

COMMITMENTS

In 2021, we are dedicated to the liberation of our congregation and community and we will commit to the following strategies. We ask for the support from our ministers, lay leaders, laity and our larger community allies. As the leaders who will advocate and champion our 2021 focus, we have prepared a recommended reading list. Commit to engaging some of these titles in your devotional and study times.¹

- **Spiritual Liberation**

To live a spiritual free life through the power of the Holy Spirit and commit to daily individual prayer, meditation, bible study, and weekly corporate fasting, worship, prayer and bible study. Activating our spiritual gifts to advance God's kingdom in our local context.

- Ellison, Gregory C. II., *Anchored in the Current: Discovering Howard Thurman As Educator, Activity, Guide and Prophet*. Westminster John Knox Press. 2020.
- McCaulley, Esau., *Reading While Black*. InterVarsity Press. 2020.
- Tutu, Archbishop Desmond and His Holiness the Dalai Lama., *The Book of Joy: Lasting Happiness in a Changing World*. Penguin Press. Canada. 2016.

- **Mental/Emotional Liberation**

To live a mental/emotional free and healthy life. We seek not to be encumbered by mental and emotional oppression but rather to be free to live our best life. To accomplish this one must engage in spiritual disciplines, pastoral counseling and/or psychotherapy. For referrals and appointments please contact the Monument of Faith's Nia Counseling Ministry at nia@mof-church.org

- Nouwen, Henri J.M., *The Wounded Healer: Ministry in Contemporary Society*. Crown Publishing Group, 2013.
- West, John, and Lee., *Emotional Intelligence for Religious Leaders*. Rowman & Littlefield. 2018.

- **Financial Liberation**

To live financial free lives that are financially stable and fiscally responsible by seeking to honor God with the resources entrusted to us. We will try to live debt free and within a budget that reflects our income, save a portion of our income for emergencies and commit to giving to sustain the mission and vision of our church.

- Kelly, Doretha R., *Money Chat*. Felicity Media Group, LLC. 2015.
- Singletary, Michelle., *The 21 Day Financial Fast: Your path to Financial Peace and Freedom*. Zondervan. 2014.

¹ All MOO Leaders are required to purchase Howard Thurman's *The Inward Journey* in preparation for quarterly bible studies. (\$14.99/book)



Recommended Reading List for 2021

- **Relational Liberation**

To live relational free lives. We were created to be in relationship with God and each other. This year we seek to be free of all toxic relationships and to nurture relationships that are life giving. For assistance in obtaining relational freedom please contact Nia Counseling at nia@mof-church.org

- Scazzero, Peter., *Emotional Healthy Spirituality: It's Impossible to Be Spiritually Mature, While Remaining Emotionally Immature*. Zondervan. 2014.
- Johnson, Sue., *Hold Me Tight*. Little. Brown Spark; 1st edition. 2008.

- **Communal Liberation**

To live in a community that is safe, free of violence, offers affordable housing, healthy and nutritious food, recreational and green spaces, and places of spiritual enrichment. To partner with organizations and institutions who are willing to invest in the wholeness and liberation of our community.

- Thurman, Howard., *Jesus and the Disinherited*. Beacon Press. 1996.
- Kendi, Ibram X., *How to be An Antiracist*. Penguin Random House Press. 2019.