seminars for Lent

White privilege, white supremacy and reparations are complicated subjects. We have planned a series of presentations and opportunities for dialogue about them, hoping that in the end we can commit to ongoing reparations work. We plan to focus on reparations efforts that are local and that we can engage and do as a community – in collaboration with and in accountability to communities and persons of color. We are aware that there is also a very specific national question of governmental monetary reparation payments, but our focus is on local learning and action – action that will likely address monetary and wealth inequality locally, as well as other reparative efforts.



Racism isn't just what you say, think, do, and feel.
It is also what you allow.

DaShanne Stokes




White supremacy is a system that we've been born into. Whether or not we have known it, it is a system that has granted us unearned privileges, protection, and power. What we receive for our whiteness comes at a steep cost for those who are not white. We cannot change our white skin color to stop receiving these privileges, but what we can do is wake up to what is really going on, challenge our complicity in this system and work to dismantle it, within ourselves and within our culture.

What we want to do with this series is help all of us begin that process. Some of us have already been struggling with these issues and the Session has been dealing with the subject of racism for a couple of years now. None of us is a beginner and none of us has perfect clarity. *This work is a journey without endpoint. This work is a lifelong process.*

<p>March 1</p> <p>Facilitated by Raquel Nelson</p>	<p><i>White Like Me</i> (Part I) Anti-racist educator and author Tim Wise, explores race and racism in the US through the lens of whiteness and white privilege.</p>	<p>What is white privilege? What is an anti-racist?</p>
<p>March 8</p> <p>Facilitated by Raquel Nelson</p>	<p><i>White Like Me</i> (Part II)</p>	<p>How does white privilege shape individual attitudes, electoral politics, and government policy?</p>
<p>March 15</p> <p>Facilitated by Rev. Scott Clark</p>	<p>Michelle Alexander's <i>The New Jim Crow</i> TED Talk</p>	<p>How does racism operate within systems and structures? What is structural racism?</p>
<p>March 22</p> <p>Facilitated by Rev. Scott Clark</p>	<p><i>Notes from the Field</i> by Anna Deavere Smith</p>	<p>How does systemic racism impact the individuals within the system? How do individuals impact the system?</p>
<p>March 29</p> <p>Facilitated by Royce Truex</p>	<p><i>Facing the Truth: The Case for Reparations</i> - Bill Moyers interview with Ta-Nehisi Coates</p>	<p>What questions does this presentation raise? Any surprises? Are you convinced?</p>
<p>April 5</p> <p>Facilitated by Royce Truex and Rev. Scott Clark</p>	<p>Discussion of entire series and consideration of reparations proposals</p>	<p>What does reparations look like locally, particularly with regard to the work of this congregation?</p>