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# **Paul's Ponderings...**

#### Paul's Ponderings The Chapel Chimes February, 2022

### The Season of Epiphany

Epiphany is the season in the Christian year that spans the days between Christmas and the beginning of Lent on Ash Wednesday. Specifically, for us this year, Epiphany begins on January 7th and runs until March 1st. However, Epiphany is not just the time between two important Christian holy days for it may just be the most undervalued season of the liturgical year.

Epiphany at our Chapel begins with the story of the Magi following a star on a journey that will lead them to a baby boy. This reminds us that the Season of Epiphany is about seeing the extraordinary in the ordinary occurrences of life. In fact in the overall liturgical calendar, Epiphany is the beginning of "Ordinary Time", but there is nothing ordinary about it. A baptism turns into a divine announcement by the Holy Spirit; water becomes wine; the reading of holy words introduces a new and different prophet of the coming kingdom; the fisherman's net breaks with an abundant catch; the poor are blessed; and love, mercy, and forgiveness, without exception, is offered to all.

Church historian, Diana Butler Bass says that during Epiphany, "We begin to wonder: Maybe every baptism announces God's love. Maybe water always has been wine. Maybe we are all prophets of liberation. Maybe every day's work holds abundance. The poor and sad and persecuted have always been blessed. Perhaps we are always dancing on the stars and just don't notice. Not until an epiphany."

You see, Epiphany is not an ordinary season but it is the season of extraordinary, world-changing events kicked off by the in-breaking of God's promise since the beginning of the cosmos, followed by a journey from Galilee to Jerusalem and the specter of certain death.

This teaches us that Epiphany is not without conflicts. The Magi's visit is followed by Herod's infanticide. Jesus' baptism is linked to John's arrest. The miracle of the wedding at Cana prompts an angry encounter with religious leaders. The proclamation of Jesus' kingdom agenda angers his hometown mob to violence. The announcement of Jesus as the Messiah and the call for inclusion, mercy, and forgiveness plants the seeds of a conspiracy to get rid of Jesus by whatever means necessary.

Yes, the Season of Epiphany reveals that there is more for us to experience than the ordinary...there is awe and wonder and mystery in every moment of our lives. But, this season also reminds us that there are those that will resist the extraordinary and press against Epiphany with fear and violence.

Therefore, Epiphany might just be the season we need the most now. Think of the promise and the turmoil of our

present age. We stand in need of the season's encouragement and clarity as well as the awareness of the world's resistance to it.

Again, Diana Butler Bass says, "Maybe our moment in history is an epiphany - the ordinary is being pulled back to reveal that which has been hidden from view. The mundane is being charged with meaning - and epiphanies are everywhere. It is as if the universe has cracked open with truth and terror...It takes an epiphany to reveal which is which - to know the deepest love in the world and live in the tailings of the star."

May this season of Epiphany reveal to all of us, that what we consider as ordinary, is in fact, nothing but an extraordinary gift from God to be protected and cherished as we follow Jesus from the manger to the cross.

May you have a blessed Epiphany, Pastor Paul

# **Chapel Prayers**

# *Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, giving thanks in all circumstances, for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.*

### **Prayers for Chapel Friends:**

Pat Kibbie, Gardenia Flores, Juster Machovi, Sally Bagdan, Marjorie Gump, Laura Lentz, Sarah Hewitt, Heather Tuft, Jessica McInnis, Reverend Bill and Marty Bruner, Patty & Jack Madden, Jennifer Grgurevic, Cathy and Calvin Phillips, Mary Faas, George Depuy, June Ann, Jack Sealey, Chris Flack, Bob Hamilton, Ernie and Lucy Dunn Martin, Phyllis Mahin, Mark Vasconcellos, Kathy Steele, Rob D'Amatto, Pricilla Johnson McInnis, Maria Karous, Ronald J. Beck, Joe and Ashley McInnis and their newborn baby, Noah, Jim Milliman, Mike Augustyniak, Bruce Lowe, Bill Hughes, Evangeline Caliandro, Ross Tilley, Sue Freischlag, Pamela Kos, Jerry Poston, Philip Jimenez, Nathan Ritter, Steve Auditore, Ken Amburgy, George Hoffman, Vincent Bencivenga, Derrick Marshall, Ann Bowling, Bob Donaldson's family, Daquaan Gadseen (Christmas 4 Moore Family Member), Anthony Tuliano, The Family and Friends of Jim Carter, The Family and Friends of Ralph Jimenez, The Family and Friends of Jackie Bryan, and The Family and Friends of Colin Swain.

### **Prayers for Chapel Family:**

Jane and Charles Hinson, Dorene Tichenor, Ralph Olsen, Mary Tuft, Pat Donaldson, Bud Holzerland, Rob Guadalupe, Mary Kay Allen, Shirley Percival, Glenda Clendenin, Tamara Lee, Jean Lawrence, Kathy Golzio, Meta Evans, Jane Lowe, Nancee Letter, Joan Tourt, Cathy Grubbs, and her boyfriend, Dave, Jeff Lowe, Marilyn McCaskill, and Do Shaver.

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# **February Flower Sign-Up**

If you are interested in signing up to volunteer to provide flowers for the chapel please contact the office at 400-5188 or e-mail Leslie at citp10@7lakeschapel.com to have your name added to the Flower Sign-up List.

### February

Date	Volunteer	
February 6th	Alice McPheeters	
February 13th	Sue Barry	
February 20th	Tim & RJ Peppe	
February 27th	Alicia DeLong	



# **February Coffee and Fellowship**

For the safety and interest of our chapel family and friends, Coffee and Fellowship has been put on hold as voted upon by the Chapel Board in January. We will notify you of any updates for resuming Coffee and Fellowship as they become available.



The following teams will resume updates as soon as new information becomes available.

**Mission Team** 

## **Cemetery Team**

### **Building & Grounds**

**Finance Team** 

### **Worship Team**







# Music Team (Submitted by Tamara Lee)

### **Chapel Chimes February 2022**

Over 2021 we enjoyed a monthly hymn history, getting to know better a dozen of our songs of faith. During 2022, we will learn more about our choir, getting to know better a dozen of our song leaders. This month we begin with our choir director, Edward Lee.

Where did you come from originally? I was born when my parents lived in Carthage, NC. My parents built a house in Seven Lakes North in 1977, one of the first houses on Lakes Echo, and we moved in during July of that year.

What part(s) do you sing? I grew up singing tenor, but my range has expanded while serving as choir director.

What was your first singing experience? I don't know because I've never not sung. My parents encouraged all of us to sing and they sang too. We sang at church, in the car, on the way to the beach, our prayers before meals....

What other singing experiences have you had? I sang in Glee Club. I sang in talent shows in high school. For awhile I served in a prison ministry and sang there.

What is the best part of being in choir? Moments of pure worship are the best part of being in the choir. They're hard to describe, but you know them when they happen, and that includes when other worshippers say how the music touched or affected them.

What is your favorite style of music? I don't have a favorite style of music. All styles have good music and stale music, and the good music moves me, no matter the style.

**Do you play any musical instruments?** I play guitar, trombone and piano.

What other activities do you enjoy? I enjoy metal detecting, playing tennis, working on our farm and with our chickens. I also enjoy writing music.





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# **2022 Chapel Board Members**

George Norm	an, President	gngolfer@nc.rr.com	910-987-4664
Sue Barry, Tr	easurer	suelongdrive@yahoo.com	910-466-9100
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# **Chapel Staff and Contact Info**

Pastor—Reverend Paul James - pastorpaulchapel@gmail.com—910-673-3123 Chapel Administrator—Leslie Kern—citp10@7lakeschapel.com—910-400-5188 Choir Director—Edward Lee—edhlee@icloud.com—910-695-6751 Organist—Tamara Lee—tamaraclee@icloud.com—910-690-7671

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## Back Pack Pals and Matthew 25:40 Programs

**Back Pack Pals and Matthew 25:40 Programs** 

We Need Your Help—Please Donate as Often As You Can!

**Back Pack Pals Items Needed** 

Juice Boxes, any flavor

Pop Tarts, any flavor

**Peanut Butter/Cheese Crackers** 

Matthew 25:40 Items Needed

Capri sun Juices, any flavor

Pop Tarts, any flavor

Chef Boyardee Micro Cups, in yellow and red

Small water bottles

**Protein Bars, all flavors** 

**Fruit Cups** 

Apple sauce cups



### Schedule of Upcoming Events for February 2022 (updated by Leslie Kern)

Registration begins for Witness at the Cross Lenten Gatherings

2-6 The Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

2-13 Chapel Board Meets After Worship

2-20—Registration Deadline for Witness at the Cross Lenten Study

2-27—Transfiguration of the Lord Sunday—Holy Communion

2-27 - 4:00 p.m.—1st Online Witness at the Cross Lenten Study

# **February Birthdays**

- 2-5 Edward Lee
- 2-5 Kinsey Davenport
- 2-7 Dave Gianni
- 2-8 Dot Macdonald
- 2-8 Joan Tourt
- 2-10 Kathy Goodman
- 2-18 Marilyn Powers
- 2-18 Steve Urie
- 2-23 Jason Harris
- 2-27 Dot Riggins
- 2-27 Nancee Letter
- 2-27 Mike Barry
- 2-28 Samuel Stoltz



## **February Anniversaries**

### Ollie & Wanda Sweeney-2-25

