



THE THREE CROWNS

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE PARISH OF THE EPIPHANY

October 23, 2017

70 Church Street
Winchester, Massachusetts
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How I Spent My Summer



I was lucky enough to spend a part of this last summer in Alaska. I spent the bulk of my time performing on stage at Perseverance Theater, the largest union theater company in Alaska. We had a very successful run of our show in Juneau and I will be heading back in November to complete the last two weeks of my contract in Anchorage.

While I was in Juneau, the theater company put me and a couple of the other performers up in a house out in what the Alaskans called "the Valley." This was a stretch of land twenty minutes outside the city where we were surrounded by wildlife. We were constantly warned about moose being around the corner, bears kept opening up our 'bear-proof' trash cans, and seeing bald eagles outside our window became routine.



The most beautiful sight around was a sprawling, 14 mile-long, glacier that was situated a half mile from where I lived. I visited it often, not really sure about what kept me going back. It may be the sheer size of the thing, or the deep blue that never seems to come out properly in pictures, or the bears that were often seen around it. Or it could simply be the atmosphere of the place. This thing is beautiful. I'd google it if I were you:

Mendenhall Glacier.

Everyone I spoke to about it also seemed entranced by its effects. At the church I visited, the pastor weaved it into the sermon. When getting directions everything was

based on heading to or away from the glacier. The whole town had been taken in by its spell.

Yet there was a definite tone of sadness when I mentioned this was my first time seeing this mighty giant of a creation. They'd tell me, "You should have seen what she looked like before."

The glacier was receding. Fast. I was told by tour guides in the area it had retreated over 100 feet since this time last year. According to the National Geographic, Mendenhall Glacier has retreated 9,000 feet since it was measured in 1911.

Despite Alaska being a red state, most of the Christians I met there didn't dispute climate change. They could see its effects first hand. I don't know if I imagined the sense of guilt they felt when talking to me about the glacier's retreat. I did hear their woe about it slowly being taken from them. It really struck home for me: God gave us this great, beautiful planet, but it's up to us to take care of it. And wouldn't true Christians do great things to protect this great gift from God? And figure out how to properly bear proof our trash cans. How is this still a problem?



*Jake Athyall
Youth Minister*



Guest Preacher This Sunday

Epiphany welcomes the Reverend, Dr. Edie Dolnikowski to the pulpit at both services on Sunday, 29 October. Rev. Dolnikowski is the Canon for Ordained

Vocations for the Diocese. Prior to her current position she was the Associate Rector at St. Andrew's Church in Wellesley and served on the Commission on Ministry as an examining chaplain.



Evensong Returns



Please plan to join us on Sunday, 19 November at 5:00pm for the return of Choral Evensong. The Parish Choir will sing Stanford's *Magnificat* and *Nunc Dimitiss in C* as well as Mendelssohn's beloved work *Hear My Prayer*.

Written in 1844, *Hear My Prayer* is based on texts from Psalm 55. The piece is really a mini-drama in three parts. In the first part, the narrator, King David, beseeches the Almighty to come and save him from his enemies. Part two describes dramatically the forces arrayed against him, and the chorus reiterates the dangers and the narrator's pleas. In the third part, the narrator returns to introspection and contemplation as he comments that if he could only fly away from turmoil he would seek a quiet and peaceful place.

Choral Evensong itself is designed as a way to turn over our frustrations and battles at the end of a long day to God. Scripture, prayer, and song all combine to create that quiet and peaceful place we all seek. I hope you will join us.



Singing Opportunities for Children and Youth



I look forward to returning to Epiphany in November after being away for the last two months. One of the things I am looking forward to is providing singing opportunities for our younger members.

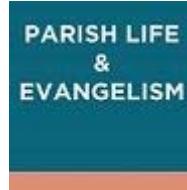
November marks the return of our chorister program. Anyone in grades 3 through 12 is welcome to join us as a chorister. We rehearse on Thursdays from 5:30 to 6:30pm and sing with the adults one to two Sundays a month. Thursday rehearsals are followed by dinner at 6:30 where parents and siblings are encouraged to join us.

High school singers are invited to try something new this year. We are planning a few Sundays during the year that we will sing an anthem for worship. The first of these is December 3rd, the first Sunday of Advent. Leading up to that day, we will have a short 30 minute rehearsal on November 12, 19, and 26 after worship from 11:30 until noon.

Elementary school singers will begin rehearsals for the Christmas Pageant in December. Watch for details from Carolyn about when and where. After the first of the year, plans are in the works to gather on Sundays after church for some time to sing together. Keep your eyes open for details.

If you have questions, or are interested in any of these opportunities please send me an email at cbenner@3crowns.org.

*Craig
Interim Director of Music*



Nominating Time

Deadline is November 19th

The Parish needs you or someone you know! We need individuals with the skill, passion, and availability to be leaders as we live into our mission as a community of faith. Nominations this year are needed for vestry, clerk, assistant treasurer, and representatives to convention.

As a Parish leader, you:

- are encouraged to be a part of supporting Epiphany in implementing the Parish's strategic plan;
- attend monthly vestry meetings and an annual vestry retreat;
- are encouraged to give generously of your time, talent, and treasure to provide leadership for other members of the congregation.

Can you envision yourself or someone you know in one of these roles? Share a name, nominate yourself, or ask questions to learn more. Contact a member of this year's Nominating Committee or fill out a slip in the office and leave it in the Nominating Committee box.

Members of the Vestry's Nominating Committee

Michael Aldrich 617.930.0040

[Mary Street](#) 978.235.1054

[Ellen Wilson](#) 781.729.2203



2018 Stewardship Campaign: Neighbor to Neighbor



"Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?"
~ *The Baptismal Covenant, p. 305, The Book of Common Prayer*

This passage from our Baptismal Covenant inspired *Neighbor to Neighbor*, Epiphany's 2018 Annual Commitment Campaign. *Neighbor to Neighbor* kicked off yesterday and runs until

Ingathering Sunday, 19 November, when we will celebrate our connections with each other and all of our neighbors at a reception following the 10:00am service.

What's different this year? Epiphany's 400 active households have been gathered into 15 neighborhoods, from North Reading to Watertown. The households in the 15 neighborhoods, each named for and guided by a disciple, will pass a canvas bag containing their neighborhood's pledge packets from house to house. The 15 bags, with sealed pledge cards enclosed, will then make their way back to the Parish Office by 13 November, to be tallied in time for the following Sunday's ingathering. Households considered too remote, or for whom participation in the relay might be difficult, will receive campaign materials via U.S. mail and pledge by mail, via the offering plate, or at www.3crowns.org.

Why are we doing it this way? *Neighbor to Neighbor* provides a way to make connections with our Epiphany neighbors. The simple act of ringing a neighbor's doorbell and passing the bag from your household to theirs provides an opportunity for a deeper relationship with another member of the Parish.

How will it work?

- The 15 disciples, having received their bags, will complete his or her pledge card, seal it, put it in the bag, and pass the bag to the next household on the list.
- The bags will include a simple instruction sheet and routing list, including the names of the 15 to 20 households in the neighborhood; a letter from Associate Rector Miriam Gelfer describing our hopes for the 2018 campaign; a FAQs handout about stewardship at Epiphany; and a pledge form and return envelope for each participant.
- The relay portion of the campaign will run from 22 October to 13 November. Miriam's October 15th sermon encouraged us to pray and think about our pledge ahead of time, so that we can move the bag quickly when it arrives. There will be a "we have made our pledge online" checkbox on the card. Additionally, if needed, a family can pull their card and complete it later.
- Disciples will stay in touch with their neighborhoods and manage progress behind the scenes. Time is short, and the bag needs to move quickly! Three additional disciples will make themselves available, along with Stewardship Chair [Darwin Keith-Lucas](#) for questions and help.
- All the bags and any pledge cards that were either distributed by mail or pulled by parishioners will be returned to the Parish Office by Monday, 13 November for tallying before the ingathering on 19 November. On that day, we will rejoice in our neighbors and a job well done during the 10:00am service. A festive reception will follow!

We have often noted that each pledge, prayerfully made, is a building block – representing a foundation for our church's operating budget. Every commitment supports our day-to-day, local, and global ministries and mission. This year, we add to that the opportunity to deepen our connection to our nearest neighbors in Christ, those who worship with us at Epiphany.



Family Halloween Fellowship



This Sunday, 29 October at 11:15am in the Upper Parish Hall

All are welcome to enjoy coffee, conversation, snacks, and fun with a Halloween theme. Wear your costume or dress up as your favorite Saint. Come meet and connect with other families.



Rummage Sale Results



Thank you to everyone who helped make the annual fall rummage a success, those many people here during the week and those who came on Friday and Saturday. We couldn't have done it without you. We are happy to report that the sale raised \$3,171 for the mission and outreach ministries of the Parish.

Mark May 4th and 5th, 2018 on your calendar for the spring rummage sale!



MISSION
&
OUTREACH

Helping at Habitat for Humanity



My dad, Bill Saunders, has been working at [Habitat for Humanity](#) one Saturday every month with Epiphany's group for many years. I asked if I could join him this month after seeing all the devastation that hurricanes Maria, Irma, and Jose left behind. For each crisis, I usually try to find a way to help those in need, mostly with monetary donations. Recently, it seems there is something happening almost every week, so I've been trying to think of different ways to help others. Habitat was a great option since I've done it a few times in the past and it was a great way to spend the day with my dad and help someone locally.

This was one of my favorite trips because I was able to work on projects I've never done before and one of the homeowners, Joseph, was there working beside us. He is a veteran and has two children, who came to check out their rooms! He and my dad joked around with each other and he was very appreciative of the time and work we did. At the end of the day we were able to talk more and he told us how he still had not heard from his mother who lives in the mountains in Puerto Rico. I shared how some of my contacts from the hospitals down there have reached out and just how dire the situation is. We wished him and his family well and were hopeful that his cousin would be able to get up to the mountain to reach his mother soon and that he would be able to fly down there to visit.

Not only was it a fun day to work and learn with my hands and spend time with my dad, but it also was a free way to do some good for the community. It's been hard the past few months to find relief from the constant heartbreak, but Habitat helped to show me how just giving one's time can have a huge impact on someone else. Maybe if we all could do one small act of kindness for another, not only would we feel good, but we could start to see a positive shift in people's lives.

-Kate Saunders

Epiphany volunteers with the Merrimack Valley Habitat for Humanity, building and refurbishing houses in Lawrence, MA on the second Saturday of every month. There are jobs for all levels of skill and all are welcome. Youth between 16 and 18 must be accompanied by an adult. Contact [Bill Saunders](#) if you are interested in coming.



Plenty of Fabric to Make Bags for Haiti

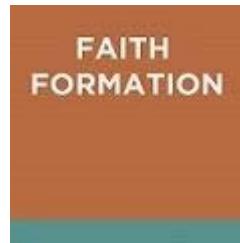


Plans are well underway for Epiphany's 2018 mission to Haiti that is scheduled for March 3–10, 2018. Would you like to participate in the next Haiti Mission by sewing cloth bags? A generous supply of fabric and sample sewing directions are available on the lower level, Higgins Formation Wing, in room 4. The directions are provided as a guide, not as rigid instructions. Take the stairs in the Hadley Hall entrance way. You will soon reach Room 4 in the lower hallway.

Over the past five years, the many Haiti bag sewers have created approximately 3,000 bags for the patients who have been seen by Epiphany's mission teams. We like to sew bags with colorful prints, plaids, or graphic designs. The bags are used to hold the medicines and vitamins that are given to families. These bags are appreciated for their immediate usefulness and are cherished as an attractive item that can be used over and over again.

For more information and any questions, contact [Jan Conrod](#) at 617.489.1247.





Adult Formation this Sunday at 11:15am



Join us in Hadley Hall this Sunday to hear Constance Perry, known to some of us from her work on the film *Traces of the Trade*, talk with us about Episcopal Relief and Development (ERD) and the amazing ministry of this organization here in the States and across the world.



Women's Spirituality Group

The Epiphany Women's Spirituality group meets on the first Wednesdays of the month from 12:30 to 2:30pm in the Sproat Room at Epiphany. Their next meeting is on Wednesday, 1 November. Let our souls soar and the right side of our brains flow! The group will draw our own mandalas as we ponder the relationship between God, creation, and all created beings including ourselves. We will explore a little sacred geometry as we use compasses, pencils, and markers! All supplies will be provided.



This Week at Epiphany

Monday, 23 October	<i>Parish Office Closed</i>
6:00pm & 7:30pm	AA
Tuesday, 24 October	
7:15am	Men's Group
6:00pm	Pray the Parish Prayer List
Wednesday, 25 October	
7:30am	Holy Eucharist in the Chapel
7:00pm	Adult Formation Committee
Thursday, 26 October	
9:00am	Contemplative Prayer
9:30am	Thursday with the Gospels Bible Study
7:30pm	Parish Choir Rehearsal
Friday, 27 October	
9:00am	Parent/Child Playgroup
10:00am	Prayer Shawl Team
Sunday, 29 October	
8:00am	Holy Eucharist
8:45am	Fellowship
9:00am	The Word Today Lectionary Discussion
9:45am	Children's Formation
10:00am	Holy Eucharist
10:00am	Children's Worship
11:15am	Family Fellowship
11:15am	Adult Formation

11:30am	Genesis Youth Group
6:00pm	YPF Youth Group

For more information

Our website can be [found here](#)

Information on our [Worship Services](#) can be found here

If you are [new to Epiphany](#), click here

Our complete [Parish calendar](#) can be found here

Sign-up for [on line pledge payments](#) here

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[Unsubscribe](#)