

# **Cathedral to Host Weekly Silent Witness and Prayer Vigil in Response to Racism**

**Every Sunday Beginning This Week, June 21, 1:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. on the Cathedral Grounds;**

## **Bring a Non-Perishable Food Item For the Food Shelf**

All are welcome to participate in a Silent Witness and Prayerful Vigil on Sunday, June 21, at 1:00, and every Sunday, in response to racism in our nation, state, and community. This Sunday is a particularly important day for us to witness and vigil because it is two days after Juneteenth (June 19th), a day which marks the emancipation of enslaved people.

After our powerful gathering on June 7, several Cathedral members voiced the need to have a Vigil/Witness weekly, feeling that once a month was not enough in these challenging times. As a result, a Vigil Coordinating Committee has been formed to support weekly Sunday Vigils on the Cathedral grounds facing Pearl, Battery, and Cherry Streets. This Sunday, June 21, and all following Sundays, the Cathedral Church of St. Paul will be holding a silent prayer vigil and witness in response to the racism and divisiveness in our nation, our state, and our community, as recently evidenced by the murder of George Floyd in Minneapolis and other ongoing acts of specific and systemic racism.

Please join on Sunday afternoons throughout the summer at 1:00, and bring a face mask and a non-perishable food item - a volunteer will deliver all the donations gathered at the vigil to the Food Shelf on Sunday afternoon. If you have a sign you would like to hold, bring it! These gatherings are open to the community.

Members of the Coordinating Committee are: Susan McMillan; Andrew and Sylvia Jope; Karen Mikkelsen.

A few additional reminders:

- The Cathedral building will be closed and locked, so please be aware of and take care of any bathroom needs you may have before arriving.
- Bring everything you will need: signs, water, etc.
- Parking is free in the Cathedral lot and across the street in the parking garage.
- For safety during the pandemic, there will be no group gathering for prayers, speeches, or other reasons.
- For safety, attendees will be spaced 10 feet apart (family groups may stand together). We will stand on the Cathedral side of the sidewalks facing Cherry, Battery, and Pearl Streets. Monitors will meet you and direct you to a place to stand for the vigil.
- Please maintain a prayerful silence throughout.

- The vigil will end at 1:30 p.m. with the tolling of our church bells
- **Remember:** The Cathedral building will be closed and locked, so please be aware of and take care of any bathroom needs you may have before arriving

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