

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Last Saturday, I went with my aunt, cousin, and her husband, to Riverside Park in La Crosse. We walked through the International Peace Garden and saw some of the Juneteenth event taking place. As we visited the Juneteenth booths, I was struck by a sign at the Campus Ministry at Common Ground booth. Displayed there, was a poster with a depiction of Martin Luther! (See attached.)

The words on the poster were a call to do something like Martin Luther was said to have done when he posted his 95 Theses on the door of the Castle Church in Wittenberg, Germany. But the poster in Riverside Park was a challenge to those attending the Juneteenth event to respond to the question, "What's Your Anti-Racist Message To The Church." Pieces of paper were handed to Juneteenth attendees, so that they could write their own message and follow the cue to "Be Like Martin Luther. Nail Your Reforms To The Church Door."

Although I can't share with you the reforms that people posted on the bulletin board, I can ask you to consider what reforms you would post! What anti-racist message do you have for St. Paul's Lutheran Church, and/or the larger church? What message might you provide that would encourage us to rethink something that we are currently doing?

Please feel free to share your messages with me! Together we can be the body of Christ working for justice and peace in the local church and beyond. Thanks be to God.

Peace,

Pastor Cathy