Join the Conversation!

The R & R Reading Groups are structured around one of the central themes of the From Every Nation (FEN) document: Reconciliation and Restoration. Via poignant topics of a selected text, participants are given the opportunity to discuss racial justice issues in order to "become active agents of racial reconciliation" (FEN p. 29). Through self-reflection, individuals are empowered to work toward a restored, multicultural community. See the Diversity & Inclusion Events Calendar for information on current reading groups.

Past Reading Selections:

- The Grace of Silence: A Family Memoir by Michele Norris
- Coming Together in the 21st Century: the Bible’s Message in an Age of Diversity by Curtiss Paul DeYoung
- Incognito: An American Odyssey of Race and Self-Discovery by Michael Fosberg
- Witnessing Whiteness: The Need to Talk About Race and How to Do It by Shelly Tochluk
- Becoming an Anti-Racist Church: Journeying Toward Wholeness by Joseph Bardnt
- The Race Myth: Why We Pretend Race Exists in America by Dr. Joseph Graves
- Dreams From My Father: A Story of Race and Inheritance by Barack Obama
- White Like Me: Reflections on Race from a Privileged Son by Tim Wise
- Teachable Moments: Short Stories to Spark Diversity Dialogue by Steve Robbins
- Silent Racism: How Well-Meaning White People Perpetuate the Racial Divide by Dr. Barbara Trepagnier
- The One in the Many: Christian Identity in a Multicultural World edited by Thomas R. Thompson
- Racism and God-Talk: A Latino/a Perspective by Rubén Rosario Rodriguez
- Reconciliation Blues: A Black Evangelical's Inside View of White Christianity by Edward Gilbreath
- The Help by Kathryn Stockett
- Mobilizing Hope: Faith-Inspired Activism for a Post-Civil Rights Generation by Adam Taylor
- Neither Jew Nor Gentile by George Yancey
- Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet by Jamie Ford
- Disunity in Christ: Uncovering the Hidden Forces That Keep Us Apart by Christena Cleveland
- Dog Whistle Politics: How Coded Racial Appeals Have Reinvented Racism and Wrecked the Middle Class by Ian Haney López
- Cultural Intelligence: Improving Your CQ to Engage Our Multicultural World by David A. Livermore
- Understanding Disability: Inclusion, Access, Diversity, and Civil Rights by Paul T. Jaeger and Cynthia Ann Bowman
2015-2016 Reconciliation and Restoration Reading Group Opportunities

**Fall Reading Group**

*Dear White Christians: For Those Still Longing for Racial Reconciliation*
by Jennifer Harvey

A deeply constructive, hopeful work, *Dear White Christians* will help readers envision new racial possibilities, including concrete examples of contemporary reparations initiatives. This book is for any who care about the gospel call to justice but feel stuck trying to get there, given the ongoing prevalence of deep racial divisions in the church and society at large. Though Jennifer is White, this book is not just for White people. Everyone is welcome to participate in the book discussion.

Meets every other Tuesday from 12:30 - 1:30 p.m. - September 15, 29, October 13, 27, November 10.

**Spring Reading Group**

*Understanding Disability: Inclusion, Access, Diversity, and Civil Rights*
by Paul T. Jaeger and Cynthia Ann Bowman

Written to educate and inform readers about the social roles of disability, this accessible and informative work addresses: social classifications of disability; social reactions to disability; legal rights and classifications of persons with disabilities; issues of accessibility to information and communication technologies; representations of disability in a range of media, including literature, painting, film, television and advertising; and major issues shaping the contemporary social roles of persons with disabilities. By examining the social roles of disability in the past and present from a range of perspectives and disciplines, this book reveals a portrait of the social place, limitations, and rights of persons with disabilities. For more information see: [http://www.barnesandnoble.com/](http://www.barnesandnoble.com/).

Meets every other Monday from 12:30 - 1:30 p.m. – February 8, 22, March 7, 21, April 4

**Summer Reading Group**

*Just Mercy: A Story of Justice and Redemption*
by Bryan Stevenson

In this book, Stevenson writes with impassioned purpose about the early work of the Equal Justice Initiative that he founded to defend the poor and the wrongly condemned and convicted, including several who spent years, even decades on death row. A powerful first-person appeal for just mercy.


“Bryan Stevenson is America’s young Nelson Mandela, a brilliant lawyer fighting with courage and conviction to guarantee justice for all. Just Mercy should be read by people of conscience in every civilized country in the world to discover what happens when revenge and retribution replace justice and mercy. It is as gripping to read as any legal thriller, and what hangs in the balance is nothing less than the soul of a great nation.” - Desmond Tutu, Nobel Peace Prize Laureate

“From the frontlines of social justice comes one of the most urgent voices of our era. Bryan Stevenson is a real-life, modern-day Atticus Finch who, through his work in redeeming innocent people condemned to death, has sought to redeem the country itself. This is a book of great power and courage. It is inspiring and suspenseful—a revelation.” - Isabel Wilkerson, author of *The Warmth of Other Suns*

Meets Wednesday, June 15, from 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.