

## **Racist or Anti-Racist?**

### *Questions for Reflection from the Advocacy Committee*

According to Ibram Kendi, author of *How to be an Antiracist*, actions that impact racial equity are either “racist” or “anti-racist”. The neutral label “not racist” does not make sense because neutrality implies acceptance of the status quo – For Kendi, the opposite of racist is anti-racist. “There is no neutrality in the racism struggle.”

#### *Questions for Reflection*

- Am I actively being anti-racist?
- Am I seeking deeper knowledge and a broader perspective around issues of racial justice and equity by developing relationships with Black and Latinx members of the community, by attending classes and events, watching documentaries and movies, listening to podcasts, reading articles and books, and initiating conversations outside my comfort zone? [Here are resources you can use.](#)
- Do I speak out when racist words are said or racist acts are committed in my presence?
- Do I educate my children about systemic racism, seek to be aware of the historical narrative that schools are teaching, and advocate for an accurate account of our country’s history?
- Do I intentionally patronize Black and Latinx-owned businesses and restaurants as well as financially support Black and Latinx-led organizations that positively impact the community?
- Do I respect and work in supportive partnership with Black and Latinx leadership in the community?
- Do I research the policies and records of political candidates as they relate to racial justice?
- Do I encourage elected officials:
  - to address disparities of equity in our schools and work toward desegregation;
  - to promote home ownership and housing stability for our Black and Latinx neighbors including those formerly incarcerated;
  - to support economic investments that help stabilize Black and Latinx business and expand opportunity;
  - to provide opportunities for healing the trauma, mental health, and substance use challenges that often are caused by incarceration.

- Do I share my time, money and social capital with individuals struggling to improve their place in society and the organizations trying to support them? You can [use the list at the bottom of the resources document](#) on the church website.
- Do I actively seek God's will for me through prayer and study to work toward dismantling systemic racism to bring about needed change?