

CHARTER FOR RACIAL JUSTICE PROGRAM

WISCONSIN 2011

NOTE: This program can be used to fulfill #7 of the Mission Today Requirements, which says, “The unit will implement the Charter for Racial Justice Policies in at least one way during the year.”

Focus statements from “Because We Believe”

Read aloud:

1. God is the Creator of all people and all are God’s children in one family...
7. Our strength lies in our racial and cultural diversity, and we must work toward a world in which each person’s value is respected and nurtured

Worship

Prepare a worship center that has the Bible, a copy of the *Charter for Racial Justice*, a display of *Response* and *New World Outlook* showing pictures and articles having to do with race, and the book, Let’s Talk About Race by Julius Lester (from our 2007 Reading List, Children’s Category), a box of crayons.

Opening Scripture. Read aloud:

Genesis 1:27, 28a, 31a: So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them. And God blessed them, and God said unto them, “Be fruitful and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it”..And God saw everything that he had made, and behold it was very good.

Prayer-

Dear God,

You have made us in Your image. That is amazing. You have given us our families and our friends. We are grateful. You have made the earth for us and told us to marry and multiply and fill it up. We have done that. And yet, while you see everything and proclaim it all good, we don’t always see it Your way. Sometimes we are suspicious of persons whose skin tones do not match our own, or whose way of living or talking does not make sense to us. Sometimes we put ourselves above them, or perhaps even fear them, or just plain avoid them. God, please be with us as we talk about race. Help us to see through Your eyes. Give us Your understanding. We ask for the sake of Peace and Love. AMEN.

Hymn. *Help Us Accept Each Other-* v.1,2 United Methodist Hymnal #560
(If no one is able to accompany or lead the singing, read the verses aloud instead)

Book with Discussion Questions -- Let's Talk About Race by Julius Lester

One person read the book aloud and show the pictures to everyone. When you are finished, discuss several or all of the following questions, whatever you have time for. If your time is very limited, we suggest you be sure to include questions 8,9, and 10 in your discussion.

1. Did I learn anything new?
2. Did you find a way to identify with main character (writer) of this book?
3. Was there anything you did not expect?
4. Is the outlook of the book positive or negative? Why?
5. What do you think motivated the writer to create this book?
6. Do you see Christian/biblical principles in it?
7. Does this book affirm the strength of our racial and cultural diversity?
8. Summarize the message of this book.
9. Is there anything you will change about how you think and act?
10. How will you use this book and/or its message in your future?

Facts About Ethnic Groups in Wisconsin

Read some of the statistics reported on a separate page

Contributions to Society by Persons of Color

Read some of the facts reported on a separate page.

Closing

Object Lesson: Give each person a crayon to take home as a reminder that “all the crayons have purpose and beauty and must live together in the same box.”

Litany:

Leader: I invite anyone who wishes to share how you might incorporate into your daily life changes that you learned today.

Group: (anyone may give an answer)

Leader: Oh God, help us to remember the lessons of the first Christians.

Group: Holy Spirit, pour out on us.

Leader: Oh God, help us to understand that all are clean.

Group: Holy Spirit, pour out on us.

Leader: Oh God, help us to recognize that all races and all nations belong to You.

Group: Holy Spirit, pour out on us.

Benediction: Go forth and be the change God wishes to see in the world!

SUPPLEMENT: Facts about Ethnic Groups in Wisconsin *From 2010 Census

US Population: 308,474,538
Wisconsin Population: 5,686,986 (increased 323,278 since 2000)

PERCENTAGES of Ethnic populations in Wisconsin—

White	86.2%
Black	6.3%
American Indian	1.0%
Asian	2.3%
Other race alone	2.4%
Persons of two or more races	...1.8%

Another analysis: Hispanic/Latino 5.9% (an increase of 74.2% since 2000)
Not Hispanic/Latino 94.1% (up 3.5% since 2000)

Note: Persons of Hispanic/Latino heritage placed themselves in the categories of white, black, and other during the census count, but when asked specifically about their backgrounds listed “Hispanic/Latino.”

SUPPLEMENT: Contributions to Society by Persons of Color

ETHNIC SCIENTISTS:

Flossie Wong-Stall—She is a Chinese-American scientist who is a leader in AIDS research. Working with a team that included Dr. Robert C. Gallo, she helped to discover the virus that causes AIDS and a related virus that causes cancer. She also did the first mapping of HIV’s genes. She continues to work on a vaccine to prevent AIDS.

Ellen Ochoa—She invented optical analysis systems and was also the first Hispanic female astronaut. Receiving master’s and doctoral degrees from Stanford University in electrical engineering, Ellen developed an optical system designed to detect imperfections in repeating patterns. It is used for quality control in the manufacture of various intricate parts. Dr. Ochoa also is a veteran of three space flights for NASA and has logged over 719 hours in space.

Jacklin Adams-- She is a member of the Wyandot Native American tribe of Kansas. With a degree in plastics engineering and chemistry, Jacklin developed a process for identifying and developing recycled resins for the manufacture of business machines. Working for IBM, she is active in recruiting and mentoring Native American new hires.

Aprille Ericsson—From Brooklyn, N.Y., Aprille was the first female (and the first African-American female) to receive a Ph.D. in mechanical engineering from Howard University and the first African-American female to receive a Ph.D. in engineering at the NASA Goddard Space Flight Center. In 1997, she won the “Women in Science and Engineering Award” for the best female engineer in the federal government. Dr.

Ericsson currently is the instrument manager for a proposed mission to bring dust from the Martian lower atmosphere back to earth.

RESOURCES:

Charter for Racial Justice – available free for postage from the UMW Mission Resource Center at www.missionresourcecenter.org

Let's Talk About Race by Julius Lester.—for purchase (\$9.60 plus postage) from UMW Mission Resource Center at www.missionresourcecenter.org . Look in 2007 Reading Program/children/social action. Also available from *Amazon* on line (\$2.69 used , \$3.34 – \$6.99 new, plus postage) or from your local library (it may need to be requested from another library using the interlibrary loan system)

Census facts – Google US Census 2010

Ethnic Scientists – Google “Ethnic Scientists/Inventors” or by specific race.

Response Magazine – Nearly every issue has something related to racial justice.

Reading Program Books:

2011 –

Inheriting the Trade: a Northern Family Confronts Its Legacy as the Largest Slave-Trading Dynasty in U.S. History

The Latehomecomer: A Hmong Family Memoir

Same Kind of Different as Me: A Modern Day Slave, and International Art Dealer, and the Unlikely Woman Who Bound Them Together

The Heart of Racial Justice: How Soul Change Leads to Social Change

Dia's Story Cloth: The Hmong People's Journey of Freedom (youth)

Slant (youth)

2010 –

No Turning Back: My Summer with Daddy King

Can We Talk About Race?: and Other Conversations in an Era of School Resegregation Am I A Color, Too? (children's)

Louis Sockalexis: Native American Baseball Pioneer (children's)

John Lewis in the Lead: a Story of the Civil Rights Movement (children's)