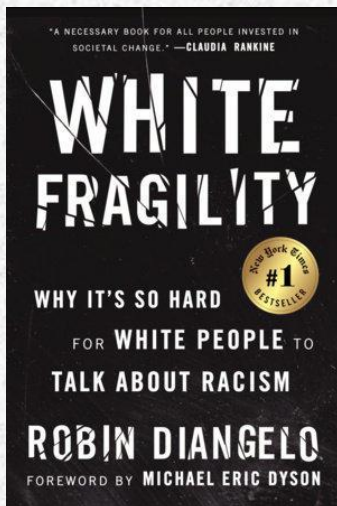


Remembering August 1st



I am so proud to call Canada my home, where all are equals. I am so proud to call the United Church my home, where all are welcome. But I am sad, that there are times and places where not everyone is treated equally; not everyone feels welcome. We agree that all lives matter, but right now, black lives are in pain. Black lives are being devalued and disrespected, which is putting black lives in danger.

August 1 marks the end of slavery in Canada, or British North America, as it was known back in 1834. "The celebration of the ending of slavery is neither to make persons feel guilty nor is it a premise to bludgeon persons about racism.... it is an opportunity to humbly acknowledge our history and to resolve to make a different and better tomorrow." I invite you to read [this blog written by United Church minister Reverend Paul Douglas Walfall.](#)



In the month of September, I will be hosting a book club via Zoom. We will be reading the best seller White Fragility by Robin DiAngelo. This book club will be a forum for discussion of ideas and learning about differing viewpoints. It's important to understand that everyone sees and experiences the world differently, and my hope is that we can consider different perspectives, for the purpose of sensitivity, learning, and growth.

Please RSVP to [Victoria Keane](#) by Monday, August 31st. Christ First is happy to provide this material at no cost, so if you require the book, please let me know when you RSVP and I will arrange to have it dropped off at your home.

Blessings, **Victoria**

Event Dates: Mondays between 7-8pm, Sept 14th, 21, & 28, 2020