



SCHOOL OF MINISTRY  
OF THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF NORTH CAROLINA

## ***Harsh Ground Holy Ground: Establishing The Episcopal Church in NC***

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### ***Some suggestions for facilitators***

It is our pleasure to send to you the most recent production from the School of Ministry's DVD series, *Harsh Ground, Holy Ground: Establishing The Episcopal Church in North Carolina*. This 26-minute film was produced by Minnow Media, an award winning multimedia production company based in Carrboro, NC. The film premiered at our most recent Diocesan Convention in January 2011. *It is made possible by a grant from the Jessie Ball duPont Fund.*

Bishop Curry said in his pastoral address at the 2009 Diocesan Convention, "the earliest antecedents of what would become the Episcopal Diocese of North Carolina reflected the radical welcome and hospitality of God and the glorious diversity and variety of the humanity God has created." By telling the story of Manteo and Virginia Dare, the first two Anglican baptisms on this continent, and the stories of the earliest settlers, we provide a way for the people of the diocese to study our past. This study, in turn, guides us in understanding our present, and helps us to shape our future as we respond to Bishop Curry's visionary call, "to reflect the radical welcome of Jesus by being a Church for Others."

This film is of a different nature than the other courses in this series, Short Courses for Adult Christian Formation. Instead of 5 or 6 distinct programs on a broad topic, this film focuses on a particular period of our history. It is organized around five episodes that together make up the story that leads to the founding of the diocese in 1817.

Because of its narrative format, this film may be shown to any adult and/or youth group. This group may be new to The Episcopal Church, may be preparing for confirmation or have a particular interest in history. For others, it will serve as a touchstone for understanding an important part of our past so they can draw connections to what they see today in the church and how it might support us as we imagine a future that welcomes all.

This DVD, then, is designed to help people engage our history while making connections to our present which is the basis for exploring who we might be as a church in the future.

Participants on the DVD include:

The Rt. Rev. Michael B. Curry, The Episcopal Diocese of North Carolina  
The Rt. Rev. Clifton Daniel, III, The Episcopal Diocese of East Carolina  
Harry Watson, PhD Director of the Center for the Study of the American South and professor of history at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Lauren Winner, PhD Assistant Professor of Christian Spirituality, Duke Divinity School  
The Rev. Donald A. Lowery, Vicar, Holy Innocents, Henderson

We are very grateful for the participation of each of these people in this film. We are also indebted to The Rev. Dr. N. Brooks Graebner, our diocesan historiographer, for his expertise and guidance.

There are five episodes (plus an introduction and closing credits) in the program, *Harsh Ground, Holy Ground* (with times):

- *Introduction* (1:51)
- *Lost Colony* (3:40); tells the story of Manteo and Virginia Dare.
- *Lords Proprietors* (2:43); explains the settlement of the colony under the Lords Proprietors, the governors appointed by the King of England.
- *Competing Forces* (2:57); discusses the arrival of other religious groups; coupled with the lack of Anglican clergy, the church has little influence over the settlers.
- *The Clergy* (5:41); stories of the clergy who ministered in North Carolina, both the “scallywags” and the faithful. Among the faithful, the story of Clement Hall is told.
- *Disestablishment* (8:07); the effects of the dissolution of the state church, the loss of missionary priests and the Revolutionary War. The ministry of Charles Pettigrew is explored.
- *Closing Credits* (1:00)

The film can be shown in its entirety or broken up as time allows.

**Facilitation:** Please refer to *Doing theology: DVDs for parish study – Some suggestions for facilitators*, which is included in the notebook provided each congregation in the Diocese of North Carolina, for general comments about your role as facilitator. (If a copy is not available, contact the School or visit our website, [www.episdioncschool.org](http://www.episdioncschool.org).)

**Number of sessions:** We anticipate that this program could be used successfully in a Sunday morning adult forum, the basics being that you show the entire program or a portion of it, and then have conversations about it. While more extensive time might be beneficial, this pattern is manageable in a Sunday school setting allowing perhaps 45-60 minutes. If more time is desired, then obviously times other than Sunday morning provide greater flexibility. If there is particular energy in your group for one of the themes above, you could easily expand the session(s).

For example, beside the quick overview in this film on the Lost Colony, there is a lot of other information available elsewhere (see bibliography at the end of this guide). If someone in your group would like to prepare more comments about it (using the bibliography attached or their own research), it can be a rich and rewarding conversation.

This film is best shown in order. You know the group that gathers for education and formation activities. Gauge their interest and plan the number of sessions accordingly. For example, it could probably be discussed at length in two, even three sessions. Please contact the School of Ministry for more detailed instructions on designing your session(s).

**Conversations:** Three general approaches seem important to us:

1. The first is to provide opportunity for a study group to connect with what people said on the DVD to their own lives – “what in these stories is new to you and helps you to understand something different about our church...?”
2. The second is similar, with your seeking to learn what resonates with them in the DVD – “what particular stories lead you to say *yes!* or *no!*”
3. And the third is to help people engage more deeply in theological reflection about their everyday lives, in other words, how does this history inform their spiritual journey today or as they imagine it might in the future? This may seem challenging at first – recognizing that we grow spiritually, at least in part, when we rub up against unfamiliar ways of looking at the world.

**Summary:** We encourage you to provide a summary at the end of each session. As we suggest in our general facilitation guide, however, note that we are not suggesting a detailed summary of what everyone said. Rather we find it good to somehow tie the conversation together, commending the group for their contribution, and suggesting that the group has engaged in faithful reflection together.

**Evaluation:** We provide an evaluation that can be filled out by all participants. A hard copy of the evaluation is included with this guide; make the necessary copies to hand out to each participant, ask them to complete them and then mail them to the School of Ministry office:

School of Ministry  
The Episcopal Diocese of North Carolina  
1901 W. Market Street  
Greensboro, NC 27403

The evaluation form is also available for download on the School of Ministry website or the evaluation itself can be completed online and submitted. We thank you in advance, that through your feedback, you are helping us to improve our programs!

**Additional study:** You might choose to discuss a book to accompany the DVD. Below are some that you might find of interest for further reading. Note that these books are from many different perspectives – some are from Christian perspectives, some secular, some other religious traditions – but all have something to add to the conversation. A list of helpful websites is also provided. If not from the list below, make sure you review any additional resources before incorporating them into the sessions.

#### **Books:**

#### **Selected Bibliography on the Anglican Church in the Carolinas & Virginia Compiled by Brooks Graebner & Lynn Hoke, 2011.**

Key to general subject categories: **1** = Religious Background, **2** = NC Colonial History, **3** = Parish or Local History.

- Calhoun, Robert M. *Religion and the American Revolution*. North Carolina Bicentennial Pamphlet Series. Raleigh: Division of Archives and History, North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources, 1976. 1,2
- Church of England in North Carolina, The: Documents, 1699-1741*. In *Colonial Records of North Carolina*. (Second Series), vol. 10. Edited by Robert J. Cain. Raleigh: Division of Archives and History, North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources, 1999. 1,2
- Corbitt, David L. *The Formation of the North Carolina Counties 1663-1943*. Raleigh: Division of Archives and History, North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources, 1950. 2
- Duncan, Norvin C. *A Pictorial History of the Episcopal Church in North Carolina 1701- 1964*. Asheville, NC: Miller Printing Co., 1965. 1,2
- Haywood, Marshall D. *Governor William Tryon, and His Administration in the Province of North Carolina, 1765-1771*. Raleigh: Uzzell, 1903. 2
- Hertford County: The First Two Hundred Years 1584*. Published by the Hertford County Bicentennial Commission. Winton, NC, 1976. 2
- Kars, Marjoleine. *Breaking Loose Together: The Regulator Rebellion in Pre-Revolutionary North Carolina*. Chapel Hill: UNC Press, 2002. 1,2
- Lemmon, Sarah McCulloh. *Parson Pettigrew of the "Old Church."* James Sprunt Studies in History and Political Science, no. 52. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1970. 1,2
- Lewis, Henry W. *Northampton Parishes*. Jackson, NC: N. p., 1951. 2,3
- London, Lawrence, and Sarah M. Lemmon, eds. *The Episcopal Church in North Carolina, 1701-1959*. Raleigh: The Episcopal Diocese of N. Carolina, 1987. 1,2,3
- Price, William S, Jr. "There Ought to Be a Bill of Rights": North Carolina Enters a New Nation." In *The Bill of Rights and The States, The Colonial and Revolutionary Origins of American Liberties*, edited by Patrick T. Conley and John P. Kaminski .Madison, WI: Madison House Publisher, 1991. 2
- Quinn, David Beers. *The Lost Colonists: Their Fortune and Probable Fate*. Raleigh: North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources, 1984. 2
- Waddell, Alfred Moore. *A History of New Hanover County and the Lower Cape FearRegion, 1723-1800*. N. p., n.d. 2
- Wilson, Mamré Marsh. *The Episcopal Church: Making History In A New World*. A Coloring Book for the Young People of the Diocese of East Carolina, Published in Commemoration of the 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Establishment of the Diocese. Morehead City, NC: Herald Printing, 2008. 1,2

### **Internet Resources:**

The School of Ministry website has an electronic version of *Anglican Church Building in Colonial North Carolina, 1701-1776: A Study in Frustration* by the Rev. N. Brooks Graebner, Ph.D., Historiographer of the Episcopal Diocese of North Carolina. This can be found at: [www.episdionschool.org/article158850.htm](http://www.episdionschool.org/article158850.htm).

The Lost Colony Education pages for adults and children. There is a bibliography of nonfiction, fiction and children's books that provide many resources for studying this early settlement on the North Carolina coast. Included among the resources are lesson guides, multimedia, maps and a timeline. <http://thelostcolony.org/education/Resources/Bibliography.htm>

A website that gives an overview of the history of this historic town, established as the first permanent settlement in North Carolina. Edenton was the capital of the Colony and the home of the Royal Governors. <http://www.edenton.com/history/>

**A Final Note**

Please note that we are able to update our facilitators' guides on-line, so if you find books or other resources that you believe deserve mention here, please contact us.

Remember that we say more about this program format in our general facilitators' guide, available on-line or in our DVD notebooks. Serving as a facilitator while members of your parish reflect together about our calling to engage with one another about matters of faith is a service to the Church.

*Blessings to you in this ministry!*



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By completing this evaluation you are helping the School of Ministry to develop high quality resources.

Many thanks!

Using the following scale, please circle the number that comes closest to your views on the statements below:

**1 = excellent    2 = good    3 = okay or neutral    4 = poor    5 = very poor**

1. Overall, the content of the DVD is	1	2	3	4	5
2. Overall, the production values of the DVD are	1	2	3	4	5

Did you find the format, style and content of the film helpful? Please give examples.

Please rate the five segments of the film

3A. The Lost Colony	1	2	3	4	5
3B. The Lords Proprietors	1	2	3	4	5
3C. Competing Forces	1	2	3	4	5
3D. The Clergy	1	2	3	4	5
3E. Disestablishment	1	2	3	4	5

What made the most impact in the film for you personally? What did you learn, what was clear/not clear, What new questions do you have about this or other periods of the church's or related state history?

Please answer the following questions:

- How has this film affected your perception of The Episcopal Church?
- What legacy of the 18<sup>th</sup> century Episcopal Church do you see around you today?
- Other comments:

Name (optional): \_\_\_\_\_ Viewing Location: \_\_\_\_\_

*Please return this completed evaluation to facilitator.*