

FACILITATORS

Myra Brown is a minister at Spiritus Christi Church in Rochester, NY. She is an anti-racism educator and activist, working nationally and locally in Rochester. Myra leads *SPARC*, the local anti-racism group, and was very involved in local issues including opposing mayoral control of city schools in Rochester. Myra is an engaging speaker who has an uncanny ability to engage all in the hard work of promoting racial justice.

Fred Dabrowski is a member of the CTA Anti-Racism Team, Co-chapter leader of CTA-RGV chapter and active in other peace and justice organizations in the Rio Grande Valley and West Michigan. In these efforts he has been exposed to the effects of racism and strives to share how white privilege exists and is a justice issue.

Delfin Bautista is a member of CTA's Anti-Racism Team and 20/30 Leadership Team. Delfin is a clinical social worker and career theologian who is passionate about engaging the intersections of religion, sexuality, race/ethnicity, and justice—specifically around LGBTQ issues. Delfin is interested in creating spaces where communities are safe and challenged to explore gender and orientation in their complexities and richness.

EXPLORING RACISM INSIDE AND OUT

AN ANTI-RACISM WORKSHOP

Workshop methods to examine discrimination because of race, color, sexual orientation and privilege will include: Video, experience sharing and discussion, role-playing, caucuses, and naming and framing exercises. Possible next steps in the quest for racial justice in our area will be investigated. The workshop consists of two sessions:

When:

Friday, March 9, 2012

7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

&

Saturday, March 10, 2012

9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

{Lunch included with registration}

Where:

Lamb of God Church
19691 Cypress View Drive
Fort Myers, FL 33967

REGISTRATION

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip _____

Phone (____) _____ - _____

Email _____

COST: \$20
(Includes lunch on Saturday)

Make check payable to:
CTASWF, Inc.

Send registration with payment to:

Joseph Beausoleil, Treasurer
9007 Springview Loop
Estero, FL 33928

Scholarships are available-

Please inquire to:

Ellen McNally, President
ejmcnally@comcast.net

Registration by Saturday, March 3, 2012 appreciated.

OVERVIEW:
Exploring Racism Inside and Out

Racism is a malicious virus that invades both the structures of society and its members. It feeds on ignorance and the fallacy that any of us can judge others on the basis of our own limited experience. It relishes stereotypes, unfounded rumors, and whispers. It is often undiagnosed because the systems that are set up in society tend to confirm it rather than to expose it.

Racial discrimination can be seen in our history from such things as “No Irish need apply” in Boston, to the Jim Crow laws in the Deep South. In the West, Native children were forced into boarding schools to unlearn their culture and language, all in the name of progress.

Racism was at the root of the epithets hurled at immigrants: Micks, Wops, Spicks, Krauts. “Foreigners were not like us, so they must be inferior.” Thus went the reasoning. Racism is still with us, and it still smacks of the “White Supremacy” doctrine of “der Fuhrer.” Non-whites often find it harder to get a loan or a mortgage, the unemployment rate is higher always among African Americans, and some politicians plot to make it more difficult for non-whites to vote.

Unfortunately some of the worst forms of discrimination rely upon a faulty understanding of religion and scripture to cover up the ugliness of its teachings. Discrimination based on gender or sexual orientation is often couched in religious beliefs; they pull out what they want to pull out from the Bible and ignore other things, which just proves that biased people can always find something in religion to justify their mean spirit. Ignoring completely the findings of modern science, churchmen proclaim that homosexuals are “defective” but fail to explain how God makes such defective things, when Genesis says that God proclaimed creation good, and man, very good.

We invite you to come to our clinic for a check-up. The immediate reaction of most Christians to being influenced by racism is “Not I, O Lord!” But racism is like a silent killer; we hardly know it is there in our lives. The virus can be killed by exposure to the light, by being treated with the touch of community, and then being bound up in the Love of God. As the Lord said to the disciples: “Come and see....”

For more information, visit our website at:
<http://cta-swfla.org>



Working for Justice and Equality

DISCRIMINATE?
Who me?

You are invited to:

AN ANTI-RACISM WORKSHOP

Sponsored by:

**Call to Action Southwest Florida
and
Lamb of God Church**

March 9-10, 2012