



108 West Farriss Avenue • High Point, North Carolina 27262 • 336-886-4756 • www.stmarysepisc.org

# JANUARY 2012

VOLUME 4, ISSUE 1

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In the (not so) bleak midwinter

One of my favorite Christmas carols is Christina Rossetti's "In the bleak midwinter." As I write this note just before Christmas, I look out of my window at a High Point that is anything but bleak. This time last year, we had already experienced several dustings of snow and were unknowingly awaiting the arrival of a significant snowfall on Christmas. Today, the high will be near 60 degrees.

Though our setting may not be quite as severe this year, the message of Rossetti's hymn still resonates.

What can I give him, poor as I am?  
 If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;  
 if I were a wise man, I would do my part;  
 yet what I can I give him -- give my heart.

The season of Christmas (all twelve days of it) is a yearly reminder and call to a renewed focus on giving. I do not mean to limit our definition of giving to the kinds of exchanges we know from Christmas morning. To the contrary, Christmas opens up the possibilities for giving.

What are you giving this Christmas? What possibilities for generosity does this new year hold for you? We are not asked to give any more than we have to give. Our resources, talents, and abilities vary. Yet we all share the love of God dwelling in our hearts, and it is out of that love that we move outside of ourselves to meet the needs of a needful world.

Merry Christmas. Happy New Year. Joyful giving.

Pax et bonum,

David+

*Where faith embraces reason and tradition*

## St. MARY'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

# Sara's Column

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## From the Assistant to the Rector

Dear friends,

I wish you all a joy-filled celebration of the birth of love incarnate, God's Son, Jesus Christ.

As I continue to reflect on my time in Haiti, I am thankful for so many things. First, fresh air; how wonderful it is to breathe in air that is full of oxygen rather than dust and filth. Second, what joy to be able to walk without fear on my own. Third, what a blessing to have clean water on tap whenever we want, and our own private toilet! Here in the USA, I do not need to tightly close my mouth whenever I take a shower, for fear of ingesting polluted water and getting really sick. (Yet, how blessed I was to stay at the Villa Creole hotel and actually have access to ANY water!) The plastic sheets which constitute home for thousands of God's children in Haiti have no access to water on tap, polluted or otherwise). I am so thankful not to have to think before I brush my teeth! To brush one's teeth with tap water rather than name-brand bottled water is to risk getting intestinal parasites and stomach upset! Fourth, I am so thankful to still have my family living...so many lives were lost in the January 12<sup>th</sup> earthquake in Port-au-Prince.

As I think about the birth of God's precious only little boy, I compare giving birth here in the USA in the 21<sup>st</sup> century with how giving birth was for Mary over 2,000 years ago. Mary's experience was more like that of Haitian women: no sterile surgical instruments to cut the cord, no doctor or nurse present, no epidural or pain medication of any kind, no hot running water to clean up with...just Joseph to deliver Jesus, Joseph who was older and had never been a father before! There outside in the cold cave, because there was no room in the inn, lay a young teenage girl giving birth for the first time, on scratchy straw, attended by stinky animals... Hardly circumstances I would have chosen for the birth of my only Son, had I been God! And yet, God in His wisdom chose for Jesus to be born in a cave in the middle of nowhere, one star-lit night. May we ponder with great wonder all that God chose to suffer out of love for His broken world. In Jesus' birth, life and death, God shows us that we are never alone, no matter what we are going through. And we can be God's presence to those who are hurting too.

Best wishes,

Sara+



Haiti



Outgoing Community Foundation Chairman, AB Henley, Rev'd Palmer, and Community Foundation President, Paul Lessard at the awards luncheon in December. St. Mary's Hispanic Ministries received a \$6,000 grant to help provide childcare during our ESL classes in 2012.

# Christian Formation

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## Lectionary Class

Dates: Sundays at 10:00am

Facilitator: Ed Crissman

Location: Rm. 115 Ed. Bldg.

## The Bible and Theology

Dates: Sundays at 10:00am

Facilitator: David Idol

Location: Common Room

## Adult Forum

Dates: Sundays at 10:00am

Facilitator: Various

Location: Parish Hall

January 1: No Forum

January 8: Instructed Eucharist (beginning at 9:00am) - Fr. Umphlett

January 15: Mission Opportunities in Haiti - Susan Yelton

January 22: TBD

January 29: Reflections on a recent trip to Haiti. The Rev. Sara Palmer will speak about her experience of being the Presiding Bishop's official Observer for the historic election of the first Suffragan Bishop of Haiti. Come and learn more about Haiti and the lives of our brothers and sisters there!

## Mother's of Young Children Bible Study

Facilitator: Rev. Palmer

Location: Common Room

Every Monday morning at 9:30a.m. and will last until 10:45. The group will study a specific chapter each week. Childcare is provided. Beginning September 12, 2011.

## Women's Bible Study

Facilitator: Mary Darby

Location: Common Room

A Bible study for women on Wednesdays at 9:30 am in the Common Room. All women are invited to attend. Please call Mary Darby at 889-3581 if interested.

## Children & Youth

### Youth Bible Study

Facilitator: Fr. Umphlett

Location: Carter Brothers

Every Wednesday morning at 7 a.m. we gather with the Rector at Carter Brothers on Main Street for breakfast and Bible study. All middle and high schoolers are welcome.

Classes are Sunday at 10:00 a.m.

Nursery 10:00 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.

<u>Curriculum</u>	<u>Grade</u>	<u>Room</u>
Infant Nursery	Birth through age 1ish	E-109
Toddler Nursery	1ish through age 2ish	E-111 & E113
Pre-Kindergarten	3 through 5ish	E-206
Godly Play 1	Kindergarten through Grade 2	E-215
Godly Play 2	Grade 3 through Grade 5	E-217
God Talks	Grades 6-12	Little House

Children's Chapel during the 11:00 a.m. liturgy on Sundays beginning from Church.

## Epiphany Evensong & Talent Show

On January 6<sup>th</sup>, the Church in the West commemorates the arrival of the Magi at the manger. This feast begins a new season of the Churchyear, one focused on the various ways in which Christ's identity was made manifest to the world.

On January 6, 2012, we will gather at St. Mary's for Choral Evensong at 6:00 p.m. followed by a covered-dish supper in the Parish Hall. Saint Mary's Choir will be present to lead the singing of Epiphany hymns and the canticles.

Continuing in the tradition of recent years, those interested in sharing their various talents with the church are invited to do so. We share our talents with one another in remembrance of the Wise Men's gifts to the infant Jesus. At the Epiphany supper in 2010 we had folks offer poetry, dance, song, and instrumental pieces.

## Diocesan Convention

Members of St. Mary's will join with representatives from all the other parishes of the Diocese of North Carolina for the 196<sup>th</sup> convention of the diocese. The Vestry has selected the following people to represent us in the councils of the church: Alicia Archibald, Evie Cottam, Kathi Jacobs and Judy Stalder. Sara Palmer and David Umphlett both also have voting rights as clergy persons. Katie Cottam serves as an alternate youth representative for our Convocation. Please keep all these members of St. Mary's and all those gathered in Winston-Salem in your prayers as

## Instructed Eucharist

Ever wonder why we do what we do in worship and why it all matters? On January 8<sup>th</sup> at the 9:00 a.m. liturgy, we will celebrate an instructed Eucharist to answer our questions. The Rector will lead us through the Eucharistic service explaining everything from seating arrangements to vestments to vessels to prayer postures. This instruction will also serve as an early Communion class for those families wishing to have an educational experience before its youngest members begin to receive the Blessed Sacrament.

This fun worship experience will continue into the 10:00 a.m. Christian Formation hour and will serve as church school for all ages on that day. Our 8:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. worship services will continue as usual on that day.



## Haiti Mission Forum

On Sunday, January 15<sup>th</sup>, at the 10:00a.m. Christian Formation Hour in the Parish Hall, Susan Yelton from All Saints' Concord will speak about her work with CODEP in Haiti over the last 12 years. She is offering to partner with Saint Mary's members to go on a week mission trip in the Fall to the countryside outside Port-au-Prince. EXCITING!!! It will be Saint Mary's FIRST OVERSEAS MISSION TRIP FOR ADULTS! It will be life-changing!

## Stewardship

“Twas the night before Christmas, when all through the house, not a creature was stirring, not even a mouse”. Actually it’s the 18<sup>th</sup> of December, the last Sunday in Advent, as I sit and compose what will be my last article for the Herald as Stewardship Chair. For some reason though, I haven’t been able to get that poem out of my head. Can anyone tell me what a sugarplum is, and do any of you men out there sleep in a cap? Okay. It appears I’m procrastinating. It’s a bittersweet time for me. I can just see the waves of relief cresting over the horizon, bringing with them the full knowledge that I’ll be sitting in the ever coveted past chair seat next year. However, I can’t help but divert my gaze and refocus my attention to all that lies just over my shoulder.

As I look back, I see all the wonderful acts of stewardship you’ve provided this year. Well, I say this year, but I realize now that so much of what I’m seeing was going on long before I made the effort to notice. You’ve been providing light and hope to this community for decades. The actions and participants, too many to list, vary just as the needs change. You always adapt. You’ve endeavored to feed the hungry, clothe the needy, and tend to the sick and suffering. Your energy and compassion has created an environment in which our aged can be rejuvenated, our young can be nourished, and our forgotten can be made visible again.

By doing these things, you have adjusted the lens on this man’s cynical eyes. And what was the reward for your acts of selflessness? That’s right, you were then asked to give again, and more. Without hesitation you did, to an amount thus far just over \$554,000. That’s 96% of the every member canvass goal. As you read this, there should still be a few days left to return your pledge card or make your pledge online. Please do so as soon as possible. I know, again with the asking. It’s just that you always seem to answer. Amazing.

As Advent departs and Christmas arrives, we tend to pay extra attention to the good our God does in this world. Not coincidentally this correlates with our celebration of His gift to us, that of His son Jesus. Not unlike children who suddenly have a better appreciation for their parents just after opening a longed-for present, we reserve this time to become acutely aware of all that He does for us. And what a gift we’ve received. We “unwrap” this gift throughout the season only to find that there is so much more than the original packaging suggests. The wrapping is peeled back and we discover the additional gifts of light and guidance, forgiveness and redemption. He really is the gift that keeps on giving.

So, as we dress our children as wise men and allow the youngest among us to reveal the splendor of the birth narrative, let us not forget that God’s gift is not to be revered only once a year. On the contrary, we should celebrate Him every day, all year. Oh, don’t forget that this gift is meant to be shared. And, because of this gift, we can lay our heads down at night feeling the love and warmth of our God and pray, as that lingering poem in my head suggests, “to all a good night”. And that, my friends, is stewardship.

*-Tony Bertschi*

# Music News

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## Music Academy News

Two of our new ABC Scholarship students are pictured here. Nvri Terruzas is a fourth grader at Oak Hill Elementary School. She lives with her Mother and Sister on Dorothy St. Nvri takes piano lessons while her Mother attends the ESL classes at St. Mary's. She is a very eager student who tries very hard and is excited about learning to play music. Bryan Martinez is in the fourth grade at Trinity Elementary School and has two siblings. His Mother studies English through the ESL classes on Tuesday evenings. Bryan has a strong desire to learn how to play the piano and is a fast learner. His father came to a lesson and tried to learn along with his son. These students are able to study music because of the ABC Scholarship Fund. Please continue to donate so that more students will be able to learn.



## Musical Events

Sunday, January 1

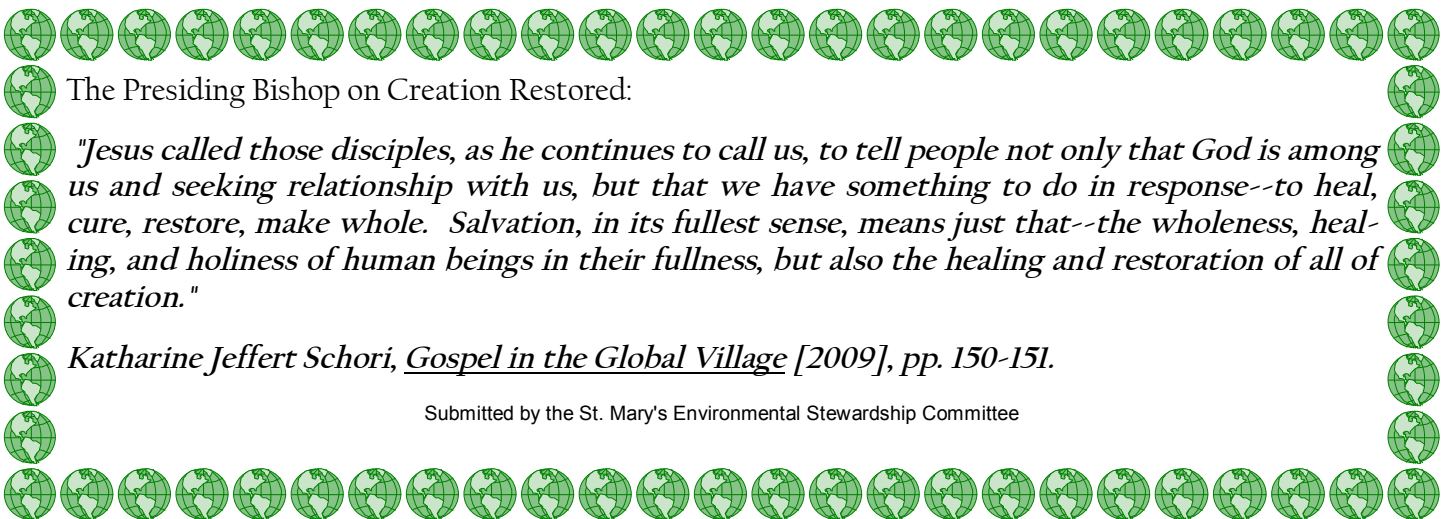
Christmas Lessons & Carols with St. Mary's Choir at 11:00a.m.

This venerable service, which originated at Kings College Chapel, Cambridge, has been observed at St. Mary's for nearly half a century. A wide variety of readers recount the beloved story alternating with hymns and carols sung by the choir and the congregation.

Friday, January 6

The Epiphany Choral Evensong at 6:00p.m.

This is a great repertoire of hymns, anthems, and prayers for the season of Epiphany, some of which will be heard at the Evensong service. There is a covered dish supper in the Parish Hall following the service.



The Presiding Bishop on Creation Restored:

*"Jesus called those disciples, as he continues to call us, to tell people not only that God is among us and seeking relationship with us, but that we have something to do in response--to heal, cure, restore, make whole. Salvation, in its fullest sense, means just that--the wholeness, healing, and holiness of human beings in their fullness, but also the healing and restoration of all of creation."*

Katharine Jeffert Schori, *Gospel in the Global Village* [2009], pp. 150-151.

Submitted by the St. Mary's Environmental Stewardship Committee

# Prayers & Milestones

Nicole Pulliam  
 Patti Burns  
 Ernst Lenz  
 Carol Kenn  
 DJ  
 Frances Cobbler  
 Morgan Craven & Family  
 Robert Vera  
 Stella McRainey



Bryan Noah  
 Jimmy Rogers  
 Ruth Jones  
 Dee Irwin  
 Luke Neal  
 Lucy  
 Sue Hagan  
 Frank Falkson  
 John

*"O Lord our God, accept the fervent prayers of your people; in the multitude of your mercies, look with compassion upon us and all who turn to you for help; for you are gracious, O lover of souls, and to you we give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen"*

## New Members

St. Mary's welcomes the following individuals to our church family:

By Transfer: Ken Rogers, Eleanor Rogers, John Rogers, JoAnne Stilley

## January Birthdays

01	Joseph Hayworth	10	Frann White	22	Charles Lynch
	Stacy Hoots		Robert Hoots		Mary Eliza Duckett
02	Judy Straight		Peter Gary Biesecker		Natasha McClellan
	Kim Chaney	11	Alan Chaney		Madeline Rhoton
03	Tim Yates		Jessica Henderson	24	Will Moore
	Frosty Culp		Kieler Kunder	25	David Farshing
	Berkley Brehm	12	Lori Brown	27	Suzanne Lea
04	Richard Uhlin	14	Evie Cottam		Jeff Brown
05	Ann Crowell	15	Patti Saunders		Sam Duckett
	Cece Biesecker	17	Joan Betsill		Lauren McHenry
06	Candice Greig	18	Richard Miller		Avery Higgins
	Lorinda Umphlett		Barbara Farshing-Lemere	28	Mildred Taylor
07	Kerie Beth Scott	19	Paul Miller	29	Marita Gates
08	Jim Snow	21	Kitty Congdon		Dean Richeson
	Melanie McNamara		Larry Warlick	30	Ma-Ziah Watakila
			Margaret McDonald		Liam Hoots
			Laura Johnson		

To notify the church of illness, hospitalization, birth, death, or prayer request, contact Shannon in the church office: 886-4756 x21 or [administrator@stmarysepisc.org](mailto:administrator@stmarysepisc.org).

**ST. MARY'S  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

108 W. Farriss Avenue  
High Point, NC 27262

Tel: 336-886-4756

Fax: 336-886-6150

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[www.stmarysepisc.org](http://www.stmarysepisc.org)

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We Pray for the Health and Wellness of:

The deadline for the next Herald is January 18.  
Please e-mail your submissions to: [administrator@stmarysepisc.org](mailto:administrator@stmarysepisc.org)

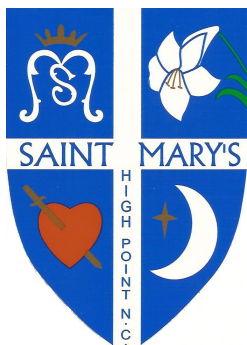
**Services at St. Mary's**

*Sundays*

8:00 a.m. – Holy Eucharist  
9:00 a.m. - Informal Worship  
11:00 a.m. – Holy Eucharist

*Wednesdays*

12:00 noon – Holy Eucharist



*Office Hours:*

Monday & Wednesday  
8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Tuesday, Thursday & Friday  
8:30 a.m. - 12:30p.m.  
1:30p.m. - 5:00p.m.

**CLERGY & STAFF**

**The Rev.'d David Umphlett**  
Rector  
[davidu@stmarysepisc.org](mailto:davidu@stmarysepisc.org)

**The Rev'd Sara Palmer**  
Assistant to the Rector  
[sarap@stmarysepisc.org](mailto:sarap@stmarysepisc.org)

**The Rev'd Nathan Fynn**  
Priest Associate  
[finninn@canterburygso.org](mailto:finninn@canterburygso.org)

**Katrina Parnell**  
Financial Secretary  
[katrinap@stmarysepisc.org](mailto:katrinap@stmarysepisc.org)

**Shannon Carter**  
Parish Administrative Asst.  
[administrator@stmarysepisc.org](mailto:administrator@stmarysepisc.org)

**Dr. Harold G. Andrews**  
Organist & Choirmaster  
[organcraftofnc@att.net](mailto:organcraftofnc@att.net)

**Dr. Charles Hogan**  
Director of Children's & Youth Choirs  
[charlesh@stmarysepisc.org](mailto:charlesh@stmarysepisc.org)

**Margaret McDonald**  
Music Academy Director  
[musicacademy@northstate.net](mailto:musicacademy@northstate.net)

**Artie Ross - Sexton**

**Vestry**

Joe Fisher, Senior Warden  
Tim Yates, Junior Warden  
Jim Armstrong, Jon Baird, Frosty Culp,  
Mary Darby, Candy Fenn, Joe Fisher, Kim  
Gay, Herb Goins, Kerie Beth Scott, Johnny  
Slate, Tim Yates, Audrey Yowell  
Fritz Falkson, clerk

**Episcopal Diocese of North Carolina**

The Rt. Rev'd Michael B. Curry  
Bishop

The Rt. Rev'd William O. Gregg  
Assistant Bishop

The Rt. Rev'd Alfred C. Marble,  
Assisting Bishop

# January 2011

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p><b>1 The Holy Name</b></p> <p>8:00am Holy Eucharist 9:00am Informal Worship 10:00am Christian Formation 11:00am Christmas Lessons &amp; Carols 2-4:00pm Sudanese Worship</p>	<p>2</p> <p>Church Offices Closed!</p>	<p>3</p> <p>EFM Classes – 6 – 9:00pm</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Youth Bible Study 7:30am Women's Bible Study 9:30am Holy Eucharist – 12 noon Adult Choir Rehearsal 7:30pm</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p> <p>Epiphany Evensong w/ Covered Dish Supper and Talent Show 6:00p.m.</p>	<p>7</p>
<p><b>8 The First Sunday After Epiphany</b></p> <p>8:00am Holy Eucharist 9:00am Instructed Eucharist 10:00am No Christian Formation 11:00am Holy Eucharist 2-4:00pm Sudanese Worship</p>	<p>9</p> <p>Mothers of Young Children Bible Study 9:30am Staff Meeting 11:00am Daughters of the King 7:00p.m.</p>	<p>10</p> <p>EFM Classes – 6 – 9:00pm ESL Registration 6:00 – 8:30p.m.</p>	<p>11</p> <p>Youth Bible Study 7:30am Women's Bible Study 9:30am Holy Eucharist – 12 noon Adult Choir Rehearsal 7:30pm Scouts 7:00 – 8:30pm</p>	<p>12</p> <p>ESL Registration 6:00 – 8:30p.m.</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p>
<p><b>15 The Second Sunday After Epiphany</b></p> <p>8:00am Holy Eucharist 9:00am Informal Worship 10:00am Christian Formation 11:00am Holy Eucharist 2-4:00pm Sudanese Worship</p>	<p>16</p> <p>Mothers of Young Children Bible Study 9:30am Vestry Meeting 5:30pm</p>	<p>17</p> <p>EFM Classes – 6 – 9:00pm ESL Classes 6:00 – 8:30p.m.</p>	<p>18</p> <p>Herald Deadline Youth Bible Study 7:30am Women's Bible Study 9:30am Holy Eucharist – 12 noon Adult Choir Rehearsal 7:30pm</p>	<p>19</p> <p>ESL Classes 6:00 – 8:30p.m.</p>	<p>20</p> <p>Diocesan Convention</p>	<p>21</p> <p>Diocesan Convention</p>
<p><b>22 The Third Sunday After Epiphany</b></p> <p>8:00am Holy Eucharist 9:00am Informal Worship 10:00am Christian Formation 11:00am Holy Eucharist 2-4:00pm Sudanese Worship</p>	<p>23</p> <p>Mothers of Young Children Bible Study 9:30am Staff Meeting 11:00am</p>	<p>24</p> <p>EFM Classes – 6 – 9:00pm ESL Classes 6:00 – 8:30p.m.</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Youth Bible Study 7:30am Women's Bible Study 9:30am Holy Eucharist – 12 noon Adult Choir Rehearsal 7:30pm Scouts 7:00 – 8:30pm</p>	<p>26</p> <p>ESL Classes 6:00 – 8:30p.m.</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p>
<p><b>29 The Fourth Sunday After Epiphany</b></p> <p>8:00am Holy Eucharist 9:00am Informal Worship 10:00am Christian Formation 11:00am Holy Eucharist 2-4:00pm Sudanese Worship</p>	<p>30</p> <p>Mothers of Young Children Bible Study 9:30am</p>	<p>31</p> <p>EFM Classes – 6 – 9:00pm ESL Classes 6:00 – 8:30p.m.</p>				

# SUNDAY WORSHIP

January 1 – January 29

Lectors: Revon Johnson: 886-2176  
Greeters: Beth Tuttle: 885-8232

Chalicers: Rick Manning: 510-9820  
Acolytes: Herb Goins: 887-3508/John Wall: 454-4947

Ushers: Tim Yates: 889-6872  
Intercessors: Dorothy Darr 887-5130

SUNDAY	LECTORS	CHALICERS	INTERCESSORS	USHERS	GREETERS	ACOLYTES	COFFEE CON- NECTION
<b>1 The Holy Name</b> 8:00 am Holy Eucharist 9:00am Informal Worship 11:00am Christmas Lessons & Carols	TBA N/A	TBA TBA TBA	Joey Darr	Gray Cunningham Craig Darby Joey Darr Herb Goins	N/A	N/A Peyton Kunder Rebeca Rodriguez Elisabeth Bachmann Kate Bachmann Daniel Rodriguez	Ushers
<b>8 The 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday After Epiphany</b> 8:00 am Holy Eucharist 9:00am Informal Worship 11:00am Holy Eucharist	Wayne/Kathi Jacobs Paul Sicheloff	TBA TBA TBA	Ken Huggins	Gray Cunningham Craig Darby Joey Darr Herb Goins	Kathi Jacobs Wayne Jacobs	Katie Cottam Jackson Fetner Annabelle Fisher Eliza Fisher Lindsey Tripp Alex Hill	Vestry
<b>15 The 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday After Epiphany</b> 8:00 am Holy Eucharist 9:00am Informal Worship 11:00am Holy Eucharist	Todd Newman Denise Reagan	TBA TBA TBA	Dudley Moore	Charlie Hartsoe John Haworth Brett Higgins Eric Hill	Kirsten Bertschi Tony Bertschi	Trevor Gay Peyton Kunder Edward Linder Landon Bertschi Emory Howell Adam Howell	Brotherhood
<b>22 The 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday After Epiphany</b> 8:00 am Holy Eucharist 9:00am Informal Worship 11:00am Holy Eucharist	Chris/Malia Grimes Alicia Archibald	TBA TBA TBA	Jim Snow	Charlie Hartsoe John Haworth Brett Higgins Eric Hill	Margaret Lewis Rick Lewis	Jackson Fetner Caroline Cottam Ben White Christian Wither Nicky Archibald Katie Cottam	Choir
<b>29 The 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Epiphany</b> 8:00 am Holy Eucharist 9:00am Informal Worship 11:00am Holy Eucharist	Eliza Fisher Ed Crissman	TBA TBA TBA	Rachel Richardson	Robert Hoots David Idol Phil Johnston Robert Kuhn	Mary Beth Yates Tim Yates	Alex Hill Asia Brown Elsa Rose Karcher Blake Brown Carter Gay Trevor Gay	Planned Giving