

# Monthly Update

---

## Upcoming Race Equity Opportunities:

### **Presentations/Workshops/Events:**

**Friday, April 4, 7 pm - Public Lecture by Dr. Sarah Augustine**

**“Embodying Solidarity with Indigenous People by Becoming Kin”**

o **Where:** **United Theological Seminary, St. Paul** ([map](#)) - or - **Virtually via Zoom**

o **Details:** Doors open at 6:15 pm and the presentation begins at 7 pm. Sarah is the co-founder of The Coalition to Dismantle the Doctrine of Discovery and an extraordinary speaker.

[Register here](#) for either in-person or virtual Zoom option.

For questions about Sarah or the Coalition, contact Westwood Race Equity leader [Tom Houle](#).

### **Legislative Support:**

**Wednesday, March 12, [Rally Day](#) at the State Capitol**

**[Rise and Repair](#) – Legislative arm of Minnesota Interfaith Power and Light**

o **Where:** **State Capitol, St. Paul, MN** ([map](#))

o **Organization:** Minnesota Interfaith Power and Light [MNIPL](#) - learn more and get involved.

o **Details:** Register on the Rise and Repair site to participate in [Rally Day](#) on March 12 at the State Capitol. Come to learn and lobby! In the 2025 session, Rise and Repair is lobbying for:

- Support of legislation for returning land to Indigenous Nations in Minnesota
- Protecting the environment
- Granting rights to protect wild rice (Manoomin/Psiq)

**Monthly Zoom, 1st Wednesday of the Month - “Rent is Due”**

**Beacon Interfaith Housing Collaborative**

o **Where:** [Register for Online Zoom](#)

o **Organization:** Beacon Interfaith Housing Collaborative - [Click](#) to learn more and get involved.

o **Details:** Beacon Interfaith Housing Collaborative is part of a coalition urging our state leaders to prioritize supportive housing, which is a proven solution for reducing homelessness and increasing stability. Beacon hosts a monthly 30-minute Zoom call on the 1st Wednesday of the month called [Rent is Due](#), a low-commitment way to get involved with this critical need.

**Truth & Healing Commission - Contact Members of Congress**

**Beacon Interfaith Housing Collaborative**

o **Where:** [Click here to submit](#) communications to Congress

o **Details:** The ELCA Office for Witness in Society is calling on Lutherans to advocate for the establishment of a federal Truth & Healing Commission on Indian Boarding School Policies. Communicate to your members of Congress supporting the Truth and Healing Commission on Indian Boarding Schools Policies Act (Senate bill [S.1723](#); House bill [H.R. 7227](#)). For more information on the National Native American Boarding School Coalition, [click here](#).



# Monthly Update

---

## Upcoming Race Equity Opportunities (continued):

### Independent Learning:

#### ELCA - "[Truth and Healing Movement](#)"

- o **Where:** Find information [online](#) to learn more or about events that support this movement.
- o **Organizations:** Evangelical Lutheran Church in America ([ELCA](#))
- o **Details:** The ELCA continues to provide learning opportunities as a part of the [Truth and Healing Movement](#). Learn more on the website and find links to online classes.

#### Minnesota Spokesman-Recorder

- o **Where:** [Online article](#) to read
- o **Organizations:** Minnesota Spokesman-Recorder ([website](#))
- o **Details:** Read the Spokesman-Recorder article NNPA launches 'Missing & Black 2025' campaign to address disparities in coverage of missing Black people

### Book Readings:

***Here is a list of books that are being read and/or are part of recent book studies at Westwood.***

***\*New\****

- o "Living Resistance: An Indigenous Vision for Seeking Wholeness Every Day," by Kaitlin B. Curtice
- o "Until We Reckon: Violence, Mass Incarceration, and A Road to Repair," by Danielle Sered
- o "Stand Your Ground: Black Bodies and the Justice of God," by Kelly Brown Douglas

*(Previous Month)*

- o "You Are Your Best Thing," by Tarana Burke and Brene Brown
- o "So We & Our Children May Live," by Sarah Augustine & Sheri Hostetler
- o "Infectious Generosity," by Chris Anderson

### Upcoming Dates:

***Stay tuned for more details in the future but save the dates in the meantime.***

- o May 25: 5-Year Anniversary of George Floyd's murder.
- o June 19: "Juneteenth" is an annual, federally recognized holiday to celebrate and commemorate the ending of slavery in the United States.

***If you are not receiving this information via email directly and would like to be included on Westwood's Race Equity group email list, please reach out via email to [Tom Houle](#).***

