

THE CHURCH OF THE EPIPHANY

THE STAR

February 2014

THE VIEW FROM MY



WHO WE ARE:

The Church of the Epiphany is one of 181 parishes of the Episcopal Diocese of Virginia, which is one of 110 dioceses in The Episcopal Church (USA), one of 44 member churches in the worldwide Anglican Communion.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Vestry Highlights	2
Senior Warden	
Calendar	3
Opportunity to Serve	4
Sr. Youth Group news	5
Save the Date	
Coffee Hour	6
Birthday Celebration	
Closer Look at...	7
Outreach	
Adult Education	8
Worship Leaders	9
Fellowship	10
Days of Blessing	11
Prayers	
Outreach Thanks	12
Just the Facts	13

There is a prayer attributed to Archbishop Oscar Romero, the martyred prelate of El Salvador. It was at the heart of the retreat that the Vestry, Finance Committee and I shared on February 1st. It is an apt prayer for the church: everything we do is not just for this time and place, but for the long haul. God's time, not necessarily our time. Think about it. Pray it. See how this prayer changes you:

It helps, now and then, to step back and take a long view. The kingdom is not only beyond our efforts, it is even beyond our vision. We accomplish in our lifetime only a tiny fraction of the magnificent enterprise that is God's work. Nothing we do is complete, which is a way of saying that the Kingdom always lies beyond us. No statement says all that could be said. No prayer fully expresses our faith. No confession brings perfection. No pastoral visit brings wholeness. No program accomplishes the Church's mission. No set of goals and objectives includes everything.

This is what we are about. We plant the seeds that one day will grow. We water seeds already planted, knowing that they hold future promise. We lay foundations that will need further development. We provide yeast that produces far beyond our capabilities. We cannot do everything, and there is a sense of liberation in realizing that.

This enables us to do something, and to do it very well. It may be incomplete, but it is a beginning, a step along the way, an opportunity for the Lord's grace to enter and do the rest. We may never see the end results, but that is the difference between the master builder and the worker. We are workers, not master builders; ministers, not messiahs.

We are prophets of a future not our own. Amen.

This doesn't mean we throw up our hands and say "I can't get anything done." It simply means our doing, plus the doing of others who will follow, will eventually bring the reign of God to this place. You are part of the work. Do it with joy. See what happens in the short term and pray for what will happen in the long term.

Peace

Mary+

No January Vestry Highlights this month.

The Vestry will be meeting for their annual retreat on Saturday, February 1st. Watch this space for outcomes from the retreat next month!

Senior Warden Report

No vestry meeting was held in January as the annual vestry retreat is scheduled for February 1st. Pray for the vestry as we hold our retreat and that we will choose wise council for the coming year.

Great things continue to be happening at Epiphany. On January 5th we welcomed Bishop Ted Gulick to our 10:30 service where he baptized, confirmed and received eleven of our parishioners including one from St. Giles Gate. A wonderful reception followed and the Bishop spent time with us after the service.

On January 10th we had the annual *Birthday Celebration* covered dish supper. As usual there were many delicious dishes to choose from and lots of fun time spent at our birthday tables and then mingling with friends and family after dinner. It was great to see so many of our young parishioners at the dinner, their energy is contagious and all had a good time.

Those of you that know me well know I am not a patient person. This has always been one of the biblical virtues that I have struggled with, but it seems to get worse as I age. I start each year with great hopes that this is the year I will become a more patient person. Then I discover that God has a wicked sense of humor, because it seems like at the same time He is sitting up in heaven (most likely with my grandparents who know me so well) saying, "Ok let's see how she will handle this one". There are daily tests like traffic in my way, hitting every light on Parham on the red cycle, lines at the store...you get my drift. Then there are those unexpected times that test us more than we thought possible. Shortly after Thanksgiving my Mom was diagnosed with Endometrial Cancer and had to have surgery in mid-December. This was the first surgery my Mom has had since my brother was born in 1961 so you can imagine her fear at not only the diagnosis but the pending surgery. In the weeks between her diagnose and surgery I had to attend a gift show in Myrtle Beach so we made it a family trip that included my brother and spent a wonderful five days on a mini vacation. My parents are in their 80s and I know how blessed I am that they are not only still with me but that they are pretty healthy, so this diagnoses made all of us appreciate the time together a little more. For once we spent time doing fun things and had no arguments or issues. But the test of my patience in all this was the day of the surgery. The time we spent in the waiting area at St. Mary's seemed endless and the time from the call saying Mom was going into recovery until we were told she was in her room was interminable. Of course all the worst case scenarios went through my head and I kept up a steady prayer of thanking God that the surgery was over and asking that no complications had arisen in recovery. The final outcome was that the doctor was able to get all of the cancer during the surgery, Mom was released the next day and is doing great, but I was once again reminded to be patient and trust in the Lord. He is so patient with me and I owe Him the same, so maybe this will be the year I become more patience. In any case I will continue to pray every day for patience. God is good and I am constantly reminded of his goodness every day.

Blessing,

Ann Henderson

February Parish Calendar

February 2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																											
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Telephone Support Volunteers Needed!

A Grace Place Adult Care Center—is looking for volunteers who would be interested in being a Telephone Support person for our Caregivers. This volunteer job can be done in the privacy of your home and will only take a little as 10 minutes to an hour per week, depending on how 'chatty' your caregiver might be. The job entails calling the caregiver every week or every other week, to allow them to connect with someone about the difficulties of being a 24/7 caregiver. The Telephone Support person would then write a few lines to report back to A Grace Place (AGP) staff, Debbie Scott or Joan Russell about their interaction. If there are needs that the caregivers might have, i.e. needing food, help with dental care, etc. the AGP staff would follow up on their needs. Your job is to be a listening ear and a friend.

If you would be interested in being a Telephone Support Volunteer, please contact Debbie Scott at 804 261-0205. Training is provided so that you will be comfortable and equipped to contact our caregivers.

BOOK CLUB

Our Monday Morning Book Club will resume on Monday, February 3rd, at 11 am. Our book is "Pastrix: The Cranky Beautiful Faith of a Sinner and Saint" by Nadia Bolz-Weber. All are welcome to join us in the Parlor!

COPIES OF MARY'S+ SERMONS ARE ALWAYS AVAILABLE...

...ON THE TABLE IN THE NARTHEX.

SR. HIGH YOUTH GROUP NEWS

The Sr. High Youth have begun the new year with a bright new beginning. With Greg Wood now on board we will begin on Sunday night, January 26th having a weekly get together/ meeting. We will meet at 7:00 at the church unless we have another planned weekend event.

*Some of our upcoming events will be our **last** Book 'N Bake sale on either Sunday, March 2nd or March 9th. After this we will be donating our books to various charities around the metro Richmond area. We appreciate all the support you have shown during the past three years when we started this venture but we feel it is time to move onto something new.*

We will be doing our Spring Break trip to Claytor Lake State Park Sunday, April 13th to Wednesday, April 16th. Please let Diana know if you are interested and check the youth group facebook page for more information. Cost this year will be \$75.00 to cover lodging, food and transportation and of course a fun activity or two.

Anyone in high school or over the age of 15 is welcome to join us for any of our events.



TWO DATES TO PUT ON YOUR CALENDAR!

Epiphany Big Night Out:

Pre-Valentine warm-up serving an Italian themed meal, live music and some surprises!

Saturday, February 8, 2014

@ 6:00 PM

Sponsored by Chapter 11 Men's Group

Call the office, 266-2503 to sign-up.

Women's Retreat:

Friday evening, February 28th and Saturday, March 1st

@ Shalom House in Montpelier

Cost is \$89.00 per person dbl occupancy

Let Mary+ know ASAP if you are interested in joining us!

Coffee Hour

Would you consider providing refreshments for a Sunday real soon? This ministry is truly a labor of love. We have been missing "a few good men and women" to deliver the goodies for the short time together after worship.

Items from the grocer shelves (chips, dip, cookies, etc.) are most acceptable and welcome. Coffee supplies and lemonade ingredients are always available in the kitchen.

Our hostess, Joyce Whitlock, and her committee fill in on Sundays when no one has reserved. This has been prevalent lately and we need volunteers. Come along and help us continue this great tradition. You can sign up on the board outside kitchen. Thank You.

Men's Bible Study

Men's Bible Class will meet with Mary+ on the 1st & 3rd Tuesday, February 4th & 18th. Bring a bag lunch and convene in the parish hall at noon.

St. Giles Gate Program

**Will meet on Saturday, February 8th & Saturday, February 22nd
@ 10:00 AM in the parish hall.**

Sit N Stitch Gathering!

Want to learn how to crochet, knit, cross stitch, sew on buttons, etc.
(or share your talents, like tatting, knitting, etc.)?

Join us on the 4th Tuesday,
February 25th @ 7:00 PM in the parlor.

For more information call Joyce Whitlock, 262-3594 or call the
church office, 266-2503

A Closer Look At...OUTREACH

OUTREACH LUNCHEES – 2014

This is our 16th year of providing lunches for area shelters the first Saturday of each month. We also provide lunches on the 5th -Sat. in March. All items needed will be provided ahead of meeting at 8:30 am. in the Parish Hall to prepare the lunches, then **someone on the team delivers them before 11am**. Volunteers are divided into teams, with at least one person being the 'driver'...to deliver the lunches to the 3 shelters. The teams rotate on an equal basis. We now have 5 teams, 3 which serve 3 assigned months, the other two only twice this year. **Please consider donating an hour several times a year for this on-going mission.** Contact Tillie Freeze if you want to join in this ministry at 672-3211, or msfreeze2@verizon.net . The following are the established teams:

Red Team (5 including driver) – Cory Iseman (team leader –387-5361), Shirley Hughson, Melba Shumaker, Betty Fore, and Diana Stone.

Yellow Team (6 including driver) – Jean Riddick (team leader – 264-0935), Paul and Debbie Jones, Nancy Sonne, Patty White and Lib Ransom

Green Team (5 including driver) – Gray Corbett (team leader – 346-8910)

Frosine Corbett, BJ Giannini, Mary Sam Abernathy and Susan Higgins

Vestry Team (need 5/6 & at least 1 driver) Contact either the Jr. or Sr. Warden if you can/cannot be present to help!

Chapter 4 (need 5/6 & atleast 1 driver) – Tillie Freeze (team leader – 672-3211). Please contact if you can/cannot be present to help!

Outreach feeding program Schedule for 2014:

January 4 - Chapter 4

July 5 – Yellow Team

Feb. 1 - Red Team

Aug. 2 – Green Team

Mar. 1 –Yellow Team

Sept. 6 – Vestry Team

Mar. 29 – Green Team

Oct. 4 - Chapter 4

Apr. 5 – Vestry Team

Nov. 1 – Red Team

May 3 – Chapter 4

Dec. 6 – Yellow Team

June 7 - Red Team

If you are not able to assist on your assigned Saturday, please let your team leader know, but attempt to get a replacement for yourself ...especially if you are the 'driver'! Worst case scenario, call Tillie Freeze (672-3211).

Adult Forum for February

FEBRUARY 2 AND 9: THE WISDOM JESUS

Deacon Harrison Higgins continues our conversation about Jesus as a teacher of wisdom. If you put aside what you think you know about Jesus and approach the Gospels as though for the first time, something remarkable happens: Jesus emerges as a teacher of the transformation of consciousness. Harrison bases this session, and ones to follow, on the book of the same name by Cynthia Bourgeault, who helps us to re-explore Jesus's vision. See Jesus as a teacher of the traditional contemplative practices you can use to experience the heart of his teachings for yourself.

FEBRUARY 16:

DIOCESAN COUNCIL DEBRIEF

Wonder what happened at Diocesan Council? Wonder what Diocesan Council is? Join Mary+, Herb Williams (Epiphany's lay delegate), and Sara Lassiter (Region XI Youth Delegate) for a discussion of what they heard, saw, and felt at this year's diocesan council.

FEBRUARY 23:

EMBRACING THE PROPHETS

The first in a six-week series developed by Dr. Walter Brueggemann, Old Testament scholar, on the poetic prophecy of the Hebrew Bible and what it means to us today. This will be a fascinating and occasionally challenging ride through the history of God's people through the Prophets. The first session will address Moses, Pharaoh, the Prophets and us. If you've wondered about the relevance of the Old Testament, this course will change your mind.

**Grab a cup of coffee in the kitchen, then join us in the parlor
each Sunday at 9:30 am.**

Worship Leaders for February

10:30 Ushers: Scott Blackwell, Milton Jenkins, Paul Jones, Brian White

Counters: Wayne & Lucy Whitlock

February 2 — Epiphany 4	
Altar Guild:	Jean Riddick, Charlotte Lovelace
8:15—Holy Eucharist	
Usher:	Chris Tignor
Reader:	Harrison Higgins
Chalice:	Harrison Higgins
10:30 AM—Holy Eucharist	
Lessons:	Randy Holden
Prayers:	
Chalice:	Gray Corbett, Harrison Higgins
Acolytes:	Ann-Claire Wood, Logan Abernathy, Camille Wood, Claudia Abernathy
Greeters:	Sam Craver, Buddy Dunn
Nursery:	Carol Campus, Caroline Couturier

February 16 — Epiphany 6	
Altar Guild:	Betty Fore, Susan Josenhans, Barbara Johnson
8:15 AM—Holy Eucharist	
Usher:	Lauryn Boyd
Reader:	Harrison Higgins
Chalice:	Harrison Higgins
10:30 AM —Holy Eucharist	
Lessons:	Stacy Mitchell, Brian White
Prayers:	
Chalice:	Stacy Mitchell, Harrison Higgins
Acolytes:	Hunter Mitchell, Ava Whittlesey, Lucas Couturier, Caroline Couturier
Greeters:	Christine Couturier, Aggie Gallagher
Nursery:	Scott Blackwell, Dwight Ludwig

February 9— Epiphany 5	
Altar Guild:	Kathy Jimerson, Melba Shumaker, Pam Pegram
8:15—Holy Eucharist	
Usher:	Paul Jones
Reader:	Harrison Higgins
Psalm:	Harrison Higgins
10:30—Holy Eucharist	
Lessons:	Lynne Eppes, Gray Corbett
Prayers:	
Chalice:	Herb Williams, Harrison Higgins
Acolytes:	Sara Lassiter, Zack Nixon, Bailey Nixon, Stephanie Holden
Greeters:	Irene Temple, Kristin Carver
Nursery:	Patty White, Mary Sam Abernathy

February 23— Epiphany 7	
Altar Guild:	Joyce Melton, Karen Holden
8:15—Holy Eucharist	
Usher:	Chuck Strabley
Reader:	Harrison Higgins
Chalice:	Harrison Higgins
10:30—Holy Eucharist	
Lessons:	Buddy Dunn, Brian White
Prayers:	Randy Holden
Chalice:	Harrison Higgins
Acolyte:	Claudia Abernathy, Gift Elionai, Logan Abernathy, Hana Elionai
Greeters:	Megan O'Toole, Ann Henderson
Nursery:	Karen Holden, Jan Lawrence

Fellowship Activities

Want to go to Brunch in February?

Sunday, February 16th, after the 10:30 service,

the 'lunch brunch group' will be going to

lunch at *Nick's Roman Terrace*, Westland Shopping Center.

If you are interested please contact **Jean Riddick, 264-0935**,

or call Lucy in the office, 266-2503

Pancake Supper!

Annual Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper is

TUESDAY, March 4th

from 5:30—7:00 PM.

Adults \$5.00; Kids ages 4-12 \$3.00; Kids 3 and under FREE

Sponsored by the Choirs

Bring your appetites!!

Prayers and Sympathy

Of the congregation are extended to Chris Tignor and family on the death of his father, Henry Tignor, who died on Thursday, January 23rd. May his soul and the souls of the faithful departed rest in peace.

Days of Blessing in February

Happy Birthday

February 1 David Tuck
Ann Schaefer

February 6 Sandy Tignor
David Van Valkenburg IV

February 9 Kathy Jimerson

February 12 Billy Tucker
Adam Facetti

February 13 Dan Isbell

February 14 Chip Dunn

February 18 Deborah Chenault
Yartu Grigsby

February 19 Charlotte Lovelace
Jeff Strabley
Penny Johnson
Jay Tucker

February 21 Patrick Scoggin

February 22 Marty Shephard
Catherine Cadavid

February 23 Jeff Pegram

February 24 Lauryn Boyd

February 25 Paul Hampton
Joyce Whitlock

February 26 Lucy Whitlock
Robert Rasmussen
Gift Elionai

Happy Anniversary

February 24 Charles & Judy Poindexter

Standing in the Need of Prayer

Those who are ill or have special needs:

In Our Parish Family: Carl Burley, Ray Hampton, Peggy Adleman, Dot Hudson, Dottie Strabley, Walter Reid, Ray Lovelace, Bob Jimerson, Bertha Morgan, Roseanne Stockwell, Fred Bales, Wayne Whitlock, Martha Jenkins, Alice Elionai

Those in Care Facilities or Homebound especially: Pat Dunn, Connie Neal, Marietta Spring, Roseanne Stockwell, Ruth Williams, Juliet Wynne

Those Serving in the Armed Forces especially: Matt Guyer, Amanda Hoffert, David Hoffert, Patrick Lineberry, Dennis Miller, Caitlin Mitchell, Bryan Murphy, Billy Tucker, Andrew Smith, and Chris Tuck.

Prayers for those preparing for the birth of a child: Chris & Missy York, Cary & Jill Baynes, Nick & Elizabeth Jones Wolf, Bryan & Catherine Tuck Turner

Prayers for family & friends:

Prayers for Healing, Wholeness, Comfort, Guidance, and Safe Travel: Kathryn Cook—friend of Connie Neal, Mary Stockdell—daughter-in-law of Susan Josenhans, Heather—friend of Melissa Durrer, Stuart & Jean Swink—sister & brother-in-law of Irene Morris, Becky Smith—friend of Melba Shumaker, Jeff Eppes—brother of Jim Eppes, Conrad Lawrence—Aggie Gallagher's brother, Gary Peper—Lucy Whitlock's brother-in-law, Patty Sue—niece of Ann Schaefer, Steve Farmer—neighbor of Betty Van Valkenburg, Debbie Williams—Herb Williams sister-in-law, Freda Bush—friend of Susie Wasiluk, Shirley Jamyson—friend of Lydia Callaway, Bucky Turner—friend of Jenn Whitlock, Meghan Thacker, daughter of Gray Corbett, Rick Lawrence —Jan Lawrence's son, Luke Murphy—Ray & Charlotte Lovelace's great-grandson, James McCoy—Sue Rasmussen's friend, Jack Patterson—grandfather of Jessica Isemann, Mike Marcial—co-worker of Cory Isemann, James Stillman—friend of Milton Jenkins, Virginia Hayward—friend of Ann Henderson, Betty Hall—friend of the Nicholas', Mary Brooks—mother of Anita Williams, Helen & David Hedrick—Mom & step-father of Diane Major, Collean McMurdo—daughter-in-law of Keith McMurdo, Jamie Callaway—great-grandson of Lydia Callaway, Bob Hoffert—Diana Stone's Dad, Bob Thornbloom—friend of Doug Thorpe, Bill Wells—friend of Sarah Jenkins, Braton Shewey, husband of Nancy Shewey, Bob Wordinger—cousin of Carole Noe, Cynthia Majewski—friend of Sue Rasmussen, Warren (Pete) Powell & Carl Powell—brothers of Shirley Hughson, Mary Anna Phillips—friend of Sue Rasmussen, Misty Compton—friend of the Holdens

Prayers for the departed: Henry Tignor

Hearth of Henrico

On behalf of the Board of Directors of Hearth of Henrico, formerly Interfaith Services of Henrico (ISH), and the Henrico Department of Social Services I would like to thank you and the good people of Church of the Epiphany Episcopal for your very generous good contribution to the Thanksgiving Food Box Program 2013. Your contributions, along with others, allowed us to provide food assistance during the holidays to more than 190 households consisting over 552 individuals.

Your gift provides much needed support to the families and children our agency serves. We are grateful to you for your generosity.

It is only through contributions made by you and others in the community that Interfaith services of Henrico can continue to provide for those in need when other resources are not available.

For your concern and generosity, I thank you on behalf of ISH and the Henrico County Department of Social Services.

Sincerely,

Mike Young

Board Chairperson, Interfaith Services of Henrico (ISH)

LAMB's Basket

On behalf of Board of Directors of LAMB's Basket I would like to thank you for your generous \$3,300.00 contribution/ contributions to the food pantry. AS you know, our organization is entirely volunteer and we rely on the support of those who care about this worthwhile ministry. It is indeed a blessing to receive such a wonderful gesture of support and be assured your donation is used entirely for the mission of feeding those in need in Henrico County.

In 2013 LAMB's Basket provided food to some 7,700 households which includes approximately 8,000 children and some 3,6000 seniors. We therefore continue toned your prayers and your volunteer and/or financial support in order that we may continue Christ's work by tending to those in need in Henrico County that "none shall go hungry..."

Many Thanks, In His Service,
Beverley Fletcher, Treasurer

Just the Facts: Leadership and Contact Information at Church of the Epiphany

Office address: 8000 Hermitage Rd, Richmond, VA 23228 Phone: 804-266-2503 inquiry@epiphanyepiscopal.com

The Very Rev. Mary Brennan Thorpe, Rector Cell phone: 804-221-3421 mary@epiphanyepiscopal.com

The Rev. Canon Charles Poindexter, Priest in Residence

The Rev. Deacon Harrison Higgins, IV, Deacon

Lucy Whitlock, Office Administrator

lucy.whitlock@epiphanyepiscopal.com

Anita Williams, Music Director

Timon Kenyi, Sexton

Vestry

Ann Henderson, Senior Warden

Aggie Gallagher, Junior Warden

Marty Shephard, Treasurer

Kristin Carver, Register

Christine Couturier (2014)

Aggie Gallagher (2014)

Ann Henderson (2014)

Kristin Carver (2015)

Sam Craver (2015)

Joyce Melton (2015)

Buddy Dunn (2016)

Megan O'Toole (2016)

Irene Temple (2016)

Office Hours :

Lucy is in the office Monday through Thursday from 9 am to 2 pm. Mary+ is usually in the office Monday through Thursday, unless she is out visiting parishioners or attending meetings.

She can always be reached on her cell phone (221-3421).

*May the light of God's blessing, like the Epiphany star, always guide
you on the path toward Him.*