

Good News from St. John's

January 2023

St. John's Episcopal Church
313 S. 18th St. — PO Box 882
Parsons, KS 67357



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MISSION STATEMENT: With God's help we seek to share our love, fellowship, charity and faith with all in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

The Epiphany of our Lord Jesus Christ

The Epiphany of our Lord is the wonderful liturgical festival observed on January 6th. It is the oldest of the Christmas festivals and originally the most important.

Epiphany Day itself commemorates the arrival of the Magi in Bethlehem to worship the Messiah and bring him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. Since the earliest days of the church, these wise men have been considered to be representatives of all the peoples of the earth. By means of a miraculous star, God showed them that Jesus was born to be not only the King of the Jews, but the Lord and Savior of all nations.

Epiphany is on a Friday this year, the kings will arrive at the creche. We have invited representatives from St. Mary's and St. Peter's to have a part in the service.

**We will have our traditional Epiphany party after the service and crown our Kings or Queens.
Hope many of you will join us.**

Mother Sharon

The Christmas Season and Epiphany

One of the great opportunities we have these days is to savor the Christmas season. Christmas is not a single day; it's a season over a period of 12 days. Having prayed that our Lord might come to us, we can let the reality of His coming enter more deeply into our daily experience, by savoring the story and letting His being one with us become a more conscious reality as these stories intersect our daily lives.

Imagine yourself in the stable.

Listen to what Mary & Joseph are saying to each other.

Let yourself be moved by how open the shepherds were to this mystery.

Did you want to hold the Christ child?

What happened to you as you looked at the Christ child, knowing he would die on a cross, but would be raised to breathe the Holy Spirit into us all?

The Feast of Epiphany, one of seven principal feasts, is celebrated on the 6th day of January. We will have Holy Communion service that night to celebrate Epiphany.

The Three big events we remember in Epiphany are:

The visit of the wise men bringing gifts to the Christ child, who by so doing "reveal" Jesus to the world as Lord and King.

The flight of Mary & Joseph with baby Jesus to Egypt to escape the threat of Jesus' young life from King Herod.

Jesus' baptism by John in the river Jordan revealed his divinity as the Son of God.

May you have a Holy and blessed Christmas & Epiphany season.

Mother Sharon

Notice of Annual Meeting Sunday January 22 at 11:00 am

The drawings for the Christmas Afghan was held on December 14th during the parish Christmas Dinner. Terry Born from St Paul won the drawing. Anna Bolinger sold the winning ticket. From the sales of the tickets and 2 generous donations, a total of \$540.00 was raised for the Dorothy Triber scholarship fund. Thank you to everyone who sold tickets for this fundraiser.



St. John's Episcopal Church
Vestry Meeting

November 14, 2022

Present: Verlyn Bolinger, Bess Stone-Bolinger, Martha Stone, Candy Scarborough, Jupe Allen, and Mother Sharon.

Absent: Karla Cox and Carrie Tierney.

Development:

Gospel Based Disciples included a reading from Luke 16:19-31.

Treasurer's Report:

The transaction and budget reports were reviewed. The report was approved.

Old Business:

A check from Church Insurance, the company with which we previously insured the church, was received in the amount of \$480. This is the refund from our premium which was not used due to the fact we switched to NationWide Insurance.

Efforts continue to reach an agreement with TLC for a maintenance contract for the Memorial Garden. The point of contention being that they did nothing for half a year after we paid them, and we want to extend the terms to compensate for their omission. Candy is persistently, intensively negotiating on our behalf.

The annual United Thank Offering fund drive will begin Sunday November 27 and continue until January 8.

Considering the consensus that the pandemic is behind us, Eucharist will once again resume using the common cup. Those who prefer not to drink from the cup and would rather intinct note that now one will be responsible for their own intincting as the Eucharistic Ministers will not be touching the Host. This practice will begin Advent I or November 27 for those who prefer the Gregorian calendar.

New Business:

A change in the Apportionment for 2023 was approved at the Diocesan Convention. Our new contribution dropped to \$580 per month or \$6,960 per annum. This amounts to a year over year saving of \$780.

The diocese sent a questionnaire concerning the Creation Care Task Force. The ensuing discussion revealed this would not be a good fit for our church.

Christmas falls on Sunday this year and Mother Sharon will not be available. How exactly to celebrate Christmas was discussed. No determination was made.

Bess asked for volunteers to ring a bell for the Salvation Army. She is assuming the local leadership as soon as she gets her hat.

The bishop issued Mother Sharon her Letter of Agreement for 2023. The wording did not vary from 2022. Mother signed the letter, making it official she will continue as our vicar for another year.

The proposed slate of candidates for the January election follows:

Vestry- Jupe Allen	3-year term
Verlyn Bolinger	3-year term

Convention Delegate and Alternate- Candy Scarborough and Bess StoneBolinger 2-year term

Endowment Board-

Senta Meister	3-year term
Jupe Allen	3-year term

As always, candidates can be added to the slate up until the time of voting.

Assessment:

The Vestry approved the Minutes from the October 10 meeting.

Vicar's Report: No report.

Wardens:

Senior: No report.

Junior: Absent.

Discernment:

Worship & Music: Meeting November 17.

Outreach: HeadStart is up to 27 kids so more snacks will need to be packed. A donation will be made to Coats for Kids.

Evangelism: First Presbyterian and First Christian Churches are involved in a program called Terrific Tuesday. Information is to be collected to determine if this were something in which we would care to participate.

Communications: No report.

Education: Children's: Children's Advent project is to decorate a Christmas tree for the Stella Wells auction.

Adult: The Advent Study will be held on Thursday and begins December 1 at 6:00 pm for 4 weeks. Walk in Love, Chapter 14 on The Bible.

Stewardship: The campaign has concluded. Pledges to be blessed on November 20.

Planned Giving: No report.

Buildings & Grounds: No report.

Altar Guild: Will set up for Advent after church on Sunday November 20.

Endowment: Balance as of 10-31-2022 was \$81,945.82.

ECW: No report.

Sesquicentennial Anniversary: No report.

Next meeting, Monday December 12, at 5:30.

A prayer by Mother Sharon concluded the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Jupe Allen,

Clerk



Prayer List

Teresa, Jim, Harry, Gina, Gloria, Ethan, Janie, Wuanita, Jeffrey, Boo, Jane, Regina, Bretten, Richard, Carolyn, Lynn, Dwayne, Alan, Lorrie, Addlee, Jon, Vickie, Randy, Bill, John & family, children with special needs their families and caregivers, Les, Mark, Jennifer, Jaden, Kelle, Michelle, the Wulf family, Karla, Keith, Olive, Lora, Jennifer, Arthur, those with and those recovering from Covid-19 and their families, the Presbyterian Church, Becky, Cindy, Antonio, Karla, Stacie, Vicky, KJ, Hunter, Pete, Susan, George, John, Michelle, Nyla, JC, Mary Ann, churches in the Southeast Convocation in their call to mission, all clergy in the Southeast Convocation especially, Dick, and David, BKSM students, dispatchers and first responders, the men & women serving our country here and abroad, and those who have served.

Those who have died:

Barb Wulf
Fr. Rand Frew



January Birthdays

6 Sue Long
12 Karla Cox
26 Fran McLarty
29 Regina Cook



January Anniversaries:

12 Mike & Candy Scarborough
18 Lynn Reeves

Please send Articles for The Good News to Senta Meister, sentabradmeister@aol.com or St. John's Episcopal Church, PO Box 882, Parsons, KS 67357.



St. John's Episcopal Church

JANUARY 2023



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 The Most Holy Name of Our Lord Jesus Christ No Service	2	3	4	5	6 Mother's day off Epiphany Service 6:30 pm, celebration following service	7
8 The First Sunday after the Epiphany Holy Communion 9:30 am	9 Vestry dinner meeting 5:30 pm	10	11	12	13 Mother's day off	14
15 The Second Sunday after the Epiphany Holy Communion 9:30 am	16	17	18	19 Mother in Office Worship & Music meeting 5:30 pm	20 Mother's day off	21
22 The Third Sunday after the Epiphany Holy Communion 9:30 am Annual Meeting 11:00 am	23 Newsletter Deadline	24 Mother on vacation	25 Mother on vacation	26 Mother on vacation	27 Mother's day off	28 Mother on vacation
29 The Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany Morning Prayer 9:30 am Mother on vacation	30	31				

St. John's January 2023 schedule

	Epiphany 01/06/2023	01/08/2023	01/15/2023	01/22/2023	01/29/2023
Officiant	Mother Sharon	Mother Sharon	Mother Sharon	Mother Sharon	Jupe Allen
Eucharistic Minister	Martha Stone	Joe Stone	Verlyn Bolinger	Candy Scarborough	
Lector	From the Southeast Minster	Patti Vernacchia	Daria Condon	Jupe Allen	Alice Miller
Acolytes	Verlyn, Ava, Zoe, Elsa	Sidni	Tim	Karla	Verlyn, Ava, Elsa, Brody
Eucharistic Visitor	None	Senta Meister	None	None	None
Greeters	Sunday School Children	Frank & Patti Vernacchia	Daria	Alice	Tierney's
Coffee Hour	Evangelism Team	Help Yourself	Help Yourself	ECW Brunch	Alice
Counters	Vestry				
Altar Guild					

