

PROPOSED FRAMEWORK for DUMC ANTIRACISM WORK

Antiracism Task Force (2023)

We commit to being an antiracist church linking arms with others who are engaged in reflection and action to dismantle racism, build Beloved Community and to live in the World House. **

- **in ourselves individually**
- **within DUMC's structure, policies, practices, and culture**
- **through our actions in our church, denomination, community and the world**

***Martin Luther King, Jr.'s vision of the world as a large house in which "we must learn somehow to live with each other in peace."*

I. WE WILL CONTINUE TO ENGAGE IN CURRENT MINISTRIES AND PLAN NEW MINISTRIES

- **Continue to examine US/WDC/Georgetown/Dumbarton history through the lens of racism and white supremacy**
- **Continue to grow in our understanding of theologies that oppress and theologies that liberate**
- **Continue to educate ourselves on key relevant topics**
- **Engage in self-reflection/examination**
- **Take action and build relationships through the ministries of DUMC**

A. Current Ministries include support and collaboration with:

Washington Interfaith Network

Georgetown Ministry Center

Dumbarton Pop Up Café

Legislative Initiatives

Joint activities and growing relationship with Mount Zion UMC (including pulpit swap; guest preachers; serving hot dinners on Saturday evenings and holidays for Georgetown's unhoused residents.

B. Proposed Actions/Ministries include:

DUMC BUDGET AND GIVING ANALYSIS

- **Review DUMC's Mission and Outreach Activities**
- **Conduct an in-depth analysis of DUMC's budget** including how we spend our money and how and where we invest our money through the lens of antiracism.
- **Mission and Outreach Ministry Budget.** Currently this is a ministry of giving financial support to a variety of ministries. What guidelines do we use for making these allocations?
- **Personal giving recommendations.** Particularly during the pandemic many of us are not spending resources that we might have otherwise in travel, entertainment, etc. This is an area where individual members could examine their giving and direct resources to places having an impact on racism.

A "CIVIL RIGHTS PILGRIMAGE" to Montgomery, Alabama to visit Bryan Stevenson's **Equal Justice Initiative, **The Legacy Museum** and the **National Civil Rights Pilgrimage****

II. WE WILL EXAMINE HISTORY – through the lens of racism and white supremacy

- American History - *Seeing White* Podcast Series, Stamped From the Beginning
- DC History - Growing Up in Chocolate City, “Chocolate City Basketball Diaries: Stories of Growing Up in the Old DC,” Presentation by Justin Eldridge
- Georgetown’s History (Dumbarton and Mt Zion) – Play
- Dumbarton’s History – Dumbarton Book Study Many Witnesses
- Proposal to examine history of indigenous tribes in Georgetown area

III. WE WILL GROW IN OUR THEOLOGICAL UNDERSTANDING

Christian Theology – God through the eyes of different races/ethnicities/genders

- **Black Liberation Theology – James Cone**
- **Womanist Theology – Delores Williams**
- **Theology of Struggle (Philippines); Theology of Suffering (Central America); Minjung Theology (Korea); Queer Theology**

III. WE WILL CONTINUE TOPICAL EDUCATION

This could take place in any number of forums: Adult Ed, Guest Speakers, A Study Series, Book Studies

- **Reparations**
- **White Christian Nationalism**
- **Critical Race Theory**
- **Intersectionality**
- **What does it mean to be an ally?**

IV. WE WILL ENGAGE IN SELF REFLECTION/EXAMINATION

Undertake the GCORR Racism and Ethnicity Audit

- a) Demographics and Membership of DUMC and surrounding area**
- b) Church Leadership – race and ethnicity**
- c) Racial/ethnic makeup of those serving on church committees.**
- d) Information Gathering from BIPOC members of the DUMC**
- e) Communications**
- f) Social Justice Activities**
- g) Additional Questions for Reflection**

V. WE WILL TAKE ACTION AND BUILD RELATIONSHIPS THROUGH THE MINISTRIES OF DUMC

Washington Interfaith Network- Continue to engage, take action and support

WIN's Issue Agenda includes: black equity through homeownership; affordable housing; building generational wealth; fair wage green jobs, supporting public transit; sustainable wages; safe communities with net zero homicides.

Georgetown Ministry Center - Continue to engage, take action and support financially

GMC addresses poverty and homelessness through following services: showers, washers and dryers and meals (provided to hundreds of people each year) plus additional services

Dumbarton Pop Up Café – continue to sponsor/provide Saturday morning opportunity primarily for unhoused population of Georgetown to find fellowship and resources in DUMC's Fellowship Hall.

VI. WE WILL CONTINUE OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH MOUNT ZION UMC – continue to nurture and build

- through joint worship and joint study – e.g. recently concluded joint book study, *Reading While Black*
- join study through joint action related to Mt. Zion Cemetery
- Continue wonderful series of Guest Preachers from Mt. Zion and from other Black traditions

VII. WE WILL FORGE NEW RELATIONSHIPS

Engage with a majority-Black congregation and a majority-Hispanic and/or Asian American congregation in the Washington area to identify practical actions Dumbarton UMC can take together with them. We imagine pursuing a common priority, and in the process forging new relationships. Such actions may include, for example: community-based service and compassion ministries; joining together in a public march or assembly for human or voting rights; holding jointly-led Bible studies; or forming educational groups to discuss movies, podcasts, or other works on anti-racism.

VI. WE WILL CONTINUE TO UNDERTAKE LEGISLATIVE INITIATIVES

Continue to inform congregation and to respond

Initiate alliances with antiracist organizations advocating antiracist legislative policies at the local, district, state, and national level. Determine in coordination with these allies which pieces of legislation Dumbarton UMC will publicly advocate for.

