Webinar Series Invitation

Black Lives with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities and their Faith Communities

Register: aaidдрeligion.org/series  Visit this link to learn more!

November 10, 2020 3:00 PM EST
Dr. Luchara Wallace
Associate Professor of Special Education & Director of the Lewis Walker Institute for the Study of Race and Ethnic Relations

December 1, 2020 3:00 PM EST
Rev. Dr. LaTonya Penny
Senior Pastor of New Mount Zion Baptist Church & Executive Director of Family Abuse Services

January 5, 2021 3:00 PM EST
Dr. Lamar Hardwick
Author, Lead Pastor at Tri-Cities Church in East Point, Georgia autismpastor.com

CLOSING PANEL: FEBRUARY 2, 2021 AT 3:00 PM EST
Black lives with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their faith communities:
A discussion of the role of church communities in the lives of black and brown people with IDD and their families

AAIDD Religion & Spirituality Interest Network

https://aaiddreligion.org/
Using Zoom

• Your microphone is muted. Please keep it turned off unless you're speaking during the Q&A.

• Use the chat icon for questions or comments.

• You may use Reactions such as “thumbs up” throughout the webinar.

• Closed captioning is available.
AAIDD Religion & Spirituality Interest Network

Interfaith, interdisciplinary association that advocates for the inclusion of people with IDD in faith communities of their choice
• Members have access to the *Journal of Disability and Religion*

Activities:
• Events at the AAIDD Annual Meeting
• Henri Nouwen Award
• Webinars
• Website, Facebook, Twitter
To Be Black and Christian with a Disability

Dr. Luchara Wallace, Director of the Lewis Walker Institute for the Study of Race and Ethnic Relations and Associate Professor in Special Education at Western Michigan University
To Be Black and Christian with a Disability: We are One Body

Part 1
Dumela

I affirm you. I believe in you. I see great potential in you.
We are ONE Body...

1 Corinthians 12:12-27
26% or 1 in 4 of ALL American adults have a disability

• IDEA highlights:
  • Disability is a natural part of the human experience and in no way diminishes the right of individuals to participate in or contribute to society. Improving educational results for children with disabilities is an essential element of our national policy of ensuring equality of opportunity, full participation, independent living, and economic self-sufficiency for individuals with disabilities.
Something to consider . . .

- There are over 385,000 places of worship in the US (Brauer, 2017)
- 80-85% of churches don't have any type of any level of special needs ministry
- More than 90% of church-going parents of children with special needs site the most helpful support is a "welcoming attitude towards individuals with disabilities." Only about 80% admit to experiencing such. (The Banquet Network, 2018)

https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/epdf/10.1111/jssr.12330?author_access_token=6TIAJ0plWmfoT8CKXywoOYta6bR2k8jH0KrdpFOxG64MqjczIASPsUhKK26SvkbhsyE2e7kPD7R5ARZtNTKTggA0DSGuI7VEqdYWfpHAD5r-ulyLGbeH3eaMrTFqqcF
How could we make our congregation more inclusive and welcoming for people with mental health challenges and/or special needs?

• When new members join, ask in a sensitive and dignified way if any accommodations would enhance their participation in the faith community.

• State all are welcome and provide a phone number if additional accommodations are need in all church event announcements.

• Personally invite individuals with mental health challenges or special needs and their families to participate in ministries, religious education programs and events, and arrange for accommodations.
Believe in Ability means
Black Lives Matter.

Act with Compassion means
Black Lives Matter.

Enable Excellence means
Black Lives Matter.

Foster Collaboration and Build Community means
Black Lives Matter.

Promote Advocacy means
Black Lives Matter.

Take Responsibility means
Black Lives Matter.
I affirm you. I believe in you. I see great potential in you.
Conversation & Questions

• For questions about today’s presentation, contact Luchara Wallace at luchara.wallace@wmich.edu

• For questions about the webinar series, contact Deborah Fisher at deborahmfisher@gmail.com
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Join the AAIDD Religion & Spirituality Interest Network today!

- Website: https://aaiddreligion.org/
- Facebook: Religion and Spirituality Division of the AAIDD
- Twitter: Aaiddreligion