



Epiphany *Light*

Ministry highlights for January 5, 2020

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!**

Happy New Year! On the first day of the year we talk about fresh starts, the potential for new beginnings, and a clean slate. At the core of the Lutheran church is the gift of Grace. We are forgiven, not because of what we have done, but because God loves us. *If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation; everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!*

Epiphany Today

Worship services are at 8:30 am and 11 am. Large Group Opening is today at 9:45 am in the Sanctuary, immediately followed by Sunday School Faith Formation classes for all ages downstairs.

Signs outside the classrooms identify the age groups.

K & 1, 2nd & 3rd, 4th & 5th — Spark!

Middle School - downstairs in CIA Room

High School - downstairs in the Real Time room

Adults - Downstairs for Bible Study & Dialogues class

Sunday School for all ages resumes TODAY 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.

Q & A Session TODAY *Leading up to the January 12 congregational meeting, we are holding Q&A sessions here at church to give you an opportunity to discuss and ask any questions you may have ahead of time.* The remaining upcoming dates are **TODAY** in between services (after Large Group Opening) and after the 11 am service, and **Wednesday, January 8** during dinner at 6 pm.

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. Lunch will also be served and will be prepared by Steve Belfield. The meal will be a preview of what Wednesday Night Dinners are like since Steve will be preparing the meals for us starting this coming week. Since lunch will be provided, we need you to sign up on the Blue slip so we know how much food to prepare. We will need a quorum at the meeting, so please make it a priority to be present at this important gathering.

Epiphany's Mission & Vision Our next Mission & Vision discussion gathering was scheduled for Sunday, January 12 at 6 pm, but will be rescheduled to a date in the near future. Upcoming meeting dates are currently set for February 16 & March 15; we will let you know as soon as possible if those dates will be moved as well.

Tickets Now on Sale for Celebrate Epiphany Our annual Celebrate Epiphany dinner and silent auction/raffle is right around the corner! This adults-only fundraiser event will be held on **Sunday, January 26, 5 - 8 pm**. Celebrate Epiphany is the commemoration of Epiphany's anniversary as a church. Please give any items you have purchased for the silent auction or raffle to Laurie Tinc and include the cost/value of the item. Tickets are now on sale for \$25/each (cash & checks; payment by credit card will include a processing 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. We need to have members active on Realm since we will begin rolling out more features and uses in January. 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.** Other things you can do in Realm are set up regular, ongoing giving to Epiphany, change/update your contact information, view the online church directory and see what events are coming up.

Text Giving Is Now Available Leave your wallet at home? Don't carry your checkbook around with you? No problem! You can now text an offering to Epiphany by texting "EPIPHANYGA" to 73256. You may then choose to pay from your bank account or by credit card. We do ask that you check the box to contribute a little extra to cover the processing fees.

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](https://www.instagram.com/epiphanysuwanee) and Facebook at [facebook.com/epiphanysuwaneega](https://www.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, January 6

9:00 AM Staff & Worship Planning Meeting

Wednesday, January 8

6:00 PM Wednesday Night Dinner/Q&A Session

7:00 PM **Worship Service**

8:00 PM Worship Rehearsal

Thursday, January 9

10:00 AM Just So Seniors & Bible Study

Friday, January 10

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

Sunday, January 12

8:30 AM **Worship Service**

11:00 AM **Worship Service**

12:00 AM Congregational Meeting & Lunch

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. **Join us for dinner at 6 pm**—dinner will be Huli Huli Chicken, Fried Rice, Ginger Carrots, Asian Slaw, Coconut Wedding Cake & dessert. Suggested free-will offering is \$6/adult, \$3/child. Cash, checks, and credit cards accepted. *We invite you to join us and get to know your fellow Epiphany members better over dinner!* Sign up on the Blue slip. **Worship is at 7 pm;** worship Rehearsal follows at 8 pm.

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.....Jim Carella
 Tuesday.....Lori & Loren Carella
 Wednesday.....Gail Chopra
 Thursday.....Dan, Megan, Andrew & Charlotte Coates
 Friday.....Tom, Lisa, Michael & Katie Condon
 Saturday.....John & Sherry Cullin