



# Loaves & Fishes

SAINT ANDREW PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH NEWS

AUGUST 2020

NEXT SUBMISSION DEADLINE IS AUGUST 21ST

## Courageous Conversations

*Rappin' with the Rev by Pastor Dave Milam*



Race and racism are difficult topics to discuss for two big reasons. The first is that because of examples like what happened in Charlottesville or of things like the killing of George Floyd, racism is depicted only in the extreme. Racism becomes an either/or proposition. Those who are guilty of it are deemed shameful and horrid. None of us wants to be associated with even the possibility of it. The second reason that talking about racism is so difficult is because we only understand it in terms of personal responsibility. We define our world by terms only of individual actions and responsibilities, and by doing so, negate how much our realities are shaped by large social and cultural forces that put in place systems of privilege and abuse. But whether our code words for systemic racism get stated in terms of “looking for a good school district for our kids,” or avoiding “urban centers,” if we dig a little deeper we find it hard to avoid how race and racism permeate almost every aspect of American life. So, the challenge of our day is not how do we continue to avoid talking about race and racism, but how can we start learning to name it and take actions to dismantle it.

I’ve just articulated a rather hopeful approach to the topic, especially given how it is so deeply ingrained in our American life. According to

American University professor and author, Ibram Kendi, the only way to not be a racist is to become an anti-racist. Race and racism are not something that leaves a person a position of neutrality. Neglecting to learn more deeply about the topic and acknowledging that our complicity in it is how we continue to perpetuate racism and its continued destructiveness to our relationships and social norms and practices.

As we talked about race and racism at our June Session meeting, we ended up agreeing that folks found themselves unable to be conversant about this topic. Yes, we all agreed that it is uncomfortable and even embarrassing to talk about race and racism – that we probably weren’t quite as Christian about it as we should be as individuals and as a church. So, we invited our National Capital Presbytery leader, the Rev. John Molina-Moore to join our discussion. John said that our Presbytery has made Dismantling Racism as one of its more prominent emphases. He pointed us to the NCP webpage to find resources to help us put together a courageous conversation at St. Andrew (<https://thepresbytery.org/mission-highlights/dismantling-racism/small-group-resources/>). And he encouraged us to pursue what our Presbytery is supporting in many of its one hundred plus

churches – have a dedicated time to learn about it and talk about it. He especially asked for us not to end up having the regular 15% of any church’s members to begin this courageous conversation. He asked that we seek to get a majority of those who are members and friends of St. Andrew to spend some dedicated time pursuing this.

Race and Racism are our topics, then, for August. Our biggest ask is for our church to be in a group of four to six adults for a 45-minute conversation following our 45 minute church services for the month. Each of our Session members and a few of our Ministry Team members have agreed to facilitate these groups – either through Zoom or in person at their homes. And I’ll tell you, at least some of these daring souls are nervous about how they will do in conducting these conversations. But the point isn’t to beat anyone up. It’s to hear some new things, talk about how each participant processes this, can learn from this and find ways to be a better follower of Jesus. My sermons will be about seeing the other and seeing ourselves, hearing the other as we hear ourselves, so that we can stand with one

another better together. Some of our friends from Loudoun County will be guests in helping us to better understand race and racism. These include Leesburg Town Council member Ron Campbell, former Loudoun NAACP President Phillip Thompson, local historian Donna Bohanan and to end our discussions I’ve been able to get Loudoun County Board of Supervisors Chair Phyllis Randall to be in a dialogue with Purcellville Police Chief Cynthia McAlister about law enforcement practices and reform.

Please listen to the services and join in this timely discussion. Thank you, in advance, for doing so.

Yours faithfully,

Pastor Dave Milam



### Join us Sundays on FACEBOOK LIVE

As we stream Service live at 10:00AM

### Not on Facebook?

You can watch live by going to our website [standrew-pres.org](http://standrew-pres.org)



**Lovettsville Group**

Not currently meeting due to novel coronavirus.

**Brunch Bunch**

Is off for the summer.

**Men's Group**

Not currently meeting due to novel coronavirus.

**The St. Andrew Book Club**

The next meeting is scheduled for August 22nd at 7:30 pm. The book under discussion will be Unsheltered by Barbara Kingsolver. Please call or text Zoe Sowers at 703 629-4964 for more information and the location.

**Virtual Gatherings**

Small groups are encouraged to meet via Zoom or Facebook Live.

Please contact the church office (secretary@standrew-pres.org) to schedule your meeting or if you have any questions



**"I See You, I Hear You, I Stand With You"**  
**COURAGEOUS CONVERSATIONS ON RACE & RACISM**

August Sermon Series & Small Groups

Guest Speakers



**Rev. Dave Milam**  
Host



**Ron Campbell**  
Council Member  
(Leesburg Town Council)



**Cynthia McAlister**  
Purcellville Police Chief



**Phyllis Randall**  
Loudoun County  
Board of Supervisors Chair

Also featuring: **Donna Bohanon**  
(Local Historian)

**Phillip Thompson**  
(Former Loudoun NAACP President)

**August 9 • 16 • 23 • 30**  
**SUNDAYS 10AM**

"Ours is a challenging time, but also one of great opportunity. With humility and faithfulness before God and one another, we invite our community to join us. In this series we seek to learn about racism seeking to address the wounds it has made. Listening, becoming more vulnerably honest, we hope for deepening friendships and yearned for social change."  
~ Pastor David Milam



When: Sundays August 9, 16, 23 and 30 during and after our 10:00 -10:45 am Sunday worship services

Who: The whole St. Andrew congregation!!!

How: Facilitated small, house groups gathered to watch the service, with discussion from 10:45-11:30am.

Where: If you are all right with it, gather in groups of less than 10 in someone's home for the hour and a half OR sign up to be a part of one of several Zoom discussion groups from the safety and privacy of your own home.

What: While talking about race and racism are challenging conversations to be sure, we hope that these discussions will work for those who have never participated in something like this -- with simple, basic questions that will allow everyone to explore this topic safely, and with dignity and grace.

Why: Jesus' Gospel envisions God's new creation to be one of welcome and goodness for all. Because of systemic, social norms like segregation, housing discrimination and the like our nation has been unable to fulfill its aspiration to become a society of full inclusion and justice. We hope that these beginning point discussions for how to be anti-racist will equip our congregation to fulfill its call for the kind of world Jesus promises.



**Informational Meeting**

**AUGUST 17**  
**7:00PM**



via Googlemeet

Interested please email Deborah Hill  
(coffeebooksrain@earthlink.net)

**NEW SESSION OF FIRST PLACE FOR HEALTH BEGINS AUGUST 30TH!**

Has quarantine caused you to neglect your health? Are you finding yourself choosing "snacking and scrolling" over Bible Study and self-care? If so, consider joining the next session of First Place for Health!

First Place for Health is an international bible-based weight management and balanced living program -- focused on the whole person: physical, emotional, mental, and spiritual. Following their "Motivated to Wellness" 9-week Bible Study, our group will meet virtually using GoogleMeet on Monday evenings, 7-8:30pm. Starting August 31, we will meet September 14<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup>, & 28<sup>th</sup>; October 5<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup>, & 26<sup>th</sup>; and November 2<sup>nd</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup>. The study costs \$17.49 and each participant will need to order their own copy from [www.firstplaceforhealth.com](http://www.firstplaceforhealth.com).

There will be an informational meeting via GoogleMeet on August 17<sup>th</sup> at 7pm. Please email Deborah Hill at [coffeebooksrain@earthlink.net](mailto:coffeebooksrain@earthlink.net) to get a link to the meeting. We will discuss an outline of a typical meeting, what First Place studies are like, and how each person can help support the group. Please contact Deborah at the above email address or at 301-928-0729 with any questions.

**NEW MEMBERS**



**Brian Steffens**



**Brenda Tester**



**Sue Johnson**

## Suggested ideas for the Month of August



Items for Loudoun Hunger Relief – Canned Vegetables and Fruits, Canned Tuna and Chicken

Mobile Hope – Single Serve meals (Pasta meals, tuna and chicken)



Diapers – smaller sizes



Please drop off donations during Church Office Hours.

Thank you for your continued support with these important Mission partners!



Pastor Dave had the privilege and pleasure of performing the marriage ceremony of Jessica C and Rishan C on July 25th.

## AUGUST BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

<i>Happy Anniversary this month to:</i>	11 Tony Noerpel
6 Tyler and Kara Marquardt	12 Chris MacWhorter
12 Mat and Melanie Curtis	Brian Sullivan
Carson and JoAnna Rich	13 Roger Hesseinius
14 Hans and Stacy Newton	Lynn Krepich
Terry and Katie Schwieger	14 Clark Seipt
18 Zack and Emily Henderson	15 Kirsten Blake
19 Chris and Robin Laybourne	16 Reagan Fike
20 Daniel and Amber Gillispie	18 Nancy Aiello
31 Mark and Andie Broshkevitch	Jason Massey
<i>Happy Birthday this month to:</i>	22 Rebecca Falter
1 Akinge Ntantang	Zoe Sowers
5 Annabelle Macdonald	23 Kent Carneal
Dolores Treptow	Lisa Massey
6 Colin Falter	24 Grace Newton
Jenna Henderson	27 Kim Peele
Carolyn Wagers	28 Liam Mitchell
Betty Willis	Brad Morell
10 Sally Gehl	Gunner Ronan
Hannah Lutz	Matthew Wilburn
	30 Gene Thomas

## LORD HEAR OUR PRAYERS

### We lift up our concerns

#### Congregation

Amber G asks for prayers for safe travel to visit family. Betty W and Roger H, who have both moved to senior living centers. Anthony S asks for prayers for Cherise I with some health issues. Joanna R prays for NLC Board members and direction for decisions they have to make for the 2020-2021 school year. Also, safety and well-being of NLC families, and those laid off from work.



### We continue to pray for

#### Friends and Family

Robin L for nephew (James' godfather), Sean, for recovery from emergency heart surgery. Joy that the aneurysm was found and that he came through surgery so well. For successful knee surgery for brother-in-law, Brad on July 20th. Kim P for Aunt Dot in NC, who passed after cardiac arrest on July 18th, and brother Chip, who had back pain but is doing better after receiving retreatment in NC. Sue S (Friend of the church): Prayers for the safety of our daughter and her family as they travel from Las Vegas to Yorktown, VA for a PCS. Josh S for four of his colleagues who were permanently laid off. Susan G for friend Patsy's mom who goes for treatment twice a week.

#### Joys

All confirmands and their wonderful mentors: Kirsten S and Ally F mentors for James, Kim P for Nathan G and Kevin B for Jack N. Jason and Lisa M expecting baby boy in November. Laurie and Mike B for their 32nd wedding anniversary. Sue and Robert S for their 40th wedding anniversary. Hailey S whose friend's mom tested negative for COVID-19.

#### Community/World

Prayers for all teachers, school admin, students and parents. Ruth Bader Ginsburg recovering from surgery.

## AUGUST MUSIC REHEARSALS

**VIRTUAL CHOIR REHEARSALS**

Join the choir from home!  
We are rehearsing through Zoom.

**WEDNESDAYS**  
**7:00PM - 8:00PM**

Interested?  
Email Zack at [zackh900@gmail.com](mailto:zackh900@gmail.com)

The **St. Andrew Ringers** and the **Children's Choir** are not currently meeting due to restrictions imposed by the coronavirus pandemic.

## Flower Calendar

If you would like to provide flowers to decorate the sanctuary, please sign up on the Flower Calendar in the entryway or call Nancy Gilmore. Purcellville Florist will deliver the flowers to the church in time for the Sunday service if you order from them. Of course, you are free to bring in your own arrangements or get them elsewhere. If you have any questions, please contact Nancy Gilmore at 540-454-3219 or [ngilmore5@verizon.net](mailto:ngilmore5@verizon.net).



### August Flower Calendar

2nd	Open	9th	Open
16th	Semiao	23rd	Open
30th	Open		

### September Flower Calendar

6th	Open	13th	Open
20th	Open	27th	Open

The deadline for each issue of *Loaves & Fishes* is the **21st of each month**. The next deadline is AUGUST 21st. Please send your submissions to Sally Brenton at [sbrenton@rstarmail.com](mailto:sbrenton@rstarmail.com).

## SCRIPTURES AND SERMONS FOR AUGUST

### August Sermon Series: "I See You, I Hear You, I Stand with You:" Courageous Conversations on Race and Racism

#### August 2<sup>nd</sup> (At Home Celebration of the Lord's Supper)

Theme: Why having courageous conversations gives hope

Scripture: James 1:2-10

Sermon: *"I See You"*

Guest Speaker: Ron Campbell (Citizens for a Better Leesburg)

#### August 9<sup>th</sup> (Small group courageous conversations begin)

Theme: Opening our (white persons') eyes to see the racism in ourselves

Scripture: James 2:1-13

Sermon: *"I See Myself"*

Guest Speaker: Philip Thompson (Past President, Loudoun NAACP)

#### August 16<sup>th</sup> (Small group courageous conversations continue)

Theme: Overlooked civics lessons that could have told of systemic racism

Scripture: James 3:1-10

Sermon: *"I Hear You"*

Guest Speaker: Donna Bohannon (Loudoun historian)



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The Rev. Dr. David Milam, Pastor

The Rev. JoAnna Rich, Children and Family Ministries Director

Marcia Owens, Clerk of Session

Communion is celebrated on the first Sunday of each month

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#### August 23<sup>rd</sup> (Small group courageous conversations continue)

Theme: What's in it (i.e. justice and more neighborliness) for me?

Scripture: James 4:1-10

Sermon: *"I Hear Myself"*

Guest Speaker: Kate Rohrbaugh

#### August 30<sup>th</sup> (Small group courageous conversations conclude)

Theme: Making a difference in police reform so that Black Lives Matter

Scripture: James 5:7-20

Sermon: *"I Stand with You"*

Guest Speakers: Chair Phyllis Randall (Loudoun Board of Supervisors) Chief Cynthia MacAlister (Purcellville Police Department)