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STEP THREE: TRANSFORMATIONAL WORK

CROSS-RACIAL/CROSS CULTURAL CONVERSATIONS

Touchstone Experience:

People's Supper

Virtual Racial Justice Journey: Looking In, Looking Out, Mapping a Path to Change

This supper series is designed to help community leaders break down barriers and deepen trust and understanding of one another across lines of differences of race and identity. By tackling subjects we tend to avoid head-on, we aim to identify shared fears and the barriers that keep us from collaborative action, in order that we may overcome those fears and work toward solutions.

*People's Supper also offer a supplemental "add on" for communities of faith.

You can download the comprehensize guide here: bit.ly/3p4PvLH

How to Have a Courageous Conversation UMC Discipleship Ministries

Though this conversation guide was designed in light of General Conference 2020, it is a short, effective resource which guides conversation partners through difficult or uncomfortable conversations.

*Find this resource here:

umcdiscipleship.org/resources/courageous-conversations-overview

Dallas Dinner Table

Dallas Dinner Table exists to encourage communication about race relations and the impact of ethnicity on relationships, educate participants about perspectives held by others related to race relations and empower citizens to develop relationships with people from a variety of racial/ethnic groups. The organization hosts an annual event, and is available to plan an event for your congregation.

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Additional Resources

Threaded Small Group Curriculum

In each of the ten sessions, this guide addresses and develops three components: Personal Storytelling for multi-ethnic friendships, Biblical guidance for development in reconciliation and Inspiring readings to encourage conversation and collaborative action toward racial reconciliation and multi-ethnic relationships.

Be The Bridge

The Discussion Guide 2.0 is designed to lead a diverse group of 3-12 people through a 9-session study on the key steps in the racial reconciliation process: Awareness, Acknowledgement and Lament, Guilt and Shame, Confession, Forgiveness, Repentance, Reparation, Restoration, and Reproduction. Each session involves studying a passage of Scripture, reading background information, sharing personal experiences (and listening to those of others), and prayer.

The Unity Table (Collin County)

The Unity Table offers churches and organizations in Collin County conversation guides around racial justice and reconciliation, as well as a connection to a larger community in this area working together for equity.

Together We Dine (Project Unity)

Share a lunch or dinner meal with total strangers as you engage in courageous and safe conversations about race relations, tell your experiences and listen to the stories of your fellow diners. By discussing our beliefs and differences over lunch or dinner, we hope that the Together We Dine experience will continue to prove that what unites us is greater than what divides us.

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Intersectional Opportunities

While much of what was presented thus far in Step Three can be offered on a broad scale to the entire congregation, often times passion for racial justice work comes from interest in the specific ways racism effects our communities. During Step Three, you are encouraged to offer additional experiences, studies and discussions that highlight issues like: race and education equality, race and gender/sexuality, race and popular culture, race and criminal justice, race and generational difference. These can be based on podcasts, movies, television shows, books, articles, etc and can be identified during Step Two, especially the One-on-One conversations.

You can find an up to date list of suggestions for topical studies on the North Texas Conference website:

<https://ntcumc.org/cmo/anti-racism-resources>

