



Friends,

These are troubling times. As the world still faces a global health pandemic that has upended our lives, we witnessed the murder of another human being. His senseless death has rightfully sparked outrage and protests. I know that I should have words, but words fail me. So instead please read this article from the journal *UNBOUND* which is published by the PCUSA's Advisory Committee on Social Witness Policy.

6 Ways White People Can Dismantle White Supremacy.

In a moment when our Asian siblings are being harassed, when people of color are disproportionately being affected by COVID-19, when white protesters are storming capitol buildings putting economy over lives, when white people instinctively call the police on people of color, and when black men are dying because of police brutality, this is the perfect time for white people to do some serious soul searching. Dismantling white supremacy is not only a social must, it is a spiritual need. Here are 6 ways white people can begin the process of dismantling white supremacy:

1. **Do the inner work.** White people are conceived, born, and raised into spaces of privilege so the work to dismantle our own perpetuations of white supremacy is the place to start. The author and activist, Layla Saad, provides white people a day to day guide on doing the inner work of dismantling white supremacy. [Get the book and begin the work.](#)
2. **Realize that being “woke” is not a trend.** It is almost the “in” thing to be “woke” and to recognize white supremacy. However, white supremacy permeates all white people through micro-aggressions, untapped spaces of subconscious racism, and so many other spaces. Recognizing your privilege is good, but surrounding it with selfish motives and the quest for the spotlight diminishes and continues to traumatize and re-traumatize our siblings of color.
3. **Words must be backed by actions.** In the world of social media consumption, the letters on the keyboard become our voice that speaks for the moment and fades in the background 2 seconds later. Our words must be moved into actions which takes creativity in this moment of COVID-19.
4. **Call out but don't take up excess space.** Progressive white people love to call out racism and white supremacy, but it is important to be aware of the space white people take up. The craving for society to know that you “have it together” when it comes to privilege awareness can overwhelm spaces and assert power over others. This is still a manifestation of white supremacy because white supremacy tells white people that they are entitled to be seen.
5. **White Supremacy = A White Problem. Organize white people.** White people must begin the process of organizing one another to begin the work of dismantling white supremacy because this is a white people's problem. White people created it and white people have to do the work to un-create it. Many people of color are tired of being re-traumatized through this work. White people, it's time to get it together.
6. **Empower by risking power.** The work to dismantle white supremacy means that white people must risk their power to empower others. Yes, that means things will be lost, friends will walk away from you, family may disown you, and your life will be different. This also means that institutions like churches must risk as well.

Resources to begin the work: Layla Saad, [Me and White Supremacy](#) - J. Kameron Carter, *Race: A Theological Account Facing Racism: A Vision of the Intercultural Community Churchwide Antiracism Policy (Presbyterian Church USA)*

Peace, Dale

For information on joining worship on the internet or phone please see the bulletin. Worship is offered on our YouTube channel, and folks can join us on their telephone via Zoom. If you don't have a computer or tablet but do have a "smart" TV, you should be able to go to the YouTube channel on the TV and watch the service. If you would like a DVD of the service please contact me. The entire RPC building is closed. There are no in-person meetings and the only people allowed in the building are those stocking the food pantry and staff on an as-needed basis.

WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS



ZOOM COFFEE TIME—Sunday mornings after the worship service you are invited to join Zoom coffee time. Here is the information you need to join us.

<https://zoom.us/j/198259471?pwd=VFJuSDJmOE5uK2N0SWtKY2hYmxKZz09> or to dial in 1(312)626-6799
Meeting ID: 198 259 471, Password: 928313

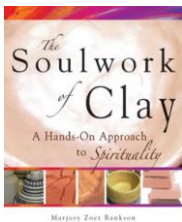
JOYS & CONCERNS – Prayers for Ruth and Frank Svestka, while Ruth awaits her upcoming surgery. Healing for Marie Cerny who is in the hospital. If you'd like to send a card, contact the church office for her new address. Healing for Monica Wood and Jack Smith. Prayers for Olivia, a friend of the Nadkarni family, who remains alone in the hospital on a ventilator as her body fights off leukemia. Prayers for Kathi, a friend of the Nadkarni family, who is receiving palliative care for cancer.

SURVEY – The Task Force for In-Person Worship is developing a survey to gauge your interest and willingness to return to in-person worship. The survey will be mailed from Pastor Dale's email. If you do not have email, the survey will be mailed to you.

TITHES & OFFERINGS—The Session is committed to paying all staff during these difficult days. The ministry and mission of the congregation not only continues but is more important than ever. Please mail your tithes and offerings to the church at 116 Barrypoint Road, Riverside, IL 60546. You can also give online.



YOU CAN BE A PART OF WORSHIP – Have you ever wished you could be the liturgist but are uncomfortable speaking in front of a crowd of people? Good news - if you are able to do an audio recording Reverend Jackson would love for you to participate in worship. You could read Scripture, read a poem, offer a prayer or lead the Call to Worship and never have to stand in front of the congregation! Reverend Jackson will provide everything you need. Reach out via email pastor@rpcusa.org.



THEOLOGY ON TAP— Returns Monday June 15 at 7:00 on Zoom. We are reading *Soulwork of Clay: A Hands-On Approach to Spirituality* which is a companion study to the worship series. If you are interested contact Dale at pastor@rpcusa.org.

Dale has clay for your use. Here is the login information for Zoom for Theology on Tap each week:
<https://zoom.us/j/935547600?pwd=cTV0YTR4YkErT0twWmExUXITc3ozQT09>

Meeting ID: 935 547 600 Password: 636553

EQUAL EXCHANGE FAIR TRADE ITEMS —We have many organic fair-trade items for sale (tea, coffee, baking cocoa and hot cocoa, chocolate chips and chocolate bars). If you'd like more detailed information on products or to place an order, contact the church office to arrange contact-free pick up.



MEAL TRAIN PLUS FOR BEDS COVID-19 MEAL SUPPORT

BEDS Plus is presently providing over 4000 individual meals a week to shelter clients, at risk clients/families we have housed in motels and over 100 families and individuals who are housed and experiencing food insecurity. Here are the ways that you can help us provide these services: shelter meals – lunches and dinners, a grocery bag filled with meal items, gift card purchases for grocery stores and restaurants. Here is the link to the website.

<https://beds-plus.org/urgent-updates/www.mealtrain.com>



REFRIGERATORS FOR SALE — The two Little Food Pantry refrigerators are for sale. They were not rated for outdoor use and were replaced with two new refrigerators that meet the Village requirements. The original cost of each refrigerator was \$300. They are 3.2 cubic feet with see through glass doors and a stainless-steel frame. They are less than a year old and work well. \$150 each or best offer if you are interested. The proceeds will go back into the Little Food Pantry fund.