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A partnership between St. James UMC and Church of the Resurrection
You must love your neighbor as you love yourself.
Matthew 22:39

LEARNING TOGETHER AT NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK



A bus load of ARJ members, friends and guests enjoyed a day trip to Topeka last month to tour **The Brown v. Board of Education National Historic Park**. This amazing learning experience included a highly informative narration by Interpretive Park Ranger, Preston Webb, covering events and incidents in Kansas and throughout our country that led to the Supreme Court

landmark decision aimed at ending racial segregation in public schools. [Click here](#) to view more pics taken at the event.

BE AN ARJ DOER IN 2023!



It's not too early to lock in those New Year Resolutions. Put ARJ at the top of your list. We are looking for individuals to help keep our mission moving full steam ahead. You can spend a little time helping with just one activity ...or a lot of time involved in many, however your schedule allows. We need volunteers to serve on our Leader Team and on our various committees, including: Small Groups, Large Events, Marketing & Communications, and Community Liaisons. For more information, email amaltbia70@gmail.com or susan.dimick2@gmail.com and include "**ARJ Volunteer Information Please**" in the subject line. We have many meaningful and exciting things planned for the coming year and we need you to make them happen.



Last month, Jurisdictional Conferences saw the election of 13 new bishops for the United Methodist Church. Eight of these individuals are Black, Indigenous, or People of Color! We celebrate the increasing diversity of leadership in the UMC and we support continuing to make room at the table for more diverse leaders. For more information [click here](#).

GETTING TO KNOW OUR PARTNER CHURCHES BETTER

Forging authentic relationships to eliminate the existing racial divide in our communities and churches.

Is Advent Just an Early Christmas Season?



It often seems that the Advent season is getting eclipsed by Christmas -- a season that doesn't actually begin until December 25. So, if Advent isn't just about Christmas, what is it all about? Watch this short video [HERE](#) from The United Methodist Church to learn about the history and true meaning of Advent, as well as ways this season can be a time for spiritual growth.



Christmas Services at St. James and Resurrection are open to everyone. Bring your family and friends and celebrate the birth of our Lord together. Check websites for service times and for information on activities at both churches:

Resurrection COR.org/next
St. James Church <https://sjumckc.org>

St. James Church and Resurrection have returned to modified in-person worship and gatherings while retaining the options for virtual connections. Consult websites and sign up for the weekly Senior Pastor messages to better connect within our two congregations.

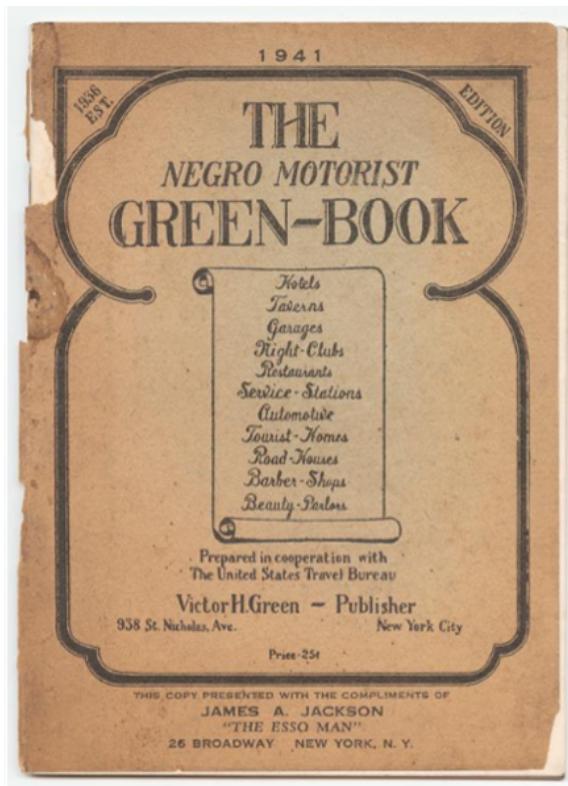
St. James Church

Sign up for Pastor Cleaver's Newsletter

Resurrection

Sign up for Pastor Adam's Newsletter

THE MUSICIANS' GREEN BOOK: AN ENDURING LEGACY



PBS celebrates African American artists who, during segregation, created the foundation of modern American music. This entertaining and educational documentary explores the stories and music of Black artists who relied on Victor Hugo Green's underground travel guide to navigate the injustices of racial segregation while on the road. The Negro Travelers' Green Book was a directory of lodgings, restaurants and entertainment venues where African Americans were welcomed. The program features performances and interviews with vocalists, musicians, activists, historians and others. Find it on local PBS stations.



What does it mean that God is global? How can we long for and pursue justice in a beautiful way? Sandra Maria Van Opstal is a second-generation Latina and the executive director of Chasing Justice. She is an amazing author, pastor, leader, and activist joining Latasha Morrison on the Be the Bridge Podcast to answer these questions and more. They powerfully remind us that we are all connected to one another and that we need one another. They discuss the rich gift that immigrants and refugees are to the church, the importance of mutuality, and they dive into how to develop leaders across cultures. [Click here.](#)

LEARNING FOR JUSTICE A Project of the Southern Poverty Law Center

Schools have historically been the battleground for democracy. While some politicians and a powerful few seek to erase uncomfortable truths from history, widespread support for teaching honest history remains. In the Fall issue of Learning for Justice, the SPLC explores how educators and families can navigate the current assault on our values in ways that create community, empathy and understanding. You can download the guide as well as register for the Advocating for Honest History workshop online by [clicking here.](#)

Read, View and Learn



Visit the Allies for Racial Justice website for great video and book suggestions that can help us better understand our differences, appreciate our similarities and establish Christ-centered solutions to end racial and social injustices. Terrific selections for ARJ Small Groups!

[Click HERE](#) for all our recommended reading and video resources

For more information on Allies for Racial Justice, visit our website:

<https://alliesforracialjustice.org>

or join the conversation on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/AlliesForRacialJustice>

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