What’s One Thing (or More) You Can Do to Address Inequality?

Prayer and Practice

- I pledge to approach the work of addressing inequality as a spiritual journey that speaks to my own humanity and liberation of myself along with those most harmed by inequality.
- I pledge to hold the work of personal and local reparations as an ongoing spiritual practice, one that shapes how I will choose to use my time, skills and money. See www.forreparations.org or https://reparations4slavery.com/ to learn more.

Learning and Acknowledging

- I pledge to learn more about America’s history, its foundation of chattel slavery, its history of genocide and colonization, its history of oppressing women, workers, LGBT persons, persons with disabilities, or others. See www.firstchurchcambridge.org/racialjustice or www.400yearsofinequality.org for suggested reading and viewing.
- I pledge to learn more about how structures and institutions of which I am a part disenfranchise people in the African and Indigenous persons diaspora and devalue Black and Indigenous lives.
- I pledge to acknowledge that, if I am white, I and my family may have benefitted from income inequality and the harm caused by economic discrimination against racial minorities.
- I pledge to acknowledge and work to heal the moral and material harm of the Transatlantic Slave Trade and the institutionalized racism it fostered which continues to manifest harm in Black and Indigenous communities.
- I pledge to listen to, learn from and follow the leadership of persons and communities who are most impacted by inequality. This includes listening to, learning from and following leadership of Black and Indigenous persons and communities impacted by the living legacy of slavery and white supremacy.

Advocacy, Action and Giving

- I pledge to participate in the First Church Shelter, the Friday Café, Cambridge Interfaith Sanctuary Coalition or some other First Church ministry that addresses inequality at an interpersonal level.
- I pledge to attend one local action, rally or other advocacy meeting (i.e Greater Boston Interfaith Organization) that addresses inequality at a systemic level.
- I pledge to learn how to participate in reparations, personally and in my local community.
- I pledge to act in ways that limit my complicity in violence against Black and Indigenous People (this may mean divesting in investments that harm Black and Indigenous People or investing in local businesses owned and operated by Black and Indigenous persons);
- I pledge to offer time and/or money to Black and Indigenous led organizations and communities, or other groups most impacted by inequality. I pledge to be a respectful ally or accomplice which may mean showing up without offering my ideas, solutions or opinion, unless asked.
- I pledge to take this message to my family, friends and community, calling those in with love rather than out through guilt.

Other

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Adapted from the FELLOWSHIP OF RECONCILIATION’s Truth and Reparations Campaign Pledge. To learn more, please visit: https://www.forreparations.org/take-the-pledge/