

A Black Man's Poetic Musings

I Had A Dream

By Curtiss L. Hayes, Jr.

I had a dream
gathered up steam
and then just kept right on rolling
That black and white
no longer did fight
but unity both were extolling

I had a dream
built self-esteem
as I was bold and courageous
I made black and white
walk toward the light
and nobody thought it outrageous

I had a dream
making me deem
giving my life to the cause, providing
Both black and white
scale the height
And climb over the wall that's dividing

I had a dream
strong as a beam
sturdy and steady as can be
Saw black and white
holding on tight
To the vision that U.S. does mean we

I had a dream
we were a team.
Looking out for one or the other
Black and white
with all their might
helping and loving one another

I had a dream
made it seem
I should put what I dreamt in a letter
For black and white
did what was right
things couldn't be any better

I had a dream
cookies and cream
were on the menu that day
Because black and white
are precious in his sight
and they will be together someday

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Testimonials

"Joan is an educator and minister who serves from a heart of hope while sitting comfortably with the complex set of issues facing our world. She values and recognizes the importance of engaging across differences."

"... deeply emotional material. Hard to walk away without being touched."

"It was great. Thank you...for opening your heart and life to us. I never realized the depth of fear, pain, death and danger in the history of African Americans."

"Marvelous, meaty, intelligent and fearless."

"...honest, transparent, open, generous
Thank you so much."

"I especially liked the integration of music and the arts!"

"... participants felt a personal connection and warmth while hearing challenging things..."

"Joan was an excellent presenter and engaged people...you could feel the energy in the room open up."

"Words are inadequate to express appropriate appreciation and respect for Joan's service and vulnerability in presenting these amazing sessions."

IN SOLIDARITY

An Anti-Racism Workshop

Presented by Rev. Joan Crawford



Promoting interracial healing and dialogue

- **Friday, Sept. 22 - 6:30 - 8:30 PM**
- **Saturday, Sept. 23 - 9:00 - 3:30 PM**
- **\$25.00 - includes lunch**
- **Suggested reading:** *The Warmth of Other Suns* by Isabel Wilkerson (available for \$20 at Anderson's; also available on audiobooks, at DG Library, and Amazon)

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IN SOLIDARITY

Working for Racial Justice in Solidarity with the Black Community

An Anti-Racism Workshop for Faith Communities

Have you wondered why there is so much misunderstanding between Black & White folks? Is racism really the issue or is it a matter of economics?

Do you know the meaning of critical race theory? Why is there so much controversy about it?

Do you ask yourself, why am I responsible for addressing racism when members of my family were not enslavers? What can I or my church do to promote racial justice?

The "In Solidarity" – Anti-Racism Workshop addresses these questions & more.

Participants will learn how to avoid making false assumptions and unintentional microaggressions toward Black folks. They will learn how African Americans have relied on their spiritual strength and their creative spirit to survive centuries of oppression. Participants will be encouraged to engage spiritually and emotionally while connecting historical and cultural insights thus strengthening their relationships with African American people as they work together for racial justice.

PERSPECTIVES ON RACE & RACISM

Learn some of the ways African Americans experience and cope with racism daily – from unintentional personal insults to the life-altering consequences of systemic racism. Participants will be

challenged to shift their perspectives on race by gaining a deeper understanding of implicit bias, white privilege, white fragility, and critical race theory.

SYSTEMIC RACISM

You may not be racist but if you remain silent because you don't recognize systemic racism then you are contributing to the injustice. Learn how various forms of systemic racism continue to be obstacles for African Americans because most people fail to realize how it remains embedded in our society. In addition, the facilitator shares her parents' stories of growing up in the Jim Crow south and then migrating to the north only to confront racism in Chicago.

WORKING IN SOLIDARITY

This unit provides strategies on how individuals can improve their interpersonal communication skills in one on one or small group sessions to build honest and collaborative relationships. A list of Do's and Don'ts is provided to help participants avoid awkward conversational moments and microaggressions. Options for addressing systemic racism are presented and discussed.

HOW WE GOT OVER - AFRICAN AMERICAN SPIRITUALITY, HISTORY & CULTURE

Black History is celebrated each February, but in most communities, the same Black s/heroes are recalled and applauded. To gain a better understanding of African American history and the cultural distinctives that emanate from that history, a multi-media presentation will be shared – highlighting music, art, dance, literature, and African American spirituality.

About Workshop Presenter Rev. Joan Crawford



The Reverend Joan Crawford is a Spiritual Director, Deacon and Benedictine Oblate.

Joan has an ecumenical background and inclusive vision. She received a Master of Theology from Northern Baptist Theological Seminary in Lombard, Illinois; and a

Certificate in Spiritual Guidance from the Siena Dominican Center in Racine, Wisconsin. Her ministry now includes workshops to promote interracial healing and dialogue. Joan brings spiritual awareness, insightful humor, and tender seriousness to her presentations. Her candor, sensitivity, and deep listening will help instill the building blocks for better understanding between the African American and Anglo-American communities.

Movies to see for racism awareness

The Hate You Give
I Am Not Your Negro
Tell Them We Are Rising
13th
Something the Lord Made

