

Two Cheers for the Reformation

During the summer of 2016 I was able to attend a conference on liturgy and evangelism at Notre Dame University in South Bend (yes, I saw the “touchdown Jesus” mural). Our Roman Catholic hosts were very welcoming to me and a few Anglican clergy friends of mine who were there.



But things did get a bit awkward during a daily chapel service, when our hosts commemorated St. Thomas More. Why? Well, Thomas More was one of Henry VIII’s closest friends and advisors until Henry decided to initiate the English Reformation. Thomas More couldn’t support Henry in this step. He was executed for his disobedience. Thomas More’s last recorded words were “I die the King’s good servant, and God’s first.”



Notre Dame University’s
Basilica of the Sacred Heart

So there I was, an Anglican priest in a Roman Catholic basilica taking part in the commemoration of a committed Christian who was murdered because he could not in good conscience support the English Reformation. God puts us in uncomfortable places sometimes.

This past Tuesday was the 500th anniversary of the Reformation. In many ways there is much to be grateful for. The Reformation insights of Martin Luther, John Calvin and our own Thomas Cranmer brought God’s saving power through Jesus Christ into focus again for the whole Christian church. Luther puts it this way in his Commentary on Galatians *“by faith only in Christ are we pronounced righteous, and not by the works of the law or charity; not because we reject good works, as our adversaries accuse us, but for that we will not suffer ourselves to be turned aside from the principle point.”*

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Jesus makes us righteous (right before God). We don't make ourselves righteous. This is a big deal. This is what Mtr. Pamela and I go out of our way to make sure we are preaching at Epiphany every Sunday because it's the heart of the Gospel. Getting this right is worth a Reformation.

But what about Thomas More? What about Luther's well-documented anti-Semitism? What about all the very human failings and fallings-out that came with the Reformation?

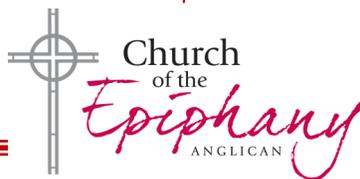
Well, one of the things I appreciate about being an Anglican is that we can acknowledge these failings, and own our part in them. As being at Notre Dame on the commemoration of St. Thomas More reminded me, we did have a part. Anglicanism is a reformation church. We also know we aren't the only church, or a perfect one.

My hope is that in all things we will not "*suffer ourselves to be turned aside from the principal point*" that it's Jesus Christ who makes us right with God. It's not anything else, not our own successes and failings as individuals or as a church, not even the Reformation itself. Martin Luther himself wouldn't have us have it any other way.

God bless,



P.S. "Two Cheers for the Reformation" isn't my own invention. I've heard it somewhere before and I liked it. My apologies to it's original author (whoever that may be) for borrowing it here without attribution.



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.***

Devoted to Prayer



Last month I shared about the opportunity to attend a mini-conference and I am glad to say that three of us attended: **Engaging Evangelism**. Randy Newman, the presenter who happens to be a good friend of Murray Black, was a winsome teacher and encourager. This was well worth the trip to Hagerstown, Maryland.

Telling the Good News of the Gospel in ways people can hear is something that anyone can do. Whereas in the past we might have thought we needed to invite someone to a Billy Graham event, today sharing Jesus happens most effectively when we have deep and meaningful conversations with people we know. Randy reminded us about the importance of prayer. But, how easy it is to give up and lose heart when we see little to no movement in our friends' spiritual lives.

But the Scriptures tell us:

***Continue steadfastly in prayer, being watchful in it with thanksgiving...
Let your speech always be gracious, seasoned with salt, so that you may
know how you ought to answer each person. Colossians 4: 2 & 6***

So, although it is easy to lose heart when praying for people to see and respond to the grace of the Lord Jesus, we have to stick with it. Some of us have labored in prayer for decades and we still see little progress. But it seems to me, that the Apostle Paul's reason for urging a steadfast commitment to prayer is because he knows that is exactly where it is easy to give up. We understand that if we are going to persevere in prayer that we need to find a way to keep a system and a regular reminder. My first commitment from the mini-conference was to bring back my own system which worked so well in my old neighborhood. The notebook will have people's names who I am praying for and space enough to record answers to prayer.

In a separate section, I can write down notes about prayer walking in the neighborhood and the new people I meet. We moved 3 months ago and my husband has already started prayer walking and meeting people in our new neighborhood. Writing down names in one place helps us remember people we meet. Those things might be important later. Putting down dates is also good idea. The start is simple, but doable. I hope to be "watchful with thanksgiving" as I pray for my neighbors and friends.



Pamela +

Family Pumpkin Carving

More than 50 Epiphany members and friends came together for a fun evening meal and pumpkin carving on Oct. 29. This event gives us an opportunity to maintain relationships with families we have connected with through our summer sports camp at Coates Elementary School, and mark the Halloween holiday in a safe and family-friendly way.



Giving Update: From Epiphany's Finance Committee

Dear Parish Family,

The reason I am reaching out to you is that we have a need here at Epiphany of which you should be aware.

First, let me say that we are so thankful for the support from our congregation. It is amazing how God has blessed us. You all know that we are in a capital campaign to raise money for the *Journey of Joy*. The generous support from you all is stunning.

The need that we have at this time is more current than the campaign for *Journey of Joy*. Our monthly expenses run around \$70,000 per month and so far, in our current fiscal year, our giving to the general fund has averaged around \$58,000 per month. We have, in unrestricted reserves, about **\$116,000** which is how we have been able to meet our monthly obligations but it is important that we do not run the reserves we have down too far, **particularly as we work to successfully complete our new building and the capital campaign necessary to fully fund it.**

I'm asking you all to prayerfully consider the needs we have and give as the Lord leads you. We know this is an exceptional year – we're asking not only for our normal giving to the general needs of the church but also asking a big sacrifice in giving toward our move. We believe that the Lord will provide and trust that we are all the tools he will use to do so.

Thanks,

Dennis McNeely
Finance
Committee



Children's Choir

Directed by Debby Morris

All Children of Church of the Epiphany Anglican will have the opportunity to gather, rehearse, and perform for the residents of Arbor Terrace, Fairfax prior to Christmas. This will be an opportunity for the children of our church to reach out to the residents of Arbor Terrace with Christmas celebration and joy.

Please take note of the following:

Performance date:

December 10 prior to the Service provided by our Clergy

Location:

Arbor Terrace Assisted Living Center of Fairfax
3925 Downs Drive (facing Hwy 50)
Chantilly, VA 20151

Time:

1:30 pm arrival; 2:00 pm performance

Rehearsal:

In the Chapel after the 10:00 service on the following dates:

November 5, November 12, November 19, November 26,
December 3, December 10.

Rehearsal will last for about. 30 minutes. Written literature will be provided and this can go home to be enjoyed as a family and to help prepare the children.

Please contact the Director, Debby Morris. If you have any questions.

debbyjmorris@verizon.net or 703/631-1687



Build Out Committee Update

As I write, we are so tantalizingly close to the end of the permit process yet not quite there. We continue to work our way from one permit area to the next. Your continued prayers are both needed and appreciated. The build out committee has completed the design choices and have communicated them to the architect and our general contractor. We continue to work with our general contractor to maximize the beauty and function of our new space to enable us to have beautiful worship, believing prayer, and support multi-generational families while minimizing the expense. One issue we came across was a large pipe in the ceiling that was originally estimated to cost \$12,000 to \$15,000 to relocate. By redesigning the path for the pipe and the materials used, the cost is now estimated to be below \$3,000 and we preserve the beautiful ceilings in the sanctuary and fellowship hall.

Once we have a permit, our general contractor will be giving us an updated timeline and final budget. As soon as we have the new timeline, we will schedule the painting day(s). We will be having the professionals prime all the rooms, as well as, completing the painting in the sanctuary and fellowship hall. Never fear that your painting skills will not be needed. We will need as many volunteers as we can get as there are many rooms in my Father's house (so to speak). This is a wonderful opportunity if your teen needs service hours. Coming soon will be a signup sheet to indicate your availability.



Finally, some personal thoughts -The build out and move have been daily in my prayers as I receive the updates for the relocation prayer team or when I wake up in the middle of the night thinking of the myriad of details to be decided and carried out. I pray for the process to move more quickly and each time I am told "in my time and with my money will this be built". I am reminded that he knows the desires of our hearts, knows the obstacles in our paths, and has a plan for it all. For a professional worrier this is a great comfort. Please continue to pray as we take this journey of joy.

Beth Monroe,
Chairman



Missions Update: Chad & Elizabeth Young

Epiphany supports Chad and Elizabeth Young, who do faith work with undergraduate and graduate students in Georgia and South Carolina. Here are excerpts from their most recent report, along with a picture of the Young clan:



Sometimes we ask our staff team the question: “*If the Cru staff had to leave campus for some reason, would the ministry carry on?*” It’s a good question to remind us that we are equipping students to become leaders in the church. If we don’t train them to lead and then let them lead (and yes, to make mistakes as well as experience success), then we’re not preparing them for a lifetime of ministry.

Well, the month of November will provide an opportunity for the students as well as our new grad ministry staff to lead. It will also come with many challenges for our family. Chad will have knee surgery #12, a total knee replacement (the ninth on his left knee), on Monday, Nov. 6th. Please pray for: 1) A speedy recovery for Chad; 2) No complications (he had blood clotting complications after two previous surgeries); 3) Supernatural strength for Elizabeth during this month of recovery; and 4) Peace for our family.

Of course, along with this challenge comes a great opportunity for Georgia Tech grad students to lead. Please pray God will grow them and develop them as leaders!

Also, Elizabeth’s Bible study is really growing. It’s exciting to see how many are sharing Christ with their lab-mates and inviting them to Bible Study. Pray the Gospel will spread! We further are hosting Ga Tech international students for Thanksgiving dinner. Some who are coming are not believers. Pray for great spiritual conversations.



Epiphany Sponsoring Eight Families for Thanksgiving Food

After all the natural disasters this fall, I found myself frustrated - I wanted desperately to help, to share some of what I have with the mounting number of people who were left with little to nothing. Then I saw the Star article about the holiday basket ministry. In Mark 14:7, Jesus reminds us "The poor you will always have with you." Unfortunately, Northern Virginia is no exception, with a poverty rate of about 5%, that's more than 90,000 people. Those with little to nothing are right here.

You may have heard about this WFCM program before. Epiphany has volunteered in many past years to purchase groceries, assemble baskets and deliver them to area needy families the Sunday before Thanksgiving.

This year, we are sponsoring eight local families.

How can you help?

First, pick up a shopping list at church and go shopping. If you'd rather provide a grocery gift card, we'll need those in \$10 or \$25 increments so the family can buy a turkey or other meat. If you would like to bake, please coordinate directly with me so Peter doesn't end up with 20 extra pies. Well, Peter may like that idea... Bring your food and gift cards to the church over the next two Sundays, ending on November 19.

Next, consider signing up to help assemble and/or deliver the baskets on Sunday the 19th after church. Deliver with your spouse, with your family, or with a friend or neighbor. Note how you want to help on the signup sheets in the back.

Please consider sharing the One who has given you the most with those who have the least.

Christina Cummings,
Ministry coordinator



New Study Guide on the Anniversary of the Reformation

The Anglican Church in North America and the North American Lutheran Church release joint study guide highlighting our common understanding of Jesus Christ, the Scriptures, Baptism, and Communion.

October 31, 2017

From Archbishop Beach:

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

On this 500th anniversary celebrating the beginning of the Reformation, I am deeply aware that we are in the midst of a new Reformation that is sweeping the globe, not just within Anglicanism, but all of Christendom. People are returning to the plain teaching of the Scriptures, and embracing Jesus Christ their Lord and Savior.

It is in that spirit that I am pleased to commend to you a new resource (see below) that has been developed in conjunction with our Lutheran brothers and sisters. “Four Pastoral and Educational Affirmations” is a study guide produced by The Anglican Church in North America and The North American Lutheran Church which highlights our common understanding of Jesus Christ, the Scriptures, Baptism, and Communion.

If you are part of an Anglican congregation and live in a community where there are also North American Lutheran churches, I encourage you to consider joining together in grassroots ecumenical conversations to deepen your faith by learning more about the biblical truths that we share in common.

I am thankful for the hard work of the NALC/ACNA dialogue committee, the co-chairs, Bishop Charlie Masters (ACNA) and Pastor David Wendel (NALC), and Bishop Ray Sutton, Dean of Ecumenical Affairs.

May God continue to lead us as we seek to faithfully live out the next Reformation by leading people to a living relationship with Jesus Christ.

In Christ,

+ *Foley Beach*

The Most Rev. Dr. Foley Beach
Archbishop and Primate
Anglican Church in North America



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Dear friends of the Anglican Church in North America and the North American Lutheran Church,

Grace to you and peace, from God our Father and the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!

We bring you greetings on behalf of the participants of the ecumenical consultation of the Anglican Church in North America and the North American Lutheran Church.

As a part of our ongoing conversations, we have developed four pastoral and educational affirmations addressing the topics of “Jesus Christ, the Gospel and Justification,” “Holy Baptism,” “Holy Communion,” and “Holy Scripture,” with accompanying study guides designed to involve local lay people of all ages in learning, reflection and conversation. All are included [in the attached booklet](#) which may also be printed as hard-copy.

Our hope is that these materials will be used for study, reflection and discussion within congregations, families, small groups or other activities within parishes and congregations of ACNA and NALC.

More importantly, it is the hope of the consultation participants that neighboring ACNA and NALC parishes will seek out each other and develop opportunities to study these four affirmations together. More information about such study groups is provided in the introduction to the booklet.

In service to Christ our Lord,

The participants of the ACNA/NALC Ecumenical Consultation



https://s3.amazonaws.com/acna/ACNA-NALC_Four_Affirmations_Oct2017.pdf

Relocation Updates for November

Work continues at our new location! Here is a quick update on where we are and what to expect in the next few months.

Build-Out Committee: We have now completed choosing finishes for our entire space. The build-out committee, under the leadership of Beth Monroe, is now beginning work with specific ministries to plan the furnishings and cabinetry needed. Epiphany's audio/visual team, lead by Ross Cummings and Ralph Morris, are also hard at work making sure our new space has the equipment we need for worship and other events.

Final Permit: This is taking longer than we hoped. However, we are making lots of progress. Over the last month, we have received Fairfax county's sign-off on our general building plan, our plumbing plan, our electrical plan, our mechanical (HVAC) system plan, our fire safety plan and from the county's wastewater and zoning departments. We have a final issue to clarify with the county, but at this point we are very close to getting our final building permit!

Move In Date: While we still can't provide an updated move-in date until our permit is in hand, it is clear now that our schedule has slipped. We are currently in a conversation with our landlord here at 13515 Dulles Technology Drive to see what continuing at our current location past Nov. 30 would cost. We are also looking into other options. Our hope is to share more details about what to expect at our annual meeting on Nov. 12

Capital Campaign: The last month has been very encouraging. Giving is now over 85 percent of our goal (\$677,446 given toward a goal of \$800,000) with 80 Epiphany families participating. That said, the last 15 percent is



Members of the Build-Out Committee look at paint, carpet and flooring options for our new location.



Epiphany's new fellowship hall.



Work crews are building the altar dais in the sanctuary.

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important! We are doing our best to be good stewards of what God is providing through your giving. We have been able to stick to our initial estimates regarding our projects costs. Please pray that God would continue to encourage generosity in our congregation as we enter the final lap!

Painting and Moving: We hope and expect to work as a congregation on both of these tasks as we get closer to our moving date. Please stay tuned for details and opportunities to participate.



Choir risers under construction in the sanctuary.



Annual Meeting is Nov. 12

Epiphany's annual meeting is Sunday, Nov. 12, from 11:30am to 12:30pm. During this meeting r. Peter will report on the "State of the Church," and we will also hear an update on the progress of our relocation to Centerview Drive as well as what to expect as we go through the next few months of transition.

Also at the Annual Meeting:

Vestry elections – Epiphany will be electing three new vestry members. We are still in the process of identifying candidates for these positions. Andy Plummer and the nominations committee will report on where we are at the annual meeting.

Finance Report – The Finance Committee will give an update on Epiphany's budget and giving.

Child care will be provided. The annual meeting starts immediately after the 10am service.

All are welcome: If you are a regular attender at Epiphany, even if you are not technically a member, please consider attending the annual meeting. While membership is required to vote for vestry members, our meetings are open at Epiphany and we want all who are connected to our church to attend.

Publishing Information

The *Epiphany STAR* 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



BIRTHDAYS

1	Ted Fredrick	10	Shervan Torabi	17	Melanie Miller
	Ed Stachew	11	Emily McKenica	20	Ginny Roberts
7	KLurt Louis	16	Brandon Baumgartner	21	Colin Tucker
8	Bill Knight		Evelyn Noble	25	Jonathan Merrill
			Penny Rauh		

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

2	Christina & Ross Cummings	24	Carolyn & Larry Pantzer
7	Pat & Will Schreiner	25	Jennie & Bob Beckley
12	Cyndi & Ron James	28	Lisa & Michael Ellis
21	Sheila & Jimmy Crawford		

Worship Schedule

Sundays

8:00 and 10:00 AM
 Eucharist and Healing

At the 10 am service:

Nursery available for infants through 2 years old
 Sunday School for children 3 years old through 5th grade

Weekdays

9:00 AM

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday

12:15 PM

Wednesdays: Holy Communion

Resources

Epiphany Staff	Email	Extension
The Rev. Peter Frank, Rector	pfrank@epiphanyanglican.net	104
The Rev. Pamela Meeks, Associate Rector	pmeeks@epiphanyanglican.net	106
The Rev. David Welch, Parish Deacon	dwelch@epiphanyanglican.net	703-309-0527
Jimmy Crawford, Music Director	jcrawford@epiphanyanglican.net	101
Janice Monaghan, Financial Director	jmonaghan@epiphanyanglican.net	105

2017 Vestry

David Bassert
 Doug Greenwood
 George Hamlin
 Beth Monroe
 Debby Morris
 Andy Plummer
 Bryan Saddler
 Dave Schreiner
 Duncan Sutton
 Carol Williams

Vestry Officers

Senior Warden..... Andy Plummer
 Junior Warden Bryan Saddler
 Registrar..... George Hamlin
 Finance Committee Chairman..... Dennis McNeely
 Treasurer Tom Miller
 Assistant Treasurer Charlie Monroe
 Chancellor David Reed

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 at 703-591-6645 or email her at mizfiz34@gmail.com.



ANGLICAN CHURCH
 IN NORTH AMERICA



Diocese of the
 MID-ATLANTIC
 Anglican Church in North America

<http://anglicanchurch.net/>

<http://anglicandoma.org/>



13515 Dulles Technology Drive, Suite # 1
 Herndon Virginia 20171
 Main Number: 703.481.8601
 Prayer Line: 703.389.7292

Visit our website at www.epiphanyanglican.net

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

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

November		
5, 19	6:00 PM	Youth Connections
12	11:30 AM	Annual Meeting & Vestry Elections
14	7:00 PM	Vestry Meeting
22	7:00 PM	Pie and Praise "Pie-Luck"
24, 25		Office Closed
26	11:30 AM	Christmas Drama Interest Meeting
December		
3, 10, 17	11:30 AM	Christmas Drama Practice
3, 17	6:00 PM	Youth Connections
12	7:00 PM	Vestry Meeting
24	9:00 AM	Holy Eucharist (Fourth Sunday of Advent)
24	5:00 PM	Family Christmas Service
24	11:00 PM	Midnight Mass
25, 26		Office Closed
January		
9	7:00 PM	Vestry Meeting

