

## Epiphany: The Work of Christmas

In the United Methodist Church, the Season of Epiphany begins just after Christmas, around January 6, and invites us to linger with a holy question: *What does it mean that God has been made known to the world in Jesus Christ?* The word *epiphany* comes from the Greek *epiphania*, meaning appearance or manifestation. At its heart, this season celebrates revelation, God showing God's own self to us.

Christians often name Jesus' birth as the most significant epiphany of all. In Christ, God does not remain distant or abstract but steps fully into human life; God tabernacles with us. As Jesus himself says, "Whoever has seen me has seen the Father." In his life, teachings, compassion, and sacrifice, we glimpse the very heart of God.

Epiphany reminds us that God's light is not hidden or reserved for a few; God's light is revealed openly, generously, and for the sake of the whole world.

In the UMC tradition, Epiphany is not only about *seeing* this light of God; it is about responding to it together. The season begins with the visit of the Magi, outsiders who recognize God's glory shining beyond familiar boundaries in the form of a unique star. It continues through Jesus' baptism, where God's love is named aloud, and Jesus' ministry begins. From there, Epiphany leads us into the Season of Lent, framed by the Festivals of the Baptism of the Lord and the Transfiguration. Epiphany invites us to grow into lives shaped by our baptismal promises and guided by the Holy Spirit.

The Wesleyan Way understands faith as deeply communal. John Wesley famously insisted that "there is no holiness but social holiness," meaning that God's grace always moves us outward—towards our neighbor, toward justice, toward a shared life. In this way, Epiphany is not a private spiritual insight but a communal event. Significantly, we understand moving outward as not only directly related to humanity, but also to how humanity receives and cares for God's gift of eternal life. God's light is revealed among us so that we might reflect it together, as individuals, as a congregation, and as a people shaped by love in action.

Howard Thurman, the great Christian mystic and spiritual guide, spoke of Epiphany as the moment when the

celebration of Christmas gives way to responsibility. Once the song fades and the decorations are put away, the real work begins: living into God's dream of justice, reconciliation, and peace. Epiphany invites us to carry the light we have seen into a world aching for hope, walking in despair, so that God's love is experienced.

As Morrisville UMC enters this season, we do so not simply as observers of Jesus' ministry, but as participants in it. Epiphany prepares us for discipleship—renewing our baptismal covenant, deepening our faith, and reminding us that God's revelation is meant to be embodied in our shared life. May this season help us recognize Christ among us and empower us, together, to continue the work of Christmas long after the tree, the lights, the wreaths are gone, and long after the last evidence of shredded gift wrap is found in the carpets.

That's the work of Christmas.

Grace and peace,

Pastor K



Epiphany

For pastoral concerns or emergencies, Pastor K can be reached at 281-620-9928 (cell) or [emailpastorK@gmail.com](mailto:emailpastorK@gmail.com). Please call the church office if you would like to set up a meeting with him during the week.

## January Calendar

1/1

AA New Year's Eve Event – Fellowship Hall

1/5

10:30am – ESL Welcome Event – Fellowship Hall

1/6

5-7pm – IFA Backpacks – Main Entrance

6:30pm – ESL Welcome Event – Fellowship Hall

1/9

10:00am – Don Swenson Celebration of Life – Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall

1/10

8:00am – Men's Bible Study - Lounge

9:00-11:00am – IFA Backpacks – Main Entrance

1/13

7:00pm -- Lounge Re-do Meeting – Lounge

1/14

11:30am – Mae Menei Celebration of Life

7:00pm – Trustees Meeting – Library

1/15

6:30pm – Prayer Shawl Ministry - Lounge

1/18

9:00am-3:00pm – Shared Meal Prep– Fellowship Hall

1/19

1:00pm – Marcia Ruth Circle – Lounge

1/20

5:00-7:00pm – Shared Meal – Fellowship Hall

5:00-7:00pm – IFA Backpacks – Main Entrance

1/21

1:00pm – Methodist Ladies Who Lunch – LaVilla

7:00pm – Mission & Vision Team Meeting – Room 10

1/24

9:00am – 11:00am – IFA Backpacks – Main Entrance

1/27

7-9pm – Church Council Meeting

### WEEKLY EVENTS

#### Sundays

9:00am – Small Group Bible Study – Youth Room

10:00am – Worship Service - Sanctuary

10:00am – Sunday School – Room 10

11:00am – Hospitality - Lounge

7:00pm – Alcoholics Anonymous – Fellowship Hall

#### Mondays

10:30am – ESL – Rooms 3, 10, Library

7:00pm – Boy Scouts - Fellowship Hall

7:00pm – Nar Anon - Room 10

8:00pm – Narcotics Anonymous - Room 30/31

#### Tuesdays

10:00am – Bible Study – Lounge

6:00pm – Girl Scout Troop 2129 – Room 23, 26, 30/31

6:30pm – Girl Scout Troop 2692 – Lounge

6:30pm – ESL – Rooms 3, 10, Library

#### Wednesdays

10:30am – ESL – Rooms 3, 10, Library

#### Thursdays

6:30pm – ESL – Room 10, Library

7:00pm – Choir Practice – Choir Room

#### Fridays

7:30pm - NA - RM 30/31

#### Saturdays

8:00-9:45pm NA – Room 30/31

## PRAYER AND BIBLE STUDY TIME!

Continues Tuesdays at 10:00am in the Lounge. We will be using the Adult Bible Study series. Come join us!



Pastor K



## SMALL GROUP SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE

**STUDY** is held every Sunday morning at 9AM in the youth room. Come join us!



## SATURDAY MORNING MEN'S GROUP

Our next Men's Bible Study is Saturday, January 10th, at 8AM in the MUMC church lounge. We will continue to look at "The 12 priorities every man needs to know". All you need to bring is yourself, your Bible, and a cup of coffee if you need it to wake up. Hope to see all of you who want to start their weekend with good fellowship and encouragement from God's Word! If you have any questions, call Dave Miller.



## FINANCE COMMITTEE UPDATE

Happy New Year! I have Good Tax News! For those who DO NOT Itemize, the new tax law allows people to deduct up to \$2,000 of Charitable Contributions from their 2026 Income before Taxes are computed. This means someone filing as an individual can deduct up to \$1,000 from their income and a couple filing jointly can deduct up to \$2,000 from their income before taxes are computed. So, please keep track of your charitable contributions next year, especially to MUMC, because they will help you with your taxes when you file in 2027.

In Christ,

Jim Rea, Finance Chair



## MEMBERSHIP

Do we have your correct email address? If you are not getting emails from church and would like them, please send your email address to the office or give to Joyce Bigley or Barb Lombardo.

**E-GIVING** Great News Everyone! We now have a QR Code that you can scan that links you directly to our E-Giving

site. When you scan the code below with your smartphone you can send your offering to the Church's General Fund, Communion/Pastor's Fund or Mission Fund. This is the same link that is available on our church's website. Thank you always for your faithful giving to Christ's work here in Morrisville.



### CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Thank you to all the men & women who have graciously volunteered to present a children's sermon during each Sunday's service. We could always use other volunteers to lessen the teaching load in the future. If you are interested in joining this rewarding ministry for our children, please sign up on the Sign-Up Central table outside of the pastor's office.

Thank you for all you do for our children who are our future church. God bless, Joyce

### FOOD PANTRY UPDATE

We need instant coffee, lip balm, hand lotion, cereal, deodorant, and peanut butter. Thank you for all you do to help us help our neighbors in need. Many thanks! Deb Price and the Missions Team



**SCRIP GIFT CARDS** See Dave Sample at the table located in the lounge to buy your Scrip gift cards. All Scrip proceeds benefit the general fund of the church.

If we do not have what you want, we can order most vendors on our list and have them for you the following Sunday. Thanks!

### CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday School Classes for children up to age 12 take place immediately following the Children's Message each Sunday; Mr. Craig teaches the younger students and Ms. Joyce and Mr. John alternate with the older children. We love sharing God's love with our younger ones. Helpers are always welcome! Barb Lombardo



### THE PURPOSE

United Women in Faith is a **community of women** whose purpose is:

**To know God** and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ  
**To develop a creative supportive fellowship** and  
**To expand concepts of mission** through participation in the global ministries of the church.

We welcome all women who commit themselves to our Purpose, including you. You do not have to be a member of The United Methodist Church to join. Our membership is diverse: women of many races, cultures, languages, young and old. There is no minimum age requirement.

We hope you will prayerfully consider joining this **multicultural, multilingual, and multiracial** organization of women. All women are welcome to attend!

### January Schedule

NO GENERAL MEETING

#### January 19

MARICIA-RUTHCIRCLE – 1:00 P.M.

Lounge

Hostess: Jane Burger

Devotion/Discussion: Linda Mier

#### JANUARY 21

METHODIST LADIES WHO LUNCH – 1:00 PM

Luncheon – La Villa

21 South Pennsylvania Ave.

Morrisville, PA 19067

(Contact Deborah Chapman for details.)

### **IMPORTANT NOTE FROM THE OFFICE**

Bulletin announcements are due by noon on Wednesdays. Please include the date, time(s) and location in the announcement you send in. Thank you!

### **LATINO MINISTRY DIRECTOR AND FAMILY**



LATINO MINISTRY Happy New Year and blessings to everyone. My family and I wanted to express our gratitude and thank God for the blessings to serve in a church full of love and intentions for our Latino Community. This is amazing! We were able to serve many families for

Thanksgiving, together with our food pantry, ESL, and IFA. For Christmas we serve about 80 kids only within the Latino Ministry in addition of Food bank, IFA. With the support of our members and Toys for Tots. There were many happy children. Thank you, Morrisville United Methodist Church!

Familia Cadillo appreciates everyone that has supported the Latino Ministry.

## Current Prayer Concerns



Pray for Bishop Tracy Smith-Malone as she recovers from a hit and run accident while cycling.

Prayers for the Swenson family, Michael Pugh, Mae Menei, the Pierce family, Minnie Wilson, Tami Bernard, Alice South, Tyrone Frisby, Sonia Robinson, Andy McCall, Tom Miller, Ann Hook, Carol Hughes, Pam Manners, Toby Ellsworth, Jimmy Ellsworth, Thomas Manners, Paul & Marian Chapman, Sue Urbano

Donna (community member)  
Alan and Sandy MacKinnon (Steve Russell's parents)  
High Schlick (Steve Russell's father-in-law)  
Luna, Keila, Luis, Josue and family (friends of Beditza Cadillo)  
Jaines (friend of Beditza Cadillo)  
Michael Pugh (Fran Pugh's son)  
Myles (friend of Todd Whitter)  
Mary Chapman (Dave Miller's sister)  
Elijah (community member)  
Tim Doyle (nephew of Dave & Marianne Miller)  
Debra Porter (friend of Hal Long)  
Luisa Proaño (friend of Hal Long)  
Arlene Eberly (Cheryl Scott's mother)  
Leslie Eberly (Cheryl Scott's Sister)  
Sandra MacKinnon (Steve Russell's mother)  
Nanette (cousin of Hal Long)  
Kevin and Armanda Green (son & daughter-in-law of Merlene Taylor)  
Betty Hancock (friend of Debbie Eickhoff)  
Jill Seagrass (friend of Vera Straley)



## Happy Anniversary

Janet & Walt Nagbe ..... January 8



## Happy Birthday

Mark Sample.....	January 3
Sarah Trimble.....	January 3
Vaa Thomson .....	January 4
Chile Obbo .....	January 5
KB Makwanna.....	January 9
Rochelle Staude .....	January 9
Zoada Thomson .....	January 9
Pam Manners.....	January 12
Sue Urbano .....	January 15
Brian Decker .....	January 18
Caol Hughes.....	January 18
Rosa Quarterman .....	January 20
Jaime Urban.....	January 20
Jennifer Ayling-Arruda.....	January 21
Davie Burkhardt.....	January 24
Tom Wisnosky.....	January 25
Margaret Callihan .....	January 28
Dave Pugh.....	January 29
Yairah Melendez Ortiz .....	January 30
Lucas Ahne.....	January 31