

# HAPPENINGS this week at CPFUMC

01/03/2019

Find the Happenings on our church website: <https://cpfumc.org/find-out-whats-happening/>  
If you prefer NOT to receive these Happenings each Wednesday, please reply and let us know that.

**Sunday Worship times 8:30a & 10:45a**

**PLEASE find ALL of the church announcements and happenings on the website: <https://cpfumc.org>**

## Epiphany Twelfth day after Christmas ..

*A sight like that made me think about the Magi. Who were they? How could a star constellation be so unusual as to move rich kings to leave the comforts of wealth and to cross deserts spanning East to West in search of the Christ Child? How did they know the special star signaled the birth of a Christ Child? What book of prophesy was that written in? They weren't looking at the Hebrew scriptures, because why would they then have had to stop to inquire of King Herod, who called in the Jewish priests and scholars? What was the religion of Magi anyway? They weren't Jews, so how is it that God was talking to them through their religion, which apparently included astrology, which I'd been taught was not Christian?*

### **PRAYERS for Help and Healing :**

#### **Recent Requests for Prayers:**

Prayers of sympathy for Dorris Childs who died in Columbus where she resided near her daughter.  
Prayers of sympathy for Glenda Goss on the death last night of her sister, Jackie Vaughter.  
Prayers of sympathy for Sterling Hartman on the death of his cousin, Dr. Douglas Zatechka. lung cancer  
Prayers of sympathy for Donna, wife, & Ron King, friend ,on the death of Ed Aaron. cancer  
Pat Sowder, respiratory issues, now home from hospital .  
From Sterling Hartman: my sister in law, Pattie Hartman, 3<sup>rd</sup> food surgery; granddaughter, Shelley, RN to be: class problems; & Sterling: memory problems  
Cephus Lack fell and is pretty banged-up & for Wanda, his wife, the caregiver.  
Mary Williams, at home, "Y'all come to see her!"  
Debbie MacCarrol's starting treatment for breast cancer  
Please remember the children at the border and in detention centers as Christmas approaches.  
Ms.Faghih, teacher at Child's Haven health issues  
Prayers of sympathy for Karen and Mart Goodman on the death of her brother, Flavius.  
Prayers of sympathy for Jane & Neil Howard on the death of Jane's mom, Margaret Zimmerman

### **PRAYERS of THANKS!! :**

#### **THANKS**

For your prayers, for caring and for your love. I am feeling much improved and look forward to continued worship very soon, Hyacinth

#### **THANKS**

...

### **Please RE-MEMBER with prayers and cards ....**

Diane Kelly  
Isle at Cedar Ridge #201  
2200 S Lakeline Blvd;  
Cedar Park 78613

Phyllis Myers  
310 Chisholm Tr. #206.  
Round Rock, TX 78681

Lillian Smith  
1912 S West Dr  
Leander, 78641

Diann Russell  
1503 N Woodstone  
Cedar Park, 78613

Mona Cannell  
1606 Carriage Hills Trl  
Cedar Park, 78613

E. Duke Squibb  
Gracy Woods  
12042 Bittern Hollow  
Austin TX - 78758

Marsha Venable  
2112 West Riviera Drive  
Cedar Park, TX 78613

Marilyn Hartman  
Shenandoah Assisted  
Living  
1623 Shenandoah Dr.  
Cedar Park, 78613

#### **College Students:**

Audrey Blount  
800 Lakeshore Dr  
PO Box 291234  
Birmingham, AL 35229

Aaron How

Ethan & India How

Miranda Smith Williams,  
RAF Croughton; PO  
Box 71; Brackley:  
NN13 5XP



Thurs Jan 17<sup>th</sup> Breast Cancer Support  
 Fri.. Jan.18 Newsletter Input

Sun-Tues Jan 27<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> UMW Legislative Event  
 Mon Jan 28<sup>th</sup> 6:30P CHURCH COUNCIL

**Please check the Calendar at our website: [www.cpfumc.org](http://www.cpfumc.org)**

**DECEMBER 2018 INFORMATION ON CHURCH VITALITY!**

Month to Date Finances		This Week's Attendance
Anticipated expenses	\$ 21,865.	<u>December 30<sup>th</sup></u>
Contributions (5/5) <i>Sundays</i>	\$ 30,322.	
Additional Giving		
Capital Campaign (Parking Lot)	\$ 0.	<u>10:00am</u>
\$2 For 20	\$ 220.	50(Visitors:2 )
True Vineyards (Rwandan Widow)	\$ 124.	
Communion (TX Wesley )	\$ 315.	<u>Sunday School</u>
Park Str Landscaping	\$ 15,025	Children:
Communion(Acts of Love)	\$ 315.	Adults:
Communion(Storybook Project)	\$ 85.	
Communion (Lydia Patterson )	\$ 780.	<u>Hope</u>
Cookies & Carols	\$ 22.	<u>Soul Lift</u> <i>Dec. 23<sup>rd</sup></i>
Youth	\$ 100.	58

**ON-GOING HAPPENINGS !!**

SUN. 6:00-8:00PM	YOUTH MEETINGS	MEALS NEEDED
DATE	DINNER	
Jan 6 <sup>th</sup>		

**SCHOOL IN SESSION NEXT WEEK !! BACKPACK FOOD FOR WHITESTONE ELEMENTARY**

Every week we prepare 6 Backpacks for the children at Whitestone Elementary.

Each Backpack contains food for the child for the weekend:

**2 Breakfasts ; 2 Lunches ; 2 Dinners; 4 Snacks**

These food items are individual servings of things the children can fix for themselves either eating right from the container or heat easily in a microwave.

**Your help keeping the shelves full has been wonderful !!!**

**TIDBITS**

**ASK THE UMC: HOW DO UNITED METHODISTS UNDERSTAND EPIPHANY AND THREE KINGS DAY?**

**Epiphany** is the day Christians remember the coming of the Magi to visit Jesus, bringing their gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh.

Epiphany is a loaded day on the Christian calendar.

Epiphany is the 12th day after Christmas, January 6, which is also the day before the Orthodox Church's Christmas Day, January 7. That means Epiphany is also Orthodox Christmas Eve. So how and what Epiphany celebrates depends on where you are in the Christian community.

It occurs on Jan. 6 every year, the 13th day of the Christmas season. The word "epiphany," from the Greek word *epiphania*, means appearance or manifestation.

The arrival of these visitors was a sign that the incarnation of God in Christ had been made known and was recognized by the heavens to the whole world, so that even Gentile wise men from the East came to pay him homage. This is an observance of great majesty, solemnity and awe.

An even more ancient Christian celebration than Christmas, Epiphany originally focused on the nativity, God's incarnation (God made flesh) in the birth of Jesus Christ, and Christ's baptism. After the late fourth century,

as Advent developed as a season of baptismal preparation in addition to Lent, Epiphany became associated with baptism. This is why we see images of the three Magi on many older baptismal fonts. In many Hispanic cultures, Epiphany is a day of great rejoicing and celebration, often kicked off by a parade the night before in which people dressed as the three kings or carrying statues of the three kings pass through the towns and villages throwing out candy and small gifts to all around. Families and children alike look forward to Dia de Los Tres Reyes (Three Kings Day) as a time for presents, feasting and celebration. Attending church services that include the celebration of communion is also common in many of these cultures, even for those who may not attend worship regularly.

In England and some other European cultures, Jan. 5 is known as Twelfth Night, the culmination of the 12 days of Christmas feasting and partying. On Twelfth Night, many families gather in homes to celebrate with friends, food, singing and gifts. It is at these Twelfth Night celebrations that "[Chalking the Door](#)," asking God's blessing on those dwellings and upon all who live there, is most often observed.

In New Orleans, Twelfth Night begins another season of celebrations that comes to fulfillment at Mardi Gras (Fat Tuesday, the day before Ash Wednesday). Epiphany itself, Jan. 6, becomes the kickoff day for that season, but is also often observed with a full celebration in church, complete with incense, elaborate processions, choral celebrations, and Eucharist.

Some United Methodists in the United States, who are not part of these rich traditions, tend to recognize Epiphany on the Sunday nearest Jan. 6. There may be a pageant of the three kings as part of worship that day and a small party afterward.

In some Christian traditions, Epiphany celebrates the day Jesus is baptized: His divinity and role on earth are revealed as he comes up out of the water, the Holy Spirit descends on him and the Witness in Heaven says, "This is my beloved Son in whom I am well pleased."

Other Christian traditions include Jesus' miracle of turning water into wine at the wedding feast in Cana in Galilee in Epiphany celebrations of the revelation of Jesus as the Christ.

In celebrating Epiphany this year, consider partnering with a Hispanic, Latino or other congregation to find [new ways](#) to joyously celebrate Epiphany/Tres Reyes. In whatever ways you decide to celebrate it, remember at the heart of your celebration are the Magi kneeling, worshipping and offering gifts to Jesus, Messiah for all people.

### Epiphany Lessons

Nearly 30 years later, I still have no substantial answers to these questions about the Magi. But Epiphany continues to reveal to me important lessons about following Jesus the Christ on a shrinking earth and in a nation that's increasingly diverse.

Here are a few Epiphany lesson for me, found in Scripture and from my neighborhood:

- Jesus the Christ can be revealed in different ways, places, times and cultures.
- Unexpected strangers can bring unexpected, but needed, treasures.
- With God, acts of love and kindness trump theology and protocol.
- God spoke to the Magi over 2,000 years ago, and after 30 years of asking, I still don't know who they were or why God was talking to them. There's no reason to believe God's not doing things like this in my neighborhood, our nation and in the world today.