

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: Intentional efforts to increase proportion of people of color in membership
Intentional efforts to address racial disparities in treatment of leaders across the diocese, congregation or institution

Please describe the efforts related to the boxes checked above: We have had a Black Lives Matter flag hanging outside for two years, and actively engaged in community organizing around racial disparity.
We had a three month congregation focus on racial disparity with homilies at worship, films, and book study culminating in local high school students of color sharing their experiences during Sunday worship (with remuneration).
We have led a monthly community book study group for over two years focused on diversity and anti-racism.

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;
Linking historic injustice in your organization with ongoing patterns of racial injustice

Please describe these Truth and Reconciliation process efforts:

Many members of our congregation participated in the diocesan wide study of the origin of the diocese, our first diocesan bishop, Bishop Hopkins, and the formation of this parish.

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?

Yes

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)

Offer public witness (editorials, public speaking, protests and vigils)
Participate in local or regional efforts to examine the history of race and racism

Please describe the efforts related to the boxes checked above:

Members of the congregation have regularly joined interfaith vigils.
Monthly book study group is ongoing in examining the history of race and racism.

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)

Racial healing, reconciliation and justice pilgrimages
Preaching on race and racism
Diocesan or organization-wide reading of book(s) on race

Please describe the efforts related to the boxes checked above:

Several members joined a pilgrimage on the VT African American History Trail.
Ongoing monthly community book study led by this congregation.

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:

Episcopal Public Policy Network (EPPN) or the Office of Government Relations
Poor People's Campaign

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

Local engagement

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?

State engagement

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

Local engagement

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

Federal engagement

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 yet engaged

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

Local engagement
State engagement

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

State engagement

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

Not yet engaged

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

Not yet engaged

Please describe the efforts related to the boxes checked above:

This congregation has members engaged through Vermont Interfaith Action organizing at local and state levels around criminal justice, housing and homelessness, income equity, and immigration reform - all with a preferential focus on addressing racial inequity and promoting cultural diversity in leadership.

On the local level, many are involved with local taskforces around policing and homelessness.

Conclusion
