



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN

E-Link

August 12, 2020

Adult Forum

On hiatus

Worship

10:30 am

This Weekend's Worship

Worship this weekend is our fourth in a six-week series in Romans called, *Broken: Good News in Difficult Times*. Sermon: "Irrevocable Grace" Scripture: Romans 11:1-32

Our **online worship experience** will be available for viewing anytime this week-end. Lynette will send out an email when it is ready for viewing with a link to the video. Just click on the link and it should take you right to it. Or tune in to CFU Cable channel 18 or 95.5 at 7:00 pm Saturday or 12:00 noon Sunday to watch it. Worship services broadcast on CFU will be behind by a week due to production requirements. Current services will continue to be available on our website. Spread the word and the link to worship. Invite your family and friends to join us for virtual worship!

Getting Curious - A Resource Guide

Last Sunday during our Fellowship Hour Zoom, we discussed ways we have seen racism or participated in racist behavior without even being aware of it. It was enlightening to hear stories from a variety of experiences and geographic locations. As we continue to get curious about racism in America and our communities, we realized that a resource guide would be helpful. What follows is just a small selection of the many great resources available. I will continue to share resources as I encounter them. As it is important to hear the firsthand stories of Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC), I will try to limit selections to BIPOC authors and creators. This week's focus is on the Black American experience.

Have you recently read a book or watched a video that was helpful to your continuing work to understand and combat racism? I would love to hear about it. Send your selection suggestion along via email or snail mail and I will add it to an upcoming resource discussion.

Your partner in the work for justice,

Pastor Julie

Books

Austin Channing Brown uses an intentional mix of humor, pop-culture, story-telling, and audience engagement. She awakens people to the current realities of systemic racism and the everyday actions which make it possible. Her voice as a Black woman of faith is an important one for White Christians to hear.

I'm Still Here: Black Dignity in a World Made for Whiteness [http://](http://austinchanning.com/the-book)



austinchanning.com/the-book

An illuminating look at how white, middle-class, Evangelicalism has participated in an era of rising racial hostility, inviting the reader to confront apathy, recognize

God's ongoing work in the world, and discover how blackness--if we let it--can save us all.

Ibram X. Kendi is one of America's foremost historians and leading antiracist voices. "The opposite of 'racist' isn't 'not racist' it is 'anti-racist'. Being an antiracist requires persistent self-awareness, constant self-criticism, and regular self-examination."

[See page 3 for more resources...](#)

Church Birthdays

Aug. 14-Rhonda Braley,
21-Noah Tollefson

For your prayers...
Walt and Carolyn Stephenson

Doug & Sandy Lawry's
neighbor Angie

Jeverna Mulligan's
friend Teresa Shock

Marlys Folkers grand-
son, Eli Moretz

Upcoming Zoom Events & Meetings Sunday, August 16

11:00 am Fellowship

Monday, August 17

6:00 pm Worship Team

Tuesday, August 18

6:00 pm Grand Sweep
Bible Study

Thanks for serving last week:

Pianist: Connie Herbon

Vocalists: Brad & Sandy Jensen

Videographer/editor: Eric Braley

Window maintenance: Jim Seeley

Microphone upgrade: Neal Leeper

Kitchen Supplies: Jane Seeley

Community Ministries Update

Soles for Souls:

Pat King from 'Eye of the Needle' reported that since early July she has provided over 100 pairs of shoes to children in the Cedar Valley, and she continues to get requests. She purchases shoes using money donated by our church as part of our "Soles for Souls" mission project.

Mission Opportunities:

- Community Ministries is holding a school supplies (pencils, erasers, spiral notebooks, etc.) and personal hygiene products drive from now until September 12. Eye of the Needle will provide donated items to students and families along with school uniforms and shoes.
- When school starts this fall students will be expected to wear face masks. Eye of the Needle will be happy to distribute homemade cloth masks to their clients; and they will **accept donated masks of all sizes and styles, sewn or purchased.**

All donations can be left inside the north entrance of the church.

Click and read a news story on 'Eye of the Needle': [KWWL](#)

One of the most important things churches can do is mission work to help our brothers and sisters in need. Our church has a long history of supporting mission work, hands-on and financially, at the local, state, national, and international levels. The Community Ministries committee provides opportunities for our congregation to support mission work, evangelism, and our college ministry. Are you looking to make a difference during these difficult times? Would you like to engage with our local community in new and challenging ways? Consider joining the Community Ministries committee! The committee meets once per month, currently on Zoom. Contact Jan Thedens or Pastor Julie to volunteer. **We need YOU!**

Lectionary on the Lawn

Monday, August 17 at 10:00 am, you are invited to join Pastor Julie on the front lawn to discuss the upcoming Sunday's scripture selection. Bring your own chair and Bible. In case of rain, the discussion will be cancelled. The scripture passage for next week is Proverbs 21:3 and Romans 12:1-5.

Lawn Mowing Volunteers!

Please sign up by contacting the church or use the Google Doc link to sign up. : [Mowing Sign Up](#)

Due to dry weather conditions, please check before mowing to see if it's needed.

The week of :

August 2: Seeley

August 23: *Open

August 9: Lawry

August 30: *Open

August 16: Lawry

September 6: *Open

Sympathy to Chuck & Kathy Orr upon the death of their son, Jim from COVID-19. More information soon.

Deacons' News

Sadly, we will not be celebrating the beginning of the new year of church activities with the Deacon's Brunch. The Deacons have worked diligently to stay connected with our church family. We continue to make contact through birthday and thinking of you cards. We have made phone contact to check on how people are coping with our changing times. It is difficult for our shut-in friends because face to face contact has been limited. Please keep the church office informed of anyone that you feel needs a little extra care and concern.

We are grateful to hear the stories of how our congregation touches base with members. We need to continue to keep in contact with each other.

Fellowship Hour

Sunday, August 16 at 11:00 am, is our next Fellowship Hour via Zoom. Each week we check in with each other as a large group and then get into smaller groups for discussion time. We had a great conversation last week about sundown towns and redlining. We would love to have you join us! If you do not have reliable internet access, you may join by phone. To join contact us for the link.

The Grand Sweep Bible Study: This class meets weekly on Tuesdays from 6:00-7:30 p.m. **via Zoom.** Missing a few classes are fine. Because our newsletter is sent on Wednesdays, the link will be included with our Fellowship Hour email sent on the Friday before.

Tuesday, August 18 - Scripture: Psalms 1-75

Leader: Rev. Johnny Janssen

Session Highlights

At our Session meeting on August 3, a motion was passed to continue worship services virtually and evaluate the pandemic situation at the next regular session meeting as to whether in-person worship is a possibility this fall. Services will continue to be available online for the time being. While this decision was a difficult one, it takes into consideration the vulnerability of our membership and the probability of rising COVID-19 cases as students return to classes. We are working on coordinating safely distanced events for the near future so we can see each other in person. Stay tuned for more details!

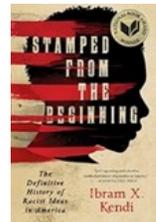
"GETTING CURIIOUS" - MORE RESOURCES

Stamped from the Beginning <https://www.ibramxkendi.com/stamped>

Racist thought is alive and well in America - more sophisticated and more insidious than ever. And if we have any hope of grappling with this stark reality, we must first understand how racist ideas were developed, disseminated, and enshrined in American society. This book is a "must-read" for understanding the roots of racist ideas

How to be an Anti-Racist <https://www.ibramxkendi.com/how-to-be-an-antiracist-1>

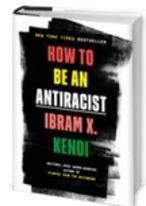
Kendi begins by helping us rethink our most deeply held, if implicit, beliefs and our most intimate personal relationships (including beliefs about race and IQ and interracial social relations) and reexamines the policies and larger social arrangements we support. A free discussion guide is available at the above link.



Podcasts

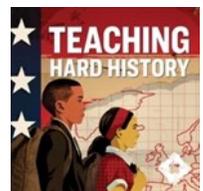
Teaching Hard History <https://www.tolerance.org/podcasts/teaching-hard-history>

What we don't know about American history hurts us all. Teaching Hard History begins with the long and brutal legacy of chattel slavery and reaches through the victories of and violent responses to the civil rights movement to the present day. Host, Dr. Hasan Kwame Jeffries, brings us the lessons we should have learned in school through the voices of leading scholars and educators. Podcast episodes are available at the link above and on your favorite podcast streaming app.



Resources for Parents, Grandparents, and Kids

Bounceback Parenting has a very helpful list of resources for talking to kids (ages 0-12) about race and racism. https://bouncebackparenting.com/resources-for-talking-to-kids-about-race-and-racism/?fbclid=IwAR36AGMmVEIyT7dX6gKdPpkeujW5_THyu10nkmF9PACoGMu5T-1zIQ1DWqE



Kesa Kivel Studios Kesa Kivel is a Los Angeles-based educator, game-maker, and activist. She has developed a downloadable board games addressing racial justice. Check out "The Road to Racial Justice" and "The Blobber Game" here: <https://kesakivelstudios.org/>

