

How can celebrating Juneteenth be a blessing to our church?

The alternative to unity is disunity and disunity is not an option for the body of Christ (it actually goes against the design of the body). I do not feel qualified to speak on Juneteenth but I do believe scripture has something special to say about our response to it. The apostle John gives us a glimpse into a scene that speaks to who we are in Christ and why celebrating Juneteenth is a blessing to every church, "After this I looked, and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and before the Lamb. They were wearing white robes and were holding palm branches in their hands." (Revelation 7:9 NIV)

WE are the body of Christ. WE celebrate wins together. WE mourn losses together. WE love each other as Jesus loves us. WE look at injustice and fight for justice for EACH OTHER.

How can celebrating Juneteenth be a blessing to our church? Because this is in the makeup of why the church exists in the first place. It's a reminder to us all that we are in this together. There is no separation in the body, in the church, or in Christianity.

While I am grateful that the slaves in Texas finally found out about their freedom in 1865 (two and a half years AFTER the Emancipation Proclamation), I am more grateful that we have John's vision in Revelation and that one day, there will no longer be a world where hatred, judgement and evil exist. This realization alone is worth celebrating Juneteenth.

"Juneteenth today, celebrates African American freedom and achievement, while encouraging continuous self-development and respect for all cultures." (Juneteenth.com)

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