

## Good Stewards and a Great God



In a few weeks, we will be beginning our annual stewardship campaign. When it comes to stewardship, Epiphany has a lot to celebrate over the last year. First and foremost, we have now paid the final bill to Atlantic Contracting for building our new facility!

When all was said and done, our contractor, Charlie, did a great job helping us keep our project expenses on budget. That's not to say there weren't some surprises along the way – there were. However, the build-out committee, our audio visual team, Charlie, and the “sweat-equity” of our congregation as we did things like paint together, meant at the end of the day, we have only needed to use \$4,117.30 of our unrestricted operating funds beyond what we raised through our “Journey of Joy” capital campaign to completely pay for all work that has been done to this point. The only outstanding item that it would be nice to have and hasn't been purchased yet is a large exterior sign. Given that our “all-in” cost for our relocation was over \$1.45 million, seeing final expenses and final income come within .3 percent of each other is nothing short of a miracle. That said, we have experienced a roughly 10 percent decline in regular giving as we held our capital campaign over the last year and that means our operating reserves are low right now.

I am convinced that we can continue to trust God with our finances. Epiphany's story over the last 32 years has always been a story of God's faithfulness, from the first service Epiphany ever held in the Franklin middle school cafeteria, to our first service here at Centerview Drive on March 11. To that I would add a maxim I heard a lot growing up as the son of a Christian camp director, “money follows ministry.” From our new work at Arbor Terrace to launching adult education classes on Sunday and some of our biggest Easter and Holy Week services in several years, ministry is growing at Epiphany.

All these things make this year's stewardship campaign particularly important. In a few weeks, expect to receive information about stewardship at Epiphany and about our financial plans for the year ahead, plus a pledge card in the mail. Pledges at Epiphany are between you and God (they are anonymous) but we do offer them as a congregation on Stewardship Sunday – which

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will be April 29 this year. The finance committee uses the pledged giving number to make sure our budget for the year ahead is responsible.

Between now and then, please join me in giving thanks to God for the great generosity of his people here at Epiphany. God has done (and will do) great things.

God bless,

*Pat*



### **Mark Your Calendars: Bishop John Consecrating New Facility April 22**

On April 22, Bishop John will be, preaching, leading worship and consecrating our new church home during the 10:15 service. There will not be an 8am service this Sunday. This will be an important moment for us as we officially set aside 3863 Centerview Drive for God's work through our church in the years ahead.

Our hope is that this is a service not only for Epiphany's regular attenders, but for all our friends in Northern Virginia and beyond who want to celebrate with us what God has done and will do as Epiphany enters the next phase of it's life and ministry.

After church, we'll have an informal meal together to celebrate.



## Prayer With Youth



Every now and then as a parent we come up with a good idea that actually works! David and I were inspired to invite Jonathan, our 16 year old, to join us for the Prayer Vigil. We thought that since he likes staying up late for other things, maybe he would agree to join us at church Friday night some time after Good Friday service to learn to pray. He said yes! It didn't turn out quite as we expected. Who knew that praying makes you sleepy? Nevertheless, Jonathan and I had the opportunity to take some fancy written prayers and rewrite them to fit language that he might imagine saying. I share with you our prayer that I hope becomes part of the "training wheels" so to speak, for future prayers.

*You created life and given us so much happiness.*

*You made me who I am and given me what I have.*

*Help me make a stand today for what is pure and true and good.*

*Help me to put what is right before my own interests and to put others before myself.*

*Help me put you above all else.*

*Thank you for the good stuff in Jesus you have given me.*

*Make me always aware that I need a savior.*

*Make me hate sin, no longer love it so much.*

*Remind me when I need to seek forgiveness that I may serve you forever.*

*I come to you with nothing of my own to give, no works, no worthiness.*

*I know I oppose your authority and abuse your goodness so forgive me for Jesus' sake.*

*Impress me with a sense of your presence, that you are always with me.*

*Give me today a heart like Jesus' heart, one that is brave and true and tender, a heart fixed on you.*

And speaking of prayer, please keep the youth in your prayers for the weekend of April 13-15. Brandon, Jonathan, Nolan, Liam, Lia, Kate along with Debbie Hanger and I are going away on retreat and would appreciate you remembering us. We will be joined by youth from other Anglican churches, Church of the Holy Spirit in Leesburg and Church of the Apostles in Fairfax. May we all meet with the Lord more closely.

*Pamela +*



**DON'T FORGET!** Starts Sunday, April 8<sup>th</sup>

March 2018

~ 2 ~

The STAR ✦

## As We Move: Adult Education Classes on Sunday Mornings

Starting the Sunday after Easter (April 8) and continuing through June, Epiphany will be offering a slate of Adult education classes in our new church facility. To allow for these classes, we are also changing the start time of our second Sunday morning service from 10am to 10:15. All classes will begin at 9:15am and conclude at 10:05.



Initial classes:

**To Be A Christian:** Team taught by David Meeks, Boyd Camak and Fr. Peter, this class will begin to walk through the Anglican Church in North America's "To Be a Christian" Catechism. The Catechism is built around the Ten Commandments, the Creed and the Lord's Prayer.

**The Four Gospels:** Elizabeth Hudgins will be offering a class comparing the Gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. Elizabeth will also be teaching about just what a "gospel" is and isn't, and discussing why we ended up with the four Gospels we have.

**The Holy Spirit:** Murray and Ginger Black will be teaching this Exploration of the Holy Spirit. Their class will cover who He is, His presence in Scripture, and the importance of Him in our lives.

Watch for more information and a class sign up as we move into our new facility during the month of March!



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## Fr. Peter on Sabbatical June-August

I will be taking a Sabbatical this Summer beginning on June 1 and continuing until the end of August. Epiphany clergy are eligible for a sabbatical after every seven-years of full-time ministry at the church.

During my absence, the wardens and Mtr. Pamela along with the vestry will have oversight over Epiphany. Two longtime friends of our church, the Rev. Robin Rauh, past rector of Epiphany, and the Rev. Bob Koth, will be assisting Mtr. Pamela and Deacon Dave by regularly preaching and leading Sunday worship.

I will begin his sabbatical by spending a few days in Athens, Greece (one of my favorite places) and then going on to serve as a conference staff member at the Global Anglican Future Conference in Jerusalem ([www.gafcon.org](http://www.gafcon.org)) in June. This is an international meeting of orthodox Anglican archbishops, bishops and other leaders that takes place every few years. Hundreds of Anglican bishops and archbishops will be joined by more than 1,000 other Anglican clergy and lay leaders from around the world to build relationships and learn together in Jerusalem. As you may know, before I came to Epiphany, I was the Anglican Church in North America's first communications director. Part of my work leading up to that role was to be the North American communications lead for the first GAFCON conference that was also held in Jerusalem in 2008. Since I came to Epiphany, I have been happy to keep my focus on our local church and have set aside opportunities for national or international Anglican work. However, when our bishop asked me to come to GAFCON to support him as a volunteer staff member, and when I saw that the timing lined up with my sabbatical, it seemed it was time to serve our broader church in this way again.

After I return from Israel at the end of June, the Frank family will be driving to northern Minnesota, where I will be a part-time volunteer staff-member for July and August at Trout Lake Camps ([www.troutlakecamps.org](http://www.troutlakecamps.org)). While at Trout Lake, I also hope to take time to read, rest, and connect with my family (and extended family who live in the area) in the Northwoods.

While I am on sabbatical, my hope is to disconnect from email, social media and my cell phone. I will make sure the wardens and clergy know how to contact me in case of an emergency. I'm grateful for this opportunity to take a break and refocus after what has been an intense period of ministry at Epiphany. I hope and expect to come back in the fall ready for the next leg of our journey together.

God bless,





◀ Left: Fr. Peter with one of two whole lambs that Epiphany chef Zan Dial prepared for the Maundy Thursday meal.

▲ Above: Chef Zan Dial at work grilling lamb for the Maundy Thursday Passover Seder



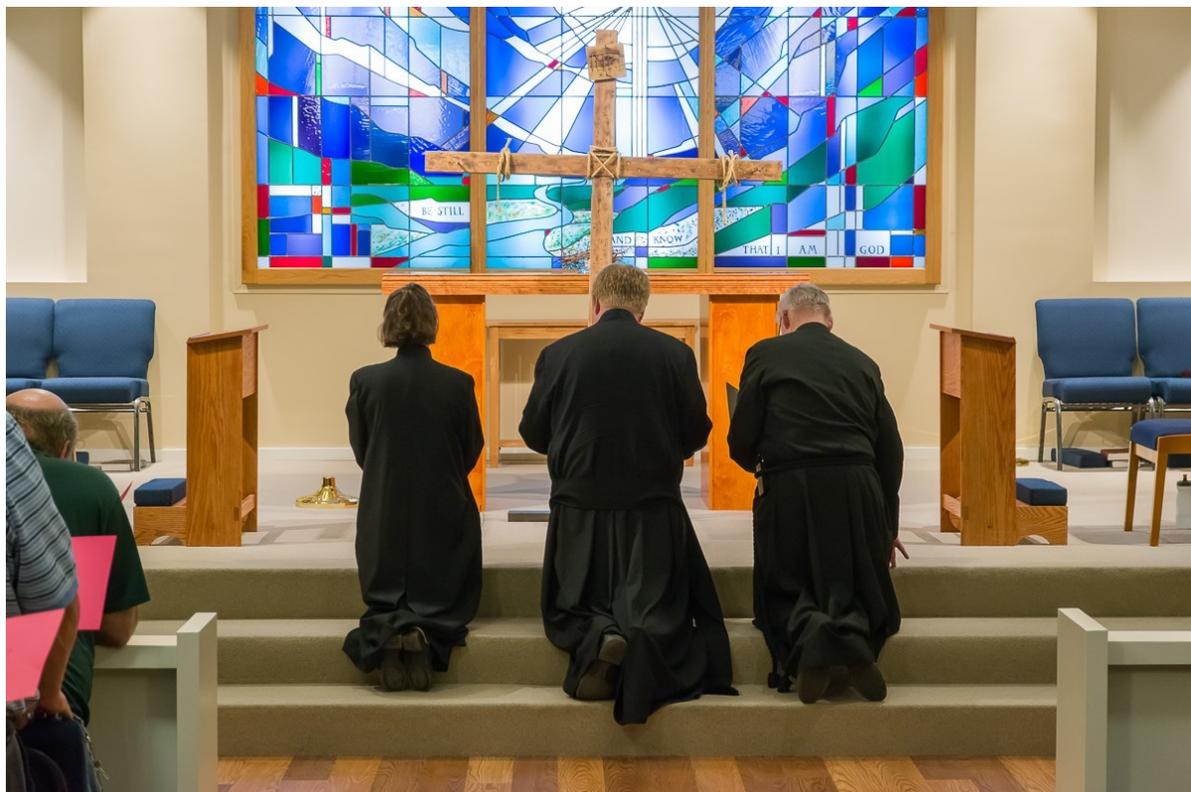
▲ Above: About 100 people attended the Maundy Thursday meal.



◀ Left: Part of a Passover Seder is the children's hunt for the "afikomen" - a piece of unleavened Matzoh bread that is hidden. After it's found, the Passover host "redeems" the bread by purchasing it from the children after negotiating a price. Here James suggests that \$10,000 would be a fair exchange rate!



Fr. Peter celebrates communion as the “Fourth Cup” of the passover meal, which is the place in Passover where Jesus first said “This is my body.”



Epiphany’s clergy praying in front of the cross during the Good Friday service.

## Missions Update

*Here are excerpts from the recent report of **Fran Boyle**, who works with displaced youths in South Sudan:*

I recently returned from Kenya where I met with the Sudanese pastors that we support before they returned to their work in South Sudan. I was also there on a mission to find a high school for Longar.

Most of my time was spent trying to locate a boarding school for Longar that both of us felt comfortable with. After many hours running up and down the roads between schools, the Lord clearly led us to a school that we were both very happy with. The school was founded as and is still considered a Christian School, but it is run as a government school.

Longar shared all of the details of his trip into South Sudan which he had made shortly after he graduated eighth grade in Kenya. Longar spent time in Juba with two older married sisters and a younger sister that he had not seen since he was five. Longar is now sixteen. For some time, none of them even knew if the other still existed. Longar was abandoned at five when his mother was killed.

Longar also made a trip up to Marial Bai where I had found him. It was all surreal to him. He met relatives and found that as the only son in the family, he actually owns a piece of land in Marial Bai. Longar was able to ask a lot of questions about what had happened to him, what his mother was like, and even spoke with a brother of his mother. His married sisters were thrilled to see how Longar has been cared for and for the education that he has. They said that it was God who sent this woman to rescue you, only two months after our mother was killed. We are helping his younger sister go to school, but Longar wants to be able to help support all of them some day. He also wants to start a ministry to the street children that he sees in Nairobi. He sees that they are treated very badly. He says, "That once was me."

We graduated another eighth-grade class in Aquak Rak. The team from Answering the Call was there to witness the graduation ceremony. I am sorry to report that we are only able to send a few of the twenty students who graduated to high school for lack of funds. It costs only \$550 per student to pay for a year of tuition, food and housing.

The most exciting developments



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was that the ATC team was able to purchase 25 cows for the orphanage! Our goal has been to gradually enable the compound to become more self-sufficient. We realize that becoming completely self-sufficient could take years, but this is a step in the right direction. The director, Santino, has drawn up a proposal which includes chickens and more cows. These cows and chickens will help supply the orphanage with milk and eggs and could bring in a little income to help cover other costs.

Another team from ATC is planning to go into Aquak Rak in May. Please pray for that team. The team serves the children when they go in and continue their outreach to the Darfurians.



## Help Wanted – Moving-in Tasks Seeking Volunteers

With lots of help, everything Epiphany owns is now in our new church building. We still have some work to do in order to be fully moved-in. If you would be willing to take on one of the tasks below, please contact Amie Boncher, ([reception@epiphanyanglican.net](mailto:reception@epiphanyanglican.net)). Thank you!

- Paint-touch up in the hallway by the kitchen
- Organize left-over building supplies
- Hang white-boards and clocks in classrooms
- Remove blue-tape markings and clean or touch-up walls as needed.
- Install parking signs in front of the Church
- Organize store rooms



**BIRTHDAYS**

1	Marilyn Tangonan	12	Stephanie Merrill	22	Beth Monroe
4	Rachel Easton	15	Charlie Westerman	25	Jimmy Crawford
	Kyle Louis	18	CJ Plummer	27	Christopher Easton, III
7	Caitlyn Bender	20	Debby Morris		Barbara Peake
10	Roger Miller	21	Greg Harrison	30	Robin Ridinger

**WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES**

2	VJ & Kent Johnson	20	Ellen & Greg Harrison
4	Nancy & Bill Knight		Annette & David Rhoads
6	Lesley & Jeff Ermalinski	26	Ann & Zan Dial
12	Amie & Scott Boncher	28	Rachel & CJ Easton



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***Worship Schedule***

**Sundays**

**8:00 and 10:15 AM**  
Eucharist and Healing

At the 10:15 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
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

### 2018 Vestry

David Bassert  
 Amie Boncher  
 Doug Greenwood  
 Sally McNeely  
 Beth Monroe  
 Debby Morris  
 Mark Oliphant  
 Bryan Saddler  
 Dave Schreiner  
 Duncan Sutton

### Vestry Officers

Senior Warden.....Beth Monroe  
 Junior Warden..... Mark Oliphant  
 Registrar .....Amie Boncher  
 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](mailto: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](mailto:mizfiz34@gmail.com).

## 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**



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Visit our website at [www.epiphanyanglican.net](http://www.epiphanyanglican.net)

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

### MARK YOUR CALENDARS

#### April

1, 8, 15, 22, 29	8: 00 AM and 10:15 AM	Holy Eucharist
8, 15, 22, 29	9:15 AM	Adult Education
6	10 AM	Journaling at Melanie Miller's Home
7	9:30 AM	Protecting God's Children
8. 22	6 PM	Youth Connections - TBD
10	7 PM	Vestry
11	7 PM	Ladies Dining Out
13-15		Youth Spring Retreat
14	10 AM	Band of Brothers - Arbor Terrace
16-18		DOMA Clergy Retreat
20-21		Women's Retreat
22	2 PM	Holy Eucharist at Arbor Terrace

#### May

6, 13, 20, 27	8: 00 AM and 10:15 AM	Holy Eucharist
6, 13, 20, 27	9:15 AM	Adult Education
4	10 AM	Journaling at Melanie Miller's Home
8	7 PM	Vestry
11	10 AM	Tabitha's Threads
12	10 AM	Band of Brothers - Arbor Terrace

Contact Jimmy Crawford  
[jcrawford@epiphanyanglican.net](mailto:jcrawford@epiphanyanglican.net)  
 To add your activity  
 to the Church calendar