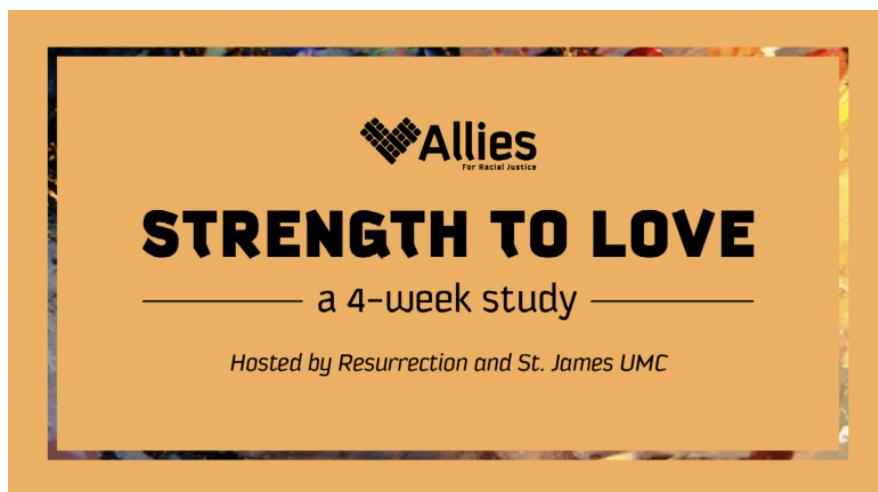


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A partnership between St. James UMC and Church of the Resurrection
You must love your neighbor as you love yourself.
Matthew 22:39

**DO YOU REALLY LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR?
“STRENGTH TO LOVE”
OCTOBER 2 - 23 6:30 - 8 PM**



It's not always easy to love our neighbors; especially when we don't know them or understand where they're coming from. But things can change if we

take steps together. Allies for Racial Justice presents an opportunity to do just that.

“Strength to Love” is a 4-week class based on a book by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., of the same name. It contains many of his stirring sermons and speeches that will lead us in timely, open, and honest dialog between members from St James and Resurrection churches. We will address the perennial and perplexing questions of love, faith and social justice.

St. James Associate Pastor Jacqueline McCall and Resurrection Leawood Location Pastor Robert Johnson will lead the sessions. Participants will be notified of course materials and be assigned to table groups in advance. Classes will be held on 4 consecutive Monday evenings from 6:30-8:00PM and will alternate locations: October 02 & 16 at Resurrection Leawood (13720 Roe Ave., Bldg. B, Leawood, KS 66224) and October 09 & 23 at St. James UMC (5540 Wayne Avenue, KCMO 64110).

We look forward to welcoming you as we connect face-to-face and heart-to-heart. Together, we can create racial healing, cooperation, understanding, and togetherness. We can intentionally think and live as Jesus taught us – loving our neighbors as ourselves.

To be part of this hopeful partnership series register now.

Week 1 October 02 - “A Tough Mind and a Tender Heart” - Resurrection Student Center, Bldg. C

Week 2 October 09 - “Transformed Nonconformist” - Saint James UMC, Wayne Street entrance

Week 3 October 16 – “On Being a Good Neighbor” - Resurrection Student Center, Bldg. C

Week 4 October 23 – “Love in Action” - Saint James UMC, Wayne Street entrance

Register Here

Ask A Question



Save These “Curtain Up” Dates

Allies for Racial Justice plans two inspiring live theatre learning experiences for you in 2024. Save the dates now and watch for details on how to purchase discount tickets in next month's newsletter.

NORTH – THE MUSICAL

Saturday, January 27 at 2 PM

Presented by Midwest

Trust Center, Yardley Hall, Johnson County Community College

In her debut theatrical production, Ashli St. Armant presents a powerful musical about a teenage boy and his mother who escape slavery in the Deep South through the Underground Railroad. The moving story explores the multi-faceted reality of Black life during the antebellum period, and brings out the full range of experiences of freedom seekers. While acknowledging the realities of slavery, the narrative and original musical compositions explore themes of optimism, bravery, playfulness, wonder, suspense and mystery. The musical is intended for intergenerational audiences, ages 10 and up.

NINA SIMONE – FOUR WOMEN

Sunday, February 18 at 2 PM

Presented by KCRep at the Copaken Stage

Described as “riveting, relevant and oh so real” (Broadway World), this deeply

personal play imagines how the iconic songstress gave voice to countless Black women fighting to overcome stereotypes and racism. The bombing of the 16th Street Baptist Church in Birmingham, AL on September 16, 1963 led Nina Simone to shift her career from artist to artist-activist. The play uses the framework of one of her most blistering songs, “Four Women”, to look at an artist and the women around her as their journey leads them down a path of discovery and healing.

COURAGEOUS CONVERSATIONS FOR HEALING RACISM IN THE CHURCH ONLINE BOOK DISCUSSION

Two Thursday Evenings	OR	Two Saturday Mornings
Oct. 5 & 12, 2023		Oct. 7 & 14, 2023
6 – 7:30 p.m. CDT on Zoom		9 – 10:30 a.m. CDT on Zoom

Plan to join ARJ's Debra Jarvis and UMC Rev. Michelle Cobb for a thoughtful and enlightening discussion of Rev. Austin Channing Brown's book "I'm Still Here: Black Dignity in a World Made for Whiteness". Nearly all organizations claim to value everyone in their mission and value statements.

Brown's book helps us understand how and why our actions fall short of those words and what restorative actions we can take. You don't have to have read the book; the facilitators will provide a complete overview. Registration is free and reservations required. The Zoom link will be provided once you've signed up. For more details contact Debra Jarvis at

317-213-0102 or djjarvey60@gmail.com

TAKE A SATURDAY WALK WITH US



**Saturdays Oct 7, 14, 21 & 28
7:30 - 9 AM**

Enjoy Fall fellowship and light exercise as we take Saturday morning “Walks with Jesus”. Walkers gather at a different area park each week. Come and meet members from our partner churches and make new friends. You’ll share interesting discussions while enjoying the beauty of nature. There is no prep work required. All you do is show up at 7:30 AM and we’ll walk together for an hour or so, starting at 8 AM. All are welcome. Pick any or all of these October dates and add them to your calendar now!

***October 07 – Liberty Memorial, 1 Memorial Drive, KCMO 64108**

***October 14 - Lowenstein Park, 1901 NW Lowenstein Drive, Lees Summit, MO 64081**

***October 21 - Swope Park, 63rd and Swope Parkway (meet at the entrance), KCMO 64132**

***October 28 - Waterworks Park, N.E. 32nd St. and North Oak Trafficway, KCMO 64116**

Pre-Register Here

GETTING TO KNOW OUR PARTNER CHURCHES BETTER

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

St. James UMC is creating focused teams to address specific issues and concerns over the next five years to identify areas where they can make a meaningful, God-filled difference. **Team Micah 6:8**, led by Pastor Jackie McCall, is discerning the greatest needs in the Greater Kansas City Area. They are asking what needs can be eliminated through the power of the Holy Spirit and community partnerships. Racial equity, food insecurity, violence and safety, houselessness and affordable housing are some of the broad areas to be carefully researched, examined, and narrowed down to doable action. If you would like to be part of the initial thinking and planning of this action-intended team, you are welcome to participate regardless of faith or church affiliation. For more details, contact Pastor Jackie McCall [jmccall@sjumckc.org.](mailto:jmccall@sjumckc.org)

Team Nehemiah 4:9 members are called to pray for the disciples of The Next Movement and the work they are tasked to complete. Everyone is welcome to be part of this prayer team. Join others at a **Prayer Walk on Saturday, October 21 at 11:00AM**. Meet in front of the sanctuary doors on the Wayne Avenue side of church. Wear comfy shoes. 5540 Wayne Ave, KCMO 64110. Contact Pastor Elmer Cunningham for details.
[ecunningham@sjumckc.org.](mailto:ecunningham@sjumckc.org)

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

Sign up for the weekly Senior Pastor messages for updates and 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](#)

OTHER INFORMATION & ACTIVITIES



Elections are coming up on November 7th and the **deadlines to register are October 11 in Missouri and October 17 in Kansas.**

VOTE411.org was launched by the League of Women Voters Education Fund in 2006 as a "one-stop-shop" for election related information. Vote 411 is committed to ensuring voters have the information they need to successfully participate in every election – local, state, and federal. It provides nonpartisan information to the public with both general and state-specific information on the following aspects of the election process:

- Absentee ballot information
- Ballot measure information (where applicable)
- Early voting options (where applicable)
- Election dates
- Factual data on candidates in various federal, state and local races
- General information on such topics as how to watch debates with a critical eye
- ID requirements
- Polling place locations
- Registration deadlines
- Voter qualifications
- Voter registration forms
- Voting machines

Be ready to vote. Go to <https://www.vote411.org/kansas> or <https://www.vote411.org/missouri> for the details.

ARJ members Susan and Tom Ventura prepared a directory of voting forums in Johnson County for the JOCO NAACP. Contact them for a copy:
skventura1020@gmail.com

COTERIE THEATRE Now through October 15



An excellent participatory play for families with ages 10+ is now showing at the Coterie. Based on a true story of how one young woman sought justice and defended the rights of millions. Audience members are sworn in as Supreme Court justices to hear Misuye Endo's challenge to her years-long incarceration at a U.S. government internment camp during WWII. For details and tickets: <https://thecoterie.org/2023-2024/justice-at-war/>



COCKEFAIR CHAIR PRESENTS

The Politics of Public Safety: Police Reform and Alternatives October 17 – 6 PM

Alex S. Vitale, is Professor of Sociology and Coordinator of the Policing and Social Justice Project at Brooklyn College and the CUNY Graduate Center.

He has spent the last 30 years writing about policing and consults community-based movements, human and civil rights organizations, and governments internationally. Vitale is the author of “The End of Policing”, among other books, essays, and academic writings on policing. He will be the featured speaker at this event. Social at 6 pm, followed by the program at 6:30. The event is free and open to the public. UMKC Student Union, Room 401, 5100 Cherry Street, KCMO 64110.

Register Here



COMING NOVEMBER 2



Tickets are now on sale for the Metro Organization for Racial Economic Equity (MORE2) 18th Annual Transformation Event. It will include live entertainment, food, good company, and guest speaker, Gregory C. Ellison II, PH.D.

And yes, he's the nephew of ARJ's Alex Ellison and the author of Fearless Dialogues: A New Movement for Justice along with other books and articles. He is the Associate Pastor of Pastoral Care and Counseling at the Candler School of Theology, Emory University.

For event details go to: <https://more2.org/23event/>

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://resurrection.church/arj>

or join the conversation on Facebook:

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

Allies for Racial Justice Team
13720 Roe Ave, Leawood, KS 66224
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