CAN YOU CARRY AN ELEPHANT?

Albertus Magnus College
November 13, 2013
Mary Ellen McLaughlin
Class of 1967
Albert the Great: 1206 - 1280

- Student at the University of Padua
- Entered the Dominican Order
- Completed studies in Cologne, Germany
- Taught at various universities in Europe
- Made Bishop of Regensburg
- Attended Council of Lyons
- Declared saint and doctor of the Church
- Declared patron of natural sciences
- Feast on November 15th
Learning from diverse sources
Building bridges, not walls.

Seeking common ground.

Working for the common good.
It is only by uniting together that ants can carry an elephant!
Buzz with your neighbor:

• What are the elephants in the room today: in our lives, in society?
• What lessons does Albert the Great have for us?
Lessons from the weaver bird: creative conflict management
Confligere – to strike together
Ways of handling conflict:

- Fight
- Flight
- Flow
Fight - Rhino
Flight: Impala
Flow: weaver birds outwit their enemies instead of attacking them.
Dialog – Seeking understanding
The woman at the well
Wisdom from Bishop Tutu:

“If more of us could serve as centers of love and oases of peace, we might just be able to turn around a great deal of the conflict, the hatred, the jealousies, and the violence.... Let us be quicker to praise than to find fault. Let us be quicker to thank others than to complain. Let us be gentle with each other.”
Buzz with those near you:

• What can you learn from the weaver bird?

• How do you usually handle conflict – fight, flight, flow?

• Have you had a recent conversation with someone with whom you differed? How did it go? What did you learn?
The Buffalo – Responsible Leadership
Role models: Jesus, Pope Francis, Bishop Tutu, Nelson Mandela, Titus, Albert the Great, Mary Ellen, etc.
Buzz with those near you:

- What lesson does the buffalo have for you?
- Who are your role models?
The Dung Beetle - Perseverance
CHIPINDIKURE
The One Who Turns Things Upside Down
PEOPLE OF HOPE
Let us be people of hope!

“God is transfiguring the world right this moment through us because God believes in us and because God loves us.... And as we share God’s love with our brothers and sisters, there is no tyrant that can resist us, no oppression that cannot be ended, no hunger that cannot be fed, no wound that cannot be healed, not hatred that cannot be turned to love, no dream that cannot be fulfilled.”