

## Monday - April 3

*See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland.*

*Isaiah 43:19 (NIV)*

We were determined to create an experiential “pilgrimage” for folks to understand more about our Black brothers and sisters. We had mapped out locations nearby to visit historic sites to understand more about the people and the underground railroad.

As we continued planning, my friend, Diane Thomas, attended many gatherings of local historical societies. In one of these meetings, she heard about the Lucy Depp community. She made connections with people who were familiar with the community and had deep connections there. As we continued to plan, we realized that our original plan would not be as effective as connecting with the Lucy Depp community to hear their personal stories of struggle and victory.

One day Diane called and said that our speaker would like to invite residents from the Lucy Depp community to come to our day. My first response was, “No, we don’t even know what we’re doing.” I was so afraid that we would say or do the wrong thing. But I got a second insistent call that they really would like to invite and have the community participate with us. I could feel the Holy Spirit nudging me to realize that this was important. We needed to have the two communities be in conversation with each other. Not just observing from afar, but hearing and seeing and lamenting together. God was with us from the first idea to the mingling of two communities. We have felt the gracious ongoing hospitality of the Lucy Depp community to this day. And I pray that we will have ongoing conversations and create more relationships in the future.

Kim

**Prayer:** O Lord of all creation, You have created us for Yourself. And You have created all peoples, cultures, and races to be in relationship with You and each other. Please continue to be with us as we seek to love each other. Amen.