

To: Classis GLA

From: the Council of Los Angeles Community Christian Reformed Church

Statement of Purpose: Los Angeles Community Christian Reformed Church requests the CRC Synod of 2022 formulate and put into action a plan to interrupt the existence of the Ideologies of White Supremacy and Systemic Racism within the CRC membership.

I. HISTORICAL RATIONALE

A. The Problem

Some members of the CRC embrace the Ideology of White supremacy despite the fact that Synod has declared this ideology to be a sinful ideology. Synod 2019 declared Kinism [1] to be neither biblical nor Reformed and Synod 2012 rejected apartheid ideology in its adoption of the Belhar Confession, later recategorized as a “Contemporary Testimony” [2] because Synod said these ideologies are rooted in the sin of the Ideology of White Supremacy and cannot be tolerated within the CRC membership.

B. What has been done

The CRC began to deal with race relations in 1957 in connection with the issue of segregation. [3] The CRC has been very intentional to articulate support for antiracist ideology and to provide resources and training for members to live authentic Christian lives in the area of racial justice. Some of the **many** efforts that the CRC has made to address racial injustice are listed here. Synod:

1. organized a Race Commission in the mid-60s in response to serious unrest in Chicago over Black children being denied admission to a white christian school, and abroad held discussions with Reformed Churches in South Africa regarding the policy of apartheid,
2. replaced the commission with SCORR (Synodical Commission on Race Relations) in 1971 with the goal of recruiting persons of color as leaders, teachers, other church personnel, and students, and with the goal of publishing curriculum materials that reflect diversity,
3. replaced SCORR with the Race Relations Committee in 1981 for a more collaborative attempt to end racism,

4. added the Office of Social Justice in 1995 assigned to deal with a large range of social issues from hunger to abortion to immigration, etc.,
5. published a booklet in 1996: "God's Diverse and Unified Family" which covers the history of racial and ethnic diversity in the CRC,
6. developed a curriculum for antiracism training in 2006 known in the US as *Dance of Racial Reconciliation* and in *Canada* known as *Widening the Circle*,
7. distributed a 6-session *Facing Racism* video to all churches in 2011,
8. adopted The Confession of Belhar in 2012 to take a position of opposition to apartheid and its underlying ideology of white supremacy, Synod 2017 recategorized the Belhar Confession as a "Contemporary Testimony,"
9. discussed the Doctrine of Discovery in 2016 out of concern regarding the mistreatment of native tribes by CRC boarding schools in the 1890s,
10. appointed a new Justice Committee in 2018 to determine how to discuss political issues within the church,
11. declared Kinism to be neither biblical nor Reformed in 2019: The Kinism Overture declared Kinism to be heresy because it teaches racial segregation and opposes interracial marriage; the Council of Delegates was mandated to research the term "heresy,"
12. published a CRCNA Statement Against White Supremacy in *The Banner* in 2019 signed by nine CRC leaders in response to several killings motivated by white supremacy,
13. presented *Our Journey 2025* in 2020 with Goal number 3 stating that we want to "grow in diversity and unity by seeking justice, reconciliation, and welcome, sharing our faith as we build relationships and honor the cultures of our neighbors and newcomers,"
14. updated a booklet in 2020 now entitled: *103 Things White People Can Do for Racial Justice* which contains excellent ideas for **actions** to protest systemic racism and white supremacy and resources to foster antiracist thinking.

C. These efforts have been inadequate

While the CRC has clearly articulated its position to name racism and white supremacy a sin which cannot be tolerated within its membership and while it has been strong in providing resources for living antiracist lives, the written position statements and resources have not been enough to stop some members from embracing these sinful ideologies. At least one CRC pastor has resigned because these ideologies were espoused by some members in the church he served. [4] We believe that some members either do not know or do not understand the CRC position on white supremacy. We also believe that some CRC members may need instruction and guidance to discern the Biblical perspective regarding the Ideology of White Supremacy. Ignoring the existence of these voices will not make them go away and to continue to ignore the existence of these voices is complicity.

D. What is needed now

First, Synod must formulate and put into action a plan that will **interrupt the existence** of white supremacist thinking by some members. The CRC has declared that these ideologies are not compatible with the Bible or Reformed theology. They are damaging our fellowship with CRC members of color and they are destroying our witness of the Gospel to the world. Maya Angelou said, “History, despite its wrenching pain cannot be un-lived, **but if faced with courage**, need not be lived again.” [5]

The Plan of Action should:

- 1) **clearly articulate and publicly present to its members** the CRC position regarding white supremacy, **including the reasons why** the CRC cannot tolerate white supremacy ideology within its membership,
- 2) **provide an avenue for a factual acknowledgement of our nation’s history** and a **factual acknowledgement of the impact** white supremacy and systemic racism has had and continues to have on its members of color,
- 3) **provide reliable and accurate sources** *for antiracist* perspectives,
- 4) **provide an avenue for accountability** that includes a mandate for antiracist living and opportunities for listening, mediation, counsel and grace to minimize division and support healing.

We recognize that America has lived with contradiction since its beginning. Our

nation's founders wrote about equality, freedom, and liberty but those blessings were assumed to be for white people and white male landowners in particular. The founders owned and were masters of fellow human beings. Knowingly or unknowingly, we have lived this contradiction ever since. We believe that white supremacy and systemic racism are not compatible with the Gospel and that, as a church, we have sinned by ignoring or allowing various shapes of these ideologies and oppressions to continue in our nation for centuries. Referring to the Holocaust, some young German students said, "we must be guardians of truth" even though we ourselves did not perform these atrocities. [6]

Second, as a church that wants to be a guardian of truth, the atrocities that have been wrecked on people of color due to white supremacy and systemic racism must be **collectively acknowledged and lamented by CRC members**.

The Heidelberg Catechism supports the need for confession in "Question and Answer 89: "What is the dying away of the old-self? It is to be genuinely sorry for sin, to hate it more and more, and to run away from it." [7]

Scripture commands confession: [8]

He who conceals his sins does not prosper, but whoever confesses and renounces them finds mercy. Proverbs 28:13

...if my people who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and heal their land. II Chronicles 7:14

Produce fruit in keeping with repentance. Matthew 3: 8

So put on sackcloth, lament and wail, for the fierce anger of the Lord has not turned away from us. Jeremiah 4:8

II. BIBLICAL AND THEOLOGICAL RATIONALE

A. Definitions

We understand **racism** to be the belief that race is a fundamental determinant of human traits and characteristics and that racial differences produce an inherent superiority in a particular race. Racism is the basis of discrimination.

We understand **white supremacy** to be the belief that not only are White people superior to other races but that as superior people they should dominate and

hold power over other races. We recognize this ideology was the rationale behind colonialism and also behind the Confederacy from 1861-1865.

We understand **systemic (institutional or structural) racism** is to have policies and practices that exist throughout a whole society or organization that result in and support a continued advantage to some people and an unfair and harmful treatment of others based on race.

B. Teaching from Scripture

The CRC Synod has stated often that these ideologies as defined above are not only degrading to people of color, but they are not compatible with Biblical teaching and sound doctrine. The Bible teaches that all humanity is made in the image of God, that no person is to be devalued as less significant than another. The Bible calls us to worship God and God alone, to act justly, to love mercy, to walk humbly with our God, and to be servants to one another. [9]

So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them. *Genesis 1:27*

Have we not all one Father? Did not one God create us? Why do we profane the covenant of our fathers by breaking faith with one another? *Malachi 2:10*

The greatest among you will be servant. For whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and whoever humbles himself will be exalted. *Matthew 23:11-12*

If you really keep the royal law found in Scripture, "Love your neighbor as yourself," you are doing right. But if you show favoritism, you sin and are convicted by the law as lawbreakers. For whoever keeps the whole law and yet stumbles at just one point is guilty of breaking all of it. *James 2:8-10*

C. Synodical Rulings from A Contemporary Testimony

The Confession of Belhar, which was adopted by Synod in 2012 and recategorized in 2017 as a Contemporary Testimony, rejects apartheid because apartheid is rooted in the sin of the ideology of white supremacy. Synod said that the CRC would not sanction forced separations on the basis of race, that it would not legitimize an ideology that wrongs oppressed, hungry, strangers, widows, orphaned or downtrodden peoples, but "that in following Christ the church must witness against all the powerful and privileged who selfishly seek their own interests and thus control and harm others," [10] and that the church is called to stand against these evils even if it has to suffer negative consequences because Jesus is Lord of our lives.

D. Synodical Rulings from a Related Overture

Kinism, which also is rooted in the sin of the ideology of white supremacy, was declared to be neither biblical nor Reformed by Synod 2019. CRC leaders were instructed **not to tolerate** Kinism within church memberships. Kinism teaches that races should be kept separate and forbids interracial marriage. Synod said that Kinism is a grievous deviation from the sound doctrine that all humans are created in the image of God. Synod advised councils and classes to promote confessional fidelity and lamented “the historic intolerance and indifference within Reformed theological tradition perpetuating hateful racial prejudice and the theological error of Kinism.” [11]

III. PRACTICAL RATIONALE

Traditional responses from churches have reflected traditional virtues focusing on civility: education, dialogue, and prayer. “Churches can only play a useful role when they’re willing to leave the safety of conventional response....Instead of softened calls for unity there are bold calls for justice. Instead of vigils, people are attending protests....In *Acts* the doors are open. The room is empty. The disciples have poured out into the city to find this is where people are speaking new languages, dreaming new dreams, and standing up to proclaim the world as it yet can be.” [12]

*He has shown you, O man, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To **act justly** and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.* Micah 6:8 [13]

Voter suppression is rooted in white supremacy and systemic racism. It is not just a political issue. It is a faith issue. People of color are made in the image of God. Voting is a basic human right of citizenship. It is a sin to hinder the sacred right to vote by making voting difficult for certain targeted people groups. **Voter suppression is unbiblical and must be protested.**

Woe to those who make unjust laws, to those who issue oppressive decrees, to deprive the poor of their rights and withhold justice from the oppressed of my people. Isaiah 10:1-2 [14]

The Confederacy espoused “the truth that the Negro is not equal to the white man, that slavery and subordination to the superior race is his natural and normal condition.”[15] The Confederacy is a part of our history. It is not a history we should be proud to preserve, support or defend, but a history to lament. The Confederacy is based on the Ideology of White Supremacy. It is not compatible with the Bible or sound doctrine. **The Confederacy cannot be honored.**

The Bible teaches that our greatness is in our servanthood. The concept of a personal right that harms another is **not Biblical and cannot be supported.**

You, my brothers, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the sinful nature; rather serve one another in love. The entire law is summed up in a single command: "Love your neighbor as yourself." if you keep on biting and devouring each other, watch out or you will be destroyed by each other. Galatians 5:13-15 [16]

Biblical voting choices are made in the interests of others before our own interests or security, making sure the least of us benefits. **It is our duty as Christian voters to support antiracist legislation that ensures everyone lives with the same opportunities. We must be well informed Biblically and politically on issues to be able to ascertain if a policy unfairly favors one people group over another.**

Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others. Your attitude should be the same as that of Jesus Christ: who, being in the very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man he humbled himself and became obedient to death - even death on a cross! Philippians 2:4-8 [17]

The Black community built its own financial community and enjoyed financial success for 15 years with the building of Black Wall Street in Tulsa, OK. In 1921 a mob of white supremacists burned 35 blocks of those Black businesses to the ground and in two days of that massacre nearly 300 people were killed because Blacks had successfully pulled themselves out of poverty. **Examples like this of white supremacy should be acknowledged, lamented, and protested.**

The LA Times reported in December, 2020 that 100 years ago successful Black beach businesses in Manhattan Beach and Santa Monica, CA opened up because Blacks were not allowed in the white hotels and night clubs. White power shut down the Black businesses through rezoning and condemnation action. It is an example of how people of color were financially successful on their own, but were overpowered by systemic racism. **This kind of manipulation is an example of systemic racism and must be acknowledged, lamented, and protested.**

The practice of **Redlining** is another way that has very effectively worked to keep people of color from pulling themselves out of poverty and from gaining power. City maps are marked with actual red lines around certain areas. If you live inside those red lines you have difficulty acquiring loans to buy a house or start a business, accessing good schools, good health care, or even good grocery stores with fresh fruits and vegetables. Policing also is done differently

in redlined neighborhoods. **This practice is an example of systemic racism and needs to be acknowledged, and protested.**

Gerrymandering is the practice of moving district lines so that votes will have more agreeable outcomes for the people who want power. **This kind of manipulation is an example of systemic racism and needs to be acknowledged, and protested.**

Between 1877 and 1950 **lynching** was used as a method of social and racial control meant to terrorize people of color into submission. Over 4,000 Blacks were lynched during this period. Lynching was used also to terrorize Chinese, Latinos, and Native Americans. **This truth of white supremacy needs to be acknowledged, and lamented.**

The disparities in housing, health care, education, and criminal justice in communities of color are examples of systemic racism. These disparities need to be **identified as systemic racism and protested.**

Here are a few examples of disparities that exist due to systemic racism: [18]

Black Americans represent 40% of the homeless population despite being 13% of the general population.

(National Alliance to End Homelessness)

Black homebuyers are shown 17% fewer homes and apartments than white buyers.

(US Department of Housing and Urban Development)

Housing lenders have disproportionately steered Black Americans to subprime housing loans, even when they were qualified for prime loans.

(Suffolk University Law Review)

Only 43% of black householders own their own home vs 72% of white householders.

(PEW Research Center)

Comparable homes in black neighborhoods are worth 23% less compared to white neighborhoods.

(Brookings)

Black Americans are 46% less likely to be offered employer-sponsored health insurance.

(Kaiser Family Foundation)

Black American mothers are less likely to receive prenatal care.

(US Department of Health and Human Services)

Black children are 2.2x more likely to be exposed to lead before being born largely in part to lead exposure in Black women.

(US Library of Medicine)

Black Americans are less likely to survive a battle with cancer.

(US Department of Health and Human Services)

Black Americans are less likely to receive organ transplants.

(US Department of Health and Human Services)

Predominantly black school districts receive far less funding than white school districts.

(ED Build)

Black preschoolers are 3.6x more likely to be suspended than White preschoolers.

(US Department of Education Office for Civil Rights)

Black students/children have less access to computers and the internet.

(National Center for Education Statistics)

The average Black college student leaves a public four-year institution with \$111,486 in debt: 55% more debt than the average White college student.

(American Council on Education)

A higher percentage of Black Americans with a GPA of 3.5 or higher attend community colleges vs top-tier selective institutions.

(Georgetown University)

Statistically, Black Americans receive harsher punishments for the same crimes.

(University of Michigan Law Center)

Black children in the criminal justice system are 18x more likely to be sentenced as adults compared to White children.

(*Journal of Personality and Social Psychology* - 2014)

Black drivers are 20% more likely to be pulled over than White drivers.

(*Nature Human Behavior* - Study by Stanford University)

Black Americans represent 40% more of the total prison population, despite representing 13% of the general population.

(United States Census - 2010)

Black Americans pay higher bail than White Americans convicted of the same crime.

(*New York University Journal of Legislation and Public Policy*)

Bryan Stevenson, a civil rights lawyer and activist has said in a *YouTube* talk, "We are a post genocide society. The native people who came to this continent were killed by the millions. We killed them with famine, war, and disease, but we didn't call it genocide because we said those native people are savages and we used that terminology to create the ideology of white supremacy." **This truth of white supremacy needs to be acknowledged, lamented, and protested.**

Do not let unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen.

Ephesians 4:29 [19]

Bryan Stevenson also said in the same *YouTube* talk, “that the great evil of slavery wasn’t the involuntary servitude and the bondage of Black people, it was this fiction that Black people were not as good as White people, that Black people are less deserving, less worthy, less capable. That ideology survived the Civil War. It is often argued that slavery didn’t end in 1865. It just evolved. We were promised freedom and the right to vote but what we received was terror, violence and lynching....Even today there is the presumption of dangerousness and guilt that gets assigned to Black people. You can be an actor, a musician, a teacher, a clergyman, or an engineer. It doesn’t matter how hard you have worked or how much money you acquire, if you are Black in this country you will go places and you’ll have to navigate these presumptions of dangerousness and guilt. I’ve gotten old enough to tell you it is exhausting.” He goes on to say that “Truth and Justice are sequential. You have to have **truth before** you can have reconciliation, you have to have **truth before** you can have restoration.” [20]

This truth about our nation’s past and present needs to be acknowledged as the truth of white supremacy. It needs to be lamented.

Adam Taylor, the president of *Sojourners*, wonders “why many parts of the evangelical church have remained so silent about the detrimental impact of white Christian nationalism on the reputation of the church.” He contends “that the church’s choice to be ‘apolitical’ enables the destructive forces of white supremacy and systemic racism to hijack the gospel. Christians should be defined by radical love toward those who have been excluded as well as a commitment to work for justice for all. The church should serve as the ‘conscience of the state,’ rising above partisanship and holding all sides accountable to our gospel value and priorities.” [21]

And Peter W. Marty noted in his *Christian Century* editorial, November 18, 2020, that Jesus chose not to **opt out** of going to the cross. “Even near the end, surrounded by a hostile group of people holding clubs and swords, Jesus can say, ‘Do you think that I cannot appeal to my Father..?’ Jesus’ decision to **opt in** to his greater calling of love remains both instructive and saving.” Mr. Marty further noted that “many of us have the privilege of **opting out** of less than desirable circumstances...but our greater responsibility is to identify and chose opportunities to **opt in**, where we can come to the table and share in the work of strengthening the common good.”

The Council of Los Angeles Christian Reformed Church invites Classis GLA to come to the table and share in the work of strengthening the common good by adopting this overture to request CRC Synod 2022 formulate and put into action a plan to interrupt the existence of the Ideologies of White Supremacy and Systemic Racism within the CRC membership.

V. THE OVERTURE

1. We request Synod prepare a **written declaration** to be sent to every church council to be read in the worship service on a designated Sunday articulating what the CRC position is on the Ideologies of White Supremacy and Systemic Racism and the reasons why these ideologies cannot be tolerated by members. **Grounds:** We believe the many written statements that have been made by the CRC Synod regarding white supremacy and systemic racism are either not known or not understood by some members.

We also request Synod designate a Sunday for **collective acknowledgement and lament** and include materials for the churches to use. **Grounds:** Scripture and *The Heidelberg Catechism* command lament for collective sin.

2. We request Synod direct *Faith Alive*, with support from Calvin University and Seminary professors, to **develop a curriculum** for children, young people, and adults **that articulates a factual telling of our nation's history** related to white supremacy. **Grounds:** We believe there can be no restoration or reconciliation without all CRC members knowing and acknowledging the **same factual truths** about our nation's history. These facts will provide the foundation for understanding what must change to prevent wrongdoing in the future.

3. We request Synod with support from Calvin University and Seminary professors **provide and distribute** to the churches **a list of reliable independent news sources** - print, radio, internet, television - and a **recommended book, film, and video list** to assist CRC members to access facts and Biblical perspective on issues involving white supremacy. **Grounds:** We believe this resource is necessary to foster and encourage factual, Biblical, and antiracist perspectives regarding these ideologies. The many excellent books on racism and white supremacy for both children and adults that have been reviewed in *The Banner* should be included on the book list.

4. We request Synod **actively promote confessional fidelity** by directing selected leaders to develop a process by which the CRC will:

- 1) disseminate the factual truths about our nation's history,
- 2) identify and distribute resources, directing them to be used, as a means to promote, encourage, and support the perspectives and actions needed to live antiracist lives. Appendix I is a partial list of resources and ideas. It includes many excellent resources the CRC has already produced.

- 3) provide opportunities for listening, learning, and practicing civil dialogue on the difficult conversations needed to interrupt the Ideologies of White Supremacy and Systemic Racism.

We request Synod direct classes and councils to **appoint a system of accountability** to ensure these three points of order are duly achieved.

Grounds: We believe that it is crucial for the unity, integrity and future numerical growth in the denomination that Christian Reformed Churches are known as churches where members embrace antiracist thinking and living, where people from every tribe and nation worship and serve together, where all races are represented in all leadership positions, where people from every tribe and nation are respected as persons made in God's image, where every culture is honored in the expressions of worship, and where diversity is rooted in unity.

*In his last speech Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. said,
"Let us be true to what we have said on paper."*

While this overture represents the Black experience under the Ideologies of White Supremacy and Systemic Racism because it comes from a predominantly Black congregation, the Ideologies of White Supremacy and Systemic Racism have affected in the past and continue to affect the lives of all people of color.

FOOTNOTES

page number is in bold print

- 1** [1] Karen Huttenga, "Kinism Is A Grievous Sin," a Christian Reformed Church online download, 2019.
- 1** [2] *Confession of Belhar*, a Christian Reformed Church online download.
- 1** [3] *Race Relations*, a Christian Reformed Church online download
- 3** [4] Keith Mannes, "My 15 Minutes of Fame," *Reformed Journal* online download, November 10, 2020.
- 3** [5] Maya Angelou, *Sojourners*, January 2021, page 33.
- 4** [6] Isabella Wilkerson, *Caste: The Origins of Our Discontent*, Random House, 2020, page 349.
- 4** [7] "The Heidelberg Catechism," *Psalter Hymnal*, CRC Publications, 1987, page 902.

- 4 [8] *The Holy Bible*, The New International Version, Zondervan, 1990.
- 5 [9] *The Holy Bible*, The New International Version, Zondervan, 1990.
- 5 [10] *Confession of Belhar*, a Christian Reformed Church online download.
- 6 [11] Karen Huttenga, "Kinism Is A Grievous Sin," a Christian Reformed Church online download, 2019.
- 6 [12] Alan Sherouse, Conversation Guide: "Acting Against Racism," *Christian Century* online download, pages 11-12.
- 6 [13] *The Holy Bible*, The New International Version, Zondervan, 1990.
- 6 [14] *The Holy Bible*, The New International version, Zondervan, 1990.
- 6 [15] definition for confederate ideology is from *Wikipedia*.
- 6 [16] *The Holy Bible*, The New International Version, Zondervan, 1990.
- 7 [17] *The Holy Bible*, The New International Version, Zondervan, 1990.
- 8 [18] "64 Examples of Systemic Racism against Black Americans" - Curious Refuge an online download
- 9 [19] *The Holy Bible*, The New International Version, Zondervan, 1990.
- 10 [20] Bryan Stevenson, "How We Arrived here," *YouTube* speech
- 10 [21] Adam Russell Taylor, "It's Time To Rethink American Churches," online article, *Sojourners*, April 8, 2021, page 2.

APPENDIX I

Appendix I is a collection of ideas that were offered from a variety of people within and outside of Classis GLA to foster and encourage antiracist thinking and living.

A PARTIAL LIST OF IDEAS AND RESOURCES

1. **use** *The Colossian Forum* and/or *Challenging Conversations Toolkit* (if adaptable) to practice civil dialogue on the difficult conversations that are needed now.
2. **download and use** the CRC booklet: "*103 Things White People Can Do for Racial Justice*"
3. **designate** a church bulletin board to present antiracist perspectives on justice issues
4. **use** *Facing Racism*, a CRC 6-session DVD on racial reconciliation

5. **use** the CRC Antiracism Training Curriculum - *Dance of Racial Reconciliation* (US) or *Widening the circle* (Canada)
6. **download for discussion** christiancentury.org/antiracism-guide
7. **watch** a documentary together: *True Justice: Bryan Stevenson's Fight For Equality* on HBO and *YouTube*, or his film: *Just Mercy*, or read his book: *Just Mercy*
8. **use** *Dialogue On: Race Learner Book* by Lenny Duncan
9. **use** Outvote app to help build power for dispossessed communities
10. **contact** Latasha Morrison, author of the book *Be The Bridge* (2016) and consultant for churches who want to seek racial reconciliation. There are 600 churches which have small groups that gather once or twice a month to listen to Black persons tell what it is like to be Black in America - in homes and over food.
11. **begin** a book discussion group on a recommended book that discusses racial issues
12. **look** for material: speaker, *YouTube*, book, film which can explain how redlining and gerrymandering are designed to exclude people of color from enjoying the same opportunities as White people
13. **look** for material appropriate for teaching children the facts about our nation's history and systemic racism to end this thinking with this generation
14. **inquire** if (christian) schools in area are teaching the facts, appropriate for the grade level, about our nation's history
15. if/when feasible, **organize** a group trip to Montgomery, AL to visit The Legacy Museum and The National Museum for Peace and Justice to absorb the truth about Black lynching
16. in LA area - **organize** a group trip to the Museum of Tolerance
17. in Washington, D.C. area - **organize** group trip to National Museum of African American History and Culture
18. **show** Tim Keller's 5 videos which cover individual as well as corporate responsibility, and other race related topics
19. **join** with nearby churches to provide educational or action events together
20. **lead** members or **host** events to get involved in phoning or writing letters **regularly** to our representatives on racial issues
21. **discuss** concepts of individual sin (David and Bathsheba) and collective sin (Israel's sin as a nation) to address feelings of guilt underneath the comment, "I didn't own slaves."