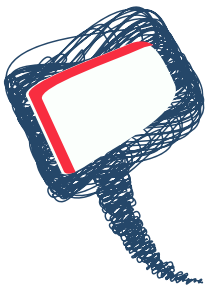




SPEAKING OF FAITH

*Conversations about community,
belonging, and following Jesus*





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the EPISCOPAL DIOCESE *of*
UPPER SOUTH CAROLINA

Speaking of Faith is designed to help Christians...

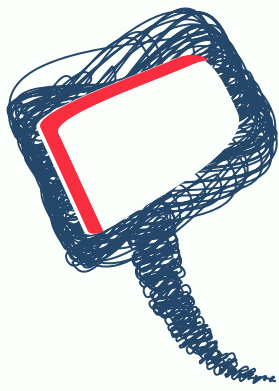
Grow in relationship with one another

Learn to listen deeply to others

Practice sharing their own stories of faith

Steps to hosting a Speaking of Faith series:

- Begin with prayer
- Read and study the assigned Scripture passage
- Listen to a story of faith. As someone to prepare a 5-10 minute response to that week's question(s)
- In small groups, reflect together on the story you just heard and share briefly any personal responses to the question(s)
- Come back together as a full group and share any insights or new learnings gained during this time



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FEAST -- *Luke 5:27-32*

Share a story of a great meal you've enjoyed.

Who was there? Why is it memorable?



WELCOME -- *Luke 7:36-39*

Share a story of a time you felt truly welcomed.

Who welcomed you? What made it feel like home?



SURPRISE -- *Luke 9:12-17*

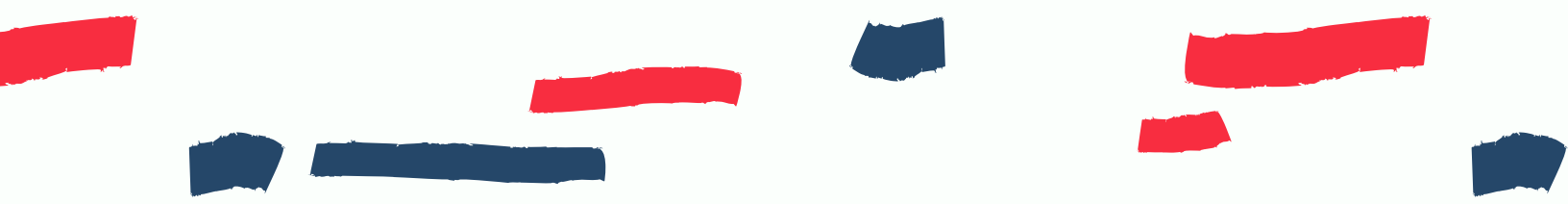
Share a story of a time you've been surprised or amazed by God. What made it memorable? Who have you shared it with?



BELIEVE -- *Luke 24:13-35*

Share **your own** story of faith.

Who introduced you to Jesus? Why do you follow him?



FEAST LUKE 5:27-32

PRAY

Be present, be present, O Jesus, our great High Priest, as you were present with your disciples, and be known to us in the breaking of bread; who live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. Amen.

- *Before Receiving Communion; Book of Common Prayer, p 834*

STUDY

Read the passage, listening for where God is speaking to you today. Do you identify with a particular character?

LISTEN

Write down words or images that resonate with you from the story you're hearing. Do you recognize yourself in the story?

REFLECT

Share at your table about great meals you've had. Was there anything in the speaker's story that stood out to you?



WELCOME LUKE 7:36-39

PRAY

O God, you made us in your own image and redeemed us through Jesus your Son: Look with compassion on the whole human family; take away the arrogance and hatred which infect our hearts; break down the walls that separate us; unite us in bonds of love; and work through our struggle and confusion to accomplish your purposes on earth; that, in your good time, all nations and races may serve you in harmony around your heavenly throne; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

- *For the Human Family; Book of Common Prayer, p 815*

STUDY

Read the passage, listening for where God is speaking to you today. Do you identify with a particular character?

LISTEN

Write down words or images that resonate with you from the story you're hearing. Do you recognize yourself in the story?

REFLECT

Share at your table about a time you've felt truly welcomed
Was there anything in the speaker's story that stood out to you?



SURPRISE ! LUKE 9:12-17

PRAY

Accept, O Lord, our thanks and praise for all that you have done for us. We thank you for the splendor of the whole creation, for the beauty of this world, for the wonder of life, and for the mystery of love. Amen.

- *From A General Thanksgiving; Book of Common Prayer, p 836*

STUDY

Read the passage, listening for where God is speaking to you today. Do you identify with a particular character?

LISTEN

Write down words or images that resonate with you from the story you're hearing. Do you recognize yourself in the story?

REFLECT

Share at your table about a time you've been surprised/amazed by God. Was there anything in the speaker's story that stood out to you?



BELIEVE + LUKE 24:13-35

PRAY

Lord Jesus Christ, you stretched out your arms of love on the hard wood of the cross that everyone might come within the reach of your saving embrace: So clothe us in your Spirit that we, reaching forth our hands in love, may bring those who do not know you to the knowledge and love of you; for the honor of your Name. Amen.

- *A Prayer for Mission; Book of Common Prayer, p 101*

STUDY

Read the passage, listening for where God is speaking to you today. Do you identify with a particular character?

LISTEN

Write down words or images that resonate with you from the story you're hearing. Do you recognize yourself in the story?

REFLECT

Was there anything in the speaker's story that stood out to you? Share your story of faith.





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