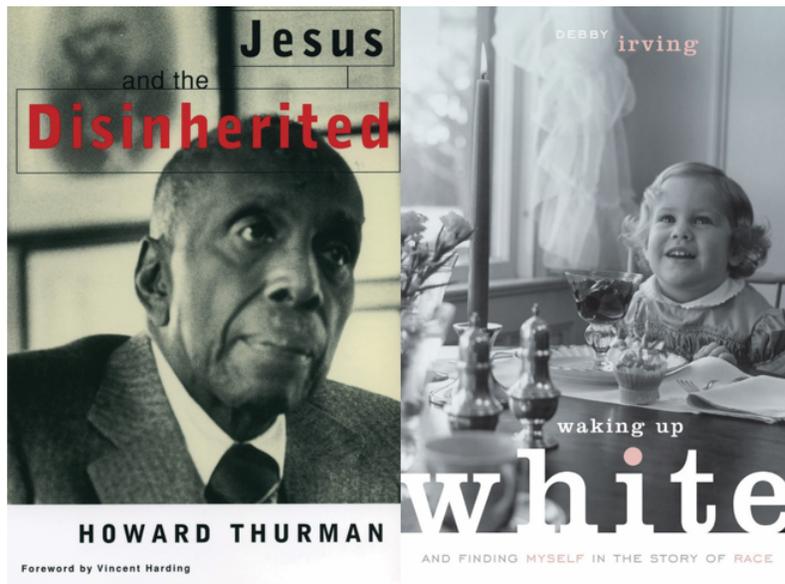




The Episcopal Diocese of North Carolina

PLEASE NOTE

Lenten Resources and Diocesan-Wide Book Read



THE DIOCESE OF NORTH CAROLINA has announced a diocesan-wide book read to take place during Lent.

As part of our ongoing commitment toward Becoming Beloved Community, all people and communities of the Diocese of North Carolina are invited to read Howard Thurman's [Jesus and the Disinherited](#) or Debby Irving's [Waking Up White: And Finding Myself in the Story of Race](#) during the season of Lent. Both books invite self-examination and reflection about how racism continues to work against the dream of God and our call to love others and strive for justice and peace among all people. There are study and discussion guides available for both books that can easily be used to create a meaningful Lenten series. The hope is that reading these books will spark conversations within churches and local communities and create a catalyst for building deeper relationships around racial healing and reconciliation during this season of repentance.

The Rev. Howard Thurman (1899-1981) was a minister, educator, theologian and civil rights leader, whose counsel and witness served as a spiritual foundation for the nonviolent civil rights movements and whose writings continue to inspire. He connected with prophetic clarity how the inward journey of faith shapes our concerns for social justice. In *Jesus and The Disinherited*, Thurman's seminal work, he wrote about the chains of oppression and how Jesus embodies

liberation and transformation for all. Alongside the book, participants are encouraged to watch *Backs Against the Wall: The Howard Thurman Story*, a film that explores the extraordinary life and legacy of Thurman. There are a number of helpful study guides for both the book and film available.

RESOURCES:

[Racial Reconciliation and the Church: Lessons from Howard Thurman](#)
[Film Discussion Guide for Backs Against the Wall: The Howard Thurman Story](#)
[Panel Discussion - Backs Against the Wall: The Howard Thurman Story](#) (Princeton Seminary)

In *Waking Up White: And Finding Myself in the Story of Race*, Debby Irving recounts her experience of being a white American woman and coming to terms with the complexity of race in the United States. With candor, Irving unpacks long-standing beliefs about colorblindness, being a good person and her desire to "help" people of color. The book contains conversation and reflection prompts at the end of each chapter. Study guides for Irving's book are also available. An engaging and thoughtful speaker, Irving will be speaking at churches throughout our diocese from April 21-26, 2020, as part of the Race Matters Tour.

RESOURCES:

[Waking Up White study guide](#)
[Curriculum and study guides from Debby Irving](#)

ADDITIONAL LENTEN RESOURCES:

[Life Transformed - The Way of Love in Lent](#) from the Episcopal Church
[Lenten Meditations 2020](#) from Episcopal Relief and Development
[Living Well Through Lent 2020: Practicing Courage with All Your Heart, Soul, Strength, and Mind](#) from Living Compass

ALSO IN LENT:

The letter-writing portion of the [Listening for Truth, Praying for Healing](#) program begins.

Clergy Checkbox

PAROCHIAL REPORTS are due to Diocesan House by March 1, 2020.

FOR CLERGY CALENDARS

- Mar. 1, 2020 - Parochial Reports due to Diocesan House
- Mar. 5 - [Lenten Quiet Day for Clergy](#)
- May 7-8 - [Clergy Conference 2020](#)
- June 6 - [Ordination to the Sacred Order of Deacons](#)
- Dec. 12 - [Ordination to the Sacred Order of Priests](#)

Headlines

FROM THE DIOCESE OF NORTH CAROLINA

- [Deacon Reflection: Deep Like the Rivers](#)
- [Diocese Announces Diocesan-Wide Book Read During Lent](#)

FROM THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

- [The General Convention Office Launches Online Tool: Mapping Demographics and Parochial Report Data](#)