

# NEW DATES REGISTRATION RE-OPENED

## Journey to Freedom

*Civil Rights & Social Justice in the South*

### Travel Seminar Information Sheet



Dag Hammarskjöld's famous quote, "For all that has been, Thanks! For all that will be, Yes!" frames the approach for a deep examination of Civil Rights and Social Justice then and now. This domestic travel course will leave from Charlotte and take a journey of "thanks" to Atlanta, Birmingham, Selma, Montgomery, New Orleans, Jackson, Little Rock, and Memphis. We will walk with humility and gratitude in the steps of those whose brave witness paved the way for the hoped-for end of Jim and Jane Crowe laws, desegregation, and a separate but not-so-equal way of life for African Americans in the deep south. We will critically engage the history and scholarship of the struggle for freedom and the claim God's justice has on people of faith, the Church. We will pursue the "Yes!" as we must, even now, live into the struggle and work of justice, which continues. Our final stop of this journey will be in Nashville with the Rev. Dr. Janet Wolf and the SALT: Schools for Alternative Learning and Transformation. This participatory educational community inside Riverbend Maximum Security Institution in Nashville, Tennessee beckons us to grapple with the ways in which we live in the "already but not yet" of our call for social justice and the work of civil rights for all God's people that is ongoing.

#### Dates

Tuesday, **February 22, 2022** leaves Charlotte Campus no later than 8:00 a.m.

Wednesday, **March 2, 2022** returns to Charlotte Campus by mid-afternoon

We invite **students, staff, alumni/ae, community members** and **spouses** to join in this Travel Seminar and Learning Community.

**Registration Fees** (Includes chartered motorcoach bus, all hotels, tickets, entry fees, program costs and at least two meals a day.)

Students	\$250.00 (double room)
Students	\$500.00 (single room)
Alumni/ae, Staff and Spouses	\$1000.00 per person, single room
Individual Community Members	\$2000.00 per person, single room
Community Couples	\$3000.00 per couple

#### Transportation

We are chartering a 56 passenger Executive Motorcoach with Champion Coach. It is professionally driven, includes spacious and comfortable seating, Wi-Fi, power outlets, entertainment center, lavatories, safety and enhanced cleaning protocols.

#### Lodging

Each night's stay is in a Hilton property. Single rooms are included for everyone except students who choose to share a room.

#### Meals

Registration fees includes two meals a day. Participants will be responsible for dinners each evening.

## Additional Expenses

In addition, participants are responsible for incidentals, tips for housekeeping, books and resources. An opportunity to voluntarily contribute to the bus driver's tip will be offered.

## Free Evenings

Most programming will occur during the day. However, free evenings are built in to the trip. These include: Montgomery, Little Rock, Memphis and Nashville.

## Programming

Drs. Rebecca Davis and Rodney Sadler will provide educational occasions, processing experiences and experiential engagement. Students will make presentations on relevant topics to enhance our collective understanding. Reading, documentary, music and movie suggestions will be provided for all participants.

## Academic Credit

Students seeking academic credit will be responsible for tuition, the registration fee as outlined above, including a \$100 deposit due no later than January 24, 2022, completing all required readings and assignments. Credit for this course will be given in Spring 1 2022 semester. A detailed syllabus with reading and assignments will be provided by the Professors. There will be no class meetings after the conclusion of the trip. Students are required to select this course during Spring 1 2022 before the end of add/drop, January 24.

## Registration Process

All participants are asked to

- Email Rebecca Davis (rdavis@upsem.edu) or Erin Mills (emills@upsem.edu) to be placed on the contact list
- Complete the attached Letter of Intent no later than January 24, 2022
- Submit deposit no later than January 24, 2022 to reserve your place. Non refundable after February 1, 2022
- Complete Participant Information form no later than February 1, 2022

**IF YOU WERE REGISTERED FOR THE ORIGINAL DATES  
YOU WILL NEED TO COMPLETE AND SUBMIT A RECOMMITMENT FORM TO GUARANTEE YOUR SEAT.**

Deposits fee schedule - per person

Students	\$100.00
Alumni, spouses, and staff	\$300.00
Community Members	\$500.00

Final Payment - may be made in a single payment or installments. The remainder of the total registration fee is due no later than February 15, 2022

Union Presbyterian Seminary requires vaccination for COVID-19 for faculty, staff, and students, as well as for entrance into its buildings until such a time as the CDC recommends otherwise. It follows CDC guidelines for wearing masks. All participants are expected to follow UPSem policy on such matters on this trip.

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# Itinerary

## Tuesday, February 22, 2022

- Leave from Union Presbyterian Seminary, Charlotte Campus
- Selma, AL
  - Walk across the Edmund Pettis Bridge
    - Now a National Historic Landmark, was the site of the brutal Bloody Sunday beatings of civil rights marchers during the first march for voting rights. The televised attacks were seen all over the nation, prompting public support for the civil rights activists in Selma and for the voting rights campaign.
  - Drive the Selma to Montgomery National Historic Trail
    - After Bloody Sunday, protestors were granted the right to continue marching, and two more marches for voting rights followed. The route is also designated as a National Scenic Byway/All-American Road. A guide will be provided during the drive for the significant sites along the 54 miles trail, and take part in the trails' year-round special events.
- Spend the night in Montgomery, AL

## Wednesday, February 23, 2022

- Southern Port Slave Trade
    - We begin the day at dock on the Alabama River in downtown Montgomery which served as a major hub for the transportation and sale of enslaved people.
  - Equal justice Legacy Museum
    - Employs unique technology to dramatize the enslavement of African Americans and the evolution of racial terror lynchings, legalized racial segregation, and racial hierarchy in America. Relying on rarely seen first-person accounts of the domestic slave trade, EJI's critically acclaimed research materials, videography, exhibits on lynching, and recently composed content on segregation, this museum explores the history of racial inequality and its relationship to a range of contemporary issues from mass incarceration to police violence.
  - National Memorial for Peace and Justice
    - The nation's first memorial dedicated to the legacy of enslaved Black people, people terrorized by lynching, African Americans humiliated by racial segregation and Jim Crow, and people of color burdened with contemporary presumptions of guilt and police violence.
  - Dexter Avenue Baptist Church and Parsonage
    - Evening prayers will end the day in the where Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. first preached his message of hope and brotherhood. This church was also a center point of the Montgomery bus boycott. The restored parsonage of Dexter Avenue King Memorial Baptist Church appears as it did when Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and his family was the pastor. It was bombed several times during the fight for civil rights.
  - Spend the night in Montgomery, AL
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## Thursday, February 24, 2022

- Atlanta, GA
  - National Center for Civil and Human Rights
    - A museum and human rights organization in Atlanta that inspires people to tap their own power to change the world around them. The Center's iconic exhibitions feature the papers and artifacts of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.; the history of the US civil rights movement; and stories from the struggle for human rights around the world today.
  - The Martin Luther King, Jr. Center for Nonviolent Social Change
    - A global destination, resource center and community institution for over a quarter century. Both a traditional memorial and programmatic nonprofit, the King Center was envisioned by its founder to be "no dead monument, but a living memorial filled with all the vitality that was his, a center of human endeavor, committed to the causes for which he lived and died."
  - Music of the Movement - Dr. Tony McNeill
    - Music, particularly traditional African-American Spirituals transformed into Freedom Song, sustained much of the Civil Rights Movement. They sang for inspiration, for motivation, for solidarity and to strengthen resolve in the face of fearful situations. Dr. Tony McNeill, accomplished musician, choral director, professor and expert in worship and music arts, will lead us through a time of education and signing of the music of the civil rights movement at the history Ebenezer Baptist Church where Martin Luther King, Sr. was once its pastor and the Reverend Dr. Senator Raphael Warnock is now the Senior Pastor.
  - Dinner at Paschal's
    - The historic restaurant and rallying place for strategizing much of the Civil Rights Movement.
- Spend the night in Lithonia Springs, GA

## Friday, February 25, 2022

- Birmingham, AL
    - Birmingham Institute for Civil Rights
      - An affiliate of the Smithsonian Institution, it is a cultural and educational research center that promotes a comprehensive understanding for the significance of civil rights developments in Birmingham.
    - 16<sup>th</sup> Street Baptist Church
      - Site of the Sunday, September 15, 1963 11:00 a.m. bombing that killed four young girls (14-year-olds Addie Mae Collins, Denise McNair, Carole Robertson, and 11-year-old Cynthia Wesley, were killed. Addie's sister Susan survived, but was permanently blinded.)
    - Kelly Ingram Park
      - Names for a firefighter in 1932 this park hosts 7 statues of major figures and events in the Birmingham struggle for Civil Rights. Liturgy will be written as we communally walk and pray our way through the grounds including Martin Luther King's Letter from a Birmingham Jail, Fred Shuttlesworth, the four girls who lost their lives in the bombing at the 16<sup>th</sup> Street Baptist Church and other prominent leaders who furthered civil rights.
  - Drive to Jackson
    - Medgar Evers Home
      - We will stand in the place where civil rights activist, Medgar Evers, was assassinated in the driveway of his home in Jackson, MS and give thanks for his witness.
  - Spend the night in Jackson
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## **Saturday, February 26, 2022**

- Jackson, MS
  - Mississippi Civil Rights Museum
    - Explores the movement that changed the nation with special attention to the Mississippians like Medgar Evers, Fannie Lou Hamer and Vernon Dahmer—as well as those who traveled many miles to stand beside them, come what may, in the name of equal rights for all. The museum promotes a greater understanding of the Mississippi Civil Rights Movement and its impact by highlighting the strength and sacrifices of its peoples
  - Teach-In and Check-In
- Spend the night in Little Rock, AR

## **Sunday, February 27, 2022**

- Little Rock, AR
  - Worship
  - Central High School National Historic Site
    - We will hear the story of the school integration efforts at Little Rock Central High School in 1957. It was the epicenter of confrontation and a catalyst for change as the fundamental test for the United States to enforce African American civil rights following Brown v. Board of Education. We will sit in the auditorium of the still functioning and learn how the sacrifice and struggle endured by the teenaged Little Rock Nine and how it opened doors for those seeking equality and education around the world.
- Spend the night in Memphis, TN

## **Monday, February 28, 2022**

- Memphis, TN
    - National Civil Rights Museum at the Lorraine Motel
      - The site of the Assassination of Martin Luther King, Jr. this museum offers artifacts, films, oral histories, interactive media and external listening posts that guide visitors through five centuries of history — from the beginning of the resistance during slavery, through the Civil War and Reconstruction, the rise of Jim Crow, and the seminal events of the late 20th century that inspired people around the world to stand up for equality.
  - Nashville, TN
    - Fisk University and Aaron Douglas' art
      - The Harlem Renaissance, in the early decades of the twentieth century, is considered the cradle of black literature, art, music, stage and culture in American history. Langston Hughes, Zora Neale Hurston, Louis Armstrong and many others found space to create, perform and connect in that community and movement. Their work continues to enlighten, inform and inspire even today. Among these giants was artist Aaron Douglas who is considered by most historians to be the leading visual artist of that period. He also founded the art department at Fisk University in Nashville, TN. Much of his collection was donated to this Historic Black College and University (HBCU.) We will have the opportunity to view his work in their gallery and, hopefully, the murals of each of the academic disciplines.
  - Spend the night in Nashville, TN
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## **Tuesday, March 1, 2022**

- Nashville, TN
  - S.A.L.T. (Schools for Alternative Learning and Transformation) and Riverbend Prison Riverbend Maximum Security Institution
    - We will spend time with the Rev. Dr. Janet Wolf, the Director of the Children's Defense Fund's Haley Farm and Nonviolent Organizing Team. A UMC clergywoman, a member of the National Council of Elders from the Civil Rights Movement, and a retired faculty member at American Baptist College/Seminary and Vanderbilt. We will hear from those who were formerly incarcerated, learn of the Schools for Alternative Learning and Transformation that works with inmates in the general population and those on death row. We explore the ways in which the Cradle to Prison Pipeline and the disproportionate number of incarcerated black and brown men is the new Jim Crow and the ways in which the Church is called to continue the struggle for Civil Rights today.
  - American Baptist College
    - We will meet on the campus of American Baptist College for our workshops on mass incarceration. This HBCU has educated and nurtured some of the greatest leaders in the Civil Rights Movement – John Lewis, Jim Bevel and C.T. Vivian to name a few.
- Spend the night in Nashville, TN

## **Wednesday, March 2, 2022**

- Return to Union Presbyterian Seminary, Charlotte Campus by mid-afternoon
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