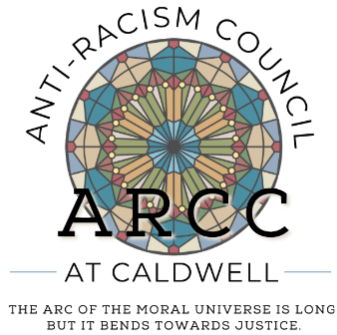


Anti-Racism Council at Caldwell



Called by God, appointed by the Session, and accountable to the congregation, the Anti-Racism Council at Caldwell (ARCC) is charged to prayerfully, courageously, boldly, and faithfully study, envision, and chart a way forward for our ongoing growth as an anti-racist community of faith.

This work includes the call to:

- *Receive the loving Grace of God which gives us “eternal encouragement and good hope” in our journey from a past we cannot change to a future in which we can be changed.*
- *Acknowledge the transformative work we are doing as the work of the Spirit of Christ moving through us.*
- *Challenge the congregation to remember, study, examine, fully acknowledge, and repent its corporate participation – past and present – in advancing racism, and pledge to move forward, mindful of our troubled past and dedicated to reshaping our future.*
- *Confess, confront, and dismantle ways within us as individuals and as a congregation that risk advancing racism through our thoughts, words and actions.*
- *Engage professional consultants and proven resources to ensure Caldwell is objective in how it holds itself accountable at all levels – staff, session, leadership and congregation – in ongoing education, training and group exercises in growth.*
- *Identify, address and adjust policies, procedures and protocols within the church that run counter to our vision of racial equity.*
- *Identify, address and challenge policies, procedures and protocols of The Presbytery as an institution that run counter to our vision of racial equity.*
- *Use our growth as anti-racists to equip and inspire us individually and collectively to dismantle racism in the broader community.*
- *Commit to actions, as individuals and as a congregation, that will move us toward concrete, measurable, and positive change as we continue on our path toward becoming an anti-racist church.*
- *Report to the session and directly to the congregation on a regular basis about specific ways in which to adapt our life together so that it models and bears witness to the love and justice that exposes the lie of racism and its pernicious harm to all of God’s children.*

ARCC Members: Jeff Best – Kimbo Bohannon – Max Carroll – Noellee Clarke – Katie Holliday – Kevin Martin – Alyssa Mouton – Diane Mowrey – Felicia Pine – Yara Quezada – Jim Thompson

ARCC Staff Members: Gail Henderson-Belsito, John Cleghorn

Caldwell Family and Friends,

It is our intention, through ARCC, for Caldwell to continue growing and maturing as individuals and as a faith family becoming anti-racist. We will intentionally develop opportunities to continue our spiritual, educational and personal growth as we learn more about what becoming anti-racist means.

Through this process of education, sharing and enlightenment, as we approach Black History Month, we challenge ourselves to become an environment that continually celebrates Black, Indigenous, Hispanic, LatinX and Women's history and culture **often**, not just during a singular month. We will provide ongoing educational opportunities about Black History and our individual heroes throughout the year ahead.

In this letter, we offer several occasions for you to become engaged in this work. You'll find opportunities to learn and share in community with other church members, within the presbytery, and within the city of Charlotte. So, grab your glasses, take out your calendars, roll-up your sleeves, and let's get to work. We'll see you around!

“What Does It Mean to Be White?” Study (January 30 – March 20, 2022)

(<https://brownicity.com>) The curriculum was designed by Dr. Ben Boswell of Myers Park Baptist Church. Kimbo will be facilitating this study every Sunday between January 30-March 20 at two different times. You can choose either 3:30-5:00 or 5:15-6:45. The material each week will take anywhere from 1-3 hours of preparation. Please do not feel as if you have to accomplish everything in the syllabus each week. The course is free and each session is limited to 10 participants. We would love to have you participate. We can promise you, you will be transformed. Contact Kimbo Bohannon at kimbosox12@aol.com or by cell phone at 203-258-3871.

Caldwell NEXT Conferences - Two Rounds (February or May 2022)

This 4-session recorded webinar series seeks to offer participants language and frameworks they can use to talk about systemic racism and white supremacy in effective and nuanced ways. Participants will be engaged in an exploration of what antiracism is and how it will challenge the church to reckon with her historical and current investment in the ideology of white supremacy and systemic racism. Caldwell will be provided with a unique access link to the series. The expectation will be for each participant to view the webinar on their own in preparation for the monthly facilitated conversation with a NEXT staff member, especially assigned based on our needs. Seats are limited and those who sign up for the first round and

can't attend will be put on the waiting list for the second round which will be offered later this spring. Sign-up at <https://bit.ly/32l67DC>.

One day anti-racism training put on by the Charlotte Presbytery (February 16, 2022). Costs \$30.

<https://www.presbyofcharlotte.org/ministry-teams/anti-racism/anti-racism-training-registration/>

Reconciling History with Hands and Heart volunteer event (February 26, 2022)

What: Cleaning up an African American Presbyterian cemetery that has become overgrown

When: 9 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

How It Would Work: This event is being marketed and hosted by the Charlotte Presbytery. All are invited to show up with power tools, hand tools, rakes, gloves, garbage bags, etc. Wayne Johnson, longtime resident of Grier Heights with an intimate knowledge of the cemetery and its ties to the Presbyterian church, will share about the cemetery from 9 - 9:30 am, and then he will instruct and deploy volunteers. Contact katherineholliday545@gmail.com for additional information.

Other Events in Charlotte metro area during Black History Month (February 2022)

There are many events planned throughout Charlotte and the surrounding area in honor of Black History Month. We have compiled a list of some interesting opportunities for you to consider. It is by no means a complete guide of all things "Black History." We hope you will engage in various opportunities with family and friends during February - and beyond.

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/19UT7vRUretz92PpetLd5JAYitMFuHgdeDQQia7knXol/e/dit?usp=sharing>

White Privilege Conference (March 9 – 12, 2022)

Fees based on participation level and activities you choose.

<https://www.theprivilegeinstitute.com/wpc23charlotte>.

Use the code PCUSAWPC23 for a 20% discount.

Let us know what you think.

Share your reactions on the Caldwell Conversations Facebook page.

To communicate with ARCC directly, email us at arcc@caldwellpresby.org.