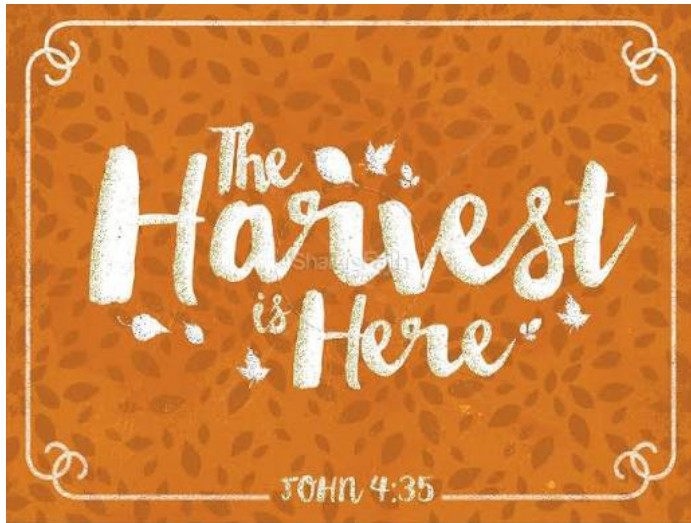




Church of the Epiphany

FROM THE MOUNTAIN TOP

Monthly Newsletter • Cloudcroft, New Mexico • September 2026



AN EARLY HARVEST

HARVEST TIME generally begins later in the year, but here at Epiphany, our harvest seems to have arrived. Most everyone participated in our annual Labor Day Sale, which yielded a bountiful financial harvest for community outreach. Stay tuned for a more comprehensive report on who will benefit and how, but many of you worked hard to make this yearly event a success. We are especially thankful for all who donated items for this sale. As a further blessing, we were able to meet and greet those who came to shop so that they know there is a welcoming church community right in the middle of downtown Cloudcroft. But there was more bounty yet to come. On the next day, Sunday of Labor Day weekend, a record total of

37 joined together for our regular worship. Of course I know everyone who worships regularly through the year, but I also noticed that all of the visitors were folks who had attended Sunday worship here at Epiphany in the recent past. That means they had been here before and decided to return here rather than go somewhere else on Sunday morning. And most all of them stayed to share coffee and snacks and visit. We give thanks for their presence and rejoice that the Lord is working through us to spread the Gospel from the mountaintop to places all around the country. Yes, it seems like a harvest for us, but at the same time we are planting seeds for the coming seasons. God willing, we will be nurturing seedlings and feeding and watering, watching as God gives the growth. That is what ministry is all about, and we are thankful that God is using us to share His presence with others.

PLEASE PRAY for our church leaders, particularly for our Church Board, commonly known as the Vestry. In a "family-size" church, it seems like we know everyone and we are, for the most part, comfortable with the way we have always done things. Even so, we are called to learn and grow so that the blessings will not just continue, but the seeds which God plants will multiply many times over, all to His glory. We

can build on what we do well and learn what we can do better. Most importantly, we can all grow closer to Him and be more sensitive to how and where He would lead us as a community centered on Jesus the Christ. Many people are hungry for the Gospel. May they receive the Gospel through the ministry here at Epiphany.

Rev. Frank K. Wilson, Pastor



THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

Every Sunday we get ready for Church. Certain preparations are done in advance like picking the music and rehearsing it, printing the bulletins, setting up the altar for communion and making sure coffee hour is arranged. That is all completed by ten o'clock Sunday Morning. Then we have Church.

After the opening processional and Acclamation we say our first prayer, the Collect for Purity. *"Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord."*

The Collect for Purity has been part of the liturgy since 1549. It became most known and widespread within and through the Anglican tradition when Thomas Cranmer translated it into English and incorporated it into the service in the Book of Common Prayer.

We begin our service with this prayer to individually and corporately open ourselves up to God. We open our hearts, and even deeper, our inmost thoughts to God's purifying love. We also need prayers that have been handed down to us through the generations - treasures of the past that connect us with all who have gone before us. We need prayers, written on our hearts, that come to us when no other words or prayers will.

We are always seen by God, but God's great hope is that we will willingly open up our whole self, for growth and care from the Spirit when worshipping together. We ask, "Is there anything in me that is blocking me from hearing and following God? If so, let it be removed NOW." We enter new self-awareness at the beginning of our liturgy to realize new places where we must become vulnerable to God's guidance and message. To you all hearts are open, and indeed, in praying this, to God, my heart is open. Let God's Spirit purify us and ready us for daily growth.

In this short prayer we make our worship to include the Trinity. We open the prayer with our address to Almighty God. We will speak to the Father again in the Nicene Creed when we pray "I believe in one God, the Father Almighty. Second, the collect asks God (the Father) to cleanse the heart by the inspiration of his Holy Spirit. Third, the collect is authorized "through Christ our Lord," a reference to the incarnate Son Jesus Christ.

The Collect for Purity invokes the Holy Spirit to cleanse our hearts so that we may "perfectly love" God with all our hearts. It is the perfect collect to begin the service in which we commemorate the perfect love of Christ and return perfect love to God in the power of the Spirit.

Pastor Fred



ADSW Standing Committee September Report

The highlight of the meeting was a report that Raul gave on a project he is organizing in his town in Mexico. He and his church are seeking an arrangement with the local authorities to rent a soccer field in a park one day a week on a 6-year contract. He expects this will come with a financial requirement and hopes that he can get funding. His plan is to encourage the local youth and their families in soccer as a sport and to use this opportunity to spread the gospel and grow the church. It will essentially be a church plant but without a building. They will play and worship in the same space, on the soccer field.

The bishop has a goal to grow the online diocesan prayer meetings that are held monthly. It is his hope that we can bolster the mission of the diocese with fervent prayer for all our parishes in increasing the participation of his zoom prayer meetings. He will have Meredith send out a survey to identify the barriers to participation and encourage more Standing Committee members and clergy to join.

Several prayer concerns were shared, and the following people are in need of prayer for healing:

Bishop Steven will be having a total ankle replacement in the weeks following the synod.

Joann Griffin had a triple bypass surgery in Florida. She has no feeling in her left hand since the surgery. She is still recovering.

Jennifer Martinez asked for prayer for her niece's baby Nico, who was born with multiple health issues and has spent months in the hospital. It has now been discovered that baby Nico has a hole in his heart. They are looking at options.

Praise for the following:

Raul would like to thank those who prayed for his wife. Her tests came back benign and she now can have a treatment plan.

Fr. Elias is recovering well from his surgery and will be continuing treatment with a positive outlook for recovery. His doctors are encouraged with the outcome and believe he will continue to heal well and fully.

Respectfully submitted,
Annette Fazanbaker

Notes from August 30, 2026 Vestry Meeting

Financial: Fair share payment of \$3000.00 will be paid to Diocese for 2026

It was decided to send \$1000.00 to Fr. Elias Mendez for medical expenses.

Audit Committee will be composed of Machele Lackey, Madeleine Fazanbaker and Paul Kellner.

Vestry Business:

Vestry meetings will be held on the 3rd Sunday of even months. Next meeting, Sunday, October 18.

It was decided to leave the Treasurer position as is with Paul Fazanbaker, depositing funds, Doug Price handling Financial statements and Nancy Griffin paying bills.

Machele Lackey was appointed Senior Warden. Fr. Frank announced that Madeleine Fazanbaker has asked the Vestry for their approval to pursue the Diaconate. The Vestry as a whole will act as a discernment committee for the parish. She will take classes through the Diocesan School for Ministry

**Pray for ADSW Synod in Puerto Vallarta,
Oct. 8-10.**

Epiphany's Labor Day Garage Sale

Glory to God!

Our Annual Labor Day Sale was a great success and we have so many people to thank for donations, pricing of jewelry, setting up and taking down and being general help during the sale. It was a tremendous effort by all involved!

Thanks go to all of our winter congregation and a great many of our summer congregation, some of whom came to the mountain just to help! We were totally surprised by John and Susan Scott, who had sold their Cloudcroft home several years ago to reside permanently in Bellville, TX . Charles and Susie Stigall also came from south Texas and Tom and Fran Gregg were here from San Angelo. Becca Price, Doug Price and Kathy Beer stayed through Labor Day to be present for the sale. Nancy Heimark helped Annette set up the book table.

Karli Sorensen and Pastor Fred collected money. The jewelry ladies, Diana Fesmire, Becca Price, and Kathy Beer were constantly busy and Madeleine Fazenbaker was our electronic charge card person. JR Hester, Paul Fazenbaker and Patrick Zima provided security and Bill Haynes was our jewelry "angel" as he has been for the past 3 years. Thanks to Doug Price who negotiated the sale of a large collection of brand new model airplane etc. donated by Bobbie and Paul Kellner, that sold as a group. Holly Peterson, Judy Metts, Nancy Griffin, and Katy Bailey, and Pastor Frank rounded out the list of helpers!

The final total for Epiphany's outreach and emergency fund was \$4,336.22. We pray we can use these funds to be a blessing to many.



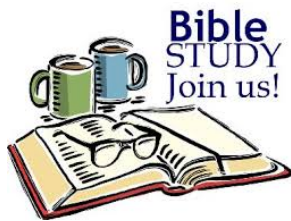
We were blessed with so many items!
And so much help!!!



Above: The jewelry counter is always busy!



Above: Our youngest customers!



Ecumenical Bible Studies

Fr. Frank's Bible Study

Wednesdays at 4:00 - 5:00 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 "Let Us Pray"

Edited by Don Kistler

Class leaders: Katy Bailey, Nancy Griffin and
Dawn Wilder.

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

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

Garrett Haynes, Army National Guard

Samantha Kozeniesky - US Air Force

Nathan Matzen - US Air Force

Praise Reports

- For** the blessings of God's provision for our successful Labor Day Garage Sale and
- For** all the help and support of our wonderful volunteers
- For** Rev. Elias Rosales Mendez' prognosis and for his continued recovery
- For** our Labor Day congregation and friends from afar
- For** all our summer visitors

5Prayer Concerns

- For** the ADSW staff as they plan the Diocesan Synod, October 8-10 in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico
- For** successful surgeries for Tom Gregg, Charles Stigall, and Bishop Steven in September and October
- For** Donya Conine and Kellie Conine for recoveries
- For** Esther Fyock as she works in the Washington state forests and safe travel home.
- For** Woody Burgess & Carol
- For** Fr. Frank and Carolyn Wilson, Walter and Carolyn Ford, George and Gayla Chapman, Patty Kendrick, and for all our caregivers
- For** the ACNA and Bishop Julian, and the ADSW Diocese, Bishop Steven, and the Staff and 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 and for protection for our Mexican churches

September Service Schedule LEMS & Lectors

The Rev. Frank K. Wilson, Pastor
The Rev. Willis F Griffin, Rector Emeritus

Pentecost 15, Sunday, September 6 - 10 AM

Holy Eucharist - Fr. Frank
LEM Madeleine Fazenbaker
Lector Annette Fazenbaker

Pentecost 16 - Sunday, September 13 - 10 AM

Holy Eucharist - Fr. Frank/Pastor Fred
LEM Karli Sorensen
Lector Paul Fazenbaker

Pentecost 17- Sunday, September 20 - 10AM

Holy Eucharist - Fr. Frank
LEM Patrick Zima
Lector Bobbie Kellner

Pentecost 18 - Sunday, September 27- 10 AM

Holy Eucharist - Fr. Frank
LEM Karli Sorensen
Lector Carolyn Ford

Pentecost 19 - Sunday, October 4 - 10 AM

Holy Eucharist - Fr. Frank/Pastor Fred
LEM Madeleine Fazenbaker
Lector Bobbie Kellner



John and
Susan Scott
At Garage
Sale, visiting
from
Belleville TX
Great help!

September Events Schedule

Saturday, September 5
Annual Labor Day Garage Sale
8:30 am - 1:00 pm

(Set Up Wednesday, September 2
10 am)

Sunday, September 13
Potluck after the service



September 6 - Nancy Griffin
September 13- Potluck
September 20 - Machele Lackey
September 27- Karli Sorensen

Sign-up sheets are on the table.



September Birthdays

Bert Hungerford - 6
Allysa Conine - 6
John Scott - 12
Paul Coleman - 23
Char Jagoe - 27

September Anniversaries

Charles and Susie Stigal - 15

**ACNA Lectionary yr. A
September 2026**

Pentecost 15 • September 6, 2026

Ezekiel 33:1-11
Psalm 119:33-48
Romans 12:9-21
Matthew 18:15-20

Pentecost 16 • September 13, 2026

Ecclesiasticus 27:30-28:7
Psalm 103:1-14
Romans 14:5-12
Matthew 18:21-35

Pentecost 17 • September 20, 2026

Jonah 3:10-4:11
Psalm 145:14-21
Philippians 1:21-27
Matthew 20:1-16

Pentecost 18 • September 27, 2026

Ezekiel 18:1-14, 25-32
Psalm 25:1-14
Philippians 2:1-13
Matthew 21:28-32

Pentecost 19 • October 4, 2026

Isaiah 5:1-7
Psalm 80:7-19
Philippians 3:14-21
Matthew 21:33-44

**The Head of the Church is Jesus Christ
The Anglican Church in North America,**

The Rt. Rev. Julian Dobbs

Diocese of the Southwest,

Bishop Steven Tighe

The Church of the Epiphany

The Rev. Frank K. Wilson, Rector

The Rev. Willis F. Griffin, Rector Emeritus

Musicians: Esther Fyock, Nancy Knowles

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. Julian Dobbs
The Anglican Diocese of the Southwest. Bishop Steven Tighe**

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

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 Milliorn, Michael Sheehan, Deacon Courtney Brown, Deacon Kristi Cossell); 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); 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;