

**Anti-Racism Training Resource List: Books**  
**First Presbyterian Church of Annapolis**  
**[www.annapolis-presbyterian.com](http://www.annapolis-presbyterian.com) / 410.267.8705**

Dismantling Racism Workbook for Leaders:

<https://resourcegeneration.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/2016-dRworks-workbook.pdf>

Racial Lens Exercise:

<https://robindiangelo.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/01/Frame-of-Ref-latest-2014.pdf>

**Books:**

(Books in red have been studied in class, in whole or in part; books with \* have detailed descriptions listed at the end of this document)

***Asian American Pacific Islander Native Hawaiian Desi American:***

Honor Asian Women Syllabus compiled after the Atlanta Spa Shooting:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1MQG1JrhffvdABastCFf06Vbf2s1wCS0l/view?usp=drivesdk>

Atlanta Syllabus: <https://asianamerican.wisc.edu/student-resources-2/atlantasyllabus/>

Chang, David. *The World and All the Things upon It: Native Hawaiian Geographies of Exploration*. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 2016.

Das Gupta, Monisha. *Unruly Immigrants: Rights, Activism, and Transnational South Asian Politics in the United States*. Durham, NC: Duke University Press, 2006.

Francisco-Menchavez, Valerie. *The Labor of Care: Filipina Migrants and Transnational Families in the Digital Age*. Champaign: University of Illinois, 2018.

Iyer, Deepa. *We Too Sing America: South Asian, Arab, Muslim, and Sikh Immigrants Shape Our Multiracial Future*. New York, NY: The New Press, 2017.

Gonzalez, Vernadette Vicuña. *Securing Paradise: Tourism and Militarism in Hawai'i and the Philippines*. Duke University Press, 2013.

Kauanui, J. Kēhaulani. *Hawaiian Blood: Colonialism and the Politics of Sovereignty and Indigeneity*. Duke University Press, 2008.

Lee, Erika. *The Making of Asian America: A History*. New York, NY: Simon & Schuster, 2015.

Okamoto, Dina. *Redefining Race: Asian American Panethnicity and Shifting Ethnic Boundaries*. Russell Sage Foundation, 2014.

Silva, Noenoe K. *Aloha Betrayed: Native Hawaiian Resistance to American Colonialism*. Durham: Duke University Press, 2004.

Trask, Haunani-Kay. *From a Native Daughter: Colonialism and Sovereignty in Hawai'i*. Honolulu: University of Hawai'i Press, 1999.

Wu, Ellen D. *The Color of Success: Asian Americans and the Origins of the Model Minority*. Princeton, New Jersey: Princeton University Press, 2014.

Wu, Frank. *Yellow*. New York: Basic Books, 2003.

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### ***Racism and the Church***

Dear White Christian, Layton

Dear White Christians, Jennifer Harvey

\**Divided by Faith: Evangelical Religion and the Problem of Race in America*, by Michael O. Emerson and Christian Smith (2001). Through a nationwide telephone survey of 2,000 people and an additional 200 face-to-face interviews, Michael O. Emerson and Christian Smith probed the grassroots of white evangelical America. They found that despite recent efforts by the movement's leaders to address the problem of racial discrimination, evangelicals themselves seem to be preserving America's racial chasm. In fact, most white evangelicals see no systematic discrimination against blacks. But the authors contend that it is not active racism that prevents evangelicals from recognizing ongoing problems in American society. Instead, it is the evangelical movement's emphasis on individualism, free will, and personal relationships that makes invisible the pervasive injustice that perpetuates racial inequality. Most racial problems, the subjects told the authors, can be solved by the repentance and conversion of the sinful individuals at fault.

**Jesus and the Disinherited**, Thurman (1949). Howard Thurman's classic treatment of his quest to understand the religion of Jesus that could be embraced by intelligent men and women who were at the same time deeply victimized by the Christian Church's betrayal of their faith.

**Letter from the Birmingham Jail**, MLK

Race in America: Christians Respond to the Crisis; David Maxwell

\**The Christian Imagination: Theology and the Origins of Race*, by Willie James Jennings. Winner of the 2015 Louisville Grawemeyer Award in Religion and of the 2011 American Academy of Religion Award for Excellence, Constructive-Reflective Study. A ground-breaking account of the potential and failures of

Christianity since the colonialist period. Why has Christianity, a religion premised upon neighborly love, failed in its attempts to heal social divisions? In this ambitious and wide-ranging work, Willie James Jennings delves deep into the late medieval soil in which the modern Christian imagination grew, to reveal how Christianity's highly refined process of socialization has inadvertently created and maintained segregated societies.

\***The Color of Compromise**, Tisby. An acclaimed, timely narrative of how people of faith have historically--up to the present day--worked against racial justice. And a call for urgent action by all Christians today in response. The Color of Compromise is both enlightening and compelling, telling a history we either ignore or just don't know. Equal parts painful and inspirational, it details how the American church has helped create and maintain racist ideas and practices. You will be guided in thinking through concrete solutions for improved race relations and a racially inclusive church.

\***The Cross and the Lynching Tree**, Cone. The cross and the lynching tree are the two most emotionally charged symbols in the history of the African American community. In this powerful new work, theologian James H. Cone explores these symbols and their interconnection in the history and souls of black folk. Both the cross and the lynching tree represent the worst in human beings and at the same time a thirst for life that refuses to let the worst determine our final meaning.

\***The Sin of White Supremacy: Christianity, Racism, and Religious Diversity in America**, by Jeannine Hill Fletcher (2017). How have Christian theologies of religious superiority underwritten ideologies of white supremacy in the United States? According to Hill Fletcher, the tendency of Christians to view themselves as the "chosen ones" has often been translated into racial categories as well. In other words, Christian supremacy has historically lent itself to white supremacy, with disastrous consequences.

\***White Too Long**, Jones Drawing on history, public opinion surveys, and personal experience, Robert P. Jones delivers a provocative examination of the unholy relationship between American Christianity and white supremacy and issues an urgent call for white Christians to reckon with this legacy for the sake of themselves and the nation.

### ***Racism and Health Care***

### ***Racism and Residential Segregation***

**The Color of Law: The Forgotten History of How Our Government Segregated America**, Richard Rothstein

### ***Law and Incarceration***

**The New Jim Crow**, Michelle Alexander

### ***Racism and Economics***

Can American Capitalism Survive? Why Greed is Not Good, Opportunity is Not Equal, and Fairness Won't Make Us Poor, Steve Pearlstein

Decolonizing Wealth: Indigenous wisdom to heal divides and restore balance, Edgar Villanueva

### ***How to be Anti-Racist***

**This Book is Anti-Racist; subtitled "20 Lessons on How to Wake Up, Take Action and Do the Work."**

How to Be an Anti-Racist, Kendi

**\*White Fragility**, DiAngelo. The New York Times best-selling book exploring the counterproductive reactions white people have when their assumptions about race are challenged, and how these reactions maintain racial inequality. In this "vital, necessary, and beautiful book" (Michael Eric Dyson), antiracist educator Robin DiAngelo deftly illuminates the phenomenon of white fragility and "allows us to understand racism as a practice not restricted to 'bad people' (Claudia Rankine).

### ***For Children and Youth***

Elementary Grades :

*Kyoshi's Walk* by Mark Karlins

When Kiyoshi, a young boy of Japanese heritage, asks his grandfather poet where poems come from, Grandfather Eto takes him for a walk where Kiyoshi finds both answers and inspiration to write a haiku of his own.

*The Electric Slide and Kai* by Kelly Baptist

Eager to earn a cool dance nickname from his grandad, Kai enlists members of his black family to teach him to dance before his Aunt Nina's wedding.

*Jump at the Sun: The True Life Tale of Unstoppable StoryCatcher Zora Neale Hurston* by Alicia D Williams

This vibrant picture book biography follows Zora Neale Hurston's life from her early fascination with stories, to her struggles to get an education, to her fieldwork in anthropology, to her, at last, reaching the sun, writing books and sharing stories.

*My Two Border Towns* by David Bowles

A Latino boy and his father cross the US-Mexico border to spend their Saturday, visiting with family and friends, running errands, and bringing much needed supplies to hopeful refugee families camping along the bridge.

*Change Sings: A Children's Anthem* by Amanda Gorman

As a young black girl leads others on a musical journey, they learn that they have the power to change the world, their communities, and themselves

*Zonia's Rain Forest* by Juana MArtinez-Neal

Zonia, a young Ashaninka girl whose home is with those she loves in the Peruvian Amazon, spends carefree time with her animal friends of the erain forest until one day she visits a place where the forest has been destroyed.

Middle Grades :

*Finding Junie Kim* by Ellen Oh

Twelve year old Korean American Junie Kim who's kept quiet about the bullying and racism she encounters at school, is diagnosed with depression but is later inspired to speak out after learning about her grandfather's experiences during the Korean War.

*Loretta Little Looks Back: Three Voices Go Tell It* by Andrea Davis Pinkney

Loretta, Roly, and Aggie B Little relate their Black family's challenges and triumphs from 1927 to 1968 while struggling as sharecroppers, living under Jim Crow , and fighting for Civil Rights in Mississippi

*We Belong* by Cookie Hponia Everman

In this novel, in free verse, half-Filipino, half-white Stella and her younger sister Luna get a bedtime story of a Tagalog myth and their mother Elsie's immigratiion to the US from the Philippines

*Flying the Dragon* by Natalie Dias Lorenzi

American-born Skye is a good student and a star soccer player who never really gives any thought to the fact that her father is Japanese. Her cousin, Hiroshi, lives in Japan, and never really gives a thought to his uncle's family living in the United States.

Skye and Hiroshi's lives are thrown together when Hiroshi's family, with his grandfather (who is also his best friend), suddenly moves to the U.S. Now Skye doesn't know who she is anymore: at school she's suddenly too Japanese, but at home she's not Japanese enough. Hiroshi has a hard time adjusting to life in a new culture, and resents Skye's intrusions on his time with Grandfather. Through all of this is woven Hiroshi's expertise, and Skye's growing interest in kite making and competitive rokkaku kite flying.

*The Magic in Changing Your Stars* by Leah Henderson

Full of disappointment after bungling his audition to play the Scarecrow in *The Wiz*, Black fifth grader Ailey Benjamin Lane is magically transported to the year 1939 where he meets his own grandfather and legendary tap dance Bill "Bojangles" Robinson.

**Master List:**

A Girl Stands at the Door, Devlin  
America's Original Sin, Wallis  
**Asian American Dreams: the Emergence of an American People**, Helen Zia  
Barracoon: The Story of the Last Black Cargo  
Beloved, Morrison  
Between the World and Me, Coates  
Can American Capitalism Survive? Why Greed is Not Good, Opportunity is Not Equal, and Fairness Won't Make Us Poor, Steve Pearlstein  
Caste, Isabel Wilkerson  
Deacon King Kong (novel), McBride  
Dear White Christian, Layton  
Dear White Christians, Jennifer Harvey  
Decolonizing Wealth: Indigenous wisdom to heal divides and restore balance, Edgar Villanueva  
Dignity: Seeking Respect in Back Row America, Florence "Flo" Kennedy, Randolph  
\*Divided by Faith: Evangelical Religion and the Problem of Race in America, by Michael O. Emerson and Christian Smith (2001)  
Good White Racist?, Connelly  
Halfway Home by Reuben Jonathan Miller (incarceration and what happens upon release)  
How to Be an Anti-Racist, Kendi  
I Am Not Your Negro, Baldwin  
**\*I'm Still Here: Black Dignity in a World Made for Whiteness**, Channing Brown  
**Jesus and the Disinherited**, Thurman  
Just Mercy, Stevenson  
Let Justice Roll Down, Perkins  
**Letter from the Birmingham Jail**, MLK  
Me and White Supremacy, Saad  
My Grandmother's Hands, Menakem  
Native: Identity, Belonging, and Rediscovery God, Curtice  
Raising White Kids, Harvey  
Race in America: Christians Respond to the Crisis; David Maxwell  
Remember Me to Harlem, Hughes  
Robert E. Lee and Me: A Southerner's Reckoning with the Myth of the Lost Cause, Ty Seidule  
Small Great Things (novel), Picoult  
So You Want to Talk About Race, Ijeoma Oluo  
Stamped, Kendi (group study with Youth – Ark & Dove)  
Stamped From the Beginning, Kendi  
Strength to Love, MLK  
The Bluest Eye, Morrison  
The Christian Imagination: Theology and the Origins of Race, by Willie James Jennings  
**\*The Color of Compromise**, Tisby  
The Color of Law: The Forgotten History of How Our Government Segregated America, Richard Rothstein

\*The Cross and the Lynching Tree, Cone

The Hate U Give, Thomas

**The New Jim Crow**, Alexander

The Sum of Us: What Racism Costs Everyone and How We Can Prosper Together, Heather McGhee

The Trouble I've Seen, Hart

The Sin of White Supremacy: Christianity, Racism, and Religious Diversity in America, by Jeannine Hill Fletcher (2017)

The Warmth of Other Suns, Wilkerson

The Water Dancer (novel), Coates

**This Book is Anti-Racist; subtitled "20 Lessons on How to Wake Up, Take Action and Do the Work."**

This Bridge Called My Back, Moraga and Anzaldua

Waking Up White, Irving

We Were Eight Years in Power, Coates

When They Call You a Terrorist, Khan-Cullors and Asha Bandele

White Awake, Hill

**\*White Fragility**, DiAngelo

White Tears/Brown Scars: How White Feminism Betrays Women of Color, Hamad

**\*White Too Long**, Jones

Why Are All the Black Kids Sitting Together in the Cafeteria, Beverley Daniel Tatum

Thomas Sowell:

Race and Culture: A World View

Discrimination and Disparities

Common Sense in a Senseless World

Black Rednecks and White Liberals

Intellectuals and Society

Detailed info on several of the book suggestions:

Divided by Faith: Evangelical Religion and the Problem of Race in America, by Michael O. Emerson and Christian Smith (2001)

Through a nationwide telephone survey of 2,000 people and an additional 200 face-to-face interviews, Michael O. Emerson and Christian Smith probed the grassroots of white evangelical America. They found that despite recent efforts by the movement's leaders to address the problem of racial discrimination, evangelicals themselves seem to be preserving America's racial chasm. In fact, most white evangelicals see no systematic discrimination against blacks. But the authors contend that it is not active racism that prevents evangelicals from recognizing ongoing problems in American society. Instead, it is the evangelical movement's emphasis on individualism, free will, and personal relationships that makes invisible the pervasive injustice that perpetuates racial inequality. Most racial problems, the subjects told the authors, can be solved by the repentance and conversion of the sinful individuals at fault.

Combining a substantial body of evidence with sophisticated analysis and interpretation, the authors throw sharp light on the oldest American dilemma. In the end, they conclude that despite the best intentions of evangelical leaders and some positive trends, real racial reconciliation remains far over the horizon.

I'm Still Here: Black Dignity in a World Made for Whiteness, by Austin Channing Brown (2018)

**From a leading voice on racial justice, an eye-opening account of growing up Black, Christian, and female that exposes how white America's love affair with "diversity" so often falls short of its ideals.**

Austin Channing Brown's first encounter with a racialized America came at age seven, when she discovered her parents named her Austin to deceive future employers into thinking she was a white man. Growing up in majority-white schools and churches, Austin writes, "I had to learn what it means to love blackness," a journey that led to a lifetime spent navigating America's racial divide as a writer, speaker, and expert helping organizations practice genuine inclusion.

In a time when nearly every institution (schools, churches, universities, businesses) claims to value diversity in its mission statement, Austin writes in breathtaking detail about her journey to self-worth and the pitfalls that kill our attempts at racial justice. Her stories bear witness to the complexity of America's social fabric—from Black Cleveland neighborhoods to private schools in the middle-class suburbs, from prison walls to the boardrooms at majority-white organizations.

For readers who have engaged with America's legacy on race through the writing of Ta-Nehisi Coates and Michael Eric Dyson, *I'm Still Here* is 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.

The Christian Imagination: Theology and the Origins of Race, by Willie James Jennings (2011)

Winner of the 2015 Louisville Grawemeyer Award in Religion and of the 2011 American Academy of Religion Award for Excellence, Constructive-Reflective Study. A ground-breaking account of the potential and failures of Christianity since the colonialist period.

Why has Christianity, a religion premised upon neighborly love, failed in its attempts to heal social divisions? In this ambitious and wide-ranging work, Willie James Jennings delves deep into the late medieval soil in which the modern Christian imagination grew, to reveal how Christianity's highly refined process of socialization has inadvertently created and maintained segregated societies. A probing study of the cultural fragmentation—social, spatial, and racial—that took root in the Western mind, this book shows how Christianity has consistently forged Christian nations rather than encouraging genuine communion between disparate groups and individuals.

Weaving together the stories of Zurara, the royal chronicler of Prince Henry, the Jesuit theologian Jose de Acosta, the famed Anglican Bishop John William Colenso, and the former slave writer Olaudah Equiano, Jennings narrates a tale of



loss, forgetfulness, and missed opportunities for the transformation of Christian communities. Touching on issues of slavery, geography, Native American history, Jewish-Christian relations, literacy, and translation, he brilliantly exposes how the loss of land and the supersessionist ideas behind the Christian missionary movement are both deeply implicated in the invention of race.

Using his bold, creative, and courageous critique to imagine a truly cosmopolitan citizenship that transcends geopolitical, nationalist, ethnic, and racial boundaries, Jennings charts, with great vision, new ways of imagining ourselves, our communities, and the landscapes we inhabit

The Color of Compromise: The Truth about the American Church's Complicity in Racism by Jemar Tisby (2020)

**An acclaimed, timely narrative of how people of faith have historically--up to the present day--worked against racial justice. And a call for urgent action by all Christians today in response.**

*The Color of Compromise* is both enlightening and compelling, telling a history we either ignore or just don't know. Equal parts painful and inspirational, it details how the American church has helped create and maintain racist ideas and practices. You will be guided in thinking through concrete solutions for improved race relations and a racially inclusive church.

*The Color of Compromise:*

- Takes you on a historical, sociological, and religious journey: from America's early colonial days through slavery and the Civil War
- Covers the tragedy of Jim Crow laws, the victories of the Civil Rights era, and the strides of today's Black Lives Matter movement
- Reveals the cultural and institutional tables we have to flip in order to bring about meaningful integration
- Charts a path forward to replace established patterns and systems of complicity with bold, courageous, immediate action
- Is a perfect book for pastors and other faith leaders, students, non-students, book clubs, small group studies, history lovers, and all lifelong learners

The Cross and the Lynching Tree (2013)

The cross and the lynching tree are the two most emotionally charged symbols in the history of the African American community. In this powerful new work, theologian James H. Cone explores these symbols and their interconnection in the history and souls of black folk. Both the cross and the lynching tree represent the worst in human beings and at the same time a thirst for life that refuses to let the worst determine our final meaning. While the lynching tree symbolized white power and black death, the cross symbolizes divine power and black life God overcoming the power of sin and death. For African Americans, the image of Jesus, hung on a tree to die, powerfully grounded their faith that God was with them, even in the suffering of the lynching era.

The Sin of White Supremacy: Christianity, Racism, and Religious Diversity in America, by Jeannine Hill Fletcher (2017)

How have Christian theologies of religious superiority underwritten ideologies of white supremacy in the United States? According to Hill Fletcher, the tendency of Christians to view themselves as the "chosen ones" has often been translated into racial categories as well. In other words, Christian supremacy has historically lent itself to white supremacy, with disastrous consequences.

How might we start to disentangle the two? Hill Fletcher proposes educational strategies that will help foster racial healing in America, the first of which is to demand of white Christians that they accept their responsibility for racist policies and structural discrimination in America.

Waking Up White (2014)

For twenty-five years, Debby Irving sensed inexplicable racial tensions in her personal and professional relationships. As a colleague and neighbor, she worried about offending people she dearly wanted to befriend. As an arts administrator, she didn't understand why her diversity efforts lacked traction. As a teacher, she found her best efforts to reach out to students and families of color left her wondering what she was missing. Then, in 2009, one "aha!" moment launched an adventure of discovery and insight that drastically shifted her worldview and upended her life plan. In *Waking Up White*, Irving tells her often cringe-worthy story with such openness that readers will turn every page rooting for her—and ultimately for all of us.

### White Fragility - Robin DiAngelo (2018)

The New York Times best-selling book exploring the counterproductive reactions white people have when their assumptions about race are challenged, and how these reactions maintain racial inequality.

In this “vital, necessary, and beautiful book” (Michael Eric Dyson), antiracist educator Robin DiAngelo deftly illuminates the phenomenon of white fragility and “allows us to understand racism as a practice not restricted to ‘bad people’ (Claudia Rankine). Referring to the defensive moves that white people make when challenged racially, white fragility is characterized by emotions such as anger, fear, and guilt, and by behaviors including argumentation and silence. These behaviors, in turn, function to reinstate white racial equilibrium and prevent any meaningful cross-racial dialogue. In this in-depth exploration, DiAngelo examines how white fragility develops, how it protects racial inequality, and what we can do to engage more constructively.

### White Too Long: The Legacy of White Supremacy in American Christianity (2020)

Interview with Robert Jones August 2020 on the book (includes some interesting perspectives on political implications and trends):

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DaF6L\\_GFYh0](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DaF6L_GFYh0)

Drawing on history, public opinion surveys, and personal experience, Robert P. Jones delivers a provocative examination of the unholy relationship between American Christianity and white supremacy and issues an urgent call for white Christians to reckon with this legacy for the sake of themselves and the nation.

As the nation grapples with demographic changes and the legacy of racism in America, Christianity's role as a cornerstone of white supremacy has been largely overlooked. But white Christians—from evangelicals in the South to mainline Protestants in the Midwest and Catholics in the Northeast—have not just been complacent or complicit; rather, as the dominant cultural power, they have constructed and sustained a project of protecting white supremacy and opposing black equality that has framed the entire American story.

With his family's 1815 Bible in one hand and contemporary public opinion surveys by Public Religion Research Institute (PRRI) in the other, Robert P. Jones delivers a groundbreaking analysis of the repressed history of the symbiotic relationship between Christianity and white supremacy. *White Too Long* demonstrates how deeply racist attitudes have become embedded in the DNA of white Christian identity over time and calls for an honest reckoning with a complicated, painful, and even shameful past. Jones challenges white Christians to acknowledge that public apologies are not enough—accepting responsibility for the past requires work toward repair in the present.

*White Too Long* is not an appeal to altruism. Drawing on lessons gleaned from case studies of communities beginning to face these challenges, Jones argues that contemporary white Christians must confront these unsettling truths because this is the only way to salvage the integrity of their faith and their own identities. More broadly, it is no exaggeration to say that not just the future of white Christianity, but the outcome of the American experiment is at stake.