

February 2022 - March 2022

## On Christian Calling

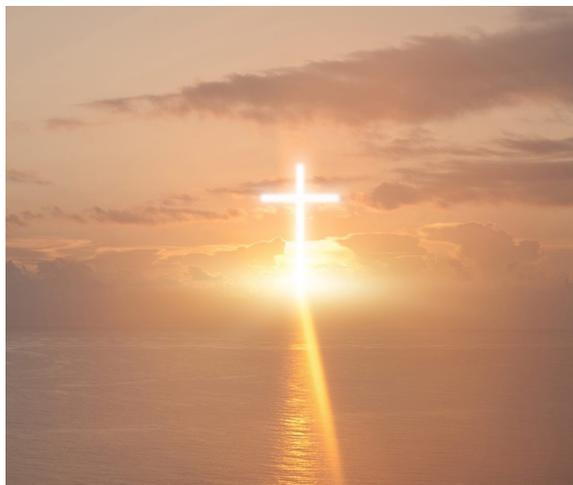


Last week, I was finally able to let you know about my nomination to be a candidate in the Anglican Diocese of Pittsburgh's election of their next bishop. I deeply appreciate all your words of friendship, encouragement and advice that I have received since then.

In a lot of ways, being a nominee to serve as a bishop is an awkward thing. On one hand, this may mark the last few months of my time here as your rector. At the same time, there is a good chance (mathematically, a two-in-three chance) that it will not.

The truth is that at this point, none of us - me, you or the Diocese of Pittsburgh - know who is called to be the next bishop there. While I am willing to be called, and simultaneously daunted and excited about all that would come with that, I can't give myself that calling, anymore than I could call myself to be Epiphany's rector or ordain myself a priest. God and the gathered Diocese of Pittsburgh do that, and then it is up to me to accept that call or accept that I am not called.

In short, as Anglicans we believe Christian calling isn't just an individual feeling a person has, but a cooperative process. As an individual, my job is to discern whether I am open to a particular calling through prayer, conversation, and an honest assessment of how my particular gifts and challenges fit me (or not) for the work. The diocese's job is to ask the same questions of those of us who are nominated, and most importantly ask God for guidance on who He has particularly prepared for the role. Then the Diocese votes, and the first nominee to receive both a majority of lay and clergy delegates' support is then called to serve as the next bishop.



My own conviction is that while this way of doing things feels a bit awkward and leaves us facing a few months of not really knowing what is

*(Continued on page 2)*

next, it's actually a very healthy way for Christians to think about calling, not just for its bishops, but for any ministry in the church. It reminds us that calling is often a process, not just a bolt of the blue. It says there is help for discerning our callings – we do this together. It is the combination of an individual, the church and God working in unison to put the right person in the right place to move God's kingdom forward.

But enough about me. What about you? Is there a calling you may have that you would like to explore at Epiphany? If so, Mtr. Pamela and I would love to discern with you about it.

God bless,



## Thank You – Epiphany Gift Exceeds Goal

Every year, Epiphany sets aside the Christmas Eve offering to support a missions or local outreach project. This year, our goal was to raise \$4,000 to buy 80 cots for homeless guests of Fairfax County's hypothermia prevention program. Without this gift, homeless guests have been sleeping on the floor of the various churches who open their space to them.



Epiphany went above and beyond this goal, giving \$5,398.45 on Christmas Eve. The vestry voted during their January meeting to give the entire amount to the project. The extra giving will allow FACETS (the organization who operates the hypothermia prevention shelters in Fairfax County) to purchase not only the cots but also some bedding to go with them.



## Praise and Worship Evening on Feb. 23



Join us, Wednesday, February 23<sup>rd</sup> at 7:30pm for an evening of Praise and Worship provided by CrossOver. A Praise and Worship service includes scriptural readings and contemporary praise songs that offer an environment for prayer and reflection and of course some good old hand clapping. This service is offered in person as well as on Live Stream. We look forward to seeing you!

## Touching the Leper

I have been thinking about people whom God calls but to difficult or dangerous tasks. Do we honor them or just think them weird? Our world might lift up those among us who are stellar athletes or entertainers but leave the quiet, saintly ones barely getting attention. Dr. Paul Brand, and his wife and doctor Margaret, are two such people we should know about. They spent most of their lives serving among lepers, the outcasts of society in India. The incredible stigma and rejection among sufferers of Hansen's disease would require more than a simple instinct for compassion. After twenty years in India, this doctor couple moved to Louisiana in 1966 to work at the Carville Hospital.



But this particular hospital had long been a place of great sacrifice for the saintly few. In 1894 the first handful of patients had been chased out of New Orleans after laws were passed to remove them in quarantine outside the city. They had to be smuggled by the authorities up the Mississippi River on a coal barge since they were not allowed on public transport. The plantation that they arrived at was inhabited by rats, bats, and snakes. Finding people who were willing to care for, work with, and research Hansen disease was no easy task until an order of Catholic nuns heard the call and responded. The Daughters of Charity (nicknamed the White Caps) smoothed the way for the care of these ostracized people. Rising two hours before daylight to pray, wearing their starched white uniform in the southern heat, the nuns drained swamps, leveled roads and repaired buildings. Later on, Congress was persuaded to make the Carville Hospital a national one.

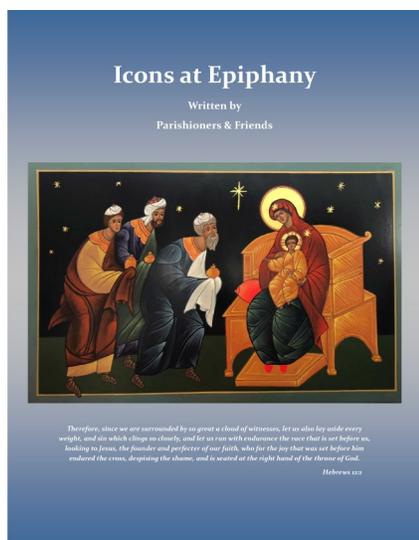
But folks like the nuns and the Brands understood that compassion takes a hands-on approach, disregarding the fears from the outside world. In history and up through the 1950's, the stigma of leprosy was so great that many patients adopted new names to protect their families on the outside. For a long time, they were denied the right to vote and were required to dip pocket money in disinfectant before spending it. Leprosy was legal grounds of divorce and incarceration. The hospital used to be like a prison with barbed wire. If someone escaped, the threat of being sent back was always present because there is no way to hide their malady and yet live in society. Gradually with research and medical knowledge, things changed for the sufferers and those who work with them. I am reminded of Jesus, naturally.

“When Jesus came down from the mountain, great crowds followed him. And behold, a leper came to him and knelt before him, saying, “Lord, if you will, you can make me clean.” And Jesus stretched out his hand and touched him, saying, “I will; be clean.” And immediately his leprosy was cleansed” (Matthew 8:1-3). Jesus showed the way forward to treat people with dignity and compassion. And truly folks who continued this work with Hansen disease were doing the Lord's work.

*Pamela +*

## Read All About It

Have you ever wondered just who is depicted in the 18 icons that hang near the side doors to Epiphany's sanctuary? There is now a way to find out. Custom-made books that introduce the subject of each icon and provide other information are available for your use. The books are located in two book racks by each of the side doors. Please return the books to the book racks after you have used them.



If you would like to purchase a personal copy, contact Merle Stromberg ([mmstromberg66@gmail.com](mailto:mmstromberg66@gmail.com))



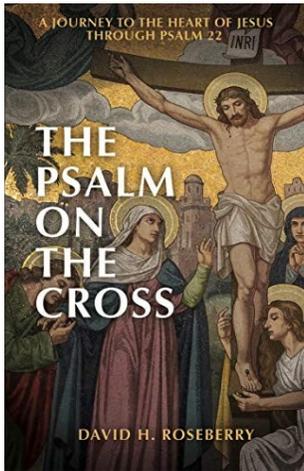
## Learn About Epiphany's Marriage Ministry

On February 6 and 13, representatives of the Marriage Ministry will be in Fellowship Hall after the service to share resources with members of the congregation and answer any questions about this ministry's activities, goals, etc. We will have date night ideas, couple conversation starters, suggestions for videos, and maybe even share a kiss or two — Hershey's Kiss, that is.

Please stop by and say hi.



## Read "The Psalm on the Cross" with Epiphany this Lent



This Lent, you are invited to set aside time each day to reflect on Psalm 22, the psalm Jesus began to recite on the cross. We will be ordering copies of "The Psalm on the Cross" by the Rev. David Roseberry. The book walks through Psalm 22 verse-by-verse. Each day it offers a short reading with some questions for us to reflect on. To make sure we order enough copies, please sign up at church, or send an email to Fr. Peter ([pfrank@epiphanyanglican.net](mailto:pfrank@epiphanyanglican.net)). The books will be available for pick-up the last Sunday of Epiphany (February 27) or on Ash Wednesday (March 2). We will be defraying the \$10 cost of each book through voluntary donations when they are picked up.



## WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

**Ladies Dining Out**

**First Wednesday of each month**

**7:00 PM**

**Piero's Corner Located in Franklin Farms Shopping Center**



Debby Morris hosts this group for a casual dinner at Piero's Corner Italian Ristorante located in the Franklin Farms shopping Center, Herndon, VA.

This small group offers the opportunity to get to know one another in a relaxed setting. There is no agenda except to enjoy the evening with friends.



**Contact: Debby Morris [epiphanyladiesdiningout@gmail.com](mailto:epiphanyladiesdiningout@gmail.com)**

**No Meeting in  
March since that is  
Ash Wednesday.**

**See you at church!**

## MISSIONS UPDATE: DAVE

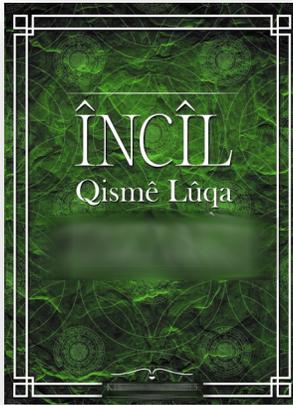
*Epiphany proudly supports Dave, who is working with a Middle Eastern group to translate the Bible into their native language. Here is an update from Dave on the translation efforts:*

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### An Awesome Christmas Present

Wednesday I opened up my email to receive an awesome Christmas present!

*From:* [Elisha@gmail.com](mailto:Elisha@gmail.com)  
*Sent:* December 22, 2021  
*To:* [Mellisa@bsociety.com](mailto:Mellisa@bsociety.com)  
*Subj:* Draft of Luke



*Hello Mellisa,  
We approve the draft of Luke. The ball is now in your court for printing.  
Everything looks good. Glory to the Lord, a very good work was done.  
Thank all the "Bible Society" staff for their hard work.  
Elisha*

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*From:* [Mellisa@bsociety.com](mailto:Mellisa@bsociety.com)

*Hello Elisha,  
We're glad you like the layout and the cover. We will start the printing as soon  
as possible.  
Have a fruitful and joyful Christmas,  
Mellisa*

Our consultant did a final check on Luke in October, but our team has done a lot of work since then to get Luke ready for publication. Praise God that the written text was released to the publishers for printing on Wednesday.

Our team learned a lot about publishing in the last few months. I had hoped to start audio recording during my October visit, but our main voicing person got Covid. When he got well, they made several attempts to use the office for audio recording. The quality was not sufficient there, but finally good quality was achieved at a local professional studio. Recording audio proves a powerful proofreading technique for editing the final written text.

After recording, footnotes and introductory material were written and a draft was sent to the publisher. The publisher converted the text into a separate digital format for printing and sent that back for more proofreading and selection of things like borders. It was a lot of careful, loving work. Wednesday's approval was a big step in the Word of God coming into being in the native language!

The translation and publishing process reminds me of the reason we celebrate Christmas today. God prepared for thousands of years for the Incarnation, and came into the world at a specific time, culture and language. Jesus was a first-century Palestinian Jewish man. When the Word is translated, it takes on the human language where it is heard. Publication of the Gospel of Luke in the native language is not THE miracle of God's Incarnation, but it is a work of God that we get to witness first hand.

### PERSONAL UPDATE

#### Language:

- I achieved A1 language proficiency!

#### Luke:

- Printed has shipped out.
- Audio Recording, including native background music, is finished and being prepared for Distribution on the Internet.
- 156 Additional Verses from through Scripture approved for Social Media

### PLAN:

#### Luke:

- Publish Audio Version on Internet
- Begin work on bilingual version

#### John:

- Begin work on Gospel of John

### PRAYER REQUESTS:

- Opportunities for me to use Z language
- Good start for team in Gospel of John
- Audio versions of versions would be widely shared on Instagram and other social media.

Thank you, Church of the Epiphany, for Your Generous Gifts and Important Partnership!

Dave

## 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 by email at [mizfiz34@gmail.com](mailto:mizfiz34@gmail.com).



- 1 Lyn Adams
- 2 Doug Greenwood  
Timothy Stromberg  
Brody Hanger
- 6 Victoria Monroe
- 7 James Derrick  
Barbara Noble
- 9 Bethany Hait  
Larry Pantzer  
Laurie Rash
- 10 Thomas Cummings  
Patricia Meyer  
Liliauna Whitlock
- 11 Jeffrey Rhoads
- 14 Faith Turner
- 17 Nancy Knight
- 20 Alex Peake
- 22 Jim Wolfe
- 23 Gary Hall
- 24 Pat Schreiner
- 26 Samuel Phillips
- 27 Molly Carey Frost  
Jonathan Meeks  
Helen Norton

- 3 Andrew Long  
Charlie Monroe
- 4 CJ Easton  
Don Monaghan
- 6 Ross Cummings  
Colin Zimmerman
- 8 Diane Driscoll  
Robin Rauh
- 9 Sally McNeely  
Tress Navarrete
- 10 Faith Fisler  
Christian Navarrete
- 12 Walter Kobos
- 14 Melanie Kobos  
William Turner
- 15 Gail Haddock  
Hailey Merrill
- 17 David Schreiner
- 20 Scott Boncher
- 22 Brad Johnson
- 23 Megan Rhoads
- 27 Haiyan Croft
- 28 Hayley Movius
- 29 Gary Lawson
- 30 Christina Fishburne
- 31 Laura Menzel

# Happy Anniversary



## February

- 3 Don Holt and Gail Haddock
- 14 Ran and Maggie Cottingham  
Christopher and Molly Carey Frost
- 18 Charlie and Beth Monroe  
Ralph and Debby Morris

## March

- 9 Joshua and Hayley Movius
- 18 Charles and Andrea Morello
- 20 Daniel and Courtney Turner
- 22 Merle and Margaret Stromberg



### 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.**

## 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
The Rev. Sally Hoover, Parish Deacon	shoover@epiphanyanglican.net
Jimmy Crawford, Music Director	jcrawford@epiphanyanglican.net
Janice Monaghan, Financial Director	jmonaghan@epiphanyanglican.net

### Vestry Members

Lisa Baehr  
 Jim Boggs  
 Jon Crane  
 Christina Cummings  
 Sally Eckard  
 Ted Hanger  
 Bill Hoover  
 Leslie Johnson  
 Joyce Schmalz  
 Geoffrey Seroka

### Vestry Officers/Committee Chairs for 2022

Senior Warden ..... Lisa Baehr  
 Junior Warden.....Geoffrey Seroka  
 Registrar..... Christina Cummings  
 Home Group Ministry Coordinator.....Leslie Johnson  
 Vestry Liaison to Mission Committee.....Jim Boggs  
 Chairman of the Benevolence Committee ..... Ted Hanger  
 Vestry Liaison to Finance Committee.....Jon Crane  
 Finance Committee Chairman .....Tom Miller\*  
 Treasurer.....Charlie Monroe\*  
 Chancellor .....David Reed\*

\*Non-vestry members

### Publishing Information

The ***Epiphany STAR*** is published bi-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 January, March, May, July, September & November.**

**Bulletin: Monday, 8 AM • Candle: Wednesday, 8 AM**



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 Prayer Line: 703.389.7292

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

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

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS**

**FEBRUARY**

2, 9, 16, 23	12:00 PM	Simple Eucharist
6, 13, 20 27	8:30 AM	Holy Eucharist In-Person
6, 13, 20 27	10:15 AM	Holy Eucharist - Livestream & In-Person
13, 27	1:15 PM	Worship at Arbor Terrace
27	2:00 PM	Worship at Arbor Terrace

**MARCH**

2	12:00 PM & 7:00 PM	✝ Ash Wednesday
2, 9, 16, 23, 30	12:00 PM	Simple Eucharist
6, 13, 20 27	8:30 AM	Holy Eucharist In-Person
6, 13, 20 27	10:15 AM	Holy Eucharist - Livestream & In-Person
13, 27	1:15 PM	Worship at Arbor Terrace
27	2:00 PM	Worship at Arbor Terrace

**Look for us online:**

Church of the Epiphany: <https://epiphanyanglican.net/>

Church Calendar: <https://epiphanyanglican.net/events/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/epiphany.anglican>

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/user/EpiphanyVideo>

