

**February 2, 2020**

**“Wrestling with Community”**

**Reading: Jacob Wrestles – Genesis 32:22-32**

**Hosted by: Membership Care and Parish Life Commission**

**Teacher: Rev. Dr. Andrea C. White**

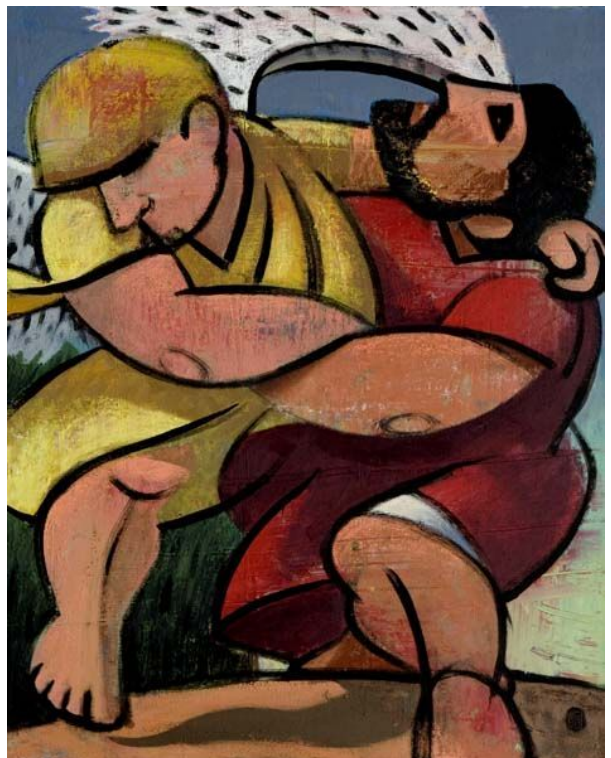
**Today we welcome Rev. Dr. Andrea C. White**, Associate Professor of Theology & Culture at Union Theological Seminary. Dr. White joined the faculty of Union Theological Seminary in the fall of 2015. Prior to her appointment, she served on the faculty at Emory University's Candler School of Theology, Graduate Division of Religion, and Department of Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies. Dr. White specializes in constructive Christian theology, especially womanist theology and postmodern religious thought with research interests in theologies of otherness, doctrine of God, theological anthropology, and the relationship between philosophy and theology. She is a recipient of the Lilly Theological Research Faculty Fellowship from The Association of Theological Schools and The Louisville Institute Book Grant for Minority Scholars, both awarded for her research culminating in the forthcoming monograph *The Scandal of Flesh: Black Women's Bodies and God Politics*.

#### Schedule

- 9:30am** - Welcome, Opening Prayer and Song
- 9:40-10am** - Teaching by Rev. Dr. Andrea White
- 10-10:15am** - Small Group Sharing/Discussion
- 10:15-10:30am** - Large Group Sharing/Discussion
- 10:30am** - Closing Prayer and song

#### **Today's Reading: Jacob Wrestles** **Genesis 32:22-32**

On the bank of the Jabbok River, Jacob wrestles with a stranger until sunrise the next day. When the stranger realizes he can't pin Jacob, he whacks him on the hip and puts it out of joint. He then demands Jacob let him go, but Jacob refuses until the stranger blesses him. The stranger asks Jacob's name, and Jacob identifies himself. The stranger announces that Jacob has been wrestling with God himself. Because Jacob has prevailed against both humans and God, the stranger renames him Israel, which means "one who contends with God."



### **Discussion Questions:**

1. Who or what is being wrestled with in this passage?
2. What wisdom do you see in this passage for you, our church, and the wider world today?
3. What questions and insights do you have about this passage?

### **Notes**

For weekly discussion questions, survey and lessons each week go to  
[trcnyc.org/wrestlingwithGod](http://trcnyc.org/wrestlingwithGod)

OR



Wrestling With God QR Code

\*Please note on 2/16 Wrestling With God is meeting  
in Assembly Hall\*

Wrestling With God is sponsored by the Education Commission



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