

THE WEEKLY WORD

EPIPHANY PARISH OF SEATTLE . AUGUST 5, 2013

The Next 100 Years Building Campaign Series, Part 2: *My Role As Epiphany Fund-Raiser*

Dear Epiphany,

In the last Weekly Word, I wrote about the work done over the last twenty-four months that has brought us to this current building campaign and the priorities that have evolved based on congregational feedback and practical necessity. This week, I am writing about my role as a fundraiser. Next week, I plan to write about the manner by which you make a pledge to the campaign.

As the Rector of Epiphany, I wear many hats. While I consider my primary duty as the person who keeps our collective eyes on the kingdom of God, that can look like many different things. It can look like sermons and classes and Weekly Word articles. It can look like pastoral care and leadership in worship. It can look like a businessman who manages a P/L and balance sheet. It can look like a general manager who hires and fires and writes job descriptions. It can look like a development director who makes sure we have the resources to carry out our necessary functions. It can look like a person who prays for the parish and her parishioners. It can look like a liaison to the Diocese and a spokesperson for the church beyond her walls. It can look like a pilgrim leader and an outreach volunteer. It can look like an architect who considers the use and better use of our property. It can look like a prophet or an apologist or a regular guy who likes to share a beer with friends. In all of these roles, whatever they are at any given moment, my pledge to you is that I do them, each of them, with my eyes on the kingdom of God.

In the mix of my job, money can be a problem. As the Rector, seeking to raise money for the needs of the church, parishioners can quickly shift their view of me from steward of our common kingdom life, to a person out to get their money. Now here are two true statements: money is part of God's divine economy, and there will be times when, as Rector, I am going to ask you for money. Part of my responsibility as the steward of our life as a colony of the kingdom of God is to raise money. Now my hope is that it is not an ongoing necessity. My hope is that with this building campaign we raise enough money to ad-

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dress all of the maintenance, redesign, and future function needs of the campus. If we don't, there is a good chance that I will be circling back in the near term to again raise capital improvement dollars to finish the job. That said I would rather get this project fully funded now, so I don't have to circle around any time soon. But even as we go through this season of campus restoration, and even as I unapologetically call on you to give of your money for this effort, that does not mean I will not be calling on you for other reasons as well. I will continue to call on you to see how you are doing, to touch base and check in, to do my duty as pastor, as I have done these past few years. I will call on you to help out, to volunteer, to step up to fill a need in our kingdom life. And yet, during these times I will also be out there asking for money and this makes some people skittish. I am sorry about that. Some say I should have nothing to do with raising money so my role as Rector is not undercut by people's anxiety about whether or not I will ask them for money. I must assure you that I have no discomfort in holding both roles; indeed I have no problem juggling the multiple roles of Rector. The problem is money itself, and the anxiety it causes people who try to keep it separate from God's divine economy.

Money tells us about our priorities. It shows us in the clearest of terms where our heart is. It even tells us something about our character, and what we fear and what we love. My hope, of course, is that your heart is focused on the kingdom of God first and foremost. Does that mean you should give all of your money to the church? Not necessarily. It only means that you should consider your money in light of what God has done for you, and based on what you believe God hopes for you in this life and in the age to come. Money can reflect our smallness and our fear and it can reflect our beneficence and graciousness. It can reflect love or it can reflect achievement, status and power. Money is complicated, just as we are complicated, and sometimes we just don't want to share the complicated reality of who we are with our spiritual leader. Rest assured, I already know, if for no other reason than because I know this complication in my own personhood. So I invite you to step into the milieu of your complicated being as you reflect on your parsimoniousness or largeness in regards to money. Please know it is a conversation I would rejoice in having with you as your spiritual friend, pastor, and as the primary steward for Epiphany. It is a conversation I pray this building campaign inspires.

Doyt+



YOUTH SINGING AT EPIPHANY

Time to think of September already?!?

Yes! Time to SING!

PLAN for your youth to join the singing here –
make Choristers or Trainers part of their spiritual
life at Epiphany.



The **Chorister** program will be back in full swing
beginning Sunday, September 8th from 9am to 10am.

The **Training Choir** will begin practices
Wednesday, September 11th from 3:30pm to 4:30pm.

*Music truly is an integral part of how we worship at Epiphany. A child singing is natural, inspiring, and a joyous thing; it lifts the spirit in so many ways – for the children and the adults! The benefits to the body and mind from not only singing, but singing in a group, have been shown scientifically and **experienced** by billions throughout history - just ask any choir member! Have your children be a part of it. The growth of their hearts, minds, and spirit, and the sense of community built from being a chorister and contributing to the worship service, will be something that stays with them for a lifetime.*

Choristers – For youth entering 3rd grade or higher

This group will sing once every 5 to 6 weeks during the 10:30am service, occasionally an evening service and in the community. Young singers here will work on good vocal technique, musicianship, liturgy, theory, building a sense of community, responsibility, teamwork and fun, of course! This group learns all liturgical music, anthems for them alone to present, and songs simply for the *joy* of singing! Contact us to have your young musician join us.

Trainers – For youth entering Kindergarten through 4th grade

This group's name says it all – we are musically training! Here, your youth will learn about singing in a group, vocal technique, theory, liturgy, musicianship, sense of community, responsibility and *fun*. These singers will participate in service just a few times a year as they are ready. Contact us to sign up!

-Kathea Yarnell, *Music Associate - Choristers Program*
choristers@epiphanyseattle.org or 425.272.5972

Understanding the Difference between the Building Campaign Pledge and the Annual Stewardship Pledge

A message from The Rev. Doyt Conn

Dear Epiphany,

It occurred to me after writing my most recent *Weekly Word* article on my role as Epiphany fundraiser, that I should probably say a few words about our annual stewardship campaign (keep reading, it will be short). The risk of a building campaign is that people reallocate money from their stewardship pledge to their building campaign pledge. Please do not do that. The building is being cared for and repurposed so we can better pursue our spiritual journey at Epiphany. To reduce our operating budget just when we are improving our space would be counter productive. My hope is that at the very least we are able to keep our stewardship revenue flat, which given that people die and people move away, requires a slight bump from current parishioners and some added pledges from new parishioners.

Leadership toward this end will be given by Pete Melin and Alec Williamson. Mike Evans, our long-term stewardship chair has stepped down after years of successful service in this role. Mike will be staying on the committee to help with the transition. Thank you, Mike!

The stewardship campaign is an important fall event and will begin Oct. 6th with a sermon from me. It will culminate with the Ingathering on Nov. 24th. During that period of time we will receive your pledge for 2014, and with that information, the Vestry will set the budget for the year.

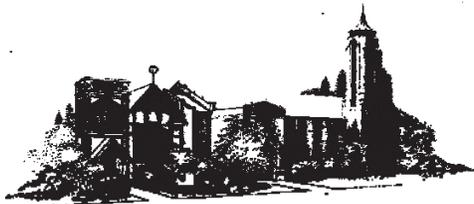
Pete and Alec will manage the campaign much as it has been managed in the past. You will receive a letter in the mail from me and then from a parishioner, both requesting you begin praying about and discussing your annual pledge. There will be one stewardship sermon and one stewardship witness, both given by parishioners sometime during the fall. Then, we will invite you to make your annual pledge. People who have not made a pledge by Nov. 24th will receive a telephone call, visit, or email from someone on our stewardship committee. In addition, Pete, Alec and their team will be adding to their duty the time-tested tradition of visiting new parishioners in their homes and inviting them to pledge financial sup-

port to the parish. I know they would love some help with this job, so if it is something you are interested in doing, please contact one of them.

Finally, I believe that we have been gathered by God as a parish to be a community that reflects the kingdom of God to the world beyond our walls. This is the gift we offer the world. This is the gift the church has always offered the world when the church remembers who she is and why she came into being. This is good news, and indeed, the Good News that Jesus made known to us. When church becomes anything less than good news, everything gets smaller and more scarce, and the mindset moves toward anxiety, as people morph from divine, glorious beings, into resources to do jobs or pay bills. May we never move to such a place of fear! Joy is the point of the spiritual journey, and abundance is her natural ally and constant partner. In God's divine economy beneficence and largess always trump tight fisted parsimoniousness. May our common life always face toward the kingdom of God.

Doyt+

Did You Know?



Epiphany: A Place. A Home. A Sanctuary.
Inspiring our spiritual journey.
For the next 100 years.

Everyone at Epiphany is invited to join the conversation about The Next 100 Years. As part of the campaign, a series of social gatherings is being held throughout the summer. If you haven't yet had a chance to join one of these delightful events, please sign up at Sunday coffee hour or be in touch with Linda Maxson, campaign coordinator. at lmaxson@epiphanyseattle.org

Did You Know? is a Weekly Word series
from *The Next 100 Years Building Campaign.*

EPIPHANY IS LOOKING FOR A WASHER & DRYER!

Do you have a washer and dryer you're looking to get rid of or replace?

Epiphany's washer and dryer are on the outs and we need to replace ours, but are hoping for a donation. We'd be interested in side by side units or stacking units. Commercial washer and dryer? Even better.



If you think you have a set that we would be interested in please contact Chinn Eap at chinn@epiphanyseattle.org or 206.324.2573.

PLEASE BRING YOUR BACKPACK AND SUPPLY DONATIONS TO THE CHURCH ON OR BEFORE SUNDAY, AUGUST 18—THANK YOU!

SAVE THE DATE! FALL NEWCOMER EVENT

Date: Sunday, September 22

Time: 6:00-7:30 pm

Location: Conn Residence
2025 East Newton St
Seattle, WA 98112

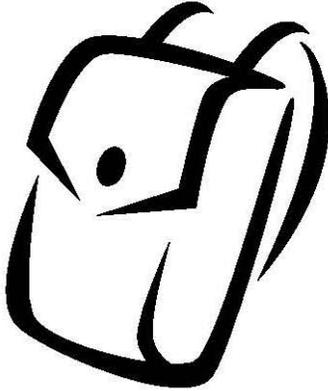


All newcomers to Epiphany are invited to attend a wine and cheese reception at the home of Doyt and Kristin Conn on Sunday, September 22 from 6:00-7:30 pm.

Please RSVP to the Parish Office
epiphanyparish@epiphanyseattle.org or 206.324.2573
by Wednesday, Sept 18 if you plan to attend.

Backpacks for YWCA Teenagers!

Help YWCA resident teenagers get ready for school! Epiphany has committed to supply **60** fully supplied backpacks to start the new school year. Each teenager in need will receive:

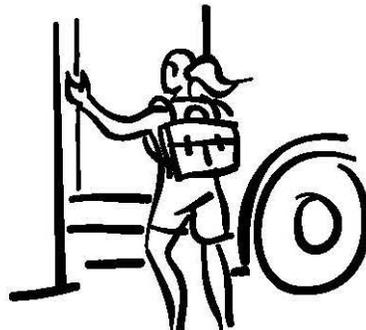


- 1 backpack (teenager appropriate!)
- 1.5" 3-ring binder
- 8 tab dividers for binder
- 4 spiral notebooks, college rule, 70 ct.
- 1 filler paper, college rule, 120/ct.
- 1 index cards, 3x5, ruled 100 ct., white
- 1 box #2 pencils, 12/pk
- 1 box colored pencils, 12/pk
- 3 medium blue or black pens
- 6 highlighters, chisel-tip, assorted colors
- 1 fabric pencil case w/3 grommets, 10"x6"
- 1 glue stick, .28 oz
- 2 tape, invisible, 3/4 x 1296"
- 1 sharpener, double barrel
- 1 box facial tissue
- 1 USB Flash Drive

How can you help? It's easy—just two simple steps!

1. Purchase your donations and bring them to the back of the church between now and **August 18**. You can provide either:
 - a. A fully provisioned backpack, *or*
 - b. Some of the items listed above, *or*
 - c. Donation to help us pay for a backpack
2. Email Ann McCurdy (ann.mccurdy@comcast.net) with what you will donate. This really helps us keep track and not have too much of one item and too little of another.

*Help us reach our
goal of 60
backpacks!*



THE CHOIR IS RETREATING!

To get a 'jump-start" on the fall music, Epiphany Choir will spend a full day at the church rehearsing on Saturday, August 24. They will start with light breakfast, will escape for lunch on the grounds, then will look forward to a brief but well-deserved "Happy Hour" at 4 pm.



The retreat day will introduce music for our concert with orchestra on November 17, and help to focus on some great new music for Sunday liturgies.

Thanks to choir members for giving up an entire day to the music of the church.

-Tom Foster

Save the Date—Epiphany All Clean Saturday, September 7, 10am-1pm

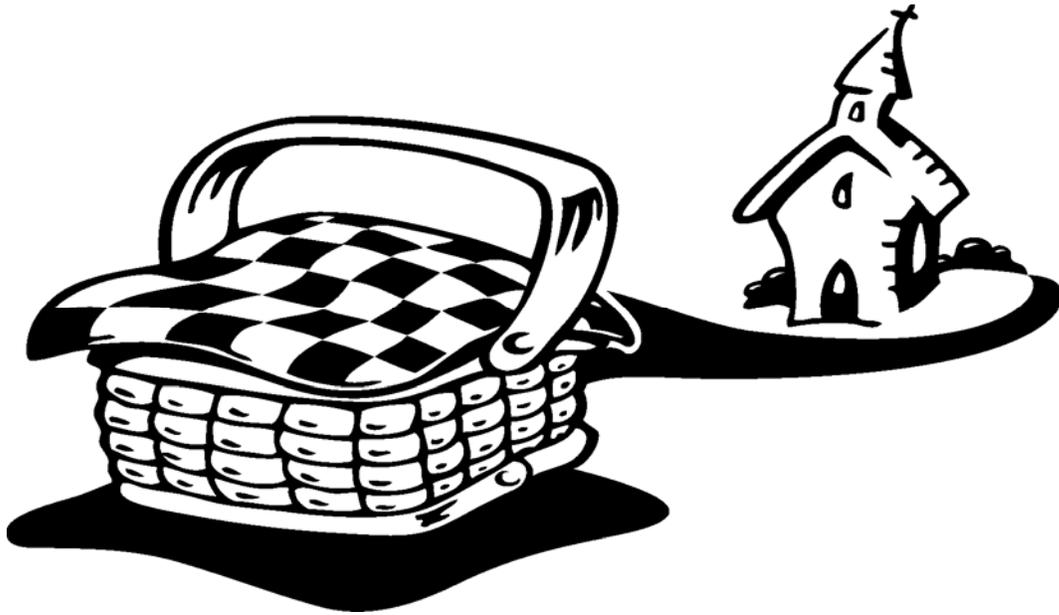
We'll be scrubbing, dusting, scraping, and washing again. Last year we had a great turnout by the Epiphany Choir, the Altar Guild, Eucharistic Ministers, Liberation and those who just love to exert some elbow grease and see the church and chapel shine.



BBQ Lunch will be provided and prepared by Chinn!

Please mark your calendars and RSVP to Nicki in the Parish Office if you plan to attend.

**Save the Date -
Epiphany Fall Kick-off Picnic!**



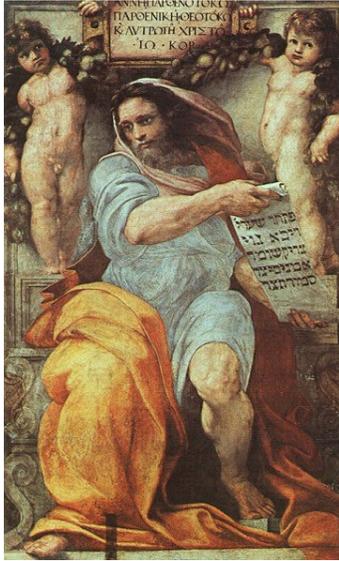
Sunday, September 8, 2013
after the 10:30 am service

*Catch up with old friends,
meet new ones,
take a jump in the bouncy castle,
get a henna tattoo,
and enjoy great food.*

Lunch will again include delicious food from Blueacre Seafood, the downtown hot spot owned by parishioners, Kevin & Terresa Davis, and their children Zane, Wylie, & Grace. The Davis family also owns Steelhead Diner in Pike Place Market.

Look for Potluck details closer to the picnic.

As always, we can use your help before, during and after the event. Please contact Laura Sargent at lesargent@gmail.com or 617.515.4160 to volunteer.



Isaiah by Raphael

SUNDAY LECTIONARY CORNER

August 11, 2013

Isaiah 1:1, 10-20 or Genesis 15:1-6
Psalm 50:1-8, 23-24 or Psalm 33:12-22
Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16
Luke 12:32-40

http://lectionarypage.net/YearC_RCL/Pentecost/CProp14_RCL.html

August 18, 2013

Isaiah 5:1-7 or Jeremiah 23:23-29
Psalm 80:1-2, 8-18 or Psalm 82
Hebrews 11:29-12:2
Luke 12:49-56

http://lectionarypage.net/YearC_RCL/Pentecost/CProp14_RCL.html

WEEKLY WORD SUMMER SCHEDULE

We will issue the Weekly Word every other week
this summer on the following dates:

Monday, August 19
Tuesday, September 3

PARISH PRAYER LIST

WE PRAY FOR THOSE WHOSE BIRTHDAYS FALL BETWEEN August 4-August 11: Claire Baker, William Nielson, Brad Probst, Brinley Morgan, Virginia Barnes, Christina Carter, Samuel Smedley, Michael Simmons, Bowie Douglas Edebohls, Seamus Lewis, and Kim White.

WE PRAY FOR THOSE ON OUR CYCLE OF PRAYER: Belinda & Geoff, Henry, and Helen Buscher; Linda Bush; Amy & Shayne, Stu, and Theo Bushfiled; Tom & Scott Butts; and Mark & Ayesha Cadman.

We pay for the following churches: St. Antony of Egypt (Silverdale), St. Nicholas (Tahuya), and Holy Spirit (Vashon).

YOUR PRAYERS ARE ASKED FOR CONTINUED HEALING AND STRENGTH FOR THOSE IN OUR PARISH WHO ARE ILL OR GRIEVING: Paul, Bette Sprague, Coralie Swanson, Connie Gaines, Barbara Ward, Barbara Himmelman, Naraine Baker, Ginger, Kay Schack, Piper Simmons, Yamy Xolocotzi, Adrian, Carl Putnam, Ellen Gimbel, Eileen Riley, Bonnie, Roy Enriquez, Will Gluck, Ruth, the Hawkes family, Bob Shupe, Richard & Dolores Maxson, Kristofor Zehm and family, Margaret Whitlock, Silas, TJ Johnson & family, Bill, Merrit & Emma Hess and baby Brooks, Ben Smith, Carol Gonzales, Grace, Tom Taylor, Dick Carlisle, Susan, and Debbie.

WE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED: Georgia Decamp.

We have recently culled the prayer list. If we have removed someone in error or you would like to have someone removed or added please contact the Parish Office. The same invitation applies for birthdays. 206-324-2573 or epiphanyparish@epiphanyseattle.org.