



Photograph by Joyce Austin

## the left-hand column

☞ And just like that, it's all over. Planning and organizing, shopping and wrapping, cooking and decorating. It happens every year and every year we wonder how it went so fast. It was beautiful; we are blessed, and it's time to begin the new year.

☞ The annual meeting is January 25. It's our time to look back and see how we did, where we are, and to think about the coming year. And it's a good time to ask questions, make suggestions. To say thank you.

☞ We will be hosting WARM the first week of February. That means we need cooks to prepare dinners and breakfasts; crews to do dishes and other cleaning-up; monitors. Signup information is on our website(<https://standrewsleonardtown.org/warm-sign-up>).

Questions? Check with Mary Maker ([mlmaker@abm-md.com](mailto:mlmaker@abm-md.com)) or Robert Abell ([rateach2nd@aol.com](mailto:rateach2nd@aol.com)). We don't have to do it alone; we'll be joined by members of the Beth Israel Synagogue and members of the Church of the Latter Day Saints.

☞ Then, before you know it, we'll be having pancakes one evening and walking around with an ashy cross on our foreheads the next day.

# Loaves & Fishes

JANUARY 2026

*Love is the epiphany of God in our poverty.*

~~Thomas Merton

The Epiphany is the only time on our church calendar that declares what it actually is, a revealing or manifestation of God-among-us. Although we tend to refer to the feast day as Epiphany and the season following as ordinary time, it is the season following the Epiphany that tells the whole story.

Epiphany, as we usually think of it, is a sudden realization, the "aha" moment that most often arrives without warning. But Epiphany, as we experience it in the church, is a longer process, taking us from the end of Christmastide to the forty days of Lent. In that time, we see the manifestation of God from Jesus' baptism through healings and exorcisms to his transfiguration on a mountaintop.

The season is book-ended by the pronouncement of God at both the baptism and the transfiguration, that "This is my Son, the Beloved." It is more than a few wise guys from the east bringing impractical gifts and asking the wrong people for directions. It is about seeing how love is made manifest and deciding what our response will be.

Whatever we decide about our response, it must be in the context of recognizing that belovedness, not only of Jesus but the entire humanity among whom he is baptized. In past years, we heard a great deal of talk about the beloved community, from organizations trying to build a sense of dignity and respect for all peoples, for the poor and the marginalized, for all who have struggled with



the burden of inequity. But, as Merton suggests, it can only begin with an understanding that the poverty and injustice we see begins with our own poverty, the one that allows us to see human beings as means and not as ends, the suffering at which we shake our head and tell ourselves that someone should do something. Our task is to see the Christ among us whenever and wherever he appears, often in the most appalling circumstances.

Dorothy Day, who accepted hardship and poverty as one accepts a call, says that, "We must talk about poverty, because people insulated by their own comfort lose sight of it... Their conception of poverty is of something neat and tidy as a nun's cell." Love is rarely tidy, and if this year is any indication, it can be as overwhelming as the people I know who arrive at the church without a spiritual home, hungry for community. But that is where we find the Christ, and it is where we need to place our love.

Mark+, what we are making is an argument: that the God we worship is bigger than any crisis we face, more caring than we can imagine and worthy of our engagement on any level we can manage.

Mark+



Photograph by Steve Carroll



## *The Senior Warden Looks Back —and Ahead*

Thank you to all those who participated in the Christmas Angel Project. As a result of your generosity, sixteen children from our local community received Christmas presents this year. A big thank you goes to Cindy Kilkoyne for organizing the project, and to Mary Maker, Peter Woodside and Jessi Kilkoyne for help in delivering the presents. Working together, we made Christmas bright for many this season.

Next up is our week hosting our WARM guests in February. Here is another opportunity for us to show our generosity to folks in our community. Mary Maker and Robert Abell are the coordinators for this event. Please sign up to provide a meal or serve as a monitor for this week.

We have hired two additional nursery attendants for the 10:30 service. This will provide some relief for those have been serving in this capacity for the past year. If you have questions, contact Cathy Walls or the Senior Warden.

One of the great things about our parish community is the coffee hour at the end of the service. It provides a time to meet informally and chat for a while after church. But we need volunteers to serve as hosts and provide the snacks. Remember, the goal is to provide light refreshments, not lunch. But, of course, you are free to bring whatever you like. It is a good idea to share the hosting duties with another family so that the work and expense can be shared. The sign-up sheet is in the parish hall. Thank you for providing this important ministry of hospitality.

Susan Bennett



## ***Don't Miss Our Annual meeting— January 25***

Annual meetings are a time for reflection and for looking ahead—to see where we have been through the last year, to thank those who helped to get us where we are, and to look forward to new opportunities.

It is also a time to say goodbye for those who are leaving vestry (for now). I will miss Robert Abell, Bobbi Brown, Andy Walls and Chuck Stein, the last members who were here when I was called. I will miss them and their wise counsel; for their part, I'm sure they will be just as happy being in the pews and engaging in their own ministries. We will also welcome three new members, whose names will be published shortly.

Please be with us, if you can, after the 10:30 service on January 25. It will not take long and will be more meaningful with your presence.

Faithfully,  
Mark+



*The longer I live, the more deeply I learn that love—  
whether we call it friendship or family or romance—  
is the work of mirroring and magnifying each  
other's light.*

~~James Baldwin



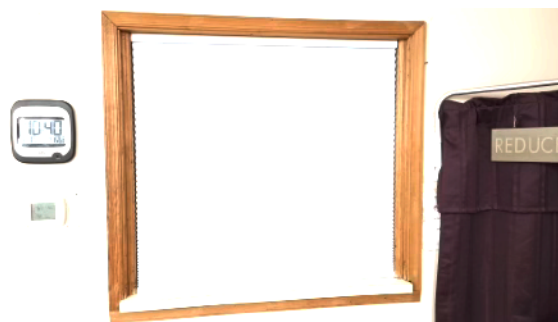
## ***The Junior Warden Has Good News***

The Vestry is considering proposals from four contractors for repairing the church's nineteen windows: ten stained glass windows, two arched windows above the side doors, two windows facing south and north atop each tower staircase, the three-part Palladian window above the entrance.

The final decision will take into consideration each contractor's proposed plan and St. Andrew's financial resources.

Recently installed retractable shades now enable us to shut off the kitchen. Our WARM clients will appreciate their darker, quieter sleeping quarters, and presentations using the monitor over the fireplace will be easier to see without reflections from the kitchen.

Lowering a shade requires only two fingers at the center base and a gentle pull; two fingers and a gentle



push raises it.

Ahead of Fat Tuesday—February 17—the kitchen



needs a deep clean. Mary Larson has already started the process by taking care of the worst job—cleaning the large stoves' drip pans and grease traps.

**And**—The window-donation plaque has at last arrived and about to be installed.  
Peter Woodside



Photographs by Peter Woodside

## You're Invited to a Gathering at Mark and Kelly's House

Please join us at our house at 2:00 p.m. on January 17 for our first Open House Welcome! We are very excited to host the first of these gatherings, which we hope to do every few months.

Those who are new to St. Andrew's are invited to bring your glorious selves; those who have been with the parish for a while are welcome to bring your scintillating selves and a dish to share. I will provide an entrée.

The purpose is to mingle and perhaps get to know some of those (who go to the other service) we do not see on a Sunday morning.

Be with us if you can!

Faithfully, Mark+ and Kelly  
(22540 Landing Way  
Leonardtown)

## A Time of New Birth

It is always a gift to welcome a new baby into the parish, one whose parents we know and who we have been praying for over the long months of preparation.

It is another thing entirely to welcome three babies, especially at a time of year when we are thinking of promise and the gift of new life in our midst. By God's grace, we have three new members of the parish family, whom it will be our privilege to greet in the coming year.

They are:

Samuel Norman Carpenter, son of Bryan and Salina Carpenter, born December 17.

Caroline Grace Martin, daughter of Joshua and Rachel Martin, born November 24.

Christopher James Pendarvis, son of Madelene and Patrick Pendarvis, born December 26.

Everyone is healthy and the parents sound suitably thrilled. Please be sure to greet them when we see them after the new year!

Faithfully,

Mark+

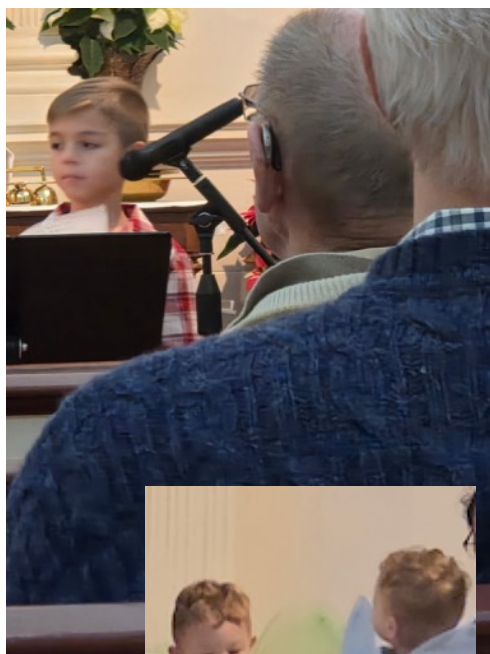


## Celebrating the New Year and a Birthday

- |    |   |
|----|---|
| 2  | Scott Drayton                           |
| 6  | Daniel Maker                            |
| 7  | Mallory Eden                            |
| 10 | Tom Barnes                              |
| 11 | Duncan Biggerstaff, Suzanne<br>Lawrence |
| 17 | Mollie Wagoner                          |
| 19 | Loretta Hetmanski                       |
| 20 | Kathy Kirby                             |
| 21 | Paul Wagner                             |
| 23 | Michael Edwards                         |
| 24 | Beth Weeks                              |
| 28 | Amanda Werrell                          |
| 30 | Judi Donnelly                           |
| 31 | Linda Sisson                            |



Photographs by Joyce Austin



*The soul does not proceed by contraction but by expansion.  
It moves forward, not by exclusion, but by inclusion.  
~~Richard Rohr*

# January 4 Second Sunday after Christmas

Jeremiah 31:7-14 Psalm 84 or 84:1-8

Ephesians 1:3-6,15-19a

Matthew 2:13-15,19-23 or Luke 2:41-52 or Matthew 2:1-12

8:00 a.m.

Lector: Jerry Gehrig

Altar duty: Lynn Duff and Margaret Hallau

10:30 a.m.

Verger: Nancy Edwards Lector: Margaret Hallau

Coffee hour: Ethan Chan

# January 6 The Epiphany

Isaiah 60:1-6 Psalm 72:1-7,10-14

13:1-12 Matthew 2:1-12

# January 11 First Sunday after the Epiphany

Isaiah 42:1-9 Psalm 29

Acts 10:34-43 Matthew 3:13-17

8:00 a.m.

Lector: Mary Larson

Altar duty: Susan Bennett

10:30 a.m.

Verger: Kim Stickney Lector: Susan Bennett

Coffee hour: Art and Anne Carson

# January 18 Second Sunday after the Epiphany

Isaiah 49:1-7 Psalm 40:1-12

1 Corinthians 1:1-9 John 1:29-42

8:00 a.m.

Lector: Ron Leonard

Altar duty: Kim Stickney and Mary Hansen

10:30 a.m.

Verger: Mary Maker Lector: Ginni Stein

Coffee hour: Susan Bennett

# January 25 Third Sunday after the Epiphany

Isaiah 9:1-4 Psalm 27:1, 5-13

1 Corinthians 1:10-18 Matthew 4:12-23

8:00 a.m.

Lector: Tom Joyner

Altar duty: Mary Maker and Michael Dyson

10:30 a.m.

Verger: Dee McRae Lector: Joie Samuelson

Coffee Hour:

# Please Hold in Your Prayers

Patrick Afoakwah, Bobby Anderson, Pam Baake, Melanie Baisley, Jan Barnes, Eunice Benson, Elizabeth Biddle [Pumphrey], the Blackwell family, Caroline Bradford, Carol Brimm, Pete and Nancy Brown, Christine Butler, Misty Cantu, Susan Carroll, Art Carson, Donna Carter, Donnie Carter, Judy Cavin, Jennifer Cerialo, Brendan Chan, Judy Consoli, Lanette Cowles, Erica Day, Judi Donnelly, Billy Doughty, Phyllis Doughty, Karol Dyson, Ruby Dyson, Dean G., Brian Gardner, Paula Gardner, Susan Geary, Gloria Gehrig, Alexi Greene, Mary Hansen and the Hansen family, Ryker Hurst, Greta, Helen Kundacik, Kelly, Richard Lamb, Terrie Leonard, Thomas Leonard, Elinor Mattingly, Dee McRae, Artie Miller, Bob and Doreen Misener, Betty Lou Nagel, Bernice Nunes, Kyle Patrick, Skylar Patron, Natalie Reed, Tanya Robinson, Jane Roderick, Mark Stutso, Jonathan Tanner, Taylor, Tegan, Isabella Tenczar, Charlene Townsend, Ryan Turner, Paula Wayland, Angelica Wilkinson, the Willet family, Stuart A. Wood, first responders, and all who serve in the military and their families..



**St. Andrews Nursery** is available from 10:00 a.m. until noon every Sunday. Suitable for infancy through age five.

**You can join the 10:30 Sunday service by ZOOM:**

[https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82236313643?](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82236313643?pwd=gYrhpabImkUfIX1DZtuntfnUnaHgJ6.1)

[pwd=gYrhpabImkUfIX1DZtuntfnUnaHgJ6.1](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82236313643?pwd=gYrhpabImkUfIX1DZtuntfnUnaHgJ6.1)

Meeting ID: 822 3631 3643

Passcode: 604270



Every person is made in the image of God, and this means that in each person we meet, we are invited to see a reflection of God's glory. When we take this seriously, we will bless others because we will see their inherent dignity and worth. To say that everyone is made in God's image is pretty radical, if you stop and think about it. The people we love are made in God's image. The people who go to our churches are made in God's image. The people we work with are made in God's image. But also the people we are afraid of are made in God's image. The people who want to hurt us are made in God's image. Whether it's easy for us to glimpse God's glory or difficult to see that reflection, this is our work as followers of Jesus.

~~Scott Gunn, in *The Way of Love:*  
*A Practical Guide to Following Jesus*

## January

- 1 **Thursday**  
6:00 p.m. AA  
6:30 p.m. AlAnon
- 2 **Friday**  
6:00 p.m. AA
- 3 **Saturday**
- 4 **Sunday**  
8:00 a.m. H.E. I  
9:15 a.m. Adult Forum  
10:30 a.m. H.E. II  
10:30 a.m. Sunday School
- 5 **Monday**
- 6 **Tuesday**
- 7 **Wednesday**  
9:00 a.m. noon Thrift Shop  
12:30 p.m. Healing Service  
1:00 p.m. Bible Study
- 8 **Thursday**  
9:00 a.m.—noon Thrift Shop  
6:00 p.m. AA  
6:30 p.m. AlAnon
- 9 **Friday**  
6:00 p.m. AA
- 10 **Saturday**  
9:00 a.m.—noon Thrift Shop
- 11 **Sunday**  
8:00 a.m. H.E. I  
9:15 a.m. Adult Forum  
10:30 a.m. H.E. II  
10:30 a.m. Sunday School
- 12 **Monday**
- 13 **Tuesday**
- 14 **Wednesday**  
9:00 a.m. noon Thrift Shop  
12:30 p.m. Healing Service  
1:00 p.m. Bible Study
- 15 **Thursday**  
9:00 a.m.—noon Thrift Shop  
6:00 p.m. AA  
6:30 p.m. AlAnon
- 16 **Friday**  
6:00 p.m. AA
- 17 **Saturday**  
9:00 a.m.—noon Thrift Shop  
Noon DAR Luncheon
- 18 **Sunday**  
8:00 a.m. H.E. I  
9:15 a.m. Adult Forum  
10:30 a.m. H.E. II  
10:30 a.m. Sunday School
- 19 **Monday**
- 20 **Tuesday**
- 21 **Wednesday**  
9:00 a.m. noon Thrift Shop  
12:30 p.m. Healing Service  
1:00 p.m. Bible Study
- 22 **Thursday**  
9:00 a.m.—noon Thrift Shop  
6:00 p.m. AA  
6:30 p.m. AlAnon
- 23 **Friday**  
6:00 p.m. AA
- 24 **Saturday**  
9:00 a.m.—noon Thrift Shop n
- 25 **Sunday**  
8:00 a.m. H.E. I  
9:15 a.m. Adult Forum  
10:30 a.m. H.E. II  
10:30 a.m. Sunday School
- 26 **Monday**
- 27 **Tuesday**
- 28 **Wednesday**  
9:00 a.m. noon Thrift Shop  
12:30 p.m. Healing Service  
1:00 p.m. Bible Study
- 29 **Thursday**  
9:00 a.m.—noon Thrift Shop  
6:00 p.m. AA  
6:30 p.m. AlAnon
- 30 **Friday**  
6:00 p.m. AA
- 31 **Saturday**  
9:00 a.m.—noon Thrift Shop



*The most important thing is that you be a good person,  
and you live by the golden rule of do unto others. If you  
live by that, that's all I care about.*

~~Rob Reiner



## Looking for Someone?

Rector: The Rev. Mark Smith: 301 862-2247 [rector@standrewsleonardtown.org](mailto:rector@standrewsleonardtown.org)

Parish Administrator: Amanda Anisko: 301 862-2247 [parishadmin@standrewsleonardtown.org](mailto:parishadmin@standrewsleonardtown.org)

Senior Warden: Susan Bennett:

Junior Warden: Peter Woodside:

Robert Abell

Joyce Austin

Bobbi Brown

Ethan Chan

Nancy Riddell

Clara Stark

Andy Walls

Treasurer: Chuck Stein

Minister of Music, Amy Foster

Newsletter, Dee McRae

To give flowers for the altar: 301 862-2247 [parishadmin@standrewsleonardtown.org](mailto:parishadmin@standrewsleonardtown.org)

The Right Rev. Mariann Edgar Budde 202 537-6550

The Diocese of Washington 202 537-6555 <http://www.edow.org/>



## Food for Thought

*In a recent discussion that touched on ethics and A.I. New York Times columnist Thomas Friedman told David Brooks that “the faster, more powerful, more integrated, complex the world gets, the more everything you learned at Sunday school matters more than ever. . . .*

*“Because if we’re going into a world where we’re all much more empowered and all much more interconnected, then what you learned in Sunday school matters more than ever, starting with ‘Do unto others as you wish them to do unto you.’*

*“But it’s even more complicated. If we don’t endow those values into this new species we have spawned — artificially intelligent beings — all hell is going to break loose. . . .”*

*Their conversation moved to questions of relating to people with whom we have differences.*

*“Let me start with what is a bedrock thing in my identity, and I think it’s in yours, too. For me, the two most powerful emotions driving human beings are one: humiliation and dignity. The quest for dignity and the revulsion of humiliation. . .*

*“But the second thing, the second most powerful human emotion, I believe, is home. It’s a quest for home, to be anchored in the world. As my friend Andy Karsner describes it, ‘to be anchored in a community where people are connected, protected and respected.’ . . .*

*“Remember, I was a little Jewish kid from Minnesota who wanted to cover the Arab Muslim world in the ’70s. Not a natural thing.*

*“My secret for survival was to learn to be a good listener because I discovered two things happen when you listen. One is what you learn when you listen, because all the stories I got wrong were because I was yapping when I should have been listening. But much more important is what you say when you listen because listening is a sign of respect.*

*“What I learned was if I just listen to people — and I mean deep listening, not just waiting for them to stop talking — it was amazing what they would let me say to and about them. I could go into a room with 30 young Arab students and they’ve got my columns printed out — some things on Israel. They’re ready to carve me up.*

*“You spend an hour listening to them, and at the end of the hour, everyone’s got their cellphone out and they want a picture with you because so many people are just starved to be respected and heard.”*