



JANUARY 2026



THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH
OF THE EPIPHANY

*The mission of the Church of the Epiphany is to offer a home to all
those who are seeking God's unconditional love.*



From the Vicar

The month of January begins each year, and with this new beginning, we attempt to put all of the troubling memories from the previous twelve months away and make resolutions as to how we will change ourselves for the better.

The origin of the month's name is derived from the ancient Roman god Janus, who was said to have two faces, one turned to the past, one turned to the future. The Romans apparently felt this was appropriate for the first month of their calendar. The website [etymonline.com](http://www.etymonline.com) has this to say about Janus:

[An] ancient Italic deity, to the Romans the guardian god of portals, doors, and gates; patron of beginnings and endings, c. 1500, from Latin *Ianus*, literally "gate, arched passageway," perhaps from PIE root **ei-* "to go" (cognates:

Sanskrit *yanah* "path," Old Church Slavonic *jado* "to travel"). He is shown as having two faces, one in front the other in back (they may represent sunrise and sunset and reflect an original role as a solar deity). His temple in Rome was closed only in times of peace. Related: *Janian*.

(Etymology is the study of word origins.)

The year 2025 was a difficult year for many of us, although every year has its difficulties. With each year, we get older, which can offer its own difficulties. That is just a fact of life. Each year we suffer losses. For some, these may include loved ones, jobs, things we treasure that wear out or are broken.

The changing of the calendar doesn't change this. We can move forward, but that doesn't mean we forget.

This new year we have entered will undoubtedly bring both good and bad times to each of us in equal measure. Of course, this change in the calendar is arbitrary. Every day, every hour, every moment brings with it new opportunities and new challenges.

If you are one to make resolutions and set goals at the start of the new year, keep in mind that they are not set in stone. Not keeping those resolutions or reaching those goals is not a issue of failure but an opportunity to learn.

Also remember that resolutions and goals can be amended to fit circumstances. What you might want for yourself in January may not be the same later.

I pray that each of you have an opportunity to grow this year. Yes, you never too old to grow... emotionally, intellectually, and most importantly, spiritually.

Keep in mind what has been called the Serenity Prayer, a version of which reads: “God grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, the courage to change the things I can (and should), and the wisdom to know the difference.”

Never forget that whatever happens in 2026 and beyond, both the good and the bad, God is always present. God has broad shoulders that can be leaned upon in times of stress and loving arms that will wrap around you when you need comforting.

Life is short, and we do not have much time to gladden the hearts of those who travel the way with us. So be swift to love, and make haste to be kind; and may the peace of God that surpasses all understanding keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God and our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be amongst you, and remain with you always. *Amen.*

Father David+

UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENTS



Friday, Jan 30, 2026

5-10 PM Mardi Gras

Food Truck Friday

FREE CONCERT Kings of
Neon from New Orleans

Saturday, Jan 31

11:00 AM – Pawdi-Gras
Parade (Pet Parade) on
Main Street. All pets
welcome in Mardi Gras-
themed costumes.

Prizes for Most Festive

Pup. 11:30 AM – 6:00

PM Downtown Festival & Car Show. 2:00 PM – The Main Event:
The Crestview Mardi Gras Parade.

UPCOMING DIOCESAN EVENTS

Annual Children & Youth Chili Cook-Off



And Bingo!

Join us Sunday, January 25th,
at 11:45 a.m. in the Parish Hall

Bring your chili entries and
a friend or neighbor!

St. Jude's Episcopal Church
200 N. Partin Dr.



Join us for our annual
Children & Youth hosted
Chili Cook-Off and Bingo
Luncheon!

Bring a friend, submit
your own chili entry, or
simply come out and
cast your vote!

Parish News

A Happy Thanksgiving



On Thursday November 27, Thanksgiving day, Epiphany had it's first Thanksgiving Day dinner. Thanks to a great Idea from Randy and Ginny Bauer. Randy who won a Large turkey and ham suggested we share it on Thanksgiving with anyone not having family to share the holiday with.

While he provided the meat and Ginny cooked it, everyone else brought the sides. Everyone attending agreed this was a huge success and talked about doing it again next year. If you can't be with your own family and don't want to cook a whole traditional thanksgiving dinner you can be with your church family.





The Angel Tree Results for the Hope House !!!!

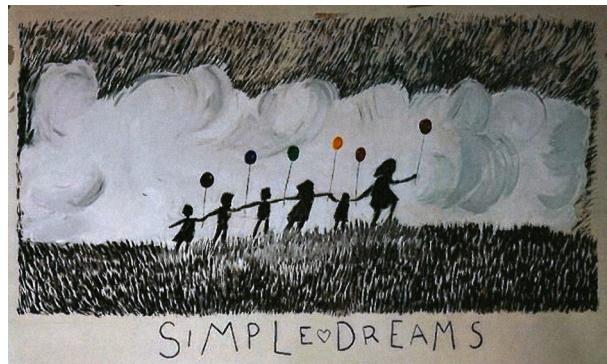


THANK YOU ! What an amazing response from our Parish! Gifts were given for 26 children. Your generous support of this mission was truly “gifts from your hearts!” We delivered all the gifts on December 22nd.

And, as bonus gifts, Melanie East made 26 Christmas stockings AND filled them with all kinds of goodies! Thank you Melanie!

Please accept my heartfelt ***thank you*** to all !

Joan Stark





Come and Fellowship with the Choir



The Epiphany choir meets on Friday mornings at 11:00 am, and Sunday mornings at 9:30 am before the service.

An additional day and/or time is being considered as I am aware some may not be able to meet during the work day. Please let me or the office know if you are interested, I would be happy to meet an afternoon or evening.

No experience is necessary to join the choir. Requirements: (1) a desire to sing praises to the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit and (2) demonstrated respect for the Episcopal Church's form of worship and people.

Come join our fun and fellowship!!

Pat Shew - Organist & Choir Director

Property Report for December

No projects were completed this month. We are still working on getting quotes for work and financing.

In Work

- ◆ The handrails on the handicap ramp and front steps still need to be replaced with sturdier handrails.
- ◆ The new doors on St. Joseph Hall and the Garage Shed still need to be painted.
- ◆ The additional handicap pad is still being researched with bids to determine the cost. We will be getting a quote in January.
- ◆ The kneelers in the choir pews need repair.
- ◆ Three church pews need the seats reupholstered.
- ◆ We are researching to build a chain link fence on north west side of the property.

New Project

- ◆ Wiring in the Garage Shed needs to be brought up to code and another light fixture in the garage shed needs to be replaced.

If you would like to assist on a project, or know of something else that needs attention, please let me know.

- Maurice Phillips, Property Chair



WORSHIP SCHEDULE

January 4 - The Second Sunday after Christmas
10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist followed by Potluck Lunch

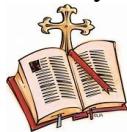
January 7 - The Epiphany of Our Lord Jesus Christ (Bishops' Visit)
10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist followed by refreshments and fellowship with the Bishop

January 11 - First Sunday after the Epiphany, Baptism of Jesus Christ
10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist followed by Vestry Meeting

January 18 - The Second Sunday after the Epiphany
6:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist followed by Healing Service

January 25 - The Third Sunday after the Epiphany
10:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist followed by Healing Sounds, St Joseph Hall

February 1 - The Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany
10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist followed by Potluck Lunch



LECTOR SCHEDULE

January 4 - The Second Sunday after Christmas
1st Reading - Melanie East
2nd Reading - Michele Dennis

January 7 - The Epiphany of Our Lord Jesus Christ (Bishops' Visit)
1st Reading - Missy Jones
2nd Reading - Kat Ivanov

January 11 - First Sunday after the Epiphany, Baptism of Jesus Christ
1st Reading - Megan Belliveau
2nd Reading - Sharon Lundy

January 18 - The Second Sunday after the Epiphany
1st Reading - Sharon Lundy
2nd Reading -

January 25 - The Third Sunday after the Epiphany
1st Reading - Ginny Bauer
2nd Reading - Kat Ivanov



The Epiphany

The manifestation of Christ to the peoples of the earth. The winter solstice was kept on Jan. 6 at some places during the first centuries of the Christian Era. In opposition to pagan festivals, Christians chose this day to celebrate the various manifestations, or "epiphanies," of Jesus' divinity. These showings of his divinity included his birth, the coming of the Magi, his baptism, and the Wedding at Cana where he miraculously changed water into wine. The day was called "The Feast of Lights." Celebration of the Son of God replaced celebration of the sun. Baptisms were done, and a season of preparation was instituted. It was later called Advent.

The solstice was kept on Dec. 25 by the fourth century. Jesus' birth was celebrated on this day in both eastern and western churches. The western church commemorated the coming of the Magi on Jan. 6. The eastern church continued to celebrate the Baptism of our Lord and the Wedding at Cana on Jan. 6. In the east the day was called "Theophany" (manifestation of God).

The coming of the Magi is celebrated on the Feast of the Epiphany, Jan. 6, in the BCP. The Baptism of our Lord is celebrated on the First Sunday after the Epiphany.

<https://www.episcopalchurch.org/glossary/epiphany-the/>

Epiphany at The Church of the Epiphany



Photos from 2021

Epiphany is our church's feast day and we will celebrate it this year on Wednesday, January 7th with the Bishop's Visit. The service will begin at 6pm and he will have a forum with the candidates and the Vestry at 5pm, anyone may attend the forum. He will be Confirming one person, receiving one person, and reaffirming another. So, we will be welcoming 2 new Episcopalians into our official church membership.

Please join us in hearing our bishop preach and welcoming our new Episcopalians. Then enjoy refreshments following the service.

BIRTHDAYS



Jacob Walters Jan 8th

Mary Meehan Jan 11th

Joy Warren Jan 27th

Stella Warren 29th

Charlotte Boutwell Dec 28th

EPIPHANY's and ANNIVERSARIES



None reported this month



EPIPHANY'S FAVORITE RECIPES

Sweet and Sour German Green Beans with Bacon

*Contributed by **Chun Bryant** (recipe from *Florance Bryant*)*

Ingredients:

2 cans French Cut Green Beans
3 1/2 tbsp Brown Sugar
3 tbsp White Vinegar
5 or 6 strip of Bacon



Directions:

1. Cook the bacon and set aside. When cooled shred.
2. Remove all except 2 tbsp of bacon grease from the pan.
3. Drain the liquid from the beans reserving 2 tbsps.
4. Add the beans and the reserved liquid from the beans to the pan and bring to a boil.
5. Add the brown sugar, vinegar and shredded bacon to the pan and mix well.
6. Serve warm.

Please remember in your prayers:

Addice Thomas, Addison Hendrix, Adley Hipwell, Amelia Gorman, Amy & Anthony Lehatto, Barbara Procino, Betty Schwartzkopf, Bill Jones, Brenda Faulkner, Buni O'Brien, Carol McCartney, Charlotte Green, Debbie Evans, Debbie and Jim Larson, Dennis Jackson, Donna Andrews, Eddie Stevens, Florie Angelini, Herselie Hendrix, Janice Tyler, Jeff Evans, Judy Tinsley, Karen Traggorth, Kerrie Schwartzkopf, Lester Taylor, Lynn Smith, Mary Meehan, Michael Mazzerat, Michele Dennis, Mindy Post, Mitzi Purvis, Nancy Delierre, Nikole Webb, Phyllis Alles, Rick Preston, Rocky Robinson, Sharon Lundy, Susan Cole, Sybil King, Terry Algood, Tom Holmes, Ward Hendrix and Yisrael Goldman.

And for the departed:

Maureen Marcotte

The Episcopal Church of the Epiphany

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