

**The Southeastern Synod of the ELCA**  
in coordination with the  
**African Descent Lutheran Association**  
*Southeastern Chapter*  
is proud to share with you these

## **NINE ACTION STEPS**

for **Adults** and **Children**  
to build the **BELOVED COMMUNITY**

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**African Descent  
Lutheran Association**  
*Southeastern Chapter*



**Southeastern Synod**  
**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**  
God's work. Our hands.

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# *For Adults*

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## **Southeastern Synod Nine Action Steps for Adults to build the Beloved Community**

1. Make sure you and other adults you know both in your families, friend circles, congregations, and communities are registered to vote and then vote.
  - a. <https://www.elca.org/Our-Work/Publicly-Engaged-Church/ELCAVotes>
  - b. <https://www.vote.org/>
2. Each congregation in 2020 form a “Diversity and Justice” team to work on tangible action plans for diversity training, combating racism, bigotry, and breaking down isms that keep us from being the body of Christ where all bodies are welcomed and valued.
  - a. *Helpful Resources from the ELCA:*
    - i. <https://www.elca.org/Resources/Racial-Justice>
    - ii. <https://www.elca.org/Resources/Justice-for-Women>
    - iii. <https://www.elca.org/Resources/Ethnic-and-Multicultural-Ministries>
  - b. *Resources from Reconciling Works:*
    - i. <https://www.reconcilingworks.org/>
3. Now is the time to listen, learn, and [actively work to be anti-racist](#). The work of dismantling White Supremacy and realizing what and how White Privilege affects people cannot be the work of our black and brown siblings in Christ. This is work that white people need to do. It is also not a one-time work; it is a lifetime change. It is work that has to be a priority.
4. Talk with your children and grandchildren about race, racism, and violence: <https://www.wbur.org/onpoint/2020/06/02/teach-talk-children-racism-violence-protests-race>

5. Educate yourself to help educate others. Here are helpful books and tools to read and discuss. Don't let the reading just be reading; let it move us to action:  
<https://www.scarymommy.com/stop-asking-people-color-explain-racism/>
6. **Support the Advocacy for Hate Crime Legislation in Georgia**, this page has email addresses and brief descriptions of the officeholder's position, and any "special" instructions. If time is a factor, writing one letter and copying and pasting all the addressees would be OK.
  - a. *The Senate Judiciary Committee must vote this legislation out of committee first. So contact all of them that you are able*
  - b. [CLICK HERE FOR MORE DETAILS ON WHAT ACTION YOU CAN TAKE!](#)
  - c. Participate in **#8CantWait** by contacting your mayor to ask for the adoption of eight *use of force* policies. Data has shown these *use of force* policies reduce police violence when they are implemented together. To view these policies, go to: <https://8cantwait.org>.
7. **Visit the ADLA national website** to watch commemoration conversations with the ADLA National President and a relative and colleague of the Emanuel 9. Go to <https://www.adlaelca.org/emanuel9>.
8. **Watch the film *13th*** on Netflix or YouTube:
  - a. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=krfcq5pF8u8>
  - b. Netflix has made this film available for free for educational use. To read more, click here: <https://media.netflix.com/en/company-blog/free-educational-documentaries>
9. **There are four types of racism:** internalized, interpersonal, institutional, and structural. **Read the definitions of each type of racism and identify a specific action you will take** in the next 90 days to address each level of racism - individually and in your congregation, workplace, or community. Here is a link to the definitions:
  - a. <https://i1.wp.com/oppresionmonitor.us/wp-content/uploads/2014/01/Racism-from-RaceFoward.jpg>

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## *For Children*

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### **Southeastern Synod Nine Action Steps for Children to build the Beloved Community**

1. Use **sidewalk chalk** and draw and write messages of love, acceptance, peace in front of your home and church.
2. Parents buy and read one of the following **children's books** and then work with your children on creating their own children's book:  
<https://www.embracerace.org/resources/26-childrens-books-to-support-conversations-on-race-racism-resistance>
3. Download **coloring sheets** on diversity:  
<https://www.teacherspayteachers.com/Browse/Search:diversity%20coloring%20pages>
4. Use these resources as **tools in your home and congregation** with children and youth to engage them in this work: <https://www.ministrylinks.online/social-justice.html>
5. **Children can write in crayons or markers 9 things they want to see in America or the church** (ex. equality, kindness, love). Or they can jot down a few ideas, if not 9. Have the parents take a picture of the child holding up their paper or poster board. Take a picture of the artwork created and send the pictures to Pastor Michael Jannett, *Assistant to the Bishop for Communication and Formation* ([Mjannett@elca-ses.org](mailto:Mjannett@elca-ses.org)), to post on our synod website and Facebook page. *(PLEASE NOTE: Submitting a video or picture means that you agree to public use of these pictures on the ADLA and/or Facebook page for the Southeastern Synod.)*

6. Children can use regular paper and/or construction paper to **create handmade uplifting cards**. Then distribute these cards to shelters or organizations that are for victims of violence.
7. Children commit to **learning about 9 historic figures who are people of color**. How did they change the world and how can you?
8. Check out the **Sesame Street town hall on racism**:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1dwV6NWYxwI>
9. Diversity activities teach young children to respect and celebrate the differences in all people. Learning about different cultural aspects offers new experiences for children. It also helps them realize that we're all humans, despite differences in how we look or dress, or what we eat or celebrate. Games and activities offer a fun way for young children to learn about differences and similarities among people and to introduce the concept of diversity. All types of differences such as race, religion, language, traditions, and gender can be introduced this way. Click here to **engage in these creative activities**:  
<https://www.bpl.bc.ca/kids/embracing-diversity/more-songs-and-rhymes>

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To learn more about the **Southeastern Synod of the ELCA**, please go to:

[www.elca-ses.org](http://www.elca-ses.org)

To learn about the **Southeastern Synod of the ELCA** "*Diversity and Justice*" actions, go to:

<https://www.elca-ses.org/diversity-and-justice>

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To learn more about the African Descent Lutheran Association  
Southeastern Chapter, please go to:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/807598122729309/>

To learn more about the National African Descent Lutheran Association, please to to:

<https://www.adlaelca.org/>