

BECOMING BELOVED COMMUNITY: SACRED GROUND

Jesus' commandment to us is quite clear: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." We are called to recognize the neighbors beyond our social circles and geographic neighborhoods. At this moment in history, we are called to undertake the work of spiritual formation by listening deeply to our neighbors' stories around race and allowing ourselves to be transformed by the unseen pain and new vision of God's Kingdom their stories reveal.

In his book, **America's Original Sin: Racism, White Privilege and the Bridge to a New America**, the Rev. Jim Wallis writes, "Racism is America's original sin and must be named as such. Sometimes it expresses itself explicitly and overtly, with the Charleston murders being perhaps the most extreme example in decades. But racism lingers far more pervasively in implicit and covert ways in American institutions and culture, in often unconscious attitudes, and in the very structures of our society."

Grounded in our call to faith, hope and love, Sacred Ground, a 10-part documentary films and readings series, focuses on Indigenous, Black, Latinx, and Asian/Pacific American histories as they intersect with European American histories. Our common goal is to gain insight and deepen our consciousness by understanding the history of the United States from other than a European American lens.

We will form a dialogue circle (or circles) of four to fourteen people to meet on a Monday evening on a biweekly basis (with the occasional exception) to engage with films, videos, written materials and each other. Save for two assigned books, all materials will be available for free to circle members.

SYLLABUS

SESSION

1. (10/28/19) Stepping onto Sacred Ground
2. (11/18/19) The Roots of Whiteness, and Deeper Roots
3. (12/9/19) Whose Land? Exploring Indigenous History
4. (1/6/19) Transatlantic Slave Trade and Slavery: Exploring Black History
5. (1/27/19) Whose Land: More Layers: Exploring Latinx History
6. (2/10/20) Americas, Not Foreigners: Exploring Asian/Pacific American History
7. (2/24/20) Selective Access to the Melting Pot and the American Dream: 1830-1960's.
8. (3/9/20) Divisions in Present-Day White America
9. (3/23/20) Legacies: Racism's Long Life
10. (4/13/20) Becoming Beloved Community

For a more in-depth look at the syllabus online go to:

<https://www.episcopalchurch.org/sacredground/syllabus-preview>.

REGISTRATION

I, _____, commit to be a faithful and engaged member of a Sacred Ground dialogue circle that will meet on a biweekly basis for ten two-hour sessions.

Please include all contact information in the fields below.

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

HOME NUMBER: _____

CELL PHONE NUMBER: _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____