



## Remember & Act!

Monday was Martin Luther King Day, a day when we remember the peaceful work King did in the struggle for civil rights and economic justice in this country. We celebrate the progress made and renew our resolve to continue to work to fulfill King's dream that all people will be free to be who they are

and live together in peace and justice. Those who lived through the Civil Rights struggle King led, can point to some progress, not the least of which was having the first Black American president. However, the current mood in the country and the views of many current political leaders show us that we have a long way to go and have even taken some significant steps backward toward the bad old days when racism and bigotry openly permeated society.

In April 1967 King wrote: ". . . we as a nation must undergo a radical revolution of values. We must rapidly begin the shift from a 'thing-oriented' society to a 'person-oriented' society. When machines and computers, profit motives and property rights are considered more important than people, the giant triplets of racism, materialism, and militarism are incapable of being conquered." (Martin Luther King, Jr. April 4, 1967) 52 years later, these words are still true and just as in need of urgent action as they were when they were written. There is however, hope in the fact that the words and the man who wrote them are still remembered and continue to inspire action. It is no surprise that Reverend King's dream is also the Christian dream.

What can you do to help make King's dream a reality?

### ***This week pray for:***

- Those who are working for equality and justice in our society and in all places in the world where people live with intolerance and inequality.
- The Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). They held presidential and parliamentary elections on Dec. 30, 2018. The DRC's National Electoral Commission announced the election of opposition candidate Felix Tshisekedi as president. Pray that the transition will be peaceful. The DRC has not had a peaceful transition of power following an election since the DRC's independence in 1960.
- Pray for all those who are being used as pawns in political power struggles –those whose lives are being held hostage, those whose economic wellbeing is held hostage, and those who are convinced that the use of violence can produce justice and security.



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