



# Church of the Epiphany

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## FROM THE MOUNTAIN TOP

Monthly Newsletter • Cloudcroft, New Mexico • January 2026



"Silent Night"

*Merry Christmas at Epiphany*



Decorating for Christmas



New nativity mosaic  
Fabricated by  
Karli Sorensen

## *Looking forward to the New Year!*

It is in January at Epiphany that we begin a new year. We thank God that this January 8<sup>TH</sup> we will be 18 years old and going strong in a building we have occupied for 16 years. We are so grateful to all the saints who have supported Epiphany through these 18 years and for their wisdom and guidance in planting this church. We remember all those who have gone to be with their Father in heaven but have left a lasting legacy. We have been blessed.

Our New Year's resolution is to be to keep doing what we are doing but be mindful of God's guiding in opportunities for more effective ministry in the Cloudcroft area.

This year and for the past two years we have survived the higher insurance costs and begun making some improvements to the structure. We repaired the stairway to the east porch. The old one was very rain rotted. The kitchen cabinets and counter tops need some attention now. We are going to add a new outreach fund raiser this year to match the Labor Day sale. This one will be on the Memorial Day weekend and be devoted to the sale of jewelry.

Bible study continues as an important outreach of Epiphany. The women's group, meeting at Westminster Presbyterian Church in Alamogordo will be studying the Book of Matthew this year. Fr. Frank Wilson's study has begun at Grace Methodist Church in Alamogordo, continuing the study of John. Epiphany's annual Women's Retreat will be held in July.

Our attendance figures are not complete but we did have a wonderful summer supply of regulars and many guests from around the region. The Diocese of the Southwest is adding new churches and expanding its territory well beyond the past borders of Texas and New Mexico. We are also serving congregations in Oklahoma, Colorado, and continuing the mission in Mexico and we have one priest in the United Kingdom. See the List on page 6.

We give thanks to our Heavenly Father for His hand on this church. We are blessed to be a place of peace and rest and serve our mission statement as an outpost of Christian care in a world in need.

God Bless you and your family in the coming New Year.

Pastor Fred



## **PARTICIPATING IN CHRISTMAS AND BEYOND**

The Christmas story. I suspect many of us fondly remember watching the youngsters of the Sunday School performing in a re-enactment at the Christmas Eve service in our family's home church. Others may recall their own particular role in the performance, or that of their child or children (or grandchildren). These are precious memories that bring smiles to our faces and music to our ears.

And the Christmas story is still with us. We look forward to a delightful Christmas Eve celebration. It will include hearing the Christmas story once again in the Scripture readings, even though we will not have the joy of seeing children performing in a re-enactment. Observing can be really great. Participating can be even better.

Jesus came to participate, not just to observe. He left His heavenly comfort to take on flesh and become one of us in order to do more than just tell us - He showed us. He participated in life as we know it in every way, even experiencing death. We learn from what He said and what He did as recorded in the Gospels. In addition, the New Testament letters of Paul and others explain to us the significance of what He said and what He did. The Book of Revelation sets forth more of what He said and did and then tells us what He will do. What more could He have said? What more could He have done?

The answer is that He is still participating. His real presence continues with us as we abide in Him. We learn in John chapter 15 that He is the vine and we are the branches, such that we will continue to have life in Him as we abide in Him and He in us. At the end of the chapter, Jesus promises to send to us the Helper, the Holy Spirit. The Acts of the Apostles testify to the ongoing fulfillment of His promise.

With the presence of the Holy Spirit, we are called and enabled to participate in the ongoing fulfillment

of all that Jesus promised. As we delight in the re-enactment of the Christmas story once again, seek to insert yourself into what was happening in some personal way. As you go from re-enactment to reality, seek to insert yourself into what is happening all around you as the Holy Spirit may lead. Each of us is called to use our gifts (not someone else's) in the ongoing fulfillment of all that Jesus promised. Not as observers, but as participants. That is acting out our love for one another as He loves us. It is how we do MERRY CHRISTMAS to all, all year 'round!

Fr. Frank K. Wilson, Associate Pastor

## Happy New Year from Epiphany

Since the December Newsletter got "lost" in the Holiday crush, we are combining news from December with our January Newsletter. Needless to say, it has been a busy end of 2025.

Our 2025 Diocesan Synod took place at Sacramento Conference Center on November 20-22. Since the conference was held at Sacramento, it was in our "backyard" and we were pleased to help with some of the logistics. Deacon Tara Jernigan of the Bishop's staff was ordained to the priesthood at the beginning of the Synod in the chapel at Sacramento. Epiphany was blessed to handle the altar guild duties and thanks to Paul, Annette & Madeleine Fazenbaker, all the requisite items were taken up there and the altar set up. Fr. Frank, Pastor Fred and Nancy, and the Fazenbakers attended the meeting and Madeleine was the videographer for the Synod. The business was quickly taken care of and old friends seen and new friends made. This diocese now spans from Texas, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Colorado to Mexico and we have one member in the United Kingdom. Pray for Bishop Steven as he handles all this!

One of the high lights of the Synod was zoom visits with many of our Mexican clergy who could not attend. It was wonderful to be able to put faces to names and hear from all of them. The translations were incredible and we were blessed with several really wonderful translators as we all visited with these clergy.

On the heels of Synod, we were immediately in Advent. On the Second Sunday of Advent we held our annual Star party and made ornaments for the tree that were given away on Christmas Eve. On the Fourth Sunday after a service of Lessons and Carols, we decorated the church and put up our tree, greens, lights and beautiful poinsettias. Machele Lackey and her friends in Timberon also made cookies that afternoon for shut-ins in that community. Our people carry their ministries back to their homes.

We are grateful to Karli Sorensen for making our new Nativity Mosaic which we will enjoy it for many years. We thank Paul Fazenbaker for refurbishing our Christmas greens with new lights. And we are most grateful to our wonderful congregation who decorated the church with gusto.

Christmas Eve at Epiphany was a joyous celebration and the weather stayed away so everyone made it to the 4:30 service with no problem.

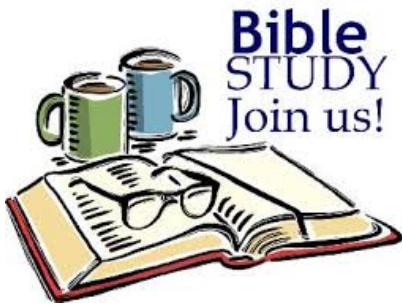
On January 4th we celebrated our name day - Epiphany - with a wonderful service and meal and many remembrances of the beginning of this parish 18 years ago. We look forward to 2026 and praise God for His leading and provision.



Above: 2026 Synod meeting at Sacramento

Below: Altar at Sacramento Chapel





## Ecumenical Bible Studies

### **Fr. Frank's Bible Study Wednesdays at 3:00 - 4:00 PM**

At Grace Methodist Church 16th St. and Cuba,  
Alamogordo.

They are studying the Gospel of John.

**For more information, call or text Fr. Frank  
At 575-442-1354.**

### **Combined Ladies Bible Study Thursdays, at 10 am**

at Westminster Presbyterian Church,  
2201 15th St. , Alamogordo.

We are studying the Gospel of Matthew using the book, "Lets Study Matthew" by Mark E. Ross. Class leaders: Katy Bailey, Nancy Griffin and Dawn Wilder

Books are available now.

**For more information call or text Nancy at  
575/495-3811**

## *News of our friends over the holidays:*

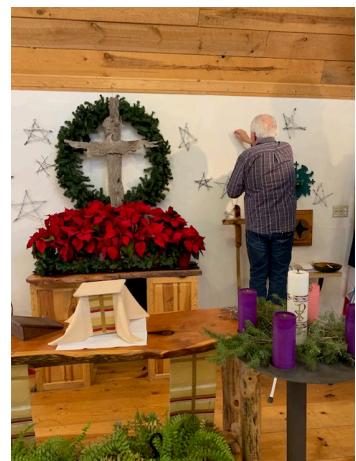
Trevor Conine was able to return home just before Christmas after a long stay at Betty Dare Wellness Rehabilitation in Alamogordo. He is walking and gaining strength after his long recovery from kidney problems. His sister, Kelli, and his brother, Wayne Jr., have moved to Cloudcroft and are caregivers to both Donya and Trevor. Several grandchildren and great-grand children were able to visit with the Cloudcroft family during Christmas.

Becca Price and Doug Price and Kathy Beer were here for Christmas and returned home to San Antonio just after New Year's.

Charles and Susie Stigall came up for a week and we were surprised by Scott and Lisa Schwandt on Epiphany Sunday. Lisa will lead our Ladies Retreat in July. We missed seeing Tom and Fran Gregg on their usual visit for Tom's birthday at New Year's but look forward to a visit in February. They promise!

We were pleased to see Stan and Sandy Thomas who came from Ruidoso for Christmas Eve service.

We are pleased to announce that Madeleine Fazenbaker begins a new position as a teller at Washington Federal Bank in Alamogordo on January 20.



## *List of new parishes in the Diocese of the Southwest*

### **For your prayers:**

Sangre de Cristo Anglican Fellowship, Raton, NM  
Christ our Redeemer Anglican Church, Oklahoma City  
St. Paul's Anglican Chuch, Owasso, OK  
Emmaus Anglican Church, Castle Rock, CO  
Idaho Springs Anglican Fellowship, Idaho Springs, CO  
Resurrection Anglican Fellowship, Greenwood Village, CO  
Fr. Phil Harris, West Midlands, UK

### **Mexico:**

Comunidad de Gracia, Xalapa, Vercruz  
Jesus es la Resurrection, Aguascalientes  
Iglesia del Gran Pastor, Fresnillo, Zacatecas  
Iglesia Piedra Angular, Juarez  
Comunidad de Fey, Rey de Justicia, Juarez  
Iglesia La Rodadora, Juarez  
Iglesia Anglicana Gracia Especial, Saltillo, Coahuila  
Gracia Comunidad Cristiana, Puebla  
Dios con Nosotros, Puebla  
Iglesia Kairos, Puebla  
Iglesia El Meson, Puerto Vallarta, Jalisco  
Church Plant:  
Plantation de Iglesia, San Miguel de Allende,

### **Epiphany Military Prayer List**

Gabriella Murley, US Army,  
Mason Gregg, US Marines  
Creed Napier, USAF  
JW Grove, US Navy  
Shawn Zima, US Army, Hong Kong  
Wyatt Green, US Navy  
Emma Skidmore, US Navy  
Patrisha Wilson Kellner, US Navy  
David Fazenbaker, USAF

### **Praise Reports**

**For** the gift of our Savior and a blessed Christmastide at Epiphany  
**For** the 18th anniversary of Epiphany on January 8.  
**For** our new mosaic of the nativity fabricated by Karli Sorensen.  
**For** Madeleine Fazenbaker's new teller position at Washington Federal Bank in Alamogordo  
**For** Trevor Conine's return home from Betty Dare wellness facility  
**For** a successful Synod in November 20-22 and the ordination to the priesthood of Deacon Tara Jernigan at that time.

### **Prayer Concerns**

**For** Wally Skidmore as he recovers from a fall.  
**For** Karli Sorensen for successful neck surgery January 15  
**For** Donya and Trevor Conine to regain more strength and mobility  
**For** Fr. Frank and Carolyn Wilson, Walter and Carolyn Ford, George and Gayla Chapman, Patty Kendrick, and all our caregivers  
**For** churches in Alamogordo who are having searches for pastors: Grace Methodist Church and Westminster Presbyterian Church.  
**For** the ACNA and Bishop Julian, and the ADSW Diocese, Bishop Steven, and the Standing Committee.  
**For** Annette Fazenbaker as a deanery representative to the Standing Committee of the Diocese.  
**For** Fr. Frank as a member of the Diocesan ROC committee and the Bylaws committee  
**For** church plants within the diocese:  
Emmaus Anglican Chruch, Albuquerque; See list of new parishes ( to left)

## **January Service Schedule LEMS & Lectors**

**The Rev. Willis F Griffin, Pastor**

**The Rev. Frank K. Wilson, Associate Pastor**

### **Epiphany - Sunday, January 4 - 10 AM**

Holy Eucharist - Pastor Fred

LEM Karli Sorensen

Lector Machele Lackey

### **Epiphany 1 - Sunday, January 11-10 AM**

Holy Eucharist - Fr. Frank

LEM Karli Sorensen

Lector Paul Fazenbaker

### **Epiphany 2 - Sunday, January 18 - 10 AM**

Holy Eucharist - Pastor Fred

LEM Patrick Zima

Lector Madeleine Fazenabker

### **Epiphany 3 - Sunday, January 25 - 10AM**

Holy Eucharist - Fr. Frank

LEM Patrick Zima

Lector Annette Fazenbaker

### **Epiphany 4 - Sunday, February 1 - 10 AM**

Holy Eucharist - Pastor Fred

LEM Karli Sorensen

Lector Carolyn Ford



Jan 4 - PotLuck

Jan 11 - Nancy Griffin

Jan 18 -

Jan 25 -

Feb 1 - Potluck

Sign-up sheets are on the table.

## ***January Event Schedule***

### **Sunday, January 4**

Potluck after the service

### **Sunday, January 11**

**De-decorate church after the Service**

### **Ecumenical Bible Studies:**

**Wednesdays - 3-4 pm**

**Gospel of John**

Fr. Frank - Grace Methodist Church  
Alamogordo

### **Ladies Bible Study**

**Thursdays - 10-11:30 am**

**Gospel of Matthew**

Westminster Presbyterian Church

**For more information**

**See article in this newsletter - pg. 5**



### **January Birthdays**

David Brinkley - 1

Rosie Henry -6

Eddie Aguilar - 7

Patrick Zima - 7

Sandy Thomas - 15

Frank Wilson - 17

Larry Williams - 18

Fran Gregg - 19

Becca Price - 22

Taryn Zima - 28

### **January Anniversaries**

Dwight Harp - Ordination 1/6

## ACNA Lectionary yr. A January 2026

### Epiphany • January 4, 2026

Isaiah 60:1-9  
Psalm 72:1-11  
Ephesians 3:3-14  
Matthew 2:1-12

### Epiphany 1 • January 11, 2026

Isaiah 42:1-9  
Psalm 89:20-29  
Acts 10:34-38  
Matthew 3:13-17

### Epiphany 2 • January 18, 2026

Exodus 12:21-28  
Psalm 40:1-11  
1 Corinthians 1:1-9  
John 1:29-42

### Epiphany 3 • January 25, 2026

Amos 3:1-11  
Psalm 139:1-18  
1 Corinthians 1:10-17  
Matthew 4:12-22

### Epiphany 4 • February 1, 2026

Micah 6:1-8  
Psalm 37:1-11  
1 Corinthians 1:18-31  
Matthew 5:1-12

## The Head of the Church is Jesus Christ

### The Anglican Church in North America,

The Rt. Rev. Steve Wood, Archbishop

### Diocese of the Southwest,

Bishop Steven Tighe

### The Church of the Epiphany

The Rev. Willis F. Griffin, Pastor

The Rev. Frank K. Wilson, Associate Pastor

Musicians: Esther Fyock, Stan & Sandy Thomas.

Senior Warden

Annette Fazenbaker, Junior Warden

Financial Committee: Paul Fazenbaker, Machele Lackey,

Doug Price

### Church Board

Karli Sorensen Aguilar Patrick Zima

Machele Lachey, JR Hester

Nancy Griffin, Clerk

## Mission Statement

Our mission is to provide a warm and welcoming atmosphere where the Word of God fills each person with an understanding and renewal of their faith in Christ.

Outreach, both within our own community as well as abroad, is a further extension of this faith.

*Romans 10:17 ~ Consequently, faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the Word of Christ.*

## The Head of the Church is Jesus Christ

### The Anglican Church in North America, The Rt. Rev. Steve Wood, Archbishop

### The Anglican Diocese of the Southwest, Bishop Steven Tighe

### The Church of the Epiphany, Cloudercroft, Rev. Fred Griffin, Rev. Frank K. Wilson

Christ the King, Albuquerque (Rev. Peter Falk, Deacon Bill Lock); Church of our Lord, Albuquerque (Rev. Harold Trott, Michael Kline); Emmaus Anglican Church, Albuquerque (Revs. Greg & Noel Pfeifer; Christ Church, Farmington (Revs. Carl & Barbara Brenner); St. Clement's, El Paso (Revs. Bill Cobb, Rick Milliron, Eduardo Gonzalez, Michael Sheehan, Deacon Courtney Brown) Rey de Paz, El Paso (Revs. John Dixon, Ken Hanna); Good Shepherd, San Angelo (Rev. Hal Scott); St. Stephen's, Roswell (Rev. Bob Tally); All Saints' and St. Paul's, Midland Texas (Rev. Tom Finnie); Iglesia La Trinidad, Guadalajara (Lay Leader, Miguel Meriono Lobos) Iglesia de Jesus & Jesus es la Resurreccion, Aguas Caliente, Mexico (Revs. Elias Rosales Mendez and Maria del Rayo Jimenez Victoria, Deacon Roger Griffin); Gran Pastor, Fresnillo, Mexico (Sr. Warden, Norma Rodriguez, Missionary Meredith Omland); Good Shepherd, Hill New Mexico (Rev. Farhid Adabache); Iglesia Anglicana, Puerto Vallarta, Mexico (Rev. Jack Wehrs, Deacon Fernando Sandoval); St. James, Dalhart, Texas (Rev. Philip Ray). Emmaus Anglican, Castle Rock CO (Rev. Theron Walker; Resurrection Anglican Fellowship, Greenwood Village, CO (Fr. Phil Eberhardt) St. Paul's Anglican Church, Owasso, OK (Fr. Chris Waters); Christ the Redeemer, Oklahoma City, OK (Fr. Brad Van Deventer); Iglesia Piedra Angular & Comunidad de Fe, Rey de Justicia, Juarez, Chihuahua;