Dear friends and fellow missionaries,

The last Sunday in Epiphany is World Mission Sunday. For the last 14 years this has been a day for the Episcopal Church to come together to “hold up and celebrate our shared commitment and call to mission.” This year, World Mission Sunday will be celebrated on March 6th.

Each year we focus on a different aspect of mission in the Church. This year we celebrate the missionaries of the Episcopal Church and their ministries around the world. Our theme, taken from the Gospel lesson for the day, is “Lord, it is good that we are here.”

There are over 60 missionaries from dioceses across the Episcopal Church who serve as teachers, medical professionals, clergy, and in other important capacities in 25 countries around the world. They are recent college graduates and established professionals who have answered God’s call to go and be in the midst of their brothers and sisters in another part of God’s world. They form relationships that strengthen the personal connections within the Anglican Communion and the larger Body of Christ in the world. We are thankful for their presence and witness.

I invite you to visit the World Mission Sunday web page and spend some time learning about the missionaries of the Episcopal Church. Many of them have blogs and regularly post pictures and stories about their work. If your diocese supports a missionary, please pray for him or her on World Mission Sunday – and every day – and consider sending an e-mail to say “hello” and thank them for their presence.

The Episcopal Church’s official name is The Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society of the Episcopal Church. All members of the Episcopal Church are also members of the Society and, therefore, we are all missionaries. Some of us, like the missionaries you’ll read about on the World Mission Sunday page, are called to serve in different parts of the world. Some of us are called to serve God slightly closer to home.

Whether “here” is halfway around the world or halfway down the block, it is good that we are here together to serve God and our neighbors. May you have a blessed World Mission Sunday.

In Christ,

The Reverend David Copley
Mission Personnel Officer