

The STAR



June - July 2019

Thank You for Your Tithes and Offerings

We are in the middle of budgeting for the 2019-2020 fiscal year at Epiphany. Usually, it's a stretch to call budgeting "fun," but this year has been a real blessing. There is more detailed information about the proposed budget on page 8, but the short version is that we are in a very good place as a church. We can lower our total costs, while increasing giving to things we care about at Epiphany.

This is possible for two reasons. First, it is possible because of the generosity of Epiphany as a church. So many people here give sacrificially to support ministry and mission. It matters and it shows. The biblical standard of giving is called a tithe (10 percent) of our income. Many at Epiphany do exactly that, and it enables us to do much as a church that is often difficult for congregations our size to support. Thank you! My own experience, and I trust, yours, is that when we honor God in managing our finances, He provides what we need, and builds our faith through (sometimes even in proportion to) our giving.

Secondly, it's possible because we continue to see a great stewardship benefit from our move to 3863 Centerview Drive. It's an amazing blessing to have a beautiful facility with a lower lease payment, and with much lower utility costs than we have had in the past. That is what God has given us! It allows us to put more of our budget to work outside our doors instead of just keeping the doors open.

For instance, this coming fiscal year, we are planning to increase our mission support by almost 20 percent to a total of \$32,000. This brings our total mission and outreach giving to 9.4 percent of our entire budget. Ultimately, I would like to see us tithe (give 10 percent) as a church to mission and outreach. We are getting close to that goal! We are also able to offer staff a three percent salary increase, and continue to rebuild our operating reserves.

Friends, God has blessed Epiphany through your tithes and gifts. We will be holding our customary stewardship campaign in the fall to encourage us all to prayerfully commit to give

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Sports Camp: Counting the Cost



I discovered that some churches take the whole summer off from doing special events. I should not have been surprised by this when I think about people's summer travels. But still, I rejoice in our long standing tradition of doing mission to our neighbors through our Sports Camp. Sports Camp is a tremendous effort on our part. We offer this as a gift to the community so we bear the financial burden. We bear the volunteer burden as more than twenty volunteers are needed for many and varied tasks. What do we get in return for us here at Epiphany as we host camp?

Each volunteer gets to teach and demonstrate to the children about the God who loves them. You could say this is a burden, but it is a light yoke to bear. Soccer coaches have the opportunity to run around and practice their own soccer skills while passing on this skill to new students. Athletic types among us find this fun and motivating. We are looking for more athletic types who can take a week off work, or delay their vacations as they serve this needed role. Huddle leaders lead a specific grade group and have the opportunity to nurture children in the faith and listen to their questions.

This is the kind of burden that is good for us and good for our spiritual lives.

Hosting sports camp puts us on the edge of speaking and living the Gospel we say we believe, even as community is built among us who serve. It does not feel like a burden, but rather fun to be working side by side with friends in our congregation everyday. We get to know one another outside of Sunday mornings as we serve together, which in turn makes our community stronger. Our spiritual lives are strengthened as we share a common purpose: to teach children about Jesus.

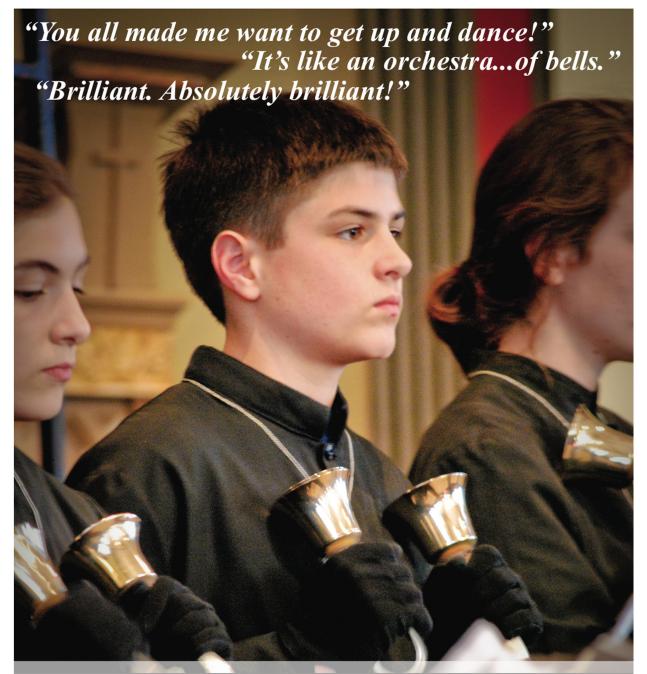
But what do we get in return as far as bearing fruit in student's lives?

Last year 88% of these children were not from our church. We know that there are church going Christian children among that number but we don't know their church background or attendance habits. My own little huddle group last year had a few church-going Christians, as well as Hindu and Muslim children. I can't say how many times they may have heard a positive truth-filled story about Jesus. Unfortunately, we don't know the answers to this bigger question. What I DO know is that every time I got a chance to share about Jesus, I was encouraged because I knew it was a seed that one day may bear fruit. As we share Jesus we don't know what kind of foundation we could be laying for the future. Really, those discussions could be some of the most consequential talks they may ever have. The opportunity is incredible!

For these kids and their parents, having relational connections with Christians could lower barriers to future fruitfulness. There is no doubt in my mind that the world needs to *see*

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A concert from one of America's Premiere Youth Bell Choirs on 12 OCTAVES OF HANDBELLS AND CHIMES BY

THE BELLS OF CHRIST CHURCH

(FROM HISTORIC CHRIST CHURCH ANGLICAN, SAVANNAH, GA)

Church of the Epiphany, Chantilly, VA
Sunday, June 9 at 4:00p.m. 3863 Centerview Drive
(FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC)



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for the year ahead. In the meantime, give thanks with me for all that God is accomplishing here, and know that your offering is appreciated.

God bless,



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authentic lives to be able to *hear* biblical truth. Sports camp Bible discussion time is one of the best opportunities to talk to children about Jesus. Won't you consider joining us this year? You might find the burden is not so heavy after all.



Footsteps of Paul Trip now Closed



The Caryatids on the Acropolis in Athens.

Epiphany's pilgrimage to Greece this October is now at capacity and closed. We have 25 pilgrims who will be traveling with Fr. Peter and Andrea Frank October 7-16.

Epiphany's next pilgrimage will be a return to the Holy Land in 2021. Dates have not yet been set for this trip, but often Epiphany travels in the fall or spring.





Missions Update: Uganda Christian University

The following testimonial from a student at Uganda Christian University and his parents underscores why Epiphany is glad to support UCU's mission:

By Brendah Ndagire

Pastor Baluku Moses is the father of Bwambale Bernard Mulcho, now a UCU alumnus of its Bachelor in Education program. Bwambale graduated with 4.3 of 5.0 grade-point-average (GPA), and at the time of his graduation he shared that he wanted to teach high school students and eventually pursue a masters program in theology. He and his parents are from Kasese District in southwestern Uganda, neighboring the Democratic Republic of Congo.

Kasese district is known for its tourism. The region struggles, however, to educate its



Mark Bartels, UCU Partners Executive Director, left, with Bwambale Bernard Mulcho with his parents at his October 2018 graduation day. (UCU Partners Photo)

children beyond high school level. Bwambale is one of the few young people who are able to make it out of the district and have access to higher learning institutions in the urban and central regions of Uganda.

What does it mean for you to see that your son has graduated?

I have great joy because it was one way of elevating our family, community, and serving God. I am truly happy about it because I know my son has realized his dream.

How meaningful was the UCU Partners scholarship to you as a parent?

It is a great contribution towards my son's education, and without it, we would not have made it. We have had some financial constraints in the past years. For example, we also were paying school fees for his siblings, and I also was studying at Uganda Baptist Seminary, so the whole household needed money to study, and it was hard for me to raise all the finances needed. We are thankful to God for UCU Partners' support towards his tuition.

Why is having an education in this country important for you and your family?

It is important because when you are not educated you have a lot of challenges. And when you are educated, you understand the world differently. I believe education opens up doors for us to move anywhere in the world.

Why did you choose UCU for your son's education?

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Because of the good Christian morals it passes on its students. UCU is a more expensive education institution than others. But regardless of that fact, people want to send their children here. Its values and quality education make the university special. It also is why we are very grateful for the UCU Partners' scholarship program.

How have you contributed to Bwambale's education?

I work with the Baptist Church as a pastor on volunteer basis, so I earn a small stipend. And my wife sells second



Bwambale Bernard at Uganda Christian University. (UCU Partners Photo)

-hand clothes. That is how we have earned our living, which in turn we have used to contribute in small amounts to our son's education. It is common in Uganda for many priests/pastors to volunteer to work full without any financial remuneration. Most of us depend on farming. Our land is very productive, but the main challenge is inadequate rainfall for farmers who reside in the low land regions of Kasese. In the rainfall season, we grow maize, grounds nuts, beans, and keeping animals such as goats and cows.



The Star newsletter will be moving to an every other month publication schedule beginning with this issue. Each issue will continue to have calendar, birthday and anniversary information, but now that information will be for the two upcoming months.

This change reduces the workload for Fr. Peter and Mtr. Pamela, as well as for Merle Stromberg, who gives significant time to compile each issue. We would love to be able to share more stories about ministry going on in Church of the Epiphany. There is always space for photos or an update. Please email star@epiphanyanglican.net with content submissions.



Proposed 2019-2020 Budget for Epiphany

In June, the vestry will be setting the operating budget for Church of the Epiphany over the coming year. Epiphany operates on a fiscal year budget, which begins on July 1 and ends on June 30 each year.

2019-2020 Proposed Budget



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Budget Category	Amount	Description
Worship	\$10,495	Music, live video, altar guild, supplies
Outreach	\$79,450	Missions, evangelism, sports camp, diocesan support, benevolence
Discipleship and congregational care	\$17,810	Retreats, curriculum, hospitality, Marriage Mentors
Facility	\$264,828	Lease, maintenance, utilities, cleaning, supplies
Personnel	\$432,281	Salaries, benefits, professional expenses for staff
Church Operations	\$19,330	Office supplies, communications, website, copying
Reserve	\$14,000	Rebuilding operating fund balance, emergencies
Insurance and Legal	\$8,990	Insurance, legal and bank fees
Total	\$847,183	Compared to a revised budget of \$863,689 for the 2018-19 Fiscal Year

This year, the proposed Epiphany budget is \$847,183. This represents a small decline from last year's budget of \$863,689. However, continued savings in our operating costs mean we will actually be giving more to missions and outreach beyond our church, offering a 3 percent raise to church staff, and continuing to rebuild our reserves in the fiscal year ahead. This is a great place for Epiphany to be as a church, and an ongoing benefit of our facility move a year ago. Every month Epiphany is spending less on the lease and church utilities than was necessary at the Dulles Technology Drive location.

The Epiphany budget is entirely funded by the generous tithes and offerings of church members. In the past, Epiphany has held a stewardship campaign in the Easter season as part of the budgeting process. This year, stewardship will be moving back to the late fall. As we have in years past, there

will be an opportunity to offer our individual and family pledges on a Sunday morning. Our goal in this move is to align stewardship more closely with the Thanksgiving season and enable us as a church to keep the Easter season focused on continuing our Easter celebration.









- Ted Hanger
 Tucker Hall
- 3 Cindy AllbrightEvan Zimmerman
- 5 Merle Stromberg
- 6 Abigail Nadarajah
- 7 Alexa Reed Catie Reed Diane Reed
- 9 Margaret DonivanGraham McNeely
- 10 Cyndie Humenik
- 11 Frank Cochran Jeff Zimmerman
- 14 Tom Miller Margaret Stromberg
- 18 Jim Humenik John Marriott
- 19 Tom Will
- 21 Jennie Beckley
- 22 Maggie Cottingham Natalie Plummer
- 26 Cindy Newton
- 27 David Reed
- 29 Courtney Turner

- 2 Carl Bess
- 5 Ann Dial
- 6 Bethany Apelquist
- 7 Carolyn PantzerAdam Rwegayura
- 10 Tara Meeks Carole Menzel
- 12 Andrew Coffee Nicole Rhoads
- 13 Zan Dial
- 14 Shahmala Kamalanthan
- 15 Don Holt
- 17 Kelly Derrick George Hamlin
- 18 Sally Hoover Barbara Oliphant
- 20 Ann Guest Derek Zimmerman Justin Zimmerman
- 24 Carol Williams
- 27 Ann Westerman
- 29 VJ Johnson Donna Lea Louis



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- 2 Frances and Roger Miller
- 4 Judy and Bob Schulenberg
- 9 Ginger and Murray Black
- 11 Sally and Dennis McNeely
- Wyndy and Ted Fredrick
- 29 Judy and Gary Hall
- 30 Erin and Eric Schultz

- 8 Jessica and Russel Francis
- 9 Jane and Kelly Derrick
- 12 Stephanie and Jonathan Merrill
- 15 Donna Lea and Kurt Louis
- 17 Patricia and James Roberts
- 30 Malu and Shervan Torabi





Resources

Epiphany Staff	Email
The Rev. Peter Frank, Rector	pfrank@epiphanyanglican.net
The Rev. Pamela Meeks, Associate Rector	pmeeks@epiphanyanglican.net
The Rev. David Welch, Parish Deacon	dwelch@epiphanyanglican.net
Jimmy Crawford, Music Director	jcrawford@epiphanyanglican.net
Janice Monaghan, Financial Director	jmonaghan@epiphanyanglican.net

2019 Vestry

Lisa Baehr
Amie Boncher
Kelly Derrick
Doug Greenwood
Sally McNeely
Carole Menzel
Pat Meyer
Debby Morris
Mark Oliphant
Margaret Stromberg

Vestry Officers

Intercessory Prayer Letter

Requests can now be submitted by email at a secure site,

prayer-request@epiphanyanglican.net

or written and left in the prayer request box in the Fellowship Area.

All prayer requests are collected after the Sunday morning services and prepared for Monday morning distribution. For more information or questions, contact Faith Fisler by email at mixfiz34@gmail.com.

Publishing Information

The <u>Epiphany STAR</u> is generally published monthly and contains articles and information about what God has and is doing in us and through us as the Epiphany Family. It is intended to encourage each of us in our ministry and discipleship by relating how God is working in the midst of us.

The *Epiphany Candle* is published weekly by email, highlighting what is coming in the days ahead at Epiphany and other information that the staff and vestry feel is important to emphasize.

Articles and Subscription requests: star@epiphanyanglican.net

candle@epiphanyanglican.net

jcrawford@epiphanyanglican.net (for weekly bulletin)

Deadlines: STAR: 21st of the month • Bulletin: Monday, 8 AM • Candle: Wednesday, 8 AM



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Visit our website at www.epiphanyanglican.net

Encountering God, Building a multigenerational congregation, Equipping every member.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

June			
2, 9, 16, 23, 30	8: 00 AM and 10:15 AM	Holy Eucharist	
8	10:00 AM	Band of Brothers at Arbor Terrace	
9	4:00 PM	Christ Church Bell Concert	
9	6:00 PM	Youth Connections	
11	7:00 PM	Vestry Meeting	
23	2:00 PM	Worship at Arbor Terrace	
	July		
7, 14, 21, 28	8: 00 AM and 10:15 AM	Holy Eucharist	
9	7:00 PM	Vestry Meeting	
13	10:00 AM	Band of Brothers at Arbor Terrace	
28	2:00 PM	Worship at Arbor Terrace	
29 July—2 August	9:00 AM	Sports Camp at Coates Elementary	



Here at Epiphany we emphasize:

- **†** Encountering God through beautiful worship and believing prayer
- **Building a multigenerational congregation that loves children** and families.
- **Equipping every member to publicly proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ.**