

Race Matters Statement Discussion Guide

After Eucharist gather quietly into groups of Five or Six folks.

3min Intro and Set-up
5min Silent Reflection
25min Small Group Discussion
5min Critique and Commitment/Next Steps
10min Group Reports:
3min Recap and Next Steps

*Someone will announce times as we progress through the morning.

Discussion Guide

Knowing that our time for reflection is short and this statement is not complete - please help all to use the time productively. The desire is to have reflective conversation about personal and communal responsibility - not a critique session. Please use the last sheet to share your thoughtful critique of the statement itself. **Please help one another spend your talking time actually talking about your responses to the statement!**

This statement of intent is a living document in progress - it can serve as a grounding point for who All Saints declares themselves to be and how All Saints wants to act. It strives to answer these two questions:

1. As this church, why are we called to respond to systems of racial inequity?
2. How will we respond to systems of racial inequity?

5min Silent Reflection (Go through each stanza and consider your response - in silence.)

The blood of the dead is calling us to repent for our sins of racism.

How do I fit into this statement? How do I not fit? What do I fear? What do I need?

We confess that when we do nothing, we permit the neglect, abuse, and murder of our black and brown sisters and brothers.

How do I fit into this statement? How do I not fit? What do I fear? What do I need?

God yearns for us to care, to act, for all to be set free.

How do I fit into this statement? How do I not fit? What do I fear? What do I need?

Longing for justice, learning from history, listening to voices of truth, we vow, with God's help, to claim our responsibilities to overturn, step-by-step, systems of racial inequality.

How do I fit into this statement? How do I not fit? What do I fear? What do I need?

And so we build the beloved community of God.

How do I fit into this statement? How do I not fit? What do I fear? What do I need?

So that all may live.

How do I fit into this statement? How do I not fit? What do I fear? What do I need?

25min Conversation

Share with the group your 'stand out' response to the Race Matters statement? What do you fear? What do you need? What else might you want to share?

5min Critique and Commit

Critique

What is your critique of the statement? Is there something you would like to be different?
Is there something your appreciate?

What about the process our church is in? Is there something you would like to be different?
Is there something your appreciate?

Do you want to be contacted about your comments? Circle One: yes no

Commitment

What is the commitment you want to make?

The following groups came out of the All Saints planning day, circle any you would like to be a part of and give us your email or contact info so you can be contacted:

- Identifying and Fostering Norms for church dialogue
- Taking individual actions
- Deepening Awareness of Continuing Discussions and Education on Issues of Race and Inequality
- Ongoing calls to Action

Is there something you would like to start, what?

What is your email or contact info: _____