

Welcome to the Bishop's Challenge :

The Rev. Jehu Jones Mission



Decorate your Quilt square- Be a part of the yearlong project

We are beginning a yearlong project to learn about Rev. Jehu Jones. We will hear about the shameful actions taken by the Lutheran Church on his behalf and the uncompensated losses experienced by our African American brothers and sisters throughout history. Our goal is to learn about the past and to help create a better future and enrich the lives of emerging leaders of African American descent.

Why are you receiving a quilt square? Quilts have always held great meaning to people. Over the centuries, they have been created for warmth, for storytelling and to celebrate many major lifetime events. In the 1800's, quilts were often sold to raise funds for various causes- support the Civil war, keep soldiers warm and fund the abolitionist movement. During times of slavery, it is believed that quilts were used as a form of communication. Some maintain they contained hidden messages amidst the beautiful patterns. In the mid 1800's, Quilts were believed to help prepare slaves for their long journey to freedom, to guide them as they traveled. The patterns often told a story and provided a map for them to follow. The colors also indicated where they might find safe havens and help from certain houses or be warned of danger and to stay away from other homes.

Each congregation that participates in this challenge and donates \$375 or more, is invited to decorate their enclosed 10" by 10" quilt square and return it to the NJ Synod office. Our goal is to raise \$50,000. We are envisioning one large quilt made from the squares decorated by all of our congregations. The funds raised will help enrich the lives and create a better future for African American emerging leaders.

Once we receive all the completed squares (by April 1, 2022), a large quilt will be assembled and presented to Bishop Bartholomew at the May 2022 Synod Assembly. The completed quilt will be proudly displayed in the Synod Office, in a place of Honor.

What can we do with this quilt square?

You may use any suitable means of decoration- from a traditional quilting pattern (many ideas can be found online) to using fabric paint, embroidery or appliques. Do not wash this square. You can use your square to reinforce the ideas of the Bishop's Challenge, to highlight your church or a meaningful Biblical passage you want to share. Again, please **DO NOT WASH THIS QUILT SQUARE.**

Please decorate this square, leaving a 1 inch margin on all four sides. We need this space to sew them all together. Please contact Carla Hoenigmann at Carlah716@cs.com if you have any questions.

What do we do with our finished square?

Once you have finished your square and determined your donation amount, please pack the square securely, enclose your check (for \$375 or more; made out to "NJ Synod" memo: Bishop's Challenge) and send it to the Synod Office. Please send to arrive by April 1, 2022.

Send to: NJ Synod, 1930 State Highway 33, Hamilton Square, NJ 08690 Attn: Bishop's Challenge

Thank you very much for your thoughtful participation and commitment to join the challenge.