

BRRICK: Building Racial Reconciliation in Christs Kingdom Report to the Synod Assembly May 2021

In 2021 with the help of God the BRRICK team continues the fight against the sin of Institutional racism while humanity fights the Covid-19 pandemic. In our fighting, we re-discover what we have seen time after time that weather we are fighting poverty, lack of health care or covid-19 in a society created on the principle of white supremacy these problems always disproportionately affect BIPOC. Nevertheless, we serve a God that is urging us to, "Bear one another's burdens (Galatians 6:2)." To that end in 2020 one of the initiatives that BRRICK supported in partnership with Conference 6 was, "The Call for Solidarity" in the SEMI synod. We are thankful for those congregations who supported this cause for Christian unity with the oppressed by worshiping virtually in solidarity with their BIPOC siblings in Detroit and beyond who according to the Center for Infectious Disease Research and Policy are 3 times more likely than whites to contract Covid-19.

The BRRICK team in this time of increased police brutality, voter suppression and violence against Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders (AAPI) decided in 2020 to refocus our gospel centered work by writing a new vision, mission and values statement (please see attachment).

BRRICK has been busy throughout 2020 by offering initiatives in the fight against systemic racism in the church and beyond. Second Sunday Cinema Club (SSCC) is a new BRRICK initiative that brings together movie lovers who watch films that focus the viewers on issues of racism and classism. Then members of SSCC engage in open discussion that converges at the intersection of themes found in the movie and issues in our society. For more information contact Pr. Anna Taylor-McCants AnnataylorMcCants@gmail.com.

BRRICK's summer anti-racism leadership camp known as Bridge Builders, which is offered in partnership with Living Water Ministries took a sabbatical in 2020 because of the cancelation of the camp schedule due to the Covid-19 pandemic. This week-long camp offers anti-racism training centered in the gospel of Christ Jesus for high school age teenagers.

BRRICK still offers Anti-Racism workshops to congregations for more information please contact our Education Chair Marilyn Knack marandron@sbcglobal.net.

If you are interested in walking with us in this fight against systemic racism please contact Mrs. Wendy Gomez gomezwendy@att.net or Pr. Branden Hunt stphillipastorelca@gmail.com.

"But let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream (Amos 5:24)."

Respectfully,

Pr. Michael Johnson
Chair of BRRICK