

# God's Grace in Action Afternoon

## Experiential Learning Track: From the Doctrine of Discovery to #BlackLivesMatter

Date and time: Thursday, August 11, 2016 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Location: Ernest N. Morial Convention Center Room 206



As the ELCA prepares to observe the 500th anniversary of the Reformation—people of color around the globe continue to suffer 500 years of oppression and marginalization. Participants will explore how influential religious documents, such as the Doctrine of Discovery, influenced colonialism and the forced removal of the indigenous peoples in the U.S. We will examine historic immigration and naturalization trends that created a nation of white privilege. What really happened after the Emancipation Proclamation? Were black people free to pursue happiness and enjoy justice for all? Or, does today's #BlackLivesMatter confront us with a different story? What contributes to the U.S. prison population disproportionately represented by indigenous, black and brown peoples? This session will cover many of today's current headline stories about race relations in the U.S. As a church of moral discernment, how must respond?

### What to expect?

Through the use of film, activities and facilitated conversations, people of God will engage in dialogue that links the historical context of race and religion to today's current oppressive realities and marginalization of communities of color.

### Resources

Learn more about what the ELCA has said about criminal justice in the social statement "The Church and Criminal Justice: Hearing the Cries." [Criminal Justice Social Statement \(English\)](#) [Criminal Justice Social Statement \(Spanish\)](#)

Visit <http://livestream.com/elca> to view two webcasts with Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton on "Confronting Racism."

Visit the Women of the ELCA's website for a historical timeline of race relations, [womenoftheelca.org/racial-justice-advocacy--pages-225.php](http://womenoftheelca.org/racial-justice-advocacy--pages-225.php).



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YEARS OF GOD'S  
GRACE IN ACTION