

The Bishops' Public Education Initiative is a project of the **Fellowship of South Carolina Bishops**. Launched by a joint pastoral letter to the People of South Carolina, the Initiative has one goal: working to ensure all children in South Carolina receive an excellent education. The Bishops call the people in their flocks to support the schools in their neighborhoods by volunteering in schools and by forming relationships with students, teachers and principals. People are also called to be involved in advocating for policies that move South Carolina closer to attaining excellent education for all our children.



ADVOCACY TRAINING AND ACTION

Three things people can do (all the time)

- **Get involved** in the public schools near you. Ask teachers and principal how you can help them.
- **Keep abreast of legislation** that impacts schools. Make yourself known to your legislators
- **Pray** for students, teachers and principals

There will be two Advocacy Training Days held at Trinity Cathedral in Columbia.

April 10 and April 26 from 10:30 a.m. until Noon

For more information please contact:

The Reverend Susan Blackburn Heath
The Fellowship of South Carolina Bishops
Coordinator of Bishops' Public Education Initiative

The Episcopal Diocese of Upper South Carolina
1115 Marion Street Columbia, SC 29201
www.bishopseducation.com
sheath@edusc.org 803-771-7800 ext. 108

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Petitions for Public Education

(Please adapt to your congregation's worship as appropriate.)

For students and their families, for teachers, staff, and administrators of schools, and for our governmental officials, that a spirit of aspiration, support, and cooperation will help our state's schools transform lives and foster the common good. . . let us pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, hear our prayer!

For churches and congregations in our state, that in response to the call of the Gospel to serve the least among us, they will be generous in addressing the needs of the poor and in changing unjust conditions that entrap people in poverty . . . Let us pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, hear our prayer!

For governmental leaders in South Carolina, that they will be inspired to work tirelessly and courageously for the uplifting of schools in this state. . . let us pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, hear our prayer!

For teachers and educators, that they may be renewed day by day in their enthusiasm for leading students into greater knowledge and understanding . . . let us pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, hear our prayer!

***Pastoral Prayer:** O God, source of all truth, lead us to uphold and foster the fullness of life that you desire for every human being. Lead us into honest understanding of the realities faced by those who struggle to educate and be educated in our state, and give us the insight and passion we need to make a difference for our schools. We ask this through Christ our Lord.*

All: Amen.

Fellowship of South Carolina Bishops

The Right Reverend Gladstone B. "Skip" Adams
Bishop of the Episcopal Church in South Carolina

The Right Reverend Samuel L. Green, Sr.,
Presiding Bishop of the AME Church, 7th Episcopal District

The Most Reverend Robert E. Guglielmone
Bishop of the Catholic Diocese of Charleston

Bishop Mildred B. Hines
Bishop of the A. M. E. Zion Church, South Atlantic Episcopal District

Bishop L. Jonathon Holston
Bishop of the South Carolina Conference of the United Methodist Church

The Right Reverend W. Andrew Waldo
Bishop of the Diocese of Upper South Carolina

Bishop James B. Walker
Bishop of the Christian Methodist Episcopal Church

The Reverend Doctor Herman R. Yoos, III
Bishop of the South Carolina Synod, ELCA

*Find out more about the South Carolina Bishop Public Education Initiative at their website.
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