



TIMELINE



- **SPRING 2024:** Diocesan leaders announce church pairings. Congregational leaders attend Zoom planning session with diocesan leaders to explore TEC programs.
- **SUMMER - FALL 2024:** Each pairing invites members to engage in shared study and fellowship events.
- **DATES T.B.D:** After completing the shared study, each pair plans a ministry project for community engagement (*diocesan grants will be available*).
- **2025:** Each pair evaluates the program and reports back to the Diocese on successes, challenges, and plans for the future.

OUR MISSION

*Walking humbly with our neighbor,
we seek justice, act with love,
and live the Good News of Jesus.*



The goal of Beautiful Bridges is to transform the churches within the Diocese of Missouri to become agents of peace. By healing ourselves, we can help heal our communities.

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BEAUTIFUL BRIDGES

An Initiative for Sharing the Peace



COME TOGETHER



Each congregation in the Diocese of Missouri will be partnered with another congregation in the Diocese to explore differences and divides by engaging in one of three studies from The Episcopal Church.

Once you select your curriculum, invite your congregations to come together in person or on Zoom to watch videos, have discussions, and connect with each other.

We also encourage you to include fellowship events at both churches during this time. This is a time to truly get to know each other.



CHOOSE A FOCUS



Each pair of churches will choose a curriculum of formation developed by the Episcopal Church to study and learn more about building community across unique divides. This initiative will focus on three areas: Civil Discourse, Racial Reconciliation, Conversations Across Difference. Each congregation will pick from one of three curricula below:

Make Me an Instrument of Peace: A Guide to Civil Discourse

Equip yourself for more constructive political conversations using this video and discussion course.

Learn more at:

www.episcopalchurch.org/ministries/office-government-relations/civil-discourse/

Becoming Beloved Community

Explore racial reconciliation through one of the many resources provided in the Becoming Beloved Community ministry.

Learn more at:

www.episcopalchurch.org/beloved-community/

From Many, One: Conversations Across Difference

Engage in meaningful one-to-one conversations with listening and sharing across the many differences that separate us.

Learn more at:

www.episcopalchurch.org/from-many-one/

ENGAGE IN MINISTRY



After completing your study together, the paired churches will use what you've learned to identify and host a one-time project or ongoing ministry to benefit your communities.

For example, congregations might host a speaker series, work at polling sites, design an art project that connects both communities, advocate for a cause that impacts everyone, develop a ministry project that aims at healing a particular disparity or inequality. Be creative, be innovative, and build bridges!

