

## Webinar Series Invitation

# *Black Lives with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities and their Faith Communities*



**Register:**

[aaiddreligion.org/series](https://aaiddreligion.org/series)

***Visit this link to learn more!***

**November 10, 2020  
3:00 PM EST**



***Dr. Luchara  
Wallace***

Associate Professor of  
Special Education &  
Director of the Lewis Walker  
Institute for the Study of  
Race and Ethnic Relations

**December 1, 2020  
3:00 PM EST**



***Rev. Dr.  
LaTonya  
Penny***

Senior Pastor of New  
Mount Zion Baptist  
Church & Executive  
Director of Family  
Abuse Services

**January 5, 2021  
3:00 PM EST**



***Dr. Lamar  
Hardwick***

Author, Lead Pastor at  
Tri-Cities Church in  
East Point, Georgia  
[autismpastor.com](https://autismpastor.com)

***CLOSING PANEL: FEBRUARY 2, 2021 AT 3:00 PM EST***


# Black lives with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their faith communities:

A discussion of the role of church communities in the lives of black and brown people with IDD and their families

AAIDD Religion & Spirituality Interest Network

<https://aaiddreigion.org/>

# Using Zoom

- Your microphone is muted. Please keep it turned off unless you're speaking during the Q&A.
- Use the chat icon for questions or comments. 
- You may use Reactions such as “thumbs up” throughout the webinar.
- Closed captioning is available.

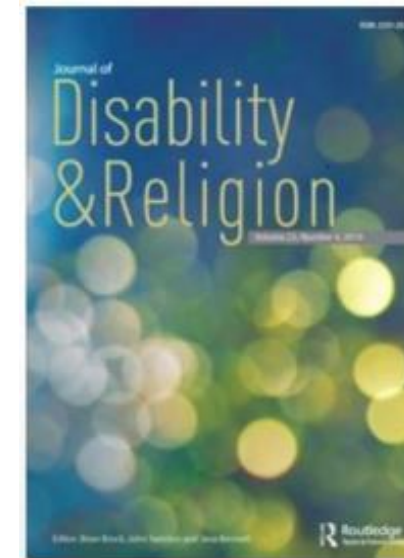
# AAIDD Religion & Spirituality Interest Network

Interfaith, interdisciplinary association that advocates for the inclusion of people with IDD in faith communities of their choice

- Members have access to the *Journal of Disability and Religion*

## Activities:

- Events at the AAIDD Annual Meeting
- Henri Nouwen Award
- Webinars
- Website, Facebook, Twitter



# To Be Black and Christian with a Disability



**Dr. Luchara Wallace**, Director of the Lewis Walker Institute for the Study of Race and Ethnic Relations and Associate Professor in Special Education at Western Michigan University



# To Be Black and Christian with a Disability: We are One Body

Part 1

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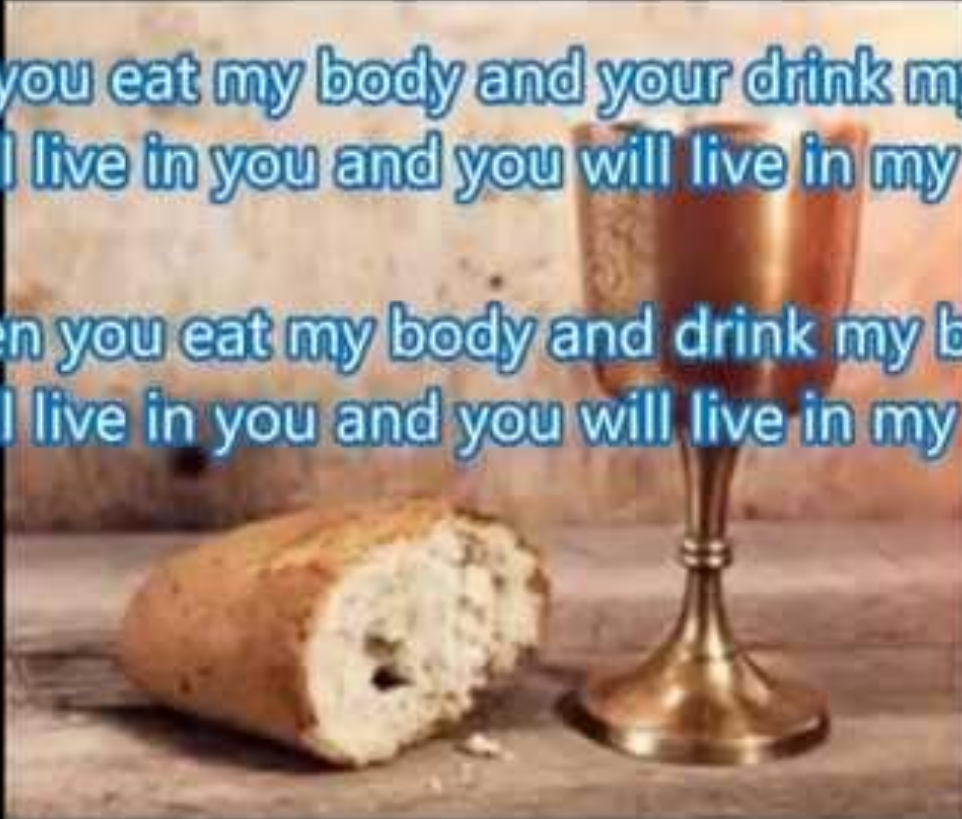
# Dumela

I affirm you. I believe in you. I see great potential in you.



When you eat my body and your drink my blood,  
I will live in you and you will live in my love.

When you eat my body and drink my blood,  
I will live in you and you will live in my love.

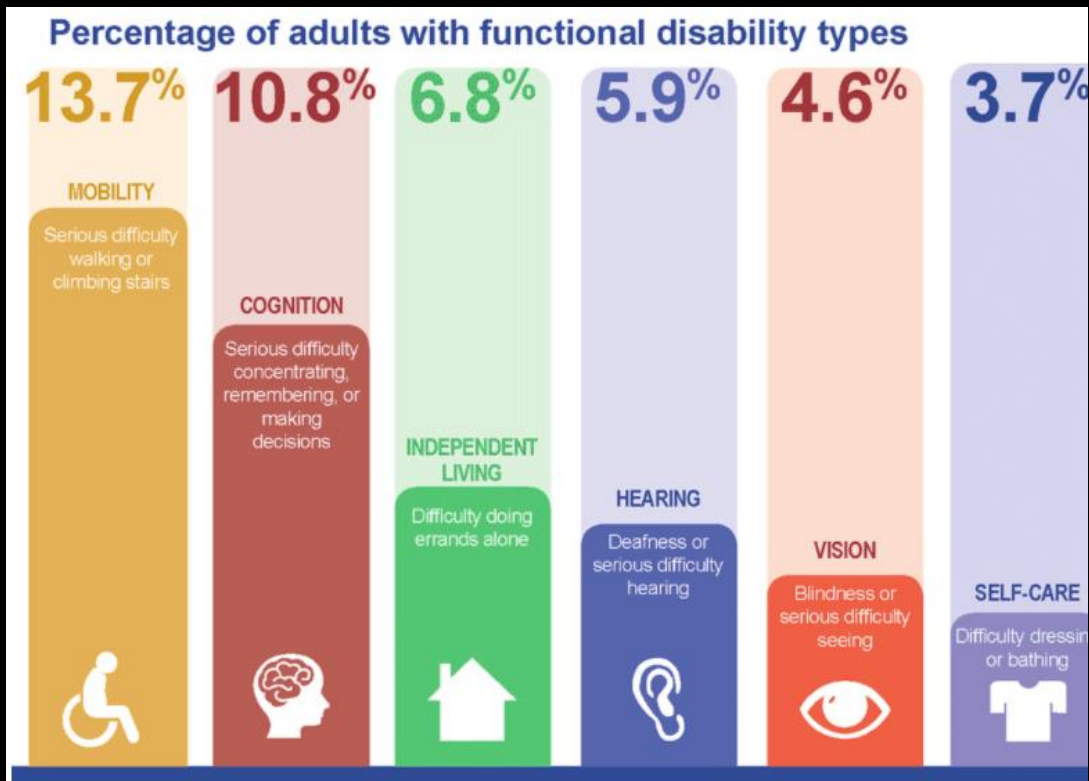


We are  
ONE Body...

1 Corinthians 12:12-27



# 26% or 1 in 4 of ALL American adults have a disability



- IDEA highlights:
- Disability is a natural part of the human experience and in no way diminishes the right of individuals to participate in or contribute to society. Improving educational results for children with disabilities is an essential element of our national policy of ensuring equality of opportunity, full participation, independent living, and economic self-sufficiency for individuals with disabilities.

# Something to consider . . .

- There are over 385,000 places of worship in the US (Brauer, 2017)
- 80-85% of churches don't have any type of any level of special needs ministry
- More than 90% of church-going parents of children with special needs site the most helpful support is a "welcoming attitude towards individuals with disabilities." Only about 80% admit to experiencing such. (The Banquet Network, 2018)

[https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/epdf/10.1111/jssr.12330?author\\_access\\_token=6TIAJ0pIWmfoT8CKXywoOYta6bR2k8jH0KrdpFOxC64MqjczIASPsUhKK26SvkbhsyE2e7kPD7R5ARZtNTKTgqA0DSGuI7VEqdYWfpHAD5r-ulyLIgbeH3eaMrTFqqcF](https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/epdf/10.1111/jssr.12330?author_access_token=6TIAJ0pIWmfoT8CKXywoOYta6bR2k8jH0KrdpFOxC64MqjczIASPsUhKK26SvkbhsyE2e7kPD7R5ARZtNTKTgqA0DSGuI7VEqdYWfpHAD5r-ulyLIgbeH3eaMrTFqqcF)  
<https://www.thebanquetnetwork.com/blog/2018/8/28/5-statistics-we-cant-ignore>

How could we make our congregation more inclusive and welcoming for people with mental health challenges and/or special needs?



- When new members join, ask in a sensitive and dignified way if any accommodations would enhance their participation in the faith community.
- State all are welcome and provide a phone number if additional accommodations are needed in all church event announcements.
- Personally invite individuals with mental health challenges or special needs and their families to participate in ministries, religious education programs and events, and arrange for accommodations.

**Believe in Ability means**  
**Black Lives Matter.**

**Act with Compassion means**  
**Black Lives Matter.**

**Enable Excellence means**  
**Black Lives Matter.**

**Foster Collaboration and**  
**Build Community means**  
**Black Lives Matter.**

**Promote Advocacy means**  
**Black Lives Matter.**

**Take Responsibility means**  
**Black Lives Matter.**





# Dumela

I affirm you. I believe in you. I see great potential in you.

# Conversation & Questions

- For questions about today's presentation, contact Luchara Wallace at [luchara.wallace@wmich.edu](mailto:luchara.wallace@wmich.edu)
- For questions about the webinar series, contact Deborah Fisher at [deborahmfisher@gmail.com](mailto:deborahmfisher@gmail.com)

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**aaidd** Religion & Spirituality Interest Network

**ICI** INSTITUTE on COMMUNITY INTEGRATION

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# Thank you!

Join the AAIDD Religion & Spirituality Interest Network today!

- Website: <https://aaiddreigion.org/>
- Facebook: Religion and Spirituality Division of the AAIDD
- Twitter: Aaiddreigion

