

Sacred Ground Regional Gathering

As [Sacred Ground](#) celebrates its fifth anniversary, regional gatherings are happening to mark this notable event. Our diocese is hosting one November 9-10. Save the date and plan to join us!

Regional Gathering: November 9, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. | St. Philip's, Durham

Over the course of this special day, you will have the opportunity to:

- Connect with others involved in Sacred Ground in your area
- Worship together as a Sacred Ground community
- Hear inspiring Sacred Ground stories from across the region
- Meet the national Sacred Ground leadership team
- Participate in breakout workshops on topics including taking action after Sacred Ground, adapting Sacred Ground to your local context and best practices for Sacred Ground facilitation.

This event is free; lunch and refreshments are included.

[Register for the regional gathering.](#)

Eucharist Together!, November 10, 10:30 a.m. | St. Titus', Durham

The Rev. Miguel Bustos, The Episcopal Church's manager for racial reconciliation and justice, will preach.

Responding to Hurricane Helene

As work continues in the western part of North Carolina, we add to our prayers and relief offerings those affected by Hurricane Milton, now progressing across Florida.

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.**

Please continue to [visit the page](#) Diocese of North Carolina created to provide updated information about needs, donation suggestions, volunteer opportunities and more.

The greatest needs at this time are prayer and financial support. If you are in a position to give, we offer these for consideration:

- [Diocese of Western NC](#): Select "Partners in Mission" from the drop-down menu, and add "Hurricane Helene" in the memo box.
- [Episcopal Relief & Development](#)
- [American Red Cross](#)

A few updates; we encourage you to [visit the hurricane relief page](#) to learn more:

- **Item collection: Please do not collect or send clothing at this time.** Folks in western North Carolina are not yet ready to receive it, both because the focus remains on food, water and shelter and because they do not have space to store it.
- **Volunteer opportunities:** Specific volunteer opportunities are listed [on the hurricane relief page](#). By week's end, we expect to share opportunities for those called to respond on site in impacted areas.

- **Donations:** As we learn of Hurricane Milton's impact in Florida, we will add links where donations can be sent.

[Read more.](#)

DATES HAVE CHANGED: 2025 Introduction to Dismantling Racism Dates Available

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.

2025 Dates:

- January 31, 5-8 p.m., and February 1, 9 a.m.-1:30 p.m. [Register.](#)
- March 21, 5-8 p.m., and March 22, 9 a.m.-1:30 p.m. [Register.](#)
- June 20, 5-8 p.m., and June 21, 9 a.m.-1:30 p.m. [Register.](#)
- July 25, 5-8 p.m., and July 26, 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 26, 5-8 p.m., and September 27, 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)