

***JANUARY IS A TIME TO BE \*L.O.V.E.D\* IN R.E!***

**“LIVING OUR VALUES EVERY DAY”**

**Religious Education Winter Program**

# **BLACK PEOPLE MATTER**

**January 22 and 29, 2017**

Racism is enculturated. Many of our children see it in their lives, especially here in Milwaukee, but don't have a name for it or a sense of how it plays out. White parents and other adults often choose not to talk about race with our children because it makes us uncomfortable, or we aren't quite sure that we won't somehow "do it wrong". But racism dehumanizes all of us. As a faith community, we have an obligation to create a safe space where people of all ages can have these conversations. We want our young people to recognize that racism is an issue, even when they themselves might identify as 'color blind.'

In this program, we begin by defining racism, and helping young people to identify not only the terrible cost to people of color, but also to our entire society. Our goal is to empower our young people to become confident in talking about race and race relations, and knowledgeable about it so they feel ready to stand up to racism when they hear it with their friends, with their families, and in their community.

We are choosing to call this program "Black People Matter" rather than "Black Lives Matter" in deference to the specificity of that movement, and a desire not to misappropriate it for our own use. This program just begins to scratch the surface of a viable introduction to the cause of anti-racism, but we believe it is a good beginning. Please plan to make participation in this program a priority for your children in January 2017!

**In addition to our two week program for children and youth,  
you can expect:**

- **Mandatory training sessions** for the volunteer Teachers in the RE program.

*Modified 6/28/16*

- **Parent/Guardian education and resources for talking to children about race and racism:** See our church website for [tips and articles](#)
- **Adult RE class offerings,** including a program about being White in the Black Lives Matter movement.

Please contact [Beryl Aschenberg](#), DRE for more information or to offer your assistance with the **Black People Matter** 2017 RE Winterim Program.