

A Lenten Social Equity Calendar



Greetings and welcome!

It is a joy to have you join us for a time of Lenten learning and reflection. As you work your way through this calendar, be aware of what feelings come up as you read, watch, and listen to the resources that are before you. You will find reflection questions included with most of the materials, and we also hope you will consider the following:

Why does this stir up the feelings it does within me?

As a follower of Jesus, what does this information mean for me?

There are some extra pages at the end of this devotional for journaling and reflection. Feel free to use them to doodle and ponder what you are learning throughout this season.

Blessings on the journey,
Synod of the Sun
Network for Dismantling Racism

Ash Wednesday

Learn about the land on which you live and work.

Consider the dust from which you came and to which you shall return.

Where were you born? Do you wish to be buried or cremated when you die?



Thursday

Visit the [Network for Dismantling Racism website](#) to learn about regional and national resources for Antiracism work.

How will you incorporate these resources into your life?

Friday

Read [Intersectionality and 21st century colonialism](#)

and watch

[“What is Intersectionality?”](#)



Saturday

Who are the BIPOC leaders in your community?

[Follow Christena Cleveland on Instagram.](#)

First Sunday of Lent

Celebrate Black Lives

Read [this article](#) by Philip Morgan.

Find [hymn #741 in the Glory to God Hymnal](#), Guide My Feet.

Sing and/or read the words.

Imagine what they mean to those who first sang them.

What do they mean to you?



Monday

Watch [Part One of Q&R Video](#) with Dr. Christena Cleveland (the beginning, up to minute 31) and use the [curriculum by Natarsha Sanders](#) to reflect and learn.



Tuesday

Watch [Part Two of Q&R Video](#) with Dr. Christena Cleveland (begin at minute 37) and use the [curriculum by Natarsha Sanders](#) to reflect and learn.

Wednesday

Watch Part [One of Dr. Cleveland's Reflections for the Church video](#) (begin at minute 5:50, stop at minute 37) and use the [curriculum by Natarsha Sanders](#) to reflect and learn.



Thursday

Watch Part Two of Dr. Christena Cleveland's teaching video (begin at minute 37) and use the [curriculum by Natarsha Sanders](#) to reflect and learn.

Friday

Listen to the Sun Spots podcast,
Facing Racism and Racists
Anonymous.



Saturday

Who makes decisions in your
community? In your town or city,
county, and state?

[Join the NAACP.](#)

Second Sunday of Lent

Celebrate Latinx, Latino/a, and Hispanic Lives

Learn about how Hispanic, Latino/a Presbyterians are resilient amidst deep need in the pandemic.

Find Hymn #765 in the Glory to God Hymnal, May the God of Hope Go With Us (Song of Hope/Canto de esperanza).

Sing and/or read the words.

Imagine what they mean to those who first sang them.

What do they mean to you?



Monday

Let's decolonize our spending habits! Seek out the BIPOC-owned businesses in your community.

[Official Black Wall Street](#) is a good place to start.



Tuesday

It's "Take-Out Tuesday!" Do an internet search for restaurants owned by People of Color in your community or area.

Order from one of them for dinner tonight.

Wednesday

Buy a children's book for your church library or for a child you know that features a BIPOC protagonist.

[Here is a list](#) of children's books and links to purchase them.



Thursday

Continue to decolonize your spending habits by curating your wish list on a site that is not Amazon.

[Things To Get Me](#) is a completely independent wish list maker.

Friday

Decolonizing our spending and buying habits is about more than just finding BI-POC-owned businesses to support with our money.

“How are you having conversations with your family and friends about what you’re learning in this work?” (Find this question and others posed by Abigail Jean-Baptiste in [this article](#).)



Saturday

Implicit bias, also known as unconscious bias, occurs when stereotypes influence automatic brain processing. How has implicit bias influenced your spending habits?

Learn more about and take an [Implicit Association Test](#).

Third Sunday of Lent

Celebrate Indigenous Lives

Learn a little about [Native American Day in the PCUSA](#). Consider making preparations to celebrate indigenous heritage on this day and throughout the year.

Find [Hymn #441 in the Glory to God Hymnal](#), Hear the Good News of Salvation (Wotanin waste nahon po).

Sing and/or read the words.

Imagine what they mean to those who first sang them.

What do they mean to you?



Monday

Racial injustice in the United States started with the arrival of colonizers on Native land.

Follow [IllumiNative](#) on Instagram.



Tuesday

Read [this article](#) and [this statement](#) to learn more about why the use of Native mascots is a harmful practice.

Wednesday

Let's decolonize our holidays. [Learn the true history of Thanksgiving.](#)

How can you honor Indigenous communities in your future Thanksgiving celebrations?



Thursday

Learn about [what civil rights attorneys do.](#)

Why is it necessary for us to have civil rights attorneys in the United States?

Friday

Listen to [this lecture from Navajo writer and speaker Mark Charles, titled "Saving Justice"](#).

Check out [Mark Charles' website Wirelesshogan](#).



Saturday

[Look again at the land on which you live and work](#). Research the tribes native to your area.

[Subscribe to Kaitlin Curtice's newsletter, Soul to Soul](#).

Fourth Sunday of Lent

Celebrate LGBTQIA+ Lives

Remembering that BIPOC persons also hold diverse identities within their communities, consider [this piece about the Philadelphia](#) Flag otherwise known as the Progress Pride Flag. Consider how we can celebrate the intersections of these identities.

Find [this inclusive version For Everyone Born](#) (Hymn #769 in the Glory to God Hymnal).

Sing and/or read the words.

Imagine what they mean to those who first sang them.

What do they mean to you?



Monday

Using a thesaurus, look up synonyms for the words “black” and “white.”

What do you notice?



Tuesday

Learn about the history of some English words and phrases you may not realize have racist roots or undertones.

Have you ever used these words/phrases? How is the language we use inherently racist?

Wednesday

Review your school system's teaching and administrative staff. Can you find diversity there?

If you want to dig deeper, review the school's curriculum - are BIPOC voices included?



Thursday

Learn about [The Black Trans Prayer Book and the authors.](#)

[Order a copy of The Black Trans Prayer Book.](#)

Follow [The Black Trans Prayer Book](#) on Instagram.

Friday

Listen to this [Liberation Bible Study with the Rev. Eric Thomas.](#)

Do conversations about abundance come easy for you and your community? Who is involved in those conversations? Who do you notice isn't at the table?



Saturday

Take a walk in a part of your town where you normally don't go for walks.

What do you notice?

Fifth Sunday of Lent

Celebrate Asian American/Pacific Islander Lives

[Read here](#) about The Rev. Huong Dang, best known as “Cedar,” installed in 2017 as pastor of the [Vietnamese Presbyterian Church](#) in Garden Grove, California. She is the first woman to be installed as senior minister of a Vietnamese-language congregation in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).

Find [Hymn #680 from the Korean tradition in the Glory to God Hymnal](#),
Soft Rains of Spring Flow.

Sing and/or read the words.

Imagine what they mean to those who first sang them.

What do they mean to you?

Monday

Learn about the [Equal Justice Initiative](#).

Learn about [a racial injustice that happened on this day](#) in history.



Tuesday

Read Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr's ["Letter from a Birmingham Jail."](#)

What is the purpose and effectiveness of nonviolent direct action?

Wednesday

Learn about the [Hands and Feet initiative](#) of the PC(USA).

Reflect on why cash bail is an unjust practice of the criminal justice system in the United States.



Thursday

Listen to National Youth Poet Laureate Amanda Gorman's poem, ["The Hill We Climb."](#)

How would you answer the question she begins with:

"...where can we find light in this never-ending shade?"

Friday

Listen to this [Race and Redemption podcast](#) featuring Cole Arthur Riley, creator of the Instagram account [@blackliturgies](#).

Follow Cole Arthur Riley on [Instagram](#), [Facebook](#), and [Twitter](#).



Saturday

Consider who your friends of color are and make a list. What is the nature of your relationship with them?

Say a prayer for each of them.

Palm Sunday

Celebrate Racial Equity work past, present, and future in the PC(USA)

Review a past or current issue of [Racial Equity Torch](#). Consider a free subscription by contacting Janelle Baker at janelle.baker@pcusa.org or calling (800) 728-7228 x5362.

Glory to God: The Presbyterian Hymnal (WJKP, 2013) has a section on Justice and Reconciliation (749-774) that contains many hymns and songs addressing the sin of racism and proclaiming God's call to justice and dignity for all people. Review them and allow their words to be your prayer this day and in the days to come.



Monday

Read [The Confession of Belhar](#), the most recent addition to the PC(USA) Book of Confessions.

How does the Belhar Confession help you to understand how the unity the church has been given provides a foundation for justice?



Tuesday

Did you know that the 213th General Assembly appointed a Task Force to study issues of reparations?

[Learn more and read the report](#) of the Task Force.

Wednesday

Learn more about [race and reparations](#).

In this article, Rev. Dr. Mark Lomax talks about what is important to Christians in America. How can the things that are important to us help in our effort to dismantle the systems of racism?



Maundy Thursday

In your understanding of God, how does God want faith communities to respond, collectively, to systemic racism?

Good Friday

What does your faith community (or the faith communities around you) do to combat racism, if anything?



Holy Saturday

Invite a BIPOC into your home or out for coffee. Receive any declined offer graciously. Reflect on what such invitations can mean for all involved.

Easter Sunday

Celebrate Resurrection

How will living into this Easter be different after this Lenten journey?

Where will your work for equity go from here?



Journaling Pages













The Network for Dismantling Racism extends a special thank you to Natarsha Sanders, who wrote and contributed the curriculum to accompany the Dr. Christena Cleveland videos. Thank you!

The Network for Dismantling Racism is a network of Synod of the Sun, PC(USA).

