

## Personal Commitment

“Our goal is to create a beloved community and this will require a qualitative change in our souls as well as a qualitative change in our lives.”

The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

**Make a decision to commit to at least two of the items listed below.**

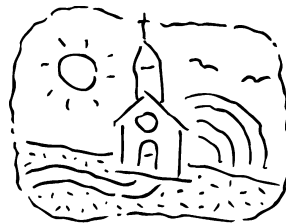
- € Participate in a Sacred Conversation on Race
- € Reflect on my thoughts, attitude and behavior toward others who are different from me
- € Speak out against all forms of racial oppression
- € Examine and confront ways in which I have privilege or engage in forms of oppression
- € Examine ways in which I am impacted by internalized oppression
- € Learn about contemporary forms of racism
- € Be an ally for eradicating racism in all forms

## Congregational Commitment

“...that they may all be one  
Jesus (John 17:21)

**Decide to serve as a leader in your congregation in at least one of the ways listed below.**

- € Host a Sacred Conversation on Race involving my congregation and local community
- € Provide a safe place for on-going dialogue about race
- € Engage in and provide opportunities for members of the congregation to impact racial justice issues
- € Provide anti-racism training for members of the congregation
- € Foster diversity and multiculturalism in the life of the church
- € Provide a variety of resources to promote learning and dialogue (i.e. books, DVD, etc.)



## Community Commitment

“Be the change you want to see in the world.”

Mahatma Gandhi

**Continue the work in the community in which you live:**

- € Learn more about the diversity in my community
- € Find and participate with racial justice organizations striving to impact change
- € Stay abreast of federal, state and local legislative and policy issues related to racial justice

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### Background Resources

"Unpacking the Invisible Knapsack"  
by Peggy McIntosh  
<http://www.case.edu/president/aaction/UnpackingTheKnapsack.pdf>

"The End of Whiteness?"  
<http://www.theatlantic.com/doc/200901/end-of-whiteness>

"Conversations about Race need to be fearless"  
by Dennis Sparks  
<http://www.wmep.k12.mn.us/Posting/JSDSingletonSparks.pdf>

## Resources\*\*

Barndt, Joseph. *Understanding and Dismantling Racism: The Twenty-First Century Challenge to White America*. Fortress Press: 2007.

Butler, Lee H. *Black Church, Black Theology, and the Politics of Religion in America: A Reflection on the Theology-Race Controversy*. The Center for the Study of Black Faith & Life, Chicago Theological Seminary: 2008.

*Immigrants Targeted: Extremist Rhetoric Moves into the Mainstream*. Online report documented and written by the ADL (Anti-Defamation League). [www.adl.org/civil\\_rights/anti\\_immigrant/default.asp](http://www.adl.org/civil_rights/anti_immigrant/default.asp)

*Living the Faith: A Guide for Strengthening Multicultural Relationships*. Augsburg Fortress, 2000.

McIntosh, Peggy. "White Privilege and Male Privilege: A Personal Account of Coming to See Correspondences Through Work in Women's Studies," Working Paper No. 189, Center for Research on Women, Wellesley College, Wellesley, MA 02181. [www.lamission.edu](http://www.lamission.edu)

*The Color of Fear*. 90 minutes. DVD. [www.stirfryseminars.com](http://www.stirfryseminars.com). (510) 204-8840.

*A Dream in Doubt*. 57 minutes. Color. DVD with Study Guide. (415) 863-0814. [distribution.asianamericanmedia.org](http://distribution.asianamericanmedia.org).

*Eyes on the Prize* Can be ordered through: [teacher.shop.pbs.org](http://teacher.shop.pbs.org).

\*\* Find more resources at:  
<http://www.ucc.org/sacred-conversation/pdfs/SCbook-whole.pdf>  
(pp. 51-59)

## Getting Involved in the Connecticut Conference UCC

- ❖ Join the Sacred Conversations on Race Ministry Team
- ❖ Participate and/or promote a Community of Color Congregational Gathering:

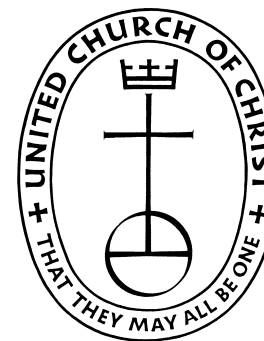
African-American October 14<sup>th</sup>  
Latino-American November  
Pacific Island and Asian American  
December

- ❖ Participate and/or promote a Regional Anglo/Caucasian Congregational Gathering
- ❖ MLK Annual Service – Beginning Jan 2010 (annual event will include, lecture, social action and conversations)
- ❖ Create a *Conference Congregational Partnerships* (Congregations can partner with each other to have Sacred Conversations on Race.)

\* For additional information on the Sacred Conversations on Race Initiative please contact, Rev. Day McCallister, [DaVitaM@ctuucc.org](mailto:DaVitaM@ctuucc.org), Facebook: DaVitaMcCallister or (860) 761-7115

## Sacred Conversations on Race

## Commitment to Change



Connecticut Conference  
United Church of Christ  
Fall Annual Meeting 2009

125 Sherman Street  
Hartford, CT 06105  
[www.ctuucc.org](http://www.ctuucc.org)