

Compiled by Members of the Beloved Community: Commission for Racial Reconciliation

Required Reading

- Douglas, Kelly Brown
Stand Your Ground: Black Bodies and the Justice of God
Waking Up White...and Finding Myself in the Story of Race
- Kendi, Ibram X.
How to be an Anti-Racist
- Oluo, Ijeoma
So You Want to Talk About Race
- Spellers, Stephanie
The Church Cracked Open: Disruption, Decline, and New Hope For Beloved Community

Other Books to Consider:

Race and Our Church

- Cone James H.
The Cross and the Lynching Tree
- Curry, Michael B.
Crazy Christians: A Call to Follow Jesus
Love is the Way: Holding onto Hope in Troubling Times
- Hamilton, Adam
Making Sense of the Bible: Rediscovering the Power of Scripture Today
When Christians Get it Wrong
- Meeks, Catherine
Living Into God's Dream: Dismantling Racism in America
The Night is Long but Light Comes in the Morning: Meditations on Racial Healing
- Shaper, Donna
40 Day Journey with Howard Thurman
- Taylor, Barbara Brown
Learning to Walk in the Dark
- Thurman, Howard
Jesus and the Disinherited
- Tisby, Jemar
The Color of Compromise: The Truth About America's Complicity in Racism
- Wallis, Jim
America's Original Sin
- Washington, James M. (ed.)
A Testament to Hope: the Essential Writings of Martin Luther King

Racism Today:

Updated February 2023

- Alexander, Michelle
The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in an Age of Color Blindness
- Butler, Paul
Choke Hold: Policing Black Men
- Coates, Ta-Nehisi
Between the World and Me
- Lowery, Wesley
They Can't Kill Us All
- Morris, Monique
Black Stats: African Americans by the Numbers in the 21st Century
- Stevenson, Bryan
Just Mercy: A Story of Justice and Redemption

The Legacy of Slavery:

- Blackmon, Douglas A.
Slavery by Another Name
- DeGruy, Joy
Post Traumatic Slave Syndrome
- Halberstam, David
The Children
- Kendi, Ibram X.
Stamped from the Beginning
- McGhee, Heather
The Sum of Us: What Racism Costs Everyone and How We Can Prosper Together
- Miles, Tiya
All That She Carried: The Journey of Ashley's Sack, a Black Family Keepsake
- Rothstein Richard
The Color of Law: A Forgotten History of How Our Government Segregated America
- Sharfstein, Daniel
The Invisible Line: A Secret History of Race in America
- Smith, Clint
How the Word is Passed: A Reckoning With the History of Slavery Across America
- Tatum, Beverly Daniel
Why Are All the Black Kids Sitting Together in the Cafeteria?
- Villarosa, Linda
Under the Skin: The Hidden Toll of Racism on American Lives and on the Health of Our Nation
- Wilkerson, Isabel
The Warmth of Other Suns: The Epic Story of America's Great Migration
Caste: the Origins of Our Discontents

To Be White:

- Allen, Theodore W.
The Invention of the White Race
- Anderson, Carol
White Rage: The Unspoken Truth of Racial Divide
- Dyson, Michael Eric
Tears We Cannot Stop: A Sermon to White America
- Harvey, Jennifer
Dear White Christians
- Hill, Daniel
White Awake: An Honest Look at What it Means to be White
- Painter, Nell Irvin
The History of White People
- Tochluk, Shelly
Witnessing Whiteness: The Need to Talk About Race and How to Do It
- Wise, Jim
White Like Me: Reflections on Race from a Privileged Son
(Note: the author grew up in Nashville)

The 21st Century:

- Akbar, Na'Im
Chains and Images of Psychological Slavery
- Bonilla-Silva, Eduardo
Racism Without Racists: Color Blind Racism and the Persistence of Inequality in America
- McNeil, Brenda Salter
Roadmap to Reconciliation

Novels:

- Gyasi, Yaa
Homegoing
- Morrison, Toni
Beloved
- Picoult, Jody
Small Great Things
- Whitehead, Colson
The Underground Railroad