



*And Jesus said to them,
“Follow me and I will make
you fish for people.”*

Mark 1: 17

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Celebrate Epiphany

January 6, which is 12 days after Christmas in the Gregorian calendar, marks not only the end of the Christmas holidays but also the start of the Carnival season, which climaxes with Mardi Gras.

About Epiphany

Epiphany is commonly known as Three Kings' Day or the Feast of the Epiphany. It means "manifestation" or "showing forth". It is also called Theophany ("manifestation of God"), especially by Eastern Christians. Epiphany refers not only to the day itself but to the church season that follows it – a season that has a varied length because it ends when Lent begins, and this depends on the date of Easter.

It commemorates the first two occasions on which Jesus' divinity, according to Christian belief, was manifested: when the three kings (also known as wise men or Magi) visited infant Jesus in Bethlehem, and when John the Baptist baptized him in the River Jordan. The Roman Catholic and Protestant churches emphasize the visit of the Magi when they celebrate the Epiphany. The Eastern Orthodox churches focus on Jesus' baptism.

Epiphany is one of the oldest Christian feasts. It was celebrated since the end of the second century, before the Christmas holiday was established. Like other Christian seasons, the church appropriated Epiphany from an old pagan festival. As early as 1996 BCE, the Egyptians celebrated the winter solstice (which then occurred on January 6) with a tribute to Aeon, the Virgin. It is important to note that the holiday was established prior to the Gregorian calendar's introduction.

Symbols

Various paintings, artworks and sketches show the three wise men and Jesus. Some paintings artworks show the three wise men on the way to Bethlehem or adoring baby Jesus. The kings are important because their visit illustrates that Jesus was the king of all kings who came for the Jews and the Gentiles.

The star that guides the wise men to Christ also symbolizes Epiphany, as well as the three gifts they gave to Jesus: Gold (fit for a king). Frankincense (used to worship at a temple). Myrrh (used for embalming, as well as a salve for irritations such as diaper rash). Many Orthodox churches consider Jesus' baptism to be the first step towards the crucifixion. The liturgical color for the Epiphany season is white.



St. Andrew Presbyterian is turning **60** years old. The office needs your help to contact past members, friends, and family of St. Andrew. Please send the information into the office by January 15. The celebration will be Sunday, February 17.

Presbytery of South Louisiana will hold their meeting at St. Andrew Presbyterian Church on Tuesday, February 19. During this meeting Nanette Cagney, our pastor, will be installed as Moderator for the Presbytery of South Louisiana.



Pastor's Ponderings

2019 has arrived.

Already?! What happened to 2018??

With the beginning of the new year, we are tempted to make resolutions that we rarely, if ever, keep. So why don't we give up on resolutions and instead become *intentional* about our faith this year. Am I attending worship faithfully? Am I supporting the vision and mission of the church- with time and resources? Where is my faith-life? How can I improve this to go deeper and further with the Lord? If we can take one step to become more intentional about our faith, this is a good beginning to 2019.

We celebrated Epiphany yesterday and we distributed "Star gifts" for the first time. This is a star with a word. No two people received the same word. We are encouraged to take these words and put them in a visible place to "ponder them in our hearts." Look the word up in a dictionary and then do a word study to see if your word is in the Bible. Study the context. Apply this word in your life and next Epiphany we will share stories of what we learned throughout the year and how this word applied to our lives. If you weren't in worship yesterday, there are stars left. Be sure to pick one up!

We have some big things happening in February. Please mark your calendars for February 17 and 19. February 19 we will celebrate our 60th birthday as a church. This celebration will be much more low key than our 50th and we will celebrate in worship with Rev. Kevin Keaton as our guest minister. Many of you will remember the Keaton family as they were an integral part of the faith family at St. Andrew for many years. Rev. Keaton is now with the PCUSA Board of Pensions. He and I will lead this service together.

On February 19, 2019, we will host the Presbytery of South Louisiana. I will be installed as Moderator of the PSL that morning. This will be an excellent opportunity to observe the Presbytery in action and the worship is always awesome. I encourage everyone to try to attend (at least early morning).

Although the time between Christmas and Lent seems to be a season of recuperation, we are off and running. Let's work together to continue to move forward in 2019!

Nanette

Prayers and Concerns

We offer prayers of thanksgiving for those who visit



Also, remember in your prayers the many members and friends in need of support during the trying times of their lives: Susan Bengé's father; Sandy Brister, the pastor at St.

Andrew Leesville, her husband, and her mother; Edward Chavanne; Carolyn Chingo; Margy Clawson; Nancy Crncic; Jody Flanagan; Annette Harlow; Creighton Leblanc (Eva's brother); William Ludwick; Laura Ludwick; Sarah Marshall; and Hilda Trahan, executive director of Evergreen, & her sister, Julie; Mike Tucker and family (friends of Jim and Linda Latour); Cullen Nolan; Thomas Schwab; and baby Liam.

Condolences to the family and friends of Dora Dyer, Linda Latour and Edna Breaux's mother.

Prayers for those serving in the military. When you are ready to be taken off the list, please call the church office.

Anniversaries
 1/05 Mary & Gentry Davis
 1/24 Diana & Robert Lewis

Birthdays
 1/09 Nancy Melton
 1/13 Alexis Ellington Haviland
 1/15 Lisa Gurley
 1/17 Marlon Bourque
 1/23 Cole Canik
 1/24 Linda Latour
 1/29 Mary Lou Burke
 Collin Fountain

Elders for Class of 2020

Sue Bengé, Mary Lou Burke, Mark Couvillion, Joe Dye, and Jan Laird.

Elders for Class of 2019

Mary Davis, Amy Dunn, David Laird, Wade Marcantel, Melinda Sharp, and youth elder Connor Couvillion

Deacons for 2019

Phyllis Cagney and Virginia Conrad

Deacon for 2020

Jerry Burke



***to the person who painted the parking lot stripes and signs.**

***to the person who fixed the lights in the storage room.**

***to the person that left cute mug on the Secretary's desk.**

January Calendar

Elders on Duty:

Amy Dunn and David Laird

To see the newsletter in color go to www.standrewpres.com



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 6:00pm Into Action AA mtg (open) 6:30pm Sanctuary in use/Bryce	2	3 12:30pm Art Class 6:00pm Choir Practice 6:30pm New Hope GA	4 12:30pm Mission Stickers 7:30pm Sanctuary in use/Bryce	5
6 9:30am Adult Bible Study 10:45am Communion Worship Service	7 6:30pm Fresh Start GA & Gam-Anon	8 6:00pm Into Action AA mtg (open) 6:30pm Sanctuary in use/Bryce	9	10 12:30pm Art Class 6:00pm Choir Practice 6:30pm New Hope GA	11 Fab Friday 10:00am Horizon Study 11:30am Luncheon 12:30pm Mission Stickers 7:30pm Sanctuary in use/Bryce	12 9-2:00pm Elder training and Stated Session Meeting
13 9:30am Adult Bible Study 10:45am Worship Service	14 6:30pm Fresh Start GA & Gam-Anon	15 6:00pm Into Action AA mtg (open) 6:30pm Sanctuary in use	16 	17 12:30pm Art Class 6:00pm Choir Practice 6:30pm New Hope GA	18 12:30pm Mission Stickers	19 8:00am Men's Breakfast at Greater St. Mary's Missionary Baptist church
20 9:30am Adult Bible Study 10:45am Worship Service	21 6:30pm Fresh Start GA & Gam-Anon	22 6:00pm Into Action AA mtg (open) 6:30pm Sanctuary in use	23	24 12:30pm Art Class 6:00pm Choir Practice 6:30pm New Hope GA	25 12:30pm Mission Stickers 7:30pm Sanctuary in use/Bryce	26
27 9:30am Adult Bible Study 10:45am Worship Service/Fellowship Luncheon	28 6:30pm Fresh Start GA & Gam-Anon	29 6:00pm Into Action AA mtg (open) 6:30pm Sanctuary in use	30	31 12:30pm Art Class 6:30pm Choir Practice 6:30pm New Hope GA		

