

February 12, 2012 – Sixth Sunday After the Epiphany
Lenten Resources 2012

February 22, 2012 is Ash Wednesday, the first day of the season of Lent, which is the 40-day period before Easter Sunday. Although Lent is traditionally considered a time of fasting, self-denial, and repentance, we are also encouraged to use it as a time of prayerfulness, self-reflection, and service. To guide individuals and congregations through their Lenten journeys this year, the church is offering a variety of Episcopal and ecumenical online resources, and the Office of Communication will also be supplying discussion questions and posting the popular “Brother, Give Us a Word” by the Society of St. John the Evangelist on the Episcopal Church’s Facebook page (<http://www.facebook.com/episcopalian>).

Seeking God’s Justice for All

http://www.episcopalchurch.org/sites/default/files/downloads/dod_lent_2012.pdf

This Lenten resource is the third part of the “Exposing the Doctrine of Discovery” series by the Office for Indigenous Ministries and the Office for Lifelong Christian Formation, examining the “Doctrine of Discovery” policies in which the church sanctioned the colonizing dispossession (genocide) of the indigenous people and land of the Americas.

Lenten Education Series from the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem

<http://www.episcopalchurch.org/node/11106>

The Good Friday Offering presents this five-week program on Christianity in the Arab world. Although Christianity has its roots in the Middle East, the Diocese of Jerusalem explores the challenges of the church in that region in modern times, when Arab Christians make up only a tiny minority among the Jewish and Muslim majorities.

Episcopal Relief & Development 2012 Lenten Meditations

<http://www.er-d.org/Lent>

This year’s daily Lenten devotional from Episcopal Relief & Development emphasizes the importance of promoting health and fighting disease while preparing ourselves for healing. The daily readings are co-authored by a group of leaders from across the Episcopal Church who bring a wide range of perspectives as they reflect on Scripture.

Elder Abuse Awareness

<http://www.episcopalchurch.org/page/older-adult-ministries>

The Older Adult Ministries Task Force offers a five-week Lenten program to heighten awareness of elder abuse, and to become more aware of older adults in our communities and of ways to connect with them, and express thanks for the gifts they offer.

And It Was Good

<http://www.anglicancommunion.org/ministry/theological/bible/lent.cfm>

The Anglican Communion’s Bible in the Life of the Church program offers this five-week Lenten course for individuals and groups to engage with a Bible-wide range of scriptural passages that speak to our responsibilities in relation to the environment, and offers reflections on the roles of Anglicans in different parts of the Communion.

Ecumenical Carbon Fast

<http://www.macucc.org/pages/detail/2410>

During Lent 2012 the Episcopal Church joins an ecumenical effort to fast from carbon. Beginning on Ash Wednesday, participants will receive a daily e-mail with the day’s suggested carbon-reducing activity. Each daily e-mail will also have a section suggesting a weekly focus for your congregation.

Seven Weeks for Water: The Blue Economy

<http://www.oikoumene.org/en/activities/ewn-home/resources-and-links/seven-weeks-for-water.html>

The World Council of Churches’ Ecumenical Water Network has developed this Lenten course, which focuses on the role of water as the lifeblood of the economy; the weekly meditations are a way of raising awareness of water and justice.

Lent 4.5: Christian Simplicity

<http://www.earthandspiritcenter.org/lent45>

This seven-week program inspires and informs Christian communities on how to use the traditional Lenten disciplines of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving to protect God’s creation, embrace gospel justice, and nurture spiritual fulfillment.