

Some books I have been reading that may be helpful in our *Facing Racism* thinking and discussion:

*White Fragility*, by Robin DiAngelo. A “no holds barred” discussion of the racism, both conscious and unconscious, of white individuals in the US. A challenging but eye-opening book I would encourage others to read.

*My Vanishing County*, by Bakari Sellers. The personal story of a young black man from Denmark, SC, whose father was involved in the Civil Rights Movement in the 60s. Bakari describes his life growing up in rural, largely black SC and his concerns for that fate of that region and its people.

*Just Mercy*, by Bryan Stevenson. The true story of a young, black attorney fighting for legal rights for inmates in prisons in the South. It was very eye-opening and moving. The story was the basis for a movie of the same name.

*Evicted*, by Dr. Matthew Desmond. Dr. Desmond tells the ongoing stories of various individuals and their families who all find themselves in the cycle of evictions and the cascading difficulties of that result. This is particularly prescient in this era of Covid, when increasing numbers of people are in imminent danger of eviction, which in turn leaves them nowhere safe to shelter.

*The Color of Money: Black Banks and the Racial Wealth Gap*, by Mehrsa Baradaran. I am in the process of finishing this one. The information about the extreme difficulties and barriers black families in the inner city have in their attempts to survive financially, much less attain middle class status is startling and unsettling.

Please share what you have been reading so we can continue to expand the list.

Lucia Horowitz

Westminster Presbyterian Church