

GRACE. DIVERSITY. COMMUNITY.

729 West 181st Street, New York, NY 10033 212-568-4014 | www.fortwashingtonchurch.org Rev. Dr. Damaris D. Whittaker, Senior Minister

FORT WASHINGTON COLLEGIATE CHURCH TO HOST LOCAL PREMIERE OF FILM ON BUILDING STRONGER POLICE-COMMUNITY RELATIONS

FEBRUARY 14, 2020

Elected officials and faith communities join Fort Washington Collegiate Church to bring awardwinning film to New York City to spark discussion about building stronger relationships between police and the communities they serve.

Fort Washington Collegiate Church brings the film "WALKING WHILE BLACK: L.O.V.E. is the Answer" to New York City for the first time. This film has been praised and used by police departments, national police agencies, civil rights groups, ministries, schools and libraries throughout the country. It offers an inspiring blueprint to improved relations between police and people of color by creating a safe space for discussion and artfully reshaping the narrative from conflict to L.O.V.E. (Learning about each other, Opening our hearts to each other, Volunteering to be part of the solution in each other's lives, and Empowering others to do the same). A panel discussion will follow with director and producer A.J. Ali.

WHAT: Screening of WALKING WHILE BLACK: L.O.V.E. is the Answer

WHEN: Thursday, February 27, 2020

TIME: Doors open 6:30pm, Screening begins at 7:00pm

WHERE: 729 West 181st Street, NYC 10033, Fort Washington Collegiate Church

WHO: Fort Washington Collegiate Church, West End Collegiate Church, Congressman Adriano Espaillat, Upper Manhattan Interfaith Leaders Coalition (UMILC), Filmmaker, A. J. Ali.

This film is **free and open to the public**. Those who plan to attend are asked to rsvp at www.eventbrite.com/e/walking-while-black-love-is-the-answer-tickets-91844879507. Local religious and civic organizations, schools, community groups, and all community members are encouraged to attend.

This film provides a powerful message of reconciliation that our country needs to hear right now. "L.O.V.E. Is the Answer isn't just a catch phrase. L.O.V.E. is a way of life that has transformative power to heal people and invigorate communities. I can't wait to see what L.O.V.E. does in New York City." – A. J. Ali, Director and Producer.

Fort Washington Collegiate Church is a place of diversity, hospitality and grace. We welcome all people regardless of race, culture, sexual orientation, gender identity, social or economic status. As a church family we celebrate our diversity and our connection to God.

Contacts: Dinean Davis & Rev. Michael Vanacore, Fort Washington Collegiate Church, 212-568-4014 ext 400 or 405, <u>info@fortwashingtonchurch.org</u> or <u>mvanacore@fortwashingtonchurch.org</u>.