



The In Touch

Volume 58, Issue 1

Our Mission: To Seek, Know, Love and Serve Christ in all Persons and in all Creation

From the Deacon.....

e·piph·a·ny

[ə'pifənē]

NOUN

- the manifestation of Christ to the Gentiles as represented by the Magi (Matthew 2:1–12).
 - the festival commemorating the Epiphany on January 6.
 - a manifestation of a divine or supernatural being.
 - a moment of sudden revelation or insight.

That’s a lot of possibilities packed into one word. I have no idea how I would handle “a manifestation of a divine or supernatural being”; so let’s skip that one and ponder “sudden revelation or insight”.

Have you ever experienced one? Is it sent from God, or the flowering of seeds that have been stored, dormant, in our minds? Maybe a bit of both? As I gained life experience i.e., got older, I began to say “I’ll let it rattle around in my mind for a while” before making decisions where I didn’t feel clear. Sometimes the answer came to me; sometimes not. Often when the answer didn’t come it was because I already knew it but didn’t like what it was. But that’s a topic for another article.

There are ongoing discussions’ with the ECLA churches in the area, and those in full communion with them to talk about the following questions “During this conversation, we will dedicate time towards digging deeper into our previous questions ("What needs do I see in my community?" and "What hopes do I have for where I live?") as well as begin exploring ways we can respond as Christ's Church. As always, we'll follow the lead of the Spirit, leading into our individual gifts and talents. Please be sure to invite others. The larger the group, the more we can hear God's Word speaking in and through our faith communities! “ I believe both Lee and Sam have attended a meeting.

The Episcopal Church is asking the same kind of questions. We've talked about the creative solution to Grace Episcopal in Ishpeming, MI ([Grace Episcopal Church \(Ishpeming\) – Episcopal Diocese of Northern Michigan \(upepiscopal.org\)](http://GraceEpiscopalChurch(Ishpeming)–EpiscopalDioceseofNorthernMichigan(upepiscopal.org))). Often our discussions at convention and other gatherings lead us back to our buildings. If we didn't have that expense, we could.... Yet, even for me who doesn't have as much history in our building as most of you, thinking of leaving is so hard – we must take this and that, and the organ, what about the organ?

Since we can afford our building (unlike so many other rural congregations) the better question might be how do we make our space do more of God's work? One I don't want to do and one I don't know how to do and acting on either seems too big, and I feel defeated, and I stop thinking about the questions.

And the questions are what matter – what we can versus what we can't. Then, why can't we? Do we need partners or is the timing wrong? If partners are needed, put the idea forward. I've heard a lot of talk about being prepared to take charge of bringing your idea to fruition and that doesn't ring true to me. SOS's singing Valentines was an idea I had, but without Etta Millard taking charge it would have remained an idea. I've often thought that some sort of program to help young adults with life skills, how to do simple mending or put air in a tire, would be something good in this community (especially with so many college kids being away from their homes), but I didn't think of seeing if the others churches would be interested until I was writing this. A miracle can be as simple as a shift in perception. If it's the right time maybe something will blossom. And if it's the wrong time, let's have faith that the idea is an epiphany seed that will bloom when it should.

Let's not be afraid to spread those seeds.

Peace,

Mel





1/6 ~ Jeanne Corrin
1/9 ~ Mike Noland
1/12 ~ George Schlieff
1/21 ~ Layna Padesky
1/25 ~ Jan Menefee
1/30 ~ Nicholas Padesky



1/9 ~ John Briggs
1/24 ~ Taylor Wright
1/26 ~ Alan Wright



1/28 ~ Delbert & Bonnie Hickey

Annual Meeting

Sunday January 22nd, 2023 11:30 a.m.

We will need 3 Vestry members

Community Café 2023

Holy Trinity Volunteers 4:00 pm

April 25th, June 27th, Aug. 22nd, October 24th

Jan '23 Sunday Service Lay Responsibilities

Dates	Celebrants	Acolytes	Lectors & Lessons	Greeters
1 Holy Eucharist 10:00 am Holy Name of our Lord	Rev. Dr. Samantha Crossley Deacons: Lee Grim or Melanie Mattsen	Lee Grim Or Melanie Mattsen		
8 Holy Eucharist 10:00 am Epiphany	Rev. Dr. Samantha Crossley Deacons: Lee Grim or Melanie Mattsen	Lee Grim Or Melanie Mattsen	Erik Strand	
15 Holy Eucharist 10:00 am 2nd Sunday after Epiphany	Rev. Dr. Samantha Crossley Deacons: Lee Grim or Melanie Mattsen	Lee Grim Or Melanie Mattsen	Jeanne Corrin	
22 Holy Eucharist 10:00 am 3rd Sunday after Epiphany	Rev. Dr. Samantha Crossley Deacons: Lee Grim or Melanie Mattsen	Lee Grim Or Melanie Mattsen	Molly Pavleck	
29 Holy Eucharist 10:00 am 4th Sunday after Epiphany	Rev. Dr. Samantha Crossley Deacons: Lee Grim or Melanie Mattsen	Lee Grim Or Melanie Mattsen	Carole Johnson	



January 2023



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4	5	6	7 Altar Guild
						Georgeann
8	9	10	11	12	13	14 Altar Guild
Holy Eucharist 10:00 a.m.	Ruby's Pantry 5:00 - 6:30					Georgeann
15	16	17	18	19	20	21 Altar Guild
Holy Eucharist 10:00 a.m.						Carolyn & Molly
22	23	24	25	26	27	28 Altar Guild
Holy Eucharist 10:00 a.m. Annual Meeting 11:30	Newsletter Deadline (Vestry)					Carolyn & Molly
29	30	31				
Holy Eucharist 10:00 a.m.						
