



Epiphany *Light*

Ministry highlights for December 22, 2019

That all might thrive and serve in the light of God's grace.



Welcome visitors!

If you are visiting with us, please complete the visitor information on the Blue Sign-up Slip in your bulletin. Epiphany's nurseries for infants and toddlers are staffed with adult childcare professionals. Children *age 5 and under* are welcome in the nurseries, located just outside the worship center. Of course, children of all ages are invited to worship. **Please have a cup of coffee with us in our Holy Beans Café** in the lobby. Check out our website, epiphanyswanee.org, for more information about Epiphany. And don't hesitate to contact us if we can be of service, 770-831-1966. Epiphany is a church that welcomes **ALL!**

Thanks to everyone who participated and volunteered their time for our Children's Christmas program!

Last Sunday, Epiphany's youth presented a wonderful retelling of the Christmas story, full of music and fun. Thank you to all of the youth who were involved and a special thanks to Candace Perkola for her direction.

Epiphany Today

Worship services are at 8:30 am and 11 am. There are no Faith Formation classes today, but we invite you to grab a cup of coffee in the gathering area and spend some time talking to other Epiphany members. Formation classes will resume on January 5.

Epiphany college and grad school students meet

TODAY Kris Perkola will be holding a bible study and discussion today after the 11 am service for our college students. Come catch up with friends, talk about how school is going and grab some lunch. The topic today will be "Forbidden Psalms".

Cottage Meeting & Discussion TODAY If you have any questions or want to discuss the proposed changes to our Bylaws regarding First Fruits giving and the 2020 budget, we will have discussion time with Pastor Chris in between services today and after the 11 am service.

Congregational Meeting on January 12 We will have a Congregational Meeting on Sunday, January 12 after the 11 am service to discuss and vote on the 2020 budget. Leading up to that, we are holding Cottage Meetings here at church to give you an opportunity to ask any questions you may have. The upcoming dates are Thursday, January 2 after Bible Study at 10 am; Sunday, January 5, in between services & after 11 am service; Wednesday, January 8 during dinner.

Upcoming Holiday Schedule

Christmas Eve Candlelight Services:

5 pm, 7 pm and 11 pm

Christmas Day Worship:

Lessons, Carols and Communion at 10 am.

Sunday, December 29: *ONE WORSHIP SERVICE at 10 am*
January 1:

Office Closed & No Wednesday Night Worship or Dinner

-The church office will have limited hours between Christmas Day and New Year's Day. Please call to make sure someone is here before dropping by.

Epiphany's Mission & Vision The process for updating our mission and vision statements will extend over the next few months and will be filled with a lot of learning, discussion, self-discovery, and fun. **Our next gathering is Sunday, January 12 at 6 pm.** Please bring a dish to share for a potluck dinner downstairs; we'll start our discussion over dinner. Nursery for kids age 5 and under will be available. Future meeting dates are February 16 & March 15. *Because this is an ongoing process, we need your attendance at each meeting, not just one.* So, get these dates on your calendar and help Epiphany continue to be the great church that it is!

Save the Date for Celebrate Epiphany As you start your holiday shopping, please remember to look for items you can purchase and donate for our annual Celebrate Epiphany dinner and silent auction/raffle. This adults-only fundraiser event will be held **Sunday, January 26, 5 - 8 pm.**

Celebrate Epiphany is the commemoration of Epiphany's anniversary as a church. Please give any items you purchase to Laurie Tinc and include the cost/value of the item. Tickets will go on sale on January 5 for \$25/each (cash & checks; payment by credit card will have a fee), and includes a catered dinner. Proceeds will go towards sending our high school youth to the 2021 ELCA National Youth Gathering in Minneapolis.

Realm Reminder If you have received an email invitation from us to create a Realm account, we need you to do so.

Our goal is to have the majority of members active on Realm by the end of the year since we will begin a full roll-out in January 2020. If you haven't received an email invitation yet or need help setting up or logging in to your Realm account, please see Laurie Tinc. **You may now give online directly from your Realm account and also check your giving and pledge totals going into the end of the year.** Other things you can do in Realm are set up regular, ongoing giving to Epiphany, change/update your address, phone number or email address, view the online church directory and see what events are coming up at Epiphany.

Book Club Selections January's book for the monthly book club is *Eleanor Oliphant is Completely Fine* by Gail Honeyman and will meet at La Madeleine French Café - Mall of Georgia/Buford on **Monday, January 20 at 7 pm.**

Follow us on **Instagram**, *epiphanysuwanee* and **Facebook** at *facebook.com/epiphanysuwaneega*

Epiphany's Official Affirmation of Welcome: Our unity is in Christ. We welcome all because God welcomes all, regardless of any human divisions: race or culture, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, or relationship status. We welcome all without regard to addictions, physical or mental conditions, imprisonment, socio-economic circumstances, or **anything** that often divides us.



- You may give via text message by texting "EPIPHANYGA" and the amount you want to give to 73256 -

Epiphany This Week

Monday, December 23

9:00 AM Staff & Worship Planning Meeting

Tuesday, December 24

5 PM, 7 PM & 11 PM Christmas Eve Services

Wednesday, December 25

10:00 AM Christmas Day Worship Service - Lessons, Carols & Communion

Thursday, December 26

- NO BIBLE STUDY TODAY -

Friday, December 27

6:30 AM Breakfast Bible study, (IHOP, 3463 L'ville-Suwanee Rd)

Sunday, December 29 - **ONE WORSHIP SERVICE TODAY**

10:00 AM **Worship Service** - No Faith Formation Classes

Office Hours: Monday-Thursday, 9 am-4 pm; Friday, 9 am-noon.
Contact *laurie.tinc@epiphanysuwanee.org* to schedule meetings; send info for the newsletter to Loren Means at *communications@epiphanysuwanee.org*.

Wednesdays at the Well Our midweek gathering provides a break in the middle of your week with a short sermon and communion. Steve Belfield will be preparing our Wednesday night dinners starting in January and we invite you to join us and get to know your fellow Epiphany members better over dinner.

We will not have Wednesday night dinner or worship service on December 25 and January 1. We will resume with dinner and worship on January 8.

Just So Seniors January Our Just So Seniors group will celebrate the start of the next decade with a nod to 2020. They'll meet at **10 am on January 9** in the coffee area for centering followed by their very own 20/20 News Magazine Extravaganza. Bring a friend and be ready to get to know some of our Epiphany Stars!

Daily Prayer Calendar

Please include these Epiphany families in your prayers this week:

Monday.....Glen, Dorothy & Katie Bergs
Tuesday.....Juergen, Nan & Lukas Berninger
Wednesday.....Kevin, Leslie, Bailey & Reese Bigott
Thursday.....Jack, Pam, Scarlett & Ben Bisikirski
Friday.....Eric, Stacia, Andrew & Corrine Bluhm
Saturday.....Bobbie Bock