June 2024



Heard enough bad news? It's time for some good news!



I was stunned when a leading city official told me a few years ago that every major problem he deals with in St. Louis can be traced back to the issue of race. Could Racial Unity really carry that much weight?

Racial Unity Week is a collaborative effort in which 25 leaders from various churches and races team up to create a 'Racial Unity Week', celebrating the unity we have found in Christ. The church is ideally placed to showcase this as our unity isn't based on class, opinion or skin color but on the Powerful Love of God who has made us all One Race. In an increasingly polarized world, that's a 'One Race card' well worth playing! **To watch a video about the week, visit www.togetherstl.com/racial-unity-week.** 

Pictured above: My colleague Brandon Wilkes rolled out the plan for the week to a group of over 50 pastors and ministry leaders.







A 5K run/walk with the goal of promoting racial unity in St. Louis on the Delmar Loop to bring the message of racial unity to the historic Delmar Divide. Let's build unity one step at a time!

Racial

**Unity Week** 

June 15-22, 2024

RACE FOR RECONCILIATION 5K



Congregations across the St. Louis Metropolitan area from various denominations and backgrounds unite through preaching sermons on racial unity on this Sunday. Let's embrace diversity, foster understanding, and promote love for one another as Christ has compelled us in scripture.





Worship and Prayer On this day we will gather every tribe, tongue and nation to worship and pray together. Let's celebrate worship on Earth as it is in Heaven.

## JUNE 22 MAAFA Experience

Maafa is a Kiswahili word translated as "great disaster" or "great tragedy". Join us as we honor, through prayer and reflection, the African people who suffered through the Middle Passage of the Transatlantic slave trade. The experience will include song, spoken word, food, fellowship, and a walking tour.





## The week consists of four elements:

- It starts (1) at The Delmar Loop, <u>known around the world as a symbol of</u> <u>our city's racial divide</u>, as the stage of a 5k race for reconciliation,
- followed by (2) a Sunday in which we ask pastors to preach on racial healing,
- then (3) a city wide prayer meeting
- and it ends with (4) walking in relationship through a history tour.

## To find more information and/or register for the week, visit www.togetherstl.com/racial-unity-week.



After a 6-year absence due to Covid, our family finally took a trip to Europe this March. May this Swiss mountain top picture remind you that God's perspective is Beautiful and filled with Wisdom from on high!