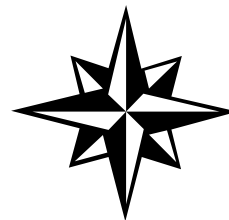


# The Epiphany Star



EST. 1846

January 2019



The Light Shines in Darkness.

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

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*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.*

**!!!!!!HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!!!!**

## ***A MESSAGE FROM FATHER PAUL ABERNATHY***

My Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Blessed New Year's gladsome tidings!

### **The Feast of the Epiphany and the Blessing of the Chalk**

This year, January 6, the Feast of Epiphany, after which our parish community is named, falls on a Sunday. As we commemorate the visit of the magi to the Christ child, we also will follow an olden Epiphany season tradition...

At the beginning of that morning's Holy Eucharist, we will bless the chalk, which will be set aside for us to take at the end of the service to mark above our homes' entrances: 20 + C + M + B + 19. The letters C, M, B are the initials of the traditional names of the three magi: Caspar, Melchior, and Balthazar. They also abbreviate the Latin words *Christus mansionem benedicat*, "May Christ bless the house." The "+" signs represent the cross and 2019 is the year.

To mark our doorways in this way is a literal sign of our asking God's blessing on our homes and on those who dwell therein and visit during the coming year. With time, as the chalk fades, let us pray that the meaning of the symbols and Christ's blessing will abide in our hearts and be manifest in our words and actions.

### **Annual Parish Meeting**

The annual canonically-mandated business meeting of Epiphany Church will be held on Sunday, January 20, immediately following the service of the Holy Eucharist. Per our norm, this meeting will add an additional half-hour to our morning. Among our congregational duties, we will conduct elections. As Mark Adams, our stalwart Senior Warden, concludes his service of three years, we will elect his successor. Lorri Roughton, also completing an unexpired Vestry term, is eligible to run for a full 3-year term of office. We also will elect parish delegates to represent us at the annual diocesan convention on Saturday, November 9, 2019.

## Adult Bible Study

We will continue our Sunday morning “heavenly half-hour,” 10-10.30 a.m., using *Mark: A 12-Week Study* by Dane C. Ortlund.

I pray that 2019, will abound with love and joy and peace for us all, aye, that we, each and all, will be emissaries of love and joy and peace for all!

Love,  
Paul

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**SEND ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR FUTURE EDITIONS OF THE EPIPHANY STAR TO BILL COOPER AT**  
[mthappy@prtcnet.com](mailto:mthappy@prtcnet.com) or call 864-969-2707.  
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## ***January 2019 Backpack Ministry Update***



Being able to supply two weekends of food over the Christmas break was a wonderful Christmas present for the 50 food insecure students at Ford Elementary School. Thank you for the additional donations. The weekly deliveries begin again on January 10. We will be packing and delivering on Thursday, January 10, January 17, January 24 and January 31 at the Laurens District 55 office building beginning at 9:00 a.m. If any of you wish to help us, please let Connie Daniels know.

As always, if you have any questions, comments, suggestions, regarding the Backpack Ministry please contact Connie Daniels.

Happy New Year!

***JANUARY USHER, NURSERY AND LEM SCHEDULE***

JAN 06:	John Womack	Harriet Barksdale	Loren Taylor
JAN 13:	Reid Cox	Linda Barksdale	Loren Taylor
JAN 20:	John Womack	Base Smith.	Graham Duncan
JAN 27:	Reid Cox	Sarah Daniels	Graham Duncan

***JANUARY BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES***

JAN 4:	Bill Ladd
JAN 7:	Don Ross
JAN 7:	Hunter Power
JAN 11:	Hugh Brownlee
JAN 23:	Pontheolla Mack Abernathy

***CHURCH CALENDAR***

JAN. 6:	10 AM, ADULT SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY, PARISH HALL 11 AM, HOLY EUCHARIST
JAN. 13:	10 AM, ADULT SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY, PARISH HALL 11 AM, HOLY EUCHARIST
JAN. 20:	10 AM, ADULT SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY, PARISH HALL 11 AM, HOLY EUCHARIST 12 NOON, ANNUAL PARISH MEETING
JAN. 27:	10 AM, ADULT SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY, PARISH HALL 11 AM, HOLY EUCHARIST

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***VISIT MISS LUCY'S GARDEN BLOG AT***  
[www.gardenepiphany.wordpress.com](http://www.gardenepiphany.wordpress.com)

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***EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE EPIPHANY WEBSITE***  
<http://epiphanyoflaurens.org>