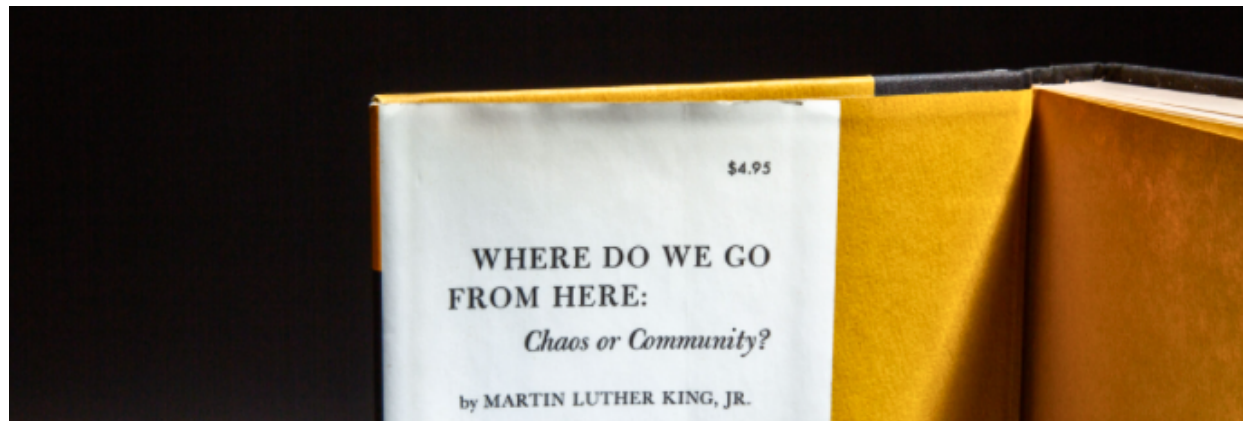


BOOK REVIEW FOR BLACK HISTORY MONTH



January 15 was a federal holiday commemorating the life of Martin Luther King, Jr. The month of February is Black History Month. In honor of these occasions, two of our members would like to recommend a book to the church as a way to learn more about the legacy of Dr. King and the ongoing work of racial reconciliation and racial justice. This book is available to borrow through the Niederkorn Library or for purchase as an e-book on Kindle.

Louise Mollinger, member of Friends for Justice Team here at church, writes, “Where Do We Go From Here: Chaos or Community?” by Martin Luther King, Jr. is not only the book title, but is one of several questions with which Martin Luther King, Jr. wrestles in his final book (published in 1967), the year before his assassination. Rev. King opens by asking, “where are we?”, reflecting on the violent responses to non-violent demonstrations for equal voting rights, the victory of the Voting Rights Act of 1965, and the immediate backlash against the promised equality of the new legislation. At length, he goes on to re-commit himself to non-violent direct action as a “powerful demand for justice” not a stance of “resignation and passivity”. In searching for his own answer to the title question, “chaos or community?”, he expands his movement to address the poverty that reaches beyond and across skin colors. He closes this book imagining a world house in which we all live and asks us the question, “do we have the morality and courage required to live together as brothers [and sisters] and not be afraid?” This book remains relevant today.”

Another team member, Terry McManus writes “This is a prodigious work. Dr King folds together and skillfully analyzes and contextualizes the stories of people, politics, social structures, race relations, and economics of the civil rights movement of the 1960’s. His prescient observations and recommendations are surprisingly apropos and extremely relevant to our world today. I highly recommend this book.”