



Church of the Epiphany

FROM THE MOUNTAIN TOP

Monthly Newsletter • Cloudcroft, New Mexico • August 2024



Blessings of a Small Church

We are now deep into our summer schedule at Epiphany. We had a very successful visit by our Bishop Steven, Sunday June 30, and a wonderful Women's Retreat, July 27. The next big item on the list is the annual Epiphany Garage Sale, August 31. This year has seen a large number of visitors to Epiphany reflecting the summers before Covid. Epiphany is a small church but with a big mission. According to a 2016 statistic the small church of 100 attendees or less made up 46% of the churches in the United States. The small church is a blessing from God to community it serves that cannot support the mega church. Cloudcroft is one of those locations.

Epiphany has been blessed for over one hundred years here on the mountaintop. Our physical location is expressed in our mission statement to be a Spiritual presence to visitors. Praise God. We are just that.

The small church can capture a family atmosphere better than any other size congregation. A large church can have all the programs available to offer but the closeness of community is just built into the small church.

When a visitor comes to worship with us the congregation recognizes them when they walk in the door. They will be surrounded with love and welcomed with open arms. A name tag is applied and at coffee time they will be surrounded by welcome handshakes. Of course, we hope that they are a permanent resident to Cloudcroft but if they are just here for a weekend we still delight in having them in church with us and hope they will visit whenever they return to the mountains. The small church does not have to create the family feeling through a committee. That is what we are! Plus, at Epiphany, our seating arrangement makes it easy to include them in our worship.

Whether the visitor is here as a permanent resident or for a summer stay they will quickly be engaged in the activities of Epiphany. There are lots of opportunities to match their ministry. We are friendly God loving Jesus-filled assembly.

We are blessed that both Frank and I are here to conduct worship on Sundays with an entire congregation willing to be in service to fill any needs that may arise. We are very good at walking through the good times and the tough times of struggle our congregants.

I was going through my photo album and as I went along with these thoughts, I kept coming across pictures of an individual or couple that at a time were a part of the Epiphany family. Each time it brought about a memory of their gifts to Epiphany and a remembrance of their time here. That is the history of a small church that cannot be duplicated in any other setting.

God bless the small church.

God bless all of you! Pastor Fred

Let Us Pray - More Than Ever!



Not many of us have been able to avoid recent TV news broadcasts and other media reports seeking to ignite and fan fires of conflict and confusion in our daily lives. Sensationalism is one aspect of the problem. Another is the obvious bias which colors what facts are being presented. Even so, the conflicts are real and the potential for disaster seems to be growing, especially on the international scene. We need God's help in so many ways! We ask in prayer. But isn't prayer more than "a means of manipulating God to fulfill our, or even His, purposes"? (M. Robert Mulholland, Jr., *Cornerstone Biblical Commentary on Revelation*, p. 484)

The specter of conflict is really nothing new. Many in my generation can remember the nuclear war drills in our elementary school classrooms, in which we were taught to dive under our desks and seek shelter. Most of us remember Barry McGuire's popular song, *The Eve of Destruction* in which he sings, "The Eastern world, it is explodin', violence flaring, bullets loadin' . . . and even the Jordan river has bodies floatin'." Some of us may even remember The Kingston Trio singing a warning, "And we know for certain that some lovely day, someone will set the spark off, AND WE WILL ALL BE BLOWN AWAY!" Perhaps you remember a favorite disaster song. Well before the last century or two, conflicts were more common than we care to remember. Many of the stories in Holy Scripture present death and danger in nearly every chapter. But God's love for His Creation and for those He created in His image runs throughout.

Most of us are familiar with the detailed instructions God gave to Moses in Exodus for construction of the Temple and provision for animal sacrifices to atone for sin. We know intimately the story of God's only Son given as the full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice for the sin of the whole world. But God also provided avenues for prayer that may not be as well known. I doubt many of us are aware that in that same Temple, God directed the construction of an altar of incense. The purpose was twice daily burning of special incense that would carry the prayers of the saints up into the Most Holy Place and to heaven (see Exodus 30). That same altar of incense reappears in heaven in Revelation chapter 8, still carrying the prayers of the saints before God. In these and other places in Scripture, God has not only made provision for dealing with our sin, He has also reached out to invite our prayers. Jesus even taught us how to pray, "Our Father, Who art in heaven . . ."

There is much we can all learn about prayer. Much has been written and published. But no matter how widely and deeply we read, prayer is ultimately between each of us and God. I am realizing that I know so little about prayer, so I am seeking to learn more. Perhaps you are also seeking to grow nearer to God through prayer. With God's help, I will share more next month. You can share, too.

The Rev. Frank K. Wilson. Associate Rector

Epiphany Women's Retreat

July 27, 2024



The Church of the Epiphany's Women's Retreat was held on Saturday, July 27 from 10 am to 3 pm. Deacon Lisa Schwandt from the ACNA Diocese of the Western Gulf (Houston) led fifteen women in a quiet day of discussion, meditation, journaling, and prayer.

The theme of the retreat was "Hearing God's Voice" We are grateful to all who participated, to Esther Fyock for music, and to Annette Fazenbaker and her helpers for a luncheon of a baked potato bar, fruit salad, cookies and chocolate cake.

We thank Deacon Lisa for a Spirit filled afternoon and look forward to her returning next year for another women's retreat.



Epiphany's Annual Labor Day Garage Sale! Saturday, August 31st

The Church of the Epiphany will hold its
Annual Labor Day Garage Sale on
Saturday, August 31 from 8:30 am to 1 pm.
Setup - Wednesday, 28-29 at 10 am

There is still plenty of time to do some "end of summer" cleaning out and organizing. We will be most happy for your donations!

(We do not take clothing or extremely heavy furniture, please)

We will have jewelry again thanks to Bill Haynes and our two jewelry salesladies, Becca Price and Susan Scott will be glad to assist your purchase. Annette Fazenbaker has been busy pricing and polishing silver!

We hope all our out of town friends who will be in Cloudcroft for the Labor Day weekend will drop by for a visit. Bring your friends and neighbors!

for pick-up or a time to meet at the church for donations.

Call: 575/682-1406

Text: 575/495-3811



Epiphany's 2023 Garage Sale!

Epiphany Congratulations

Epiphany is very grateful for the successful summer our two students have had at their various college internships.

Madeleine Fazenbaker spent six weeks at the International Space Hall of Fame in Alamogordo as a media intern.

Madeleine will return to New Mexico State University in Las Cruces for her senior year and will graduate in the Spring with a degree in Digital Film Making-Bachelor of Creative Media.

Evan Griffin, Grandson of Pastor Fred and Nancy, spent his summer internship with a professor in the Aeronautical Engineering Department at the University of Texas at El Paso. Evan will graduate in December with a degree in Aeronautical Engineering.

Congratulations to Jessica Williams, who graduated from Texas A&M University with honors and will attend the University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana campus, for graduate school in the fall.

Jessica is the daughter of Larry and Jennifer Williams of Pearland, Texas. They have a summer home in Cloudcroft and attend Epiphany. Jessica's brother James, is attending Louisiana State University.

We congratulate Hannah Conine for passing the math portion of the GED and pray for her finishing this important milestone at the end of August. She will then make plans to attend NMSU-Alamogordo.

Prayer List For Those in the Armed Forces

Epiphany Military Prayer List

Dominick Rankin, USArmy, Ft. Bliss, TX
Gabriella Murley, US Army, Ft. Bliss, TX
Mason Gregg, US Marines, Camp Courtney,
Okinawa
Creed Napier, USAF
JW Grove, US Navy, USS Halsey, DDG 97
Nicholas Tran, USAF, Joint Base Lewis-McChord,
Shawn Zima, US Army, Hong Kong
Wyatt Green, US Navy

31. PRAYER FOR AN ELECTION

Almighty God, to whom we must account for all our powers and privileges: Guide and direct, we humbly pray, the minds of all those who are called to elect fit persons to serve [in _____]. Grant that in the exercise of *our* choice we may promote your glory, and the welfare of this *nation*. This we ask for the sake of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Amen. *Pg. 655 ABCP*

Bible Studies

Fr. Frank's Bible Study Wednesdays at 4:00 PM

At Grace Methodist Church 16th St. and Cuba, Alamogordo. Wednesdays 4-5 pm.
They are studying the Book of Revelation.
For more information call or text Fr. Frank
At 575-442-1354.

Ladies Bible Study

Thursdays, at 10 am at Westminster Presbyterian Church, 2201 15th St. , Alamogordo.
We are studying
"The Letter to the Ephesians" written by Sinclair B. Ferguson
Contact Nancy Griffin for more information
Call or text - 575/495-3811

Praise Reports

- For** a Spirit filled Epiphany's Ladies' Retreat, July 27, led by Deacon Lisa Schwandt
- For** Jessica Williams, who graduated from Texas A&M University and will attend The University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana campus, for graduate school in the fall.
- For** successful summer internships for Madeleine Fazenbaker and Evan Griffin
- For** all our summer visitors in July
- For** our summer musicians, Esther Fyock and Nancy Knowles

Prayer Concerns

- For** all those who are homeless and still recovering after the fires and floods in Ruidoso
- For** Hannah Conine as she finishes her GED this summer.
- For** Wally Skidmore (August) and Richard Hoepner (September) as they undergo medical procedures
- For** Marge Harp as she recovers from a fall
- For** a successful Garage Sale on Saturday, August 31.
- For** David, Mico and Abby LaMaster as they work through the immigration process for Mico and Abby.
- For** safe travel for all our summer people returning home
- For** Fr. Frank and Carolyn Wilson, George and Gayla Chapman, Patty Kendrick, and all our caregivers
- For** the Diocese and Bishop Steven, for Fr. Frank as co chair of the ROC committee and for Annette Fazenbaker as a deanery representative to the Standing Committee of the Diocese.
- For** church plants within the diocese: Light of Life Ministries, Emmaus Anglican Church, Albuquerque; Comunidad del Rey de Justicia, Iglesia Piedra Angular, Juarez MX; Comunidad de Gracia, Xalpa, MX

August Service Schedule LEMS & Lectors

The Rev. Willis F Griffin, Pastor
The Rev. Frank K. Wilson, Associate Pastor

Pentecost 11 - Sunday, August 4 - 10 AM

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

Pentecost 12 - Sunday, August 11 - 10 AM

Holy Eucharist - Pastor Fred
LEM Patrick Zima
Lector Dona Conine

Pentecost 13 - Sunday, August 18 - 10 AM

Holy Eucharist - Fr. Frank
LEM Patrick Zima
Lector Annette Fazenbaker

Pentecost 14 - Sunday, August 25- 10 AM

Holy Eucharist - Pastor Fred
LEM Karli Sorensen
Lector Nancy Griffin

Pentecost 15 - Sunday, September 1 - 10 AM

Holy Eucharist - Fr. Frank
LEM Patrick Zima
Lector Paul Fazenbaker



August potluck with our summer visitors

August Event Schedule

Saturday, August 31
Annual Labor Day Garage Sale
8:30 am - 1pm

Set-up
Wednesday, August 28 10 am
Thursday August 29. 10 am
(If needed)



Coffee Fellowship

August

August 4 - Pot Luck

August 11 - Annette & Madeleine
Fazenbaker

August 18 - Becca Price

August 25 - Nancy Griffin

Sign-up sheets are on the table.

September potluck will be on
September 8



August Birthdays

Annette Fazenbaker - 9
Bill Leonard - 10
Bill Haynes - 11
Kathleen Coleman - 13
Carolyn Ford - 14
Evelyn Leonard - 18
Sarah Griffin - 22

August Anniversaries

Congratulations to all with wedding
anniversaries in August.

ACNA Lectionary B for August

Pentecost 11 • August 4, 2024

Exodus 16:2-4, 9-15
Psalm 78:14-26
Ephesians 4:1-16
John 6:24-35

Pentecost 12 • August 11, 2024

Deuteronomy 8:1-10
Psalm 34:8-15
Ephesians 4:17-5:2
John 6:37-51

Pentecost 13 • August 18, 2024

Proverbs 9:1-6
Psalm 147
Ephesians 5:3-14
John 6:53-59

Pentecost 14 • August 25, 2024

Joshua 24:1-2a, 14-25
Psalm 16
Ephesians 5:15-33
John 6:53-59

Pentecost 15 • September 1, 2024

Deuteronomy 4:1-9
Psalm 15
Ephesians 6:10-20
Mark 7:1-23

The Head of the Church is Jesus Christ

The Anglican Church in North America,

The Rt. Rev. Foley Beach, 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.

Donya Conine, Senior Warden

Annette Fazenbaker, Junior Warden

Paul Fazenbaker/Bookkeeper

Church Board

Karli Sorensen Aguilar, David LaMaster

Patrick Zima, 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.

Church of the Epiphany Prayer List

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

The Anglican Diocese of the Southwest. Bishop Steven Tighe

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, Eduardo Gonzalez, Ken Hanna, Michael Sheehan,, Deacon Courtney Brown) Rey de Paz, El Paso (Rev. John Dixon,); Good Shepherd, San Angelo (Rev. Hal Scott); St. Stephen's, Roswell (Rev. Bob Tally); Holy Trinity, Silver City (vestry); All Saints' and St. Paul's, Midland Texas (Rev. Tom Finnie); Church of the Epiphany, Cloudcroft, NM (Revs. Fred Griffin and Frank K. Wilson); 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).

For: Trevor & Donya Conine, Fran Gregg, Wally Skidmore; Carolyn Wilson, Eddie Aguilar, Chip & Alyssa Taylor and Julius; George & Gayla Chapman, Patty Kendrick, Harry Duval, **For Our Service People:** Dominick Rankin, Mason Gregg, Gabriella Murley, J.W. Grove, Nicholas Tran, Shawn Zima, Wyatt Green, Creed Napier, Quincy Prince, and all the service men and women, all police and first responders.