



“This book offers an insightful trove of antiracist and anti-hierarchical church ministry practices that radically challenge the repressive policies in our local and national community. Rev. Cunningham’s inspiring storytelling displays wisdom and humility desperately needed right now from other white social justice faith leaders.”

Rev. Dr. Traci C. West, author of *Disruptive Christian Ethics: When Racism and Women’s Lives Matter*

“The personal, profound, and sometimes painful details of this compelling memoir shed light on the many contradictions of the White church. Longtime pastor Doug Cunningham's narrative feels like meeting a dear friend willing to share the intimacies of this struggle with honesty and the courage of self-interrogation...”

Professor Jeannine Hill Fletcher, author of *The Sin of White Supremacy*

“I laughed and cried while reading these deeply moving stories. Listening, becoming vulnerable, pushing beyond the privilege of white skin, unlearning and learning anew

– this is a baptism into the work of confronting past centuries of colonialism within a growing community of solidarity. Thank you for this witness!”

Deaconess Norma P. Dollaga

*General Secretary, Ecumenical Center for Development, Philippines
2024 Recipient of the World Methodist Peace Award*

This memoir traces the author’s awakening to the ways racism in the church harms Black, Indigenous, Asian, and Latinx people and congregations and undermines the church’s gospel witness. This revelation, along with mentors' guidance, ignites a passion to join colleagues in disrupting white supremacy. Pastoring a multiracial church in Baltimore and a Black congregation in Brooklyn inspired him to push beyond the traditional white church, preparing him to start a new church in the Bronx. Over the next decade, he partnered with Latinx, Black, Asian, multiracial, and white young adults. Together, they forged a liberating approach to community work, preaching, and teaching.

A partner in starting the Bronx church became his mentor for challenging racism in the broader United Methodist Church. At a 50th anniversary celebration for Black Methodists for Church Renewal (BMCR) in New York, she noted that white people constructed and have maintained white supremacy for all these centuries, and that it was time for us to join in dismantling it. These gritty stories explore strategies, reflect on setbacks, and celebrate breakthroughs. They will also spark conversations that energize readers to continue disrupting racism, rebuilding their faith community, and entering more deeply into the way of Jesus.

Available online at [Barnes&Noble](#) and [Amazon](#)

Doug Cunningham is an ordained pastor, activist, and former missionary whose forty-year journey began in the Philippines amid the resistance movement that toppled the Marcos dictatorship in the 1980s. He has ministered in white, multiracial, and Black churches in Oakland, Baltimore, and New York, including a church he started in the Bronx (2008-2019). He then joined a campaign led by Black Methodists for Church Renewal (2020-2025), which established the James Lawson Anti-Racism Commission (JLARC) in the New York Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church. *Beyond the White Church* is his first book.

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