

# THE STAR

November 2024



# Church of the epiphany

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### **Parish Office**

**585-247- 4190**

**Tue – Fri 8:30 – 12:30**

### **Sunday Worship**

**8:00 AM and 10:00 AM**

### **Bulletin Prayer List**

***Prayer requests  
remain for 6 weeks  
unless notified***

## **VESTRY VIEWS**

Lately I have been having a hard time blocking out the loud angry voices that have escalated during this election season. It seems like rancor is becoming an accepted norm. In order to find solace, I find myself hiking every week. There is peace deep in the woods surrounded by trees. I found a hiking prayer I would like to share. It was written by Scott Johnson who appears to have been a pastor in Alaska who shared his prayer on WordPress.

Thank you, God, for the rising sun.  
You've granted me another day.  
Your grace is amazing; bless you faithful Lord.  
The creation sings your praise, and I join the sound.  
Heal my tired soul; restore my aching bones.  
Lead each step along my path today.  
Ease my burdens as I press forward.  
Quench my thirst with your living streams.  
Like the cool morning breeze, your peace refreshes me.  
Release me from the ropes that bind me, that hold me back.  
Protect me from the viper that hides.  
Lift me up from this shadowy valley.  
The peak is almost in sight. I am rising above this world.  
Into your country, I long to go.  
Bless my companions who travel with me.  
The trail is rugged and narrow, but you are right beside me.  
Thank you, God, my trusted guide.  
Glory to your holy name.  
Amen.

Peace be with you.

Heidi McGrath

**THE BISHOP**

The Rt. Rev'd Kara Wagner Sherer

Don Metzinger, Warden  
Kathie Entress, Warden  
Deb Grasso, Treasurer  
Pat Leshar, Clerk

**THE VESTRY**

Helen Bennett  
Susan Gaskill  
Donna Perry  
Kristen Smith

**THE MINISTERS**

The Congregation

Lisa Steubing  
Mike Grasso  
Nick Parisi  
Margaret Schweizer

**THE STAFF**

Rector: Fr Greg Kremer  
Parish Secretary: Maureen Durie

Interim Organist: Gail Hyde  
Church School Coordinator: Don Metzinger



**FROM THE PARISH REGISTER**



*O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servants as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace; strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

*November Birthdays*

<b>Nov. 3</b> Florence Townsend	<b>Nov. 19</b> Lisa Steubing Carol Kohan	<b>Nov 24</b> Lisa Durkin
<b>Nov. 4</b> JoAnn Martle	<b>Nov. 21</b> Jim McGrath	<b>Nov. 25</b> Judy Ploettner
<b>Nov. 6</b> Betty Frisch Bill Chapman		<b>Nov. 28</b> Kathie Entress
<b>Nov. 12</b> Pat Leshar		
<b>Nov. 16</b> Gladys VanBrederode Bruce Pillman Tim Kaercher		

*O God, you have so consecrated the covenant of marriage that in it is represented the spiritual unity between Christ and his Church. Send your blessing upon these your servants that they may so love, honor and cherish each other in faithfulness and patience, in wisdom and godliness, that their homes may be havens of blessing and peace. Amen.*

*November Anniversaries*

<b>Nov. 8</b> Lonna & Eddie LaDuke	<b>Nov. 20</b> Margaret & Robert Schweizer
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**CHANGES & ADDITIONS**

If you have changes to your contact information, please notify Maureen Durie in the Parish Office: 247-4190 or [coeoffice@frontier.com](mailto:coeoffice@frontier.com) Office hours: Tuesday–Friday, 9:00 am–1:00 pm

Dear Epiphany,

There is a lot happening these days, so I have several items to report on:

- Homeschool Onsite Mondays: We were approached by a small Christian homeschool association called, Classical Conversations, for the use of our building on Mondays. Vestry weighed the details and lent their support to the authorization of this use. The group is using two classrooms, the fellowship hall, the kitchen, nursery, and of course, the bathrooms, on Mondays from 8 AM to 3 PM. A small fee is being charged to cover our increased expenses. It's a delight to hear the voices of up to 13 kids from eight families reverberating down the hallway on Mondays.
- Organist: It was a sad day when our organist, Robert Poovey, resigned his position. He was a tremendously talented Organist, and we will miss his music greatly. If anyone needs to discuss his departure, please feel free to contact your wardens, Kathie Entress or Don Metzinger, or me. We are tremendously thankful for Gail Hyde who, once again, has stepped out of retirement to help us. Gail has offered to lead music at our worship services through Christmas. We are beginning the search for a new Organist and will be reaching out to Roberts Wesleyan, Eastman and the American Guild of Organists. If you know of an organist, please consider reaching out to them for possible leads.
- "Striking Strings" Hammered Dulcimer Concert: Once again this year, all are welcome to come enjoy a holiday concert with Christmas Carol's performed, at the direction of our own, Gail Hyde, by the hammered dulcimer group "Striking Strings". The concert on Sunday, December 8 at 2 PM is a wonderful opportunity to bring a friend to church. Come enjoy this festive beginning to the holiday season.
- Advent Evenings of Reflection: Fr Greg will be facilitating evenings of reflection on the four Mondays during Advent from 6:30 to 7:30 PM in the auxiliary room. Please come to enrich your faith life, share with fellow parishioners, and prepare to celebrate the incarnation of God through the birth of Jesus.
- Christmas Eve Candlelight Services: We have two Christmas Eve services scheduled for this year, as we did last year, one at 4:30 p.m., and the other at 10:30 pm. Come early at 4:00 to enjoy some festive caroling.
- Lessons and Carols: On the first Sunday after Christmas, December 29, we will hold just one worship service at 9:30 am. The first half of the service will be the traditional Lessons and Carols. This will be followed by the Holy Eucharist.
- CDP Grant: The Congregational Development Partnership Grant for which we applied has been approved by convention in the amount of \$20,000. This grant will help to close the deficit gap between our income and our operating expenses.
- Mission Partnership Grant: The Mission Partnership Grant is a diocesan grant we can apply for on behalf of a nonprofit organization with whom we work. We applied for a grant that was approved at Convention for the Gates-Chili Community Connections (GC3) Food Shelf located at the high school. The grant was awarded \$7,200.



- Organ Replacement: In an effort to replace our dying organ, our task force met with John Sherer, the organist at St Paul's in the city, and husband to our new Bishop. John has worked on several organ replacement projects and is proving invaluable in helping to plan ours. With his highly knowledgeable help we are looking into local options.
- Discernment and Planning Team: Our team met recently with the Rev. Julie Cicora, who is helping us use the data we gathered thus far to move us effectively into the future. We are currently compiling, studying and summarizing the data from the small group listening sessions we held a few weeks back. We will be sharing that data with you soon. Among the promises we made at baptism and confirmation is the promise to share the good news of Jesus Christ with the world around us. The question before us is, how? What concrete actions could become measurable goals and objectives for the year ahead, that would use our strengths to spread the love of Christ to the world around us? We will be reaching out to you in the next phase of our discernment process to answer that question.

God bless you during this important time in our history.

Fr Greg



## VESTRY MINUTES, SEPTEMBER, 2024

Present: Father Greg, Maria Hartz, Intern, Don Metzinger, Mike Grasso, Nick Parisi, Heidi McGrath, Margaret Schweizer, Lisa Steubing, Donna Perry, Susan Gaskill, Helen Bennett and Deb Grasso

Absent: Kristen Smith and Pat Leshar, Vestry Clerk

Substitute Clerk: Kathie Entress

Opening Prayer: Father Greg opened with a prayer. Vestry Meeting called to order at 7pm. Father Greg made sure that everyone knew our intern Maria. Everyone present said a little bit about themselves.

### **Business:**

1. Approve August Vestry minutes. A motion was made to approve August 20, 2024 Meeting Minutes. M-S-A
2. Finance Report and Motion to approve. Deb noted that the Tithe.ly Fees for this year, so far, are \$314, but the cost balanced out with pledging. She reported that our utility costs are lower than budgeted. Deb is still hoping to get the refund from the IRS that Paychecks looked into for us.
3. Safe Church Training: Kathie reported that for the most part our Vestry Members have completed all their classes. She said that some of the Eucharistic Ministers and Church School Teachers will need to update their training.

4. Internet/Spectrum/Phones-The internet updates seem to be helping with the livestreaming. The Router in the office had some problems but seems to be okay now that it has been reset. No update on the phones. There was an issue with Facebook Live from Sunday, September 15, 2024, no video was posted. Kathie said she would video the next Sunday and there were no problems. We are still trying to find a better option for volume allowing for better sound quality.
5. Strategic Planning-There will be a gathering and breakfast to ask questions and get feedback on 9/22/2024. What are our strengths, gifts and assets? The youth will work together as a group with one of their Church School Teachers to respond to the same questions.
6. Stewardship-Parishioners envelopes are on the table inside the foyer. The Narrative budget is ready and printed in color, it will also go out in an Eblast. On 10/6/2024, Commitment Sunday at 8am and 10am services the youth will present a slide show about what they are learning and doing in class.
7. AED-The Wackerow's will donate and AED to Epiphany, time and location TBD. It was mentioned that Monroe County or The Red Cross may be helpful with this process.
8. Organ Taskforce-The task force has been set it includes Nick Parisi, Bruce Pillman, Lisa Steubing, Kathie Entress and Father Greg, they met once, and they will be meeting with the consultant in October. This process is just beginning.
9. Window Replacement-An Auxiliary Room window was broken, Dave Pulhamus and Don Metzinger took the window out. The window will be repaired and new glass installed. WOE kindly offered to pay for the repair.

#### **Discussion Items:**

1. Small Groups-Margaret reported on Social Media. She said Epiphany activities are posted to Facebook, as well as, our Facebook Live services on Sunday Mornings. Kathie reported on Adult Formation. They are scheduled to meet on 10/6 and will have more information later in October. Nick reported on Liturgy Planning. He noted that they met and worked out a schedule for the fall. He said they decided that there would only be one service on Christmas Eve at 5pm and no late service. There will be a Christmas Day Service at 10am. Donna reported that she had nothing new to report for Welcome. Susan reported on Youth. She said the teachers were working on a video which will be shown on 10/5 at both services. Our Trunk and Treat annual event is coming in late October, peanut cluster making is being planned, as well as, making Christmas Ornaments for the residents of Seabury Woods. Sue also reported that the parents are very supportive of all the activities the kids do, including fund raising and shopping for the Food Box. There was conversation about the possibility of getting kids more involved in our worship services.
2. Sound System Update-This is an ongoing project.
3. Front entrance area-Kathie reported that she was contacted by a few parishioners who wanted the front entrance to Epiphany to have an updated look, a more welcoming look. More to follow on this.
4. Parish Grant-Kathie reported there is no update at this time.
5. Street Sign-Don and Mike replaced seven light bulbs in the sign. One of the flood lights out front was also replaced.
6. Turkish Community Center-At the time of this meeting we were looking forward to the Pot Luck Dinner which was the day after our Vestry meeting. The dinner was a huge success and we look forward to another chance to gather with the members of the TCC.
7. Common Cup and the Altar Rail-Father Greg and the Vestry decided that a second table was not necessary for the administration of the wine. It was determined that the flow of people would be better if everyone got wine at the rail, either by the Common Cup or by the individual cup.

Next Meeting: 10/22/2024 at 7pm at church

Prayers:

Vestry Views STAR: November-Heidi



## **NOVEMBER SERVICE MINISTRY PROJECT**

We are concluding our joint service project with the Turkish Cultural Center helping Cameron Ministry with a winter clothing collection which will end on November 3<sup>rd</sup>. We are collecting winter hats, gloves and mittens and gently used winter coats and boots for both adults and children. Cameron Community Ministry is an urban outreach community center in the Lyell-Otis neighborhood in Rochester, NY. The outreach center delivers basic needs and emergency service to help individuals and families in this neighborhood.

Epiphany will join with the Gates Chili Community Connections organization on Saturday, November 2<sup>nd</sup> from 10am – 12 noon to help pick up trash along the side of the road in the Town of Gates. We will work together helping a volunteer organization called “Keep Gates Clean”. We will include pictures of the Epiphany team helping with this project in the December Service Ministry update.

Later in November, Epiphany will be participating in two familiar holiday projects. We will be supplying hot cocoa packets and individual size facial tissue for the Christmas Bag project coordinated by Meal & More, Inc. They are expecting that they will be making 130 Christmas stockings this year which will mean that they are requesting about 650 individual packets of hot chocolate and 130 small facial tissue packets. Epiphany will also be adopting a family for the Christmas holidays from Family Promise of Greater Rochester. More information about these service projects will be coming in the next several weeks.

The Service Ministry Committee would like to thank the parish for your support with our monthly service ministry projects. Please feel free to contact anyone on the Service Ministry team with any questions or ideas for future projects.

Marsha Pulhamus, Birdie Ames, Nancy Mancini and Donna Perry

## **NOVEMBER YOUTH UPDATE**



The youth and many parishioners who are young at heart had a wonderful time at our annual “Trunk or Treat” event, which was on Saturday, October 26<sup>th</sup>. Everyone in attendance enjoyed lots of good food, games, great costumes and fellowship before going outside to enjoy the youth “Trunk or Treat” in their Halloween costumes. The parking lot was full of parishioners handing out candy to the youth who ended up with a large bag of Halloween treats. We have included some pictures of the event so you can enjoy the festivities.

The youth will be busy this fall as we begin preparation to make our peanut cluster to sell before the Christmas holidays. The monies raised from the peanut clusters help cover the cost of youth events and service projects.

The youth are also collecting can and bottle money to help with fund raising. You can either put your empty cans and bottles in the trash receptacle in the hallway leading to the fellowship hall or hand in bottle receipts or monies received when you redeem the deposit on your cans and bottles. The container for the bottle receipts and money redeemed is located on the large desk in the main hallway.

Please feel free to talk to anyone of the Sunday school staff with any questions about the Sunday school program or Youth activities.

Sue Gaskill, Deb Grasso, Cassie Magiera, Don Metzinger, Marsha Pulhamus and Gladys VanBrederode



## **VETERAN'S DAY PICTURES**

In celebration of and to honor those who have served our country in the military, we will be creating a slide show of pictures to present at the end of the service of Sunday November 10th. The pictures can be of those in the military past or present.

If you would like to share a picture to be included in the presentation you can: · Send in digital format to [epiphanyphotos2@gmail.com](mailto:epiphanyphotos2@gmail.com) (PREFERRED), or

· Place a photo in the Stewardship365 Mailbox. (please let us know who the pictures should be returned to)

We would also like the story surrounding the picture. The story should be short, and possibly identify the person (people) in the picture, and the branch of the military they are serving in or have served.

We are looking forward to seeing all the pictures and celebrating all those who have served. PLEASE SUBMIT PICTURES NO LATER THAN NOVEMBER 3RD

If you have questions, please contact Deb Grasso

## **Thank you, Rochester Redwings Concessions**

The Rochester Redwings baseball season has come to an end. We have concluded another summer of running the concessions stands at the ballpark. Thank you to all who signed up to help. We will have totals of our profits soon. Thanks again. And see you next year in 2025!

Chairman: Don Metzinger

## Thank you, 2025 Pledge Reminder

Thank you to those of you who have submitted your pledge cards for 2025. If you have not done so and wish to pledge, please submit as soon as possible.

Thank you all for your stewardship, commitment of time, talent and treasure!

Deb Grasso and Kim Hyde

## UPCOMING EVENTS:

### **Church School Calendar:**

**Church school begins: 9:45am**

Sunday, Nov. 3 - Church School

Sunday, Nov. 10 - **NO** Church School

Sunday, Nov. 17 - Church School

Sunday, Nov. 24 - Church School

Sunday, Dec. 1 - Church School

Sunday, Dec. 8 - Church School

Sunday, Dec. 15 - Church School

Sunday, Dec. 22 - Church School

Sunday, Dec. 29 – **NO** Church School



**You are invited to LUNCH!**

**Family and Friends are Welcome!**

**Sunday November 3, 2024, 12:00 Noon at**

**Blue Barn Cidery, 928 Manitou Road, Hilton, NY 14468**

The Church of Epiphany is having lunch at the Blue Barn Cidery in Hilton, NY on November 3rd at Noon after church. Please bring family and friends with you to encourage new members and fellowship. The Blue Barn Cidery is a great place to go for lunch and dinner. It is a family friendly establishment with plenty of room for kids to run around outside. They have a wonderful food menu along with non-alcoholic options as well as hard cider, wines, beer, and liquor. All ciders are produced by apples grown right here in Rochester, NY. Please join us for fun and fellowship. There is a menu posted and sign-up sheet in the hall just to let me know how many people are coming, though not required. Contact: Kim Hyde 585-820-2007, khyde521@gmail.com

### **MOE Sausage Roast**

**Wednesday, 13th @ 6:00 PM**

Men of Epiphany (MOE), mark your calendars for this dinner at the Church Hall. If you have any questions, please reach out to Bob Renahan.

### **MOE Breakfast**

**Wednesday, Nov. 20th @8:30 am**

Men of Epiphany (MOE), mark your calendars for breakfast at Jonny Ds in Spencerport.

### **Widows Group**

**Wednesday, Nov. 20th, @ 11:00 AM**

This will be the last get-together until April 2025. See you all in the Spring.



## Greening of the Church

The Greening of the Church has again planned to spread our Christmas decorating out during a 4-week period. This will spread out our joyous celebration throughout the Advent season. So please mark your calendar and see if you can help out for a bit on the following dates:

Dec 1 - Hang large wreath on back wall, hang Christmas quilt & hang greens from the rood beam, banner ( brave soul for ladder climbing )

Dec 8 - Outside creche, wreaths in chancel, sanctuary, outside brick wall

Dec 15- Assemble & decorate artificial tree in front of church, decorate windowsills

Dec 22- Arrange fresh poinsettia plants, change advent wreath to white, altar hangings to white, crèche assembled & put in front of altar

If you have any questions or comments, feel free to contact me  
Thank you..... Pam Metzinger

## Peanut Clusters

Peanut Clusters will be back – sold the first week of December until we sell out!

## WOE UPDATE Rummage Sale 2025

### **Held on: April 4 & 5**

Keep saving your items to donate! There will be NO donation trailer! It is again a scaled down sale.

Sorting & pricing – March 31- April 3

On our Sale days, especially – April 4 & 5

CLEANUP – April 5

### **The following donations will be accepted:**

Books, toys (children's & baby), Holiday décor & nik naks items, housewares (kitchen items, dishes, glasses, mugs, etc), linens (sheets, blankets, pillows, towels, etc), small, & adult coats ONLY, notions/crafts(yarn, material, sewing items, etc), purses, CD's only, jewelry, book bags, scarves, mittens, hats

### **NOT accepted:**

Stuffed animals, shoes, furniture, lamps, large artwork, large appliances, clothes of any kind except coats, VHS tapes, large power tools, TV's

Any questions, concerns or clarifications of donations – feel free to contact me through email, text or a phone call.

Thank you. Pam Metzinger

## SEPTEMBER FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Income	Sept. YTD 2024	Sept. Budget YTD
Pledge & Plate	\$87,764.14	\$90,375.00
Investment Income	16,800.00	16,800.00
Diocesan Grant	18,749.97	18,750.00
ERTC	-	19,290.75
Flowers	1,195.00	1,500.00
Special Offerings	1,377.74	2,062.50
Building Use	-	37.50
Other	4,844.32	3,225.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$130,731.17</b>	<b>\$152,040.75</b>
<b>Expenses</b>		
Worship	4,694.15	3,251.25
Formation	730.64	600.00
Diocesan Apportionment	14,522.22	21,013.00
Stewardship	6,760.63	7,680.00
Other Action	-	487.50
Youth	-	75.00
Evangelism	614.43	768.75
Supplies & Utilities	8,170.46	13,800.00
Insurance	8,944.44	7,912.50
Copier Expense	2,544.07	2,637.00
Other Office	8,860.87	5,512.50
Oversight	28,519.84	29,862.00
Salaries & Benefits	101,309.05	102,181.04
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>157,150.96</b>	<b>165,918.54</b>
<b>Surplus/(Deficit)</b>	<b>(26,420)</b>	<b>(13,878)</b>

*Submitted by Deb Grasso, Treasurer*



# Free Holiday Concert



## **Striking Strings Hammered Dulcimer Ensemble**

**Sunday, December 8, 2:00 pm**




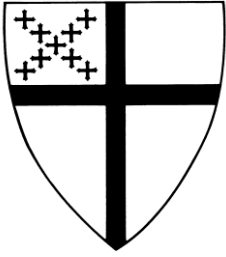
**Church of the Epiphany**  
3285 Buffalo Road, Rochester NY 14624  
(585) 247-4190



# November



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3 All Saints Sunday Blue Barn Cidery 12:00 Lunch Set Clocks Back Church School	4	5	6	7	8	9
10 <b>No Church School</b>	11 	12	13 Sauage Roast 6:00 pm At the Church	14	15	16
17 Church School	18	19 Vestry Meeting	20 <b>MOE Breakfast 8:30</b>  <b>Widows Lunch 11:00</b>  Last lunch until April	21	22	23
24 Church School	25	26	27	28 <b>Office Closed</b>  	29 Office Closed	30



**CHURCH OF THE EPIPHANY**  
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**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

