

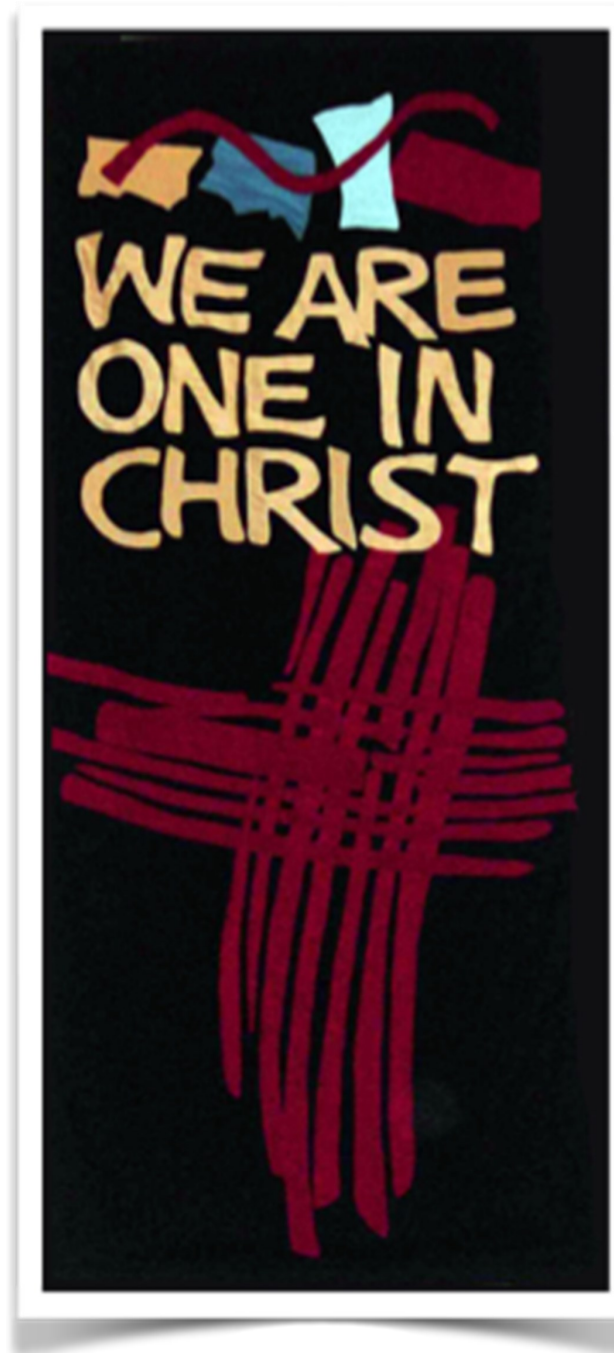
Racial Healing Social Justice Cohort 2020

“The Metro District is the most diverse district in the Western North Carolina Conference of the United Methodist Church. Therefore we are uniquely positioned to lead our annual conference in the work of racial healing and social justice. We believe God is calling the Metro District’s laity and clergy to become a movement that impacts and transforms us as individuals and our communities with the gospel of love, hope, reconciliation and justice...”

“We believe when the church eradicates the sin of systemic systems, repents, and turns from our wicked ways, God will heal God’s church and the world will be reconciled. Lord, let it begin with me!”
- Rev. Dr. Stephanie Moore Hand -

Three years ago, after the killing of Keith Lamont Scott in Charlotte, the church struggled and had lots of questions pertaining to how we respond to the racial tensions in our communities and America. The Metro District leadership decided to engage in finding solutions with leaders of the church and leaders of our communities. Therefore, we developed and launched the first Racial Healing and Social Justice Cohort in the spring of 2017. The goal of the RHSJ Cohort was to assist clergy and laity to *Listen, Hear, and Learn*, about the history of American racism, systemic systems, and then Pray, Discern, Collaborate, and Develop ministry action plans. These action plans impact our communities and steer us towards more just and equitable beloved communities.

Over the past two years, fifty people representing twenty faith communities, have participated in the RHSJ Cohort. The recent murder of George Floyd has shed even more light on our unconscious biases, complicit and implicit biases, and the tensions in America pertaining to race, racism, equity and social justice.



Register Here:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZclc-6oqiMvE9AaFSy-zmcb1iwJi3ULBTrA>

This summer, eighty laity from the Metro District participated in *Pray. Listen. Hear. Lead.* These virtual workshops helped us learn how we, as Christians, respond to the racial tension in America and our communities. Participants said “...our eyes have been opened, we see how this sin is affecting our society, and how we, as Christian communities of the Metro District, want to assist in healing this devastating societal divide.”

September 15th – The **Historical Background of Racism** in Mecklenburg County

October 20th – The Impact of Racism on **Housing, Education, etc.**

November 17th – **Policies** that Perpetuate Systemic Systems, Racism and Social Injustice

December 15th – **Scripture** on the Clarion Call to the church to build Beloved Communities

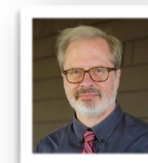
Each session will be on Zoom from 6:30pm – 9:00pm.

Cost: \$30 per church.

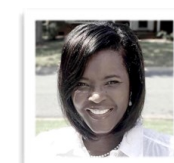
Questions please contact Rev. Dr. Stephanie Moore Hand (shand@wncumc.org)

DEADLINE TO REGISTER SEPTEMBER 14!

Dr. Tom Hanchett



Dr. Stephanie Moore Hand



Julie Porter



Bishop LaTrelle Easterling



Justin Perry

