

## MN CORR Meeting Recap – 3/29/19

Present – Iris Burse, Beth Dawson, Gail Johnson, Bill Konrardy, Dana Neuhauser, Shawn Moore, Steve Reiser, Fred Reuning

CORR Report for Annual Conference – We need to submit a report of our activities to be included with the Annual Conference materials. Shawn will write the report with the list of items provided:

- Workshops at AC 2018 – Introducing Racial Reconciling Movement and Doing the Work of Anti-Racism
- Developing the Racial Reconciling Movement – covenant, materials, assessment
- Recruiting of beta sites
- Working with Resource Center For Churches on Anti-Racism resources
- Gathering of Coaches, discussion of matching, contract, content
- Development of marketing plan for Racial Reconciling Movement and visual Image
- Sponsorship and participation in FRAC Overcoming Racism
- Presence at Jim Wallis event in January
- Presence at Black Methodists for Church Renewal general meeting

Connections for General Conference 2020 – What can we do to welcome and support the efforts national/international anti-racism groups who are coming to General Conference?

- Ask Richard Webb to reach out to GCORR
- Ask Iris Burse to reach out to BMCR

Center for Reconciliation at Duke (North Carolina) is taking applications for their summer institute, June 3-7. Shawn is applying. The tuition is \$500. There was a suggestion that CORR could cover tuition if participants covered their travel and housing. <https://divinity.duke.edu/events/summer-institute-reconciliation>

Racial Reconciliation Movement:

- Minnetonka – Hosted a Racial Justice Day with worship that incorporated special music, testimony and spoken word, a resource fair and then a panel discussion with community leaders. Message was: Get proximate, change the narrative, do uncomfortable things, stay hopeful.
- Rochester has done extensive work (prior to knowing anything about RRM), most visible is the Rochester Racial Justice Toolkit: <https://thetoolkit.wixsite.com/toolkit>
- Faith St Anthony is using the Vital Conversations materials from GCORR for their Lenten Study. They engaged in ASDIC circles a few years ago.

- Discussion ensued about how to we bring the Racial Reconciling Movement in-line with what is being done in the churches.
  - We want to be a connecting point, or nexus, for all the work being done
  - We do NOT want to get in the way of good work
  - We will wordsmith the covenant so that any church can participate and those needing resourcing will know it is available through CORR
  - The Racial Reconciliation Movement will sponsor two gatherings per year (fall and annual conference?) where churches will gather to share what they are doing and reinforce the effort (think Chili Cook-off), potentially bring in resources to spur the discussion along.

Image Development: We looked at the graphic proposed by our designer and at a few suggested by Iris. Her comment was that the hands in the proposed image look to her like they are surrendering (police command of hands up) versus raised in praise. It was an extremely valid point. We will share this feedback and a more circular image with Brian and ask for another version.



#### Annual Conference Presentation

- What action do we want to result from this presentation – We want them to take the RRM covenant home to their congregations (and sign it)
- Thoughts:
  - Emotional appeal/Personal Appeal
  - Head, Heart, Feet Adam Hamilton’s framework
  - Cultural Comparisons
  - Get proximate, Change Narrative, Do Uncomfortable Things, Stay Hopeful
- Two possible framing videos:
  - Langston Hughes – Kids Who Die  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6Mct8UB4XhY&feature=youtu.be>
  - Guante – Quicksand [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OR\\_RmGKg6c0](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OR_RmGKg6c0) (Guante is local and there is the possibility of having him perform this live.)
- Structure: (this is Gail’s outline, we never got this specific)
  - Frame the discussion/call out the problem
  - What can we do

- Racial Reconciliation Movement
- Actions being taken
- Recognizing current members
- Ask them to take it home and take action
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Next meeting: Friday, April 12, 2:30 – 4 pm, Church Center, Room 508; Remote Connection possible.

Actions prior to next meeting:

- Shawn will write report for Annual Conference
- Shawn will ask Richard Webb to connect with GCORR about how we can best support them for GC2020
- Iris Burse will attend BMCR general meeting and talk with them about how we can best support them for GC2020
- Gail will review the covenant and other materials to make them more appropriate to the concept of being a central hub
- Gail will send our feedback to the Brain (graphic designer) regarding the imagery
- **EVERYONE** will look at the two videos listed and bring their thoughts, and any other possibilities, to the next meeting