



## *St. Andrew's Tidings*

*For the Week of April 24*

*Message from Margaret:*

*According to Jesus, the prime directive for us as people of God is simply this: to love one another—to love one another as Jesus loved us ... to go deep within ourselves to hear the still, small voice; to go deep within ourselves to feel the strength of those everlasting arms; to go deep within ourselves to rise to meet the challenge to love when everything else in our society tells us to strike out in fear, when everything else in our society tells us to lash out in hatred or to release anger in a violent manner.*

*“Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another.” ...Jesus*

St. Augustine once said, “Enlarge your love to the size of the world if you want to love Christ, since the members of Christ are to be found all over the world.” This is the message of Christ this week—and for all time. Jesus is leaving the disciples in OUR Gospel story—but he is going to prepare a place for them also, so that they can someday follow him. “I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. Jesus leaves his followers one command. It goes beyond loving our neighbors and protecting their concerns ahead of our own. Implicit in this command to “love one another” is the self-sacrificial reality of what Jesus himself did for them—and for us. It was a love that cost him everything.

This special kind of love that they will take with them to build up the Christian community is a direct reflection of the love flowing between the Father and the Son. The love made possible through Christ’s death comes at a great cost to God. This is the key for us, as it was for the disciples, that such love *demands all*, even as it *gives all*. Yet nothing is more crucial to our survival, our effectiveness, our ability to touch other hearts with the Gospel and bring about renewal and transformation in our world. This is the love that we all long for and strive to experience. So remember this: “Our lives are like fragile eggs. They

crack and the substance escapes. Handle with care! Handle with exceedingly tender care for there are human beings within, human beings as vulnerable as we are, who feel as we feel, who hurt as we hurt. *Be gentle with one another.* (Richard Gilbert)

Please remember how much I love you!

*Margaret +*

## **SUNDAY SCHOOL THIS SUNDAY: Peter AT 9 A.M.**

### **Prayers for Ecuador and Japan**

Presiding Bishop Michael Curry and Episcopalians from across the church called for prayer and solidarity with the Episcopal dioceses of Ecuador Litoral and Ecuador Central and the people of Ecuador who still are trying to assess the loss and damages caused by a devastating earthquake that struck the South American nation Saturday, April 16.

“Please know that your brothers and sisters throughout the Episcopal Church are praying for you. We will be with you during this time and in the days ahead. You are not alone. May the love of God embrace and strengthen you,” said Curry in an April 18 call to prayer for Ecuador.

He has also called for prayers for the people of Japan who have experienced a disastrous earthquake.



## ***EARTH DAY***

On THE 5<sup>TH</sup> Sunday of Easter, April 24<sup>th</sup>, people from diverse regions, cultures, and backgrounds will come together to celebrate our planet on Earth Day. As we reflect on the jagged magnificence of a mountain range, the holy solitude of a desert landscape, or the lush abundance of a rainforest, we rejoice in the beauty and diversity of the world we call home. In times of celebration, of prayer, or of quiet reflection, it is important to remember that we share Planet Earth with millions of other living species, and that these creatures are not simply co-habitants, but rather integral members of the community that God has created for us to reside within and to steward.

Take the honey bee, a diligent pollinator who transports crucial pollen and seeds from flower to flower, ensuring that each plant receives the fertilization that it needs to flourish. The honeybee's industriousness supports key crops that feed humankind, yet climate change, pesticides, and loss of habitat have significantly diminished the honeybee population, dually risking the future of both the bee and the human species. Far north above the Arctic Circle, the Porcupine caribou herd provides critical food, clothing, and tools for the Alaskan Native Gwich'in People, allowing the Gwich'in to practice their subsistence lifestyle and sacred traditions as they have been doing for the past 10,000 years. Unfortunately, the caribou's habitat remains vulnerable to potential resource exploration, and oil drilling would endanger the survival of both the caribou and the Gwich'in people.

The African elephant and the marine pteropod, the wandering albatross and the pygmy sloth, all creatures slithering, walking, winging, or creeping, are essential members of the sacred web of life. This Earth Day, consider how you can be a better neighbor to the creatures who inhabit our common home. Consider advocating to your members of Congress to protect the Endangered Species Act, or planting a pollinator's garden on your church's property for the honeybees. On your way home today, take the time to notice the "bright and beautiful", the "wise and the wonderful" creatures who share our planet, and consider how their lives are intricately interwoven with your own.

Learn more about biodiversity and faith through Creation Justice Ministry's

#EarthDaySunday Resource: <http://www.creationjustice.org/earth-day-sunday.html>

To learn more about The Episcopal Church's environmental advocacy efforts, join the Episcopal Public Policy Network at: <http://advocacy.episcopalchurch.org/app/register>

# PENTECOST CELEBRATION



**MAKE A FRIEND, BE A FRIEND,  
BRING A FRIEND T CHURCH SUNDAY  
MAY 15<sup>TH</sup>  
SOCIAL MEDIA SUNDAY**

**When was the last time you invited a friend to church? Last Sunday, one of our members brought 5 visitors! WOW! On May 15, Pentecost Sunday, you are asked to bring a friend to church that day. Or, invite someone who is NOT your friend! And this is the Sunday you have been waiting for! Bring your phones for Social Media Day! Yes, you read that right. Bring your phones (sound off!) and make photos, videos, etc. before, during, and after church to post on social media! Following the service we will have other opportunities for photos and videos at the pot luck lunch and **CELEBRATION OF LIFE PROGRAM****

## ***EASTER PRAYERS***

My friend in seminary Suzannah Metz has written: ***Jesus' Resurrection calls us out of the tomb also. It calls us to open our communities to all. It calls our communities to be holy—holy because we believe that in loving others we are sharing the indwelling love of God.*** This ties in so well with the fact that our Presiding Bishop, The Most Rev. Michael Curry called for a season of prayer for regions of the Anglican Communion which are experiencing violence and civil strife. “In this season of resurrection, I call on everyone to pray for our brothers and sisters in areas where there is much burden and little hope,” he said. He addressed the situation in Brussels, noting, “the truth is even as we speak this Holy Week, we do so not only in the shadow of the cross but we do so in the shadow of those who have been kicked in Brussels, of those who have been wounded and maimed, of those who weep and mourn. And of a world mourning, and not too sure how to move forward.

Consequently, quoting Galatians 6:2- “Bear one another’s burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ”-he is calling for prayer throughout the holy season of Easter. Beginning on April 3, the Second Sunday of Easter and proceeding through Pentecost on May 15, the Episcopal Church is to pray for a particular province or region: \* Burundi; \* Central America; \* Democratic Republic of the Congo; \* Middle East; \* Pakistan; \*South Sudan. For more information you can contact Elizabeth Boe, the Officer for Global networking, [eboe@eoiscopalchurch.org](mailto:eboe@eoiscopalchurch.org).

***Pick up the latest edition of “Forward Day by Day” in Byrne Hall. Large print is \$1.50 and the small ones are \$1.00. There is a collection box above the rack.***



**SEND YOUR CHILD OR GRANDCHILD TO BECKWITH  
FOR SUMMER CAMP  
SEE MARGARET FOR MORE INFORMATION  
LET'S HAVE SOMEONE FROM ST. ANDREW'S TO  
ATTEND!**

### **Supper at Grace**

We will be back to our regular date on **June 16<sup>th</sup>**. We welcome all willing hands to join us in serving dinner to those in need of food and fellowship. For more information contact Teri Floore.



## Celebration of Life Potluck

*A sower went out to sow....Some fell into good soil, and when it grew, it produced a hundredfold.*

*Luke 8:5, 8a*

Sunday, May 15th St. Andrew's Foundation is sponsoring a potluck in Byrne Hall immediately following the service. Start thinking now about that special dish you would like to prepare and share.

At the potluck there will be information and handouts about planning your final celebration of life and opportunities to remember your church in your final plans. Our goal is to inform you of possibilities that you can discuss with your family to decide what your final wishes will be. A will can be a vehicle not only to distribute assets, but also to make a statement about a person's values and priorities.

We are working hard to make this event being informative, fun and yummy. Please plan to attend.

## **Gluten Free Communion Wafers**

We now have gluten free Communion wafers. If you wish to receive them, please indicate to the clergy person distributing the bread.

## ***PUBLIC HEALTH ENEMY NUMBER 1***



While we may consider the mosquito an annoyance when we spend time outdoors, in many parts of the world the mosquito is a messenger of catastrophe carrying Malaria, Dengue Fever, Chickungunya, or Zika. Outcomes of these diseases, especially for young children and older adults range from death to long term disability.

International Malaria Day is April 25<sup>th</sup>. This Sunday, April 24<sup>th</sup>, will be the final day “Nets for Life” ingathering for Episcopal Relief and Development (ERD). So far we have purchased 75 nets for ERD distribution. For \$12 YOU can purchase a mosquito net which allows protects three people to sleep safely from mosquitoes. ERD distributes the nets and trains people to properly use them in areas threatened by mosquito borne diseases. Please help fight **PUBLIC HEALTH ENEMY NUMBER 1** by purchasing a net at the stage area display in Byrne Hall. Checks should be made payable to St. Andrew’s with Nets for Life on the memo line.



*(Names are left on the prayer list for 3 weeks, unless specified for a longer time)*

*Please keep the following in your prayers: Bob, Virginia, Mike, Warren, Mary, Ed, Irv, Jeanne, Wes, Bev, Rudy, Debra, David, Margaret, Kirsten, Tina, Phil, Logan, Skylee, Barbara, Rachel, Jeremy, John, Erika, Vicky, Becky, Hong, Mary Lou, Rachel, Gail, Ronnie, Barbara, Jenn, Cliff, Patricia, Jeffrey, Jane, Ken, Gale, Nell, Sandra, Vincent, Faye, Rick, Dawn, Elizabeth, William, Adam, Melinda, Archie, Russ, Lindsey, Hank, Helen, Kathleen, Pam, Lou, Ava, Bobbie*

*We pray for our men and women in the Armed Forces at home and abroad:  
Richard, David, Brian, Jason, Billy, Colin, Todd, Brett, Jordan, Jeremiah, Richard,*