

# Sardis Baptist Church Anti-Racism Resources



Dear Sardis Family,

Last week, in response to the murders of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, and Ahmaud Arbery (not to mention the unjust killings of too many other black and brown neighbors), we as a staff promised to begin compiling a list of resources. We believe these resources will be helpful in informing our hearts and minds, generating constructive dialogue about systemic racism in our community, and helping us to discern and implement tangible choices and actions to help make justice, equity, and love more prevalent in our city. In short, we want to find ways to be better followers of Jesus.

Here is a link to a PDF document that starts this process. We will also post it our website and Facebook page. Our list is by no means exhaustive, nor is it complete. We will continue to add to it in the coming weeks, and we hope you will offer additional suggestions.

With peace, and in hope,

Bob, Hilary, Jonathan, Kathryn, and Tillie

## Anti-racism Book List:

- The Charlotte-Mecklenburg Library has compiled a list of books to help people engage in meaningful dialogue around the topic of institutionalized racism: <http://library.booksite.com/7627/nl/?list=CNL1&group=EB26>

We found this list helpful because it provided good summaries of each source. The staff all have recommendations to the congregation for discussion/book study opportunities, and will be sharing more details about that in the coming days and weeks. If you would like to buy books rather than borrow them, LitHub.com has created a list of black-owned bookstores where you can procure printed copies. <https://lithub.com/you-can-order-today-from-these-black-owned-independent-bookstores/?fbclid=IwAR3ck-BOqevRxduIlpOa4yKy68lyDMNCxIJZe8M58v0M8y91yLYtyazIOE>

- The New York Times, as well as the Seattle Times recently posted a list of books to help parents engage their children on the topic of race and protest:
  - **NYT:** <https://www.nytimes.com/2020/06/02/parenting/kids-books-racism-protest.html>
  - **Seattle Times:** <https://www.seattletimes.com/entertainment/books/books-for-kids-and-teens-about-race-racism-and-police-violence/>

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## Resources for parents talking to children:

We hope you will find the following of help as you speak with your children (in an age-appropriate manner, of course).

1. [Talking Race with Young Children](#) is a must-listen NPR podcast for parents, part of the ongoing series "Parenting: Difficult Conversations."
2. It's never too early to [talk to our kids about racism](#) (via Pretty Good). A timeline of children's attitudes about race, from age 0 to 7.
3. [Extensive anti-racism resources](#) with books, podcasts, articles and videos, including a special section on "Resources for white parents to raise anti-racist children"
4. <https://www.embracerace.org/resources/where-to-find-diverse-childrens-books>  
EmbraceRace was founded in early 2016 by two parents who set out to create the community and gather resources to meet the challenges of raising children in a world where race matters.

## Articles, Blogs, Videos and Podcasts:

Here are a few items that we found helpful, either because of their connection to Charlotte, or because of local and regional figures of interest.

- Oprah Winfrey has produced two one-hour specials called ***Where Do We Go From Here*** that feature thoughts from prominent black leaders on how to address issues of systemic racism – the first segment includes Rev. William Barber
  - <http://www.oprah.com/app/where-do-we-go-from-here.html>
- **VICE News June feature on Charlotte: *Black South Rising***
  - After massive protests followed the police shooting of a black man in 2016, the city of Charlotte took the unprecedented move of electing a majority-minority leadership. As they go into their second term, the new leadership's attempt at making their community more equitable for its black and brown community is coming up against 150 years of deep segregation and continued police shootings.
  - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2ErWlsnECTo>
- **Union Seminary Discussion: *What should white Christians do about racism?*** featuring Rodney Sadler and other Charlotte faith leaders.
  - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MdbJZqXmSGc&feature=youtu.be>

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- **The 1619 Project** is an ongoing initiative from The New York Times Magazine that began in August 2019, the 400th anniversary of the beginning of American slavery. It aims to reframe the country's history by placing the consequences of slavery and the contributions of black Americans at the very center of our national narrative. You may need to create a user account to access this in full.
  - <https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2019/08/14/magazine/1619-america-slavery.html>
- The **Southern Poverty Law Center** is dedicated to fighting hate and bigotry and to seeking justice for the most vulnerable members of our society. Using litigation, education, and other forms of advocacy, the SPLC works toward the day when the ideals of equal justice and equal opportunity will be a reality. Their website offers invaluable resources and articles:
  - <https://www.splcenter.org/>
- **Minority Korner:** Are you easily confused by terms like cultural appropriation, cisgender, toxic masculinity, twunk, queer, black girl magic, and woke? Or maybe you're tired of explaining terms like these and you need a community that gets you! Welcome to Minority Korner, where we take an introspective look at the world through an intersectional lens. Join James: a queer, political, comedian, self-proclaimed, sexy blerd (that's Black Nerd) and each week he's joined in the Korner by another fabulous minority tackling pop culture, the news, media, and history all with a little self-care, and self-love sprinkled throughout! It's time to Learn, Laugh, and Play, right here at Minority Korner- because together: we're the majority!
  - <https://maximumfun.org/podcasts/minority-korner/>
- **The National Museum of African American History and Culture at the Smithsonian** offers a list of helpful articles and resources for talking about race in America:
  - <https://nmaahc.si.edu/learn/talking-about-race/resources>

## Denominational Resources:

- Our denominational partner, **Alliance of Baptists**, has created a wonderful website with books, articles, organizations, and other resources for individuals to consider:
  - <https://allianceofbaptists.org/resources/antiracism-resources>
- In addition, the **United Church of Christ** offers a curriculum to help congregations engage white privilege.
  - <http://privilege.uccpages.org/>

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a spiritually  
progressive  
community  
of faith

## Implicit Bias Inventory:

- For those interested, Harvard created an Implicit Bias Inventory. This may not be an easy thing to engage, but it can help individuals in identifying areas for improvement, as well resources and writings that might be most helpful.
  - <https://implicit.harvard.edu/implicit/takeatest.html>