



The EPIPHANY STAR

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

a bi-weekly newsletter | January 5, 2017

No Year-Long Resolutions

I didn't make any New Year's resolutions this year.

I normally do. I put a lot of time and energy into making a list of things that I want to do better, how I want to be a better person, *literally overnight*.

Many years my resolutions contain some of the same things: lose some weight, move a little more, write thank-you notes, read my Bible more. And over the years I have varying degrees of success and failure on these and other resolutions. Inevitably, though, I get to mid-February and realize I wasn't able to hold onto my resolutions like I had hoped. That changing overnight and forever was not, in fact, possible.

So, this year I didn't make any. Well, I didn't make any New Year's resolutions. What I mean is, I didn't make any big promises to myself to do something different for a whole year, starting *literally overnight*. I think it's too much pressure. As if you had to hold it for a whole year, and if you messed up one day, you couldn't have a do-over. Or maybe it's all the stories I heard about 2016 being so bad, and so many putting all our hopes in 2017. As if this year would be free from pain or loss or hurt or whatever it was that made 2016 so bad. Too much pressure!

So instead, I decided to make daily resolutions. Today, I'm going to write a thank-you note. Today, I'm not having dessert. Today, I'm reading the story of Ruth. Tomorrow, I might have exactly the same resolution. Or not.

One of the central texts of Judaism is The Talmud. The Talmud contains teachings and opinions of thousands of rabbis on a variety of subjects including law, ethics, history, lore, and philosophy.

Maybe my current favorite teaching from the Talmud is this one:

Do not be daunted by the enormity of the world's grief. Do justly, now. Love mercy, now. Walk humbly, now. You are not obligated to complete the work, but neither are you free to abandon it.

I believe this might be a great daily resolution for all of us. It feels like what the world needs from us just now, and what we need from each other too.

Blessings on your 2017. Blessings on your today.

The Rev. Dr. Sharon Hiers, Senior Associate Rector

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- The Talmud, a sacred text

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

Stewardship News

- 2017 Annual Giving Pledge Cards Ingathering will take place on the Feast of Epiphany on January 6.
- Capital Campaign Pledge Card Ingathering will take place on Sunday, February 5.

Our Feast Day is Friday, Jan. 6

- **Epiphany Pageant:** Please plan on joining us for our feast day celebration which includes a visit from Bishop Whitmore.
- **Annual Ingathering for our Stewardship Campaign** will take place during the service. Please bring your pledge card for 2017 Annual Giving.
- **Epiphany Offering:** Bring a can of peaches or pears for the Decatur Emergency Assistance Ministry (DEAM) Basket as your Epiphany offering. We will also be taking up an offering for the Bishop's Discretionary Fund in honor of his visit.
- **Epiphany Dinner:** Join us after the pageant for Gala Celebration and to have a conversation about the master plan for the Capital Campaign. BOYB. No cost for the meal, but donations would be appreciated.

Wednesday Night Dinner

Wednesday Night Dinner has resumed: Dinner served from 5:30-6:30 p.m. Cost is \$8 for adults, \$4 for children 10 and under. This year we are alternating between hot meals from Bridge Catering and Boxed Sandwich meals or Pasta and Salad from Jason's Deli. Sign up in the Crossing Hall by 11 a.m. Tuesday. If you'd like to be on the standing reservation list, please contact the parish office.

Annual Parish Meeting

Sunday, January 22, at 10 a.m.

Please join us in the church at 10 a.m. for our Annual Parish Meeting on Sunday, January 22. We will hear reports from the vestry members and heads of parish organizations, as well as the Rector; elect new vestry members and thank the retiring; and receive the 2016 Financial Report and 2017 Annual Budget. All are welcome, and encouraged to attend.

Justice, Freedom, and Peace: Activist Episcopalians

In the Prayers of the People, we pray "for this community, the nation, and the world; for all who work for justice, freedom, and peace" (BCP, p. 392). Act on this prayer with Episcopalians and others



marching for social justice on January 21, 2017. Marches are being organized by community volunteers nationwide, including in Washington DC and Atlanta.

Some Epiphanyites plan to take a bus to Washington, and some will march in Atlanta. Before the January 21 marches, we will prepare ourselves through education, planning, relationship building, and prayer. After January 21, we will see where the Spirit leads us. If you cannot attend either march, come to meetings anyway—we need your ideas, presence, love, questions, and prayers. Collectively, we will witness against the many forms of bigotry that "corrupt and destroy the creatures of God" (BCP, p. 302).

To prepare, we'll meet on Tuesdays at 7 p.m. in Jones Hall A. Meetings and topics include:

January 10: Spirituality of Activism

January 17: Sign Making, Finalizing Details for the Marches

January 24: Debriefing, Reflecting, Next Steps.

The purpose is to support each other in discernment—listening to the Spirit's call for how each of us will use our varied gifts to work for justice, freedom, and peace. Whatever each of us is called to do, let's begin by gathering.

For general information, contact Shirley Banks at shirleymaybanks@gmail.com or 404.644.4861. Contact Stephanie Everett at stephanie@everettconsultingatlanta.com or 404.695.5480 about the Washington trip. Contact Shelle Bryant at swbryant@gmail.com or 404.245.9979 about the Atlanta contingent.

Endowment Board Grants: Magi Foundation

The 30-day period for requesting disbursements from the Epiphany Endowment Fund opens on the day of the annual parish meeting, January 22, 2017. The guidelines for distributions, pursuant to the Fund's Plan of Operation, are:

- Capital improvements, debt reduction, or the building program of The Church of the Epiphany;
- Scholarships or grants to members of The Church of the Epiphany for the purpose of attending college, seminary, nursing or medical school; for church-related camping or leadership conferences; or such other training which enables members of this congregation to grow in Christian faith and service to God's people;
- Outreach into the community including, but not limited to, grants to Episcopal colleges and seminaries, social service agencies, institutions and agencies to which this parish relates, and to special programs designed for those persons in our area who are in spiritual and/or economic need; projects of the Episcopal Church at home and overseas.

The Endowment Board received eleven applications in 2016 for grants totaling \$14,425. The Board, with the Vestry's approval, was able to award \$7,224. The following represents the total amounts awarded:

1. Scholarships awarded - \$2,640. One applicant received a grant to help with college education, one for clinical pastoral education, one to assist with vacation bible school in Haiti, and one for Godly Play Training.
2. Capital Improvements awarded - \$2,084. Music program received grants to purchase a set of tone chimes for the children's choir and junior choir supplies. A grant was also award for acolyte robes and cinctures.
3. Parish Outreach awarded - \$2,500. A grant was awarded to the Emmaus House Freedom School.

Request forms will be available in the gallery or on the Endowment Board page of the Epiphany website. Deadline for Applications is Wednesday, February 22, 2017. Please return them to the cubby marked Grant Applications outside the parish office.

The Magi Foundation is an important aspect of The Endowment Fund program. The purpose of The Magi Foundation is to thank, recognize, and honor individuals who have made provisions for the Fund in their will or by other means of planned gift, such as a life insurance policy or charitable remainder trust.

Members of the Magi Foundation

Oz Adams	Pat Graves	Robin Levine	Karyn Smith
Bert Bender	Pam Hall	Brenda Lloyd	Karen Swenson
Phil Bolton	John Hamilton	Bruce Maclachlan	Dale Swenson
Vicki Bolton	Ruth Healy	Gretchen Maclachlan	Margo Timberlake
Sam Cartledge*	Sharon Hiers	Shea McNutt	Betty Walton*
Alice Cunningham*	Carol Hogue	Lisa Newton	Bill Weaver*
Lisa Daily	Lynn Hogue	Jim Rabb	Sarah Jane Wollison
Cecilia Democko	Elizabeth Holloway	Neva Redfern	
Tom Democko	Doug Johnson*	Greg Robisch	*deceased
David Draper	Claiborne Jones	Vanessa Robisch	
Mary Betty Ford*	Anne Kerner	Doug Runnion	
Bill Graves	Kay Lee	Nancie Sill*	

Children's Ministries

Children's News: Sign up to receive the e-newsletter for Epiphany Children's Ministries by e-mailing cbreed@epiphany.org.

New Babies: Parents, be sure to let us know when there is a new baby in your life! Send a picture to the church office with the name, birthdate, and parents' names of the newborn and we'll post it on our Guild of the Christ Child Board.

Weekday Worship & Bible Study

Tuesday Morning Eucharist is celebrated at 7 a.m. A group of men gather for breakfast and discussion afterwards and typically are on their way to work by 8 a.m.

A Noonday healing service is offered on Wednesdays followed by Eucharist and then Bible Study at 1 p.m.

The Wednesday Evening Bible Study with the Rector is offered at 6:30 p.m. for a study of the upcoming Sunday's readings.

Announcements

In the Bulletin & Weekly E-blast: Insert notices – 40 words or less – are due 9 a.m. Thursdays. Weekly E-News items are due 4 p.m. Tuesdays. If you have photos from Epiphany events you want to share, email the parish office at parishadmin@epiphany.org.

Parish Directory

Our parish database is available online to members. Just click the "Online Directory" link on the homepage at epiphany.org. First time visitors register by clicking on the "Need a login?" link. There's also a free smart phone app version, called "Church Life."

Transitions

welcome our newest members. If you would like to transfer your membership to Epiphany, you may pick up a Transfer Request form in the gallery or send your date of birth and any dates of baptism or confirmation, along with the name and address of your previous church home, to the parish office.

Transfers In

John, Kathy, Jessa and Adrianna Corcoran from St. Michael's Episcopal Church, Easley, SC

Ongoing Meetings

The Epiphany Book Group meets the 1st Monday of the month, at 7:30 p.m. in Jones Hall. However, we will be meeting the 2nd Monday in January – January 9 – rather than the first. Contact: Dennis Edmiston at dce1946@gmail.com or 678.613.7401.

January Selection: *The Road to Character*, by David Brooks

February Selection: *News of the World* by Paulette Jiles

March Selection: *The Spiral Staircase* by Karen Armstrong

April Selection: *Everybody's Fool* by Richard Russo

May Selection: *The Class of '65* by Jim Auchmuty

June Selection: *Jacksonland* by Steve Inskeep

Meeting Night: Committees meet on 2nd Monday from 6–7:30 p.m. We gather in Jones Hall, pray together and then go our ways. Committee Chairs, please be sure to let your committees know each month if they are meeting.

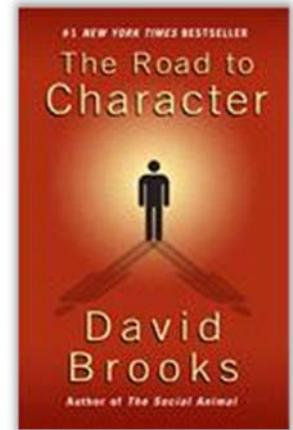
Women's Book Group meets 1st Thursdays at 7 p.m. at Catherine Breed's house. We are discussing Carry On by Glennon Doyle Melton. Email Catherine at cbreed@epiphany.org for directions and to RSVP.

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 starts at 11 a.m. with potluck lunch to follow.

Young Adults Sunday Lunch: Please join the Epiphany Young(ish) Adult group for brunch on the last Sunday of each month. Gather in the courtyard following the second service, about 12:30 p.m., to carpool to our location.

The Daughters of the King (DOK) meets the 4th Thursday at 10:30 a.m. at the Banfield residence. For directions, email banfieldn@bellsouth.net. We invite all ladies of the congregation to join us.

Veteran's Support Group: Veteran's Heart of GA invites service members, veterans, and family members to speak with and listen to each other, create understanding, and collectively address the effects of war that touch all of us. They meet in Room A on the 2nd Sunday of the month from 1:30-3:30 p.m. *RSVP at www.veteransheartgeorgia.org.



Outreach News

DEAM Food Drive

January is Epiphany's month to help stock the pantry at the Decatur-area Emergency Assistance Ministry. Our goal is to collect at least 100 each of four items DEAM needs most at this time. Please bring: canned pears or peaches, sm pkgs corn muffin mix, 1 qt pkgs dry milk and toilet paper. Watch for our progress on the tally sheet posted near the DEAM boxes.



Peachtree Pine Ministry

Join us to cook for the men of the Peachtree Pine Shelter. Epiphany is now offering childcare both days: Thursday 1-5 prep; Friday 2-5 cook; 5-7 serve; 7-9 cleanup. RSVP to bevlorenzo@att.net if you plan to pitch in. Sign up for childcare at epiphany.org. Upcoming Dates: January 19 & 20, February 16 & 17

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. Sunday Prayers are kept for a month, prayer intentions in the newsletter are kept for two months. Please let the Parish Office know if there are any errors on the listings below.

Heal your sick servants

- Richard Bassett
- David Draper
- Pam Hall
- Ron Hall
- Edouard Johnson
- Chris Miller
- Luise Kirkhuff
- Reese Rivera
- Liz Romo-Rasha
- Jaye Rudolph
- Craig Ryder
- Steve Sabom

Rest eternal grant them

- Wesley P. Smith, uncle of Margo Timberlake

Parishioners who desire our continuing prayers

- Neil Banfield
- Richard Bassett
- Marlene Coats
- Arlen Gray
- Sarah Jane Wollison

For members who are expecting

Rebecca Woodruff & Adam Gaeddert
Ellen & Michael Bryan

Those in the armed forces

- Matthew Howells, nephew of Audrey & Neil Banfield
- MSG Stewart Mundy, son of Dan & Diane Mundy
- Brandon Pattison, nephew of Benno Pattison
- 1LT Elizabeth Tankovich, sister of Catherine Breed
- Nick Watts, brother of Chris Booth

Family and friends who request our prayers

- Zoe, granddaughter of Chippy & Mac Holladay
- Greg Robert, friend of Jewel Allen
- Sharon Pierce, daughter of Pat Spivey
- Susan Fuller, daughter of Alma Fuller
- James Wilcox, Mattie Zanders and Marion Danley, father and aunts of Larry Wilcox

- Casey Blankenship, friend of Linda Ryder-Wolf
- Ann Giblin, friend of Sara Cushing
- Lydia Kramer Lee, cousin of Gretchen Maclachlan
- Bette Phillips Hershey, mother of Kristin Phillips
- Fisher-Ari, friend of Cristin Davis
- Chris Tomasino, friend of Linda Ryder-Wolf
- Maria Mezzacappa, friend of Lynda Ryder Wolf
- Judy Sylvester, friend of Lynda Ryder Wolf
- Lizzie Barbagallo, niece of Lynda Ryder Wolf
- Zoe, granddaughter of Chippy & Mac Holladay
- Al and Bernadette, friends of Audrey & Neil Banfield
- Carolyn Allen, mother of Jewel Allen
- Joan Hambalek, friend of Barbara Belcore



THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE EPIPHANY
2089 Ponce de Leon Ave., NE
Atlanta, GA 30307

Change Service Requested

The Epiphany Star

a word to the wise...

...a bi-weekly publication of The Episcopal
Church of the Epiphany.

*Next issue deadline: 5 p.m.,
Thursday, January 12, 2017*

Office Hours: Mon. – Thur. 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. and
Friday 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.

Website: www.epiphany.org

E-mail: info@epiphany.org

Telephone: 404.373.8338

Worship Schedule—Sunday

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

Worship Schedule—Weekdays

Tuesday at 7 a.m. – Holy Eucharist
Wednesday at 12:15 p.m. – Holy Eucharist
w/Healing
Thursday at 7 a.m. — Shared Silence

Full-time Parish Staff

The Rev. Benno D. Pattison, Rector
rector@epiphany.org

The Rev. Dr. Sharon L. Hiers, Senior Associate Rector
sharon@epiphany.org

Julie P. Ryder, Organist & Choirmaster
music@epiphany.org

L. Shea McNutt, Parish Administrator
parishadmin@epiphany.org

Part-time, Placements & Affiliations

Catherine Breed, Director of Children's Ministries
cbreed@epiphany.org

Shereetha Jackson, Youth Ministries Coordinator
sjackson@epiphany.org

The Rev. Barbara Ryder, Assisting Priest (Ret.)
bhwryder@bellsouth.net

Susie Boyko, Bookkeeper
Bookkeeper@epiphany.org

Jean Livingston, Childcare Worker
Charlotte Hill, Childcare Worker

Vestry

Sy Burnett, *Treasurer, ex-officio*

Sara Cushing, *Capital Campaign &
Senior Warden, ex-officio*

Martha Rummel, *Clerk, ex-officio*

Class of 2017

Phil Bolton, *Stewardship*

Stephanie Everett, *Senior Warden*

Kim Finnegan, *Membership*

Brian Gross, *Adult Formation & Pastoral Care*

Class of 2018

Bruce Maclachlan, *Building & Grounds*

Katie Pedersen, *Capital Campaign*

Amy Shipp, *Parish Life & Junior Warden*

Paul Welty, *Youth Formation*

Class of 2019

Bill Gary, *Outreach*

Bonnie Kissler, *Finance*

Brenda Lloyd, *Endowment*

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