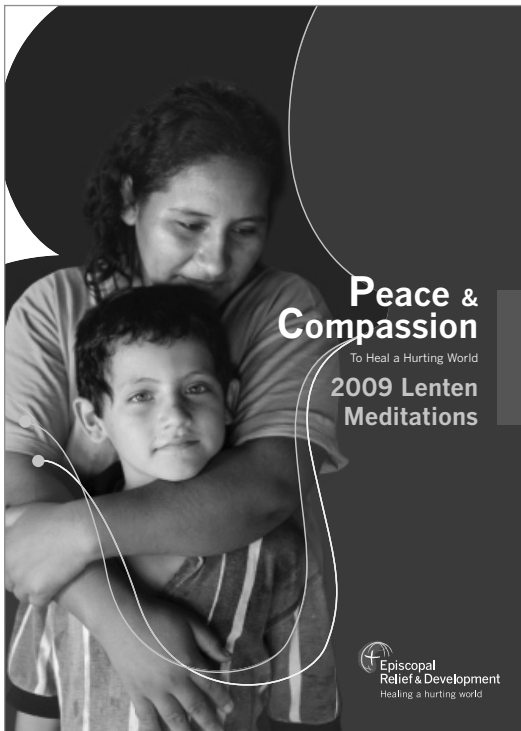


# First Sunday in Lent: Episcopal Relief & Development Sunday



## Support ERD Sunday, March 1

Last year, the Presiding Bishop Katharine Jefferts Schori declared the first Sunday in Lent to be Episcopal Relief & Development Sunday. "Episcopal Relief & Development's work is worthy of the support of all Episcopalians, and the beginning of Lent is an ideal time for us to renew our collective commitment to it," Bishops Jefferts Schori said in her declaration. "Almsgiving is one of the traditional disciplines of the season." The Presiding Bishop encourages Episcopalians in congregations across the country to engage with the Episcopal Church's ongoing commitment to fight extreme poverty and disease.

You can support Episcopal Relief & Development Sunday by participating in a loose plate offering or sending the attached form with an individual gift to support Episcopal Relief & Development's Millennium Development Goals Inspiration Fund, an initiative to fight malaria in Africa and promote health in Asia and Latin America. It is a simple way for your congregation to help achieve the Millennium Development Goals and a great way to raise awareness of this movement in the church.

## How you can respond

Episcopal Relief & Development's Lenten Devotional, *Peace & Compassion: To Heal a Hurting World* offers daily meditations based on the Rev. Barbara Cawthorne Crafton's *Almost-Daily Emos*. The booklet encourages us to reflect on our lives, our neighbors and our role in the world.

As you embark on your spiritual journey this season, Episcopal Relief & Development asks you to remember your neighbors in need. Working to achieve the Millennium Development Goals is one way to practice the Lenten discipline of almsgiving and a powerful way to renew your commitment to aid our suffering sisters and brothers.

This Lent, consider how you can help your neighbors around the world who are sick, hungry or living in poverty. Use this Lenten Devotional to reflect on your faith and the ways in which you can help Episcopal Relief & Development empower vulnerable people to be agents of their own positive change.

Help save lives and fight disease! [www.er-d.org/LentenResources/](http://www.er-d.org/LentenResources/)

# First Sunday in Lent: Episcopal Relief & Development Sunday

**During this Lenten Season, consider making a donation to the Millennium Development Goals Inspiration Fund.**

Your gift to the MDG Inspiration Fund will provide:

- Nets, training and education that stop the spread of malaria.
- Clean water, sanitation services and hygiene education that prevent illness and save lives.
- Education to prevent the transmission of HIV.
- Smokeless stoves that eliminate acute respiratory illnesses.
- Information for local health workers, who provide vital care to people in underserved and remote communities.
- Nutrition and education for pregnant women and their babies.

You can designate a gift for Episcopal Relief & Development Sunday by completing the response form below:

Your gift today supports the Millennium Development Goals Inspiration Fund, a joint initiative of Episcopal Relief & Development, Jubilee Ministries and the Executive Council of the Episcopal Church to fight malaria and other preventable diseases in Africa and Asia and to fight disease and provide basic health care in Latin America and the Caribbean.



## My Lenten Response

**Enclosed is my Lenten gift in support of the Millennium Development Goals Inspiration Fund:**

\$50  \$100  \$250  \$500  \$1,000  \$2,500  \$5,000  Other \$\_\_\_\_\_

**During this time of reflection, we can answer Christ's call to serve those who are suffering and heal a hurting world.**

**To learn more about the Millennium Development Goals Inspiration Fund visit our web site [www.er-d.org/MDGs/](http://www.er-d.org/MDGs/)**

FOR TAX-DEDUCTIBLE CREDIT CARD DONATIONS

Please charge my life saving gift to my:

VISA  MasterCard  AMEX  Discover

ACCOUNT NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_ EXPIRATION DATE \_\_\_\_\_

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

NAME ON CARD \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_

CITY, STATE, ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

NAME OF YOUR CHURCH \_\_\_\_\_

YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to:

**Episcopal Relief & Development  
Mail to: P.O. Box 7058 Merrifield,  
VA 22116-7058**

PHONE (Required for Credit Card Donations) \_\_\_\_\_

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