



Parish Guide

Newsletter of The Church of the Epiphany
Washington, DC

December 2008

Rector's Journal

By Randolph Charles

Parish Leadership. At the Annual Parish Meeting, we gave thanks for the retiring vestry: Teresa Hobgood (Senior Warden), Carolyn Bledsoe, Kevin Golden, Sandi Ingram, Jennifer McCarthy, Beatrice Moulton, and James Rogers. They all have truly been faithful in providing sensitive and courageous leadership for Epiphany, and I am deeply grateful.

The returning vestry members are the following: Tanya Washington (Senior Warden), Uchenna Alexander, Charles Burg, David Downes, Tom Lawler, and Sarah Papazoglakis. The newly elected members of the vestry are the following: Jennifer Cate (Junior Warden), Richard Bass, Mark Erwin, Rick Guadalupe, Heather Jelks, Linda Mascall, Peter Raia, and Duncan Stevens. What a fantastic group of parish leaders! Every year, I am moved and inspired by the leaders that this parish produces. We are a relatively small congregation, and yet we are consistently blessed with strong lay leadership. I look forward to working with this new vestry; it will be a very important year for our parish.

In other parish elections, Carolyn Bledsoe, Teresa Hobgood, and Pat Pickering are our 2009 Diocesan Convention delegates, and Jennifer Cate, Tanya Washington, and David Downes are the alternates.

Money, Funding our Ministries. Here's the bad news: we desperately need parishioners, friends, and weekday associates to make end-of-year contributions; our current deficit is more than \$150,000. Members of the vestry will be contacting parishioners in December to ask for contributions to the 2008 parish budget.

We also need every parishioner to complete and submit an offering form for 2009, stating what you plan to

give to God through The Church of the Epiphany. In order for us to maintain the ministries we currently offer, we need strong financial support from every household. The Financial Stewardship Ministry Team will be contacting everyone that has not yet submitted an offering form to ask them to do so.

Here's the good news: even though the nation is in the midst of a financial crisis of staggering proportions, and people everywhere are experiencing financial distress, and most congregations, including our own Cathedral, are fiscally fragile, and job security is not a commonly held privilege, I am convinced and convicted that Epiphany will move with confidence, hope, and faith through this challenging time. We will have to look hard at what we can afford, how we can creatively fund, and with whom we can partner and collaborate to leverage the resources we need in order to minister in downtown Washington. But we will definitely continue to be an extremely unique, vital, courageous and faithful congregation. That excites me tremendously! I wonder what God has in store for us!

Georgia O'Keefe/Ansel Adams Arts Adventure

OPALS (*Older Persons with Active Lifestyles*),
Pastoral Care Ministry Team

The Georgia O'Keefe/Ansel Adams show will take place Sunday, December 14 at the Reynolds Center. The OPALS-sponsored, docent-lead tour has been organized by Larry Ellis, a volunteer at the Reynolds Center. He says this is a fantastic exhibit, showing the relationship between two disparate artists, one from the Southwest and the other from California, who both had an affinity with nature. A sign-up list will be available at Coffee Hour and on the bulletin board. Please note: Larry will be out of town from November 22 through December 7, so make your availability known by signing the sign-up sheet. Although the tour is being organized by OPALS, it is open to all parishioners and family members. The Reynolds Center is on G Street between 7th and 9th Streets.

Note: The deadline for submitting articles to the January Parish Guide Newsletter is Wednesday, December 17. Send them to swalker@epiphanydc.org

Parishioner News

We remember these persons in our prayers

For the members and family members of Epiphany who serve in troubled areas of the world, especially Jim Dobson, Danny Horrigan, and Keith Scoon;

For Vera Willis, who died November 22, 2008

For all who seek healing, especially: Theresa Davies, Floyd Godfrey, William Person, and Norwyn Rowe;

For Winston Blackman, Wanda Brewer, Mike Brown, Tim Callard, Naomi Canty, Marian Cover, Elena Curris, Brian Dillard, Genevieve Duvall, Joy Eades, Mae Eversley, J.D. Fosdick, Rick Gallagher, Peggy Garner, Susan Gibson, Fred Gustafson, Ruth Hall, Kathryn Hardie, Edmund Hilliman, Lucille Hilliman, Alan Holder, Millicent and Bill Hutt, Fred Johnson, Junior Jones, Larry Kerns, Rick Knettel, George Kurtz, Mary Larkin, Lisa Liebel, David Lyman, Ginny Mast, Claudia McClannahan, Sabine Mehnert, Jeanette Michael, Ron Miller, Jeanne Moore, Bonnie Murphy, Gloria and Morris Pasqual, Barbara Prignano, Victoria Prignano, John Pugh, Israel Rafalovich, Jesus Ramirez, Phil Richard, Ann Riggs, Allene Robinson, Jenny Robinson, Ronald Ross, Wanda Rucker, Rita Sabagh, Pete and Evelyn Scrimger, Juanita Simpson, Edward Skocik, Ed Somers, Grace Stein, Pauline Stumpf, Josefa Tadiar, Alexandra Terninko, Kate Thaxton, Maureen Waters, Dee Wertlein, Louise Wright, Thelma, Evie, Kevin, Beth, Anne, Bob, Bayse, Brad, and those on the Narthex Prayer List.

We celebrate these December birthdays

Doris Gibson, Dec 3; Carolyn Alcordo and Tonda Rush, Dec 7; Marion Harrell, Dec 13; Nesta Lewis, Wayne McOwen, and Michael Rusten, Dec 14; Bertha Harrison, Dec 16; Anne Kusserow and Anna Kathryn Zone, Dec 17; Liz Halloran, Dec 18; Joseph Sawyer, Rich Whitehead, and Betty Lester, Dec 19; Katie Kerns, Mike Kerns, Dec 20; Carter Echols, Barratt Tatchell, Dec 21; Eleanor Engh, Dec 24; Dawson Nash, Dec 27; Cyndy Carpenter and Erica Djoman, Dec 28; Patricia Jefferson, Dec 31.



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 swalker@epiphanydc.org.

Report: “God’s Creation Cries for Justice”

By Charles Burg, Environmental Stewardship Ministry Team

The “God’s Creation Cries for Justice” eight-week course at Epiphany ended on Wednesday November 19 with the blessing of five Leyland Cypress trees and a consensus among course participants that we and our parish must re-examine our stewardship of the Creation and the natural resources upon which we depend for our survival. Led by Joanne Charles, participants spent the course learning about the impacts of climate change on the Earth and its people, especially the poor, and how our own lifestyles contribute to the most harmful effects of fossil fuel use. We also discovered how churches and houses of worship elsewhere in the United States are changing the way they operate to improve their stewardship and lessen their impacts on the Earth. Most importantly, however, we learned how fairly minor changes in our own lives can have a positive impact on how much energy we use on a daily basis, thereby lessening the use of greenhouse gas producing fuels that contribute to global warming.

The challenges ahead for our planet, the people we share it with, and our parish may appear daunting and exceedingly complex, and the reality is that they are. But our faith in a loving God, who calls us to be responsible stewards of the marvelous gifts of the Creation, provides strength and guidance for our future actions. As such, course participants felt moved to make the following suggestions for action at Epiphany:

1. We urge the Vestry to support conducting an energy audit of our facilities to help inform our upcoming renovations so that our buildings are as energy efficient as possible, thereby ensuring responsible stewardship of natural resources and our parish financial resources;
2. We felt that the Sunday bulletin or monthly newsletter would be a good place to provide regular practical advice to parishioners about how they can improve their energy efficiency and sustainable lifestyles at home and at work;
3. We encourage parishioners to join us in a Creation Tithe, as described in the November Parish Newsletter; and
4. We invite parishioners to participate in a revived Environmental Stewardship Team to tackle

these and other environmental issues that impact our parish and the world.

Finally, not all of the course participants could take a Leyland Cypress home for planting, so interested parishioners should contact the parish office if they would like one to plant in their own yards or give to a friend with the appropriate space. These beautiful trees grow up to 60 feet tall, so a good-sized yard is necessary for them to grow and prosper.

Happy Birthday, Mr. Lincoln Historical Play Taking Shape

By Tripp Jones, Archivist

Early next year, The Church of the Epiphany will present to the public an historical drama in commemoration of the 200th anniversary of the birth of Abraham Lincoln. The play is called *A Place of Healing*, and showcases the connection between Lincoln and his circle of friends and advisors with Epiphany. Specifically, it will show how our church became a place where people could come to grips with the horrors and ravages of war.

Washington DC’s Lincoln celebration is being coordinated by Cultural Tourism DC and Destination DC. A brochure detailing the celebration will be available soon in our lobby rack. A new website, www.LincolninDC.com is now up and running and has a complete listing of all the events, including our own. Take a look. I think you’ll be amazed at the variety of activities and I’m sure there are many you will want to attend.

My casting call for our little drama has produced a horde of closet actors and actresses here at Epiphany. There are still a couple of slots available especially for male roles. Also, there are behind the scenes jobs for those of you who don’t enjoy the limelight. If you are interested in helping, please let me know as soon as possible. (leave me a message at church 202-347-2635, ext. 16 or email me at tripp.jones@mail.house.gov)

A Place of Healing will be presented at Epiphany on Sunday, February 15 (President’s Day weekend) and March 8 at 4:00pm. Plan now to support this endeavor by either being a part of the production or being in the audience with your friends. It promises to be a moving experience.

Parishioner Survey: Come and See Ministry Team Wants to Know!

By Sharee Lawler, Come and See Ministry Team Leader

As a new parishioner more than three years ago, I found so many opportunities for service and enrichment at Epiphany that it was almost intimidating. Yet the offerings were so diverse that I could clearly find something to make me feel connected. It is with this backdrop that the Come and See Ministry Team is called to develop and oversee methods by which parishioners invite visitors from the Washington Metropolitan Area, include newcomers, and involve new parishioners in the life of our Church. As part of that calling, we are taking deliberate steps to do two things:

- Examine the Epiphany experience from the perspective of someone looking at us for the first time; and,
- Experiment with new mediums for telling people about our church.

The purpose is to better understand what makes Epiphany unique and share that message with a broader audience.

Looking at our church through the eyes of a newcomer is like trying to look at a close friend as if you're seeing her for the first time. However, a good way to start piecing the picture together is to ask you, our parishioners, about the decision-making experience when visiting the church for the first time. The Ministry Team launched a short survey asking you all to recall your experience of finding Epiphany. Go through this link to tell your story (http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=MKHN_2fjcZjPwbxE550h7zpQ_3d_3d.) Our hope is, once we have more information about how people make decisions regarding parish membership, we can better understand how the personal connection is made that calls people to Epiphany.

Once we know how a visitor makes the decision to become a parishioner, we are able to craft an image to draw more people who might be a good fit with Epiphany, ideally converting larger percentages of them into new parishioners. How do we do this? We must start by looking at how Epiphany's image and message is communicated to the broader community. Currently, the most visible method takes advantage of our location in an urban area to

advertise to passers-by. However, when you look at the geography of our parishioners, many people neither live nor work in the immediate area. So we are enhancing Epiphany's online presence in order to try new methods of connecting to a far-flung community, starting with Facebook. If you aren't familiar, Facebook is a social networking site with millions of users, including 790,000 that call the Washington area home. It's the internet version of our neighborhood. Most importantly, such sites are "sticky". Users visit regularly and tend to linger longer than average. This situates the church where electronic passers-by can see a different side of what we're about than is found on the webpage.

So many special things are contained within Epiphany – its historical roots, the building, beautiful music, the urban-style mission and, of course, the people. Ultimately, this Ministry Team strives to take the sum of these parts and give potential newcomers a glimpse of how it can touch their lives.

The Creation Tithe: A Message of Hope and Challenge

By Class Participants of "God's Creation Cries for Justice"

We encourage all parishioners, weekday associates and friends of Epiphany to consider a "Creation Tithe" as part of a stewardship commitment this year. Unlike the traditional tithe, however, a Creation Tithe does not involve giving money; it's all about personal sacrifice. The Creation Tithe is an adoption of a new lifestyle that will directly reduce by 10% each person's carbon footprint over the next year. This can be accomplished in many ways, such as reductions in household water and electricity usage, decreased gas consumption, increased recycling and greater use of sustainable consumables. Of course, accountability for this type of stewardship would be on the honor system, but we are convinced that everyone can find ways to reflect on our patterns of environmental stewardship and discern if we are living in accordance with God's will.

God's creation does indeed cry for justice. Jesus does indeed call us to care for the least among us and to love our neighbors as ourselves. Think about it, pray about it, and take action!

CHRIST IS BORN!

Celebrate

by remembering someone with a Christmas floral tribute.

Suggested Donation: \$25

All tributes will be listed in the Christmas bulletins.

Please use this form for your dedication and submit to the parish office no later than Wednesday, December 17.

You can pay by check, credit card, or through the website.

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1. **Check:** payable to: The Church of the Epiphany (*memo: Christmas flowers*)
1317 G ST, NW, Washington, DC 20005

2. **Credit card:**
Your name as it appears on the card _____

Card# _____ CCV (3 digit code) _____

Expiration date ____/____

3. **Website:** www.epiphanydc.org, click on link to *Making a Contribution to Epiphany*, select "Donation," "Amount", and "Flowers". Use "Purpose of Donation" for dedication.

In memory of, or in honor of (circle one)

(full name of person(s))

In thanksgiving for

(Event or organization)

Your name

Heigh Ho! A-Merry-O!

Come help the Flower Guild prepare and install the greens and festive decorations in the church to celebrate the arrival of Jesus who is Christ the Lord!!

We will prepare the greens on Saturday, December 20 and install the decorations on Wednesday, December 24.

No prior experience required! No craftiness level is necessary.

We do need willing hands and eyes to help us with this wonderful task.

Both sessions, Saturday and Wednesday, will be from 10:00am to around 3:00pm.

Light refreshments will be provided

and you are welcome to bring any excess goodies you don't need at home!

Please e-mail Kathrine Ebert (sisterkathrine@aol.com) if you can join the happy throng we need to know how many scissors and yards of wiring to get!

God bless us -- every one!

A Welcome Table Thanksgiving

By Susan Weinbeck, Welcome Table Ministry Team

If you haven't thought about 'love' and 'gratitude' as action words, you should have attended the Thanksgiving Dinner where both were clearly demonstrated. While attendance was less than expected, there was an abundance of joy and sharing among volunteers and guests alike.

The day began early for our volunteer cooks who prepared a delicious feast. Linda Horrigan and friend Kathy baked pies, prepared stuffing, beans and yams. Turkeys, gravy and rolls were prepared by D.C. Central kitchen. After our faithful work crew of Mason, David, and Kenny set up tables and chairs, other volunteers came to don tables with festive fall arrangements - handmade turkey cutouts, gourds, and fresh fruit.

Caroline Klam, her grandchildren, Lilly and Taylor, and their parents signed in guests as they arrived at the church and gave them especially festive name tags. Lilly's Girl Scout troop had made the turkey centerpieces.

Songs and thanksgiving praises filled the church. The gospel choir led the singing of traditional Thanksgiving hymns. The anticipated meal quickly followed. Volunteers at the serving line included our Parish Administrator, Mary Dail, and her husband Rodney, as well as seasoned Welcome Table regulars. Both guests and volunteers were seated to enjoy lively conversation and a scrumptious meal. Guest and volunteers alike helped with the clean-up. As they departed, guests received bags of toiletries.

Clearly this event mirrors the activity of Sunday's Welcome Table. There is true reciprocity and joy in the coming together and sharing of a meal. Thanks to all of you who generously support the work of Welcome Table, especially this Thanksgiving Dinner. The efforts of the 32 volunteers who stirred, cut, spooned, poured, sang, smiled, and chatted together were especially important in demonstrating commitment and caring to the downtown poor and homeless. Love and gratitude flowed freely through The Church of the Epiphany.

Weekend at the Willard

By David Downes, Community Funding Ministry Team

On November 13 you should have received an email letting you know about an online auction for a Weekend at the Willard (valued at \$1000) in support of The Church of Epiphany's urban ministries with the downtown poor and the downtown office workers. We invite your participation in the "Weekend at the Willard." Since then we have not received the minimum bid which was set at \$500 and are lowering the minimum bid to \$300.

The weekend includes a room for two at the Willard Hotel at Pennsylvania Ave and 14th Street, NW on a Friday and Saturday night, plus dinner for two in the authentic French bistro Cafe du Parc (valued at \$100).

Bids for the "Weekend at the Willard" may be made by emailing your bid with your name, address and phone number to EpiphanyAuction@aol.com with "Willard Weekend Bid" on the subject line. Opening bids must now be for \$300 or more.

All bidders will receive an acknowledgement and will receive an update (generally within 24 hours), every time a higher bid is received up until the close of bidding on Sunday, December 14, 2008 at 5:00 p.m. In the event of a final tie for high bid, the earliest high bid will win. If you just want to know what the current high bid is or want other information, put "Bid Question" on the subject line of your email.

Let the bidding begin!

A Sabbatical Reflection

By Susan Walker, Lay Associate

Thank you!

I begin my sabbatical reflection with a heart full of gratitude and joy. I am thankful for all your prayers that carried me along the journey, for the vestry's approval of the time off, for Randolph's generous support, and for all who took a share of my work load, especially James Rogers who assisted at the Tuesday concerts, Day Dodson who kept the liturgical schedules up to date, and Tripp Jones who edited The Parish Guide newsletter and coordinated liturgical leaders every Sunday. I am also thankful for parish administrator Mary Dail's oversight of things "known and unknown," or at least unforeseen, during my absence. The following reflections are a brief view of the twelve weeks. I will be presenting a more detailed story with accompanying slides on Sunday, December 7 at 12:45pm. I hope you can be there...I look forward to seeing you all!

Greenfield, Tennessee - The Journey Begins By Going Home

My sabbatical began with a brief trip to see my relatives in Greenfield, TN, a small town where, as a child, I spent summer vacations. After almost thirty years, I was visiting aunts and cousins again and meeting a new generation of relatives. My 90-year-old aunt lived very simply, her house stilled by rooms not used. When I spent time out on the front porch, a breeze blowing and the sound of crickets refreshed my spirit. Gradually, I began to appreciate the atmosphere of the small town, the slow pace of life, and the routine of eating dinner at Allison's restaurant, where everyone knew each other, and I was "Mabel's daughter." It was like a big family coming together to eat in someone's dining room – reminding me of the Welcome Table here at Epiphany.

My sabbatical time in Greenfield signaled the shift beginning – a shift in the life-styles and relationships I would be encountering. My happy homecoming with family was also a way of God nudging my comfort zone and giving me a foretaste of the environments and challenges that were to come.

Jonestown, Mississippi - Life in the Delta

“Act with integrity toward the weak and the unfortunate; maintain the rights of the afflicted and the destitute. Assist the needy and reverence all people's freedom; deliver them from the hand of the oppressor.”
(Psalm 82)

These were words I read from the Daily Office one morning, soon after arriving in Jonestown, Mississippi. I had settled in to live with Kay Burton, a Holy Names sister whose ministry to the community is primarily through education, but also through the hospitality she offers by opening her home and her resources to anyone who is in need. In Jonestown, I witnessed the poorest of the poor living in substandard housing, unemployed, under-educated, and under-served. My two weeks of living and working with Sr. Kay included: helping a 60 year-old student in the Adult Learning/GED program in the morning and tutoring 6th graders in the afternoon, listening to youngsters taking piano lessons in the evenings and a group of girls practicing Andre Crouch's "I Didn't Believe 'til Somebody Told Me," as the piano teacher Ms. Fields led them in a soul-filled interpretation. Jonestown taught me, once again, about disparities in our nation and how we just don't want to look at the poverty that is part of our country. Yet despite the lack of adequate housing, public services, and jobs, there was a palpable spirit of hope. This small, forgotten community was an inspiration to me. During my time, I was surprised by feeling homesick, but I was not surprised by being struck with an overwhelming sense of God's grace at work in the people of Jonestown. The gratitude I experienced for all their acts of kindness and genuine love I witnessed will stay with me forever.

To balance my time working with the students and around the house and yard with Sr. Kay, I took a couple of day trips down Highway 61 to other towns in the Delta. One Sunday, I drove to Oxford and worshipped at St. Peter's Episcopal Church where our former seminarian Laura Gettys was preaching. I enjoyed visiting the campus where the first presidential debate had taken place two days earlier. I also drove to Clarksdale to see the Delta Blues Museum, and to Tutwiler to tour the Tutwiler Medical Clinic and Family Education Center (home of the Tutwiler Quilters). Both are outreach programs started by four Holy Names sisters in the mid-1980's. Today, they are the second largest employer in the town, only surpassed by the local prison.

Grand Coteau, Louisiana – A House of Prayer

"We do not know how to pray as we ought, but the Spirit itself intercedes with inexpressible groanings." (Romans 8:26)

From Jonestown I traveled to Grand Coteau, Louisiana, deep in the Cajun country of Southern Louisiana. I began a 30-day silent retreat, expecting to encounter God in prayer, but not realizing how much I would need God's help when I prayed. In the 15th century St. Ignatius of Loyola wrote the text called the "Spiritual Exercises". As a retreatant, my goal was to experience a greater intimacy in knowing Jesus and a deeper desire to follow him more closely in my life. Praying with scriptures by using my imagination proved to be an exercise in letting go of my control, and allowing God's way with me. I learned to slow down and wait on God who certainly showed up, but often in the most unexpected and surprising ways.

In my daily routine I ate meals in silence with other retreatants, attended Mass, met with my director, took walks around the grounds, and, of course, prayed with the Bible. By living this stripped down routine that was devoid of usual distractions (such as newspaper, books, conversation, emails), I could give all my

energy and focus to my relationship with God in prayer. This was an interior journey of learning about myself and about how much God adores us beyond all logical explanations.

Home Again

Sabbatical goals. First of all, I wanted to feel rested and physically restored so I could return to Epiphany with a renewed sense of call. I also wanted to become more available for God, by exclusively spending time in prayer. Finally, I wanted to learn more about myself through intentional living and interacting with the poor in the Delta. Without a doubt, God provided me with an abundance of opportunities to experience all those objectives. I returned home, aware of the many graces received on my journey and ready to commit myself to whatever God has planned for this next phase of my ministry. In the spiritual exercises, I was taught to begin the prayer session by asking for the grace to be open, generous, and courageous. Today, I continue to seek those same qualities as I go forward, joyfully, ministering with you all here in downtown Washington.

A Big Fuss over a Small Point

By Christian M. Clough, Director of Music Ministries

One of the most distinctive liturgical observances of Advent is the Advent Festival of Readings and Music (or, in some places, Lessons and Carols). This service was modeled on the world-famous Christmas Festival of Lessons and Carols, first celebrated at King's College Chapel, Cambridge, in 1918. These services are not intended to replace the Sunday morning Eucharist, and so, in many places are held in the afternoon or evening, when the gathering darkness enhances the atmospheric use of candles.

It has been customary at Epiphany for many years to hold the Advent Festival on the morning of the First Sunday Advent, as "ante-communion", in place of the normal Liturgy of the Word. The liturgical distinctiveness of that service has helped to highlight the first day of the new liturgical year, and point the way toward Christmas.

Church people have a tendency to tie themselves in knots over theological minutia (Didja notice?), and I confess that our observance of the Advent Festival on the First Sunday of Advent has caused me no small amount of consternation. I have written before in these pages about Advent, and the interesting complexity of this dual-natured season. Briefly, Advent is a season of double anticipation; we await Christ's return in glory to reign over the new creation at the same time that we look toward the celebration of the infant Jesus' birth at Christmas. The season begins with a bang on the First Sunday – a call to repent, Old Testament images of the coming of God the judge and the remaking of creation, Gospel descriptions of the coming of the Son of Man. There are no references to babes in swaddling clothes and doting virgins bathed in romantic starlight. The appointed readings for the first three Sundays of Advent are apocalyptic. Only on the Fourth Sunday of Advent does the season turn toward the anticipated birth of Jesus.

But the prayers and readings of the Advent Festival of Lessons and Music point the worshiper toward Christmas, not toward the Rapture, or the Emerald City or whatever your image of the Second Advent might be. And, when this service displaces the regular readings for the First Sunday of Advent, it deprives us of the opportunity to hear some very important biblical themes that only come around on this one day of the year. Therein lies my concern.

All of this, therefore, explains why we are moving this service to the Fourth Sunday of Advent, when we can weave the regularly appointed readings of the day into this day's longer Liturgy of the Word. The procession through the liturgical season will feel more natural and dramatic than in years past, and holding the Advent Festival on the Fourth Sunday of Advent will shine a brighter light on the coming of Christmas just a few days later. I know that I will sleep better this December as a result of the change; I hope that

you, too, will enjoy the opportunity to experience Advent more fully in this new arrangement.

Christmas Music at Epiphany

The Epiphany Choir performs its annual Christmas Benefit Concert (in support of the Tuesday Concert Series) at 12:10 PM on Tuesday 16 December. This year's program will return to the popular readings-and-music format, with secular and sacred prose and poetry celebrating Christmas; choral works by John Rutter, Arvo Pärt, David Willcocks, Richard Rodney Bennett, Robert Pearsall *et al* sung by the choir; and carols for audience participation. As in recent years, the concert will culminate in the singing of John Goss's "See amid the winter's snow" by choir and congregation together. We hope that you will join us for this festive celebration, and will help us publicize the concert by telling friends, neighbors, colleagues and family members about it.

If you are unable to attend the concert, much of the music will be heard again on Christmas Eve. Choral Preludes begin at 9:30 PM, with the service following at 10 PM. This year, you will have two *more* opportunities to sing Christmas hymns and carols in church. The Christmas Festival of Readings and Music will take the first part of the service at 11 AM on Sunday 28 December. This year, there will be a Second Sunday after Christmas with even more festive music for congregation on 4 January. And, at 8 AM on both of those Sundays, the Welcome Table Eucharist will also feature Christmas hymns, carols and spirituals. Please worship and celebrate with us!



The Church of the Epiphany invites you to a
Christmas Benefit Concert
supporting the Tuesday Concert Series

Tuesday 16 December 12:10 – 1:00 PM

*Epiphany's weekly free musical offering for everyone in
downtown Washington*

**READINGS and MUSIC for
CHRISTMASTIDE**

Poetry & Prose by

Edwin Muir - Langston Hughes – Dietrich Bonhoeffer
Margaret Gooding - E.B. White - A.A. Milne - T.S. Eliot
Robert Bridges and Charles Dickens

Carols & Anthems for Choir & Audience by

Ralph Vaughan Williams - Richard Rodney Bennett
Josef Rheinberger - John Rutter - David Willcocks
Roberts Pearsall - Malcolm Sargent - Jacobus Handl
and John Goss

Epiphany Choir -- Christian M. Clough - *conductor*
Irvin Peterson - *organ*

The Church of the Epiphany
www.epiphanydc.org

Metro: Metro Center, 13th Street exit

202.347.2635
1317 G Street, NW

The Tuesday Concert Series has been a significant part of The Church of the Epiphany's outreach to the people of downtown Washington – workers, residents and visitors – for over a quarter of a century. Although our audience members make weekly offerings for each concert, all of that money is directed to the performers. The administration of the Tuesday Concert Series is a considerable expense – approximately \$40,000 per year.

If you value the Tuesday Concert Series, but can't make it to the concert, you may contribute:

1. electronically via our website: go to www.epiphanydc.org, and click on "Make an Online Donation - Contribute to Our Ministries"; in the field "Purpose of Donation", enter "Christmas Benefit Concert"; or
2. by check payable to The Church of the Epiphany, note: Christmas Benefit Concert and mail to: The Church of the Epiphany, 1317 G Street NW, Washington, DC 20005-3102).

We also invite your ideas about ways to underwrite the Tuesday Concert Series. Please direct them to either Randolph Charles, Rector, or Christian M. Clough, Director of Music Ministries, who may be reached at 202.347.2635.]

Thank you!

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>Church of the Epiphany December 2008 Calendar</p> <p>7 The 2nd Sunday of Advent 7:00 NA/AA 7:15 Welcome Table Bible Study 7:30 Welcome Table Choir 8:00 Baptism and Holy Eucharist 8:45 The Welcome Table 9:10 Welcome Table Choir 10:00 Community Bible Study 10:45 Liturgical Leaders 11:00 Holy Eucharist/Godly Play 12:15 Coffee Hour 12:45 Susan's Sabbatical Story 4:00 Men's Carnerata/20s30s Party</p>	<p>1 St. Andrew, the Apostle 12:00 AA 12:10 Contemplative Eucharist 1:15 Muslim Prayers 4:00 YSOP 6:00 Franciscan Spirituality</p>	<p>2 12:00 Al-Anon 12:10 Tuesday Concert 1:00 Street Church 1:15 Muslim Prayers 2:00 Street Sense Vendors 6:00 Urban Ministry Committee</p>	<p>3 10:00 Labyrinth 10:00 Staff 12:00 AA/Al-Anon 12:10 Healing Eucharist 1:15 Muslim Prayers 2:30 Street Sense Writers</p>	<p>4 12:00 SLAA 12:10 Holy Eucharist 1:15 Muslim Prayers 2:00 Street Sense Vendors 6:00 Street Sense New Volunteer Orientation 7:15 Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>5 12:00 AA 12:10 Holy Eucharist 1:15 Islamic Prayer Service</p>	<p>6 9:00 Advent Quiet Day 6:00 Baptism Prep</p>
<p>14 The 3rd Sunday of Advent 7:00 NA/AA 7:15 Welcome Table Bible Study 7:30 Welcome Table Choir 8:00 Holy Eucharist 8:45 The Welcome Table 9:10 Welcome Table Choir 10:00 Community Bible Study 10:45 Liturgical Leaders 11:00 Holy Eucharist/Godly Play 12:15 Coffee Hour 5:00 Washington Metropolitan Philharmonic</p>	<p>15 12:00 Committee of 100 12:00 AA 12:10 Contemplative Eucharist 1:15 Muslim Prayers 3:30 Washington Girls Chorus Rehearsal 6:00 Vestry</p>	<p>16 12:00 Al-Anon 12:10 Christmas Benefit Concert 1:00 Street Church 1:15 Muslim Prayers 2:00 Street Sense Vendors 3:30 Washington Girls Chorus Rehearsal</p>	<p>17 10:00 Labyrinth 10:00 Staff 12:00 AA/Al-Anon 12:10 Healing Eucharist 1:15 Muslim Prayers 2:30 Street Sense Writers 3:30 Washington Girls Chorus Rehearsal</p>	<p>18 12:00 SLAA 12:10 Holy Eucharist 1:15 Muslim Prayers 2:00 Street Sense Vendors 4:00 Washington Girls Chorus Rehearsal 7:15 Choir</p>	<p>19 12:00 AA 12:10 Holy Eucharist 1:15 Islamic Prayer Service 4:00 Washington Girls Chorus</p>	<p>20 10:00 Greening Workshop 4:30 Washington Girls Concert</p>
<p>21 The 4th Sunday of Advent 7:00 NA/AA 7:15 Welcome Table Bible Study 7:30 Welcome Table Choir 8:00 Holy Eucharist 8:45 The Welcome Table 9:10 Welcome Table Choir 10:00 Community Bible Study 10:45 Liturgical Leaders 11:00 Advent Festival of Lessons & Music 12:15 Coffee Hour</p>	<p>22 St. Thomas, the Apostle 12:00 AA 12:10 Contemplative Eucharist 1:15 Muslim Prayers</p>	<p>23 12:00 Al-Anon 12:10 Tuesday Concert 1:00 Street Church 1:15 Muslim Prayers 2:00 Street Sense Vendors 7:15 Choir</p>	<p>24 10:00 Staff/Greening 12:00 AA/Al-Anon 12:10 Christmas Eve Eucharist 1:15 Muslim Prayers 2:30 Street Sense Writers 9:30 Christmas Music 10:00 Christmas Festival Eucharist 11:15 Christmas Party</p>	<p>25 Christmas Day - The Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ Parish Office Closed 11:00 Christmas Eucharist</p>	<p>26 St. Stephen, Deacon and Martyr Church and Parish Office Closed for Christmas</p>	<p>27 Saint John, Apostle and Evangelist</p>
<p>28 The 1st Sunday after Christmas 7:00 NA/AA 7:15 Welcome Table Bible Study 7:30 Welcome Table Choir 8:00 Holy Eucharist 8:45 The Welcome Table 9:10 Welcome Table Choir 10:00 Community Bible Study 10:45 Liturgical Leaders 11:00 Christmas Lessons & Carols 11:00 Godly Play 12:15 Coffee Hour</p>	<p>29 The Holy Innocents 12:00 AA 12:10 Contemplative Eucharist 1:15 Muslim Prayers</p>	<p>30 12:00 Al-Anon 12:10 Tuesday Concert 1:00 Street Church 1:15 Muslim Prayers 2:00 Street Sense Vendors</p>	<p>31 10:00 Labyrinth 10:00 Staff Meeting 12:00 AA 12:00 Al-Anon 12:10 New Year's Eve Eucharist 1:15 Muslim Prayers 2:30 Street Sense Writers</p>			



CHRISTMAS AT THE CHURCH OF THE EPIPHANY
(Episcopal/Anglican)
1317 G St, NW (Metro Center, 13th St. Exit)

December 16 Christmas Benefit Concert

12:10pm Epiphany Choir, Readings and Music for Christmas

December 21 Fourth Sunday of Advent

11:00am Advent Festival of Lessons & Music and Eucharist

December 24 Christmas Eve

12:10pm Christmas Eve Eucharist

9:30pm Christmas Music

10:00pm Christmas Festival Eucharist

11:15pm Christmas Party

December 25 Christmas Day

11:00am Christmas Eucharist

December 28 First Sunday after Christmas Day

8:00am Welcome Table Eucharist

11:00am Christmas Festival of Lessons & Carols and Eucharist

December 31 New Year's Eve

12:10pm New Year's Eve Eucharist

January 4 Feast of The Epiphany

11:00am Epiphany Festival Eucharist



THE CHURCH OF THE EPIPHANY

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