<u>Lenten Learning:</u> <u>Invitation to participate in a documentary and discussion series</u> on issues of race in Canada

Many in our faith community have been engaging in discussions about race and racism in Canada since late last year. These discussions have led to the development of a 4-week documentary and discussion series as we reflect on our individual and collective experiences and where we feel called as a community to act. This is a study that impacts our individual and collective spirits.

You are invited to participate in any or all of our four mid-week gatherings where we will check-in with each other, view one or more films (totaling about 25 minutes), and then engage in small group discussion either collectively or in breakout rooms. Our gathering on Sunday, March 21st is intended for an intergenerational discussion, welcoming youth (approx. age 12+) and adults.

You can register for all or for some of the sessions by contacting the office

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 3RD @ 7PM – Constructing Race and Racial Identity

Learning to be Black (8 min)

Wairimu Maureen Waithaka and Muriithi Benjamin moved from Kenya to Rwanda to Namibia, and finally to Nova Scotia in 2017. While the couple identify as African, here in Canada they're now also referred to as Black. They share their story in the short film Learning to Be Black. https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/nova-scotia/learning-to-be-black-1.5909024

Becoming Nakuset (13 min)

This intimate and personal film tells the story of Nakuset, a survivor of the Sixties Scoop who was adopted into an affluent Jewish family in Montreal. Told through personal archives and stitched together with kinetic editing, Nakuset guides us through her life and introduces us to her abuse, confusion and struggles to reclaim her identity. A story of hope and resilience, this short documentary chronicles how Nakuset, with the help of her Bubby (her Jewish grandmother), transformed her life and became a powerful advocate for her people.

https://gem.cbc.ca/media/short-docs/becoming-nakuset/38e815a-0138d8e42c9

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 10TH @ 7PM - Multi- Racial or Mixed Race Identity in Canada

What Are You? (20 min)

Eleven multiracial Canadians discuss what it's like being of mixed racial heritage and the challenges they've faced in their lives.

https://www.tvo.org/video/what-are-you

SUNDAY, MARCH 21ST @ 12:30PM – Intergenerational Conversation on Anti-Black Racism in Canada

Please note, these are the present proposed documentaries, but we welcome suggestions if there are alternative resources that someone believes might be more helpful.

What Canadian Kids Should Know About Black Lives Matter (7 min)

A youth-friendly primer on Black Lives Matter from CBC Kids News. https://www.cbc.ca/kidsnews/post/watch-what-canadian-kids-should-know-about-blacklivesmatter

Freedom Summer (12 min)

Moon is a 13-year-old discovering what it means to take responsibility as a leader. Rihanna is a 7-year-old learning to love the skin she's in. Freedom Summer follows them as they learn about themselves and others at Black Lives Matter Toronto's Freedom School — a summer camp where Black kids learn that Black is beautiful.

https://gem.cbc.ca/media/short-docs/season-1/episode-52/38e815a-00d9bbc3029

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 24TH @ 7PM – Beginning the Conversation: Race and Bias

Several inter-related shorts talking with white and Asian-Americans about race, issues of personal bias and ways to counter our own biases. (25 mins - total)

- A Conversation with White People on Race (5 min.)
- A Conversation with Asian-Americans on Race (7 min.)
- Peanut Butter, Jelly and Racism (2 min.)
- Check Our Bias to Wreck Our Bias (3 min.)
- The Life-Changing Magic of Hanging Out (2 min.)
- Why We're Awkward (3 min.)
- Snacks and Punishment (2 min.)
- High Heels, Violins and a Warning (1 min.)