

ROADMAP TO RECONCILIATION

Brenda Salter McNeil wrote a book titled, "Roadmap to Reconciliation: Moving Communities into Unity, Wholeness and Justice (2015). She re-released a book by the same title albeit with a 2.0 following the title in response to many of the challenges of our current racial tensions in our society. The book is actually a very good roadmap for individuals' and congregations' work for reconciliation within and for their community. The roadmap can be applied to just about any circumstance and situation (social, political, racial, cultural, religious, etc.) where competing parties desire to move to a place of reconciliation.

As people who have become reconciled with God through Jesus Christ, we have the opportunity to live as people of reconciliation during a particular season where our national context is divided, broken, chaotic, and where some perceive that some are more equal than others. Several prophets from the Hebrew Scriptures (Isaiah 2.4, Joel 3.10, and Micah 4.3) detail how God will one day arbitrate between the people in such a way that will set aside their warring ways and swords will be beaten into plowshares, spears into pruning hooks, and how peace will reign. The Prophet Isaiah spoke about how the time would come when swords would be beaten into plowshares.

On October 25th we begin a five-week worship series titled, "Swords into Plowshares: Seeking God's Peace through Reconciliation" during which we will renew our commitment as people reconciled to God and as people reconciled with each other and how we can become people who strive to reconcile the church in a challenging world.

Woodie Wood will lead a weekly study using Brenda Salter McNeil's Roadmap to Reconciliation 2.0 book on Monday evenings, Oct 26 - Nov 16, at 6:30pm via a ZOOM class. [Click here to join the Monday night class, Oct 26 - Nov 16, Meeting ID 891 5239 3655, Passcode 917612.](#)

SUNDAY SERIES SCHEDULE

OCTOBER 25

Reformation Sunday – Getting Back to the Basics of our Faith

Covenantal people Reconciled to God Through the Law

NOVEMBER 1

All Saints Sunday

People Reconciled with God through Christ

Matthew 5:1-12 – Beatitudes – use as part of All Saint Liturgy

Psalms 34:1-10,22 – UMH 769

Roman 5:8-11 – Sermon focus – Paul's postscript to being justified by Faith (romans 5.1)

NOVEMBER 8

People of Reconciliation – A City on the Hill

Matthew 5:13-16 – "Like a City on a Hill you Cannot be hid"

Isaiah 2:2-4 – The Future City on a Hill – Throne of God people stream to it"

2 Corinthians 5.11-6.1

NOVEMBER 15

The Church Community to remain Unified – (remain Reconciled People)

John 17:6-18 – Jesus Prays to his Father on behalf of his disciples – let them carry on.

NOVEMBER 22

Christ the King Sunday

The Consummate Reconciliation of the Creation

Revelation 7:9-17 – Christ (the Lamb) sits on the throne in God's heaven