



UMW Racial Justice Next Steps

Step forward in your confidence

- Invite a friend, neighbor, or co-worker to talk about “The Talk.” Start by saying, “I recently learned about the fear African-Americans have for their children regarding law enforcement. Would you be willing to share with me what it is like for you in our community?”
- Start a conversation in your UMW unit using the lunchtime Circle Process and any of the open discussion and table discussion questions. Use circle discussions to discern ways in which God wants your group to bring about greater racial justice in your community
- Seek support from your church pastor in creating ministry with criminal-justice involved populations once your group discerns with whom God is calling you to be in relationship.

Step up your competence

- Attend All In Community trainings and events like the two in your folder
- Invite one of our panelists or a local service provider to present at your unit meeting
- Join a local reentry coalition or a county-based Family and Children First Council

Step into your curiosity & consciousness

- Listen to podcasts, Ted Talks, or YouTube videos on unconscious, or implicit, bias
- View scripture through the “lens of differences” and discover be curious about the many ethnicities, nationalities, or races that God has created.
- Reflect, reflect, reflect on what you hold in common and what you find to be different with each person you meet and develop relationships with.

Step toward each other in community

- Have your unit host an All In Community training or speaker for your church and community
- Talk to your community’s school superintendent, local law enforcement, or reentry coalition about ways you and your unit can provide alternatives to school suspension, incarceration, and felony-record discrimination.

- Invite members of your unit to become trained in the Restorative Justice Circle Process and find an organization within the community to practice it.
- Contact Reba Collins to explore established pathways for developing relationships with the criminal justice-involved population with whom your group has been called to minister.

Love one another like the whole world depends on it

- Be relationship focused in your ministry engagement.
- Be consistent and intentional in developing relationships with people of a different racial or ethnic group.
- Be in love with God's diverse human creation and hold all of God's children as worthy of love, dignity, and equity in the community.

Panelists Contact Information:

- Mr. Terry "Nunnie" Green, ThinkMakeLive,
mgreen@thinkmakelive.org or 614-815-9352
- Ms. Teri Ferguson, Hamilton County Schools,
tlynferg225@gmail.com or 513-349-7380
- Dr. Mike Davis, Ohio Depart. of Rehabilitation & Correction,
mike.davis@odrc.state.oh.us
- Mr. Gary Croft, Ohio Depart. of Rehabilitation and Correction,
gary.croft@odrc.state.oh.us (guest)
- Pastor Vaughn & Pavanne Cook, Gethsemane UMC,
vaughncook25@gmail.com, 614-805-7924
- Ms. Kathy Moore, Westgate & Parkview UMCs,
mynanyak@aol.com, 440-773-4393

Upcoming Next Step Opportunities

UNSPOKEN: The Pain of You, Me and We

Saturday, May 11th, 10am – 2pm

Featuring National Prison Summit Presenter Dian Erika

Gethsemane United Methodist Church

5081 Carbondale Dr., Columbus, OH 43232

RSVP: vaughncook25@gmail.com by May 6th

We Can't Talk About THAT at Church! Training

Saturday, May 18th, 10am – 2pm

Central Community Center

102 W. High Street, Springfield, OH 45502

This All In Community training provides tips and practical steps for having conversations around divisive and polarizing topics such as race, politics, and incarceration.

Register here: <https://www.westohioumc.org/equip/mission-and-justice/conference/event/we-cant-talk-about-church-0>

Registration deadline is next **Friday, May 10th**

Annual Conference All In Community Luncheon

Tuesday June 4, Noon - 1pm

Fountain Inn Chautauqua Hall

Lunch Cost: \$15.00

Deadline to register is May 19th.

Register here: <https://www.westohioumc.org/conference/event/all-community-lunch>

Dismantling the School-to-Prison Pipeline

(Featuring Dr. Tia Martinez)

Thursday & Friday, November 7-8

9:00am – 5:00pm

Cincinnati and Columbus

Locations: TBD

Dr. Tia Martinez has over 25 years' experience doing social change work in low-income communities in the United States. She is currently doing work on dismantling the school-to-prison pipeline and transforming life chance for boys and men of color. She specializes in strategies built on research policy change, community stakeholder engagement, and leadership development.

We are incredibly excited to bring Dr. Martinez to West Ohio. She is a phenomenal presenter who can help us mobilize strategically to dismantle the school-to-prison pipeline from multiple angles – generational poverty alleviation, addiction epidemic, racial injustice, school

engagement, family support, and, of course, mass incarceration and reentry. She can inform and engage any ministry with people experiencing disadvantage of any kind.

More details on Dr. Martinez's visit are on their way soon!