



Creating Justice Ministries for Pandemic Times

It's a new world, the pandemic has changed the way we interact, and needs to change the way we deal with injustice. Vast numbers are using digital media to engage with one another, and distance learning has become the norm. Sadly injustice still pervades our society; NC has still not extended Medicaid; more restrictions on immigrants; crowded prisons spread the coronavirus; attacks on environmental protections by the EPA (isn't that paradoxical?); hate groups fostering unsafe social practices; the list is endless. But can we deal with these issues while remaining isolated? Of course, the internet age brings us together with extraordinary technology, so we are going to use it to learn.

Your pet issue is easy to identify, but do you know which advocacy approaches and processes are the most appropriate to use in these extraordinary times to create real change for the good? How would you organize your congregation to challenge the powers? **The Board of Church and Society** is pleased to offer learning experiences over three sessions

Creating Justice Ministries for Pandemic Times.

Module 1 Saturday May 23 , 10.00am – 12.00pm on ZOOM

Module 2 Saturday May 30, 10.00am – 12.00pm on ZOOM

Module 3 Saturday June 6, 10.00am – 12.00pm on ZOOM

The instructional design will be highly participative with participants doing real work around their issues and societal concerns. Participants will select the issues to be addressed. Comprehensive materials will be provided.

Participation limited to 20. No Fees/cost. Registration essential.

Once you have registered we will send you program learning materials with instructions for the first session on May 23, plus the group can decide the dates of the remaining two sessions. The dates above are not cast in stone. We will connect with registered participants via a Doodle poll to determine alternative dates.

Program Details for each workshop.

Module 1 Foundations of Christian and Wesleyan Justice

- Biblical narrative of justice and righteousness
- Wesley's impact on Justice Ministries.
- Congregational strategies for engaging in Justice ministries and **Mobilizing** a congregation by understanding your congregation demographics.
- The relationship between **Issue, Process and Relationships** as a framework for justice work.

Module 2 Foundations of Christian Advocacy

- Issue identification. Groups will select their advocacy issue focus. Practical team focus on live issues. (Health care, immigration, race relations, education, poverty, the UMC, whatever....)
- Strategies for experiencing and hearing the pain in the world. Building data and exploring resources.
- Discerning appropriate action options and using Relational Power.
- Building allies for mobilization and relationships for deployment.

Module 3 Foundations of Christian Activism

- Building and executing appropriate advocacy strategies
 - Setting goals and the Vision of the Kingdom of God
 - Action plans and execution
 - Evaluating impact.

The focus will be learning in real-time, and executing what you learn.

Register now at <https://nccumc.org/christianformation/church-society-modules/>