

July 14, 2019

# The Carpenter's Helper

*This Week...*

## July 11...

...is National Cheer Up The Lonely Day. Get some ideas on how you can participate!

## Weekly Parish Schedule

Add your group's event to the calendar: email [sthmassoffice@googlegroups.com](mailto:sthmassoffice@googlegroups.com) with your submission.

## Where in the world?

The cycle of prayer leads us to the Philippines this week. Read about the E\_CARE program

## E-CARE IN THE PHILIPPINES

The metaphorical model for Episcopal-CARE is the Sea of Galilee, which is a sea with both an inlet and an outlet and so both gives and receives water. This is contrasted with the Dead Sea, which only receives water. The Dead Sea, as one may expect from the name, does not sustain any life within its waters. The Sea of Galilee however, is a dynamic and vibrant habitat for life.

The Episcopal Community Action for Renewal and Empowerment or E-CARE Development Program is now what was formerly known as the CBDP or "Community-Based Development Program". It teaches and nurtures communities with Christian values of love and servanthood, responds to human needs by a loving service, transforms unjust structures of society and challenges violence of every kind, and strives to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the life of the earth.

Episcopal-CARE seeks to improve the quality of life for its partner communities in the Philippines, and hopes to serve as an example for other development organizations in Asia and across the world as to how to help alleviate poverty without creating dependence. The super typhoon, the strongest land-falling tropical cyclone ever recorded, devastated the central part of the country on November 8 2013, killing 6,300 persons, injuring more than 30,000 and rendering hundreds of thousands homeless.

When the media spotlight turned to other hotspots soon after Typhoon Haiyan battered South East Asia, many agencies packed up and went home. The Episcopal Church in the Philippines settled in for the long haul. In follow-up to an initial phase of emergency assistance, the ECP embarked on a journey with affected communities and Anglican Communion partners to rebuild in a sustainable, locally-rooted way: by creating givers out of receivers. Known officially as "Receivers-to-Givers" (R2G), the policy and practice are anchored in an asset-based community development approach and underpin the programs of E-CARE.

"Under this program, the Church no longer pursues a grants-giving arrangement but all fund support given to any development project are required, at some point, to be granted back and passed on by the receiving community partner, either to itself for new initiatives or to other groups or communities for similar development ventures," explains Floyd Lalwet, ECP Provincial Secretary and Director of E-CARE. As such receivers become givers, agents of transformation in their own turn, and are able to break the cycle of dependency on external aid.

Yet, when the ECP considered the Yolanda-affected region, it was faced with a dilemma: the communities' livelihoods had been almost completely wiped out and new land would need to be purchased to build more permanent and durable housing. Should an exception to the new development approach be made in this case? "We felt strongly that the Church [could] no longer go back to that situation where grant-supported projects [without any obligation to pass-on] resulted in very limited impact and, worse, oftentimes had the opposite effect of actually deepening the helplessness and dependence of economically marginalized communities," Floyd says.

Because of this, ECP decided to pursue the rehabilitation and development work solely under the new R2G approach. What happened next came as a complete shock to E-CARE workers. Participating households in the barangays (districts) of Sabang-Bao and Bayog in Ormoc City not only enthusiastically embraced the idea of R2G; they volunteered to pay back the cost of the land within six months instead of the envisioned three to five years. "What the staff had later come to realise was that many of the participating households were tenants who [had] never owned a piece of real property in all their lives and this project offered them ... a golden opportunity to own land for the first time," Floyd recalls.

Nanay Helen Tagalog was one such prospective new homeowner. Stepping in for her husband who had to continue his job as a farm laborer, Nanay toiled three days a week - carrying 40-kg loads of cement, gravel, sand, steel, wood and other construction materials 500 meters from the road to the project site - to fulfill the work requirement of each partner family. She worked a further three days a week for families who couldn't send someone for their labor allotment. "All these sacrifices are nothing compared to the blessing my family has received," she says tearfully. Another proud householder, a woman aged 67, said: "We are happy and we feel strong. We have built these houses ourselves." In the end, the cost of the land was paid back in full even before a single unit was turned over to the families involved.

\*for more on this story and information on the E\_CARE program, please visit [episcopal-care.org](http://episcopal-care.org)



## NATIONAL CHEER UP THE LONELY DAY

Each year on July 11, people across the United States are trying to make someone happy on National Cheer Up The Lonely Day.

If you know someone who is lonely or going through a difficult time, make an effort to be a bright spot in their life. Whether their loneliness is due to health issues, financial reasons, grief due to loss or personal reasons, isolation can be overwhelming. Use this day as a reminder to contact those people in your life who need a little extra love and attention. Your small act of kindness can make a big difference to them. One word or special consideration may brighten their world at just the right moment.

The day was started by Francis Pesek in Detroit, Mich. He decided to create the day after witnessing the loneliness of people in nursing homes. He was a kind man with a heart of gold. Pesek chose July 11 because it was his birthday.

So how do you cheer someone up? First of all, ask yourself, "What cheers up my day?" Everyone has different preferences but, generally, it doesn't take a lot to make your day better. Oftentimes, lonely people lack human interaction and contact, so a cheerful presence can be just enough.

Our Pastoral Care Ministry has many opportunities to make a difference for someone, long or short term: meals, rides, notes and cards, and more. To learn more about our Pastoral Care Ministry, please reach out to any of our Vestry or our ministry leader Donna Weaver: [dweaver214@gmail.com](mailto:dweaver214@gmail.com) 302.753.1910

# PARISH CALENDAR

Sunday, July 14

8:00am (N) Holy Eucharist Rite I  
 10:30am (U) Nursery  
 10:30am (GH) Children's Worship  
 10:30am (N) Holy Eucharist Rite II  
 11:45am (GH) Coffee and Fellowship  
 6:00pm (GH) UD Ballroom Dance

Monday, July 15

6:00am (C) Sunrise Serenity AA  
 6:00pm (N) Coalition to Dismantle the New Jim Crow  
 7:30pm (GH) Scottish Dance

Tuesday, July 16

6:00am (C) Sunrise Serenity AA  
 5:00pm (CO) AIDS Delaware  
 6:00pm (GH) UD Ballroom Dance  
 7:00 pm (P) Finance Committee meeting  
 8:00pm (U) KIS AA meeting

Wednesday, July 17

6:00am (C) Sunrise Serenity AA  
 10:30 (C) Bible Study Group  
 4:00pm (C) Blue Hen Bounty  
 5:30pm (P) Centering Prayer  
 8:00 (GH) South College Speakers AA

Thursday, July 18

6:00am (C) Sunrise Serenity AA

Friday, July 19

6:00am (C) Sunrise Serenity AA  
 12:00pm (C) Al-Anon  
 6:30pm (P) Women's AA

Saturday, July 20

-available-

Sunday, July 21

8:00am (N) Holy Eucharist Rite I  
 9:15am (P) Adult Education  
 10:30am (U) Nursery  
 10:30am (GH) Children's Worship  
 10:30am (N) Holy Eucharist Rite II  
 11:45am (GH) Coffee and Fellowship  
 6:00pm (GH) UD Ballroom Dance

location key:

|                 |                      |
|-----------------|----------------------|
| (C) Classroom   | (MR) Music Room      |
| (GH) Great Hall | (U) Undercroft       |
| (N) Nave        | (DO) Deacon's Office |
| (P) Parlor      | (RO) Rector's Office |