

## *From the Rector: The Price of Peace*

### **Matthew 10:34-42**

<sup>34</sup> “Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth. I have not come to bring peace, but a sword. <sup>35</sup> For I have come to set a man against his father, and a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law. <sup>36</sup> And a person's enemies will be those of his own household. <sup>37</sup> Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me, and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me. <sup>38</sup> And whoever does not take his cross and follow me is not worthy of me. <sup>39</sup> Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it.”



To say these are the “hard words” of Jesus is an understatement. Jesus’ words here seem harsh and unloving. Aren’t we commanded to honor our father and mother? Isn’t love the supreme mark of a disciple of Jesus? Scholars and theologians have all kinds of approaches to this. St. Jerome (fourth century theologian) wrote, “Each home has its unbelievers and its believers, and therefore a good war is sent [to each home] to break a bad peace...”<sup>1</sup> Christianity, when it’s presented in its unvarnished truth, has a dividing effect. Rather than the faith the way we’d prefer, it is a faith we have received at great cost of the Cross. Because it deals with life and death, those same things are behind the reactions we have to the claims of Jesus. So how is all this Good News?

I don’t know if you’ve noticed, but at least to me, it seems that it has become more difficult to be a Christian in this culture. More often than not, there is hostility in reaction to even the mention of anything other than personal preference or spirituality that makes no demand - certainly no judgments on anybody. My son, who is a working musician in NYC, was visiting between shows one weekend. We talked about what it’s like to be a Christian in an atmosphere where anything *but* Christian ethics and faith are acceptable. In an atmosphere of hostile accusations, he just listens and states his case. Actually one of

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his colleagues became a Christian by watching how much antagonism he had to endure from strangers just because he refuses to be quiet about his relationship with God. I have to admit, he has more courage than I do. Most people want nothing to do with conflict - avoid it if you can. Everybody just wants to get along. And into that foggy sentiment, Jesus drops a bomb.

<sup>34</sup> *“Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth. I have not come to bring peace, but a sword.”*

A sword divides and cuts through things. A sword is definitive, not to be ignored.

*“For the word of God is alive and powerful. It is sharper than the sharpest two-edged sword, cutting between soul and spirit, between joint and marrow. It exposes our innermost thoughts and desires.”* Hebrews 4:12

This is not a flabby “let’s just all get along” religion. It’s an experience of God that separates as much as unites.

In 1943 Sophie Schol and her brother were active in resisting Nazi Germany through a non-violent organization called the The White Rose. As a student she refused to fly under the radar of Nazi oppression and exposed the atrocities that were going on. She was arrested and convicted of treason for her anti-war publications at the University of Munich where she was a student. Sophie was executed by guillotine along with her brother and later several other students and followers. There was nothing remarkable about her except that she was a sweet young woman, a devoted Christian and one who was uncompromising about the price she would pay for the truth. She is remembered to this day as an inspiration to young people who want to live lives of Christian integrity in the culture they inhabit.

Jesus calls us to love those around us but not at the expense of making them idols we worship more than Him. God grant us courage to stand for the truth in our day and have hearts enflamed with love for God above all other things and people.

*Roln+*

<sup>1</sup>Frederick Dale Bruner. Matthew: A Commentary. Volume 1: The Christbook, Matthew 1-12 (p. 489)



## No Place Like Home



Do you have elderly parents who want to stay in their home but you are worried about their care? Are you contemplating staying in your home yourself during retirement years? This is an issue for many of us and Epiphany would like to address it. On **August 9, 9:00-11:00 AM** Epiphany will host a morning seminar on how you can plan to stay home in later years and receive care. There will be a sign up registration for this soon.

## In Appreciation...



By the time you read this article, our national church body, the Anglican Church in North America, will have a new archbishop. (for an article about our new archbishop, see page 6).

Most of the time, bishops, and certainly archbishops, seem very far away from our life here at Epiphany. That is probably as it should be. Our work as a local congregation is only occasionally concerned with the goings-on of our broader church. In fact, I would go further and say that's a blessing.

Epiphany primarily exists to worship God and make disciples where we are, not to engage in national church governance and politics.

Still, that appropriate distance doesn't mean these leaders don't matter. Far from it. In fact, I'm convinced that all of us owe the outgoing Archbishop, Robert Duncan, a debt of gratitude for the particular role he has played in giving us a national church to call home.

To understand our debt, we need to know where we are, and where we might have been without his leadership.

Where we are is simple. The Anglican Church in North America ([www.anglicanchurch.net](http://www.anglicanchurch.net)) has almost 1,000 congregations in 29 dioceses. Those congregations have more than 113,000 members in 57 states and Canadian provinces. Some of us are evangelical and protestant. Others of us are more charismatic. Still others identify most directly with the "catholic" strand of the Anglican tradition.



Bishop Duncan and Deacon Peter Frank, 2008

We have our differences and we are still learning to live together, but we are and have remained one church for five years now. We do mission together through dozens of mission sending bodies and missionary agencies ([www.agmp-na.org](http://www.agmp-na.org)). We plant churches together - more than 200 at last count - through the Anglican 1000 movement ([www.anglican1000.org](http://www.anglican1000.org)). We meet real needs around the world through the Anglican Relief and Development Fund ([www.anglicanaid.net](http://www.anglicanaid.net)). We train the next generation of leaders at Trinity seminary ([www.tsm.edu](http://www.tsm.edu)) and other schools. Our national church also does boring but absolutely necessary things, such as providing insurance and benefit programs for church employees and churches, setting ordination standards, and providing systems of church governance and discipline.

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## Alexa Reed to Be Summer Ministry Intern

Epiphany is pleased to announce that Alexa Reed, an Epiphany college student, will serve as our Summer Ministry Intern July 1 – August 15. Alexa will particularly work with our children and youth discipleship ministries.

The Summer Ministry Internship is a new program at Epiphany that is intended to accomplish two goals. First, Summer Ministry Interns support work at Epiphany during a time when we often need extra help for youth activities and events such as our summer sports camp. Secondly, Summer Ministry Interns are given an opportunity to experience work in a church setting in a way that helps them discern their future calling in the church.

“We are excited to have Alexa on board this summer and look forward to her time on Epiphany’s staff beginning July 1,” said the Rev. Peter Frank, Epiphany’s senior associate rector.



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Where we could have been but for the grace of God is also simple. Ten years ago when Archbishop Duncan was first put in a place of leadership over our movement, none of this existed. There was no Anglican Church in North America. And there is no “natural” reason any of it would have come about without his leadership and God’s gift. The truth is that the much more natural outcome would be for things to follow the second law of thermodynamics and come apart, not together. At times, given my past role as Archbishop Duncan’s communications director, I had a ringside seat to how close we came to falling apart as very human egos and conflicting visions came to the fore. Instead of being something new and hopeful for North American Anglicanism, we could have easily followed the well-worn path of division among ourselves over things other than the Gospel of Jesus Christ. I saw again and again how Archbishop Duncan, shepherded us forward together.

Thank you Archbishop Duncan. Thank you for your leadership over the last decade. As our national church enters its first leadership transition, my prayer is that we at Epiphany are grateful for what has been accomplished and pray for what comes next.

God bless,

## Can I Ask That?



“One recent survey [done by the Fuller Youth Institute] asked leaders of campus-based atheist clubs why they don’t believe in God. Their responses were revealing: Many had actually been involved in a youth ministry during their high school years. They named the church’s failure to engage difficult questions as a key reason they left. Specifically, these young people cited the church’s failure to wrestle with issues like the reliability of the biblical text, sexuality, evolution versus creation, and the exclusivity of Jesus. But notice these students did *not* say they left the faith because of the *stance their church took* on the issues above. *They left because the church failed to address them at all.* When tough questions were addressed, the answers were found to be vague and superficial.” (from the book *Can I Ask That?* By Jim Candy)

This summer the youth group boys’ and girls’ bible studies will be doing a series on some of life faith’s hard questions. We will be taking head on some of the difficult questions that we are sometimes afraid to ask or unsure of how to answer. We will look at questions such as

- Does the Bible contradict itself?
- Is Jesus really the only way to God?
- What about evolution?
- Does God endorse violence?
- ...and more.



All 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> graders are invited to participate. For more information talk with Fr. Michael.

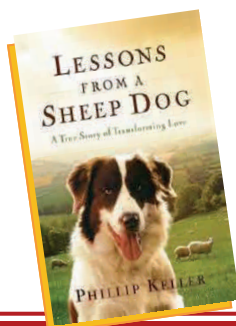
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### Quick & Easy Summer Read

#### Lessons from a Sheep Dog: A True Story of Transforming Love

By: Phillip Keller

Reviewed by Catherine Zimmerman



This book was recommended to me by a dear friend, and upon first glance, I thought it looked like a child’s book. How would I even enjoy this type of short, silly story of lessons learned from a sheep dog? How could it relate to my life? Amazingly enough, though, this book did highlight some points in my life that God wanted me to work on.

I discovered that Christ wants me to work closely alongside Him, so much so

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## The Anglican Church in North America Elects New Archbishop

LATROBE, PA (JUNE 21, 2014)—The College of Bishops of the Anglican Church in North America elected today the Rt. Rev. Dr. Foley Beach of the Diocese of the South. Bishop Foley Beach will succeed the Most Rev. Robert Duncan, the first archbishop for the Anglican Church in North America.

“The election occurred Sunday afternoon at the conclusion of the College of Bishops three-day conclave where they met in the crypt of the basilica at Saint Vincent Archabbey,” said the Rev. Andrew Gross, Communications Director for the Anglican Church in North America. The new archbishop will serve a five-year term and is eligible for re-election.

“I am delighted by this election and how the College of Bishops, after much deliberation and prayer, came to a unanimous decision,” said Archbishop Robert Duncan. “This is a happy day for the Anglican Church in North America, a happy day for the Anglican Communion, and a happy day for the Christian Church.”

Though the current archbishop is stepping down from his role as archbishop of the North American province, he will continue in his role as bishop of the Anglican Diocese of Pittsburgh.

Archbishop-elect Beach served as the Rector and Pastor of Holy Cross Anglican Church in Loganville, GA, from its founding in February 2004, until December, 2013. On October 9, 2010, he was consecrated in Atlanta, Georgia as the first Bishop of the Anglican Diocese of the South in the Anglican Church in North America.

Dr. Beach is a graduate of Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary, the School of Theology at the University of the South, and Georgia State University. He has served in ministry with Young Life, the Episcopal Church, and the Anglican Church.

His passion is to share the Word of God in such a way as to help others discover the incredible living Jesus. Married for more than 30 years, he and his wife, Allison, have two grown children and make their home in the Metro-Atlanta area.

The new archbishop will officially take office at the conclusion of the Provincial Assembly of the Anglican Church in North America which begins on Wednesday, June 25, 2014, at Saint Vincent College in Latrobe, PA, with a formal investiture to follow in the coming months.

The Anglican Church in North America is recognized as a province by the Primates of the Global Fellowship of Confessing Anglicans, which is composed of over 50 million Anglicans.

The Anglican Church in North America consists of 112,000 Anglicans in nearly 1,000 congregations across the United States, Canada, and Mexico



**The Rt. Rev. Dr. Foley Beach of the Diocese of the South is elected the new Archbishop of the Anglican Church in North America.**

### Bits 'n Pieces



Left: Deacon Dave Welch and Frank Cochran install the new altar. Right: Our new Holy Table, built by Frank to the same plan as the old one, was blessed by Bishop John Guernsey during a recent clergy luncheon at Epiphany. Church of the Epiphany's former altar will continue to serve God's people at Winchester Anglican Church. To God be the glory.



Father Robin led this stalwart team on the Epiphany Back Pack and Prayer retreat May 23-24. A time to learn to pray, be together and enjoy God's creation in a place apart.



On Sunday, June 22 [Fr. Michael] had the privilege of training five new acolytes at Epiphany. Epiphany has a fantastic core of high school and middle school acolytes who serve faithfully at the 10am service. Now some younger members of the Epiphany family are stepping into this service. Please welcome some of our young family members as they join the Acolyte team!

## Heaven, Hell and the End of the World: Summer Teaching Series Starts July 9

Will we play harps in Heaven? Is there fire in Hell? What can we say for sure about the end of the world?

Mark your calendars, the next installment of Epiphany's adult teaching series will begin Wednesday, July 9. The title for this four week course (July 9, 16, 23 and 30) that will be taught by Fr. Peter Frank is "Heaven, Hell and the End of the World." Sessions will begin at 6 pm with a simple dinner. Teaching will begin at 6:30 and conclude at 7:30pm. There will be a sign-up in the back of the church this June.

"Heaven, Hell and the End of the World are fascinating and sometimes distracting areas of our faith. I'm looking forward spending time this summer unpacking what we know (and don't know) about these things with you," said Fr. Peter.



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that I can sense His direction whether I am standing right next to Him or far across the "field." As a sheep dog follows his master through sounds and movements, so too may I respond to the Great Shepherd by being attentive and focused on Him. Acting and waiting because I trust that what He is doing in my life and through me is GOOD.

It sounds easy to do, and it's not a new concept for Christians, but I loved the mental picture that this trusting dog sets up. He answered to ONE master, which makes life's distractions easier to see. My thoughts now are about always being available to God by weighing obstacles in my life on whether they are distractions from the evil one that are meant to defray my trust and faithfulness, OR are they opportunities from God that are meant to redirect and prosper my gifts and talents.

In all, this book goes thoughtfully through seven lessons learned from the relationship between the shepherd and his sheep dog. I believe it's truly beautiful the way the author developed this short story and is spiritually sound in how we can develop a stronger relationship with Christ.

I wonder how God will speak to you, if you choose to read this book?



## Missions

We have recently celebrated Pentecost and our church is still in the season of Pentecost. This was the time during which the early church grew at a rapid rate because of the pouring out of the Holy Spirit. The Apostles were bold in their witness because of that outpouring of the Holy Spirit..

Some of the preaching at Epiphany recently has emphasized our individual calling to share our faith. Before making a request to each of you in the congregation, let me explain Missions Outreach from our church to the world around us. We have an OUTREACH committee which selects local Christian ministries to be financially supported by Epiphany. Western Fairfax Christian Ministries (WFCM) is one of them, but I will leave it to that committee to describe their work in greater detail.

The Missions Committee is a separate group which selects more distant ministries serving within the United States and in foreign countries to receive Epiphany's financial support. Our committee also helps support short-term missions trips and special requests for support for one time missions needs. We currently support 8 missionary ministries: three within the United States, and five overseas in Europe, Africa, and other locations around the world.

Also, within our congregation are individually supported missions outside of the Epiphany budget. If you know of one of these ministries, please e-mail that information to TED GREGG at [jltedg@gmail.com](mailto:jltedg@gmail.com) so we can support all our missions in prayer and future Outreach events.

Our congregation is becoming more and more outreach oriented as the Great Commission calls us to be. We on the Missions Committee see ourselves as managers of a Spiritual Investment Portfolio. We want to do the very best job we can as part of a much broader commitment to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Ted Gregg

PS: Steve and Nancy Brown, who are beneficiaries of our support, visited Epiphany on Sunday, June 22. I hope you had a chance to greet them and discuss their ministry in Niger.



Steve and Nancy Brown-Niger

### Publishing Information

The ***Epiphany STAR*** is generally published monthly and contains articles and information about what God has and is doing in us and through us as the Epiphany Family. It is intended to encourage each of us in our ministry and discipleship by relating how God is working in the midst of us.

The ***Epiphany Candle*** is published weekly by email, highlighting what is coming in the days ahead at Epiphany and other information that the staff and vestry feel is important to emphasize.

Articles and Subscription requests: [star@epiphanyanglican.net](mailto:star@epiphanyanglican.net)  
[candle@epiphanyanglican.net](mailto:candle@epiphanyanglican.net)  
[jcrawford@epiphanyanglican.net](mailto:jcrawford@epiphanyanglican.net) (for weekly bulletin)

**Deadlines:**  
**STAR: 15th of the month**  
**Bulletin: Monday, 8 AM**  
**Candle: Wednesday, 8 AM**



#### BIRTHDAYS

2	Carl Bess	17	Kelly Derrick	27	James Arpee
	Alex James		George Hamlin		Ann Westerman
6	Bethany Apelquist	18	Barbara Oliphant	29	V.J. Johnson
7	James Judkins	20	Ann Guest		Donna Lea Louis
	Carolyn Pantzer		Derek Zimmerman	30	Kenneth Vaughan
10	Carol Menzel		Justin Zimmerman		
12	Andrew Coffee	24	Joshua Bryson		
	Nicole Rhoads		Carol Williams		

#### WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

1	Gin & Bill Edmunds	17	Patricia & James Roberts
4	Sheila & Steve Mentzer	21	Susan & Richard Daugherty
9	Jane & Kelly Derrick	23	Cindia & Barry Hatfield
11	Tracy & Michael Guernsey	28	Jan & Scott Reiter
13	Betsey & Roger Kodat	30	Maria & Shervan Torabi
15	Lee & Robert Baumgartner	31	Stephenie & David Browning
	Donna Lea & Kurt Louis		



# Resources

Epiphany Staff	Email	Extension
The Rev. Robin Rauh, Rector	rrau@epiphanyanglican.net	103
The Rev. Peter Frank, Senior Associate Rector	pfrank@epiphanyanglican.net	104
The Rev. Michael Guernsey, Associate Minister For Discipleship	mguernsey@epiphanyanglican.net	106
The Rev. David Welch, Parish Deacon	dwelch@epiphanyanglican.net	703-309-0527
Jimmy Crawford, Music Director	jcrawford@epiphanyanglican.net	101
Janice Monaghan, Financial Director	jmonaghan@epiphanyanglican.net	105

<p><u>2014 Vestry</u>                  Cynthia Aungst                  Jan Coffee                  Ann Guest                  Ron Harp                  Jim Humenik                  Chris Johnson                  Dan Johnson                  Maggie Marcum                  Barbara Noble                  Merle Stromberg                  Tom Will                  Catherine Zimmerman</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Vestry Officers</u></p> <p>Senior Warden.....Tom Will                  Junior Warden ..... Merle Stromberg                  Registrar .....Maggie Marcum                  Finance Committee Chairman ..... Scott Reiter                  Treasurer ..... Tom Miller                  Assistant Treasurer..... Charlie Monroe                  Chancellor..... David Reed</p>
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**Intercessory Prayer Letter**

Requests can now be submitted by email at a secure site,  
[prayer-request@epiphanyanglican.net](mailto:prayer-request@epiphanyanglican.net)  
 or written and left in the prayer request box in the Fellowship Area.

All prayer requests are collected after the Sunday morning services and prepared for Monday morning distribution. For more information or questions, contact Faith Fisler at 703-591-6645 or email her at [mizfiz34@gmail.com](mailto:mizfiz34@gmail.com).



<http://anglicanchurch.net/>



<http://anglicandoma.org/>



13515 Dulles Technology Drive, Suite # 1  
 Herndon Virginia 20171  
 Main Number: 703.481.8601  
 Prayer Line: 703.389.7292

Visit our website at [www.epiphanyanglican.net](http://www.epiphanyanglican.net)

*TO STAND* for Jesus Christ,  
*GROW TOGETHER* as God's family and  
*MAKE HIM KNOWN* through the power of the Holy Spirit

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS**

July		
9, 16, 23, 30	6 PM	Summer Teaching Series
27	5 PM	Charged
August		
3		WINGS
4-8	9-12 AM	VBS
9	9-11 AM	"No Place Like Home"
September		
21		WINGS

***Worship Schedule***

**Sundays**

8:00 and 10:00 AM

Eucharist and Healing

At the 10 am service:

Nursery available for infants through 2 years old  
 Sunday School for children 3 years old through 5th grade

**Weekdays at 9:00 AM**

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday:

Daily Morning Prayer

Wednesdays: Holy Communion