

Hispanic/Latinx Ministry Engagement

The current members of the Hispanic-Latinx Ministry Engagement believe God calls us to reach out and engage with our local siblings in Christ of Hispanic-Latina heritage, to befriend them, learn from them, be mutually strengthened by our diversity, and to serve one another and the world in Jesus' name.

We joyfully report that we have spent these first months:

- gathering and sharing on our diocesan webpage resources and trainings within our diocese, in the Episcopal Church, and beyond to inform and equip us to notice our biases and cultural appropriations and improve our competency ahead of specific ministry development. Aware that our diocese has relatively low Hispanic-Latinx population present, and that the current political climate is difficult for these our siblings in Christ, we are committed to continue to learn how to be a safe haven of welcoming friends.
- We produced and shared a bilingual Compline/Completas with our Companion Diocese Committee enabling us to pray together in both languages as we build relationship there.
- We produced resources for churches to use to celebrate Hispanic Heritage month including a video together with text and sound files of Five Things Churches Can Do... as a launching point to incorporate Spanish-language phrases in every Holy Eucharist celebrated in our diocese

In the coming year we hope to grow our mission membership and formalize ministry teams which will focus on information sharing on Hispanic-Latinx feast days and social events such as quinceañeras, sending visiting preachers and formation teachers to churches within the diocese, and making connections with persons at local agencies, schools, etc. for the development of needed direct service support, e.g., food, housing, language, documentation, etc. We also hope to begin to offer Spanish language support for English speakers, emphasizing the Daily Office, Holy Eucharist, and sacramental rites of the church.

To be part of making this missional dream a reality, contact The Rev. Dr. Valori Mulvey Sherer, Hispanic-Latinx Missioner and Priest in Charge at Emmanuel Episcopal Church, Webster Groves. I give hearty thanks for the current participants in Hispanic-Latinx Ministry engagement: Allyce Bullock, Rev. Barbi Click, Rev. Maria Evans, Rev. Deb Goldfeder, Michael Mancini, Sophia Mancini, Mike McGuire, Rev. Susan Naylor, Rev. Rebecca Ragland, Cynthia Rapp, Rebecca Rogers, Debbie Smith, Mary Seager, and Janet Thompson.

Valori+

The Rev. Dr. Valori Mulvey Sherer (she/her)
Priest in Charge, Emmanuel Episcopal Church
Latinx Missioner, Diocese of Missouri