

Tuesday, October 1, 2024 at 11:31:43 Central Daylight Time

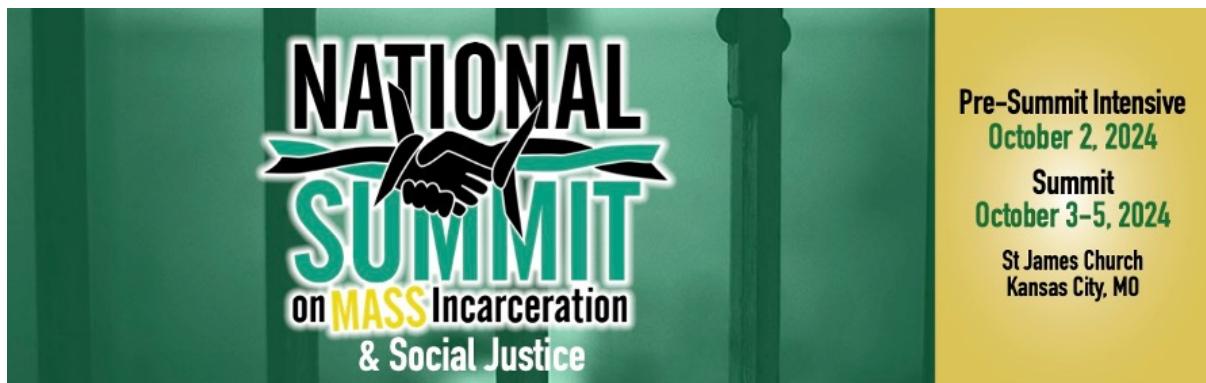
Subject: Allies for Racial Justice Newsletter

Date: Tuesday, October 1, 2024 at 11:31:26 AM Central Daylight Time

From: Allies for Racial Justice



October 2024



**A CRITICAL OPPORTUNITY TO
ADDRESS A DEEP-SEATED ISSUE THAT
HARMS INDIVIDUALS, FAMILIES AND
COMMUNITIES**

Strengthening the Black Church for the 21st Century (SBC21) holds its Biennial National Summit on Mass Incarceration and Social Justice on October 3-5, 2024, at St. James United Methodist Church in Kansas City, Missouri. A special Pre-Summit Intensive is scheduled at 4PM on October 2, and will focus on the unique impact of incarceration on women and girls.

The 2024 Summit theme, “**Healing Communities, Transforming Lives,**” underscores the urgent need to address the systemic issues surrounding mass incarceration while fostering community healing and empowerment.

The program features a series of workshops, panels, plenary and keynote sessions led by experts, advocates, and those with lived experience in the criminal justice system.

Attendees will explore topics such as criminal justice reform, plugging the pipeline to prison, reentry challenges, the role of the church in hope, social justice, healing and transformation.

Registration for the October 3-5 Summit is \$199. Registration for the October 2 Pre-Summit Intensive and dinner is \$25. A screening of the movie, **The Kemba Smith Story**, at 6PM is free and open to the public. For more information and to register for the Summit, visit www.sbc21.org or contact cdandridge@sbc21.org. SBC21 is a national ethnic plan of the United Methodist Church focused on supporting and strengthening Black churches in their mission to serve and uplift their communities.



Bruce R Watkins

LIVE MUSIC FRIDAY

Oct. 4 – 5-8PM
3700 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd
KCMO

Bring friends, family and small groups together for a fun evening at the Bruce R. Watkins Cultural Heritage Center. If you haven't visited this Kansas City gem, you won't want to miss this event. There will be music, art and libations. Joe Macklin & Friends will perform and artwork is courtesy of KC's African American Artists Collective.

Call 816-513-0700 to RSVP. [Events — Bruce R. Watkins Center](#)
brucewatkinscenter.com

LIVE THEATRE OPPORTUNITIES



LEARN AND ENJOY

Two local theatre productions are playing this month, providing opportunities for you to learn more about the African American experience.

Now through October 06, see **Horse Power: Tom Bass's American Story** at The Coterie. It tells the story of Tom Bass, a Missourian born in slavery who became the greatest horseman of his time. An internationally recognized "horse whisperer," he also started the American Royal's first horse show. In contemporary times, Black teenager Natalia is a new horse owner who learns about Bass and grapples with modern racism. Perfect for families with ages 9+. [2450 Grand Blvd Ste 144, KCMO 64108](#) in Crown Center.

[Homepage - The Coterie](#)

The KC Rep brings **Lady Day at Emerson's Bar & Grill** to the Copaken stage, October 8-27. This Tony Award-winning play takes you on a soulful journey through the life and music of the iconic Billie Holiday. Recommended for ages 14+. 1 H&R Block Way, KCMO 64105 in the H&R Block Bldg.

<https://kcrep.org/>

**SAVE THE DATE
“FENCES”
by August Wilson**

KC MELTING POT THEATRE

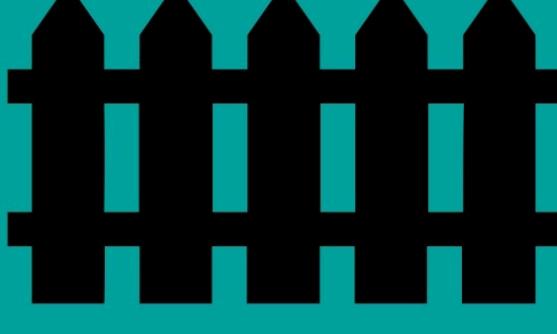
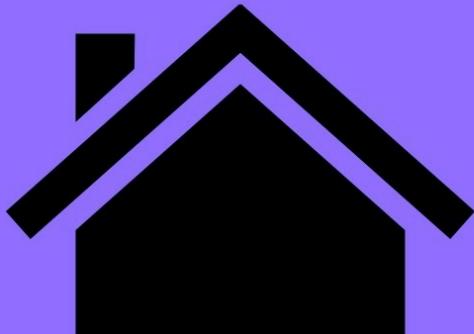
at Just Off Broadway

3051 Penn Valley Dr, KCMO 64108

FENCES

BY AUGUST
WILSON

DIRECTED BY
LYNN KING



2 PM – February 16, 2025

KC Melting Pot Theatre presents this award-winning play that explores the evolving African-American experience of race and family relations. It follows a working-class father, who is a former Negro League baseball player, as he tries to raise a family in the 1950s.

ARJ will host this Sunday afternoon matinee. We are finalizing the arrangements and will have details in future newsletters. Meanwhile, mark the date and time on your calendar for this great opportunity to connect!



TOGETHER WE VOTE

The following guidance, found in the United Methodist Social Principles, is a timely reminder that we need to come together in prayerful and earnest effort to address our concerns for social justice and sustainable democracy during the election season.

"Our involvement in political systems is rooted in the Gospel imperative to love our neighbors, to do justice, and to care for the vulnerable. As United Methodists, we acknowledge that love requires responsible political action and engagement aimed at the betterment of society and the promotion of the common good. We acknowledge that such political engagement demands humility and mindfulness of our own complicity in perpetuating injustice. It also necessitates compassion, prayer, and a willingness to discern God's guidance." **UMC Social Principles - Political Community**

We have a responsibility to our ourselves and our neighbors to be informed and ready to cast our votes. Together we can uphold efforts to eliminate barriers to voting and advocate for fair and transparent elections, believing that such participation aligns with our call to seek justice and love mercy in all aspects of life.

ARJ hopes the information provided below will help you in those efforts.

2024 General Election

| Key Dates in Missouri | Key Dates in Kansas |
|--|--|
| Sept. 20 – Applications mailed to permanently disabled | Oct. 15 – Last Date to Register or update your voter registration information |
| Sept. 21 – Military & Overseas Portal opens Sept. 24 – In Person Absentee Voting Begins | Oct. 16 – First day of advance voting. Advance ballots by mail are transmitted. In-person advance voting may begin. Check with your county election officer for specific times and locations. |
| Oct. 09 – Last Date to register to vote | Oct. 29 – Last day to apply for advance voting mail ballot |
| Oct. 22 - No Excuse in Person Absentee Voting Opens Nov. 05 – General Election – Polls Open 6 AM-7 PM | Nov. 04 – In-person advance voting ends at 12:00 p.m. |
| For information about upcoming MO elections and voting in your area, click below. KANSAS CITY RESIDENTS JACKSON COUNTY, NON-KC RESIDENTS | Nov. 05 – General Election – Polls Open 7 AM-7 PM; (<i>All advance ballots by mail must be postmarked by Election Day and received by Friday, November 8.</i>) |

Because democracy depends on informed voters, here are some resources that can help you when you want to learn more about what's on your ballot:

- [**Ballotpedia**](#): Ballotpedia is the nonpartisan digital encyclopedia of American politics and provides unbiased information on elections, politics and policy.
- [**FactCheck.org**](#): FactCheck.org is a project of the Annenberg Public Policy Center of the University of Pennsylvania. They are a nonpartisan, nonprofit “consumer advocate” for voters that aims to reduce the level of

deception and confusion in U.S. politics. FactCheck.org staff monitor the factual accuracy of what is said by major U.S. political players in the form of TV ads, debates, speeches, interviews and news releases.

- **Politifact:** PolitiFact is owned by the nonprofit Poynter Institute for Media Studies and prides itself on its nonpartisan political fact-checking with journalistic principles and standards. Their core principles are independence, transparency, fairness, thorough reporting and clear writing.
 - **Politifact (Missouri edition):** PolitiFact's Missouri focus is made possible by their collaboration with the University of Missouri. Reporters and researchers examine statements by Missouri elected officials and candidates and anyone else who speaks up on matters of public importance.
 - **Vote 411:** Provided by the League of women Voters Education Fund, Vote 411 is a “one-stop-shop” for election-related information. You can check your registration, find your polling place, and learn more about the candidates and issues you’ll vote on. The League does not support or oppose any candidates or parties.
 - **KC Voter Guide 2024:** 2024 is a big election year for Missouri and Kansas. The [KC Media Collective, in partnership with The Kansas City Star](#), have gathered all the information you need to vote in Jackson, Johnson, Clay, Platte, and Wyandotte counties.
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Justice. Equity. Diversity. Inclusivity. These are the foundational principles of a

thriving, multiracial and inclusive democracy. To build a more just future, we need inclusive education. This resource article includes recommendations to help you advocate for inclusive education. [Tips for Advocating for Inclusive Education](#)

Learning for Justice is a community education program of the Southern Poverty Law Center (SPLC). The political backlash to the ongoing movement for racial justice and equity in the United States has led to anti-inclusive laws, incubated in the South and becoming widespread in multiple state legislations, boards of education and local school districts. This current anti-inclusive agenda limits the opportunity for discourse around the realities of Black and Brown children, their families and communities. Learning for Justice supports the SPLC's work for justice to counter these attempts to minimize the learning of Black and Brown children and the significance of their communities as sites for learning.

Sign up now for upcoming Fall classes and activities.

OUR PARTNER CHURCHES

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

**St. James Church and Resurrection offer wonderful worship,
fellowship, and community volunteer activities each and every
month of the year. Check the individual websites and weekly
newsletters to stay up to date on all opportunities.**

Sign up now for upcoming Fall classes and activities.





Stay Connected – Visit our church's web pages and sign up for pastor newsletters.

Websites

Resurrection resurrection.church/next

St. James Church <https://sjumckc.org>

Pastor Newsletters

St. James Church [Sign up for Pastor Cleaver's Newsletter](#)

Resurrection [Sign up for Pastor Adam's Newsletter](#)

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>



No longer want to receive these emails? [Unsubscribe](#).

Resurrection 13720 Roe Ave Leawood, KS 66224