



EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN CONNECTICUT  
PARTICIPATING IN GOD'S MISSION

## Let's Get Missional: Reorganizing ECCT and Why it Matters

### **Week 4: Preaching Ideas through the Day of Pentecost**

In our three previous "sends" we reviewed the changes taking place in ECCT: Regions, Region Missionaries, Ministry Networks, and the Mission Council. We also reviewed the upcoming Region Convocations that will help us in this transition and next week we will focus on the planned Ministry Network Convocation.

All these changes are designed to enhance our common life and support our participation in God's mission. As we said in the first of these letters, we are reorganizing "so that each of us can be formed more fully to follow Jesus as his disciples and so that each of us can go out into the world more fully as his apostles."

[Link here to the web pages](#) that have the three previous sends along with FAQs, Convocation dates, and other helpful resources.

Be sure to share all this information with your parishioners, in your lay leader and clergy groups, and in all other ways and encourage everyone to participate. Everyone's voice is important, and surely we don't want anyone left out.

### **Themes for Preaching (or for Forums)**

How might preachers bring in aspects of this reorganization as the weeks roll out? Here are some themes that emerge in Easter Season, through the Day of Pentecost, with ideas about how they may be illustrated by what's going on now in ECCT as we reorganize ourselves in order to better serve God's mission.

These ideas might also inform an adult education series or forum (starting with 3 Easter):

3 Easter, April 10: (John 21) Jesus cooks breakfast on the beach for his disciples and enables them to find an abundance of fish: equipping the faithful to be stronger disciples and bolder apostles. Learning to love more deeply—with all its challenges (Peter, do you love me?)

4 Easter, April 17: (Psalm 23 & John 10) Following our Shepherd: growing as disciples and following his voice. The importance of trust, even when things are hard to see.

5 Easter, April 24: (Acts 11) Opening minds to a new thing that's unlike what we have known before—even threatening or very difficult. (Rev 21) See, I am making all things new! (John 13) Love one another: work together for the sake of Christ, in the power of the Holy Spirit: break old boundaries and barriers.



6 Easter, May 1: (Acts 16) Lydia, hospitality and breaking through former barriers and resistance. (John 14) The Advocate, the Holy Spirit, will teach you, lead you, and help you to grow.

7 Easter, May 8: (Acts 16) Astonishing witness on the part of Paul and Silas after the earthquake helps others turn and see the power of God. (John 17) Jesus' desire that we be One—together—breaking old resistances and competitions. Jesus makes God known for us.

Pentecost, May 15: (Genesis 11) We, formerly scattered, are called to come together anew in love and cooperative work to reach out and serve the neighborhood. (Acts 2) The Holy Spirit pushes us outside of our former comfort zones and into the neighborhood on God's mission. This may involve profound rethinking and reorganization of our common life to work together more effectively, to share, to grow. We may discover new skills we never knew we had—new things given by the Spirit for the greater good.

### A Prayer for Our Work

May God continue to bless our efforts to engage God's mission in groups and as individuals. May God continue to work through ECCT and shower us with joys and challenges, and the grace we need to meet them.

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More info is at [www.episcopalct.org/t3/](http://www.episcopalct.org/t3/)

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