



# ST. JAMES EPISCOPAL CHURCH

A CENTER FOR SPIRITUAL STUDIES, PRACTICE & COMMUNITY

## 2026 SUMMER FILM SERIES

### “VOICES THAT MATTER, VOICES THAT BELONG”

4 FILMS FOCUSING ON RACIAL TRAUMA FROM THE PERSPECTIVES OF LOCAL BLACK & INDIGENOUS PEOPLE



**Monday, June 8, 6:00 - 8:00pm | “Black in Asheville”**

This locally produced documentary brings together residents and historians to recount Asheville’s Black history from slavery until today.

*Post film discussion will be led by film producer/ director Todd Gragg, and local resident Priscilla Robinson whose life and neighborhood were uprooted by urban renewal.*



**Monday, July 13, 6:00 - 8:00pm | “A Sacred Thread”**

This PBS NC documentary follows the Snowbird Cherokee of western North Carolina as they fight to preserve their language, customs and ancestral traditions before they disappear.

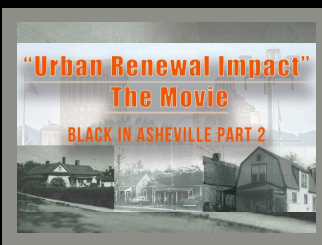
*Post film discussion will be led by Shannon Swimmer, EBCI Tribal Council member.*



**Monday, August 10, 6:00 - 8:00pm | “Racist Roots - The Death Penalty: The Bitter Fruit of North Carolina’s Racist Past”**

This powerful film by the Center for Death Penalty Litigation reveals the North Carolina death penalty’s deep entanglement with slavery, lynching, and racism.

*Post film discussion will be led by Noel Nickle, Executive Director of the NC Coalition for Alternatives to the Death Penalty, Robert Udashen, Criminal Defense Attorney and Alfred Rivera, North Carolina death row exonoree.*



**Monday, September 14, 6:00 - 8:00pm | “Urban Renewal Impact The Movie” (Black in Asheville Part 2)**

This documentary hard look at Asheville’s past through the lens of those who lived it. This film traces how city leaders, long focused on cultivating Asheville as a white-led tourism destination, excluded Black residents from their plans.

*Post film discussion will be led by film producer/ director Todd Gragg, and local resident Priscilla Robinson whose life and neighborhood were uprooted by urban renewal.*

Join us at 5:45 pm for light snacks and beverages!

BLACK MOUNTAIN, NORTH CAROLINA