



The EPIPHANY STAR

a word to the wise • The Episcopal Church of the Epiphany, Atlanta Georgia

A bi-weekly newsletter
July 9, 2015

Morality

It is last. It suddenly occurred to me in the midst of a mid-week homily, where the Epistle was Galatians chapter three where Paul talks about 'neither Jew, nor Greek'; and Matthew 25 where Jesus talks about the 'sheep and the goats, and the kingdom prepared from the foundation of the world;' and all this about William Wilberforce (English Abolitionist) that morality was last, morality is the caboose. I've been agitating on this notion for years and years and all the stuff going on around us has been a potent brew that made this thought bubble over.

Morality follows the engine of the True, the Good and the Beautiful. That is to say that these three philosophical buckets have been a classical motif for understanding God and the presence of God around us since antiquity. That is, when we know something to be true we know the divine, when we see something good we can experience the divine, when we see something beautiful we are moved by the divine. Then...

Then and only then might we do some moral act. And, and this is very important for all the moralists out there waiting for this thought to go into the gutter of antinomianism, and the moral act then becomes imperative. Aha!

In English:

Over the years of my life and ministry in the church, the church has come to a conclusion that gay and lesbian people are true, good and beautiful. In the classical sense. That means, God is there in them being all true and good and beautiful. Which means that if we can know that truth, experience that good, be moved by that beauty then we must do something moral. We must make justice happen. That's what the sheep do. They do justice because they act out of that place where they know and share the truth, goodness and beauty of the God they love, the people they minister to, and it is both surprising to them "when did we do this they ask"? and a matter of every day behavior or moral action "whenever you did it to the least of these" Jesus reminds them. The sheep act out of their truth, their goodness, their beauty which is theirs and has been since the foundation of the world. That is justice. That is morality.

We can't hold it back. Or we shouldn't. Unless we want to be a bunch of goats. Which we are when we try to constrain it. We shouldn't wait ever to say the truth, or touch goodness, or exclaim beauty. In fact when we see a truth often we blurt it out. When we see goodness we can hardly not reach out and taste it. When we are moved by beauty we weep, or smile. It is our very nature calling us out. We are compelled to do justice, to do a moral act. We should. Unless we want to be a bunch of goats. Take down a flag. Plant a tree. Protect a child. Marry a couple who have been true and good and beautiful. It's about time.

Peace,

The Rev. Benno D. Pattison, Rector

MISSION STATEMENT: *The Episcopal Church of the Epiphany is an inclusive community called to seek and follow Jesus Christ. We welcome all people in the Eucharistic fellowship of Christ's Body. We receive strength and encouragement at the common table to carry out Christ's work of reconciliation in our broken world. Nourished by worship and witness, learning and teaching, fellowship and service, we strive to live out the Gospel's radical values with gladness of heart.*

Parish News

Epiphany's Art Ministry welcomes Patty Young as our artist for July

Artists Bio:

I am an acrylic painter and collage artist. My inspiration comes from the human form, nature, and color. I paint both naturalistically and in the abstract. For the latter, I am interested in



abstractions that suggest natural themes and those that I compose with geometric shapes and patterns. I collage with paper that usually comes from my previous work. My finished pieces are painted on canvases with a wrapped edge and range in size from 6 inch square to 30 inches by 40 inches.

I initially studied design at the University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee. At the time, however, I found that art demanded a total commitment and I was unwilling to reveal as much of myself as was required. So, while not involved with art in a formal way, I found myself busy with many craft forms such as sewing, knitting, jewelry making, assemblage, and needlework. Ultimately I found the courage to seriously pursue painting and began taking classes in acrylic painting at the Spruill Center in Atlanta, GA in 2012.

Contact Info:

Patty Young
redstilts@yahoo.com, 770.723.1793



Holy Baptism

The sacrament of Holy Baptism is offered for adults, infants and children and will be administered during the morning services on Sunday, August 9. If you or a member of your family desires to be baptized, please contact the parish office at parishadmin@epiphany.org or 404.383.8338.

Babies

Our Guild of the Christ Child bulletin board barely has any booties on it. Have you had a baby within the past year? We'd love to post your newest family member. Send your child's full name, date of birth and a favorite picture for posting so we can populate our board again.

Summer Breakfast

Summer Breakfast is offered between services from 9:30-10:30 a.m. if we have a host. Groups or individuals can sign up for a Sunday on the doors leading to Jones Hall.

Epiphany Summer Choir

Our Epiphany Choir is taking a well-deserved break from regular rehearsals this



summer, but we will still have choral music on Sunday mornings. Here is your chance for singing with no mid-week commitment! Come to the music suite on Sunday mornings at 10:30 and learn the music for that Sunday's service. We will not process or vest and you may decide to sit in the congregation until the Peace, sing the anthem, and then return to your seat. All adults and high school youth are welcome.

Weekday Bible Study

A noon-day services is offered on Wednesdays followed by Eucharist. The Bible Study at 1 p.m. will not take place during the month of July. The Wednesday Evening Bible Study with the Rector will resume on August 26.

Confirmation: Come be "sufficiently instructed in the Christian Faith"!

Per the Catechism in the Prayer Book:

What is Confirmation? Confirmation is the rite in which we express a mature commitment to Christ, and receive strength from the Holy Spirit through prayer and the laying on of hands by a bishop.

What is required of those to be confirmed? It is required of those to be confirmed that they have been baptized, are *sufficiently instructed in the Christian Faith*, are penitent for their sins, and are ready to affirm their confession of Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord.

Confirmation classes will begin on Wednesday, August 26, and meet weekly until December 9, from 6:30-8:00 p.m., concluding with Compline. This class will be offered simultaneously with the Bible study class. Benno and Sharon will share both of these classes, alternating between the two.

Confirmation is open to any adult or youth seeking to know more about the Christian faith as the Episcopal Church has received it. We will discuss prayer, scripture, church history, sin and redemption, ethics, the BCP, worship and liturgy, the three-legged stool (tradition, scripture and reason), and more!

If, at the end, you desire to be confirmed and affirm your faith, we will participate in diocesan confirmation on Sunday, December 13, at 4 p.m. at the Cathedral of St. Philip.

If you have questions, don't hesitate to ask Sharon or Benno, or contact either for an appointment.

Rector@epiphany.org or Sharon@epiphany.org

Altar Flowers & Sanctuary Light Sponsorship

Altar Flowers

Each Sunday, with the exception of Lent, flowers are placed on the high altar area. There are occasions when the church takes on a more festive look such as Christmas and Easter. Flowers are offered "for the Glory of God and in thanksgiving or in memory of a person or event." Parishioners offer altar flowers as a visible sign of acknowledgement of God's presence in their lives. Make your check payable to Church of the Epiphany for \$70 and

note "Flowers" in the memo field. The 2015 calendar signup can be found on the People & Posts page of epiphany.org. The color and selection of flowers is based on the appropriateness of the liturgical season. More than one person or family may sign up for the altar flowers during the same week.

Sanctuary Light

The Sanctuary Light is a visible sign of the presence of the Blessed Sacrament held in reserve in the Tabernacle. It is the tradition of our faith that parishioners make an offering to acknowledge the memory of a loved one in his or her life—especially appropriate during the week or day of the anniversary of someone's death. Make your check payable to Church of the Epiphany for \$7 and note "Light" in the memo field. The 2015 calendar signup can be found on the People & Posts page of epiphany.org.

Pastoral Needs

Epiphanyite Arlen Grey needs rides to and from church on a weekly basis to participate in the Choir. If you can help on Sunday mornings or Wednesday evenings, sign up at the link on the People & Posts page at epiphany.org.

Do you have a number for...

Looking for someone's address or phone number? There are several ways to access our parish database information.

1. **Paper:** At least twice a year a good ol' fashioned paper directory is printed. Copies of the June edition are on the black library table in the gallery.
2. **Website:** A link to a pdf. version of the January 2015 paper directory can be found on our website under News and Events on the [Newsletters and Other Publications page](#). The document is password protected. Contact the parish office for the password.
3. **Online:** Access data using our online directory, which is updated every evening. Click on the Members Online Directory link on the [home page](#). First-time users have to register. There you can also look up your financial information or send group emails to groups you're a member of (provided I've been given an updated list of members, of course!).
4. **Smartphone:** The Members Online Directory also has a Smartphone app for mobile phones. Look for the free ACS Church Life app at the app store.

Outreach News

Our Next Hagar's House Dates: July 26 to August 1

Looking for a great way to make a difference in the lives of homeless women and children here in Decatur? Hagar's House, sponsored by Decatur Cooperative Ministries (DCM), provides 30-day transitional housing and support services to keep families together while they get on their feet. Epiphany sponsors one week per quarter by providing dinner each night of the week for residents of the shelter.

Our next dates for Hagar's House are July 26 - August 1, and we need your help! This important ministry offers a chance for hands-on assistance and connection with residents. Volunteers prepare a meal at home, serve it at the shelter, visit with guests, and clean up, which usually takes two hours, 6:00-8:00 p.m. Meals are typically for 25-30 people, but do not need to be elaborate. We will make sure that there are two households to cover each dinner, so you can enjoy getting to know Epiphanyites better or serving with your friends. (Note: We are asked not to have more than five-six volunteers an evening.)

What a rewarding opportunity to seek and serve Christ in some new faces. Please consider signing up, either on line at www.SignUpGenius.com/go/hagars or on the sign-up sheet posted in the Crossing Hall on Sundays. Volunteers will be given more information, but please contact Cindy Bell at cindymbell30030@gmail.com or 404.549.3363 if you have questions in the meantime.

Refugee Family Update

Our new family will be arriving this Wednesday, July 15. The family is from Ethiopia and consists of a mom and dad, two sons 30 and 20, and a daughter who is 6. The apartment was set up on Saturday and awaits the new arrivals. If you would like to become involved in mentoring, tutoring or providing rides in the next three months, please let me know. Bev Lorenzo 404.825.3402, bevlorenzo@att.net.

Holy Comforter Dinner – Aug. 5

It's Epiphany's turn to provide the Wednesday Night Dinner for this mission church of the Diocese, about 60%

of whose congregation lives with mental illness. We need people to cook starting at 2:30 p.m. and also to provide cupcakes. Sign up on the People & Posts page of epiphany.org. Contact: Jeanette Hanson 404.982.9134.

Food for DEAM

January and June are our "turns" for stocking the pantry, but the basket is out year-round to accept your donations of cereal, one lb. pkgs dry beans, jelly and toilet paper.

Peachtree Pine Ministry

Please volunteer to help feed 500 men once a month. No experience necessary, just kind hearts and willing hands to give to those less fortunate. Contact Bev Lorenzo, 404.825.3402.

Upcoming Dates:

July 16 & 17, August 20 & 21, September 17 & 18

Ongoing Meetings

Meeting Night

Committees are asked to meet on the 2nd Monday of the month from 6–7:30 p.m. We gather in Jones Hall, sign up for a room, pray together and then go our ways. Chairs, please be sure to let your committees know each month if they are meeting.

ECW Meeting

The Episcopal Church Women meet on the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 9:30 a.m. to make sandwiches for Emmaus House. The program and potluck following is on hiatus until September

Daughters of the King

The Daughters of the King (DOK) meet on the 4th Sunday at 10 a.m. between services in Jones Hall, Room A. We invite all ladies of the congregation to join us. The DOK take a lifetime vow to live by the Rule of the Order; it requires a spiritual discipline of daily Prayer, Service and Evangelism. Because of our vow, we refer to ourselves as an order, not an organization. Our bylaws prohibit us from raising funds. Contact: Shirley Sugden, 404.373.4885

Epiphany Book Club

The Epiphany Book Club is on hiatus for the summer. We will start up again August 31, then resume meeting 1st Mondays at Regency House (341 Winn Way, Decatur 30030) at 7:30 p.m. Contact: Christina Kaylor, 404.525.7595. August: *The Orphan Master's Son* by Adam Johnson (Pulitzer Prize for Fiction).

Mental Health Support Group

A support group for people living with mental illness is being formed. Meetings take place the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of the month at 6:30 p.m. The purpose of the group is to provide a community of and for people who are living with mental illness. It is a confidential, safe place for people to be honest about their condition and its impact in their lives. Members gather to discuss recovery, spirituality, trials, and triumphs. If you are interested in learning more about the group, or would like to join the group, please contact Wende Crow: wendecrow@gmail.com 678.900.7930.

Veteran's Support Group

Veteran's Heart GA invites active duty service members, Veterans of all wars, their family members, healing professionals and concerned citizens to speak with and listen to each other, create understanding, and collectively address the effects of war that touch all of us. The meeting is from 1:30-3:30 p.m. every second Sunday in Jones Hall. We request that you register through our website www.veteransheartgeorgia.org prior to each meeting. Sign up for the newsletter and receive a reminder every month.

For Our Prayers...

Prayer intentions for *The Epiphany Star* and for Sunday Services should be directed to the parish office at parishadmin@epiphany.org. For Pastoral Emergencies, text or call the clergy on call at 404.939.2137. Please let the Parish Office know if there are any errors on the listings below.

Heal your sick servants

- Richard Bassett
- Bill Hudson
- Anne Rowles
- Craig Ryder
- Linda Ryder-Wolf
- Larry Wilcox

Parishioners who desire our continuing prayers

- Neil Banfield
- Marlene & Charles Coats
- Alice Cunningham
- Laura Faller
- Tim Gore
- Arlen Gray
- Adele Reeves
- Ted Yardley
- Sarah Jane Wollison

Those in the armed forces

- GySgt Stewart Mundy, son of Dan & Diane Mundy
- Matthew Howells, nephew of Audrey & Neil Banfield

Family and friends who request our prayers

- Michael Morehouse, friend of Holly Slater
- Mickie Schierman, mother of Ann Fowler
- Janice, Jessica & Megan, relatives of the Laird Family
- Thelma & J.O. Hudson, parents of Bill Hudson
- Martha Sanders Vincent, mother of Heather Holly
- Mike and Bethany Gaige, Joan Hambalek, family of Barbara Belcore
- Kat Rader, friend of Chippy & Mac Holladay
- Justin D'zan, friend of Rob Godsall
- Lynn Gable, friend of Rob Godsall
- Mike, Nona and Dave Tipton, relatives of Pam Tipton
- Chris Dolezel, sister of Marjorie Timmer
- Grace Edmiston, mother of Dennis Edmiston
- Laurie, friend of Laura Faller
- Jane Howe, sister of Chippy Holladay

- Molly Gray, sister of Lissa Jackson
- John Aull, brother of Kathy Walmsley
- Kyle, friend of Sandy Land
- Donnie Huestess, relative of Randy Shearin
- Shelly Raines, father of Ann Williamson, grandfather of Lea, Maggie, Mary Katharine and Alex Williamson
- David Crawford, brother of Debby Crawford
- Don Lloyd, brother of Brenda Lloyd
- Jean Sengl, aunt of Brenda Lloyd
- Habiba & Farshad, friends of Wende Crow
- Miller Montesinos, nephew of Cristina Montesinos
- Lillian Fox, mother of Keith Fox
- Niki Thomas, friend of Chippy Holladay
- Angie Warden Pasqualel, friend of Linda Ryder-Wolf
- Carol Hasset, friend of Linda Ryder-Wolf
- Gloria Davis, mother of Jeremy Davis



The Episcopal Church of the Epiphany
2089 Ponce de Leon Ave., NE
Atlanta, GA 30307
Change Service Requested

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5 p.m., Thursday, July 16*

Office Hours

Mon. – Thur. 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Friday 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.

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Julie P. Ryder, *Organist & Choirmaster*
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L. Shea McNutt, *Parish Administrator*
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Part-time, Placements & Affiliations

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children@epiphany.org

Charles Carter, *Seminarian*
Charles.robert.carter@emory.edu

Robert Pitman, *Bookkeeper*
Bookkeeper@epiphany.org

Jean Livingston, *Childcare Worker*
Charlotte Hill, *Childcare Worker*

2015 Vestry

Phil Bolton, *Pastoral Care*
Shelle Bryant, *Treasurer ex-officio*
Jeremy Davis, *Finance & Stewardship*
Stephanie Everett, *Finance & Stewardship*
Kim Finnegan, *Outreach*
Brian Gross, *Adult Formation*
Bruce Maclachlan, *Building & Grounds*
Katie Pedersen, *Children & Youth*
Randy Shearin, *Parish Life*
Amy Shipp, *Liturgy & Music*
Randy Stewart, *Building & Grounds*
Sherry Wallace, *Clerk ex-officio*
Sara Weigle, *Sr. Warden*
Paul Welty, *Membership*

Worship Schedule—Sunday

8:45 a.m. - Holy Eucharist
11:15 a.m. - Holy Eucharist
6 p.m. - Holy Eucharist

Worship Schedule—Weekdays

Tuesday at 7 a.m. – Holy Eucharist
Wednesday at 12:15 p.m. – Holy Eucharist with Healing Rite