

Press Release: 2020 Saint Stephen's Spring Lecture, Faith leader Workshop, and Contemplative Outreach Retreat all featuring the Rt. Rev. Marc Andrus.

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Date: April 2 – 4, 2020



Saint Stephen's Episcopal Church in partnership with Contemplative Outreach Birmingham is excited to announce the Saint Stephen's spring lecture with the Rt. Rev. Marc Handley Andrus, 8th Bishop of California, a workshop for Faith Leaders, and a Contemplative Outreach Retreat. On Thursday, April 2, Saint Stephen's will host a lecture where Bishop Andrus will be addressing the question, "Why is the climate and environmental crisis a spiritual crisis? And Why is the Episcopal Church a good place to help meet the climate and environmental crisis?" On Friday, with the Diocesan Task Force for Stewardship of Creation a workshop will be hosted for ministry leaders: "Leading Faithful Conversations about the Climate Crisis. On Saturday, Contemplative Outreach Birmingham will host a Centering Prayer Retreat with Bishop Andrus.

Andrus has led The Episcopal Church's annual delegation to the U.N. Climate Change Summit and has led the Episcopal denomination in joining, "We are Still In," an ongoing commitment to the Paris Agreement. Bishop Andrus also serves as co-chair of The Episcopal Church's Advisory Council on Stewardship of Creation. He has attended UN Climate Conferences in Paris, Marrakesh, Bonn, and Katowice, Poland. Andrus is one of the most prophetic and important voices for Christianity and the Episcopal Church in understanding our connection to creation in light of the environmental and climate crisis.

Prior to being elected as Bishop of California, Andrus served as the Bishop Suffragan for the Episcopal Diocese of Alabama. He is married to Sheila Andrus, Ph.D., former director of the Sparkman Center at the University of Alabama at Birmingham's School of Public Health.

The Lecture is free and open to the public. The Friday lunch and Saturday workshop require registration. To register for the Friday lunch, [click here](#). To register for the Saturday workshop, [click here](#). All events will take place in the Parish Hall of Saint Stephen's.

Thursday Night – April 2

7:00pm – 8:00pm “Why is the climate and environmental crisis a spiritual crisis? And Why is the Episcopal Church a good place to help meet the climate and environmental crisis?”

Friday – April 3

12:00pm – 1:30pm Leading Faithful Conversations Around the Climate Crisis for ministry leaders hosted by the Episcopal Diocese of Alabama's Task Force for Stewardship of Creation. - \$15 – Includes Lunch. [Click here for tickets](#).

Saturday – April 4

9:00am – 2:00pm A Centering Prayer retreat with Marc Andrus. [To Register for Contemplative Outreach Birmingham's retreat by clicking here](#). The cost is \$40 and includes lunch. Registration begins. At 8:30am.

The 2020 Fall Lecture will feature Spiritual Director and author Westina Matthews on September 24.

Saint Stephen's is committed to recognizing the sacredness of all of creation. Our care and nurture of the environment is a critical way we live out our faith in Jesus Christ. In addition to lectures and formation opportunities, Saint Stephen's has an ambitious program to remove invasive species from the grounds, an apiary, a partnership with a local farm, a plan to reduce and offsite carbon consumption and energy costs, and monthly Holy Hike.