



## Ephipany

*When Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, in the days of Herod the king, behold, there came wise men from the east to Jerusalem, saying, Where is he that is born King of the Jews? for we have seen his star in the east, and are come to worship him. —Matthew 2:1-2*

Dear Calvary Friends,

Epiphany is usually observed on the Sunday closest to January 6 (the actual feast day), we celebrated it last Sunday, January 4. Of course we heard and sang of the “Wise Men” coming to worship the child Jesus. However, while Epiphany begins with this story, the season more importantly speaks to how Christ’s light was God’s own manifestation or showing forth to a dark world, and it is about how we are called by God to continue showing Christ’s light in what we do and say.

The word “epiphany” derives from the Greek Epiphania, which denotes the visit of God to earth in which he shows Himself to humans. Epiphany celebrations in Christianity are actually older than those of Christmas. As it is with many Christian festivals January 6 was chosen for Epiphany to supplant a pagan birthday observance of the Egyptian god Osiris. It was in Egypt in the early 3rd century that Epiphany and the story of the visitation of the Wise Men as told in Matthew 2 quickly spread in popularity. Here in the West it has almost been swallowed up by the Christmas story.

Epiphanies are certainly not limited to the Wise Men story. During the eight Sundays of this season we will read and hear of many ways Jesus manifested himself including his baptism, the calling of his disciples, the beginning of his Galilee ministry, casting out demons in Capernaum, healing of Peter’s mother-in-law, healing of a leper and a paralyzed man and the calling of Matthew the tax collector to discipleship.

One important application of Jesus’ epiphanies to our own lives includes the fact that wherever we may have failed in the past, Jesus’ forgiveness and love are available to us for a fresh start. As with New Year’s resolutions, Jesus’ light and life allows us to intend conscientiously to become better, fuller and more hopeful people. I certainly need that, and I’d bet you do too! The past is past; what we do henceforth is a matter of where our intent meets God’s grace. As it is in any field - whether sports, art, education or relationships—what matters, the secret to excellence, is to work at being better tomorrow that we are today.

In 2009 we will be met with different challenges than in 2008. We will have new opportunities and the chance to meet them with God’s grace. In doing so, may we both receive and become epiphanies of God!

Happy New Year,

## Recollections from the Franks

As I look outside and see the United Van Lines Moving Van, it is sinking in that the Franks family is leaving behind our home of 13 years—13 years where so much happened in our life. Hannah completed 11 years of her school career, danced on a National Champion dance team and more. Judy made so many friends in the neighborhood and helped even more people, especially many Boyd County students struggling through math courses. I was able to successfully complete my first tenure as a CEO for a non-profit. All of us spent a great deal of our life at Calvary Episcopal Church. From first serving as EYC teacher and teenage Sunday school teacher to Senior Warden, I have enjoyed being a part of Calvary Church. I know all three of us Hannah, Judy and I are better for having been a part of Calvary.

Thanks to those involved in the reception for our family, Christ and Evangelist Wall Cross by James Avery and the book on Jesus' quotes. Most of all thanks for your support on the many projects from the poinsettia sale to the Pastoral Care Committee that we asked you to participate. We have made many new friends while being a part of Calvary and will take you with us in our hearts.

Hopefully many of you will want to stay in communications with us and even drop in on your way to the beach or just come and spend some time with us. Our new contact information is:

2301 Fieldstone Place  
Greenville, NC 27858  
252-756-8897  
Ray - rfranks@bsamail.org  
Judy - jgfranks59@yahoo.com

Please be sure to add us to add us to your e-mail list.

We will be listening and watching to see where God leads you next!!

God's Speed to You!!

Judy, Ray & Hannah Franks

### 2008-2009 Calendar of Events

**The Little Disciples** (20 months – Preschool) and **The Get Along Gang** (Pre K - 2nd grade) offer our children an opportunity to gather every month for a time of Bible stories, crafts, refreshments and fellowship. We will follow our summer 2008 VBS curriculum, *Rainforest Adventure*, at First Christian Church, 1930 Winchester Avenue.

#### Schedule of Events

Sun., Feb. 1	Monthly Meeting	5:00 - 6:30 p.m.
Sun., March 1	Monthly Meeting	5:00 - 6:30 p.m.
Sun., April 5	Monthly Meeting	5:00 - 6:30 p.m.
Sun., May 3	Monthly Meeting	5:00 - 6:30 p.m.

## Twelve Gifts of Birth

Several people have requested the list of gifts noted by Charlene Castanzo in her book (same title) which I referred to in the sermon on December 28. Here they are:

1. The first gift is God's own strength. May you remember to call upon it whenever you need it.
2. The second gift is Beauty. May your deeds reflect its depth.
3. The third gift is Courage. May you speak and act with confidence and use it to follow the path God has dreamed for you.
4. The fourth gift is Compassion. May you be gentle with yourself and others. May you forgive those who hurt you and yourself when you make mistakes.
5. The fifth gift is Hope. Through each passage and season, may you trust in the goodness of life.
6. The sixth gift is Joy. May it keep your heart open and filled with God's light.
7. The seventh gift is Talent. May you discover your own special abilities and contribute them toward a better world.
8. The eighth gift is Imagination. May it nourish your vision and dreams.
9. The ninth gift is Reverence. May you appreciate the wonder that you are, the miracle of all creation and the Creator of it all.
10. The tenth gift is Wisdom. Guiding your way, wisdom will lead you through knowledge to understanding. May you hear its soft voice.
11. The eleventh gift is Love. It will grow exponentially every time you give it away.
12. The twelfth gift is Faith. May you trust in the goodness of God.

### 2009 Hosts List

January	11	Ernie and Trish Pitt
	17	Debbie Braun
	25	Church Meeting (Coffee)
February	1	Dicky and Whitney Martin
	8	Peter and Donna Yacoe
	15	Steve and Suzanne Gilmore
	22	Martha Dodson

## For Your Information

### The First Sunday After the Epiphany - January 11

First Lesson: Genesis 1:1-5  
Epistle: Acts 19:1-7  
Gospel: Mark 1:4-11  
Psalm: 29

### The Second Sunday After the Epiphany - January 18

First Lesson: I Samuel 3:1-10 [11-20]  
Epistle: 1 Corinthians 6:12-20  
Gospel: John 1:43-51  
Psalm: 139:1-5, 12-17

### The Third Sunday After the Epiphany - January 25

First Lesson: Jonah 3:1-5, 10  
Epistle: 1 Corinthians 7:29-31  
Gospel: Mark 1:14-20  
Psalm: 62:6-14

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#### Prayers Are Requested for:

##### For the Sick and Those in Need

Bill Moore, Betty Lou Moore, Brian and Becky, Gurney Johnson, K.C. Donnelly, Tom Ed Moore, Donna Chapman, Nancy Hensley, Bud Shaw, Zachary Howard, Christy Howard, Margaret DeCarlo, Hack Parker, Jack Goody, Marilyn Sargent, Bill Proffitt, Norma Peterson, Alex Green, Thomas Noruiel, Sally Fost, Eric, Erin, Jon, Chrissey, Janet, Bob, Tyler, Jessica, and Drew

##### Shut-in/Convalescing

Nell Hutchinson, Marie Kephart, Lucille Kazee, Phyllis McKenzie, William and Betty Brown, Duane Chapman, Martha Compton, and Grace Pennington

## Annual Reports Due January 11

All Commission Chairs, Wardens and heads of parish organizations are asked to write a brief report of 2008 activities for publication in the Annual Meeting packet by January 11. The Annual Meeting of Calvary will be held Sunday, January 25 at 10:00 a.m.

Calvary Choir, No Wednesday evening practice on Jan. 14. However, we will be singing on Sunday and will practice before The service at 9:30! Wednesday evening practice resumes on Jan. 21. See you on Sunday at 9:30!

Carol

**Tired of making and breaking New Year's resolutions?** Here's an easy one to make and keep. Join the monthly Ladies' Night Out and Book Club group for fellowship and spiritual renewal. On January 28, 2009 Ladies' Night Out (Gentlemen welcome, too) and Book Club resume. Dinner at 5:30 at C.J. Maggies and Book Club at 7:00 at Calvary. Call Tina Mussetter at 232-2336 for reservations, transportation, or babysitter needs. This month's book, The Shack by William P. Young is a wonderful opportunity for exploration of our own relationship with God and forgiving others as we discuss this remarkable work of fiction.

**Chow Bella!** (That's almost Italian for "good eats!")

Saturday, January 31

6:30 p.m.

**Benvenuti!** (that means "everyone welcome!")

Please plan to join your Calvary **familia** (family) for a fun evening filled with your favorite Italian cuisine. Dinner will be served with or without **vino** (wine), and we'll have some strong **espresso** (coffee) with our fine desserts, as well. Eat some outstanding food, maybe learn some fun Italian phrases, and commune with some great folks. It's going to be a **buona sera** (good evening), to be sure. (We're working on some games for kids and adults alike.)

**Che se dice?** (What do you say?) Reservations are required, please, so call Robin Reames @ 324-8899 to get yourself and your family on the list. Why not bring some friends and reserve an entire table? We can do that! Contributions are most welcome, and will benefit the Hospitality Committee's programming for the upcoming year. Transportation is available, if needed.

**Arrivederci!** (So long!) **A presto!** (See you soon!)

**Mille grazie,** (Many thanks,)

Jeanne and Judy and the entire Hospitality Committee

#### ***PRAYER AND THANKSGIVING***

We are pleased to lift up special needs and thanksgivings related to loved ones. Names are carried for one calendar month unless otherwise requested. Thanksgivings change weekly. Please try to be as concise and specific as you can.

#### **PLEASE BLOCK PRINT**

**PLEASE PRAY FOR...**

**NAME OF PERSON(S) TO BE PRAYED FOR:**

\_\_\_\_\_

Their Need (healing, hospital, convalescing, dying, etc.):

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Thanksgiving for:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Today's Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_  
(important)

**Please place form in offering basin or mail to the office.**

**Thanks from Food For The Poor**

Dear Father Valentine:

In Matthew’s Gospel we read that “with God all things are possible” (19:26). Thanks to the compassion and generosity of your parish community this past year, Food For The Poor was able to help countless destitute families and restore hope to those in need.

Your parish was among more than 1,600 congregations throughout the country that welcomed one of our speakers to preach about the needs of the poor in the Caribbean and Latin America. By allowing Food For The Poor to speak in your church, and by giving us the opportunity to share our mission with your parishioners, you have helped bring the love of Christ to suffering children and families.

Your remarkable generosity this year has helped Food For The Poor:

- feed approximately four million people a day;
- build 7,600 houses for needy families;
- establish 12 fishing villages and 40 new tilapia ponds;
- construct 150 artesian wells and develop 200 water projects;
- care for more than 3,700 orphans; and
- support numerous schools, clinics and churches.

As you know, Haiti was devastated by four major storms and hurricanes this year. Through your generous support, we were able to deliver emergency relief quickly to the areas hardest hit. We also established five new feeding sites in Gonaives, and we will begin several housing projects in two regions.

All of us at Food For The Poor thank you for partnering with us in this ministry to bring good news to those living in abject poverty. You and your parish were remembered here at our headquarters in a special “Thankful Thursday” prayer service on January 8, 2009.

May God continue to bestow His blessings upon you and your parishioners during this joyous season of Christmas and throughout the coming year!

A servant of the poor,

Robin G. Mahfood  
President/CEO

**Community Prayer Breakfast**  
**Tuesday, January 13, 2009**  
**Grace Church of the Nazarene**  
**Rev. Richard Suman, Pastor**  
**2413 S. 29th Street**  
**Ashland, KY**  
**7:30 Breakfast Will be Served**  
**A love offering will be accepted for**  
**the Community Kitchen.**  
**Please bring a friend.**

**ALTAR FLOWER REQUEST**

DONOR \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

IN MEMORY OF \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

IN CELEBRATION FOR \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

IN HONOR OF \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

IN THANKSGIVING FOR \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

WEEK \_\_\_\_\_ YEAR \_\_\_\_\_

RETURN TO OFFICE OR PLACE IN OFFERING PLATE.

**INSIDE THIS ISSUE**

- **Twelve Gifts of Birth**
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***Birthdays in Our Parish Family in*** Jan. and Feb.

January 05 Liz Alexander, 06 Ernie Pitt, 08 William Brown, David Slagel, 09 Ashton Slagel, 12 Annabelle Clark, 13 Kari Farrington, 14 Betty Brown, Martha Dodson, 16 Andrew Braun, Phillip Chapman, 17 Becki Gunnoe, Cindy Sparks, 18 Paul Farrington, 19 Evan Mussetter, 21 Pam Womack, 25 Ralph Blair, 27 Martha Compton, 28 Sydney Cox, Eli Cox, 31 Sheri Moore, and Patsy Cochran

February 01 Jack Zeller, 04 Langley Mae Sebastian, 12 Bola Blunk, 16 Shane Black, 17 Sam Hall, 20 Loretta Fosson, 25 Jamie Martin, Amy Stewart, 26 Alexander Blake Jones and Lori Slagel

**The deadline for the next Crucifer is December 19.** Please have all articles for submission in to the office by the above date.



The Rt. Rev. Stacy Sauls, Bishop  
The Rev. Mann S. Valentine, Rector  
Dr. Carol M. Greene, Music Minister

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Melissa S. Owens, Secretary  
Sam Hall, Sexton  
Community Kitchen (606) 325-8144

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