

Preparing Your Way



When the wind is coming from the right direction, every few minutes I see a plane on final approach to Dulles Airport through my office window at church. Many of those planes are the big international flights, with hundreds of people on board.

Sometimes I think to myself, “who is on that plane and what brings them here?”

For many of them, it’s just a simple trip, maybe even routine. But beyond clicking “reserve” on a travel website and after showing up at the airport, there is a vast collection of people that are involved in their journey – pilots, flight attendants, gate agents, ground crews, baggage handlers, security, customs officers, air traffic controllers, just to name a few.

The same is true for us as we follow Jesus. In some ways being a disciple is something we choose to do, and must choose to do as individuals. Someone else can’t follow Jesus for us. At the same time, each of us can only follow Jesus because we have help along the way, because others have “prepared the way” for us. It is interesting for me that this is even true of Jesus himself. Luke names John the Baptist as the one who “prepared the way” for Jesus’ ministry (Luke 3:4), and we could add to that generations of the Old Testament prophets as well, and even his disciples, who often handled logistics for Jesus (Luke 22:7-13).

So, who has prepared the way, who has supported you in your life of discipleship? I know that my way was prepared by godly parents and good churches when I was young, and as I have grown, mature Christian friends. My guess is that there have been “way preparers” in your life as well.

Advent is a good time to think of them, to give thanks for them. We don’t journey alone in our faith, anymore than we fly alone from Dulles Airport. God-sent people prepare our way.

God bless,

Holy Advent: Checking our Expectations



I happened upon a Fleming Rutledge article about Advent that inspired my own thoughts about the season upon us. As a priest who has written a book on Advent, I wondered what she had to share. She reminded me about how countercultural Advent really is, even more than other church seasons like Lent or Easter. Of all the seasons that bring out the most decorations, traditions, foodies and parties, the month leading up to Christmas is it!

Naturally, folks have been fussing for awhile about how much Christmas creeps in and steals the joy and uniqueness of Thanksgiving. But then, we Anglicans take a pause before we jump in with all the trappings of a holiday season. Don't get me wrong, I am not bashing anyone's decorations or holiday music stations. Being new to Anglicanism myself, Advent observance still feels new and awkward and well, countercultural as Rutledge says. A holy Advent observance is something that I have added to bit by bit.

While all around us the songs and the decorations might tempt us to jump into the joy, tarrying for a while and holding back even just a little is not a bad idea. Certainly, I would hope that at the very least, we would spend time in Scripture and let its truth sink in. It is not easy reading as we delve into Daniel, Zephaniah, Zechariah and Malachi at this time of year. It is hard to live with the darkness when all around us folks are dressing up as Santa and yelling, "Ho, ho, ho. Let's all be jolly."

Advent traditions "remind me day to day during the season that ***we have no right to expect anything from God.*** We live in darkness and in the shadow of death and that is our rightful lot since the fall of Adam." Sure, we have Lent to contemplate these similar themes but the Lenten season is fundamentally different. "The culture observes Christmas as though it were deserved, expected, domesticated, even routine and manageable." But Advent is here to remind us it isn't.

Perhaps, the ***scaling back of a thing that we think we deserve or expect*** of this holiday season is just what we need to do to see anew the wonder of the birth narrative. God in flesh, baby flesh, is really quite miraculous, quite unexpected. We would be missing deep truths if we simply skim the surface as we go about our shopping and cookie-baking ways. Let me try this analogy. We might have had a person in our lives who was generous to us, maybe even year after year. The danger of their repeated generosity is that we would come to think we deserve their generosity, as we come to expect it. When that happens, their giving is no longer a gift to us. You could see how we might be tempted to see the gift of a savior in the stable by a God who loves us so much would tempt us to slip into bad patterns. So I would hope that, however you might choose to observe Advent, you would find ways to keep it a holy Advent, and one that prepares your heart to receive his gift.

You can find Fleming Rutledge's article here: <http://ruminations.generousorthodoxy.org>

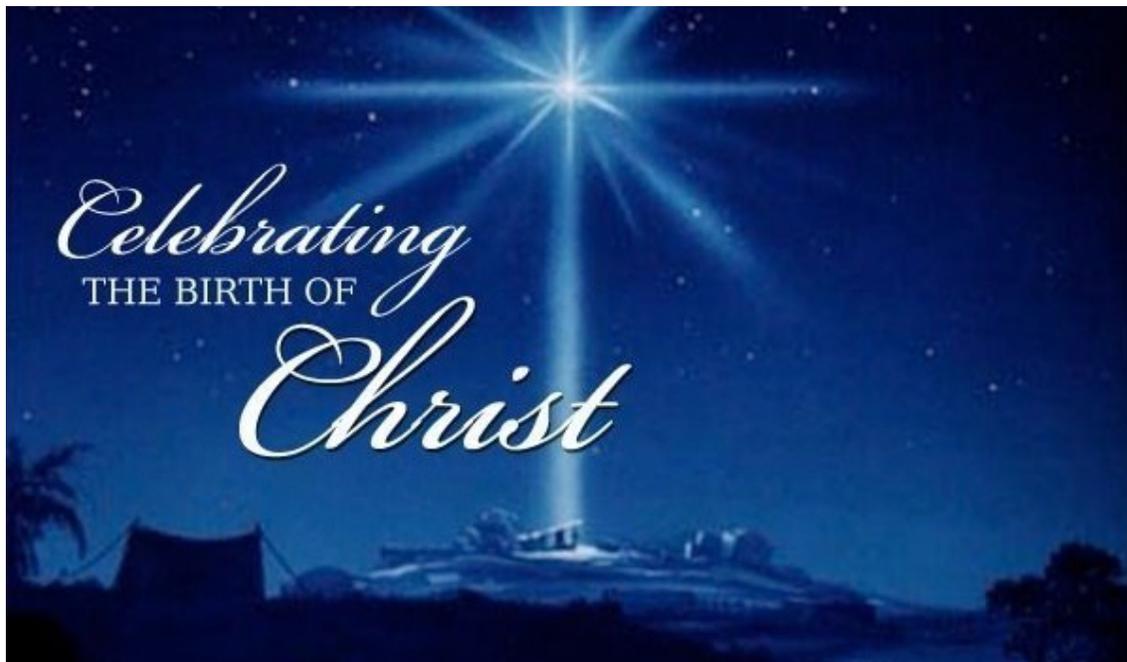
Pamela +

Christmas Services At Epiphany

This year, we will be celebrating the Christmas Season at Epiphany beginning on Sunday, Dec. 23 with Lessons and Carols, and then continuing with two services on Christmas Eve.

Lessons and Carols is a musical service at 10:15am on Sunday, December 23. This traditional service combines readings from scripture with well known Christmas carols that we sing together as a congregation. This year, Lessons and Carols will include a short sermon focused on the meaning of Christmas. While Communion is not part of the Lessons and Carols service, there will be an 8am Holy Eucharist on Dec. 23.

Christmas Eve Worship at Epiphany this year will be at 5 and 11 pm. Our 5pm service includes our children's Christmas drama. The 11pm service is a traditional candlelight service with the adult choir and chime choir.



December 23	10:15 AM:	Lessons & Carols
December 24	5 PM	Family Worship Service with children's Christmas drama
December 24	11 PM	Traditional Candlelight Service

This Year's Epiphany Gift

One of Epiphany's traditions is a year-end gift for a specific mission or outreach project, either locally, or through our missionary partners. We give this gift from a portion of our Christmas Eve offering. Last year, we helped Coates Elementary School refurbish their teacher training room. This year, the Missions Committee found two projects equally compelling.

The first is helping to provide a car for Ezra, a disciple of Pastor Ahmet in Turkey. You may remember Pastor Ahmet from his time with us at Epiphany last summer. Ezra needs a car



not only for his growing family, but also to further his ministry in Turkey. In the past few years, Ezra helped tend to Syrian refugees who were traumatized by the brutal civil war. He now has been assigned to minister to a church in an overwhelmingly Muslim area in Turkey that receives an average of 1500-2000 visitors

per month. Ezra's tasks include sharing the faith with those visitors and believers, meeting with inquirers in the surrounding districts and provinces, and journeying to Kurdish areas as he works on a translation of the New Testament in their mother tongue.

We also want to help get SAT-7's Social Media Viewer Engagement Initiative off the ground. With 1.9 million Facebook followers and over 2 million SAT-7 Arabic YouTube downloads a month, SAT-7 has designed and implemented social media resources to help people with parenting and life questions. Helping people become better parents is a worthy goal in itself, but more than that, it enables SAT-7 to lead people into a discussion about faith and ultimately into a relationship with God.



During our evening services on Christmas Eve (5 and 11pm), the first \$4,000 of our offering as a congregation will be designated to fund these projects (\$2,000 for each). If for any reason you want to make sure your gift on Christmas Eve goes to Epiphany's operating budget, please just indicate that in the memo line of your check.

Church of the Epiphany Anglican

FY2018 Financial Report



FINANCIAL REPORT

FISCAL YEAR 2018
(JULY 1, 2017 – JUNE 30, 2018)

Summary

FY2018 was a year of incredible blessings for Church of the Epiphany. In addition to our normal giving we saw our congregation dig deeply and give over \$800,000 towards our move to 3863 Centerview Drive.

Due to the move and the associated costs our overall expenses were greater than our general fund income; necessitating using unrestricted reserve funds of about \$70,000. We anticipate that the same will not be true for FY2019 and that over the year we can start to build up our reserves to an acceptable level. In all, we are grateful to God for His grace to Epiphany and to our congregation for their faithful generosity.

Due to the fact we were having a building campaign we did not have the annual stewardship campaign. For FY2018 we based the numbers on the FY2017 operating budget of \$860,000. Therefore, the Vestry approved a budget of \$860,000.

Church of the Epiphany Anglican

FY2018 Financial Report

For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2018, our operating expenses exceeded budget and our pledge and plate giving was impacted by our Building Campaign, resulting in a decrease in unrestricted net assets of \$80,237.

Shown below is a table of monthly income and expenses by major category for FY2018.

Church of the Epiphany Anglican

Monthly Financial Report to Vestry

MR-01 A

Fiscal Year 2018
as of June 30, 2018

INCOME

	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	TOTAL
Pledge & Plate	68,279	51,207	56,916	60,437	60,125	115,461	41,641	57,607	71,090	88,072	61,191	69,186	801,214
Interest	112	114	79	98	117	123	123	74	51	16	16	11	934
TOTAL INCOME	68,392	51,321	56,996	60,535	60,243	115,585	41,764	57,681	71,141	88,088	61,207	69,198	802,149

EXPENSES

Ministry/Function	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	TOTAL
Worship	235	754	766	19	-11	229	678	455	790	2,532	174	1,677	8,297
Outreach	4,854	6,213	5,423	5,234	4,494	4,743	8,005	4,688	4,379	4,930	6,113	5,242	64,316
Discipleship	31	63	264	135	66	260	169	367	206	1,313	409	78	3,361
Congregational Care	145	134	367	780	222	49	226	441	130	124	680	241	3,538
Facilities	1,922	2,001	2,007	878	1,960	2,340	6,076	488	4,062	1,881	2,663	6,096	32,373
Leased Property	22,647	22,647	22,647	22,647	39,630	22,198	22,198	22,198	22,198	32,119	22,198	22,198	295,527
Church Operations	1,860	2,269	2,187	1,646	1,701	1,269	2,988	1,356	1,902	3,631	3,087	3,526	27,422
Vestry	0	0	0	0	0	0	75	0	0	0	0	0	75
Personnel	35,051	35,008	35,919	35,736	35,552	35,567	35,525	36,645	35,802	35,566	33,213	35,175	424,760
Finance and Legal	499	1,223	3,232	25	231	276	7,094	17	35	59	19	7	12,717
Relocation Savings (RS)	1,214	-1,214	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	525	0	-525	0
Amortization Leasehold (AL)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	39,802
TOTAL EXPENSES	68,457	69,097	72,811	67,099	83,845	66,931	83,035	66,655	69,502	82,680	68,557	113,518	912,188

Income - Expenses w/o RS & AL	1,148	-18,990	-15,815	-6,564	-23,603	48,654	-41,271	-8,974	1,639	5,932	-7,349	-5,043	-70,237
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Income - Expenses w/ RS & AL	-65	-17,776	-15,815	-6,564	-23,603	48,654	-41,271	-8,974	1,639	5,407	-7,349	-44,321	-110,039
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Statement of Activities (Revenue and Expenses) for All Church Funds

	Operating	Relocation	Restricted	Total
Pledges, Plates, and Interest	802,149	493,655	29,463	1,325,267
Landlord Build Out Allowance		484,229		484,229
Leasehold Improvement Amortization Expense	39,802			39,802
Expenses	872,386	5,238	58,450	936,074
Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets before re-classifications	(110,039)	972,646	(28,987)	833,620
Release from Restriction for Amortization	39,802	(39,802)		0
Correction of FY 2017 Restricted Gift	(10,000)		10,000	0
Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets	(80,237)	932,844	(18,987)	833,620
Beginning Net Assets, July 1, 2017	160,486	477,536	38,384	676,406
Ending Net Assets, June 30, 2018	80,249	1,410,380	19,397	1,510,026

Church of the Epiphany Anglican

FY2018 Financial Report

BUDGET VERSUS ACTUAL INCOME AND ACTUAL EXPENDITURES

The first table below shows the FY2018 budget vs. actual income. The second table below shows the FY2018 budget vs. actual expenditures.

FY2018 BUDGET VS ACTUAL INCOME

	FY2017 Actual Income	FY2018 Budget	FY2018 Actual Income	FY2018 Difference	FY2018 % Difference from Budget
Pledge, Plate & Interest	872,358	860,000	802,149	-57,851	-7%

FY2018 BUDGETS VS ACTUAL EXPENSES

	FY2017 Actual Expenses	FY2018 Budget	FY2018 Actual Expenses	FY2018 Difference	FY2018 % Difference from Budget
WORSHIP	6,595	8,410	8,297	-113	-1%
OUTREACH	69,382	68,920	64,316	-4,604	-7%
DISCIPLESHIP	3,759	3,685	3,361	-324	-9%
CONGREGATIONAL CARE	6,576	7,435	3,538	-3,897	-52%
FACILITIES	303,181	311,848	327,900	16,052	5%
CHURCH OPERATIONS	24,662	25,654	27,422	1,768	7%
VESTRY	0	100	75	-25	-25%
PERSONNEL	426,299	426,384	424,760	-1,624	0%
FINANCE & LEGAL	13,068	7,564	12,717	5,153	68%
Total	853,522	860,000	872,386	12,386	1%

EXPLANATIONS

These are the reasons for variance of expenditures from fiscal year 2018 for the ministries with more than a 10% variance.

CONGREGATIONAL CARE

The Women’s Ministry budget included childcare expenses, which were not required in 2018. The Men’s Ministry was budgeted for a retreat, which they did not have.

VESTRY

Did not spend as much as was budgeted for vestry.

FINANCE & LEGAL

This was more than expected due to the fees from the consultants on the Dulles Technology parking and for submitting a solution to the county for allowing us to apply for a permanent parking permit.

Church of the Epiphany Anglican

FY2018 Financial Report

Balance Sheet
Modified Cash Basis *

	6/30/17	6/30/18
Assets		
Cash	\$442,635	\$99,948
Other Current Assets	\$18,108	\$1,124
Security Deposit	\$166,578	\$136,709
Leasehold Improvements	\$50,988	\$1,313,473
Accumulated Amortization		-\$39,802
Total Assets	\$678,309	\$1,511,452
Liabilities		
Current Liabilities	\$1,903	\$1,426
Net Assets		
Unrestricted Net Assets	\$160,486	\$80,249
Restricted Net Assets		
Gifts	\$38,384	\$19,397
Building/Relocation Fund		
Relocation Savings	\$259,970	\$0
Investment in Leasehold Improvements	\$50,988	\$1,273,671
Held in Security Deposits	\$166,578	\$136,709
Total Net Assets	\$676,406	\$1,510,026
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$678,309	\$1,511,452

As of June 30, 2018 Epiphany assets include:

- Cash on hand of \$99,948,
- Other Current Assets, including:
 - \$500 that was spent for the Women’s Retreat in March 2018 of last fiscal year but will be expensed in April of fiscal year 2019,
 - \$624 represents prepaid insurance
- \$136,709 for the security deposit made in April 2017 for the new building.
- \$1,313,473 for the build-out on the new building.

The Current Liabilities include items that were shown as expenses in the 2018 fiscal year but the bills were not received until the beginning of the 2019 fiscal year, including:

- \$1221 for a computer,
- \$135 for medical insurance.

While Epiphany reserves the right to use all donations where needed, it is customary to honor donations for specific ministries. A record is maintained of all designated gifts and the uses of such funds. As of June 30, 2018 Epiphany held \$1,429,777 in restricted funds, comprising:

- \$19,397 for various ministries,
- \$1,273,671 represents leasehold improvements made on the new building, including those funded by the landlord.
- \$136,709 held in security deposit on the current building.

*** These reports are presented on a cash basis modified to reflect amounts invested in Leasehold Improvements.**

Church of the Epiphany Anglican

FY2018 Financial Report

EXPENSE BUDGET FY2019

Ministry	Subcategory	Ministry Total	Subcategory Amount
WORSHIP		9,711	
	ALTAR GUILD		3,760
	MUSIC		3,601
	AUDIO VISUAL		600
	GUEST PREACHER		1,750
OUTREACH		71,902	
	DOMA		34,000
	MISSIONS		24,552
	COMMUNITY		6,600
	NEIGHBORHOOD MINISTRY		6,750
DISCIPLESHIP		4,005	
	YOUTH		1,835
	CHILDREN		1,270
	NURSERY		300
	EVENTS		600
CONGREGATIONAL CARE		5,535	
FACILITIES		265,148	
	LEASE		228,889
	BUILDING OPERATIONS		36,259
CHURCH OPERATIONS		29,868	
	OFFICE ADMINISTRATION		17,656
	TELECOMMUNICATIONS		11,931
	INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY		281
PERSONNEL		437,383	
FINANCE & LEGAL		7,690	
Operating Reserve		13,758	
Budget Total		845,000	

The budget for FY2019 is \$845,000. This is based on this year's pledges

QUESTIONS: Please direct any questions or comments you may have regarding this report to Dennis McNeely at ddmcneely@gmail.com.

Photographer this Sunday



This Sunday, December 9, we will have a friend of our church and professional photographer Abby Springmann with us to take new pictures for our website and other promotional materials. Abby's work will be helpful to us for introducing people to our congregation and giving visitors to our website a sense of who we are and what to expect.

You can help Epiphany by being at church this Sunday so that we have a full congregation for the photos. If for any reason you or your family shouldn't be in our final set of photos please let Fr. Peter know so that Epiphany can honor your wishes.



Welcome to New Vestry Members



During Epiphany's annual congregational meeting on Nov. 9, five candidates were elected to the vestry. New vestry members, who will begin their terms on Jan. 1, are (L-R) Kelly Derrick, Carole Menzel, Margaret Stromberg, Pat Meyer, and Lisa Baehr.

Christmas Flowers

Please consider donating flowers in honor of a loved one to help decorate the Church for Christmas. There is a sign-up sheet in the gathering place. Deadline for ordering is December 16th. Complete the form and leave it, along with your check, in the envelope provided.

Christmas Eve Flowers



Please fill out the information below and return to the Christmas Eve Flowers envelope or the Parish Office.

Deadline: Sunday, December 16th, 2018

Donation: \$25.00

PRINT ALL INFORMATION

GIVEN BY

IN MEMORY OF

IN THANKSGIVING FOR

Holiday Baskets - Help Our Neighbors

Thank you to all of those who contributed to the Thanksgiving basket effort. We had plenty of grocery gift cards, money to spend on fresh produce, and willing folks to deliver the assembled baskets. A special thanks to Zan Dial who handled the shopping for the fresh items as well as the assembly of the baskets. I hope some of you were able to see the bounty laid out in the multipurpose room (the room with the garage door) before delivery. Wow!



The giving was so generous that we wound up with many extra grocery gift cards! We believe we may have enough to both give to families for their main course AND do the grocery shopping to fill the baskets. What we would like to request instead is that you consider participating by either baking/providing Christmas goodies to include in the baskets, or signing up to deliver baskets. We will be serving the same 10 families, and delivery is targeted for December 23, the Sunday before Christmas. There will be a signup sheet in the Fellowship Area. Questions? Contact Christina Cummings 703-915-3575 or ccummings69@gmail.com.



Wednesday, December 12
Piero's Restaurant in Franklin Farm
Time: 7:00 PM

Missions Update: Fran Boyle

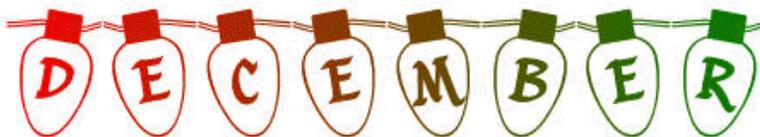
We received a recent report from Fran Boyle, who works with orphans and displaced youth from the Sudan. Here are excerpts:

Our children at the orphanage in Akuak Rak are finishing up the school year. They will be on break the month of December and the new term begins in January. I am planning to visit in January to witness and speak at our fourth 8th grade graduation. Our faith is once again being stretched, as we trust the Lord for the funding to continue to fund the school and teachers that train and care for 320 children.

We want each child that graduates eighth grade to be able to go on to high school. I didn't know how we would be able to care for the 62 children we started with ten years ago. The Lord did not let us down then and we are trusting that he will not now. We are grateful for the partnership with Answering the Call who has worked to help the school compound become more self-sufficient by maintaining a herd of cattle, raising chickens and planting gardens, all things that were once a normal form of life in the area, before the war which changed everything. Our clinic is the only health facility in the region. What God has done in helping us to restore life to this area is remarkable.

As we shared with you in the last newsletter, Santino Atak, our pastor that is headmaster of the school, was going blind. We were able to send him to Kenya for eye surgery which saved his eyesight. Atak was so full of joy when the bandages were taken off and he was able to see. Atak, and the miraculous healing of his eyes was celebrated in formal celebrations when he returned home. Government officials from the area attended the church ceremony.





BIRTHDAYS

1	Fay Cochran	5	Maria Murphy	22	Andy Baehr
	Brianna Meeks		Charlotte Camak	23	Jan Coffee
2	Janice Monaghan	7	Katie Miller	26	Joel Monroe
3	Chris Johnson	13	John Murphy	28	Annabelle Easton
	Dan Johnson	19	Michael Ellis	31	Ran Cottingham
	Will Schreiner	21	Michaela Turner		

Happy Anniversary



WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

2	Lisa & Andy Baehr	29	Margaret & Frank Donivan
14	Krystal & Fred Apelquist		

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.



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



3863 Centerview Drive, Suite 100
 Chantilly, Virginia 20151
 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

December		
2, 9, 16, 23, 30	8: 00 AM and 10:15 AM	Holy Eucharist*
2, 9, 16, 23,	11:30 AM	Christmas Drama Practice
2	6: 00 pm	Christmas Fun for Kids
11	7 PM	Vestry Meeting
12	7 PM	Ladies Dining Out
16	6:00 PM	Youth Connections
20	12 PM - 4 PM	Bishops Task Force on Liturgy
23	10:15 AM	Lessons & Carols* 
23	2:00 PM	Worship at Arbor Terrace
24	5:00 PM	 Christmas Eve Worship with children's drama
24	11:00 PM	 Christmas Eve Worship Candlelight Service
24-31	All Day	Church Office Closed
*There will be no Eucharist at the 10:15 Lessons and Carols Service		
January 2019		
1	All Day	Church Office Closed
6, 13, 20, 27	8: 00 AM and 10:15 AM	Holy Eucharist
8	7 PM	Vestry Meeting
13, 27	6:00 PM	Youth Connections
13	1:30 PM	Marriage Mentors
27	2:00 PM	Worship at Arbor Terrace