

Racial Justice Ministries
McFarland United Church of Christ
2024

The Racial Justice Ministries group meets the first Tuesday of most months, 6:30, in person with Zoom available. We welcome all to join us as we continue to learn about and address the racial injustices in our community, state, and world.

In 2024, the racial justice group provided the following opportunities

- Exploration
 - The group had great interest in hosting a screening of *The Bad River Documentary*. After many attempts at outreach to the provided contact information, it was determined that accessing the film through existing screenings was optimal.
 - Creating a garden show-casing native plants, along with accompanying signage in the Ho Chunk language was initially planned, in collaboration with the Climate team and the Building and Grounds team. It was determined that due to the need for upkeep and timing of appropriate planting, this project was discontinued.
- Learning
 - In collaboration with the broader Indigenous People's Justice group, the MUCC racial justice group hosted a presentation entitled "Land Acknowledgement Done Better", presented by Rv. Kerri Parker. This informative session outlined the important components of creating a land acknowledgment, encouraged all present to consider the importance of such, and offered support from the Wisconsin Council of Churches in creating a land acknowledgment.
 - Attendance at a community event hosted by the McFarland Equity Project, which explored the "Land Back Movement", including insights by leaders of the HoChunk Nation, in regard to the native mounds that McFarland has been developed on and around.
 - APT play, *MaRainey's Black Bottom*, followed by a potluck and discussion facilitated by Anna Gonzalez, APT's Community Engagement Coordinator.
- Relationship building
 - Ongoing communication and relationship building with the Morris Community AME Church in Madison, who has issued us invitations to many events that they host.