



Mission u 2021

There's Far More Here THAN MEETS THE EYE

So we're not giving up. How could we! Even though on the outside it often looks like things are falling apart on us, on the inside, where God is making new life, not a day goes by without [God's] unfolding grace. [...] There's far more here than meets the eye. The things we see now are here today, gone tomorrow. But the things we can't see now will last forever.

2 Corinthians 4:16-18, The Message (MSG)

We have known and felt what it is like when “things are falling apart on us.” We have experienced a great unraveling that has shifted, quite literally, everything.

Could there be, as 2 Corinthians put it, “far more here than meets the eye”?

Mission u, like many activities in our lives, has moved online. While virtual, we are still creating spaces for spiritual community, lifelong friendships, lessons that change us and our communities, and spiritual practices that arrive when we need them most. In a time when it looks like things are falling apart on us, God's grace is still unfolding and life is being made new.

Indeed: There's far more here than meets the eye.

Will you join us?

At our upcoming **Mission u**, we will examine anxiety, the culture of violence that impacts children in and out of schools, and how we as God's people can deepen our moral witness and respond faithfully.

Our 2021 **Mission u** will offer the following studies:

- ***Finding Peace in an Anxious World***, edited by Erin James-Brown
Join Us July 9-10, 2021 for our spiritual growth study
- ***Pushout: The Criminalization of Black Girls in Schools*** by Monique Morris
Join Us July 23-24, 2021 for our issue study
- ***Becoming Peacemakers in a Culture of Violence: A Curriculum for Youth Leaders***
by Jay Godfrey
Join Us August 13-14, 2021 for our youth study

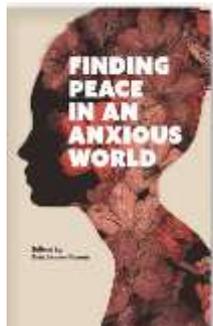
✚ Registration is open until July 1st at <https://pendel-reg.brtapp.com/Missionu2021>

✚ Register and pay in full by June 24th to receive a BONUS GIFT by mail from your Mission u Team!



More About the Studies

Finding Peace in an Anxious World



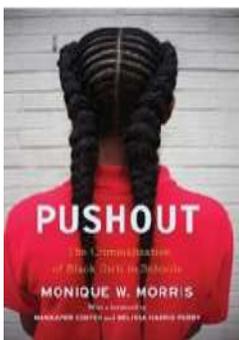
2021 Spiritual Growth Mission Study

Finding Peace in an Anxious World, the 2021 Spiritual Growth Study by staff of the Urban Village Church, uses the book of Proverbs and “The Serenity Prayer” as a guide to help Christians find their way through anxiety, worry, and fear and move towards God’s peace that surpasses all understanding. Using “The Serenity Prayer” as a scaffold, Finding Peace in an Anxious World explores ways to discover peace through scriptural and spiritual disciplines so that we can be rooted in God and energized to live fully as disciples of Christ.

“The Serenity Prayer” shaped a 2015 four-part sermon series at the Urban Village Church in Chicago. It was through that series that the church was able to address the tumultuous events of that summer and present a framework for how to approach a God who desires peace for the hearts of God’s people in times of anxiety. These sermons are the basis for this book.

The four chapters, each written by a different Urban Village Church leader, focus on different aspects of the prayer—serenity, acceptance, courage, and wisdom—and each concludes with a spiritual practice to help further develop the featured characteristic in your life.

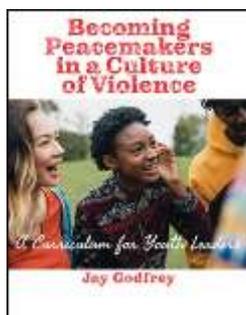
Pushout: The Criminalization of Black Girls in Schools



2021 Issue Mission Study

Despite increased attention to the mass and over-incarceration of black men, the plight of criminalized black women and girls is overlooked, underreported and under analyzed. Monique W. Morris' *Pushout* shows how even with obstacles, stigmas, stereotypes and despair, black girls still find ways to breathe remarkable dignity into their lives in classrooms, juvenile facilities and beyond, and challenges the rest of us to do the same.

Becoming Peacemakers in a Culture of Violence



2021 Youth Mission Study

This mission study is written for those interested in working alongside youth on issues of violence. Throughout this study, the goal is to take time to have deeper conversations about how we define violence, what the root causes of violence are, and ultimately, how God is calling us to respond. At the same time, the study seeks to guide young people to develop their capacity as peacemakers as an expression of their faith.

Mission U 2021 ZOOM Schedules

“Finding Peace in an Anxious World”

July 9th, 2021 – July 10th, 2021

Friday, July 9 th , 2021		
5:30 pm – 7:00 pm	Opening/Plenary	District TBD
Saturday, July 10 th , 2021		
9:00 am – 9:30 am	Gathering/Housekeeping	
9:30 am – 12:00 noon	Class Session 1	Rev. Dr. Benita Harris
12:00 noon – 1:00 pm	Lunch Break	On Your Own
1:00 pm – 1:30 pm	Gathering/Housekeeping	
1:30 pm – 4:00 pm	Class Session 2	Rev. Dr. Benita Harris
4:00 pm – 5:30 pm	Dinner Break	On Your Own
5:30 pm – 6:00 pm	Gathering/Housekeeping	
6:00 pm – 7:00 pm	Class Session 3	Rev. Dr. Benita Harris
7:00 pm – 8:00 pm	Closing Worship/Communion Service	District TBD

“Pushout: The Criminalization of Black Girls in Schools”

July 23rd, 2021 – July 24th, 2021

Friday, July 23 rd , 2021		
5:30 pm – 7:00 pm	Opening/Plenary	District TBD
Saturday, July 24 th , 2021		
9:00 am – 9:30 am	Gathering/Housekeeping	
9:30 am – 12:00 noon	Class Session 1	Dr. Deanna Reinard/Vickie Wilson
12:00 noon – 1:00 pm	Lunch Break	On Your Own
1:00 pm – 1:30 pm	Gathering/Housekeeping	
1:30 pm – 4:00 pm	Class Session 2	Dr. Deanna Reinard/Vickie Wilson
4:00 pm – 5:30 pm	Dinner Break	On Your Own
5:30 pm – 6:00 pm	Gathering/Housekeeping	
6:00 pm – 7:00 pm	Class Session 3	Dr. Deanna Reinard/Vickie Wilson
7:00 pm – 8:00 pm	Closing Worship/Communion Service	District TBD

“Becoming Peacemakers in a Culture of Violence: A Curriculum for Youth Leaders”

August 13th, 2021 – August 14th, 2021

Friday, August 13 th , 2021		
5:30 pm – 7:00 pm	Opening/Plenary	District TBD
Saturday, August 14 th , 2021		
9:00 am – 9:30 am	Gathering/Housekeeping	
9:30 am – 12:00 noon	Class Session 1	Rebecca Redmer
12:00 noon – 1:00 pm	Lunch Break	On Your Own
1:00 pm – 1:30 pm	Gathering/Housekeeping	
1:30 pm – 4:00 pm	Class Session 2	Rebecca Redmer
4:00 pm – 5:30 pm	Dinner Break	On Your Own
5:30 pm – 6:00 pm	Gathering/Housekeeping	
6:00 pm – 7:00 pm	Class Session 3	Rebecca Redmer
7:00 pm – 8:00 pm	Closing Worship/ Communion Service	District TBD

Register by July 1st at <https://pendel-reg.brapp.com/Missionu2021>

Register and pay in full by June 24th to receive a BONUS GIFT by mail from your Mission u Team!

QUESTIONS? Contact:

Tonya Pritchett, Dean

(C) (301) 633-2512

tnpritchett222@gmail.com

Patricia Whitney, Business Manager

(C) (302) 547-4479

pwhitney5@msn.com

Denise Snyder, Assistant Dean

(C) (302) 542-8305

dsnyder2558@gmail.com

Debbie O’Neal, Registrar

(C) (302) 542-8014

llovetosing2000@yahoo.com

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PUSHOUT available through booksellers and libraries

*All books must be purchased separately before Mission u.
Books may be purchased from UMW Mission Resource Center, Cokesbury,
Amazon, and other major bookstores*





Mission u 2021

There's Far More Here
THAN MEETS THE EYE

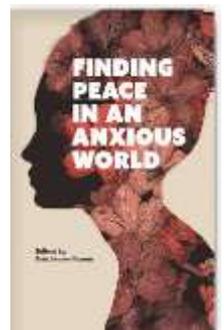
So we're not giving up. How could we! Even though on the outside it often looks like things are falling apart on us, on the inside, where God is making new life, not a day goes by without [God's] unfolding grace. [...] There's far more here than meets the eye. The things we see now are here today, gone tomorrow. But the things we can't see now will last forever.

Meet Your Study Leaders

Spiritual Growth Study Leader



Rev. Dr. Benita Harris is an ordained elder in United Methodist Church and has a special place in her heart for people, ministry, retreat ministry, spiritual development and local and global missions. These passions were formed, affirmed and supported by her family. Her parent's growth in the faith was a powerful witness in her formative years and her sister's sacrificial giving and dedication to the faith was a model in her adult years. Faith and family are both precious to her. One of her favorite quotes is from C.S. Lewis. *I believe in Christianity as I believe that the sun has risen; not only because I see it, but because by it I see everything else.*



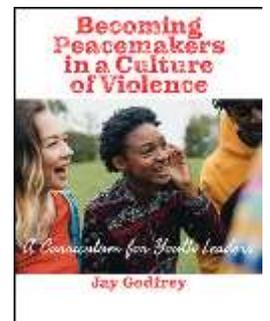
Benita has Masters in Nursing from Salisbury University, a PhD in Human Development from The University of Maryland, an M.Div. From Palmer and a Masters in Spiritual Formation and Spiritual Direction from Richmont Graduate University.

Youth Study Leader



Rebecca Redmer is the Director of Young People's Ministries at St. Paul's UMC in Cambridge Md. Rebecca has enjoyed serving in Youth Ministry for 15 years. She earned a Certificate in Youth and Theology through Princeton Theological Seminary. She has completed several courses through DYM University, Youth Sphere and holds a certificate in Youth Ministry Coaching Program through the Youth Cartel. She was named the 2018 Hometown Hero Youth Leader Award.

Rebecca lives in Cambridge with her husband Scott and is the mom to Jacob, Luke and Maddie. She enjoys reading and adventures.



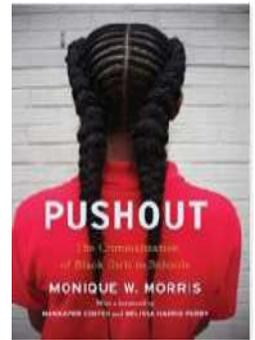
Rebecca is honored to walk beside the youth and loves Youth Ministry. The verse she stands on is Isaiah 41: 10 "So do not fear, For I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand".



Issue Study Leaders



Deanna Reinard, Ed.D.: Deanna Reinard has enjoyed twenty-seven years in education having taught kindergarten through college. The primary focus of her work has been in racial and gender identity development, and literacy. She holds a doctorate in Innovation & Leadership from Wilmington University, and has been able to apply this learning to a plethora of innovative projects. Her B.S. degrees in Early Childhood Development and Elementary Education coupled with the M.Ed. in Literacy have provided opportunities to teach, write curriculum, lead intercultural exchanges, serve on numerous advisory boards and engage in legislative initiatives. She currently functions as the Program

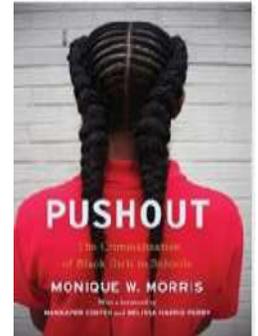


Coordinator for the Elementary / Secondary Education programs, as well as teaching a variety of education and literacy courses, at the rank of Professor for Chesapeake College, located on Maryland's eastern shore. As a world traveler herself, she has offered study-abroad opportunities on a number of occasions, her last trip being to China in May of 2017. Finding new and creative ways to facilitate student travel is an ongoing pursuit. She's also very passionate about equity, volunteering, social justice and life-long learning. Deanna resides near Preston, Maryland with her three teenage children & one furry little dog.

ePortfolio: deannareinard.weebly.com



Vickie J. Wilson came to Talbot County in 1980 from Pocomoke City, MD, after receiving a Bachelor's Degree in Elementary Education from the University of Maryland Eastern Shore, to teach Science at Easton Middle School. After receiving a M.ED in Guidance and Counseling from Salisbury University with a certificate from Bowie State University in 1989, she became the first and only African American Elementary School Counselor in Talbot County. She served the elementary students at Easton Elementary Moton and Dobson, formally known as Mt. Pleasant and Glenwood Elementary Schools. In 1997, she became a Counselor at Easton High School, where she worked for all students. "I was grateful to be able to work with this age group. It's an honor when students graduate and then several years return to thank me for helping their dreams



come true." She also served as an Adjunct Professor at Chesapeake College and Salisbury University.

Before retiring from Talbot County Public Schools in 2017, Vickie served on the District Equity Leadership Team (DELT) and believes that all children can learn. "I'm excited about what we are doing in our county as we work to close the achievement gap." She was a recipient of the Wardell Brice Multicultural Award and in 2006 was awarded the AIMMS Award (Excellence in Minority Achievement) from the Maryland State Department of Education.

Vickie is a member of St. James United Methodist Church in Pocomoke and an Affiliate Member of St. Matthew United Methodist Church, where she sings with the choir, serves on the finance committee and is Chair of the Staff Pastor-Parish Relations Committee.

Vickie is a Past President of Talbot County Education Association (TCEA), Co-Chair of 2014 Juneteenth Celebration, Member of Frederick Douglass Honor Society and Delta Sigma Theta Sorority. She currently serves as Chair of the Multicultural Affairs Committee at Chesapeake College and 2nd Vice President for the NAACP Talbot Branch.



Meet Your Mission u 2021 Executive Team

Mission u Dean



My name is Tonya Pritchett. Currently serving as Peninsula-Delaware Conference Mission U Dean. I have also served in the past Peninsula-Delaware Conference UMW Assistant Dean and Social Action Coordinator. I am a graduate of the University of Maryland Eastern Shore where I received a bachelor's in Computer Science in May 1994. I have been married 27 years and we have raised two sons in Talbot County Maryland. I am a devoted grandmother to my 6-year-old grandson.

In May 1997, I began serving my state and my community at Talbot County Department of Social Services. I am an active member at Scotts UMC. In 2003 I put a team together to start the After School Tutorial Program at Scotts UMC. I served as the Programs Director and grant writer for 10 years. In 2007 the program was awarded the AIMMS "Community Excellence Award". I have served as Sunday School Superintendent, Family Ministries Chairperson, a member of the Gospel Choir, Administrative Council as Secretary, Pastor Parish Relation Committee as Secretary and Lay Member to Annual Conference. I continue to serve as a Lay Servant and chairperson of Young Adult Ministry for my church. I am currently a Commissioner for the Town of Trappe. As a member of the Peninsula Delaware Conference of the United Methodist Church, I am the current President for Congregational Development Corporation. I am serving on the Dragon Fly Committee. I currently serve as Coordinator for Black Methodist for Church Renewal Caucus of the Peninsula Delaware Conference.

Mission u Assistant Dean



Denise Snyder has been a member of United Methodist Women for 30 years. She served from 2016-2020 as the President of the Northeastern Jurisdiction Leadership Team. She is also the author of the Children's Study for Mission u 2018. Previously, she served as a member of the Nominations Committee for the 2012-2016 Jurisdiction Team. In addition to being a part of these Jurisdiction Teams, Denise has served in the Peninsula-Delaware Annual Conference United Methodist Women as a Dean and Assistant Dean for Mission u. She also served as Secretary and President for the Dover District United Methodist Women within the Peninsula-Delaware Annual Conference.

Denise holds a Bachelor's degree in Special Education and a Master's degree in Elementary Education. She taught Special Education in Delaware for 35 years prior to retiring in 2014. During retirement she enjoys speaking to groups, being an active member of UMW and spending time with her family and friends. She has been married to her husband Gary for 34 years. They have two grown children.

Mission u Business Manager



My name is Patricia Ann Whitney. Currently serving as Peninsula-Delaware Conference Treasurer and Mission u Business Manager. I have served on the Conference United Methodist Women Team as a Secretary for two years, Mission u Registrar for three years, and Salisbury District Team in Mission Resources. Since I am a pastor's wife I have been a member of UMW at Faith Community UMC in East New Market, Mt. Zion UMC in Pocomoke City, Buttonwood UMC in Wilmington and now Holly Oak Calvary UMC and Hillcrest Bellefonte UMC in Wilmington. I have attended UMW National Leadership Development Days, 2018, 2019, and 2021 Assembly, and Mission u.

I am married to Rev. Jonathan Whitney, and have three sons, one daughter-in-law, and two grandchildren.

My favorite bible verse is Joshua 1:8 – “This book of the law shall not depart out of your mouth; you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to act in accordance with all that is written in it. For then you shall make your way prosperous, and then you shall be successful.” NRSV

Mission u Registrar



Debbie O'Neal was born September 25, 1959 to Thurman and Ramona Anderson. I graduated from West Chester State College in 1981 with a BS in Communicative Disorders and became a Speech/ Language Pathologist for the Indian River School District. I received a MS in Elementary Education: Reading and Literacy from Walden University in 2006. I retired from IRSD in 2014 and began working part-time as music teacher and instructional support teacher for Lighthouse Christian School. I married the love of my life, Rick O'Neal June 22, 1985 and we have three children and five grandchildren. I have held many offices in my local unit, district and conference. Currently I am the UMW Peninsula Delaware Conference Mission u Registrar. It is a joy and a privilege to be a part of UMW. I have met many wonderful women, made lasting friendships, learned a lot about mission for women, children and youth, and I strive to put Faith, Hope and Love in Action every day. I wish God's blessings on each and every one of

the ladies (and gentleman) attending this 2019 Mission u and I pray that you will all be moved to action to spread the love of Christ to all the world.