



# EPIPHANY STAR

**Church of the Epiphany February 2018**

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## Clergy Clatter

"You've changed everything. It's all different."

Those are the first words spoken when an elderly couple who had married at Epiphany fifty years ago, brought their family to Epiphany, after an anniversary dinner, to show them where it all happened. They had been excited about this visit. And it was with some obvious disappointment that they had found things changed. The Hammond electric organ that used to sit behind the pulpit had been replaced by the present pipe organ. The Choir Screen replaced a red curtain. There is carpet on the beautiful old wood floors. There are pew cushions, etc. Item by item they ticked off the changes and additions that have been made to the room. They never said the changes were bad. They were just different, and it wasn't like the Holy Space that they had carried so long in the memory of their marriage. And I could sense a sort of wistfulness that things had moved on without them. Their emotional connection was threatened.

I can remember feeling the same thing the first time I returned to Sewanee. The skeleton of the place was the same, but everywhere I looked, changes had been made. In my mind, I had assumed it would stay the same forever. And I had to do some "processing" to assure myself that the changes were ok, or even, perhaps, better. I have felt the same thing returning to congregations with which I was once involved. I expect everything to be as I left it, but it never is. My memories have been tampered with, and it's always

unsettling until I confess that the changes are improvements.

I asked our anniversary couple if they would like to visit the Parish Hall and see "the renovations" on which we had worked so hard. They declined. And I was aware that the memory of their beautiful wedding reception fifty years ago in the old Parish Hall would be erased if they visited the present facility. They would not quite be able to recapture those memories in the same way, ever again.



Sitting in the church, we talked for a few minutes about which members from the past are still around. It was a very short list. I invited them to come back for worship. One of them said, "You use a new Prayer Book, don't you?" I answered, "Yes, it's thirty years old now." The response was, "We could never get

used to that." They took a lot of pictures and gave me an envelope with a nice contribution. The family stood outside talking for a long time, looking at the church, over and over, adjusting in their minds the Epiphany of fifty years ago, and the Epiphany of today, both of which are very real, but very different. That's because the church is not just bricks and mortar, and carpet, and organs. It's a reflection of the body of God's people at a particular time and place in history. That's what makes us a Living Church.

*Richard+*

# Vestry Highlights

## January VESTRY

- ♦ Approved our clergy compensation as “Housing Allowance” for IRS purposes.
- ♦ Reported pledges for 2018 in the amount of \$105,876.
- ♦ Discussed the Camp Chanco Fundraising Campaign and approved a modest contribution.
- ♦ Reported that Diocesan Safe Church Training will be held at Epiphany on February 10<sup>th</sup>. Almost all of our Vestry will attend.

## Fraud Warning

A number of years ago there was a scam going around where church members would get phone calls that their clergy, or other church members, had their wallets stolen and were stranded in various situations. People wanted to help their poor clergy or friends in distress and would “wire money.” You know the rest of the story.

The scam is working again, with some new twists. If you get a call or email that your clergy are in trouble, do not send money. If you are convinced there is a problem, call one of the wardens. Our wardens are aware of the issue, and know how to deal with it. But do not send money or give debit card information.



## Worship Volunteer Schedule

Feb	Lector	Chalicer	Usher
4	T. Bissonnette	Jerry Cronin	Dan Swain
11	Brian Pritchard	T. Bissonnette	Gail Irby
18	Anita Colburn	M. Scott	Kathy Moore
25	Mike Scott	Brian Pritchard	Joe Turner



2	Robert Alexander, Jr.
3	Carlos Fernandez, Sr
13	Brian Wilson
14	Jay Powell
15	Cherrie Foster
16	Joanna Feret
23	Diana Stein

## 10 biblical ways to love

1. Listen without interrupting. “To answer before listening — that is folly and shame” (Proverbs 18:13).
2. Speak without accusing. “Be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry” (James 1:19).
3. Give without selfishness. “The righteous give without sparing” (Proverbs 21:26).
4. Pray without ceasing. “We have not stopped praying for you” (Colossians 1:9).
5. Answer without arguing. “Better a dry crust with peace and quiet than a house full of feasting, with strife” (Proverbs 17:1).
6. Share without pretending. “Speaking the truth in love, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of ... Christ” (Ephesians 4:15).
7. Enjoy without complaining. “Do everything without grumbling or arguing” (Philippians 2:14).
8. Trust without wavering. “[Love] always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres” (1 Corinthians 13:7).
9. Forgive without punishing. “Forgive as the Lord forgave you” (Colossians 3:13).
10. Promise without forgetting. “A longing fulfilled is a tree of life” (Proverbs 13:12).

—From various websites; all Scriptures NIV

## IN OUR Thoughts and Prayers

<i>Linda Armstrong</i>	<i>Kevin LaPointe</i>
<i>Roger Bolen</i>	<i>Patty Poore</i>
<i>Sheila Brinck</i>	<i>Ray Steckman</i>
<i>Jerry Cronin</i>	<i>Grace Strid</i>



Don't forget to join us on February 13<sup>th</sup> for our traditional pancakes, etc. on Shrove Tuesday between 5 and 7 PM. Tickets for adults are \$5 at the door, \$4 in advance; \$2 for children 6-10, and free for those 5 and under.

## Lenten Program

Dean Alexander at Sewanee says that Episcopal clergy do a pretty good job of preaching, pastoring, and worship leading, but a weak job of teaching. So, this year's Lenten Program will have a teaching focus to it, with Julia and Richard serving as Rabbis (teachers).

We'll begin with our Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper on February 13<sup>th</sup>. It will have a special Mardi Gras theme to it. On Ash Wednesday, February 14<sup>th</sup>, we will have two identical services at noon and six with imposition of ashes. Beginning Thursday, February 22<sup>nd</sup> we will have our traditional pot luck Lenten Suppers at 6 PM followed by a forty-five minute lesson/discussion on something related to what makes the Episcopal Church special and unique. We will end each session with a brief Compline. Please plan to join us.

## +Christian Symbol+



### Lark

Birds became prominent in Christian art during the Medieval and Renaissance eras. The lark came to symbolize the humility of the priesthood because it flies high and sings only when flying upward.



**Safe church training** will be held at Epiphany **Saturday, February 10<sup>th</sup>, 9AM—3PM**. Lunch will be provided. If you have contact with children or serve on the Vestry please attend this workshop provided by the Diocese. Register through the Diocesan office online at [diosova.org](http://diosova.org). We will reimburse the \$10 fee.

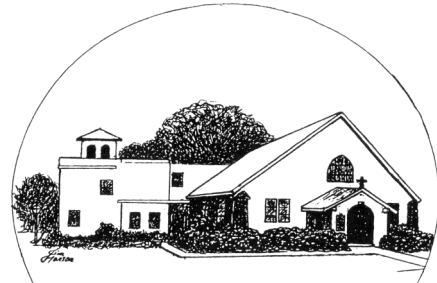
## We welcome . . .

Laurie & Vaughn Coffmann, Courtney Ann Clary, and Sarah Ann Chacon who have gone our Register as Baptized members. These folks attend the 8:00 service. It's wonderful to have you with us.

We are sad to report the death of Clint Turner last month.

## Annual Diocesan Council

Annual Diocesan Council is being held this year in Williamsburg on February 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>. Richard and Julia will be attending as our Clergy Representatives. Bob Everett and Joyce Williams will be our Lay Delegates. Jackie Rochelle will attend as our Communications Representative.



### *The Epiphany Star*

The monthly newsletter of  
Church of the Epiphany,

1530 Lafayette Blvd, Norfolk, VA 23509

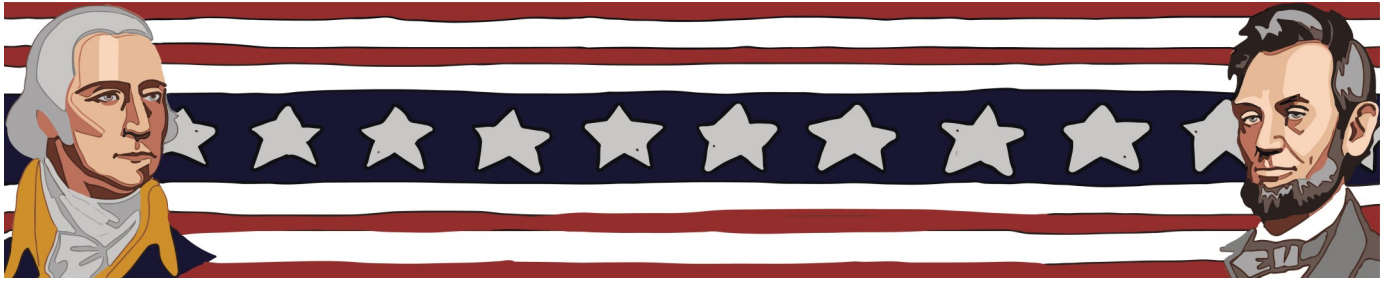
Priest in Charge: The Rev. Richard Bridgford

Assisting Priest: The Rev. Julia Ashby

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# February 2018



**Sun**

**Mon**



**Tue**

**Wed**

**Thu**

**Fri**

**Sat**

				1	2 Al Anon 10 AM-1 PM 	3
4 Holy Eucharist 8 and 11 AM	5	6 Office open 9-12	7 Office open 9-3  <b>Choir 7:00</b>	8  <b>Vestry 6:30 PM</b>	9 Al Anon 10 AM-1 PM	10 <i>Safe Church Training 9am—3pm</i>
11 Holy Eucharist 8 and 11 AM	12	13 Office open 9-12 <b>Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner 5-7 PM</b> <i>Rowing Club 6 PM</i>	14 Office open 9-3 <b>Imposition of Ashes noon &amp; 6PM Choir 7:00</b>	15	16 Al Anon 10 AM-1 PM <div>Diocesan Council in Williamsburg</div>	17
18 Holy Eucharist 8 and 11 AM  <i>First Sunday in Lent</i>	19 	20 Office open 9-12  <i>Civic League</i>	21 Office open 9-3  <b>Choir 7:00</b>	22 <i>Lenten Pot luck supper &amp; program 6PM</i>	23 Al Anon 10 AM-1 PM	24
25 Holy Eucharist 8 and 11 AM  <i>Second Sunday in Lent</i>	26	27 Office open 9-12	28 Office open 9-3  <b>Choir 7:00</b>			