

Form Name: Inventory of Episcopal Racial Reconciliation and Justice Ministries, including Truth and Reconciliation Processes
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Inventory of Episcopal Racial Reconciliation and Justice Ministries, including Truth and Reconciliation

Introductory Info

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Please identify whether you are answering this survey as a representative of an entire diocese or as a church or institution: Church or Institution

If Church or Institution, please identify which kind of Episcopal entity you represent: Congregation

Section One: Telling the Truth About Our Churches and Race, including Truth and Reconciliation Processes (TRUTH)

Check all the Truth-telling ministries with which your diocese, congregation or institution has engaged over the last 12 months: Historic study of diocesan and/or congregational participation in systemic oppression of Indigenous, Black, Latinx, Asian, Pacific Islander peoples and other people of color
Intentional efforts to increase proportion of people of color among clergy

Please describe the efforts related to the boxes checked above: Zoom webinar on Roy Polina's book Justified By Her Children - the integration battles over Hemlock Haven, the Diocesan conference center

Hiring of the Rev. Marisa Sifontes, the only Black priest in the Diocese of Southwestern Virginia who will be working on Beloved Community efforts at St. John's and in the diocese

Has your diocese, congregation or institution or entity in recent years engaged in a Truth and Reconciliation process, understood to be: (please check all that apply)

Investigating the organization's historic role in racial injustice;

Please describe these Truth and Reconciliation process efforts:

a conversation about the integration of the Diocesan camp and conference center, Hemlock Haven

Has your diocese, congregation or institution organized a commission, working group or other regular meetings to work on a Truth and Reconciliation process?

No

Have Episcopal entities pursuing Truth and Reconciliation hosted events and webinars or produced any documents, testimonials, reports or other content?

No

If your diocese, congregation or institution has not begun to pursue a Truth and Reconciliation process, have leaders expressed interest in starting such work?

No

Section Two: Proclaiming the Dream of Beloved Community (PROCLAMATION)

Check all the Proclaiming the Dream ministries with which your diocese, congregation or institution has engaged during the last 12 months: (check all that apply)

Participate in local or regional efforts to examine the history of race and racism

Please describe the efforts related to the boxes checked above:

We have organized BRIDGES, a next step for Sacred Ground graduates to stay connected and engaged. A BRIDGES representative is on the Equal Justice Initiative, dedicated to honoring two lynching victims. We have advertised a walk/tour through Gainsboro, the site of urban renewal in Roanoke as well as the cleanup of the Old Lick Cemetery, site of the removal of hundreds of graves during urban removal.

Section Three: Practicing Jesus's Healing Way (FORMATION)

Check all the Practicing the Way ministries with which your diocese or entity has engaged during the last 12 months: (check all that apply)

Sacred Ground dialogue circles

Please describe the efforts related to the boxes checked above:

I have organized two Sacred Ground offerings - one interdenominational for Roanoke residents; the other, a grassroots effort throughout the diocese using Zoom. There have been so many incredible publications since Katrina first wrote this SG curriculum. Perhaps explore how to add parts of Caste to the curriculum.

Section Four: Repairing the Breach in Institutions and Society (JUSTICE)

Check all the church-wide Repairing the Breach efforts with which your diocese, congregation or institution has engaged during the last 12 months:

Poor People's Campaign

At what levels is your diocese, congregation or institution engaging with "Reimagining Policing and Criminal Justice Reform"?

Not engaged

At what levels is your diocese, congregation or institution engaging with "Prison Ministries or Re-entry Ministries," that is, supporting persons re-entering community following incarceration?

Not engaged

At what levels is your diocese, congregation or institution engaging with "Refugee Ministries"?

Not engaged

At what levels is your diocese, congregation or institution engaging with "Immigration Reform"?

Not engaged

At what levels is your diocese, congregation or institution engaging with "Education Equity," including support for Historically Black Colleges and Universities and partnering with under-resourced schools primarily serving students of color?

Not engaged

At what levels is your diocese, congregation or institution engaging with "Housing Equity" for/with communities and People of Color?

Not engaged

At what levels is your diocese, congregation or institution engaging with "Economic Opportunity" for/with communities and People of Color?

Not engaged

At what levels is your diocese, congregation or institution engaging with “Environmental Racism and Eco-justice”?

Not engaged

At what levels is your diocese, congregation or institution engaging with “Reparations for Racial Justice”?

Not engaged

Please describe the efforts related to the boxes checked above:

this is pretty discouraging - all of these "not engaged" boxes

In what other ways is your diocese, congregation or institution engaging with racial justice and Repairing the Breach?

Our diocese is offering Allyship training

Conclusion

Is there anything else you wish to share about your diocese, congregation or institution and its engagement with racial reconciliation and justice ministries, overall?

Our diocese has offered numerous Beloved Community webinars over the past five years, including a pilgrimage throughout the diocese retracing the route enslaved people were marched on their way to be sold South.