From broken to beautiful:
Downtown Greensboro transformed with art

by Jessica Winters
Greensboro WFMY News 2

GREENSBORO, N.C. -- Downtown Greensboro has turned into an outdoor art exhibit full of life, color, and meaning. A stark difference from the weekend when shattered glass and trash riddled the streets.

"I'd been watching all the live videos and the windows getting busted out and you know, I know a lot of business owners down here," Greensboro artist Gina Franco said." ...

Franco has turned this broken city, into a beautiful one with some help.

"I did a call for artists, I just said any artist that wants to come out and see how much plywood we can get painted."
The Southern Conference Presents:
Educating, Equipping and Empowering Series

**Thursday, June 18, 2020, 6:00 pm (ET)**

**Topic:** America on Fire! A racial equity conversation -- Part 3

**Featured Presenter:** Rev. LaShauna Austria is the Southern Conference Minister for Racial Equality and Justice

You are invited to a Zoom webinar.
When: Jun 18, 2020 06:00 AM Eastern Time (US and Canada)
Topic: America On Fire - Part 3!

Please click the link below to join the webinar:
https://zoom.us/j/94475129251?pwd=bExNL0NOM1LSmp6d1dDT29lb3Z5UT09
Password: 627029

Or iPhone one-tap:
US: +16468769923,,94475129251#,,,,0#,,627029#
or
+13017158592,,94475129251#,,,,0#,,627029#
Or Telephone:
Dial(for higher quality, dial a number based on your current location):
US: +1 646 876 9923 or +1 301 715 8592 or +1 312 626 6799 or +1 669 900 6833 or +1 253 215 8782 or +1 346 248 7799
Webinar ID: 944 7512 9251
Password: 627029
International numbers available: https://zoom.us/u/aDMevK6GZ

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**White Privilege - Let's Talk**

Offered by Rev. LaShauna Austria
Southern Conference Minister for Racial Equality and Justice

June 17 at 1:00 - 3:00 pm and 6:00 - 8:00 pm

**White Privilege: Let's Talk** is a resource for Transformational Dialogue, and a curriculum from the UCC that's designed to invite church members to engage in safe, meaningful, substantive, and bold conversations on race.

Sessions are offered at two different times. To prepare for this sixth gathering
(June 17), read Part 5 of White Privilege Curriculum.

Registration is required! Register with links below if you are not already signed up for one of the weekly sessions.

Registration is required!

Register for June 17th from 1:00 - 3:00 PM

Register for June 17th from 6:00 - 8:00 PM

*White Privilege: Let's Talk / A Resource for Transformational Dialogue* can also be downloaded (free) as a pdf document from UCC Resources.

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**Spiritual Practice and Self-Care Corner #12**

*by Rev. John T. Myers (D.Min.)*

**Get Ready to Travel**

What! You mean travel right now! During COVID-19! Yes, you can travel right now all over the world. How? Well, before I tell you how. I want to tell you about a United Church of Christ conference that I attended a few years ago at General Synod.

During that General Synod conference, the guest speaker was Antwone Fisher. You remember the movie staring Denzel Washington called the Antwone Fisher story. Denzel was this US Naval Officer, a psychiatrist, that helped Antwone Fisher to move through some exceedingly difficult childhood experiences. During this conference, I was able to hear and eventually meet the real Antwone Fisher.

Mr. Fisher spoke powerfully about his upbringing in a very dysfunctional and horrific environment. He experienced things that no young person should have to go through. But one of the things that he said helped him survive and thrive was reading. He said that it was through the power of reading that he was able to travel all over the world and visit places, learn unique and interesting things and lift his mind out of his situation to see something greater and beyond what he could see and imagine. And it was this vision that gave him great motivation to change his life.

As a spiritual and self-care practice, reading is powerful. As it did for Antwone Fisher, it can do the same for us. We can travel everywhere and experience peace, love, and happiness wherever we are. Additionally, reading can refocus our minds away from the cares, worries and stressors of the world to stillness, peace, and joy. Instead of the television, cable news or social media, turn to a book, a novel. And as you read, do not forget to breathe. Read mindfully giving full attention to what you are reading. Reading in this way diverts your mind from troubles, lowers your heart rate, and gives you a sense of peace and calm. This is beneficial to overall health of mind, body, and soul. The added benefit is that you have traveled and learned something new.
One of the places that I travelled early this morning was to Japan. It was there that I met and conversed with the founders of Judo, Dr. Jigoro Kano and Aikido, O Sensei, Morihei Ueshiba from whom I've learned how to utilize my body, breath and energy to create harmony, reconciliation and peace. But now I am back home. Flew back on the Book Express. Glad I took time to get away.

From Rev. John T. Myers, (D. Min.), Associate Conference Minister, Eastern Virginia Association, Southern Conference UCC. Founder and CEO of Fruit of the Spirit, LLC devoted to sharing spiritual practices that heal and transform. Rev. Myers is available for zoom calls to discuss and share spiritual practices and perform life coaching. www.fruitofthespirit.life.

About the author: Rev. John T. Myers, (D.Min.) Associate Conference Minister, EVA, is founder and CEO of Fruit of the Spirit, LLC, devoted to sharing spiritual practices that heal and transform. Rev. Myers is available for zoom calls to discuss and share spiritual practices and perform life coaching. www.fruitofthespirit.life.

Download above practice # 12 - Get Ready to Travel

Download Spiritual Practice series #1 - 12

Check in with your Association

Associations continue virtual check-ins with various schedules and topics. If you are not aware of options in your Association, contact the ACM or other named person in your region.

Eastern Virginia Association:
Rev. John Myers (D.Min.) / (ACM) / johnmyers2122@gmail.com

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Rev. Micah Royal (ENCA president) / micahbroyal@yahoo.com

Western North Carolina Association:
Rev. Colleen Samson (D.Min.) / ACM / revsamson@wnca-soc.org

Conference Call-in Prayer Line is available to ALL

See SOC web page: "Prayer Practices during this Pandemic" for call-in numbers and times.

Links for previous Zoom Webinars

Resources and links for previously aired webinars can be found on the Southern Conference web site

Virtual "8 @ 8" Virtual Devotional Revival

Join Providence UCC, Chesapeake, VA -- this week -- for a Virtual Devotional
Revival

- Monday - Pastor Rose Wright Scott (Victory Christian UCC, S. Chesterfield, VA)
- Tuesday - Pastor Bob Edwards (Bayside Christian UCC, Norfolk, VA)
- Wednesday - Rev. Yvonne Delk (D.Min.) (Senior stateswoman of the UCC)
- Thursday - Pastor Donald Moore (Ed.D.) (Mt. Carmel Baptist Ch, Phil. PA)
- Friday - Pastor Eddie Spencer, (Mt. Calvary Baptist Ch., Englewood, NJ)

Download flyer with details

Lectionary Reading, Third Sunday after Pentecost / June 21, 2020 / Psalm 86:1-10, 16-17
Greensboro downtown mural on Elm Street.
"We can fix our broken windows. How can we all fix our broken country?

photo by C. L. Stumb