

Commission for Racial Healing: Diocesan Convention Report 2023
Submitted by The Rev. Liz Emblar-Beazley, Chair

As members of the Episcopal branch of the Jesus movement, the Episcopal Diocese of Louisiana is committed to healing and wholeness for all of God's people. To this end, we have faithfully engaged in racial healing work through Dismantling Racism Trainings. In 2020, the Commission for Racial Healing set our main priority as hosting these trainings for the people of our diocese and our surrounding communities. We are proud to report that in the past four years, the Commission for Racial Healing has hosted five virtual Dismantling Racism Training sessions and follow up sessions, as well as six in person trainings around the diocese. A total of 147 individuals have attended and completed the course, 35 clergy and 112 lay. We also shared our training with the Diocese of Western Louisiana in March 2023 when two of our trainers led the Dismantling Racism Training for 24 participants, 5 clergy and 19 lay people, at St. Barnabas in Lafayette, LA. In the past year, we began discerning a partnership with the diocesan Environmental Stewardship Commission. Much of our racial healing work overlaps with environmental stewardship and we look forward to seeing how we might work together to further our ministries. As we move into the new year, we will continue offering Dismantling Racism Trainings and we will seek to provide resources for parishes to have these important conversations within their own contexts. Our next Dismantling Racism Training will be on Saturday, November 11 from 9:00-3:00 PM at Trinity Episcopal Church in New Orleans. Registration is open. Please see the diocesan website for registration and more information about future trainings and opportunities.

In all that we do we strive to keep Christ as our focus, because we believe that we, the people of God, are called to work for healing that can only be found in the love and grace of Jesus Christ. Our world desperately needs this kind of radical and transformative healing and we believe that our work helps and encourages people to begin their own radical and transformative healing. In our trainings, we ask each other to engage in meaningful and sometimes challenging conversations that get to the heart of who we are as followers of Jesus Christ. And we leave our trainings looking towards a better and more loving future for all of God's children. Come and join us in this life-giving work. Come and join us as we seek to follow Christ in loving and transformational ways. We would love for you to join us.

**Please note that all are invited to attend trainings and it is especially appropriate for clergy, church staff, and ministry leaders.*

2023-2024 Commission Members:

The Rev. Liz Emblar-Beazley, Grace Memorial
Hammond, Chair

The Rev. David Casey, OP, The Free Church of
the Annunciation and Mount Olivet, New
Orleans

Patricia Corderman, Trinity New Orleans

Michelle Cox, Trinity New Orleans

The Rev. Stephen Crawford, St. Mary's Franklin

The Rev. Dan Krutz, St. Patrick's Zachary

Molly Phillips, Trinity Baton Rouge

Jey Rodgers, Trinity New Orleans

The Rev. Jane-Allison Wiggin, St. Luke's New
Orleans