## September 26, 2021 – Pentecost 18 (B) The Episcopal Church's Annual Appeal

Dear Reader,

Use your words.

In The Episcopal Church, we have long been taught to let our actions speak for our faith. As the Presiding Bishop's canon for Evangelism, Reconciliation, and Creation Care, it has been my joy to invite and equip Episcopalians to witness boldly *and* to match words with our loving deeds. Words matter now more than ever, and thanks to the work of a creative and committed team, we have invited thousands of individuals and congregations to claim the ministry for themselves.

Presiding Bishop Michael Curry is, of course, our C.E.O. – that is, the Chief Evangelism Officer. He is out front inspiring people to grow in love for God and one another. As his team, we partner with leaders across the church to spread that Jesus Movement and to help people gain confidence as they share and welcome stories of God's lively, risen presence with humility, curiosity, and hope. Through the *Way of Love* and many related resources, podcasts and video series, we help Episcopalians to take up a rule of life that leads us to practice Jesus' way in the world. Through the *Episcopal Revivals*, dozens of dioceses and communities have shared in prayer, renewal and public proclamation of God's love. Through the *Embracing Evangelism* video course, we see people gaining confidence as they share and welcome stories of God's presence and invite people to deeper relationship with God. Amid the COVID-19 pandemic, we have partnered with friends in Creation Care to introduce the *Good News Gardens*, and partnered with the Reconciliation and Justice Team to launch "*From Many, One*": *Conversations Across Difference*, an effort that brings people together for one-to-one conversations about the things that matter most. This Pentecost, we gathered a team from six dioceses to host a churchwide revival that sent Episcopalians everywhere to live their faith out loud – in song, in testimony, and in deeds.

These transformative ministries that include numerous programs, webinars, podcasts, resources, concerts, and conversations are possible because people like you supported The Episcopal Church and Bless Annual Appeal.

Please support this vital work and the work of our siblings across the church –from Creation Care to Young Adult Service Corps. Please make your gift today. You can give by calling (800) 334-7626, ext 6002, or online at *iam.ec/blessgiving*.

Your gift helps us to bring the work of seeking, naming, and celebrating our risen Lord to the world. I invite you to join us on this journey -- episcopalchurch.org.

God bless you on the journey we share,

The Rev. Canon Stephanie Spellers Canon to the Presiding Bishop for Evangelism, Reconciliation and Creation Care

