

THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF NORTH CAROLINA

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February 6, 2024

RE: Additional Guidance for Completion of 2023 Parochial Reports

You have received the reminder that <u>2023 Parochial Reports</u> are due to The Episcopal Church by March 1, 2024. As you complete your report, we would like to share some information about how the data is being used, together with guidance for use in responding to the question about antiracism activities:

We invite you to share stories of how you have spent the last year naming, addressing, and dismantling racism in yourselves, your congregations, and your communities.

For the past two years, the Subcommittee on Race and Social Justice of the Chartered Committee for Lifelong Christian Formation (CCLCF) has obtained and analyzed the data the churches in our diocese provided in response to this question. The summary report has received, and will continue to receive, wide distribution throughout the diocese. This information is invaluable as we work toward accomplishing our mission strategy goals around antiracism. We have been encouraged and inspired by all the work being done throughout the diocese.

To help in your response to this question this year, we'd like to offer some guidance that we hope will make it easier to respond:

- 1. Seek responses from those doing the work. Ask each ministry lead what they are doing to further antiracism. You don't want to assume that any one group has all the answers.
- 2. Include sermons and worship initiatives, community relationships, book studies and researching the racial church history.
- 3. Be honest. If you have not done antiracism work, please say that. If you aren't sure if something applies, include it with a short description.
- 4. No need to include numbers. We do not need you to report on congregational demographics related to this work. We are looking at quality, not quantity no quotas!

We are deeply grateful for your responses. The information you will share enables us to provide support as you continue to build your piece of the beloved community.

Blessings,

Bishop Sam Rodman Bishop Bishop Jennifer Brooke-Davidson Assistant Bishop