

On the Calendar and Coming up

Sunday, December 18th

8:15 AM—Holy Eucharist
9:30 AM—Adult Forum
10:15 AM—Sunday School
10:30 AM—Holy Eucharist

Monday, December 19th

11:00 AM—No Book Club
6:45 PM—No Women's Study Group
7:00 PM—JRRingers

Tuesday December 20th

6:30 PM —Blue Christmas Service

Wednesday December 21st

12:00 noon —Holy Eucharist with healing Prayers
7:00 PM—No Handbell Rehearsal

Thursday, December 22nd

7:00 PM—Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Friday, December 23rd

12:00 noon —Men's Bag lunch around the big table

Saturday, December 24th

Christmas Eve

4:00 PM—Holy Eucharist—child-friendly
10:30 PM—Holy Eucharist—festive & more formal

Sunday, December 25th

Christmas Day

ONLY 1 SERVICE

10:00 AM—Holy Eucharist

Adult Forum: we are spend a couple of weeks in December feeding your inner science geek. Have you ever wondered what ancient astronomers thought of that star that figures so prominently in our story of Christ's birth? How do we know when the blessed baby was born? Using the latest tools of modern science, we can now understand what may have happened up in the heavens, and we may even be able to refine our understanding of the date of Christ's birth. Join us in the parlor on December 18 at 9:30 am, and let's figure things out together in "StarDate 1 A.D.: What Astronomers Know." We'll take a break from Adult Forum on December 25th and January 1st, and resume on January 8th. We meet in the Parlor on Sundays at 9:30 AM.

Monday Book Club: If you've been thinking about joining the Book Group, which meets on Mondays at 11 am, your timing is impeccable! We will restart on Monday, January 9th. There is a list of possible books we might tackle next. Ask Mary+ for a copy and put in your vote for our next selection.

E-Giving: As part of your pledging, you may find it easier to keep up with your giving by using our simple E-Giving online system. Talk to **Gray Corbett** or **Herb Williams** if you have any questions. It's safe, secure and simple, and saves you remembering your checkbook!

Printer Cartridges? Please bring your used printer cartridges in and drop them off in the marked box in the office.

Attendance, December 11, 2011
8:15 am: 11 10:30 am: 141

First Three Minutes: After our services, please spend three minutes greeting someone to whom you've never spoken before. It may be a newcomer, or someone whom you just don't know. Share that hospitality that this parish is famous for, and make a new friend.

Blue Christmas Service: Tuesday, December 20th at 6:30 PM. Are the holidays a difficult time for you? Are you struggling with grief, stress, depression, or loneliness? Are the festivities of the season making things even tougher? You are not alone. Therefore, you are invited to a service of prayer, readings, music and candle lighting to mark the season and to share in the comfort of community. Everyone is welcome, regardless of church affiliation.

Christmas Schedule of Worship: There will be two services of Holy Eucharist on Saturday, December 24th, Christmas Eve: the **4:00 PM** one will be particularly child-friendly. The **10:30 PM** will be a festal (and a little bit more formal) service. Although we normally do not have services on Christmas Day, this year, it falls on a Sunday. Thus we will have a service on Sunday the 25th, just ONE service, at 10:00 AM. That should give you time to come and celebrate after the children have opened presents and before the feast begins!

Men's Bible Study —See you next year! On the second & fourth Tuesday of the month, January 10th & 24th @ noon. Bring a bag lunch and your Bible, and let's get to work!

Women's Retreat: We are once again planning a retreat for the women of the parish, sometime in February. Please let Mary+ know if you are interested, and what weekend might work best for you. We are thinking either the third or fourth weekend in the month would be best.

Congratulations to Pam Pegram for winning the beautiful Quilt for the Lamb's Basket Fundraiser. The quilt was donated to Lamb's Basket by the Friendship Quilters Club.

Time to order a Poinsettias or give to the Banner Fund! Cost is \$15.00. Be sure to give us the name of the person or persons you are giving in memory of or in thanksgiving for—so they can be listed in the Christmas Eve bulletin. **Deadline to order is TODAY.**

Want to go to brunch in January? after the 10:30 AM service on January 15th the 'Brunch Group' will be going to lunch. If you are interested in going, contact **Jeannie Riddick**, 264-0935 or call **Lucy** in the office, 266-2503.

Stewardship Scripture: "*He who gives to the poor will never want, but he who shuts his eyes will have many curses*". (Proverbs 28:27)

*To: Epiphany Family
From: Scovia, George & the Baby
We are so blessed to have you (the Church of the Epiphany) in our lives. You received us when we joined the church in 2001 on our arrival from Africa. You showed us love and treated us like family. On my plans for family and Baby, you supported me. I am grateful to have you in my life. God bless you all.
We will bring our baby Barack (Blessed) Lupai Monoja Lubang to meet you soon.
God bless you, we love you.
George and Scovia's family*

COMMUNICATION CARD

December 18, 2011

Our Communication Card is for **all people at The Church of the Epiphany** so that you can share your thoughts and prayers, and request information.

If you are new, please complete the opposite side so we also have your contact information.

I'd like more information about an upcoming event or program

I am RSVPing or signing up for:

I am interested in learning more about how to be part of the following ministries or programs:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Music | <input type="checkbox"/> Greeters |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Altar Guild | <input type="checkbox"/> Pastoral Care |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Office help | <input type="checkbox"/> Readers |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Christian Ed | <input type="checkbox"/> Prayer Team |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Outreach | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ushers | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chalice Bearer | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Prayer Requests / Comments

COMMUNICATION CARD

December 18, 2011

Welcome! You have blessed us with your presence. Please tell us how we can best serve you by completing the Communication Card.

Please place in the offering basket, hand it to an usher, or place on the table in the vestibule.

- I'm looking for a church home
- I'd like to speak with a clergy member
- I'm ready to become a member
- I'm just visiting today

Name & Address Please update

Phone _____

Email _____

Children's names and ages _____

Please give me more information about:

- Children's / Youth Programs
- Social events
- Outreach opportunities
- Classes and Small Group Studies
- Baptism or Confirmation
- How I can get involved

How did you hear about Epiphany?

(over)

FOR YOUR PRAYERS

For the church: We pray for the church of the Epiphany the Episcopal Diocese of Virginia, the Episcopal Church (USA), and the Anglican Communion, for all clergy and laypeople, and those whom we will welcome today.



In The Anglican Cycle of Prayer we pray for: Wyoming

In The Diocesan Cycle of Prayer we pray for: St. George's, Arlington; Cople Parish, Hague; St. Gabriel's, Leesburg; St. Paul's, Bailey's Crossroads; St. Paul's, Nomini Grove.

In the Metro Richmond Cycle of Prayer we pray for the Families of Metropolitan Richmond: For persons who are lonely or have no family; for persons who are estranged from their families; for persons who are grieving the loss of a loved one; and for all who need to feel the love of God.

In the Lakeside Churches Cycle of Prayer we pray for: Overbrook Presbyterian, Charles Philips, Pastor.

Prayers for our Service Men and Women: Matt Guyer, David Hoffert, Daniel Keefe, Patrick Lineberry, Caitlin Mitchell, Bryan Murphy, Michael Stone, Billy Tucker, Matthew Smith, Ryan Casey, and Chris Tuck.

Prayers for those expecting a child: Patrick & Deb Lineberry

Prayers for Healing, Wholeness, Comfort, Guidance, and Safe Travel: Carol Burley, Dave Van Valkenburg, Carl Burley, Charles McMurdo, Ray Hampton, Jean Craver, Peggy Adleman, Sarah Jenkins, Dottie Strabley, Marian Noe, Bea & Francis Byrd, Elizabeth Davis, Roseanne Stockwell, Ruth Williams, Juliet Wynne, Kathryn Cook-friend of Connie Neal, John Renner — friend of Dot Hudson & Carol York, Eric Schardt & Steve Bazemore—friends of Scott Blackwell, Katie Phillips—friend of Kristin Carver, Gloria Jones—mother of Kim White, Rebecca Miller—friend of Marietta Spring, Leah & Terri—friends of Aggie Gallagher, Dorothy Hoffecker—aunt of Diana Stone, Donna Dumas—friend of Sarah Jenkins, the extended Kenyi family in Sudan, Leslie Wildman—friend of the Holden's, Jeremy Smith—sister-in-law's son-in-law of Herb Williams & Melba Shumaker, Jay—husband of Jill Mitchell, Rona Fisher—friend of Jessica Ruder, Lisa Binmoeller—friend of Diane Major, Mary Stockdell—daughter-in-law of Susan Josenhans, Rose Woodell—friend of Kathy & Bob Jimerson, the Apel family—friends of the Nixon family, Harvey Young—father of Mike Young.

Prayers for the departed: Elizabeth Jenkins

We pray for all these and those who have asked for prayers in confidence.

CHURCH OF THE EPIPHANY**Weekly Worship**

Sundays at 8:15 a.m. (meditative service)

& 10:30 a.m. (with choir)

Wednesday at noon: Holy Eucharist with Healing Prayers and Laying On of Hands

Contact info:

8000 Hermitage Road
804-266-2503

Web: www.epiphanyepiscopal.com

The Rev. Mary Brennan Thorpe,
Rector

mary@epiphanyepiscopal.com

Today's Ministers**8:15 Service**

Usher: Chris Tignor

Reader: Ann Schaefer

Chalice: Ann Schaefer

10:30 Service

Ushers: Chuck Strabley, Kim Ruder, Lee Poates

Acolyte: Stephanie Holden, Caroline Couturier, Lucas Couturier, Sara Lassiter

Readers: Sarah Fore, Cheri Blackwell

Prayer Leader: Gray Corbett

Chalice: Sarah Fore, Paul Dolci

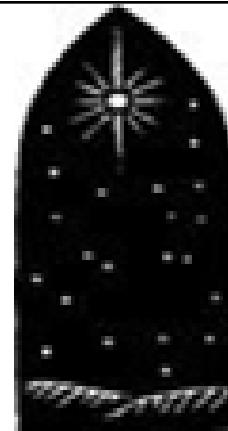
Vestry Greeters: Patty White, Nancy Sonne

Altar Guild: Joyce Melton, Karen Holden, Carol York

Nursery: Ann Poates, Caroline Couturier

Coffee Hour:

Counters: Wayne & Lucy Whitlock

**The Church of the Epiphany****ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 18, 2011

Welcome—we are glad you are here! Know that whoever you are, and where ever you are in your spiritual journey, you have a place here. If you are new, or haven't yet given us your contact information, please complete the attached communication card and place it in the plate so that you can learn more about Epiphany's community.

Nursery care is available from 10:15-11:45 a.m.

From Mary's Desk:

On this, the fourth Sunday of Advent, our focus is "Peace." We have meditated on Hope, Love and Joy as we've traveled through this season anticipating the One who is to come. Each week we have talked about how we are filled with each of those feelings as we await Christmas Day. Today's focus, though, is a little different. We can, of course, think about peace filling our own hearts, about that wonderful peaceful feeling that this holy season brings. But we might also think of the way that this word "Peace" turns us outward. Instead of simply feeding the feeling within us, we know that Christ brings peace to the whole world, and He expects us to help bring peace from within us to be shared with that world. Our mission becomes one with Christ's mission: to bring peace to all by living as Christ would want us to live, abhorring the things that block out peace: violence, greed, jealousy, hatred.

The gift of the Christ Child is that He bids us to carry out his work in the world. What is this work? Helping others. Changing the wrong-headed view that we should only do things that benefit ourselves, disregarding their impact on others. Demonstrating Christ's love and Christ's peace. Refusing to use violence or cruelty to achieve our aims.

We bring this into the world in our choice of work, in our choice of organizations we support, in our manner of life. Peace flows out from us in our actions and it transforms a broken and sinful world. In this season of preparation for the Child, in this time when we are overflowing with feelings, let our feelings turn into action that brings to life the peace that Christ brings us.

Mary+