



St. John's UCC, Fullerton

575 Grape Street, Whitehall, PA 18052

Church Office: 610-264-8421

April 2021



Vol. 14 Issue 3

"Our Church Connection"



"Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth!"

- Psalm 100:1

A colleague of mine won't be doing a Holy Humor Sunday this April. She proposed the idea to her Worship and Music Committee and got some VERY strong feedback that it would be inappropriate to plan a worship service designed to encourage laughter in church. "That would be sacrilegious," they told her in no uncertain terms, "worship is supposed to be SERIOUS!"

I love what neuro-linguist Steve Andreas has to say about seriousness: "First people get serious, then they get dead serious, then they just get dead." This is EXACTLY the reason we are celebrating Holy Humor Sunday on the Sunday following Jesus' resurrection! According to the Good News of Easter, we're NOT dead!!! For those who would claim that we need to be serious because our predicament on this earth is so serious, I would say, that's true - things are so serious that none of us will get off this planet alive. God's ultimate joke; however, was raising Jesus from the dead and thus declaring that death cannot defeat us, regardless of how hard we may try to make that so!

The whole idea behind Holy Humor Sunday (which was "invented" in the 15th century, by the way) is to celebrate *Risus Paschalis* - "God's joke," or "the Easter laugh." For centuries, priests and pastors have deliberately included amusing stories and jokes in their sermons on the Sunday after Easter in an attempt to make the faithful laugh. Congregants are encouraged to be joy-filled - to tell funny stories and play practical jokes on each other. It's a powerful way of celebrating the resurrection of Christ - the supreme joke God played on the powers of sin and death.

So be prepared for praise and laughter during worship on April 11th. Bring your Easter joy, your friends and neighbors, your sense of humor, and your favorite jokes (well, at least the G-rated ones) to share as we celebrate that foundational belief of our faith: Christ is risen! Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia! Amen!

Be God's,
Pastor Bonnie

Tuesday Talkbacks Continue

Join us every Tuesday at 2 pm for conversation and fellowship. Pastor Bonnie hosts these informal, agenda-free Zoom gatherings. It's a great place to learn new tricks about using Zoom! Use the following Zoom meeting ID with the Sunday worship passcode: 889 9327 5253. Contact the church office if you need additional information.

Do you receive St. John's "Mail Chimp" email blasts?

They are sent out periodically to provide updated information about upcoming church events. If you don't receive these emails and would like to, please provide your email address to the church office at 610-264-8421 or sjofficesecretary@gmail.com. Thanks!

2021 Holy Week Schedule

Palm Sunday, March 28, 9:30 am (Zoom meeting ID# 816 8509 8134)

Join us as we recount the story of Jesus' arrival in Jerusalem. Bring your DIY Palms! The service will conclude with a dramatic reading of the passion narrative from the Gospel of Mark as we prepare for the week to follow.

Maundy Thursday, April 1, 7:00 pm (Zoom meeting ID# 860 0752 1604)

This service will blend scripture, hymns, and monologues from the people who were present with Jesus for his last supper with them before his arrest. The service will conclude with the ancient tradition of "stripping of the altar" - as Jesus life was stripped from Him, we will strip our chancel of any signs of life, symbolizing Jesus' suffering and death "for us and for our salvation." Communion will be celebrated at this service - prepare your elements!

Good Friday, April 2, 7:00 pm (Zoom meeting ID# 832 7918 3942)

We will remember the story of Jesus' trial and crucifixion in this somber Tenebrae service as we juxtapose scripture and song with a contemporary story.

Note - Use the same passcode used for Sunday morning worship for all Holy Week services. If you need that passcode, please call the church office.

Christ is risen!!! Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

You'll have two opportunities to participate in a joy-filled celebration of **Easter** at St. John's on Sunday, **April 4**. Our Zoom service will take place **at 9:30 am** (Zoom meeting ID# 816 8509 8134; if you need the Sunday worship passcode, please call the church office). And, you can join us in person to celebrate Jesus' resurrection in our outdoor (weather permitting) 11:00 am service in the Field of Dreams (masks and physical distancing required). Communion will be shared at both services; please prepare your own elements for the 9:30 service.

Note - If you ordered Easter flowers, they can be taken home at the conclusion of the Field of Dreams service (approx. 11:45) or picked up at the church (with prior arrangement with Deb, our Office Administrator - sjofficesecretary@gmail.com) until Wednesday, April 7.

Holy Humor Sunday!



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On Sunday, April 11th, we will be resurrecting an old Easter custom begun by the Greeks in the early centuries of Christianity. “Holy Humor Sunday” is typically celebrated on the Sunday after Easter, and is rooted in the musings of early church theologians that God played a joke on the devil by raising Jesus from the dead - “Risus Paschalis - the Easter laugh” the early theologians called it. Please join in the laughter on April 11th at 9:30 via Zoom. It signifies resurrection joy! (Kazoos welcome!)



MEET THE CONSISTORY

JANET EBERT

I grew up at St. Paul’s Union (UCC and Lutheran) Church in Northwestern Lehigh County. I was married in, and later became a member of a local Roman Catholic Church for a period of time. My first experiences with St. John’s were in my daughters’ after-school care programs and Girl Scout troops. After the death of my husband, I returned to the UCC. Upon the 2017 closing of Trinity UCC, Coplay, it was natural to join St. John’s. It is in our community; the pastors and congregation are compassionate and friendly; and our lives had intersected with other church members over the years. I am a member of the Adult Friendship Sunday School Class and the STARS

of St. John’s Technical Committee.

Now that I have retired from a 47-year career in healthcare, I want to continue to serve people through volunteering in St. John’s ministries.

Let's help save trees!! If you would prefer to receive your newsletter by email as opposed by mail, please call Deb at the church office so she can add you to the email group.

Newsletter deadline at St. John's will be the second (2nd) Sunday of each month

Whitehall Food Pantry Donation Drive-By

Date: Saturday, May 8, 2021

Time: 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 Noon

Place: St. John's UCC – Grape St. Parking Lot



Items Needed:

(canned goods and prepackaged items only)

Peas	Peaches	Hamburger Helper	Cereal
Corn	Pears	Spam	Pancake Mix
Red Beets	Pineapple Slices	Chicken	Pancake Syrup
Kidney Beans	Apple Sauce	Tuna Fish	Tea Bags
Mixed Vegetables	Jelly	White or Brown Rice	Coffee
Carrots	Peanut Butter	Macaroni & Cheese	Canned Milk
Baked Beans	Soups	Spaghetti/Pasta Sauce	Jello
Sweet Potatoes	Mayonnaise	Pasta/Noodles	Crackers
Instant Potatoes	Salad Dressing		

All groceries must be unopened and not past expiration dates. Any other non-perishable items as well as monetary donations are always accepted.

Enter on Grape St. and leave by the rear alley. Please adhere to Covid-19 guidelines—wear a mask and maintain 6 ft. distancing. If you have any questions, please contact Jean McGonigle, chair of the Mission Committee, or Gary Black, St. John's liaison to the food pantry.



To Our Friends at St. John's,

The year 2020 gave us a most unusual Christmas. Because of you, our Christmas "non-gathering" parties and Santa's visits were a huge success. It brought us a much-needed moment of love and hope into our residents' lives. Your gift of a monetary donation gifted over 25 people with visits to the beautician/barber and gift certificates to Phoebe's gift shop. That gift was priceless in our new normal. I continue to congratulate your commitment to our facility and to all the people in our care.

Thank you,

Joan Wickel
Director of Community Life
Phoebe Ministries - Allentown

The Mission Committee, on behalf of the congregation, wishes to thank **Bill Meckes** for his many years of service to the Whitehall Food Pantry. Bill, "retiring" now from his duties, was St. John's liaison to the food pantry, served on the pantry's Board of Directors, scheduled volunteers, and planned food collections and drive-bys. You could find him every 4th Monday stocking shelves, bagging groceries, and distributing food to the many clients the pantry serves. His work was certainly appreciated, and we applaud him for his dedication and commitment to this ministry.



**Volunteer
Recognition**



Our hopes and prayers are coming to a reality as we look forward to being together as a community of faith. We will not open before May 16. However, we are hoping as many are receiving their vaccines which helps us feel safer, reopening will be soon after. The guidelines set forth by PNEC and CDC are being followed in making difficult decisions.

In the meantime we will continue to worship on Zoom. Our church building is being prepared for the day when we are together again.

God teaches us and offers us strength and comfort in our moments of need.

In Christ,
Consistory of St. John's UCC Fullerton



Due to the uncertainty of Covid restrictions, limited attendance capacity, and the delay in starting the baseball season, the "Fun"Raising Committee has decided not to participate in **IronPigs** group seatings for our St. John's families this year. That includes the Party Porch and the Grandstand. If you're a baseball fan, you can still purchase tickets for any game at the IronPigs box office or by going on-line at their website ironpigsbaseball.com.

Look Here – Something New!

St. John's Crafters have been busy sewing.

☺ Patchwork Table Runner

Measures approximately 31" x 12"
(sizes may vary) On sale for \$14.00

☺ Reversible Bowl Cozy

Comes in handy for handling hot
microwaved food and also great
for cold foods like ice cream
On sale for \$6.00

Contact Carol Raszler at 610-393-7572 or
email at craszler@aol.com to purchase.



Redner's Receipt Tapes

Please continue to use your Redner's card and save your register receipts for the church. We are continuing to collect them and receive money back from Redner's. Even though we have not had as many tapes turned in, we still just received a check for \$75.00. Please turn your tapes in to the church office as we will continue submitting them. This is just another way to help the church financially just by purchasing your groceries and turning in the receipts.

GIFT CARDS FOR SALE!

Since our Gift Card Bingos have been cancelled due to covid-19, the Fun-Raising committee has decided to sell the gift cards we had purchased for those Bingos. The following gift cards are available for purchase:

\$25 Wawa.

\$50 Applebee's, Olive Garden or Long Horn Steakhouse, Sheetz, LL Bean, Outback or Bonefish, Kohl's, Chili's or On the Border, Lowe's, Dave & Busters, Movie Tavern by Marcus, Boscov's, and Macy's.

\$150 Discover (Use anywhere), Amazon.

If you are interested in purchasing any of these cards, please call **Tom Moyer (610-432-3372)** or e-mail tommoyer54@gmail.com. Checks should be made to St. John's UCC.



Shorti Hoagie Coupons for sale thru the "Fun" Raising Committee.

They are \$5 each, and they do not expire - you can use them at any WAWA. They make great thank you gifts to someone who is shopping for you, or birthday presents for friends and loved ones, just about any reason at all. Support St. John's UCC Fullerton. If you are interested in any coupons please contact Kenda Catalini @ 484-358-7453. Kenda has all coupons, none are available at the church office.

GROCERY GIFT CARDS



Weis and Giant gift cards are available for purchase in various denominations. The church receives a percentage on each one that you purchase. If interested, please contact Debbie in the church office 610-264-8421.

PHOTO COURTESY OF WEIS MARKETS

Text-to-Give!

Here's another way you can make secure donations to St. John's via your smartphone! Text the amount you want to donate to (844) 935-3593 - it's a free call! The first time you do this, you will be led through a step-by-step process to set up your giving account and make payments via a credit card or direct debit from your checking account. For future donations, all you will need to do is text the amount of your donation to that number. (Note from Pastor Bonnie - I have that phone number saved on my phone as "Give" so I don't have to remember the phone number!) All donations made via text-to-give will be included on your end-of-the-year giving statement.

You can also text funds to the same number to see a list of funds at St. John's; you can donate to, then text the amount you want to give, space, and fund name to donate to a specific fund. Unspecified donations received through text-to-give will go to the St. John's UCC General Operating Fund. Thank you for supporting the mission and ministry of St. John's!

Reopening Task Force

The committee will continue to meet for a monthly ZOOM meeting to discuss the possibility of opening and how to accomplish that safely. This committee and Consistory will continue to keep you informed, stay safe.

St. John's Prayer Chain Committee

Did you know St John's has a prayer chain group, currently with about 15 members? If you are interested in keeping others in prayer, we are always welcoming new members to join us. Please contact [Kim Hillegass](mailto:kim1257@aol.com) at 610-360-7895 or kim1257@aol.com and we will gladly add you to the group. Most of our communications are done by email when requests come in but calls will be made to members who don't have an email address. Please join us.

In need of prayers for you or someone you know? You can contact the Office or Pastor or Kim to have someone added to our list.

Mission Moment!

The Mission Committee has scheduled a **Whitehall Food Pantry Donation Drive-By for Saturday, May 8, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 Noon in the Grape St. parking lot.** Be sure to read the article in this newsletter as to what canned goods and pre-packaged food items are needed. **Monetary donations are also accepted.**



* * *

The Mission Committee is pleased to announce that **Gary Black will serve as St. John's liaison to the Whitehall Food Pantry**, taking over the duties of Bill Meckes. Gary's responsibilities, among other things, will be to coordinate volunteers and serve on the pantry's Board of Directors. The food pantry is located at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, 3900 Mechanicsville Rd. in Whitehall. Volunteers are always needed the 4th Monday of the month to help sort and stock shelves and distribute groceries to the pantry's clients. If you are interested in serving, please contact Gary at 610-262-6114 or by email at gary.t.black@outlook.com.

* * *



For the second year in a row, the Lehigh Conference of Churches' Board of Directors has canceled "**Valley Over the Edge**" due to Covid restrictions and difficulty in adhering to CDC capacity guidelines for this outdoor event. It was scheduled for Saturday, May 22.

Unfortunately, this event will not be rescheduled. It is disappointing that we will not see our four brave St. John's daredevils rappel off a 13-story building in downtown Allentown. Our thanks go to **Pastor Dave Quinn, Joe Trippett, Roxanne DeMilio, and Paul Raszler** who had volunteered to do this event to help raise funds for the many life-saving programs at LCC.

* * *

Reminder: We are still accepting contributions to **One Great Hour of Sharing** until the end of March. OGHS enables the UCC to reach people and communities in crisis—those affected by natural disasters, refugee displacement, and poverty. Please send you contributions into the church office or by text and on-line giving.



Pavilion Update

As you will recall, a contract was signed with Morton Construction to design plans for the pavilion. At present, we have several of the drawings that Whitehall Township will require and are awaiting those for electrical and plumbing systems; those are expected shortly.

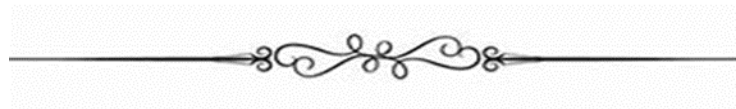
Once there is an agreement on these "sealed documents", as they are called, we will be in a position to seek bids. Before doing that, however, we need to be sure we have sufficient funds. Our construction target date is late spring or early summer.

Our current cash balance for the pavilion is \$133,912 which is not sufficient to cover costs. There is, however, our outstanding loan to ourselves of \$29,872. (These monies were used to help cover the cost of the furnace replacement.) Recouping these loaned monies is essential to advancing this project. Regrettably, gifts are coming in at a very slow pace; for example, Sunday weekly contributions average \$50.

These are difficult times with the pandemic, lockdown, unemployment and so on. Yet, in spite of these factors, we are asking that members prayerfully consider making contributions to reduce the debt and help us meet the above time-line goals.

St. John's has a long history of rising to meet financial challenges. We trust that our members will do so again. Remember, our goal is for construction to occur this spring or summer.

If there are questions or concerns, contact any team member: Charlie Apple, Paul Raszler, Gary Black, Jinny Hess, Ted Hess, Brian Fisher, Pastor Bonnie or me, John Viglione.



Reminder: Sign-ups are in progress for the *Spring Walking Challenge April 11 to May 9*. Please contact me ASAP to get on the list. Deadline to sign up is April 9. sharonantrim@yahoo.com or 610-216-6207. It's going to be a fun time again. At least we'll have nicer weather this time.
Sharon Antrim

JUST ANOTHER WAY TO HELP YOUR CHURCH

I am currently scheduling the scripture readers for St. John's services. I know there are more people that have read the scriptures in the past and would like to add you to the list of people that I already have. The scriptures can be read via Zoom or in person once we resume in-person services. Please either call me at 610-443-0161 or email me at cstauffer206@aol.com. I currently contacted everyone with the available opportunities via email.

This is a very easy way to assist your church....Be the Church....No Matter What!

Cheryl Weaver

REMINDER

Please remember to pick-up your pastie order on either April 16 or April 17 from 2:00 to 4:00 pm in the Grape Street parking lot. Thank you all for ordering. See you at your pickup date.

Thanks

Cheryl

APRIL MUSIC NOTES



The Fourth Sunday of Easter is also known as the “Sunday of the Good Shepherd.” The image of the good shepherd shows us how the risen Christ brings us to life. It is the relationship between the shepherd and the sheep, one of mutual knowledge and love that gives the shepherd authority. The shepherd’s willingness to lay down his life for the sheep shows his love. John 10:11-18 recalls the 23rd Psalm in which Jesus describes himself as the shepherd who cares for his sheep. He is willing to die for them, and he is able to overcome death for them.

The Twenty-third Psalm is one of the most beloved and recited psalms. Many texts form the basis for hymns written on Psalm 23. “Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us,” also a beloved hymn, will be sung April 25th, Good Shepherd Sunday. The author of this popular hymn, Dorothy Thrupp, was born and lived in London, England. A prolific writer of children’s hymns and devotional materials, she seldom signed her name to any of her works. When she did, she would use a pseudonym. For this reason, it has never been fully proven that she was the actual author of “Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us.” The hymn first appeared unsigned in her collection *Hymns for the Young*, in 1836.

The tune was written by William B. Bradbury, 1816-1868, and is known as *Bradbury Tune*.

Let this hymn give you confidence of God’s leading and presence.

Musically,

Gail

APRIL BIRTHDAYS



1	Kevin Fox	13	Donna Held
1	Dale Millham	13	James Tretter, Sr.
1	Matthew Seeds	13	Bonnie Weikel
2	William Verba	13	Sarah Young
3	Larry Albright	15	Karen Christman
3	Aiden Hannis	15	Julia Gross
3	Roger Knauss	16	Ashley Venanzi
4	Ray Lane	17	Sandra Easterwood
4	Eric Thompson	18	Alan Miller
5	Curtis Christman	18	Crystal Schwenk
5	Maya Williams	19	Phyllis Csaszar
5	Mark Yura	19	Craig Headman
6	Michael McNicholas	19	Kevin Hoderman
7	William Meckes	20	Leia Stocker
8	Karen Moyer	22	Stephanie Hanzl
9	Mary Jo Bierman	22	Betty Merkle
9	Chrisopher Christman	23	William Hausman
9	Christopher Leibensperger	25	Geraldine Keim
9	Felicity Miller	28	Michael Kern
11	Audrey Craig	29	Shirley Downing
11	Zoe Roth	29	Samantha Shirk
11	Helene Scheirer	29	Carson Strauss
12	Maci Dovico	29	Jacqueline Thomas
12	Bonnie Frana	30	Donna Chorney

APRIL WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES



4-04-1970	Gladys and Joseph McCarthy
4-08-1972	John and Charlene Hoff
4-08-1961	James and Patricia Molinaro
4-10-2010	Joshua and Veronica Miller
4-12-1980	David and Beth Ann Erney
4-13-2013	Jairus and Amy Miller
4-20-1963	Roger and Lucille Schneck
4-23-1994	Todd and Sandra Heffelfinger



SURVEY #3

This is the 3rd and final survey from your search committee. Help us assess how welcoming the diversity of St. John's is! Your honest responses to the statements below will be greatly appreciated. We understand this survey may be somewhat lengthy, but the survey was developed professionally and each question is intentional. Therefore, it is presented in its entirety. Thank you for your participation.

The Search Committee - Sharon Czekner, Kenda Catalini, Paul Raszler, Pete Mohr, Wendy Fox, Melissa Mendiolina, Susan Rarich

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdtmChQ6XZgA4lhwfNWpIVpu9v0ykJlMYXm3J5RIQZvzIIfw/viewform?usp=sf_link

If you do not have internet to complete the survey, you can complete the attached, and return it to the church office.

Survey #3 Welcoming Diversity

PERCEPTIONS, ATTITUDES, VALUES - WHAT WE HOLD IN OUR MINDS AND HEARTS AFFECT OUR ACTIONS

The healing of racism and an appreciation for racial/ethnic diversity are values of the leadership of our congregation.

1. not at all true
2. sometimes true
3. true most of the time
4. not applicable
5. don't know

Opportunities for dialogue are provided about these values between our congregation and our leadership.

1. not at all true
2. sometime true
3. true most of the time
4. not applicable
5. don't know

Our leaders comprehend and communicate the way in which ethnic, economic, social and political justice makes visible the reign of God.

1. not at all true
2. sometimes true
3. true most of the time
4. not applicable
5. don't know

Our congregation is receptive to preaching, teaching, and dialogue about the harm of racism and the value of diversity.

1. not at all true
2. sometimes true
3. true most of the time
4. non applicable
5. don't know

Our congregation is open to the ideas that people from other racial/ethnic traditions bring about worship, education, community, and outreach.

1. not at all true
2. sometimes true
3. true most of the time
4. non applicable
5. don't know

Our congregation is aware of our denomination's position on issues of racism, poverty, and violence because the positions are consistently held before the people.

1. not at all true

2. sometimes true
3. true most of the time
4. non applicable
5. don't know

Members who reflect our congregations racial/ethnic diversity are being recruited and equipped for leadership.

1. not at all true
2. sometimes true
3. true most of the time
4. non applicable
5. don't know

Our congregation addresses root causes of poverty, racism, and other forms of discrimination, while also relieving immediate needs through ministries of charity, compassion, and mercy.

1. not at all true
2. sometimes true
3. true most of the time
4. non applicable
5. don't know

Past attitudes/actions of prejudice and discrimination have been addressed in our congregation forthrightly and healing is taking place around these issues.

1. not at all true
2. sometimes true
3. true most of the time
4. non applicable
5. don't know

We have a process of reconciliation in place, when needed.

1. not at all true
2. sometimes true
3. true most of the time
4. non applicable
5. don't know

Leadership/Organizational Structure

Leaders and structure set a congregation's course

Our congregation's leadership promotes anti-racism and diversity.

1. not at all true
2. sometime true
3. true most of the time
4. not applicable
5. don't know

The Leadership is conscious of diversity when selecting vendors for supplies and services

1. not at all true
2. sometime true
3. true most of the time
4. not applicable
5. don't know

Our congregation has a team that works with the leadership to address issues of racism in our congregation and society.

1. not at all true
2. sometime true
3. true most of the time
4. not applicable
5. don't know

The team has developed a strategy for addressing racism within the congregation and community

1. not at all true
2. sometime true
3. true most of the time
4. not applicable
5. don't know

The resources of our congregation support this team.

1. not at all true
2. sometime true
3. true most of the time
4. not applicable
5. don't know

People outside our congregation's primary racial group are consulted about how we might address unintentional racism and become more inclusive.

1. not at all true
2. sometime true
3. true most of the time
4. not applicable
5. don't know

We have a system of greeting in place so that all those who attend receive a warm welcome.

1. not at all true
2. sometime true
3. true most of the time
4. not applicable
5. don't know

Members of the "greeting team" are educated to be welcoming to a wide variety of people.

1. not at all true
2. sometime true
3. true most of the time
4. not applicable
5. don't know

The members of the “greeting team” are representative of the racial/ethnic make-up of our congregation.

1. not at all true
2. sometime true
3. true most of the time
4. not applicable
5. don't know

Worship

Does our worship inspire us to greater understanding and appreciation for the diversity of God's people?

Our liturgies and music incorporate a variety of racial/ethnic traditions.

1. not at all true
2. sometimes true
3. true most of the time
4. not applicable
5. don't know

We invite speakers, dramatists, musicians, etc. who represent a variety of racial/ethnic traditions

1. not at all true
2. sometimes true
3. true most of the time
4. not applicable
5. don't know

Our preaching addresses the sin of racism and challenges the congregation to examine themselves in light of Scriptures and religious vows.

1. not at all true
2. sometimes true
3. true most of the time
4. not applicable
5. don't know

The Gospel message is expressed in ways relevant to diverse people.

1. not at all true
2. sometimes true
3. true most of the time
4. not applicable
5. don't know

We give voice in worship to issues important to diverse people.

1. not at all true
2. sometimes true
3. true most of the time
4. not applicable
5. don't know

As a congregation we welcome and befriend all visitors before, during and after worship.

1. not at all true
2. sometimes true
3. true most of the time
4. not applicable
5. don't know

Visual

Visuals are strong messages. What do we see around us?

A wide variety of racial/ethnic people are represented in our windows, pictures, wall hangings, etc.

1. not at all true
2. sometimes true
3. true most of the time
4. not applicable
5. don't know

The classrooms for young children are supplied with dolls, books, games, and other toys that represent a wide variety of racial/ethnic people.

1. not at all true
2. sometimes true
3. true most of the time
4. not applicable
5. don't know

All classrooms and libraries have books, videos, etc. that represent a wide variety of racial/ethnic people.

1. not at all true
2. sometimes true
3. true most of the time
4. not applicable
5. don't know

Our displays, brochures, and publicity pieces reflect diversity.

1. not at all true
2. sometimes true
3. true most of the time
4. not applicable
5. don't know

The staff and leadership visually reflect a commitment to multicultural ministry.

1. not at all true
2. sometimes true
3. true most of the time
4. not applicable
5. don't know

Educational

Do we schedule events to broaden our experiences and perspectives?

We strive to teach a respect for diversity.

1. not at all true

2. sometimes true
3. true most of the time
4. not applicable
5. don't know

Our educational materials reflect a variety of racial/ethnic people (and language groups if appropriate to our congregation.)

1. not at all true
2. sometimes true
3. true most of the time
4. not applicable
5. don't know

Racial/ethnic people are consulted when new curriculum or educational materials are developed.

1. not at all true
2. sometimes true
3. true most of the time
4. not applicable
5. don't know

We regularly offer classes that give insight into different racial/ethnic people.

1. not at all true
2. sometimes true
3. true most of the time
4. not applicable
5. don't know

We are sensitive to the differences in teaching and learning styles among people from a variety of cultures and traditions.

1. not at all true
2. sometimes true
3. true most of the time
4. not applicable
5. don't know

Our faith is presented in terms of the history, tradition, and contribution of minority cultures as well as the dominant culture.

1. not at all true
2. sometimes true
3. true most of the time
4. not applicable
5. don't know

We offer on-site racism and diversity sensitivity training.

1. not at all true
2. sometimes true
3. true most of the time
4. not applicable
5. don't know

We promote off-site racism and diversity sensitivity training for members of our congregation.

1. not at all true
2. sometimes true
3. true most of the time
4. not applicable
5. don't know

We offer our site for racism and diversity sensitivity training.

1. not at all true
2. sometimes true
3. true most of the time
4. not applicable
5. don't know

Events

Do we schedule events to broaden our experiences and perspectives?

Our congregation invites other congregations representing different racial/ethnic groups to share in opportunities for outreach, recreation, and worship.

1. not at all true
2. sometimes true
3. true most of the time
- not applicable
- don't know

Our congregation promotes times for members to visit or to participate in other racial/ethnic groups' work, play or worship experiences.

1. not at all true
2. sometimes true
3. true most of the time
4. not applicable
5. don't know

We hold activities to celebrate the diversity already among us and to become familiar with a variety of racial, ethnic, and cultural traditions.

1. not at all true
2. sometimes true
3. true most of the time
4. not applicable
5. don't know

Thank you for your efforts with this Inventory. Racism is a serious and often subtle problem in our country and in our congregations and must be addressed. This Inventory is intended to help a congregation engage in conversation about its own reality of racism. Then, from that discussion, the congregation can design ongoing healing actions that will serve as a guide for planning and annual evaluation.