



Parish Guide

Newsletter of The Church of the Epiphany
Washington, DC

September 2006
Vol. CXXXVIII, No. 17

Rector's Journal

By the Rev. Randolph Charles

It All Belongs to God. During the second of half of the Season of Pentecost, I invite the Epiphany community to study, pray, challenge, discuss, and live with this concept: "It all belongs to God." It's a stewardship principle, a faith statement, a spirituality attitude. It all belongs to God: the earth, our church building, our relationships, our money, our lives, our cities, our jobs, our dreams, our parish. It all belongs to God. We have a responsibility to manage and take care of that which we call "ours", but it really belongs to God. Do we believe this? Do we partially believe this? Do we believe this only on Sunday? Does it make no sense at all? I invite us to study, pray, challenge, discuss and live with this concept for awhile, so that we can discover what it means to us as individual Christians and as an evolving faith community.



Homecoming Sunday. September 10 is Homecoming Sunday, and the day will be a celebration of community and creativity at Epiphany. **Community:** It's the day that we welcome everyone back from summer vacations and trips and begin the parish's program year. We will also welcome into our faith community new parishioners at both 8:00 and 11:00. At 10:00, there will be a **Homecoming GIG** in the Willard Room. A GIG (God Is Good) is just another name for what we have called seasonal parish events. GIGs will begin with community singing and fun. They are for everyone, all ages. The theme of the Homecoming GIG on September 10 is "Eucharist", which is the holy celebration of our faith community. I really hope that children can attend. We will have experiential learnings about the story, experience and purpose of Eucharist. It will be a time for children of all ages who have not received Communion before to be prepared to fully participate in our community celebration.

Continued on Page 6

Note: The deadline for submitting articles to the October Parish Guide Newsletter is Wednesday, September 20

The Wonder of Godly Play

By Tish Ganier, Godly Play Coordinator

Do you wonder where Jesus got his bread to feed the 5,000, and whether or not he had butter?

Do you wonder why only three kings brought gifts to the baby Jesus - could there have been more? Do you wonder if there are new parables being written today like the one about the Good Samaritan? Do you wonder why Easter is such a big mystery and why Pentecost Day is around the same time the swimming pool opens?

The children of Godly Play wonder a lot and learn about many of God's lessons and God's love every Sunday through their wondering. The children's questions can even make the teachers think about things in a different light... and smile.

Every Sunday our class sits in a circle listening to a story, and then the magic begins. It begins by wondering. Wonder-ing - what a word! What does it mean? To each person it is different, but to me it means a time for the children, and yes, even the teacher, to know that it is ok not to know all the answers of what is right and wrong, but instead think about what a lesson means to them, and what God might be saying to each person.

For the children, wondering can mean being in a safe time and place to be creative - yes, sometimes very creative - and that it is ok in the safe circle to just wonder. I wonder... and the response might just be ...hum I wonder about that too....The mysteries of Christmas, Epiphany, Easter and Pentecost - the Parables - the lessons of the Church and more will keep you filled with Wonder!

Godly Play is a place for teachers to learn, too. If you would like to teach, to learn, or to assist in this wonder-filled children's ministry, **please join us on September 17th from 12:30 until 1pm for some Godly Play Fellowship.** There will be refreshments, a brief overview of Godly Play, time to meet with current teachers in the program, and an opportunity to sign up for our email lists.

We hope you will want to be a part of the Wondering at Epiphany!

Parishioner News

We celebrate these new beginnings and accomplishments:

“Let us give thanks to God for all God’s gifts so freely bestowed upon us.”

Justin Navarro completed his Master of Business Administration degree
at Johns Hopkins University

We welcome these persons into the life of our parish:

*“All praise and thanks to you, most merciful Father, for adopting us as your children,
for incorporating us into your holy Church, and for making us worthy to share in the
inheritance of the saints in light.”*

Obum Noah Jay Okoye, son of Billy and Nikia Okoye, born July 29
Norah Mary Whitehead, daughter of Laura and Rich Whitehead, born June 23
Monica Custis Rusten was baptized August 6, 2006

We remember those who have died

“Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your servants”

Corbin Newcomb, Welcome Table member died July 30
Lewis Kindley, Jessie Kindley’s brother died August 13

We remember these persons in our prayers:

For the members and family members of Epiphany who serve in troubled areas of the world,
especially Robert Curris, Charles W. Kean, and Keith Scoon;

For all who seek healing, especially: Ed Adams, Margaret Barge, Phil Converse, Theresa Davies, Floyd Godfrey,
Bertha Harrison, Linda and Gus Horrigan, Cornell Jackson, William Person, Norwyn Rowe, Sara Ellen Swatt, and
Marelyn Tank;

For Aaron, Anne Alexander, Jim Argodale, Beverly Bachemin, Adam Beattie, Winston Blackman, Robert Blaine,
Wanda Brewer, Brianna, Helen Burg, James Capen, Marian Cover, Elena Curris, Brian Dillard, Mary Eager,
Andrew Ferrill, Kit Galdi, Michael A. Guido, Fred Gustafson, Jane Haldane, Denise Hammes, Kathryn Hardie,
Elizabeth Henderson, Mike Henderson, Ed Henderson, Millicent and Bill Hutt, Jacqueline Jenson, Mildred Keth,
Rick Knettel, George Kurtz, Luis Lopez, David Lyman, Mike Magee, Annie Maly, Frank Marlowe, Claudia
McClannahan, MeShaun, Jeanette Michael, Adilia Moran, Bonnie Murphy, Hubert Nedd, Israel Rafalovich, Allene
Robinson, Wanda Rucker, Todd Shaw, Leslie Smith, Jr., Walter Stumpf, Crystal Taylor, Raul Tovaes, Minnie
Vassallo, Ofelia Vitek, Amy Warder, Maureen Waters, Dee Wertlein, Carmen Williams, and Regina Williams.

We celebrate these September Birthdays:

Jerry White, Jackson Emery, Sherwin Frank, Mary Riggs, Matthew Shinkman, David Lloyd, Fil Williams, Buck
Shinkman, June Young, Carolyn Dallas, Emilia Bautista King, Mary Kell Powers, Janis Kerns, Eileen Nixon, Nikia
Okoye, Thea Wylie, Ed Adams, Chris Ciccolini, Jeanne Mitchler-Fiks, Ann Oakes, Josh Smoot

*The monthly “Parishioner News” acknowledges the transitions in life, accomplishments of our members,
and the times of celebration. Please tell us of your news by phoning the parish office or emailing us at
info@epiphanydc.org*

The Gem of Anglican Music

By Christian M. Clough, Director of Music Ministries



Many Episcopalians can recall liturgical traditions of our denomination before the 1979 Book of Common Prayer introduced us to weekly communion and ever-greater congregational participation. Nevertheless, many Episcopalians are new enough to the Episcopal Church to never have known the old pattern of weekly Morning Prayer and Sermon, with monthly - or quarterly - communion. This article will be a reminder for some readers, and an introduction for others.

Liturgical renewal in the past forty years has brought to the Episcopal Church (and to much of the rest of the Anglican Communion) more dramatic changes in worship than at any time since the Protestant Reformation of the 16th century. Many wonderful practices have been revived or created during these last few decades, but at the same time, many practices have been marginalized. As a musician in the Episcopal Church, I feel most acutely the decline of the “Gem of Anglican Music”: Anglican chant.

Anglican chant is the uniquely Anglican (and, therefore, Episcopalian) approach to psalm-singing. The practice of singing the psalms predates the Christian Church, but achieved its earliest prominence in the West with the rise of monasticism. Early Benedictine monks sang the complete psalter repeatedly (daily at first, the schedule later modified to a less athletic one in many places). Historically, in music the English had a predilection for warm harmonies, and Anglican chant originated in the practice of harmonizing the traditional Gregorian psalm tones (i.e., the nine ancient plainsong melodies to which the psalms have been sung for many centuries in the Western Church). Anglican chant moved away from the original psalm tones after the mid-17th century, when Anglican chants in four-part harmony were freely composed. In the centuries since, there has been a flood of Anglican chants – a vast repertoire of thousands of miniature compositions, covering the full spectrum of style periods, levels of difficulty and musical variety. And yet, in those four hundred years, the basic pattern has been the same: 10 chords sung repeatedly for each verse of the psalm (a ‘single chant’, or 20 chords for two verses of a psalm – a ‘double chant’). It is amazing that, within such a strict and small structure, there is room for almost limitless variety.

One of the reasons for the decline in Anglican chanting is that the psalms no longer hold the position of prominence in worship that they did when the Daily Office was kept in many churches, and when Morning Prayer, with its focus on the proclamation of scripture,

was the principal Sunday liturgy in the Anglican Communion. Notable exceptions to this decline exist in many English cathedrals and collegiate chapels (King’s, Cambridge, being the most famous) where the Daily Office is still sung regularly by accomplished choirs. Another reason is that Anglican chant is primarily a choral tradition, rather than a congregational one. Still, there is nothing to prevent a Sunday worshiper from participating in psalm-singing, either by raising his or her voice or by listening prayerfully and attentively.

Because of its denominational particularity, the survival of Anglican chant in the U.S. depends on its practice by Episcopal churches: “If we don’t do it, who will?” And so, beginning on Sunday 10 September, when the Epiphany Choir returns for its new season, we will revive the singing of Anglican chant, and will offer some lessons in how it’s done. We’ll start slowly at first; it takes time and practice to truly master the art of Anglican chanting. The challenge will be not just for the congregation, either. The Choir and I will be doing it together for the first time, and we will be learning to work together in new ways. I hope that you’ll come along on this adventure, and enjoy learning something about our rich and wonderful musical heritage in the weeks and months ahead.

A New Choir Season Approaches – Come! Sing! Don’t be afraid!

The Epiphany Choir begins its new season with the first rehearsal on Thursday 7 September (7:30 – 9:30 PM), in preparation for a glorious re-appearance on Homecoming Sunday, 10 September. Many people who might like to sing in the Choir are intimidated by the fine music-making: “I’m just not good enough to sing in the Choir.” Well, honey, you might be wrong about that! The Epiphany Choir, like all musical ensembles, takes its strength from a happy combination of varied personalities and talents. No one singer has it all, and we would love to have you join us, even if only to give it a try. You’ll meet great people, have fun, learn something, become more confident in your musical abilities, make a contribution to Epiphany’s worship, and probably become more lovable and capable (and maybe more beautiful – who doesn’t swoon over those red, 100% polyester robes?) in the process! I am happy to answer any questions you might have, and can steer you in the direction of current singers whose experiences will lessen your anxiety. If you can carry a tune, I can make a singer of you. Talk to me during Sunday Hospitality Hour, or call or e-mail me.

What’s your excuse?!

Christian M. Clough, Director of Music Ministries & Generally Nice Guy (I said ‘generally’!)

O Say, Did You Know?

By Tripp Jones Parish Archivist

In their knowledge of American History, the War of 1812 is always a rather dark hole for most Americans. One thing people generally do know is that somewhere out of that conflict came our national anthem. But did you also know that there are several Epiphany connections to the Star Spangled Banner?

Just to jog your memory, it was on Sept. 13, 1814 that Francis Scott Key visited the British fleet in Chesapeake Bay to secure the release of Dr. William Beanes, who had been captured after the burning of Washington, D.C. The release was secured, but Key was detained on ship overnight during the shelling of Fort McHenry, one of the forts defending Baltimore. In the morning, he was so delighted to see the American flag still flying over the fort that he began a poem to commemorate the occasion.

The actual flag that inspired Francis Scott Key to write his famous poem is today housed within Epiphany's parish bounds in the National Museum of American History. The flag was sewn by a woman and her daughter. It measured 30 x 42 feet, with each of the 15 stars being two feet wide. One of the Smithsonian's most popular museums, the NMAH will be closing for renovation September 5 and will not reopen until Summer 2008. The centerpiece of the restored space will be a dramatic enclosure for the fragile flag.

Francis Scott Key was a Georgetown lawyer. His home was on M Street, near its intersection with today's Key Bridge. An active Episcopalian, Key is associated with Christ and St. John's Church and was very involved with the missionary efforts of the church. In the trustee minutes of the Mission Church of the Epiphany of April 1842, the name of "F.S. Key" is listed as one who was soliciting money toward the erection of a church edifice. Key's death came only nine months later.

When Epiphany erected its new tower in 1922, a chime of bells was included as a memorial to seventh rector Randolph McKim. The bells were made by the Meneely Bell Foundry of Watervliet, New York. The chime consists of 15 bells, specifically ordered so the wide range of the Star Spangled Banner could be played. In the early days, our organist choirmaster Adolph Torovsky climbed into the tower every day at noon and played Old 100th ("Praise God from whom all blessings flow") and the Star Spangled Banner.

Key's poem, entitled "The Defense of Fort McHenry", was intended to fit the rhythms of composer John Stafford Smith's "To Anacreon in Heaven." It has become better known as "The Star Spangled Banner". Under this name, the song was adopted as the American national anthem by a Congressional resolution in 1931, signed by President Herbert Hoover. That Congressional resolution was sponsored by Representative (and Epiphany parishioner) John Charles Linthicum. He served in Congress for 21 years, representing a district in Maryland which included Fort McHenry. The middle stained glass window on the east side of the church is a memorial to Mr. Linthicum.

This year marks the 75th anniversary of the Star Spangled Banner becoming America's national anthem. The next time you hear it played, remember its connections to The Church of the Epiphany.

You pledged your treasure Now give your time and talent To Epiphany!

A Volunteer is needed every other Wednesday from 10:00a.m. until 2:00p.m. in the Parish Office to provide office coverage during the weekly Staff Meeting, answer the phone, assist with various projects as they arise, and "buzz" folks into the building for noon meetings.

This can be one person who comes twice a month or 2 people who come one Wednesday a month. Please let Mary Dail, Parish Administrator, know if you can help out in this way.

202-347-2635 or mdail@epiphanydc.org.



Want to save paper and postage?



Sign up to



get your Parish Guide online!

Email Susan at swalker@epiphanydc and say "I want the Guide online" and we will stop mailing you a copy and only send you the Guide by email.

The Welcome Table Needs Your Help

The Welcome Table Breakfast and Outreach Program began in the 1950s and now provides counseling, outreach services and a hot breakfast to as many as 200 men and women every Sunday morning throughout the year after the 8am Holy Eucharist. Epiphany's program provides support to the homeless: Emergency walk-in counseling, food, and 12-Step programs – all on Sundays, when most other services are closed.

We need your help. Our goal is to have every Sunday's breakfast sponsored, but right now, **no Sunday is sponsored for the rest of 2006.** We need individuals, families, and organizations to support The Welcome Table by sponsoring a breakfast. Your sponsored breakfast can be in memory or in honor of a loved one or it can be given in general support of the program. A Sunday breakfast costs \$500, but sponsorships can be for any amount towards the expense of a meal. Note on your check that it is for **The Welcome Table.** All sponsorships are noted in the Prayers of the People printed in the bulletin on the Sunday of the breakfast sponsored.

Please consider assisting Epiphany in this ministry. **A form is printed below for you to use.** Please return it with your contribution and accept the gratitude of our Welcome table guests.

The Welcome Table

The Welcome Table is held every Sunday in the Parish Hall at The Church of the Epiphany after the 8am Holy Eucharist. During the entire year, Epiphany serves a nourishing, hot breakfast to nearly 200 homeless and hungry women, men, and children. **How can you help?** We need individuals, families, and organizations to sponsor a breakfast in memory or in honor of a loved one. Assist your parish in this ministry by filling out this form and sending it with a check payable to The Church of the Epiphany, 1317 G St, NW, Washington, DC 20005. A Sunday breakfast costs \$500, but we appreciate any amount towards the expense of a meal. Note on your check that it is for **The Welcome Table.**

WELCOME TABLE SPONSOR FORM

Name of Sponsor _____

Street (Sponsor) _____

City and State (Sponsor) _____

Phone (Sponsor) _____

Date Sunday breakfast is to be sponsored _____

Name(s) of person(s) that breakfast is to be sponsored in memory of _____

Name of person(s) that breakfast is made in honor of _____

**If no designation is made, the bulletin listing will be in honor of our guests who attend the breakfast.*

2007 Vestry Leadership Form

Leadership Responsibilities

- Adult confirmed communicant in good standing.
- Attend vestry meetings (fourth Monday, 6:00-8:00) and the parish leadership retreat (January 12-13, 2007).
- Serve as a model for parishioner participation in the liturgies, ministries, and events of the parish.
- Listen to parishioner concerns and articulate parish issues.
- Discern God's will for our parish, provide faithful and responsible leadership, and assist in securing the funds needed to support the ministries we are called to do.
- Discern, articulate, and follow the Parish Mission Statement and the Parish Stewardship Statement.
- Make financial and policy decisions in response to the mission and stewardship statements.
- Strengthen the parish's relationships with the diocese, other faith communities, and downtown Washington.
- Encourage accountability by church leaders and parishioners.
- Provide constructive criticism and supportive feedback for both lay and clergy members of the vestry.
- Develop and follow a Rule of Life, which attends to self-care and spiritual journey.
- Invite others to join our parish.

I believe that _____ might be called to a ministry of leadership and serve on the Vestry of The Church of the Epiphany.

Presenter _____

Submit completed forms to the Parish Office by October 1.

The Homecoming GIG is for all of us. It's important that we all come together for faith formation. It takes all ages, all types, all sorts to make a faith community. **Creativity:** Homecoming Sunday is the day the choir returns to bring more music into our worship to celebrate the beauty of the human spirit. It's also the day following the renovation design charrette, which will be a very creative process. If you are interested in what a fuller version of the charrette is, check out the following website: <http://www.charretteinstitute.org/resources/charrettes/article.html> . Please read Tripp's article about renovation at Epiphany. I hope that all of you can be at Epiphany on September 10 as we celebrate our faith community and the spirit of creativity that runs through us; both are gifts from God who loves us, guides us, and empowers us to do the ministry of Christ.

Called to Minister. All baptized Christians are ministers. Every congregation focuses on a certain set of ministries that fit the character and needs of that faith community. **On September 17 at 10:00am, there will be a Ministry Forum in the Willard Room.** The purpose of the forum is to explain what our ministry teams do; we will have handouts available. We also want to talk about the general topic of ministry at Epiphany. What particular ministries interest you? What ministries do you think that our parish might be called to start? How do you think some ministries might be improved? What ministries most support you in your faith journey?

Called to Lead. At our **Annual Parish Meeting on November 12**, we will elect four new members of the vestry and one warden. The current vestry and I would like for the practice of discernment to be more intentional and obvious in the way we raise up parish leadership. The Nominating Committee will function as a Leadership Ministry Team, which will be comprised of the wardens, two members of the vestry, two members of the Discernment Ministry Team, and me. We invite the congregation, as usual, to suggest to the Nominating Committee names for candidacy. There is a vestry leadership form in this *Parish Guide*; please submit them to the parish office by October 1. There will be a **Leadership Forum on September 17 at 12:30 in the Willard Room for the purpose of letting everyone know what the ministry of leadership, especially service on the vestry, entails.** The committee will meet with each potential candidate to help the parishioner discern the nature of his or her call to the ministry of leadership. All who are called to serve on the vestry will be nominated at the Annual Parish Meeting. As prescribed by the Parish Bylaws, there will be an opportunity for nominations from the floor and an election. I ask you to pray for responsible, effective, and faithful leaders for our parish. Who do you

think is called to this specific ministry of leadership? Why don't you talk with that person? Why don't you invite him or her to pray about it?

Envelope Please. The next Envelope Please will be held on **September 3, at 10:00 in the Willard Room.** Everyone is invited to come and talk with the leadership about parish issues. We are one in the Spirit. topic of ministry at Epiphany. What particular ministries interest you? What ministries do you think that our parish might be called to start? How do you think some ministries might be improved? What ministries most support you in your faith journey?

Financial Stewardship at Epiphany

By Uchenna Ukaegbu, Leader of the Financial Stewardship Ministry Team

Why are we always talking about financial stewardship? Isn't "financial stewardship" just another term for "raising money"? What does financial stewardship mean, anyway?

This fall, the Epiphany community will take some time to enjoy each other's company and explore the idea of financial stewardship, and you are invited! We will be holding weekly Financial Stewardship Forums, on the first four October Sundays at 12:30 in the Willard Room, to look at what Scripture tells us about being stewards of our money, and what stewardship looks like at Epiphany today. We will provide refreshments for the forums. No matter what you may think you already know about the stewardship of your money, this promises to be a fun and informative time.

Session I: October 1, 8 Giving Faithfully: Stewardship in Scripture

Session II: October 15, 22 Funding Ministry: Stewardship for Mission

Many Christians consider stewardship to be the main work of the church, because it is about our attitude of faith. Do we believe that God has generously given to us countless blessings and gifts? Do we feel grateful for all that God has done for us? Do we want to respond in faith to God's love for us? How can we make decisions about our money in a way that reflects our faith in God?

We encourage every parishioner to attend one of the Sundays in each session, because we want our discussion and learning about financial stewardship to be a faith activity for the entire parish. We share a mission for ministry. We share a love of God, of each other, and of all God's people. We share a yearning to move deeper into the presence of the Creator and Redeemer of all life.

Flowers at Epiphany

By Kathrine Ebert, Leader Flower Guild



“Flowers leave some of their fragrance in the hand that bestows them.” —*Chinese proverb*

- Have you ever wondered how the flowers appear in church each week or who creates the startlingly beautiful arrays at Christmas and Easter or the thought-provoking arrangements during Advent and Lent?
- Do you arrange flowers in your own home or garden? Would you like to share your ideas and techniques with the church?
- Have you ever been just flat out of ideas for an important but not-too-expensive gift for a close friend? Perhaps you have needed a “business-appropriate” gift for a colleague or boss or something personal but not too specific for a relative you don’t know very well?
- Do you know of any children (or adults, for that matter!) who would love to learn more about things in nature and how those things can be a part of their everyday lives as well as important in their worship practices?

Well, here is some great news!! The Church of the Epiphany has answers to all of the above questions – and more! How? Where? Who? **THE FLOWER GUILD**, of course! Read on.....

At the moment, there are only three hardy souls who constitute the Guild and carry out the church’s flower ministry so more people, ideas, and, of course, money, are needed. Think about it: spending a few hours on a Saturday afternoon or (very!) early on a Sunday morning once a month, working with some of God’s most beautiful gifts to all of us, to make our lovely church even more grace-ful and bringing quiet joy and wonder to all who pass through our doors. The cost of the flowers is provided by donations and dedications (more about that below) so individual Flower Guilders are not out of pocket—unless of course they want to be the donor for that week! Some Guilders are also gardeners (or have friends who are) so they don’t buy the flowers—they cut them from their own garden! Although buying the flowers, getting to the church, preparing and arranging the flowers, and cleaning up afterward does take 2 to 3 hours, one does

not have to do it all alone or very often. The current Guilders all love showing new Guilders the “how-to’s” and helping with the logistics (like one person buys/cuts the flowers and takes them to the church when it’s convenient; another person does the arranging when it’s convenient to them). The joy of working with the flowers as another way to glorify God usually far outweighs the effort required.

The primary source of funding for the flowers in the church is dedications and gifts. Everyone is aware of the special collections we undertake for Christmas and Easter but perhaps not everyone remembers that even the weekly flowers need to be supported by contributions, not parish budget funds. We are blessed with a few perpetual memorials that provide the flower funds on certain Sundays. We do occasionally have flowers for a Sunday because there was a wedding or funeral or concert on the preceding Saturday. But for 75% to 80% of the Sundays in a given year, we need individual (or group) contributions for the flowers.

More good news: you can help meet the “flower-funding need” AND give a creative, original, thoughtful gift to a friend, colleague, or relative or in support of your favorite cause or organization. And you don’t have to take Metro to a Mall or find a parking space to do it! Send in a minimum of \$25 (\$50 if you want to provide all of the flowers for a given Sunday) and a dedication in honor of, in thanksgiving for, or in memory of anyone or anything you deem worthy. The dedications appear in the Bulletins. Thus, you can send a copy to your honoree as a demonstration of your love or support as well as of your participation in the celebration of our lives together at Epiphany.

Sometime in the Fall, the Guild will host a “community flower arrange” at the 10:00 Hour. We hope many people will come to share in the experience as well as to further their thinking about becoming a Flower Gilder or a “Flower Funder.” Children are welcome as are their parents and any others who would like to watch and learn, contribute ideas of their own, or just “enjoy the view.” The date will be announced later in the Bulletins.

Consider the lilies of the field,
how they grow;
They toil not, neither do they spin;
And yet I say unto you,
that even Solomon in all his glory
was not arrayed like one of these.

Spiritual Ponderings - Missed and Missing at Epiphany

By Susan Walker, Program Associate

When have you noticed yourself missing someone at Epiphany? Maybe it was a person who usually sits in a nearby pew, or perhaps someone who talks to you at coffee hour. Perhaps you have been greeted on a Sunday with, “I’ve missed seeing you lately!” We are all likely to be among the “missed and missing” of Epiphany at some time or another. What do you do when you miss someone? Do you ever wonder if someone notices when you are absent? Don’t worry – I’m not suggesting we begin posting pictures of our missing members! What I’d like to suggest is a more personal approach to the dynamic of what is happening when we get those little tugs and notice someone is not with us. I expect many of you regularly respond to those inclinations to reach out.

What are we to do? First of all, we need to acknowledge a certain *resistance* we all have that leads us to *not do anything*. We might assume that the person we miss is away for a perfectly good reason. We live in a transient culture where travel, transfers, and weekends away are fairly commonplace. As well, we tend to respect another’s privacy, and imagine that it’s better not to call because we might be interfering.

When we recognize this resistance and *still* think of the person we miss, perhaps this is a prompting from the Holy Spirit to *act*. Then, the question becomes, how do I respond to the Spirit’s nudge, and act in a way that is good for the community? This might be considered a question of discernment. When we take action that is in response to the Spirit’s guidance in our individual lives, we will be furthering God’s kingdom through the community, even in a little way. How we respond to missing others at church is an opportunity for practicing how we follow Jesus. As we grow in becoming *imitators of Christ*, we grow in our awareness of the needs of other people. Epiphany’s mission statement calls us to “care courageously for ourselves and others.”

Why not use our awareness of another’s absence from our communal life to practice this? It might involve asking someone else at church about the person you have missed seeing, or taking time in a busy day to make a phone call, or write an email expressing your interest in the other. This way of caring, though quiet and personal, might be an act of love more profound than you know. God comes to us all in small and quiet ways. We are all called to follow that pattern of God’s love.

FELLOWSHIP AND LIGHT KEEPING SABBATH

This fall, we will explore the theme of “Sabbath” and resting in God, as seminarians Ann Gillespie and Joe Hensley lead sessions that promise to engage the mind, body, and spirit. We hope you will be able to join us.

It all begins **Wednesday, September 13.**

Here is the schedule for each evening:

6:30pm – We begin in the Parish Hall with a simple supper of soup, bread, and fruit. A \$3 contribution helps with the cost of the meal.

7:00pm – We gather for worship in the church, darkened, except for the chancel area which will have low lighting and candles. The scripture and prayers will reflect the theme of Sabbath and honor our physical need to calm down and rest from the workweek.

7:30 – 8:30pm – Each Wednesday evening program will begin with some simple stretches to help us get in touch with our body.

Then, presentations will focus on these topics:

September 13 What is Sabbath?

September 20 What are Sabbath practices?

September 27 Guest speaker – An observant Jew who keeps Sabbath. How is it done and what does it mean?

October 4 How do we use what we have learned?



Keeping the Sabbath

Epiphany's Tenth Annual Fall Weekend
September 22-24, 2006
Shrine Mont Conference Center
Orkney Springs, Virginia

We will explore the theme of "Sabbath" and resting in God, as seminarians Ann Gillespie and Joe Hensley lead sessions that promise to engage the mind, body, and spirit. We hope you will be able to join us.

"Remember the Sabbath, the rabbis say, and you fulfill all of Torah. Stop for one day every week, and you will remember what it means to be created in the image of God, who rested on the seventh day not from weariness but from complete freedom. The clear promise is that those who rest like God find themselves free like God, no longer slaves to the thousand compulsions that send others rushing towards their graves." Barbara Brown Taylor in Leaving Church: A Memoir of Faith. HarperSanFrancisco, 2006. p. 136.

Shrine Mont Retreat Center is located in the village of Orkney Springs, Virginia, at the foot of the Great North Mountain. Come and experience the refreshment and renewal that comes from fresh mountain air, nourishing food, and the engaging fellowship of community! **Register now** for your time apart to rest, reflect, and celebrate God's gifts.

Costs: \$140 adult (Checks made payable to Epiphany, notation: Shrine Mont)
\$78 children 8-12 years
\$26 children 4-7 years
FREE children 3 years and younger

Your fee includes double occupancy, two nights lodging, meals, snacks and beverages, and use of Shrine Mont facilities. If you would like assistance with the fee, please speak to the Rector.

Please fill out this registration form and return with check before **September 17**.

Name _____

Address _____

Daytime Phone _____ (Please include your area code)

E-Mail Address _____

Accommodation Needs: No Stairs _____ Special Diet _____ Other _____

Roommate Preference _____

Other _____

I need a ride _____ I can provide a ride for _____ people.

Complete directions, times, and other information will be sent after you register.

**The Church of the Epiphany
1317 G St, NW
Washington, DC 20005**

We Are One in the Spirit

By Tripp Jones, Leader, Renovation Ministry Team

Renovation Ministry Team Members: Jill Bezek, Randolph Charles, Mary Dail, David Downes, David Hamill, Tripp Jones, Pat Pickering, Ed Riley, and Gloria Said

Summer typically provides a slower pace, if not a break altogether, from most church-related activities, but not so for Epiphany's Renovation Ministry Team. During the month of August, we were hard at work distributing questionnaires and interviewing parishioners and friends about space usage of our facilities. Each Sunday, following the 11:00 service, we made ourselves available to talk with anyone regarding renovation matters. At the end of the month, Peter Krajnak, one of our principal architects, made a visit to Epiphany to interview people involved in specific program areas of the parish – worship, education, fellowship, outreach, and administration. They discussed how our space is used now and how it could be used more effectively in the future.

Also during August, Renovation Ministry Team members began to review, study, and make comments on a draft copy of a Report of Findings issued by the architects and their affiliated engineers. This report was the result of a thorough examination of our facilities conducted in July. The introduction begins, "The Report of Findings' sole purpose is to provide a detailed account of the history and existing conditions of the facility and to make recommendations for facility upgrades. As Phase I services move forward and conceptual design options are being considered, the Report of Findings should be utilized as a tool to supplement the design options begin considered."

After my initial reading, I found the report to be sobering. It was a reminder that an historic structure requires much care and attention. Recognizing that we have not done a major renovation in 40 years, it is easy to realize that there is much work to be done. Although much of this work is behind the scenes, it affects the stability and safety of our structure. Anyone that was thinking all we needed to do was "plaster and paint" is in for a rude awakening. In the nine page recommendation section, three things were listed as critical life safety issues that needed to be

addressed immediately. Renovation was recommended in areas such as roofing and drainage, the bell tower parapet, hazardous materials evaluation and cleanup, water lines, air-handling units, and brick tuckpointing, just to name a few. Then there are other renovations that should be made to electrical and HVAC systems to make them run more efficiently. When a final copy of this report is issued, we will make it available to anyone who would like to read it in its entirety.

We who see the building on a regular basis tend to overlook things. Listen to the impressions of professional architects and engineers looking at the building for the first time, as recorded in the Report of Findings introduction.

Overall the current building has a tired, worn appearance. The church is still beautiful in its historic grandeur, but upgrades are needed in lighting, finishes, code compliance, and liturgical flexibility. The Parish Hall has a dated, 1960's feel and is need of new finishes. The Parish Hall ceiling conceals unused space that equates to a possible new program space or Parish Hall mezzanine. The Parish House Office Entrance has a very defensive feel and is not welcoming, with a chain-link fence barrier surrounding the stair in the entry space and the reception area hidden behind a wall with a small window. The upper levels of the Parish House are in need of remodeling and upgrades. The classrooms, offices, and toilet rooms are in most cases vintage 1911. The gymnasium in the Parish House is no longer used for sports and with its height and volume could provide additional program space. Code and system upgrades are needed throughout the building. The exterior of the Church and Parish House have a variety of ongoing maintenance issues including masonry, stucco, slate, and flashing repairs. The question that must be asked; how can a renewed building enhance the good work and ministry of this congregation?

Throughout this process, it has been interesting to listen to people express their thoughts about renovation. I don't think I have encountered anyone who feels that nothing should be done. In general, people seem to be thinking more about renovation of

Continued next page

Continued from page 8

the church versus the parish house. There is a genuine love people have for our historic church and its sacred space. We have heard time and again people's strong feelings about various objects in the church. "You can do anything you want, just don't touch the ...". There are many things that fill in that blank. Those feelings will be incorporated into the discernment process that we began at the commissioning ceremony of our architects in July.

We are all going through discernment, trying to listen to each other and to God as to what we would like our facilities to be and to look like. My prayer, as we continue our journey through this process, is that we all continue to listen. Keeping a closed mind or drawing battle lines serves no common good. Remember, we are one in the spirit. If we are to do any significant renovation of our beloved church and parish house, it will take all of us working together spiritually and financially. At the end of the day, we all might not get our way and might not accomplish all that we had hoped, but we can feel satisfied with what we have done.

Continue to pray for all of us on this renovation journey, for our parish and for the lives we touch and how our renovated buildings might more effectively assist us in carrying out the ministry of Christ in downtown Washington.

Ministry Team members will be seeking out various activity leaders and participants to have them fill out a questionnaire as well as discuss their thoughts on how space is currently used for a particular activity and looking ahead to envision how it could be improved.

We invite anyone to fill out a questionnaire if you have thoughts about our space – church and/or parish house and how it might be improved. Blank questionnaires are available on the piano in the parish hall and may be returned to the same location or to the parish office. If you would like to discuss your responses with a Renovation Ministry Team member, you may do so at the Fellowship Hour following the 11am liturgy on the first three Sundays in August (6,13,20). On the last weekend in August, principal architect Peter Krajnak will be with us again to get more feedback elicited from the questionnaires.

One of the most exciting upcoming events will be the Design Charette on Saturday, September 9, 9:00am –

12:30pm. This event will mark the turning point of Phase I, when we transition from examining how our facilities are currently being used to creating a plan for the future. The term charette probably originated from the École des Beaux-Arts in Paris in the 19th Century. French for "cart," charette refers to the object pushed around by professors to collect the final artwork by art and architecture students, who often rushed frantically to finish their work. For our purposes, charette refers to a collaborative session in which a group of designers (that's us!) draft plans for our facilities. Principal architects Peter Krajnak and Darryl Rogers will both be present to lead us through this process. You will not want to miss this fun and enlightening experience. You may make reservations by calling the church office (202-347-2635) by Monday, August 21.



As always, the Renovation Ministry Team stands ready to help you understand any part of the process and also to listen to anything you have to say. These are exciting times in the life of our parish. Let us approach this renovation with a discerning mind and listen for where God is leading our beloved parish.

**Epiphany's Pastoral Care
Ministry Team
invites you to join
a "Cluster Group!"**

Come deepen your relationships with other church members and explore elements of our faith together.

These groups will meet quarterly in homes of parishioners or other convenient locations.

Sign up for the location and time most convenient for you in the Fellowship Hall after the 11:00 service during September.

Urban Missioner's Log

By the Rev. Anne-Marie Jeffery

Community Connections - Last week, I was looking for an article for my sermon and I wandered over to the Martin Luther King library. I was surprised to see how many people from The Welcome Table breakfast were there. I greeted them and they greeted me. When I had to ask the librarian a question, she commented that I seemed to know everyone. I told her where I worked and we chatted about how we work with many of the same people and what the challenges were. It reminded me about how much Epiphany is a part of the fabric of the downtown community.

There are many of these stories. There is the man comes to the Welcome Table breakfast who I saw selling water on the Mall. I asked him about how to get water bottles to the park for Street Church and he told me how he carted his water around and what kind of cart I needed. A few weeks later, he brought me one. Another man from The Welcome Table cleans up the cigarette butts from the garden. A man who spends just about every day in the church puts away the Epiphany sandwich board at 5 pm. When I run into the caseworkers from the Downtown Services Center on 945 G Street, I find we know the same people and we exchange information to try and better support the poor who come to us for help.

YSOP (Youth Service Opportunity Project) who have their offices on our second floor give Street Church their Peapod bags in which the food for their homeless dinners gets delivered. These bags are very strong and come in handy for packing up the Street Church food. In turn, our Street Church volunteers let people know about their dinners.

Many Street Sense vendors start their day by selling their papers outside the church since the Street Sense office is in our building. I usually stop to chat with them as do many of the people coming in and out of Epiphany. I see people checking in with each other asking how their lives are going.

The open doors of our church draw people in. Downtown workers tell me that they stop in every day for a brief moment of silence. Downtown poor spend a few hours in a quiet place where they are allowed in. Tourists and others who hear the bells come in and are grateful for an opportunity to worship during the day.

Epiphany is very much a part of the downtown community and that is a wonderful thing. It is not just

me. It is not just the staff. It is all of us – downtown workers, downtown poor, parishioners, weekday associates –we are part of the life on G Street in Washington DC. If you look around when you are here, you see relationships forming. We need each other very much. We can do more and we at Epiphany will continue to explore and dream about how we can grow our relationships in our community. This community in which we are in is a gift to us and I think we are a gift to them.

A Stroll Through Epiphany's History at Rock Creek Cemetery

By Tripp Jones, Parish Archivist

I would like to invite you to join me on a walking tour of historic Rock Creek Cemetery highlighting its many Epiphany residents. Three of our former rectors, two organist-choirmasters, numerous wardens and vestry members and lots of just plain old folk make Rock Creek their home. In addition, it is well worth a visit just to stroll around the tree-shaded grounds on an autumn day.

The tour will be Saturday, September 30, beginning at 10:00am and will last approximately two hours. We will meet in the large parking lot next to the St. Paul's Center (the building with the columns.) Follow the signs as you enter the main gate. If you are interested in attending, please call the church office during the week and add your name to the list. I look forward to sharing Epiphany's and Rock Creek's many treasures with you.

A New Calendar Has Been Added to the Web Site

Now on the Epiphany web site: an interactive calendar that lists all of the activities at Epiphany in a single place, instead of spread across several pages. You can sort by the kind of activity (worship and prayer, music, classes and groups, etc.), and select monthly, weekly or daily view. Click on any item to get more information. To see the new calendar, go to <http://www.epiphanydc.org/happenings/index.htm> and click on "Calendar of Events."

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 12:00 AA 12:10 Holy Eucharist	2
10 The 13th Sunday after Pentecost: 7:00 NA/AA 7:15 Welcome Table Bible Study 8:00 Holy Eucharist 8:45 The Welcome Table 10:00 Choir Rehearsal/Envelope Please 10:45 Liturgical Leaders Meeting 11:00 Holy Eucharist/Godly P Lay 12:15 Coffee Hour	4 Church and Parish Office Closed in observance of Labor Day	5 12:00 Al-Anon 12:10 Tuesday Concert Series	6 9:00-5:00 Labyrinth 10:00 Staff Meeting 12:00 AA 12:00 Al-Anon 12:10 Holy Eucharist 6:00 Leadership Training Program	7 12:00 SLAA 12:10 Holy Eucharist 7:30 Choir Rehearsal	8 12:00 AA 12:10 Holy Eucharist	9 9:00 Design Charette
10 Homecoming Sunday The 14th Sunday after Pentecost: 7:00 NA/AA 7:15 Welcome Table Bible Study 8:00 Holy Eucharist 8:45 The Welcome Table 10:00 Choir Rehearsal 10:00 Homecoming "GIG" - God is Good 10:45 Liturgical Leaders Meeting 11:00 Holy Eucharist 12:15 Homecoming Lunch	11 12:00 AA 12:10 Holy Eucharist 12:30 Contemplative Prayer	12 12:00 Al-Anon 12:10 Tuesday Concert Series	13 9:00-5:00 Labyrinth 10:00 Staff Meeting 12:00 AA 12:00 Al-Anon 12:10 Holy Eucharist 6:30 Fellowship and Light	14 Holy Cross Day 12:00 SLAA 12:10 Holy Eucharist 7:30 Choir Rehearsal	15 12:00 AA 12:10 Holy Eucharist	16 8:00 Urban Ministry Training Series
17 The 15th Sunday after Pentecost 7:00 NA/AA 7:15 Welcome Table Bible Study 8:00 Holy Eucharist 8:45 The Welcome Table 10:00 Choir Rehearsal/Vestry Forum 10:45 Liturgical Leaders Meeting 11:00 Holy Eucharist/Godly Play 12:15 Coffee Hour 12:30 Godly Play Orientation & Fellowship 12:45 Vestry Forum	18 12:00 AA 12:10 Holy Eucharist 12:30 Contemplative Prayer	19 12:00 Al-Anon 12:10 Tuesday Concert Series 6:30 Group Spiritual Direction	20 9:00-5:00 Labyrinth 10:00 Staff Meeting 12:00 AA 12:00 Al-Anon 12:10 Holy Eucharist 6:30 Fellowship and Light	21 12:00 SLAA 12:10 Holy Eucharist 7:30 Choir Rehearsal	22 Shrine Mont fall weekend through Sunday 12:00 AA 12:10 Holy Eucharist	23 Shrine Mont fall weekend
24 The 16th Sunday after Pentecost 7:00 NA/AA 7:15 Welcome Table Bible Study 8:00 Holy Eucharist 8:45 The Welcome Table 10:00 Choir Rehearsal/Getting Ready 10:45 Liturgical Leaders Meeting 11:00 Holy Eucharist /Godly Play 12:15 Coffee Hour	25 12:00 AA 12:10 Holy Eucharist 12:30 Contemplative Prayer 6:00 Vestry	26 12:00 Al-Anon 12:10 Tuesday Concert Series	27 9:00-5:00 Labyrinth 10:00 Staff Meeting 12:00 AA 12:00 Al-Anon 12:10 Holy Eucharist 6:30 Fellowship and Light	28 12:00 SLAA 12:10 Holy Eucharist 7:30 Choir Rehearsal	29 St. Michael and All Angels 12:00 AA 12:10 Holy Eucharist	30 10:00 Tour Rock Creek Cemetery

HOMECOMING LUNCH - SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

Join in celebrating our faith community

Enjoy a delicious lunch to which all may contribute

Please bring a dish



If your last name begins with:
A-O - main dish, side dish or salad
P-Z - dessert



non profit org
U.S. Postage Paid
Washington, DC
permit no. 2500

THE CHURCH OF THE EPIPHANY

1317 G Street, NW
Washington, DC 20005
Telephone: 202-347-2635
Fax: 202-347-7621
E-mail: info@epiphanydc.org
Website: www.epiphanydc.org
The Rev. Randolph Charles, Rector