

Ways to Help with Hurricane Relief Efforts

Updated: October 15, 2024 | 7 p.m.

As our siblings in Florida assess the damage from their second hurricane in 13 days, and we continue to see the impact of Hurricane Helene in western North Carolina, we understand the depth of desire to help. Please explore this page thoroughly for updates and new information on ways you can help.

There are a multitude of ways both individuals and churches can help. **What's most helpful is to respond to the needs as requested by those on the ground in affected areas**, and to use the distribution channels being organized or already in place. **Do not self-deploy**. This is a request from every organization with whom we have been on a call since the storm arrived.

Response status in western NC differs county to county. Some counties remain in the search/rescue/lifesaving stage, while others have begun the first steps of the recovery stage. Conditions continue to change throughout every day, and **traveling to the area on your own right now can actually hinder response efforts**. This situation is incredibly complex and unlike any faced before; please be patient and give the certified and authorized responders on the ground the space and time they need to put in place the infrastructure and systems that will facilitate wider response efforts.

From FEMA: Donating and Volunteering After a Disaster

NEW: "Cultivating Spiritual Sustainability" with Bishop Marc Andrus

Saturday, October 26, 9 a.m. - 2 p.m., at Chapel of the Cross, Chapel Hill

You are invited to a special day with Bishop Marc Andrus, former bishop of California, who will lead a workshop entitled, "Cultivating Spiritual Sustainability: Growing a Renewable Garden in Our Souls."

Drawing on readings from the Gospel of John, we will consider how Jesus – the Bread of Life and Heaven – is the food that lasts and gives eternal life. Dr. Sheila Andrus will introduce the carbon tracker *SustainIslandHome*. Attendees will imagine the ways a commitment to Creation Care is also a cultivation of spiritual growth. The workshop includes lunch.

[Register.](#)

2025 Introduction to Dismantling Racism Dates Available

Plus one more 2024 date!

A partnership among diocesan staff, the Racial Justice and Reconciliation Committee and notable consultants such as Dr. Catherine Meeks of the Absalom Jones Center in Atlanta, “Introduction to Dismantling Racism: Reclaiming Our Baptismal Promise” is an interactive workshop designed to deepen spiritual commitment to dismantling racism as participants in the Jesus Movement. Through presentations, prayer, story sharing, videos and small group discussion, participants explore how the sin of racism impacts all lives.

2024 Date:

- October 25, 5-8 p.m., and October 26, 9 a.m.-1:30 p.m. [Register.](#)

2025 Dates:

- January 26, 5-8 p.m., and January 27, 9 a.m.-1:30 p.m. [Register.](#)
- March 29, 5-8 p.m., and March 30, 9 a.m.-1:30 p.m. [Register.](#)
- June 21, 5-8 p.m., and June 22, 9 a.m.-1:30 p.m. [Register.](#)
- July 26, 5-8 p.m., and July 27, 9 a.m.-1:30 p.m. [Register.](#)
- August 8, 5-8 p.m., and August 9, 9 a.m.-1:30 p.m. [Register.](#)
- September 27, 5-8 p.m., and September 28, 9 a.m.-1:30 p.m. [Register.](#)

Voting, Voter and Engagement Resources



Though we hope this page will provide valuable information and resources to help you be ready to vote and engage in helping others to be ready, too, there is no better source of voting and voter information than the NC State Board of Elections.

[NC State Board of Elections](#)

[Find your county Board of Elections](#)

KEY DATES

GENERAL ELECTION (NOVEMBER 5, 2024)

[From the NC State Board of Elections:](#) Here are voter dates and deadlines for the **2024** general election:

- **Sept. 6, 2024:** County boards of elections begin mailing absentee ballots to eligible voters who submitted an absentee ballot request form.
- **Oct. 11, 2024:** Voter registration deadline (5 p.m.).*
- **Oct. 17, 2024:** In-person early voting begins; same-day registration available.
- **Oct. 29, 2024:** Absentee ballot request deadline (5 p.m.).*
- **Nov. 2, 2024:** In-person early voting ends (3 p.m.).

- **Nov. 5, 2024:** General Election Day.
- **Nov. 5, 2024:** Absentee ballot return deadline (7:30 p.m.).*

NC VOTER ID LAWS

As of 2023, a valid photo ID is required to vote in the state of North Carolina. While the NC State Board of Elections is, again, the best source of information, we have compiled some of the fast-facts you need to know.

About NC Voter ID Laws

RESOURCES FOR NAVIGATING THE ELECTION SEASON

BRIDGING THE DIVIDE

**These resources were recommended by church leaders across the diocese to help each of us engage in civil discourse on any topic on which there are divided opinions.*

- BOOK: [I Never Thought of It That Way: How to Have Fearlessly Curious Conversations in Dangerously Divided Times](#), by Mónica Guzmán
- ARTICLE: ["Are Political Disagreements Stressing You Out? Here are Tips to Bridge the Divide"](#) (NPR)
- ORGANIZATION: [Braver Angels of NC](#), "a group of Red, Blue, and Independent North Carolinians working together to depolarize America."
- CURRICULUM: [Make Me An Instrument of Peace - A Guide to Civil Discourse](#) (ChurchNext)