

## Temple Sinai Call to Action: Resources for Action and Learning

### **Multiracial Sinai: Black Lives are Sacred**

In this time of great pain and compounding trauma for Blacks in America, the committee members of Multiracial Sinai want to share our frustration, fury and sorrow as the Temple Sinai community grieves and condemns ongoing racist violence against Black lives and bodies. As a multiracial group, at this time Multiracial Sinai is first attending to the experience and needs of Black members of Temple Sinai and the broader DC community, including our beloved Black family members, kin, friends, neighbors, and partners.

We are also continuing the work of guiding Temple Sinai in being Antiracist...

To read the full statement: <https://templesinai.org/multiracial-sinai/>

### **ACTION:**

**Poor People's Campaign Digital Moral March on Washington**, June 20 (10AM and 6PM) and June 21 (6PM). Temple Sinai has long supported the PPC's National Call for Moral Revival. We've pledged to turn out at least 100 congregants (and their friends and neighbors) for the March and to stand in solidarity with the largest digital gathering of poor, dispossessed and impacted people, faith leaders and people of conscience. **Join us Sat., June 20 at 5PM for a special Zoom Havdalah Service before the 6PM broadcast.** Go

to <https://www.poorpeoplescampaign.org/june2020/overview/> to learn more about the March and to register your participation. After you register, complete the form at <https://templesinai.org/forms/mu9526a0t897lx/> so that we can let the Campaign know Temple Sinai has fulfilled its turn-out pledge. Questions? Email Steve Metalitz ([sjmetalitz@aol.com](mailto:sjmetalitz@aol.com)).

### **Temple Sinai Social Action Committee**

The Temple Sinai Social Action Committee serves as the umbrella for the various social action activities at the temple and much of our work is focused on addressing the inequities in our society. In addition to WIN and the Poor Peoples Campaign, other critical initiatives you might be interested in during these particularly turbulent times include the Gun Violence Prevention Group which is very engaged in advocacy work and the Refugee, Asylum, Seekers, Immigrants and Sanctuary Group. We are in the process of building a voting rights initiative aligned with the Religious Action Center's Civic Engagement Campaign and more details will be forthcoming in the next few weeks. Finally, TSWRJ has launched a Reproductive Health and Rights cohort focusing on education, direct service and advocacy. As part of their work they explore how racism, gender and income affect maternal and child health. Please see the Social Action menu on the temple's website or contact me at [glenn.engelmann@gmail.com](mailto:glenn.engelmann@gmail.com) for more information about any of these initiatives as well as to join our Google Group in order to receive timely updates on all our social action activities.

### **Washington Interfaith Network (WIN), Temple Sinai Core Team**

Temple Sinai is one of 38 DC congregations, unions and other nonprofits who are members of the Washington Interfaith Network, <https://www.windc-iaf.org/>. Sinai's WIN Core Team works with other WIN congregations on affordable and public housing, green jobs, immigrant legal

assistance, education, health care, and other pressing issues identified by WIN member institutions. Contact Barbara Kraft, [bjkraft1@gmail.com](mailto:bjkraft1@gmail.com), (202) 365-0014, for more information.

### **Temple Sinai Women of Reform Judaism**

TSWRJ has initiated a Reproductive Health and Rights cohort at Temple Sinai including education, direct service and advocacy. Beginning with a Listening Session last July, and continuing with a Panel of Experts on Reproductive Justice, advocating before the DC Council, protests at the Supreme Court and training with DC Abortion Practical Support Network, we are developing a deepening relationship with Community of Hope, a DC nonprofit whose mission is to improve health and end family homelessness to make Washington, DC more equitable. We will continue to explore how racism, gender and income affect access to maternal and child health, abortion and contraception.

Please contact [Lisa Tucker or Nancy Liebermann](#), TSWRJ Co-Presidents or [Liz Rose](#) to join in our work.

### **Multiracial Sinai**

Temple Sinai is committed to undertaking transformational internal steps to further affirm and enhance our identity as a multiracial Reform Jewish community. For over two years, Multiracial Sinai has been helping guide Temple Sinai in becoming an affirmatively antiracist congregation. For information about upcoming programs, sign up for **Multiracial Sinai Updates** by contacting Multiracial Sinai co-chairs Cathy Goldwyn and Deitra Reiser via [cgoldwyn1@icloud.com](mailto:cgoldwyn1@icloud.com). **To learn more about the Building Racial Stamina facilitated discussion group, also contact Cathy Goldwyn and Deitra Reiser.**

## **READINGS:**

### **MULTIRACIAL JEWISH COMMUNITY and ACTING FOR RACIAL JUSTICE NOW**

Union for Reform Judaism: Ways Your Congregation Can Act Now for Racial Justice

[https://reformjudaism.org/blog/2020/06/03/ways-reform-jews-can-act-now-racial-justice?utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_content=2020\\_6\\_4](https://reformjudaism.org/blog/2020/06/03/ways-reform-jews-can-act-now-racial-justice?utm_medium=email&utm_content=2020_6_4)

Deitra Reiser, Centering Racial Justice and Jews of Color During the COVID-19 Pandemic:

<https://urj.org/blog/2020/04/20/centering-racial-justice-and-jews-color-during-covid-19-pandemic%20>

Deitra Reiser and Rabbi Hannah L. Goldstein, “Did Something Happen?” How We Started the Work of Becoming an Anti-Racist Synagogue

<https://urj.org/blog/2019/07/15/did-something-happen-how-we-started-work-becoming-anti-racist-synagogue>

Allison Barnes, “What Not to Say to Jews of Color and What to Say

Instead”: <https://www.kveller.com/what-not-to-say-to-jews-of-color-and-what-to-say->

[instead/?fbclid=IwAR0JJW7YdPUngjMPx-us6sZISAa01FKiTuqmlIOSog-m8hdUntO0MtTycKI](https://www.facebook.com/instead/?fbclid=IwAR0JJW7YdPUngjMPx-us6sZISAa01FKiTuqmlIOSog-m8hdUntO0MtTycKI)

### **RESOURCES FOR TALKING WITH CHILDREN ABOUT RACE AND RACISM:**

Talking with children about recent

events: <https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/nation/2020/05/31/how-talk-kids-racism-racial-violence-police-brutality/5288065002/>

Teaching Tolerance, publication providing developmentally appropriate ways to discuss prejudice and race with

children: [https://www.tolerance.org/sites/default/files/general/beyond\\_golden\\_rule.pdf](https://www.tolerance.org/sites/default/files/general/beyond_golden_rule.pdf)

### **RESOURCES THAT CAN HELP CREATE OPPORTUNITIES FOR CONVERSATIONS ABOUT RACISM, RACE, AND PROTESTS:**

According to the Washington Post, **The National Museum of African American History and Culture** "has released a new online portal to facilitate conversations about race and racism in America. The project, titled Talking About Race, collects more than 100 multimedia tools, including videos, scholarly articles, and exercises to help educators, parents, and others develop the language to have productive conversations about "one of the nation's most challenging topics."

<https://nmaahc.si.edu/learn/talking-about-race> Depending on whether you identify as an educator, parent, or a person committed to equity, the portal has separate links for you.

In her 6/2/2020 NY Times column, "**Parenting**," Jess Grossman wrote that many parents are wondering how to talk to their children about antiracism, racism, and protests. They are also looking for resources "to keep the conversation about race and racism going..." The article has some excellent guidance and a list of antiracist children's books for a variety of ages. . [https://www.nytimes.com/2020/06/02/parenting/kids-books-racism-protest.html?campaign\\_id=118&emc=edit\\_ptg\\_20200603&instance\\_id=19024&nl=nyt-parenting&regi\\_id=55323042&segment\\_id=29946&te=1&user\\_id=c727e642312d181523679322b39268aa](https://www.nytimes.com/2020/06/02/parenting/kids-books-racism-protest.html?campaign_id=118&emc=edit_ptg_20200603&instance_id=19024&nl=nyt-parenting&regi_id=55323042&segment_id=29946&te=1&user_id=c727e642312d181523679322b39268aa)

Dottir Press, a feminist publishing imprint recently published the book, **Not My Idea: a Book About Whiteness** by Anastasia Higginbotham. ("A necessary children's book about whiteness, white supremacy, and resistance. Important, accessible, needed." (Kirkus Review); "A timely story that addresses racism, civic responsibility, and the concept of whiteness." (Forward Reviews); "for white folks who aren't sure how to talk to their kids about race, this book is the perfect beginning." (O Magazine)

**The Conscious Kid** is "an education, research and policy organization dedicated to reducing bias and promoting positive identity development in youth. We partner with organizations, children's museums, schools, and families across the country to promote access to children's books centering on underrepresented and oppressed

groups." <https://www.theconsciouskid.org/> Here is a link to the website's list of recommended children's books about black boys.

<https://www.theconsciouskid.org/black-books-matter-childrens-books-celebrating-black-boys>

**The EmbraceRace** website is full of antiracist resources for parents, educators, and people who have children in their lives. According to the website, EmbraceRace "was founded in early 2016 by two parents (one Black, the other multiracial Black/White) who set out to create the community and gather the resources they needed (need!) to meet the challenges they face raising children in a world where race matters. Since that time, EmbraceRace has grown into a multiracial community of parents, teachers, experts, and other caring adults who support each other to meet the challenges that race poses to our children, families, and communities." Their mission is to "identify, organize - and, as needed, create - the tools, resources, discussion spaces, and networks we need to meet 4 goals: nurture resilience in children of color, nurture inclusive, empathetic children of all stripes, raise kids who think critically about racial inequity, support a movement of kid and adult racial justice advocates for all children." <https://www.embracerace.org/> The website has an amazing array of resources - articles, webinars, book lists, and action guides. (10 Tips for Talking and Teaching Kids About Race - <https://www.embracerace.org/resources/teaching-and-talking-to-kids>) Here are links to recommended books from the EmbraceRace website:

#### **BOOKS TO READ:**

Ibram Kendi, *How to Be An Antiracist*

Ibram Kendi, *Stamped from the Beginning: The Definitive History of Racist Ideas in America*

Jason Reynolds and Ibram Kendi, *Stamped: Racism, Antiracism, and You: A Remix of the National Book Award-winning Stamped from the Beginning*

Debby Irving, *Waking Up White*

Claudia Rankine, *Citizen*

Ta-Nehisi Coates, *We Were Eight Years in Power* and *Between the World and Me*

Isabel Wilkerson, *The Warmth of Other Suns*

Richard Rothstein, *Color of Law*

Michelle Alexander, *The New Jim Crow*

#### **TA-NEHISI COATES INTERVIEW June 3, 2020:**

<https://podcasts.google.com/feed/aHR0cHM6Ly9mZWVkcyc5tZWdhcGhvbmUuZm0vdGhIZXpyYWtsZWluc2hvdw/episode/M2Y2ZTM5ZjYtMTU0OS0xMWVhLTk0MmYtYzNiZWJjNjNiZTA4?hl=en&ep=6>

**Podcasts:**

NPR: Code Switch; 1A with Joshua Johnson (select interviews on relevant topics)  
Seeing White  
Pod Save America

**Reading List**

<https://www.nytimes.com/2019/05/29/books/review/antiracist-reading-list-ibram-x-kendi.html>

**Films:**

Get Out  
Fruitvale Station  
I am Not Your Negro  
Hidden Figures  
Beyond the Lights  
Black Panther  
When They See Us  
13th

**Novels:**

Yaa Gyasi, *Homegoing*  
Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie, *Americanah*  
Orange, *There There*

*Compiled by Temple Sinai Multiracial Sinai Committee  
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