

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH NEWS

14-01 • POWELLEPISCOPAL.COM • EPIPHANY 2014

Ah-Ha!

It's the moment of sudden realization. A spiritual flash. A revealing scene that opens the door to comprehension or perceptions. You have probably had one – an encounter that changes the way you see things. Or changes the way you see yourself. It may reorder your work flow, solve problems, create understanding, or unblock your conscience. Yep, that's an epiphany.

This is the season we celebrate epiphanies. Not just our own, but those moments in our history when the cosmic Spiritual Flash was experienced collectively. When the abstract idea of God became fact and action in Jesus, and the people around him began to see things differently, began to see themselves differently.

The Epiphany, the big one, is celebrated annually on January 6 each

year, in commemoration of the coming of the Magi as the first manifestation of Christ to the Gentiles. The season of Epiphany continues by looking at various events that emphasize the divinity of Jesus. The Baptism of our Lord is observed on the Sunday after Epiphany. The Last Sunday after the Epiphany is always devoted to the Transfiguration, when Jesus' identity as the Son of God is dramatically revealed.

The themes of Epiphany are of light, anointing and commissioning for public ministry. This season of the church year gives opportunity to reflect upon our own Baptism and rededicate ourselves to the ministry of spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ, which requires changing the way we see things, and especially how we see ourselves.

Chalk One Up

A part of church history is the custom of blessing homes during Epiphany. By doing so, we invite Jesus to be a guest in our home, a listener to

each conversation, a guide for troubled times, and a blessing in times of thanksgiving.

“Chalking the door” or the door step

St. John's
EPISCOPAL CHURCH
308 MOUNTAIN VIEW
P. O. BOX 846
POWELL, WY 82435-0846

may be used as a way to celebrate and literally mark the occasion. In the Old Testament the Israelites were told to mark their doors with the blood of the lamb on the night of the Passover to ensure that the angel of death would pass them by. Deuteronomy 6: 9 says that we shall “write [the words of God] on your heart; and you shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house ... and you shall write them on the door posts of your house and on your gates.”

Chalk is made of the substance of the earth. As the image of the chalk fades, we will remember the sign

we have made and transfer it to our hearts and our habits.

Typically, blessed chalk is used to write: 20+C+M+B+14 above the doorways or on the steps: 20 for the century; C, M, B for the 3 Magi (Casper, Melchior, and Balthasar) and for Christus Mansionem Benedicat, (Latin for “May Christ Bless this House”) and 14 for the year.

Chalk will be blessed during our regular service on January 12, 2014. Each household may take a packet with chalk and suggestions for prayers and markings to welcome and invite the Christ in each who crosses the threshold.

Eucharistic Bread

During this Season of Epiphany, St. John’s will be using homemade Eucharistic Bread. The word “Eucharist” comes from the Greek eucharistia and means “thanksgiving.” It is the principal act of worship of the Christian religion, otherwise known as Holy Communion, the Lord’s Supper, the Divine Liturgy, and the Great Offertory. This name has been used from at least the second century. The Last Supper provides the basis for the fourfold Eucharistic action of taking, blessing, breaking, and sharing. Christ’s body and blood are present in the sacrament of the Eucharist and received by faith. Christ’s presence is also known in the gathered Eucharistic community.

The community of St. John’s is becoming more regular in the use of home-made Eucharistic bread. This is not to say that it is better than the wafers. Both forms unite us at the altar as we share in this communal rite. Making home-made Eucharistic bread requires simple tools and ingredients. These simple ingredients are combined following a recipe. It is an individual process undertaken with commitment, love, and hope, to share each Sunday. The mixing of the ingredients and heat of the oven transforms into a loaf of bread. As a community, we come to the Table to partake of the bread and wine, to open ourselves to Christ’s presence in and among us, to be transformed.

Altar Guild:

January

Jo DeWitt and Dolores Woods

St. John’s Annual Meeting:

January 26

Powell Valley Care Center

Birthday Party:

Monday, January 13 at 2:30 p.m.

Thrift Shop Cleaning Days:

Mon., Jan. 27, at 1 p.m.

Mon., Feb. 24, at 1 p.m.

PVCC Service

Sunday, March 9 at 2:30 p.m.

Birthdays & Anniversaries

January

- 15 Gretchen Beerline
- 20 Walt McCauley
- 20 Kathy Riley
- 23 Doug Bettger
- 26 Rusty McKeen
- 30 Carra Wetzell

February

- 7 Charlie Larsen
- 13 Jim & Susan McEvoy
- 10 Miles Rumbolz
- 13 Rachelle Burgess
- 14 Jo DeWitt
- 16 Justine Larsen
- 18 Walt Seeley
- 21 Jan Lehnard
- 21 Laura Greathouse

Powell Valley Loaves & Fishes contributions are always needed and appreciated. There is a basket for these contributions in the Narthex for items that will be delivered to the Annex.

The Rev. Megan Nickles (754-4218) is available at any time. Please call to make an appointment or for any emergency.

St. John's Schedule • Epiphany 2014 • January & February

Date	January 12	January 19	January 26	February 2	February 9	February 16	February 23	March 2
Day	Epiphany I	Epiphany 2	Epiphany 3	Epiphany 4	Epiphany 5	Epiphany 6	Epiphany 7	Last of Epiphany
Greeters	Rob Koelling	Martha Moewes	Jim McEvoy	Josephine DeWitt	Genny Bettger	Pete Chidsey	Rob Koelling	Elaine DeBuhr
Acolyte	Deb Koelling	Adele Doughty	Susan McEvoy	Walter Johnson	Chester Bettger	Deb Chidsey	Deb Koelling	Katy Lytle
Worship Leader	Dylan McEvoy	Dylan McEvoy	Grant Dillivan	Natalie Dillivan	Dylan McEvoy	Augusta Larsen	Josh Wright	Grant Nickles
Lectors	Mary Dillivan	Laura Greathouse	Jan Lenhard	Robert Rumbolz	Mary Dillivan	Carra Wetzel	Charlotte Patrick	Rob Rumbolz
Presider	Scott Larsen	Mickey Waddell	Genny Bettger	Bill Hassler	Jim McEvoy	Steve Nickles	Josephine DeWitt	Deb Koelling
Intercessor	Justine Larsen	Tim Seeley	Scott Larsen	Katy Lytle	Susan McEvoy	Elaine DeBuhr	Justine Larsen	Rob Koelling
Preacher	Warren Murphy	Ron Lytle	Megan Nickles	Megan Nickles	Megan Nickles	Ron Lytle	Megan Nickles	Megan Nickles
Sound	Charlotte Patrick	Rob Rumbolz	Carra Wetzel	Laura Greathouse	Jan Lenhard	Mary Dillivan	Charlotte Patrick	Laura Greathouse
Flowers	Warren Murphy	Carra Wetzel	Charlotte Patrick	Megan Nickles	Mary Dillivan	Carra Wetzel	Diana Anderson	Charlotte Patrick
Coffee	Rob Rumbolz	Scott Larsen	Miles Rumbolz	Grant Nickles	Rob Rumbolz	Scott Larsen	Miles Rumbolz	Grant Nickles
	Koellings	Patricks	Patricks	Weems	Weems	DeBuhr	DeBuhr	
	Tim Seeley	Patricks	Lunch (Annual Meeting)	Larsens	Larsens			

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