

THE WEEKLY WORD

EPIPHANY PARISH OF SEATTLE . OCTOBER 10, 2011

For the Sake of our Souls (Epiphany 2111)

Dear Epiphany,

I don't wonder too often about what Epiphany will be like in 100 years. If Epiphany is what she was made to be, she will be doing the same things in 2111 that she does today. That is to say, to magnify the souls of people like you and me. We praise God as community in a common way with a common voice, not because of doctrine, but because we belong. We are God's own. All who believe this have a place at the Epiphany table and will always have a place at the Epiphany table. In 2111 our liturgy will be similar, as will our music. Yes, it will feel ancient. It does now, it will then. Our sermons are about things pertaining to God, as elucidated through Christ, God incarnate, and that too will hold true.

Epiphany will be a place that serves the soul by making space for individuals to be the people they were created to be. We will be a place of study and a place that practices those same old Christian practices of prayer, worship, pilgrimage, fasting and tithing. We will be a community that serves our neighbor in a way that is helpful and in the manner by which they ask for help.

Epiphany will be a community in community. We will know the other and be known by the other. From birth to death, Epiphany will be a place that welcomes all wherever they are on their spiritual journey. Our common life will be around our individual discernment about who God created us to be. Our insights will be made possible with the help of a community that knows us, has known us, and is committed to being in relationship with us throughout our entire life.

Praising God, practicing how to live and being known by a community throughout our lives will be the purview of Epiphany. So too will it be the purview of other neighborhood churches, I hope. This is what makes church an entirely unique phenomenon today and

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will make us entirely unique in 2111. No other institution is focused fully and entirely on the health, wholeness and holiness of the soul. And this matters and will matter all the more as the institutions that used to bind community together are falling apart.

The neighborhood school, for example, is struggling to hold its own today, and may well be an historical footnote in 2111. With its demise, familiarity with our neighbors is reduced. It's not that we don't want to know our neighbors, but life is so hectic, and neighbors come and go, moving from one city to another as a necessity for ascending the career ladder. Which is a necessity to pay the \$17,000 first grade tuition bills. Just think of what college will cost in 2111.

Actually, I'd imagine that by 2111, four-year residential colleges will be a quaint luxury for the privileged. The financial model for colleges will have rendered the institutions themselves extinct. As the tuition increases, the value will become more and more dubious, and besides, going to college to learn things will no longer be required. Even now information is a commodity. To know something is a mouse click away. To learn stuff will no longer require buildings and campuses. The counter argument may be that residential colleges are a place to learn who we are, within the community of our peers. And there is some truth to this, but in the aggregate, are peers really the people through whom we learn who we are? Identity and knowledge of the soul, I pray, will remain the province of the church in 2111. The church will remain the community where we are known and not just by peers, but also by old and young, wise and rambunctious alike. This matters now and will matter then.

In 2111, more than just education will have changed. More and more work will be done outside the bounds of work hours and office buildings. The days of the water cooler conversation will be over, as will the era of a 25-year retirement watch and colleagues who saw our kids grow up. Instead, milestone celebrations and the people who attend them, the baptisms, confirmations, commissionings, weddings and funerals will continue to happen in the generative environment of the church.

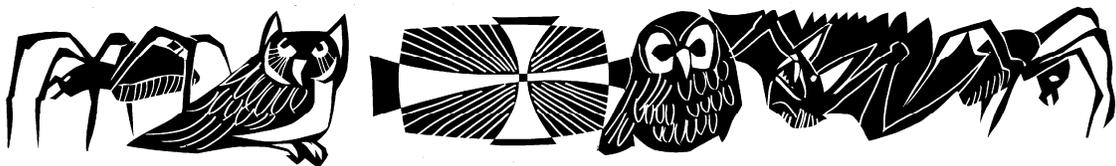
And for this reason in 2111, Epiphany's buildings will still matter. They will be the gathering place of people, a place open to all people. They will be the last place where people can come for free

and still feel they belong. There are fewer and fewer places, even today that we can go for free. National parks have a fee. Museums have a fee. Public pools have a fee. Churches do pass the basket; that is true. But as an exercise that reflects our relationship with God, as part of the dramatic art of thanksgiving woven into the liturgy, for the purpose of magnifying our soul. It is how we work today, and it is how Epiphany will operate in 2111.

In 2111, Seattle will look different than it does today. And yet in the heart of this city there will still be a need for Epiphany. The human soul will still yearn to know God 100 years from now. The human soul will still seek to fuse with the divine. Holy places will still matter. And more than ever, holy spaces will be places to study, practice and serve, in community, with people, across all demographics, who we know and know us.

What we do today at Epiphany will matter in 2111. It is our mission to magnify the soul. It is our mission to do so as followers of Jesus. Church is here as a place where all souls are welcome and where all souls are seen in the glory for which they were created. We know human magnificence and we practice this magnificence. From this place of mortal beauty, we encounter and live out our eternal grace, today and in 100 years.

Doyt+



HALLOWEEN GIVING FOR YWCA KIDS

Help our little friends celebrate the season. Epiphany will be collecting **pumpkins, carving sets, costumes, candy** and anything else Halloween for children in the YWCA's shelter housing including the East Cherry apartments in our neighborhood. Please bring your donations to church by **Sunday October 23**. We will have tents set up on campus on Sundays and during the week and you can always drop items off at the church office as well.

Questions? Contact Sherilyn Peterson 206.322.2831 or speterson@perkinscoie.com **Thank you!**



EVENSONG—ALL SAINTS' SUNDAY

Sunday, November 6, 5 pm in the Church

Evensong is the most particularly Anglican service in all of Christian Worship. It is sung regularly in many cathedrals and parish churches throughout this country, and daily in many places in England. The choir traditionally offers certain portions while the congregation joins in the hymns and prayers. Join us at Epiphany Parish on All Saints' Sunday, November 6th from 5:00-6:00 pm for this service of rare and mystical beauty. Epiphany Choir will sing music of prominent English and American Composers. -Tom

PLEASE MARK THESE IMPORTANT DATES in the LIFE of EPIPHANY

Sunday, October 30th, 9:15 and 11:45 am
Ministry Fair

Saturday, November 5th, 4:00-11:00 pm
Ukrainian Festival in the Great Hall

Sunday, November 6th, 5:00-6:00 pm
All Saints' Sunday EVENSONG

From Lack to Black:

Transforming Financial Chaos into Financial Serenity

Date: Friday, October 21 **Time:** 7:00-9:00 pm **Location:** Great Hall

Is your life unmanageable because of increasing debt and over-spending? Do you feel like you'll never get ahead financially for yourself and your family? Would you like to hear life experiences of strength and hope leading to financial recovery?

Join us for a lively introduction to the 12 Step Fellowship of Debtor's Anonymous. Learn from our success stories how you can begin to take control of your financial well-being.

+ This is an outside event open to Epiphany for free +

Social Action Giving for October

YWCA:

Socks, men's and women's underwear and personal hygiene items (razors, tooth brushes/ tooth paste, tampons, band aids, ointments, hand sanitizers, etc)

Teen Feed & Operation Nightwatch:

*Drink mix (powder or concentrate)
Socks for Sock it to the Homeless*

Sock donations for Operation Nightwatch (Sock it to the Homeless—October 30th) can be dropped off at the back of the church in the appropriate donation box. Thank you!

Needed Now!

Have a twin, double or even queen bed that you want out of your house? Someone currently sleeping on the floor would be very grateful to have it. I'll haul it away for you. Call Holly at 206-324-8954.

WANTED: YOUR USED MAGAZINES AND PAPERBACK BOOKS

Please donate your used (or new) magazines and paperback books. Magazines will be donated, after removing name and address labels, to Cherry St. Housing for the Homeless and Plymouth Housing for Homeless Men. Paperback books are sent to the Coastguard.

*Donations can be dropped off at the back of the church in the appropriate donation box. **Thank you!***

Women of Epiphany

Please join us

Saturday November 5th, 2011

for a Half Day Retreat

9 a.m. to Noon

in the Christie House Library

Reverend Susan Dean facilitating

Who do you say that I am?

Reflections on who is God to us
and who are we to God?

Due to Reverend Susan Dean's warm presence and skill in facilitating the 2010 Epiphany Women's Retreat, many requested that we have her with us again. Thus she has been asked to return so that women who were unable to attend the weekend retreat could have the experience of working with her here. Rev. Susan Dean modestly describes herself as "a priest in our diocese whose ministries include building the Underhill House of Prayer, spiritual direction, and presiding and preaching at churches when the parish clergy are unavailable." She and her husband, David, attend St. Luke's in Renton.

Additional retreat details:

Tea with light lunch follows program at noon

Childcare provided

Please RSVP to Julia or Karen by Nov 1

\$10 registration donation

Sponsored by Epiphany Women's Retreats

Questions? Please contact Julia Putnam juliasp1@comcast.net or

Karen Michaelsen kmicha@gmail.com

Fall Children & Youth Formation

<i>Class/Age Group</i>	<i>Location</i>
9:00–12:30pm	
Childcare (Ages 0-4)	Nursery (below the Chapel, next to the Choir Rm)
9:15-10:15 am	
Activities (Ages 5-10)	The Meeting Place (New preschool classrooms)
Road to Rome (Grades 5-6)	Lower Floor Classroom Christie House
Rite-13 (Grades 6-8)	Lower Floor Christie House
10:30 -11:15 am	
Godly Play (PreK-Grade 4)	Various Rooms, Check signs on campus
5:00-7:00 pm	
Youth Community (Grades 6-12)	Varies from Week to Week

Fall Christian Formation Hour | 9:15–10:15 a.m.

	<i>Class One</i>	<i>Class Two</i>	<i>Class Three</i>
10/16	Lord's Prayer— <i>Lecture</i>		
10/23	Lord's Prayer — <i>Discussion</i>	Sacred Space	Marriage
10/30	Christian Mystics	Sacred Space	
11/6	Christian Mystics	Sacred Space	All Saints Day
11/13	Christian Mystics	Godly Play	
11/20	Jesus' Mission	Book of Ruth	Advent Wkshp
11/27	Jesus' Mission	Book of Ruth	Advent Season
12/4	Jesus' Mission	Book of Ruth	
12/11	Who Is Jesus?— <i>Lecture</i>		
12/18	Who is Jesus?— <i>Discussion</i>	Breakfast at Sally's	

**FOUNDATIONS OF CHRISTIANITY:
THE LORD'S PRAYER**

***How Everything We Need to Know About How to Live
in Relation to God is Available in Four Sentences***

Presenter: The Reverend Doyt L. Conn Jr.

Sundays: 10/16 (Lecture) and 10/23 (Q&A/Discussion)

Time: 9:15 a.m. to 10:15 a.m.

Location: Great Hall

Why doesn't God start The Lord's Prayer with "I"? Where is Heaven? Who's holy? Where does God live and what does that have to do with my U.S. Senator? Does forgiveness really work? Why does Jesus bring it up? Am I led into temptation or do I choose to go there, and how am I "delivered" from evil? What is "evil" anyway, and how does it work?

Jesus teaches this prayer because his disciples ask him how to pray. It is our world's most widely known prayer—the first prayer children learn and the last one uttered before death; Alzheimer's patients remember it; it reflects the cry of a mother, the lament of the condemned, and the acknowledgement and acquiescence of both seekers and followers of Christ. The Lord's Prayer tells us everything we need to know about the kingdom of God and how to live in divine relationship with God. By the end of this course we will,

- + Break it down, call out the assumptions and implications embedded in The Lord's Prayer
- + Learn to recite the Lord's Prayer with new feeling and understanding
- + Be able to share what we now know about the prayer with a friend in pain or with joy

Week One: The Lord's Prayer, presented as a talk in the Great Hall

Week Two: Question and Answer Period. Please look in scripture for support or refutation of the issues raised for you by The Lord's Prayer. Bring your questions to class or email them ahead of time to Doyt at dconn@epiphanyparish.org.

ALL ARE WELCOME | NO RSVP OR REGISTRATION REQUIRED

+TEC—Next Sunday

**DECODING THE MYSTERY OF CHURCH
ARCHITECTURE AND DESIGN**

Moving the Furniture: Creating Sacred Space

Presenter: The Reverend Kate Wesch

Sundays: 10/23, 10/30, and 11/06

Time: 9:15 a.m. to 10:15 a.m.

Location: The Fireplace Room

**FOUNDATIONS OF CHRISTIANITY:
THE LORD'S PRAYER**

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Presenter: The Reverend Doyt L. Conn Jr.

Sundays: 10/23 (Q&A/Discussion)

Time: 9:15 a.m. to 10:15 a.m.

Location: Great Hall

WHAT MAKES MARRIAGE WORK?

I Mean Really Thrive!

Presenter: Carmen Hoffman, MS, LMFT

Sunday: 10/23— Last Session

Note: No Marriage class on 10/16

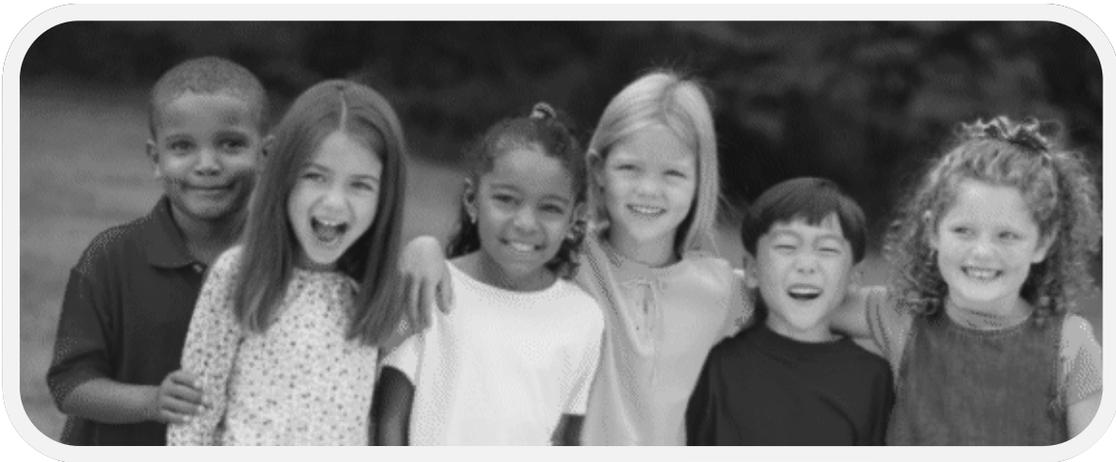
Time: 9:15 a.m. to 10:15 a.m.

Location: Library

See full course descriptions on www.epiphanyseattle.org or in the Fall Formation Booklet available in the Narthex or the Library.

ALL ARE WELCOME | NO RSVP OR REGISTRATION REQUIRED

Safeguarding God's Children Trainings Offered Monthly



Safeguarding God's Children, a program developed by the Church Pension Group for use in the Episcopal Church, will now be offered monthly at Epiphany Parish.

This program is our response to the question, "How are we making Epiphany Parish safe for our children and those who minister to them?" It is a specific program designed for Episcopal Churches to help us as we make our campus, our classrooms, and our church safe for our children and youth and those who work with them.

The training takes approximately three hours and is designed to raise awareness concerning issues of sexual and emotional abuse, and to provide tools for prevention that we can all use to protect our children from harm, promote safety and bring healing. Participants will also be trained in the policies of Epiphany Parish so that everyone who works with our children will be on the same page in regards to our "Safe Church" vision.

Any person, clergy or laity, paid staff or volunteer, who works with or near the children and youth of Epiphany Parish are required to attend this training. All members of the parish are encouraged to attend, especially guardians, parents, and grandparents. Epiphany Parish is offering trainings on Tuesday October 18th, November 15th, and December 13th. All trainings are scheduled from 6:00-9:00pm and will be held either in the Christie House Library or the Fireplace Room. Participants are encouraged to bring their dinner. Coffee and light refreshments will be provided.

For more information on this program or to sign up for one of the trainings, please contact Ben Linder at blinder@epiphanyseattle.org or call the parish office at 206-324-2573.

PARISH PRAYER LIST

WE PRAY FOR THOSE WHOSE BIRTHDAYS FALL

BETWEEN October 9—October 15: Craige Blackmore, Zola North-up, Jo Pope, Molly Hanlon, Andy Baker, Charlie Stark, Kriss Sjoblom, Chris Wilton, Theo Bushfield, Tyler Crissman, Josephine Hill, Alex Polson, Anabelle Ackerley, Audrey Sander, and Emily Walter.

WE PRAY FOR THOSE ON OUR CYCLE OF PRAYER: Chris & Laura, Eleanor, and Thomas Rodde; Dabney & Steve Rohrbach; Grace Ross; Tim Schmuckal & Kate, Margaret, and Julian Ross; and Joanne Rudo. We pray for the communities served, staff, volunteers, and Priests of the Diocesan Council; Board of Directors; and Standing Committee.

YOUR PRAYERS ARE ASKED FOR CONTINUED HEALING AND STRENGTH FOR THOSE IN OUR PARISH WHO ARE ILL OR GRIEVING: Paul, Bette Sprague, Beth Briggs, Coralie Swanson, Connie Gaines, Barbara Ward, Barbara Himmelman, David Morris, Rosemary Callison, Kay Schack, Holden Shaw, Paula Rueder, Kim Moon, Tracy Bernard, Claudia Rey, Rev. Dorian McGlannan, Randy, Lauren Oriel, Marcelle, Linda Withington, Sylvia, Johnny Saulsbury, Dominic Macri, Debbie Jones, Veronica, Ashle, Jen, Robert Barnes, Ruth Ingham, Laura, Lou, Ashley Baca, Bob Bergman, Ellen, Louise Grimes, David Grimes, Kat Walesby, Piper Simmons, Cameron, Sally Gold, Cristina Scalzo, Sue, Jim Veeneman, Doreen Gibbs, David Nees, Tony Haffner, Elena Jenkins, Bill, Kim, Austin, Jeff, Jackson Fitzgerald, Maggie, Tritia Ryhter, Jane, Virginia Griffith, Sherry Taylor, Sara & Leo Blandford, Kory, Carin Barnes, Brandi Jones, the Slovers, Perry, Morgan Brinley, Charlotte Hutton, Bill Grayson, Alice, Pamela Potter, the family of Charles and Genelle Phillips, Helen Wisdom, Holly Gomez, Sid Malbon, the Cary family, Kevin, Rita, Gregg Waddell, Andy, Paul Grimm, P.J., Tom Pelphrey, and Ginger Ackerley.