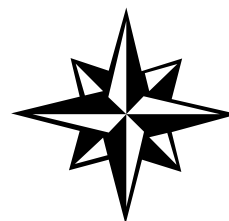


The Epiphany Star



EST. 1846

AUGUST 2020



The Light Shines in Darkness.

Episcopal Church of the Epiphany - 225 West Main Street – Laurens, SC 29360 - epiphany@backroads.net
www.epiphanyoflaurens.org Church – 864-984-7000

The mission of Church of the Epiphany is to celebrate the light of Christ, proclaim the Gospel, deepen our faith, nurture and encourage all people.

A Letter from The Rev. Canon Alan D. Bentrup Concerning the Calling of a Bishop for the Diocese of Upper South Carolina



the EPISCOPAL DIOCESE of
UPPER SOUTH CAROLINA

STANDING COMMITTEE

Dear Leaders in the diocese:

The search for a new bishop is a momentous event in the life of the Church. Calling a new bishop shapes not only the future of our diocese but the Church as well. The process to call a new bishop is complex and consists of much more than simply reading resumes for a list of desired qualities or accomplishments. The search for a new bishop must be a matter of prayerful discernment, for, in a spiritual sense, new bishops are revealed, not chosen. While calling a new bishop can be a stressful time in the life of a diocese, it can also be a blessed time of deep missional and vocational discernment, a season to renew and strengthen our common bonds, and an opportunity to celebrate what we have done together as a diocese, while discerning what we will do next.

With the announcement of the resignation of The Rt. Rev. W. Andrew Waldo, the Eighth Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Upper South Carolina, effective December 31, 2021, the Standing Committee has begun the process of asking the question, “Whom is God revealing our next bishop to be?” The Standing Committee has begun the canonical steps necessary for the practical work of discernment to begin. We have established a procedure and approved a timeline for the discernment process which will result in the consecration of the Ninth Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Upper South Carolina on February 26, 2022.

A critical step in this process is to form a Nominating Committee that is representative of our diocese and that is committed to balancing the canonical and practical requirements of the work to be done with the spiritual work to be done. On Saturday, July 18, the Standing Committee approved a Nominating Committee member profile and an application to serve

on the Nominating Committee. You can view the approved profile and the application by clicking on the following link: www.edusc.org/bishopsearch/.

As the clergy of the diocese, we hope that you will take a leading role in disseminating these materials to your congregations and encouraging your fellow clergy and your congregants to apply to serve. The deadline for receiving applications is August 21, 2020, so time is of the essence. Once the deadline for receiving applications has passed, the Standing Committee will form the Nominating Committee from the applications received.

Thank you for your willingness to work with the Standing Committee as we discern together whom God is calling to be the Ninth Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Upper South Carolina.

The Rev. Stephen J. Rhoades President of the Standing Committee

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A Message from Junior Warden Brad Holmes

The vestry is currently searching for and held a meeting with a potential supply priest for a short term. The long term plan would be to find a permanent priest. We would like to start a Sunday service we can all watch on line soon. Maybe in a few weeks (3-6 weeks) we can consider having a small group service at church again. Everyone will be required to wear a mask for the service. Please Pray for this to happen and keep your fingers and toes crossed.

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***August 2020 Backpack Ministry Update***

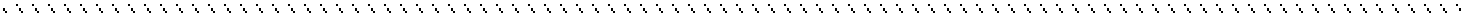
Our Backpack Ministry is currently on hold as we wait to learn the plans for students in School District 55. School is scheduled to begin September 8. We do not know at this time whether students will actually be in school or will be e-learning. We are prepared to pack backpacks as soon as we are given the go-ahead from Ford Elementary administration. Please pray for all the students and parents who have had to make significant adjustments during the Covid-19 pandemic.

Contact Connie Daniels if you have any questions, comments or suggestions. Thank you for your prior donations and prayers for the Backpack Ministry. Stay well!



## ***MUSIC ON SUNDAY MORNINGS***

For those Sundays when our services are suspended, be sure to tune in to the church’s Facebook page for live video and music starting at 11 AM. Randy is practicing during that time to prepare for when we are together in worship again. Leave a comment if you have a favorite hymn you would like to have Randy play.



## ***ON-LINE CHURCH SERVICES AND MEDITATIONS AVAILABLE***

With all in-church services being cancelled at present, here are some links to on-line worship services and daily meditations that are available. These services can be viewed at any time.

Washington National Cathedral, Washington, DC  
<https://cathedral.org/>

Trinity Episcopal Cathedral, Columbia, SC  
<https://www.trinitysc.org/live>

Episcopal Church of the Advent, Spartanburg, SC  
<http://www.churchofadvent.org/worshiponline>

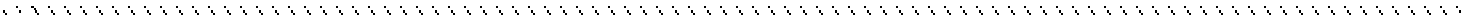
Christ Episcopal Church, Greenville, SC  
<http://www.ccgsc.org/online-worship-groups.php>

For a complete list of churches in the Diocese of Upper South Carolina live streaming worship and devotions, please go to this link: [www.edusc.org/live-streaming-in-edusc/](http://www.edusc.org/live-streaming-in-edusc/)



## ***TITHES AND OFFERINGS***

***The Church of the Epiphany’s expenses continue even though regular church services have been temporarily suspended. Please keep your donations and pledge payments up to date by mailing them to Treasurer Kara Horner at PO Box 742, Laurens, SC 29360.***



## ***August Birthdays and Anniversaries***

|            |                 |                          |
|------------|-----------------|--------------------------|
| August 3:  | Bill Cooper     |                          |
| August 14: |                 | Ed and Loren Taylor      |
| August 20: | Base Smith      |                          |
| August 20: | Thomas Hughes   |                          |
| August 25: | Mary Carson Cox |                          |
| August 25: | Caroline Horner |                          |
| August 28: |                 | Barrett and Cassie Power |
| August 29: | Connie Daniels  |                          |

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### ***Please keep in your prayers***

Phillip Roughton, the brother-in-law of Lorri Roughton; Marty Joseph; Those unemployed; The armed forces of our country; Those affected by the Covid 19 Virus.

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***VISIT MISS LUCY'S GARDEN BLOG AT  
[WWW.GARDENEPIPHANY.WORDPRESS.COM](http://WWW.GARDENEPIPHANY.WORDPRESS.COM)***

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***Send items to be included in future issues of the Epiphany Star to Bill Cooper at [mthappy@prtcnet.com](mailto:mthappy@prtcnet.com) or call 864-969-2707 or mail them to PO Box 400, Enoree, SC 29335.***