

THE ENLIGHTENER

Epiphany United Church of Christ, St. Louis, Missouri

November 2017



FROM THE BEEbe HIVE

The Road to Heaven is Paved with Good Intentions

My father, Clifford Beebe, was also an ordained minister. Or perhaps I should say that I am also a minister, since he came first! My late twin brother, Paul was an ordained minister too. You might say it runs in the family.

My father had his own unique viewpoints on matters of faith, some of which I have inherited. He tended to be fairly traditional in his beliefs (more so than I am) but he questioned many rules he thought were “Man’s work.” And he was very understanding about those who were a bit “outside the lines.”

There are two passages of scripture that he liked to quote. The first, from 2nd Chronicles 30, concerned a time when the temple had been reclaimed and rededicated. Hezekiah had called the people to “purify” themselves and prepare after many lapsed years to observe the Passover. However some people, who came from afar, had not followed the ritual rules. So Hezekiah prayed this prayer:

(Continue on page 2.)

In This Issue

- Search Committee seeking feedback
- Poinsettia orders
- Fundraising opportunities
- Sanctuary
- Much more



New Website!

If you haven't checked it out yet, go to www.epiphanyucc.org and see the new site design. Share it with your friends and family.

And a big thanks to Lauren Verseman for all the work she put into the new website!

(Continued from Page 1)

“May the good Lord forgive everyone who has decided to seek the true God, the Lord, the God of their ancestors, even though they aren’t ceremonially clean by sanctuary standards.” The text says that God heard Hezekiah’s prayer and healed the people.

Sometimes we may not do it “right” but our hearts and our intentions are right and God accepts them.

The second passage is from Jeremiah, chapter 2: “My people have committed two crimes: They have forsaken me, the spring of living water. And they have dug wells, broken wells that can't hold water.”

I too become concerned if the rules that we establish get in the way of genuine spiritual discovery, though I know that often breaking the rules hurts people. But it is the people that matter. That is why Jesus said: “The Sabbath was created for humans; humans weren’t created for the Sabbath.” (Mark 6:61 CEB)

Grace and peace,

David Beebe, Interim Pastor

Conference Office Mail Notification

The USPS has recently expanded the scope of their automated sorting operations. As a result, the Conference office has been notified that all mail should be addressed as follows for delivery:

Missouri Mid-South Conference
483 East Lockwood Ave., Suite 15
St. Louis, MO 63119



Mail that does not include the correct name and street address (**including the suite number!**) will be returned by the post office to the sender for insufficient address. Thanks in advance for keeping this in mind when sending mail to us here at the Conference Office.

Lectionary Readings for November 2017

You can deepen your experience of worship by reading the scriptures in advance of Sunday. Worship services are often (but not always) based on one of the lessons of the week.

November 5

Joshua 3:7-17
Psalm 107:1-7
1 Thessalonians 2:9-13
Matthew 23:1-12

November 12

Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25
Psalm 78:1-7
1 Thessalonians 4:13-18
Matthew 25:1-13

November 19

Judges 4:1-7
Psalm 123
1 Thessalonians 5:1-11
Matthew 25:14-30

November 26

Ezekiel 34:11-16
Psalm 100
Ephesians 1:15-23
Matthew 25:31-46

If you have a story or experience to share in *The Enlightener*, please contact Wes Buchek or email it to:
epiphany.adm.assist@juno.com

Christmas Poinsettias

Order now through December 3rd

This year we are offering red poinsettias in 6-inch pots at a cost of \$7.50.

How many _____ @ \$7.50 each

Total: _____

Please enclose a check with your mail order. Make checks payable to:
Epiphany UCC
2911 McNair
St. Louis, MO 63118

Let us know if this is a memorial or dedication and who you are honoring. Please PRINT names and addresses:

Please Print:

Your name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

For more info, call church at
314-772-0263 or
Anne Little at 314-524-0033 (home).

More Feedback Needed for Pastoral Search!

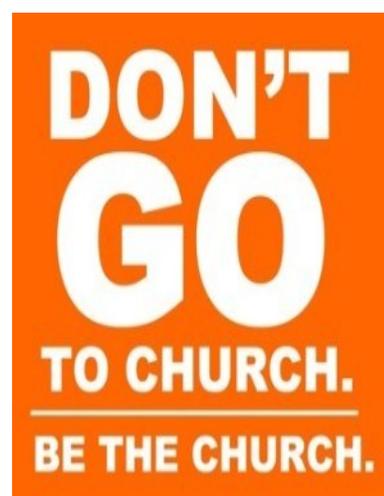
The Search Committee is asking to meet after church on **November 19** to have the congregation think about and answer the following questions toward creating the Church Profile. The Church Profile must be finished before we can begin advertising for a new pastor.

The questions are:

- *What is the new thing that God is calling us to become as a congregation?*
- *Describe how God is calling you to reach out to address the emerging challenges and opportunities of your community and congregation.*
- *How will we live into our purpose and commitments, as Epiphany states publicly and on each and every bulletin?*



Please come and share your thoughts!



Why Sanctuary? Why Now?



On Sunday October 22, 2017, Christ Church UCC in Maplewood publicly declared itself a Sanctuary for undocumented people. Standing firmly in the Judeo-Christian tradition stretching from ancient Biblical times, to harboring Jews during the Holocaust, to harboring slaves travelling the Underground Railroad, to harboring Latin Americans fleeing persecution, right up to harboring protestors in the aftermath of Michael Brown's murder - the community at Christ Church chose to turn their faith space into a safe space.

Offering and supporting Sanctuary is what our faith tradition does when the state politicizes "the other," in order to make them the enemy, in order to harm them. We open our doors, create a safe space and, always in need of conversion ourselves, take on the purifying risks of civil disobedience. We are living in such a time.

In doing so, we distinguish what is legal from what is moral knowing the two are not synonymous. The suffering and death caused by current unjust immigration policies cries out for resistance. Offering and supporting Sanctuary is a way of resisting such hatred and the political expediency, and white supremacy behind it.

Several weeks ago, Epiphany UCC signed on to the local Sacred Resistance document thus pledging support for the Sanctuary movement in general and, at the moment, Christ Church in particular. And so we support Christ Church UCC in making a safe haven as close to God as we can get, where we worship, where we read, again and again the Scriptures which form us, where we gather with the persecuted, break bread and form community.

If you can help with accompaniment of Alex, the person in sanctuary at Christ Church, please contact Angie (ogorman4400@yahoo.com) or Wes (wbuchek@gmail.com) for more details.

SANCTUARY

At Epiphany, we believe:
*Whoever you are and wherever you are on life's
journey, you are welcome here.*

No Exceptions.

Our Next Clinic is Monday, Nov. 13, 6:30-8:30 p.m.



OPCIONES PARA MIGRANTES



Vengan para ver si Usted pueda calificar para alguna opción migratoria. Además, estarán abogados disponibles para apoyar y responder a sus preguntas. También, les invitaremos a los siguientes pasos de cómo involucrarse en la lucha para los derechos de los migrantes aquí en St. Louis.

No es necesario traer nada ni preparar nada para este taller.
Ni tampoco es necesario tener cita.

Vengan, hablemos, y saldrán mejor informados y preparados.

Si se puede!

Este taller de Opciones para migrantes está ofrecido por la Coalición de Santuario en la Iglesia Epiphany UCC (<http://epiphanyucc.org>), junto con los abogados del Proyecto MICA (<http://mica-project.org>) y CLAM (<https://sfcsatl.org/locations/clam/>), con el apoyo de Latinos en Acción STL (<http://latinosenaccionstl.org>) y IFCLA (<http://stl-ifcla.org>).

Lugar: Iglesia Epiphany UCC, 2911 McNair Ave., St. Louis MO 63118
Próximo taller:

El lunes, 13 de Noviembre, 6:30-8:30 p.m.

FUNdraising

Ever wanted to make money by eating? Now's your chance!!

On **December 4**, visit our Benton Park neighbor, Café Piazza, located at 1900 Arsenal, and tell them you are from Epiphany UCC when you order your food. Our friends at Café Piazza will then donate 15 percent of those sales back to Epiphany. Everyone wins!



So mark your calendars now for December 4, and start inviting your friends now. Let's pack Café Piazza with customers and earn a few dollars while enjoying some great food.

There will be flyers in upcoming church bulletins. If you have further questions, or need a restaurant review of Café Piazza, ask Virginia Gilbert.



Acoustic Evenings **@Epiphany**

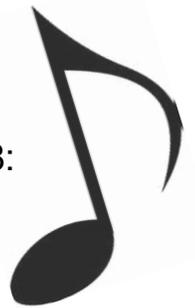
Epiphany is launching a spring concert series:
Acoustic Evenings at Epiphany, in 2018.

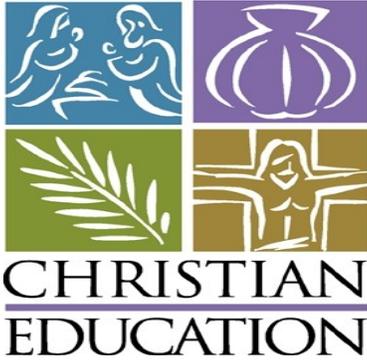
More details are coming soon, but save the dates now for 2018:

Feb. 17 — *Brian Curran of the Dust Covers*

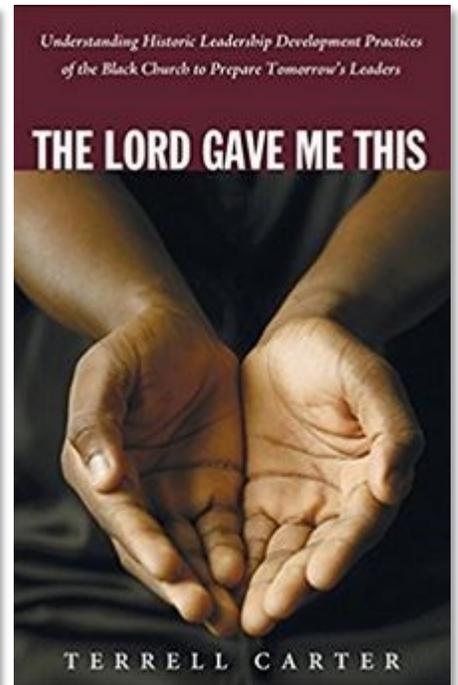
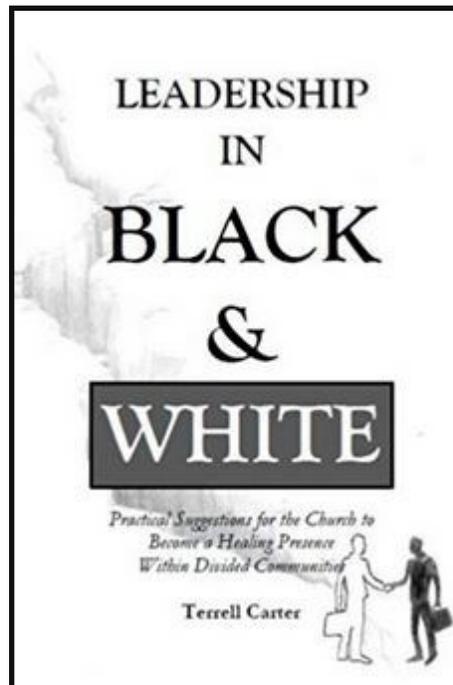
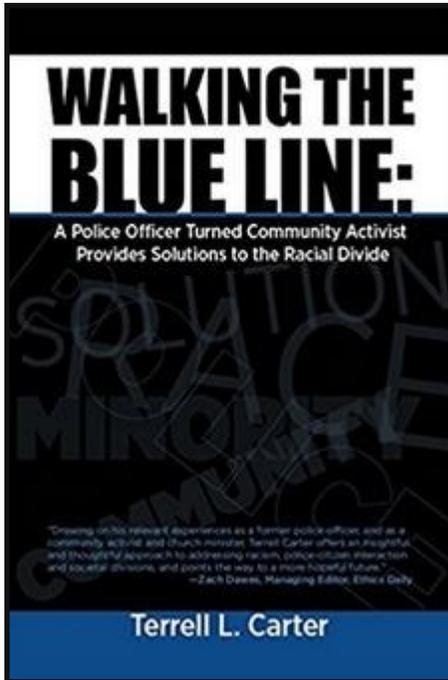
April 14 — *Mayor Taylor and Pete Ruthenburg*

May 19 — *The Wilhelms (John Wendland and Andy Ploof)*





Last month, as part of the “Get to Know Your Neighborhood” series of classes, Epiphany held a class with former St. Louis City Police Officer Terrell Carter. He shared many thoughts with us on policing in our city. For a deeper dive into the topics discussed, please check out his books. They are all available from [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com). Click on the book cover for a direct link.



A Short Bible Study

From David Beebe

I often hear people contrast “justice” and “charity.” This is not a distinction that the Bible makes. The word for “righteousness” in Hebrew is tzedek. In Greek, it is dike. In each case it means both uprightness and generosity. If one is doing “charity” without recognizing the right of the other for dignity, it is not righteous. If one dispenses “justice” without caring for the ones affected, it is not righteous.



The gospel of Matthew says that Joseph was a righteous man. It means that he was generous. Jesus says in that gospel “Let your righteousness exceed that of the scribes and Pharisees.” He means, among other things, “be more generous.”

Your Values Venue for Lunch Meetings

THE KITCHEN TABLE (Worker Owned)

- A private room or
- Seasonal seating in the garden
- All homemade including entree, side, salad, drink and dessert for \$8.50



Thursday's 11:30-1:00

Call 314-728-9800

Or visit us on Facebook

@ The Kitchen Table



THE KITCHEN TABLE

2911 Mc Nair

St. Louis, MO. 63118

Your Place is Set at The Kitchen Table

Advent Theme Chosen

Our worship team (which consists of our liturgists and preachers) has chosen again a theme for Advent. It will be in our Advent devotions and on our bulletin covers for Advent and the Christmas season. As before, the theme came out of the group wrestling with the scripture and the times.

The theme is "LET NOT THE DARKNESS OVERCOME US." Though it was not chosen with this verse in mind, it immediately calls to mind the words in the opening of John's Gospel, "The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it."



Little or no experience necessary

We have a wonderful opportunity to give some time to help keep the church clean and updated. There are many opportunities. Some are one-time tasks that just take a short amount of time; some are one-time tasks that take larger amounts of time; and some are long-term that are necessary, but don't take a lot of time.



If you can help with any of the items below, please contact Linda Paglusch at lepaglusch@gmail.com or call her at 314-588-7343. If you see something that needs to be done, please let Linda or a church council member know.

- Vacuum red carpet inside the red door, small green carpet outside the church office twice a month. (A vacuum cleaner is available)
- Sweep the whole stairwell inside the red door once or twice a month. (There are brooms at the church)
- Un-install the air conditioners in the adult education room, nursery, UME sleeping rooms (2 rooms), and UME gathering room. They can be stored on the floor in the respective rooms. (You may choose to just do one room)
- Reattach the floor molding in the bathrooms. (The church will provide any tools needed and glue.)
- Replace light bulbs as needed.



Shammai and Hillel

A person came to the first century Jewish scholar, Shammai, and said: "Recite to me the Law and the Prophets while standing on one foot." Shammai drove him away with a stick. He came to Hillel and asked the same question. Hillel responded: "What is hateful to you do not do to others. This is the Law and the Prophets. The rest is commentary."

"If I am not for myself, then who will be for me? And if I am only for myself, then what am I? And if not now, when?" – Hillel

Kneeling During the National Anthem is a Religious Issue

Protesting Patriotic Rituals is an Old Religious Tradition



(This is an excerpt from an article at www.thinkprogress.com. For the full article, [click here](#).)

The mention of religious freedom is a subtle gesture to a pervasive — but rarely discussed — aspect of the ongoing national anthem controversy: the role of faith.

Religion, of course, is not a prerequisite to demonstrate against racism or kneel during the anthem. Kaepernick himself does not appear to have publicly tied his protest to his own Christianity — although his mother Teresa repeatedly insists that Jesus was an activist when discussing her son’s advocacy.

But many players joining him this year have cited their spiritual beliefs as a guiding force behind their choice to kneel during the anthem...

For San Francisco 49ers safety Eric Reid, opposition to racism and police brutality is a matter of faith. He explicitly said as much in a recent New York Times op-ed, arguing his Christianity moved him to kneel with Kaepernick last year. “That’s when my faith moved me to take action. I looked to James 2:17, which states, ‘Faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead,’” Reid, who is connected to various athletic ministries, wrote. “I knew I needed to stand up for what is right.”

...New Orleans Saints running back Mark Ingram told Sports Illustrated he sat during the anthem because “I’m a Christian,” adding, “When I feel something isn’t right, I just want to bring awareness to it.” When Cleveland Browns tight end Seth DeVale kneeled during the anthem, his wife declared he did it because it was the “godly” thing to do. And Patriots safety Devin McCourty said in a September press conference that he and other players decided to take a knee after attending chapel, implying their actions were rooted in an attempt to be true to their faith.

...And even if the NFL eventually prohibits players from kneeling during the anthem—as the president has repeatedly encouraged officials to do—some demonstrators are already experimenting with new ways to express faithful dissent.

When singer Jordin Sparks performed the patriotic ballad at an NFL game this year, for instance, she used a black marker to inscribe her hand with the words “PROV 31:8-9,” making sure the message was clearly visible on camera.

It was a reference to Proverbs 31:8-9, which reads: “Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves, for the rights of all who are destitute. Speak up and judge fairly; defend the rights of the poor and needy.”

Thank You
 Friends of the Congregation
 For Special Financial Gifts

Memorial Gift

Our thanks to Dwaine and Karen Sell
 for a memorial gift in memory of
 Shirley Bax and Alice Greenwood

July Appeal

Anne Nancy & Michael Vosler
 Kathy McHugh
 Jo Ann Alves
 Alice Greenwood

HOSPITALITY SCHEDULE

1st Sunday: Gail Auhmada
 2nd Sunday: Lois Yatzeck
 3rd Sunday: Will you sign up?
 4th Sunday: Will you sign up?
 5th Sunday: Dorothy Gannon &
 Jeanette Oxford

USHER SCHEDULE

1st Sunday: Will you sign up?
 2nd Sunday: Wes Buchek
 3rd Sunday: Will you sign up?
 4th Sunday: Will you sign up?
 5th Sunday: Wes Buchek



Stewardship Update

For 4 months
 ending September 2017

	Actual	Budget
Income:	YTD	YTD
Contributions	\$ 18,679	\$ 20,333
Memorials	0	0
Special Appeals	1,685	1,500
Fundraisers	0	0
Facilities Rental	1,880	2,364
Urban Mission Exp.	8,375	8,250
JNM Utilities	1,200	0
Interest	70	64
Parsonage	3,496	3,825
e-scrip	38	82
Other	355	0
Total Income	\$ 35,778	\$ 36,418
Expenses:		
Mission:	2,947	3,365
Christian Educ./Camp	0	167
Worship & Leadership	16,399	18,367
Comm./Evangelism	2,040	1,997
Hospitality & Insurance	5,580	6,594
Utilities	3,802	4,505
Other	1,676	2,055
Total Expenses	\$ 32,444	\$ 37,050



November Calendar

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	30			

November 1—Wednesday

All Saints Day

8:30 a.m. Breakfast at Epiphany with Hope UCC

6 p.m. Meditation / Prayer Group

November 2—Thursday

11:30 a.m.—1 p.m. The Kitchen Table

November 4—Saturday

1:30 p.m. CE Committee

November 5—Sunday

Standard Time Begins

2 a.m. Turn Clocks Back

9:15 a.m. Christian Education

10:30 a.m. Worship with Communion

5:30 p.m. Firepit and Chili in Garden

November 7—Tuesday

6:30 p.m. Search Committee

7 p.m. Benton Park N'hood Association

November 8—Wednesday

8:30 a.m. Breakfast at Epiphany with St. Lucas UCC

November 9—Thursday

11:30 a.m.—1 p.m. The Kitchen Table

November 11—Saturday

Veteran's Day

4:30—7 p.m. Ingram Event

November 12—Sunday

9:15 a.m. Christian Education

10:30 a.m. Worship

November 13—Monday

6 p.m. Immigrant Options Clinic

November 14—Tuesday

6:30 p.m. Search Committee

November 15—Wednesday

8:30 a.m. Breakfast at Epiphany (St. John—Mehlville)

6 p.m. Meditation / Prayer Group

November 16—Thursday

11:30 a.m.—1 p.m. The Kitchen Table

November 18 — Saturday

11 a.m. Fundraising Committee

November 19—Sunday

9:15 a.m. Christian Education

10:30 a.m. Worship with Communion

November 20—Monday

6:30 p.m. Church Council

November 22—Wednesday

8:30 a.m. Breakfast at Epiphany with 1st Congregational UCC @ Wydown

November 23—Thursday

11:30 a.m.—1 p.m. The Kitchen Table

November 26—Sunday

9:15 a.m. Christian Education

10:30 a.m. Worship

November 28—Tuesday

6:30 p.m. Search Committee

November 29—Wednesday

8:30 a.m. Breakfast at Epiphany with Prince of Peace

November 30—Thursday

11:30 a.m.—1 p.m. The Kitchen Table

5—8 p.m. Neighborhood Accountability



Save the Date

Firepit and Chili in the Garden
Sunday, November 5th, 5:30 p.m.
 Bring chili to share.

Our sympathies go to the families of long time member, Shirley Bax and a good friend of Epiphany, Alice Greenwood.



Members who cannot be with us but would love to hear from you!

John DeClue #529925 H.U.-9-B-11
Farmington Correctional Center
1012 W. Columbia
Farmington, MO 63648

RaeKwon Kinnard
raekinnard@gmail.com

David Hon
2005 Frenken St.
Pocahontas, AR 72455

Joan Kernebeck
c/o Altenheim
5408 S. Broadway, # 584
St. Louis, MO 63111

November



Wes Buchek—11/2

Lauren Verseman—11/4

James Bellamy Jr.—11/5

Monica Bellamy—11/11

Dennis Paglusch—11/17

RaeKwon Kinnard—11/18

Gail Ahumada

Read *The Enlightener* online at <http://epiphanyucc.org>. Click "Newsletter." Archived back issues also available.

MINISTERS AT EPIPHANY

Interim Pastor, *David Beebe*
President, *Rev. Dorothy Gannon*
Vice President, *John Scott*
Secretary, *Doug Kaufman*
Treasurer, *Linda Paglusch*
Asst. Treas, *Chris Heckendorn*
Financial Secretary, *Dorothy Gannon*
Acct. Payable, *Jeanette Mott Oxford*
Council Members: *Donna Schaeffer,*
Anne Little

Building Care, *Gail Ahumada*
Choir, *Dorothy Gannon*
Christian Educ. Chair, *Lois Yatzeck*
Church Office, *Anne Little*
Enlightener Editor, *Wes Buchek*
Hospitality and Usher Coordinator, *Wes Buchek*
Safe Church Coordinator, *Jennifer Everett*
Musician, *Peter Ruthenburg*

Our Purpose: We love God by: Accepting and affirming all, fostering growth, and working for social justice.

Our Commitments:

We are “Open and Affirming” – welcoming people of all sexual orientations and gender identities into church life and leadership.

We are a “Just Peace” Church – seeking to bring peace by working for social justice.

We are a “Whole Earth” Church – committed to caring for creation and bringing a ‘green’ consciousness to our living.

We seek to become a “Multicultural” Church – celebrating the diversity of racial and ethnic traditions.

WE SEEK TO BE MULTI-CULTURAL AND

ACCESSIBLE TO ALL

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

9:15 A.M. Christian Ed.

10:30 A.M. Worship

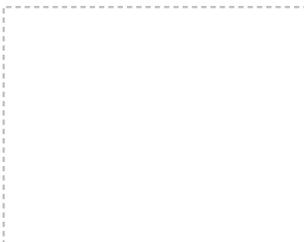
TELEPHONE: (314) 772-0263

EMAIL: epiphanyucc.1@juno.com ,
or epiphany.adm.assist@juno.com

WEBSITE: www.epiphanyucc.org

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Epiphany United Church of Christ
2911 McNair Avenue
St. Louis, MO 63118
Return Service Requested