



A Matter of Faith: A Presby Podcast

Listening Guide – Race Episodes

| Episode | Guest | Question | Timestamp |
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| Episode 1 | Alexandra Zareth, Associate for Leadership Development and Recruitment of Leaders of Color | As a person of color in the PCUSA, I've noticed a lack of opportunities for my voice to be heard. When opportunities do arise, I want to take advantage of them. But I also don't want to be tokenized or take space away from other leaders of color who might not have been offered the opportunity. How do I navigate this space? | 16:42 |
| Episode 8 | Toby Weismiller, Ruling Elder, Colesville Presbyterian Church | Will our church get vandalized if we put up a Black Lives Matter sign? | 23:08 |
| Episode 24 | Bong Bringas, Commissioned Lay Pastor, San Marino Community Church | I am a person of color and about to begin a leadership role in a majority white congregation. For other people who have been in this position, what has your experience been like as a person of color and a leader in a church that is majority white? Do you have any guidance for working in these contexts? | 22:50 |
| Episode 52 | Robert Hoggard, Associate Director of Advancement for Academic and Student Affairs, Rochester Institute of Technology | Our country's education system needs a serious overhaul. Students that attend underfunded and lower performing schools also lack access to other development and professional opportunities. And of course, there are issues of racism and economic class divisions. How can the church be a voice for change and take action to reform the education system at all levels and provide better access and opportunities for everyone? | 27:37 |
| Episode 80 | Margaret Mwale, Associate for Community Development and Constituent Relations, Presbyterian Committee on the Self- Development of People | What does the term "self-development" mean in relation to community empowerment? How does one help another person achieve "self-development" without being intrusive or telling them what they should do to improve their lives? | 29:00 |
| Episode 85 | Wayne Younger, Executive Director, Open Hand Ministries | People talk about the wealth and income disparities faced by communities of color, and particularly Black and African American communities. The result is a lack of access to things like loans, financial literacy, stability | 31:33 |

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| | | and home ownership. What can churches and faith communities do to change this and empower these communities? | |
| Episode 86 | Rev. Jimmie Hawkins, Director, Advocacy Offices, PCUSA | I feel like when we think about advocacy in the US regarding people of color, and especially the Black community, we only focus on the abolitionist movement and the Civil Rights movement. But I imagine there are many more ways the Black community has both contributed to and lead justice efforts in our country. What are some examples? How does this affect our understanding of current struggles for racial justice and the Black Lives Matter movement? | 27:30 |
| Episode 91 | Rev. Samuel Son, Manager of Diversity and Reconciliation, Presbyterian Mission Agency | How does diversity differ from inclusion? | 15:56 |
| Episode 96 | Kathryn Gin Lum, Associate Professor of Religious Studies, Stanford University | How should we understand the declining membership of mainline Christian denominations using the perspective outlined in your book? These are often the older, more white denominations where young people choose to be “spiritual but not religious”. But we don’t see that as much in the immigrant congregations and people of color where communities are often thriving. | 25:18 |

Looking to go deeper on issues of racism with [A Matter of Faith: A Presby Podcast](#)? This listening guide outlines a list of our favorite conversations with our guests about addressing racism. We provide the accompanying questions for you to use to reflect on these episodes. These questions could be used for individual or group study. All links and resources mentioned are in each episode’s show notes.

Want to get connected with A Matter of Faith? Write in your thoughts and questions to faithpodcast@pcusa.org

Reflection Questions

What are 3 words that came up during these podcasts that stuck out to you?

How did these podcast episodes challenge or enhance your understanding of issues related to race and their intersection with faith or other justice issues?

If you identify as a person of color, how did any of these conversations resonate with you? If you do not identify as a person of color, did any of these conversations surprise you? Why?

How have you seen issues related to race and racism in the church and in your community? How were those issues addressed? Could you apply any of the things mentioned in these podcast episodes to those situations?