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## Reflection, Inquiry, Dialogue, Action

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# Reflection, Inquiry, Dialogue, Action

By lone Damasco

*"Education must enable one to sift and weigh evidence, to discern the true from the false, the real from the unreal, and the facts from the fiction. The function of education, therefore, is to teach one to think intensively and to think critically. But education which stops with efficiency may prove the greatest menace to society. The most dangerous criminal may be the man gifted with reason, but with no morals."*

— From "The Purpose of Education," Martin Luther King Jr.

## A TIME OF CHALLENGE

As the University of Dayton community comes together to celebrate the life and legacy of civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr., we do so at a time marked by seemingly overwhelming challenges. We have started this new year during an unprecedented phase of the pandemic, with some of the highest case counts this country has seen since March 2020. Public discourse around critical questions for our society has become increasingly polarized and politicized, further dividing us into a nation of "us vs. them."

These critical questions include:

- What should be taught in classrooms around history and racism?
- What are the most effective ways to combat the coronavirus?
- How should we deal with disparities in income, wealth, education and access to health care?
- How can we safeguard democracy through voter rights?
- How do we address climate change?

## PREVIOUS POST

Maps, Memes, Memory and More

Take a look back at the University Libraries' events and programs in fall 2021.

[Read More](#)

## NEXT POST

Moses Moore: Community Needs

Last of six installments in a documentary biography of Moses Moore, who became known as the wealthiest Black man in Dayton in the late 1800s.

[Read More](#)

## RESOURCES FOR INQUIRY

As members of a campus community, our access to a high-quality educational environment grounded in Marianist values and Catholic social teaching is both a privilege and a responsibility. We have resources such as the [Dialogue Zone](#) to help us build our skills around dialogue in order to have meaningful conversations with others who may think differently from ourselves. We are called to think critically, to discern the signs of the times and act in ways that ensure the common good.

When we feel hopeless or powerless, we can turn to the words of King and the many people who have chosen the difficult path of continuing his legacy of civil rights work to find inspiration and suggestions for action. The University Libraries provide access to many resources, both in print and online, to learn more about King's work. With a variety of new resources, you can also learn about the struggle for equity that is happening right now.

## QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION

- What does civil rights work look like in 2022, and how is it similar to and/or different from the work done 40 years ago?
- What lessons have we learned from King, and what new insights have current social justice leaders brought to the struggle?

We hope the resources listed here create deeper understanding of some of the issues King addressed and inspire you to find ways to contribute to greater equity and social justice in your own life.

## AVIATE PROGRAM OPPORTUNITY FOR STUDENTS

- **Film screening and dialogue:** *At the River I Stand* (6:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 20; [RSVP required; see 1850 for details](#)) — Shannen Dee Williams, associate professor

of history, will moderate a dialogue following the film, which chronicles the Memphis sanitation workers' strike of 1968 and the April 4 assassination of Martin Luther King Jr. in that city. Event sponsored by the universitywide Martin Luther King Jr. program planning committee.

## LIBRARY TOPIC GUIDES

- [Libraries Anti-racism Resources Guide](#)
- [Anti-Racist Pedagogy](#)

## WORKS BY MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.

- [Martin Luther King, Jr.: The Last Interview and Other Conversations](#)
- [“Letter from a Birmingham Jail”](#)
- [“The Purpose of Education,”](#) published in *The Papers of Martin Luther King, Jr. Volume I: Called to Serve, January 1929-June 1951*, edited by Clayborne Carson, Ralph Luker, and Penny A. Russell
- [The Autobiography of Martin Luther King, Jr.](#)
- [Strength to Love](#)
- [Where Do We Go From Here: Chaos or Community?](#)
- [“I Have Been to the Mountaintop”](#) (video clip of speech; UD login required)

## WORKS BY OTHER AUTHORS

- [The 1619 Project: A New Origin Story](#), edited by Nikole Hannah-Jones, Caitlin Roper, Ilena Silverman, and Jake Silverstein
- [Voter Suppression in Minority Communities: Learning from the Past to Protect Our Future](#): hearing before the Committee on Oversight and Reform, House of

the Committee on Oversight and Reform, House of Representatives, 116th Congress, second session (Feb. 26, 2020)

- [The Sum of Us: What Racism Costs Everyone and How We Can Prosper Together](#) by Heather McGhee
- [Better, Not Bitter: Living on Purpose in the Pursuit of Racial Justice](#) by Yusef Salaam
- [Do Better: Spiritual Activism for Fighting and Healing from White Supremacy](#) by Rachel Ricketts
- [From #BlackLivesMatter to Black Liberation](#) by Keeanga-Yamahtta Taylor
- [The Purpose Gap: Empowering Communities of Color to Find Meaning and Thrive](#) by Patrick B. Reyes

— Ione Damasco is the associate dean for inclusive excellence, engagement and operations in the University Libraries.

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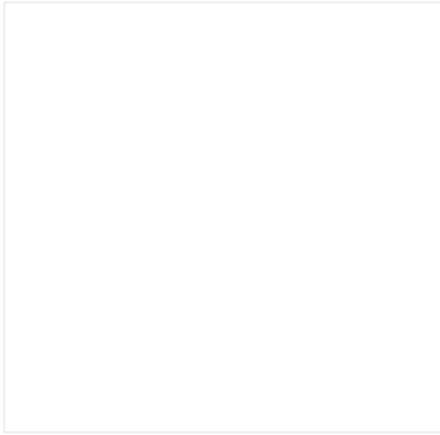
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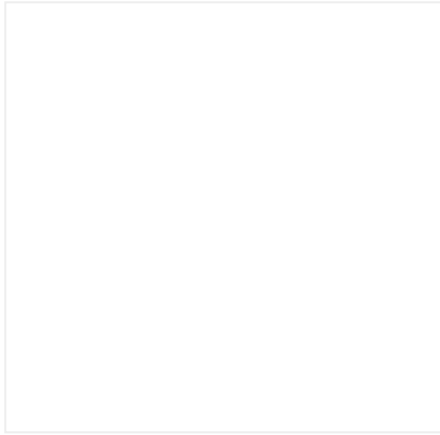


## What's Trending

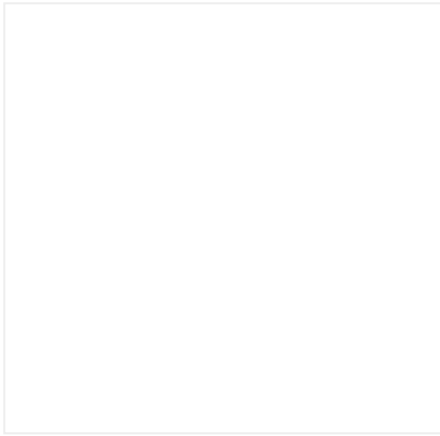
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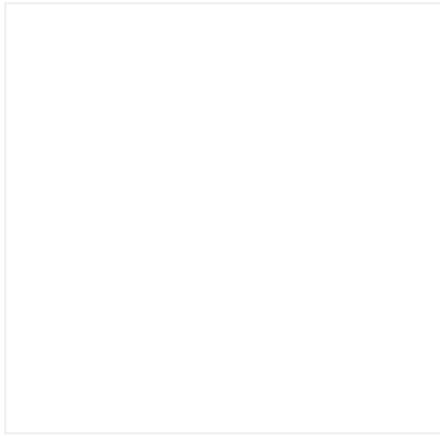
**Lenten Growth**



**Funk marching from Dayton to Dublin**



**International Women's Day  
2022: Dorothy Mensah-Aggrey**



**A little porch sittin'**

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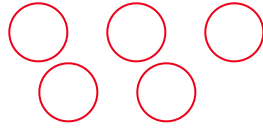


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