

May Your Thanksgiving Be Full of Grace

A reflection by The Rev. Doyt Conn

Dear Epiphany,

The first Thanksgiving was a community meal shared with people from different tribes. They sat and ate, and then they got up, left, and later fought. It is possible to do this. In fact it happens all the time. It may even happen in your home. Thanksgiving can be wonderful, but it can also be stressful. Old wounds get reopened, resources get stretched, responsibilities get poorly allocated, and sometimes someone has too much to drink. And all of this happens after everyone has gone around the table and said what they are thankful for, most often mentioning family and friends. What is the hitch that trips us up as we trip over ourselves tripping over other people? What is the internal dial that just can't stay tuned to the "always be good" channel? This is a sincere question because I'm that guy. I'm the guy who misses the hint that I should help clear the table. I'm the guy who wants to watch football instead of a "family movie." I'm the guy that *sort of* complains about taking an after-dinner group walk. I'm that guy, and I don't know why. Any thoughts? Just kidding; no responses please...

Here is a thought: GRACE. Maybe getting along and making the holidays wonderful has to do with grace and how we embrace grace. *Merriam-Webster's Dictionary* defines grace as "unmerited divine assistance given humans for their regeneration or sanctifi-

An Overlooked Gift

The infinite possibility that you never were is proof of the amazing gift that you are.

Look at all that grows and blooms around you.

Appreciate this gift of creation happening.

Don't worry too much about tomorrow so that today can be this gift even with troubles.

—Pieter Drummond

"Take heed, then, often to come together to give thanks to God, and show forth His praise."

—St. Ignatius of Antioch



On October 5, 328 people came to our annual Blessing of the Animals service (see pg. 8).

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cation." Pretty technical. Really it means God has done something wildly generous and crazy in our life just because God loves us like crazy. You remember the story of the Prodigal Son? He ditches his dad, saying in essence, "I consider you dead." (He probably said it at the end of a Thanksgiving meal.) He goes off to a far-away land and squanders his inheritance. In the end he is living in a pigsty, wrestling pigs for corn-cobs. Then he comes to himself. He remembers, I guess, that he isn't really a pig, and that deep down inside he is more. And when he remembers, he thinks of his dad. So he decides to go home and work as a servant in his dad's house. The son is a mess. He has grown and shrunk all at the same time. And yet, even when he is far off, his dad spots him, and takes off like a shot toward him. Imagine it. When is the last time you saw your dad run full out as fast as he could? And if you have seen that, when have you seen that in the spirit of joy? Well, that is what this old man did. He took off like a shot, with servants trailing behind trying to figure out what the heck was happening. He grabbed his son and embraced him. The King James Bible says he "put his head in the boy's neck." That's Old English for "bear hug." His boy is home, and that is that.

That is grace. Unmerited. Unworthy. The boy deserves the rod. The dad deserves an explanation. But this is God. This is grace, and we are the sons and daughters loved beyond our wildest imagination. In truth we all stumble. We all reject God. We all turn away from God, probably to an exponential factor of our bad behavior

on Thanksgiving Day. But God is not worried about our turning away; God is worried about our turning back. Does it hurt God when we turn away? Let me put it this way. Have you ever watched a toddler learning to walk? You let them go, even though they are going to fall. And they do fall. And when they do, it hurts you on the inside, probably more than it hurts them on the outside. But you don't keep them from falling because you know that that is what it takes for them to learn to walk. And, it goes without saying that you don't yell at them for falling. Then the day comes that they make it across the room, and you are crazy thrilled! That is how God feels about us all of the time, like we just made it across the room. Grace is God's massive bear hug.

This Thanksgiving, know that God is there in the room with you (all day, even if you change rooms) pumping out the grace. Accept it. Return the hug. When it is your turn to say what you are thankful for this year consider saying "God's hugs," or (if you're too cool for school) just "grace." Remember that we are God's children; see God in your mind's eye as your old dad running down the street to hug you; consider all the ways you have been ungrateful this past year, or more than that, just plain self-centered; then consider God's grace. That is what Thanksgiving Day can be about: "Thank you, God." And when you do, the walks will be better, the "family movie" funnier, the hints more obvious, and the wine full of joy. Happy Thanksgiving!

—Doyt+

Stewardship Timeline for the Remaining 2014 Season

Here is what's in store for the remainder of the stewardship season. We hope that as you consider your pledge to Epiphany Parish, you find great joy in seeing God's provision in your life.

November 9, 2014 | Lay stewardship sermon by Holly Boone.

November 16, 2014 | INGATHERING SUNDAY: Bring your pledge cards to church.

November 17, 2014 | The stewardship committee starts calling and visiting the homes of Epiphany members who haven't pledged yet.

December 9, 2014 | Vestry Meeting: 2015 Budget Review.

January 1, 2015 | Epiphany starts the year operating with the 2015 budget funded successfully by your pledges!

Sunday Lectionary Corner

November 2

All Saints' Day

Revelation 7:9–17

Psalm 34:1–10, 22

1 Thessalonians 2:9–13

Matthew 23:1–12

November 9

*Twenty-Second Sunday
after Pentecost*

Wisdom of Sol. 6:12–20

Psalm 70

1 Thessalonians 4:13–18

Matthew 25:1–13

November 16

*Twenty-Third Sunday
after Pentecost*

Zephaniah 1:7, 12–18

Psalm 90:1–8, (9–11), 12

1 Thessalonians 5:1–11

Matthew 25:14–30

November 23

Christ the King Sunday

Ezekiel 34:11–16, 20–24

Psalm 95:1–7a

Ephesians 1:15–23

Matthew 25:31–46

November 30

First Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 64:1–9

Psalm 80:1–7, 16–18

1 Corinthians 1:3–9

Mark 13:24–37

December 7

Second Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 40:1–11

Psalm 85:1–2, 8–13

2 Peter 3:8–15a

Mark 1:1–8



Remembering Our Departed Loved Ones

During the month of November, it is the custom at Epiphany to give members of our community the opportunity to remember and honor family members and friends who have died.

This year we will be commemorating our departed loved ones with:

An Altar of Remembrance will begin on November 2, All Souls Day, in the Chapel and continue through Sunday, November 30. You are invited to bring a photo of your departed loved one to leave on the altar for the month. Make sure you put your name on the back so it can be returned.

The Book of Remembrance is next to the Altar of Remembrance in the chapel during the month of November. You are invited to write the names of your departed loved ones in this book so that they may be prayed for by the Parish.

The Chapel is open daily from 8 am to 5 pm.

Women of Epiphany's Fall Mini-Retreat

A Spiritual Jam Session with Maria Drury: What Makes Your Soul Sing?

Saturday, November 8, at 9 am–1 pm in the Fireside Room

Many of you know Maria Drury, a former Epiphany member and long-time soprano section leader in the Epiphany choir. Maria attended New England Conservatory, where she earned a Master's in vocal performance, and now sings with the Seattle-based choir, The Esoterics. She has taught voice and conducted youth choirs, and serves as the board president for the Northwest Girlchoir.

For our half-day retreat, we will explore how music informs and deepens our spiritual practice. What enhances? What distracts? Come with an open heart, a curious mind, and a willingness to explore and experiment. If you have a musical instrument that you'd be willing to bring, please do so!

Continental breakfast, beverages, and snacks provided. Salad greens and dressing provided for lunch. Bring salad fixings to add or cookies.

Contact Ann Lockhart at 206-328-0459 or ann_lockhart@comcast.net.

Racism Is Real: A Holy Spirit Moment—Response, Reflection, and Invitation

By *Diana Bender and Robin Wilt*

We are mothers of teenage boys in youth group at Epiphany, a white woman and a black woman who became friends in our Epiphany small group. We had each been reflecting on how we had been acting against racism in our lives outside of church and wondered how we could bring it into our beloved faith community. It is so clear to us that racism has no place in the Kingdom of God and that working towards undoing racism is certainly something Jesus would do were he living here. In our Epiphany small group, we had been talking about the terrible death of Michael Brown in Ferguson, Missouri, and what it means for us in Seattle, which felt like a good start.

Then Emily Linderman gave her sermon about the reality of racism in August. We were moved and inspired and noticed others were as well. We realized the Holy Spirit had given us a beautiful opportunity to find others in our congregation who felt similarly drawn to work in this area. We had no idea who would show up, and we missed the communication deadline, but we created fliers the day before the picnic and gave them to as many people we could. Now we have had a couple meetings where 20+ people shared their stories and thought together how we might move forward.

We have noticed and recognized our fear to talk about this difficult topic: “What if we make it worse?” or “What if we hurt someone?” or “What if it’s too late?” And we decided to talk about it anyway.

As a group we explored the questions “Why are you here?” and “Why is it important to undo racism?” Parents participating often responded with their children and grandchildren in mind. A white woman remarked how it is easy for her to return to “business as usual” and to disregard the reality of racism because she’s not confronted with it every day. Two medical people and an educator reflected on how racism comes up every day at work. We thought about the impact of our history in Seattle, at Epiphany, and in our families and wondered about opportunities for reconciliation.

We thought about how Jesus came so that we might have life and have it abundantly, and yet that abundance is not distributed equally in our society. All too often lives are interrupted or end before their time. We feel a sense of great urgency: as one participant said so clearly, “racism is horribly inconsistent with the heart of the gospel, and people are dying.”

Robin reflected on her experiences growing up as a black woman, “One of the mantras that my parents repeated to me was that I would have to work twice as hard and do twice as well as my white peers to achieve the same amount of success or recognition. This was something my parents instilled in me and my four siblings from a very young age. We never questioned it because we experienced small examples of that unfairness routinely growing up. I was called the “n-word” to my face for the first time at school in the third grade. We grew up during a time when urban-suburban busing was more common, so it was often presumed that I was an outsider in my community even though our family lived there. When I went off to college at a prestigious, predominately white Ivy League institution, the pattern of being singled out continued. Today, with my own children, I offer them that same advice that my parents once gave to me: that people will make assumptions about their abilities and motivations based on their race; that they need to excel more than their peers to achieve the same level of success; and that they will be less likely to be given the benefit of the doubt in encounters with authority. It is painful to have to raise your children with an awareness of this injustice. It is painful, but necessary for their safety. It is that sense of urgency that compels me to engage in this discussion.”

Diana reflected on her experiences as a white person seeing unfairness, but feeling frozen, guilty, and unsure of what she could do about it, “For me, a catalyzing event was a training on the way that racism was developed in our country over 400 years and the systemic nature of racism. I realized that even if we shipped all the

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Service and Outreach Ministries

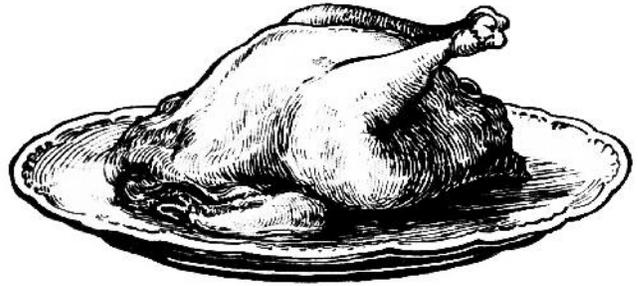
Thanksgiving Dinners for Families at the YWCA

As we anticipate and prepare for our own family feast and traditions, let's lend a hand to families at the YWCA. Every year, Epiphany parishioners come together to provide families with the ingredients for a Thanksgiving dinner they can cook themselves. You can sign up to bring a full meal or part of one.

Contributions are due *before church* on **Sunday, November 23**; we will deliver the meals to the YWCA after the 10:30 service.

We need to know before then what we will be providing, so please sign up early! Sign-up sheets will be available at the back of the church and at coffee hour. A list of the contents of the meals we provide is below. Our goal is to donate 35 full meals.

Contact Sherilyn Peterson at 206-322-2831 or speterson@perkinscoie.com with any questions.



Thanksgiving Meal Contents

1 FROZEN Turkey (10–12 lbs)	1 gallon milk	1 small pkg. sugar
1 foil roasting pan for the turkey	1 pie (sweet potato preferred but apple or pumpkin are fine too)	1 head of lettuce
1 package of 8 large potatoes	1 pkg. dinner rolls	1 bag mini marshmallows
1 large can of yams	1 large can green beans	1 bottle oil (medium size)
1 can of cranberry sauce	1 pkg. instant turkey gravy	1 bottle salad dressing
1 pkg. of prepared stuffing	1 small pkg. flour	1 large bottle cider
1 lb. butter		1 can whipped cream
		1 set salt and pepper

Church Spotting *a reflection by Epiphany parishioner and pilgrim Holly Boone*

Recently I had the pleasure of traveling in England. I spent hours staring out a train or bus window, transfixed by the beauty of the countryside. Southwest England was a vast patchwork of greens and browns and golds stitched together with dark green hedgerows. Here and there were clusters of slate or clay roof tiles of a village, and often, rising out of their midst was the square Norman tower of an ancient church.

My travel included walking Cornwall's Southwest Coastal Path from St. Ives to Penzance. My companions and I passed through several villages, and we stopped at every parish church. How could we not? They were so beautiful, and their doors were always open.

Each church was a window into the very long

life of its parish. Invariably there was a framed document listing the names of parish priests. Below the usual disclaimer, "Names of earlier rectors not recorded," the first names dated from the 1200s. We read the names and stories on the tombstones in the churchyard and noted the very long lives and the very short. We read memorials to the Simons and Thomases and Williams who had fallen in the Great War. We admired the stone arches and vaults, the stained glass windows, the carvings on the pews, and the beautifully kept altars. We found prayer cards left to help visitors break the ice with God. We sat in the pews and in the silence and imagined the centuries of life the ancient stone and

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wood had witnessed, the long-dead there with us with their antique dress and speech.

These little churches made me wonder what it was like to live in a community that is dominated at least physically by a church—a church that had always been there, the tallest, oldest, and grandest structure in the village, something you passed daily on your way to the shop, bus stop, school, or pub. Is it so familiar that it is invisible? Or is it a permanent reminder of God’s presence, its tower a mute call to prayer?

In some territorial views of our own city, if you knew where to look, you might make out the blocky box of St. Mark’s Cathedral or the bell towers of St. James and Immaculate Conception. But clearly churches rarely dominate a modern city skyline, nor the life and culture of most communities. Some of us, with sour experience, would say that’s not a bad thing.

It’s easy to tell what dominates our present common culture. Future historians and anthropologists (if any such remain) might conclude the single most important feature of our culture, our one true religion, was the worship of our bodies. They might say that only our bodies mattered to us—what our bodies looked like, wore, ate, and smelled like; what our bodies did, how they *performed* in an office, school-room, bedroom, or athletic field; where our bodies lived and what kind of car they drove or the class of airline seat they merited—that our deepest belief was that our bodies were ourselves and that we existed only to consume products

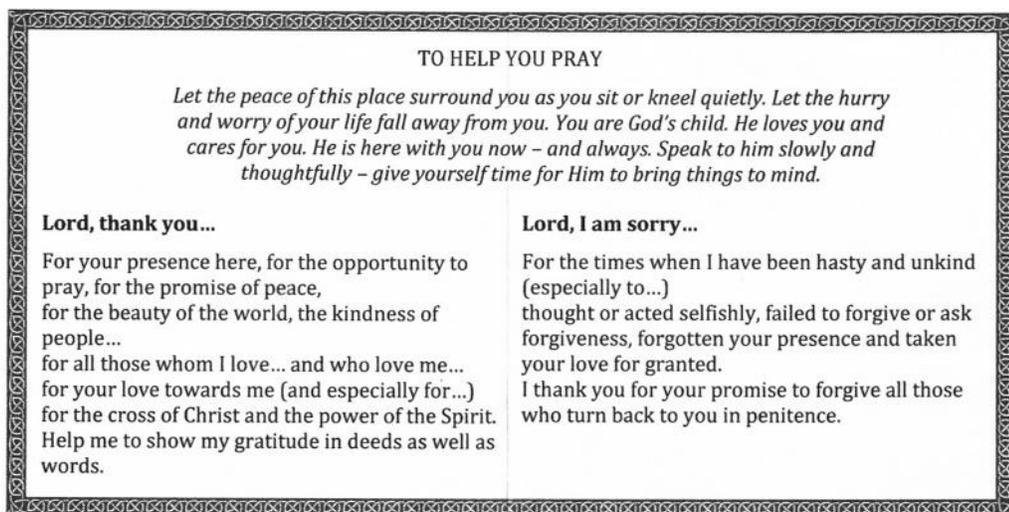
for those bodies, even “religious” and “spiritual” products. Conventional culture rarely portrays our bodies as the marvelous vessels meant to bear our hearts, minds, and souls through this life back to God.

Since returning from England, I have started looking for churches (temples, mosques, whatever) whenever I drive or walk about our city. I suggest you look, too. Look for the little Lutheran churches in Ballard, the evangelical storefronts along Rainier Avenue, the little brick Catholic church of St. Peter’s on Beacon Hill, Mt. Zion on Madison, the Buddhist temple near St. Mary’s, the starkly modern Jewish temples in Seward Park. Each time you spot one, speak to God. Say anything you need to say: Thank you. Help me. I am afraid. Forgive me.

Our neighborhood places of worship—big or small, grand or shabby—simply by their presence, might help us resist our obsessive culture of the body. Let them remind us who we really are, eternal beings overwhelmingly loved by God. Let them remind us that our bodies, marvelous as they are, in the end only serve much like little overnight bags on our journey home.

Or pick an opposite trigger, say a shopping mall. Oddly enough, whenever I drive by Safeco Field (usually on my way to Costco, I admit), I think of Epiphany. Perhaps because I am relieved that if our culture has thrown up monuments to the mass consumption of athletic spectacles, there are still places like Epiphany to remind me who I really am and who is really worthy of my worship.

—Holly Boone



Prayer card from St. Senara’s Church in England, collected by Holly Boone on her travels through the UK this summer. This is the front side; the back has prayers entitled “Lord, I am troubled...” and “Lord, I pray for...”

Upcoming Special Services

Feast of All Saints with Baptisms

November 2 at 10:30 am

If you would like to be baptized or have your children baptized, please contact The Rev. Kate Wesch.

Ingathering

November 16 at both services

Bring in your pledge cards and prayer cards for a special blessing that will close the stewardship season and initiate a new year of ministry.

Thanksgiving Day Eucharist

November 27 at 9 am

While the turkey's in the oven, join us in giving thanks for the grace of Jesus Christ.

Advent Lessons & Carols with Reception

December 7 at 5 pm

Church & Great Hall

Readers from the parish will recount age-old prophecies and Epiphany Choir and Choristers will offer music which illuminates the stories.

Christmas Eve Pageant

December 24 at 5 pm

Who can resist kids in costumes? See and hear the story of Christmas acted out and sung by our children.

Christmas Eve Festival Eucharist

December 24 at 9 pm

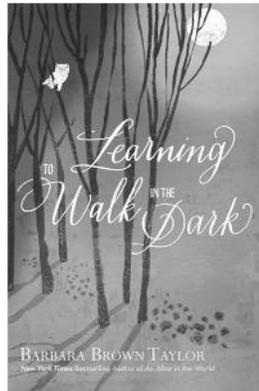
A traditional service with the Epiphany Choir.

Christmas Morning Service

December 25 at 9 am

Events to Put on Your Calendar

Advent Series: Learning to Walk in the Dark



Wednesdays, December 3, 10 & 17

6–6:30 pm — Evening Prayer in the Chapel

6:30–8 pm — Potluck and Book Study in the Library

The days are growing shorter and our nights quietly creep a little longer and a little dimmer. During this dark time of year, we will come together to discuss Barbara Brown Taylor's latest book *Learning to Walk in the Dark*.

From the monster under the bed to the boogey man in the closet and the burglar in the bushes, what shady images haunt the recesses of our

minds and send us scurrying for light switches and security cameras? When we never allow ourselves to sit in darkness, not to mention silence, what impact does that have on our souls and our relationship to God? Come dive into the world of darkness with us as a way of preparing yourself for the light of Christ so present at Christmas.

Email Kate Wesch at kwesch@epiphanyseattle.org with questions.

The Feast of Epiphany Groundbreaking Service

Save the Date!

January 6, 2014

Join us for part or all of this festive eponymous celebration.

We will begin with Evening Prayer in the Chapel using the *1892 Prayer Book* (the same book that was used when our chapel opened its doors for the first time in 1911).

Following Evening Prayer we will celebrate The Feast of the Epiphany with a Festival Eucharist.

After a short reception in the Great Hall we will have a groundbreaking service in the Saint Francis Garden.

More details will follow.



The Music Corner ...for inquiring souls at Epiphany

What's Up in the Music Department?—News & Upcoming Events

Advent Lessons and Carols

Sunday, December 7 at 5 pm, Church & Great Hall

In this time-honored Anglican liturgy, the congregation becomes the chief actors in their attention to the readings and singing the hymns.

Readers from the parish will recount these age-old prophecies and Epiphany Choir and Choristers will offer music which illuminates the stories.

A reception in the Great Hall will follow the service.

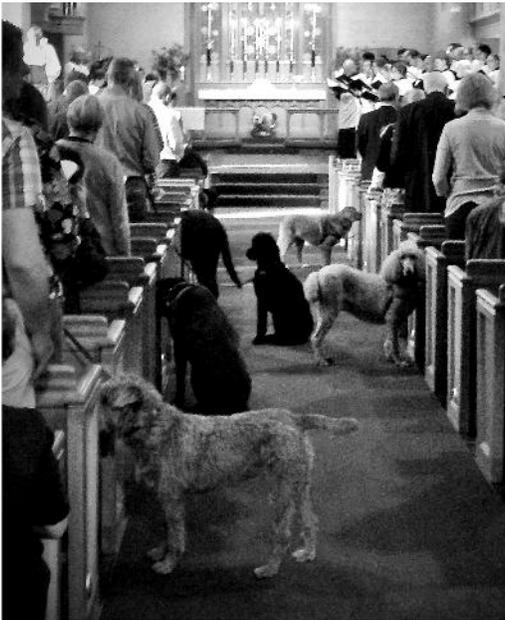
Catherine Webster in Concert

Friday, November 7 at 8 pm

Benaroya's Nordstrom Recital Hall

A former Epiphany staff singer/soloist, Catherine Webster, is performing with Pacific MusicWorks for a program entitled *Songs of Love and War*, featuring secular madrigals by the late Italian Renaissance composer Monteverdi. "Cassie" sang with the Epiphany Choir before she and her family moved to Vancouver.

The Blessing of the Animals: Epiphany's Yearly Pet Invasion



Photos by Marj Baker and Diane Carlisle

Seventy-six animals, including pictures and stuffed animals, were blessed at the annual Blessing of the Animals on October 5 at the 10:30 am service. This practice is a time-honored tradition to honor St. Francis of Assisi, the patron saint of animals.



October Vestry Notes

The Vestry met on October 14, 2014, in the Christie House Library.

After an opening prayer, we began with an informal check-in with Vestry members. Next, we read and discussed the three parables contained within Matthew 13:44-48.

The minutes of the September Vestry meeting were approved. The appointment of Douglas Oles as replacement Convention Delegate alternate was approved.

Treasurer Gary Sundem updated the Vestry on the current budget-to-actual financials, and presented the draft 2015 Budget.

Laura Blackmore and Bob Barnes presented an update on building progress. Phase I permits are in hand, and applications for Phase II permits have been submitted. The construction time schedule is on track and plans for the grounds are coming together thanks to input from parishioners. It is intended that the updated scope of work and project cost (contractor's Guaranteed Maximum Price) be presented at the November 11 Vestry Meeting for their review, and a vote to approve this take place at the December 9 Vestry Meeting.

Pete Melin advised that the Annual Stewardship Campaign is underway and progressing smoothly.

Davis Walker, Senior Warden, discussed Rector Doyt Conn's attendance at the Compass Rose Society meeting in London. On behalf of Jamie Balducci, Davis reported on the Delegation to Convention. It was noted that this year, Epiphany holds 3 of the available 5 "at-large" positions in our region, with representation up from 8 to 11.

It was confirmed that the Rector's four-month sabbatical will commence on April 6, 2015.

It was welcomed that Epiphany has recommenced hosting a group of homeless men on Friday nights. We were informed that Epiphany was lauded at a recent Operation Nightwatch luncheon for our help towards easing the issue of 3,000 people regularly sleeping on the streets of Seattle.

A closing prayer was led by Kate Wesch.

—reported by Anna White, Vestry member



Children & Youth Dates

Godly Play Teacher Training
Sunday, November 9 at 12-3 pm

Communion Retreat
Saturday, November 22

Chili and Caroling
Sunday, December 14 at 4 pm

Youth Group Christmas Party
Sunday, December 21 at 5 pm

Christmas Eve Pageant
Wednesday, December 24 at 5 pm

Choristers Performance Dates

Choristers and CITs sing at Parkshore
Sunday, November 2 at 1:30 pm

Choristers sing during 10:30 service
Sunday, November 16

Choristers sing at Lessons and Carols Service
Sunday, December 7 at 5 pm

Looking for the Building Update?

The Building Team doesn't have anything exciting to report this month except that the permit for Phase I is in hand, and the application for Phase II is pending. If you would like to stay updated, you can find the archives of all the building updates and news on the Epiphany website at www.epiphanyseattle.org/category/building-updates.

—Judy Naegeli, communications

Parish Prayer List for November 2014

WE PRAY FOR THOSE WITH NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS:

Mary Henry, Mac Richmond, Leslie Albro, Eleanor Rodde, Helen Arnold, Terry Zerngast, Jennifer Peyton, Grace Gould, Sharon Loumena, Gary Sundem, Elizabeth Roberts, Caitlin Ragsdale, Charlie Cleworth, Karen Michaelson, Callista Wessells, Ainsley King, Dylan Ragsdale, Mariella Porcarelli, Clyde Summerville, Phil Carter, Edie Hall, Rose Pietromonaco, Hilary Richmond, Finn Carver, Reid Higgins, Carey Emig, John Maurel, Inessa Zerngast, Caroline Normann, Patience Probst, Tim Carver, Ned Sander, Gabriel Martin, Amy King, Mark Hutcheson, Jr, Tina Eide, Susan Bisyak, Rachel Williamson, Julian Ross, Laurie Riley, Evelyn Williamson, Jessica Yates, Bokgi Choi, Peter Polson, Mali Stermer.

WE PRAY FOR THOSE ON OUR CYCLE OF PRAYER:

Mark & Deirdre Thomas, Mary Thornton, Jean Viereck, Marylyn Vincent, Katie Waldrop & Bob Lee, Davis, Elizabeth, Matthew, Rosalie & Andrew Walker, Alice Wanamaker, Andrew Wand & Danielle Dixon, Barbara Ward, Susan, Glenn, Mackenna & Connor Ward, Jan & Stephen Waszak, David Weatherford, Allen & Betsy Webb, Jarvis & David Weld, Mary Jane Werschkul, Kate, Joel, Avery & Myles Wesch, Anne, Cooper, Clara & Rowan Wessells, Hunter Wessells, Bokgi Choi & Callista, Anna White, Cliff Burrows, Evie & Freya, Tom & Lyn White, Christ Church (Anacortes), St. James (Sedro-Woolley); St. Paul (Mt. Vernon), La Iglesia Episcopal de la Resurrección, (Mt. Vernon), Celebration Lutheran (Anacortes), St. Paul (Bellingham), Emmanuel (Eastsound), St. David (Friday Harbor), Christ Church (Blaine), St. Stephen Episcopal (Oak Harbor), Grace Church (Lopez Island).

YOUR PRAYERS ARE ASKED FOR CONTINUED HEALING AND STRENGTH FOR THOSE IN OUR PARISH WHO ARE ILL OR GRIEVING:

Paul, Coralie Swanson, Connie Gaines, Barbara Himmelman, Naraine Baker, Ginger, Kay Schack, Piper Simmons, Yamy Xolocotzi, Roy Enriquez, Will Gluck, Ruth, Silas, Susan, Debbie, Megan, Carl Putnam, George Fisher, Rosalie, Malina, Matt, Nancy, Isla Jude, Alice, Susan, Hank Schilling, Noreen, Jeanne Edwards, Sandra, Larry Mayer, Gerald Swymeler, Gary West, David Mattson, Heather, Olivia, Laura, David, Eric, Eileen Riley, Stu McGee, Chris Wolf, Lauren, Cork, Henk & Helen Simons, David, Joyce, Mark, Amille, Fannie Lofton, Katie Putnam Kidd, Christian, Lynn Manley, Dorothy Hemstreet, Diane Frawert, Jani Spencer, Judy Rohrbeck, Michael Jerry, Liz, Brooks Hawkes, Caroline Normann, Joe Blayner, Dave & Cindy, Jack & Valerie, Monte, Anna, Kevin, Fran, Kelly, David Grayson, Sister Greta Ronningen, Gail Carlisle, Lynn, Doug Fiola, Lily Isabella, Beth, Reid, Missy Ross, Lucy Samayoa, Peter Wehringer, the Cody family, Margaret, Kathleen, Theresa, Dave McAdams, Barbara Boggs, Amy, Denise, Carla Sargent, Anne Geiger, Dave, Tommy, Ella Gacioc, Karri Grant, and Kathleen Bernhard.

WE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED: Mike Felan, Caecilia Luksch, and Susan Rasmussen.

Racism Is Real: A Holy Spirit Moment

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white supremacists off to Mars, our institutions would still treat people of color differently than whites. Understanding structural racism gave me a pathway to action and helped me realize that I could work to change the systems I am a part of."

We all reflected on the differences in our background, understanding, and experience of racism and decided that in these conversations, we would seek to create the openness for everyone to participate wherever we are on our anti-racism journey (to borrow our favorite phrase).

Having a safe place to speak about these issues as they relate to us personally, socially, and pro-

professionally and raise honest questions about the ways that we participate and/or counteract them and what our faith calls us to do instead has been invaluable already. In talking about racism in the context of faith, something seems to be getting unlocked in us all.

—Diana and Robin

Racism Is Real Follow-Up Conversations

We are meeting again on November 2nd at 12:15 pm in the Christie House Library. We decided to have lunch and watch the first segment of a PBS series called RACE: The Power of an Illusion. Stay tuned for information on more conversations which will be announced in the Weekly Word and the bulletin.

Events This Month

Samson: White Hat or Black Hat?

Sunday, November 2 at 9:15 am
Great Hall

Samson is popularly viewed as one of the great Biblical heroes, but his actions make him seem like something much darker too. Ben Bradstreet will look at this perception of Samson as hero and at how this story can shine a light on our struggle with a God who seems both fiercely compassionate and fiercely vengeful.

Feast of All Saints with Baptisms

Sunday, November 2 at 10:30 am

If you would like to be baptized or have your children baptized, please contact The Rev. Kate Wesch.

Racism Is Real Follow-Up

Sunday, November 2 at noon
Christie House Library

To continue the discussion of racism sparked by Emily Linderman's sermon in August, we will be watching part of the PBS documentary *RACE: The Power of an Illusion* and discussing it over a potluck lunch. Contact Diana Bender with questions.

Women of Epiphany Mini-Retreat

Saturday, November 8 at 9 am
Fireside Room

Open to all women in the parish, this group focuses on women's spiritual development and its intersection with everyday life. The mini-retreat includes Bible study, sharing, prayer, fellowship, and a light lunch.

Comprehending Our Character

Sunday, November 9 at 9:15 am
Great Hall

Charissa Bradstreet will help us consider how to honor both our freedom and our calling as important characters within an extraordinary, unfolding story of redemption and grace.

INGATHERING SUNDAY

Sunday, November 16

Bring in your pledge cards and prayer cards for a special blessing that will close the stewardship season and initiate a new year of ministry.

Why Morality Really Mattered: Historiography in Ancient Israel

Sunday, November 16 at 9:15 am
Great Hall

Do facts make history? In this session, Steve Clemons will help you perceive history through the lenses of the ancients who believed God was history and history was God.

Fall Men's Retreat

Friday, November 21–Sunday,
November 23, Hood Canal

The men of Epiphany gather each year at St. Andrew's House for a time of prayer, silence, and small group discussion focusing on issues of male spirituality. This year's retreat will focus on Richard Rohr's book *Falling Upward*.

Overcoming Poor Self-Image

Thursday, November 23 at 9:15 am
Great Hall

J.R.R. Tolkien's *Lord of the Rings* trilogy is a cosmic tale of good versus evil and a world-class story to boot. Jonathan Roberts, our resident Inklings enthusiast, will share his reflections on this wonderful tale as well as providing a bit of background on Tolkien and his frame of reference in writing these incredible classics.

Thanksgiving Day Eucharist

Thursday, November 27 at 9 am, Church
While the turkey's in the oven, join us in giving thanks for the grace of Jesus Christ.

Panel Discussion: Lessons Learned from the Book of Judges

Sunday, November 30 at 9:15 am
Great Hall

Barbara Cairns facilitates this "town hall" session during which we will reflect on the lessons learned from the Book of Judges. Any question or comment about Judges can be raised.

Family Caregiving Near and Far

Sundays, November 30–December 14
9:15 am, Christie House Library

In small group discussion and case study presentation, Kathryn Barrett, RN and Parish Nurse, will lead an exploration of the challenges and rewards of providing on-going care.

Upcoming Events

Advent Evening Series

Wednesdays, December 3–17 at 6–8 pm
Chapel and Christie House Library

In this dark time of year, the Rev. Kate Wesch will lead a weekly discussion of Barbara Brown Taylor's latest book *Learning to Walk in the Dark* over a potluck dinner.

Advent Lessons & Carols and Reception

Sunday, December 7 at 5 pm
Church & Great Hall

In this liturgy, the congregation becomes the chief actors in their attention to the readings and singing the hymns. Readers from the parish will recount these age-old prophecies and Epiphany Choir and Choristers will offer music which illuminates the stories. A reception in the Great Hall will follow the service.

Caroling and Chili Party

Sunday, December 14 at 4 pm
Christie House Library

Join Epiphany's youth choirs for caroling in the neighborhood followed by chili and cocoa to warm up. Bring the whole family!

Christmas Eve Pageant

Wednesday, December 24 at 5 pm

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

Wednesday December 24 at 9 pm

Christmas Morning Service

Thursday, December 25 at 9 am

Community Events

Catherine Webster in Concert

Friday, November 7 at 8 pm

Benaroya's Nordstrom Recital Hall

A former Epiphany staff singer/soloist, Catherine Webster, is performing with Pacific MusicWorks for a program entitled *Songs of Love and War*, featuring secular madrigals by the late Italian Renaissance composer Monteverdi. "Cassie" sang with the Epiphany Choir before she and her family moved to Vancouver.

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*Wherever you are in your spiritual journey,
you have a place at Epiphany.*

November Highlights

INGATHERING Sunday

Sunday, November 16 at both services

Bring in your stewardship pledge cards and prayer cards for a special blessing and prayer.

Thanksgiving Dinner Drive

Sunday, November 23 at 10:30 am

The deadline for the Thanksgiving Drive is the Sunday before Thanksgiving Day! Bring a basket of ingredients to share with families at the YWCA.

Thanksgiving Day Eucharist

Thursday, November 27 at 9 am, Church

While the turkey's in the oven, join us in giving thanks for the grace of Jesus Christ.

Fall Retreats for Women and Men

Epiphany's Fall Retreats for men and women are a great way to build community and learn about spiritual practices. The women gather for a half-day at Epiphany, and the men meet on the Hood Canal the weekend before Thanksgiving. Visit www.epiphanyseattle.org/upcoming-events for more details.

First Sunday of Advent

Sunday, November 30

We start the liturgical year over again with the expectation of the Incarnation of Jesus Christ.

Contact Us

Epiphany Parish

(206) 324-2573

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www.epiphanyseattle.org

Epiphany Staff

The Rev. Doyt L. Conn, Jr., *Rector*

The Rev. Kate Wesch, *Associate Priest*

Emily Linderman, *Associate for Staff and
Ministry Formation*

The Rev. Peter Snow, *Assisting Priest*

Tom Foster, *Director of Music*

Kathea Yarnell, *Music Associate*

Chinn Eap, *Business Manager*

Judy Naegeli, *Communications*

Diane Carlisle, *Verger & Liturgy Coordinator*

Elizabeth Walker, *Children's Ministry Convener*

Laura Sargent, *Youth Group Convener*

Nicki Grover, *Administrative Assistant*

Amanda Eap, *Hospitality & Security*

Gieth Phou, *Sexton*

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