

# Undoing Racism

## Episcopal Church at Yale (ECY)

*ISSUE 3 • NOVEMBER 2020*

# WELCOME!

BRANDON CHAMBERS, CO-CONVENER

Hello! If you are new to ECY's Undoing Racism initiative then welcome! If you've taken part before then we're blessed to have you back. This academic year, we're reworking the Undoing Racism working group to build on its strengths. We know that ECY members appreciated the time that we used to discuss tough topics like police brutality, fascism, and xenophobia, in an intimate setting. We'll continue to provide this space and we hope that you'll join us in those conversations going forward.

You'll also be aware that ECY is taking major strides this year to become a student-led ministry. In this spirit, each of our Congregational Council members have indicated that anti-racism is central to ECY's several ministries, from evangelism to social media. In light of that, the Undoing Racism working group will also be a resource to support ECY in that mission of making anti-racism central in all that we do.

Joseph Cundiff (co-convener), Melia Young, Maria Hackett, Rev. Armando Ghingalia, Rev. Paul J. Carling (working members), and I will be working together to facilitate these twin aims. Please reach out to any of us if you have any ideas; we're here to make this working group work for ECY and work for you. In that spirit, let us remind ourselves that the kingdom of God is "justice and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit." We invite you to walk with us this year as we "pursue what makes for peace and for mutual upbuilding."

With every good wish,  
Brandon Chambers  
Undoing Racism Co-Convener

JOIN US TODAY FOR  
CONVERSATION!

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER  
10, 2020

6 PM

ZOOM LINK:

[HTTPS://YALE.ZOOM.U  
S/J/97231241831](https://yale.zoom.us/j/97231241831)

# SECOND MEETING RECAP



BRANDON CHAMBERS, CO-CONVENER



Last time we discussed the language that we use in worship to describe God, both in identification and in worship. We discussed a range of topics, including the nuance between inclusive and expansive language, the idea that our descriptions to be shaped or bound by scripture, and the feeling of defaulting to whiteness when describing God. We dwelled a lot on the intersectionality behind normalizing masculinity and whiteness. Our discussion centered on the article “Language Matters: Towards an Inclusive Community” by Wilma Jakobsen, and we encourage you to read through it if you haven’t already. You may find some elements that you’d like to incorporate in your own prayer and worship.

## COMING THIS WEEK...

This week we’re shifting gears to talk about politics and policy in this post-election moment. Rev. Armando will lead our discussion on what a new president-elect, and a vice president-elect who is a woman of color, means for us as a Church right now, with all the conversation around race and racism that has emerged this year. We definitely won’t need any literature to center our discussion, but we commend to you this article in the Guardian by Hal Foster, a scholar of art and archaeology. This article is titled, “[The Time to Create a Future is Now. And That Means Addressing Our Past.](#)” See you today!

## RESOURCES FROM THE RACIAL HEALING, JUSTICE, AND RECONCILIATION MINISTRY NETWORK

### *Guilty Until Proven Guilty*

<https://vimeo.com/303160781> The password is: Guilty

Introduced by Usher, Harry Moses created this film about a current case on the unjust underpinning of the criminal justice system in Louisiana. His film, “Guilty Until Proven Guilty”, is the first in a series called *Race in America*. It invites us into the story of a brief interview Moses conducted in 2016 with an inmate at the Orleans Parish jail, Tim Conerly, who was charged with armed robbery, and waiting for more than two-plus years in jail for his day in court. .

### *Redlining: A Legacy of Housing Discrimination*

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=I\\_sCS2E8k5g](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=I_sCS2E8k5g)

Blending historical footage and interviews with housing experts, the 15-minute film traces the legacy of housing discrimination by government programs and financial institutions that shut African Americans and other minorities out of homeownership for decades. That disparity in homeownership rates continues and “is at the core of the racial wealth gap today,” the film maintains.