



Epiphany *Light*

Ministry highlights for December 29, 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, epiphanysuwanee.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!**

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year! We hope you remember that the gift of God's son is for everyone! We are glad you are a part of Epiphany and pray that 2020 brings peace to each of you! Pictured are our Middle School/Confirmation kids bringing some Christmas cheer to local assisted living facilities with their annual community caroling outing.

Epiphany Today

We have one worship service today at 10 am and no Sunday School Formation time today. Worship services will return to 8:30 am and 11:00 am next Sunday, January 5.

Sunday School for all ages resumes next

Sunday, January 5 after Large Group Opening at

9:45 am. *What is Large Group Opening?* It's usually held on the first Sunday of each month in the Sanctuary at 9:45 am. We sing a couple of songs together, wish Happy Birthday to those with a birthday that month, and make a few quick announcements about what's going on at Epiphany. We then dismiss to Sunday School formation time from there.

End of Year Giving Today is the last day to make an end-of-year offering to Epiphany. If you need to check your current giving total for 2019, you may do so in Realm and you may also give directly from your online Realm account or at epiphanysuwanee.org/giving.

Congregational Meeting on January 12 We will have a Congregational Meeting on **Sunday, January 12** after the 11 am service to vote on the 2020 budget and the changes to our Bylaws regarding First Fruits. Leading up to that, we are holding Cottage Meetings/Q&A sessions here at church to give you an opportunity to discuss and 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 at 6 pm.

Upcoming Schedule Reminder:

January 1:

Office Closed & No Wednesday Night Worship or Dinner

-The church office will have limited hours from Christmas Day through 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. They 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.



Epiphany This Week

Monday, December 30

9:00 AM Staff & Worship Planning Meeting

Wednesday, January 1

-Church Office Closed - No Wednesday Night Dinner or Worship

Thursday, January 2

10:00 AM Bible Study, followed by Budget Q & A Session

Friday, January 3

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

Sunday, January 5

8:30 AM **Worship Service**

9:45 AM Large Group Opening, then Budget Q&A Session

11:00 AM **Worship Service**

12:00 AM Budget Q & A Session

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 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.....Ryan, Stephanie & Joshua Boylan
 Tuesday... Jerome Brown, Teresa Raetz, Ethan & Katie Brown
 Wednesday.....Rodger & Phyllis Bruaw
 Thursday..... Tony, Teresa, Noah & Desi Bullard
 Friday.....Helen Byepu
 Saturday.....Ike, Francis & Victoria Byepu