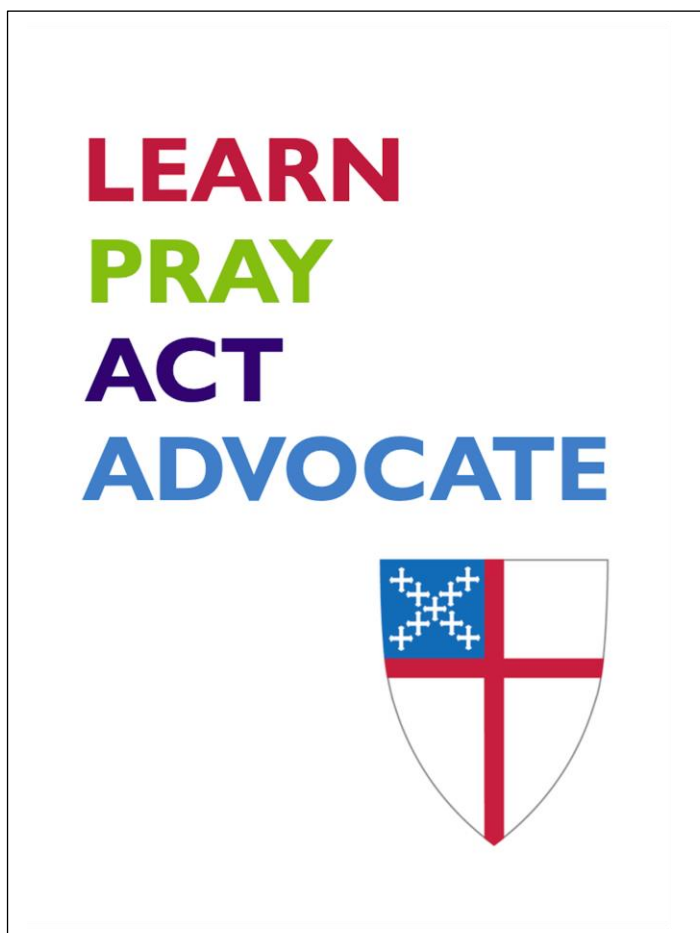


2024 Pledge of Faith and Action Against Racial Injustice

To order updated Pledge cards for your parish from Susan Woods: sew13@cornell.edu. Please include your name, parish, mailing address and how many cards you would like.



Pledge of Faith & Action Against Racial Injustice

What is the mission of the Church?
The mission of the Church is to restore all people to unity with God and each other in Christ.

How does the Church pursue its mission?
The Church pursues its mission as it prays and worships, proclaims the Gospel, and promotes justice, peace, and love.

Through whom does the Church carry out its mission?
The Church carries out its mission through the ministry of all its members. –
An Outline of the Faith (Book of Common Prayer, p. 855)

I acknowledge and promise to reject injustice stemming from racism and discrimination within my thoughts or actions. I will commit to accomplishing one or more acts of reconciliation as I reflect upon practices aligned with Jesus and Beloved Community. I will “turn from the powers of sin, hatred, fear, injustice and oppression toward the way of truth, love, hope, justice and freedom.”

WNY & NWPA Commission to Dismantle Racism & Discrimination

Wondering What to Do to Dismantle Racism & Discrimination?

Here are some suggestions to get you going. Find something that works for you or use these as idea starters to generate your own. Our listing below is not intended to be comprehensive.



| LEARN | PRAY | ACT | ADVOCATE |
|---|---|--|--|
| Ideas to Pursue on Your Own | | | |
| Explore books, podcasts, films on racial history, white supremacy & seeking justice | Make time for daily reflection | Welcome people you don't know into your congregation | Research and stay informed on issues of concern for equity and justice |
| Explore Racial Reconciliation resources from The Episcopal Church | Sign-up for the Equal Justice Daily email, reflect and pray (https://calendar.eji.org/sign-up) | Get to know someone who is diverse from you, Make a friend | Speak up/Have a conversation with family and friends, Break white silence |
| Work through "Talking about Race" (the Museum of African American History and Culture, Smithsonian) | Write and share a prayer for racial lament, justice, and reconciliation | Donate and support racial healing and social justice initiatives | Write letters/connect with Episcopal Public Policy Network and follow Action Alerts |
| Ideas to Pursue in Community with Others or as a Parish | | | |
| Sponsor and host Dismantling Racism, Implicit Bias training | Include racial justice prayers and liturgies in worship | Organize a community dinner to bring people together in courageous dialogue | Organize a "Get Out the Vote" postcard campaign to counter voter suppression |
| Host a pilgrimage, book study, film viewing event with discussion | Host a prayer vigil focused on racial justice; join with others | Participate with social justice organizations, gay pride events, and interfaith activities | Get involved in community conversations to address disparities, promote justice issues |
| Examine Church/Parish policy, practice, and procedure for racial, gender or other disparity and correct | Organize a contemplation service using Becoming Beloved Community Labyrinth | Partner with a congregation whose congregation is diverse from your own | Be a voice to live the Gospel in community; step into the Public Square |

Getting Started: Resource List



Books

Love is the Way: Holding on to Hope in Troubling Times by Bishop Michael Curry
The Church Cracked Open: Disruption, Decline and New Hope for Beloved Community by Stephanie Spellers
Resurrection Hope: A Future where Black Lives Matter by Kelly Brown Douglas
The Cross and the Lynching Tree by James H. Cone
Ladder to the Light: An Indigenous Elder's Meditations on Hope and Courage by Steven Charleston
Dear White Peacemakers: Dismantling Racism with Grit and Grace by Osheta Moore
The Sum of Us: What Racism Costs Everyone and How We Can Prosper Together by Heather McGhee
Between the World and Me by Ta-Nehisi Coates
The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Color-Blindness by Michele Alexander
The Color of Law: A Forgotten History of How Our Government Segregated America by Richard Rothstein
The Thomas Indian School and the "Irredeemable" Children of New York by Keith R. Burich
The Land Is Not Empty: Following Jesus in Dismantling the Doctrine of Discovery by Sarah Augustine

Films & Videos

My Name is Pauli Murray <https://www.imdb.com/title/tt11092594/>
Eyes on the Prize PBS Documentary <https://www.pbs.org/show/eyes-on-the-prize/>
True Justice: Bryan Stevenson's Fight for Equality <https://ejj.org/projects/true-justice/>
100 Years from Mississippi <https://100yearsfrommississippi.com/>

Podcasts

A Brave Space with Dr. Meeks <https://abravespace.buzzsprout.com/>
The Soul of the Nation with Jim Wallis <https://sojo.net/sections/podcasts>
Still Processing <https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/still-processing/id1151436460>
Pod for the Cause <https://civilrights.org/podforthecause/#>
Dear Asian Americans <https://www.justlikemedia.com/show/dear-asian-americans/>

Websites with Resources

ecfVital Practices, Racial Justice Resources/Recursos de Justicia Racial (Episcopal Church Foundation) <https://www.ecfvp.org/racialjustice/read>
Indigenous Ministries, Anglican Church of Canada <https://www.anglican.ca/im/>
Mission Institute <http://themissioninstitute.org/>

Training

Sacred Ground <https://www.episcopalchurch.org/sacred-ground/>
Becoming Beloved Community: Understanding Systemic Racism
<https://blog.churchnext.tv/2022/01/31/just-launched-becoming-beloved-community-understanding-systemic-racism/>