

West Nottingham News

We love, connect and serve.



Fundraiser

Help us while we help you!

Clean out your garage, shed, and basement and help us raise some \$\$ for WNPC.

Stuff like:

Small appliances - Electronics - Tools - Electrical & More!

BEFORE YOU DROP OFF:

see the full list of acceptable items on the back page, or pick up a flyer at church.

Drop off in front of garage doors at the maintenance building.

- Questions?, Need a pick-up? Call or text Rob Orndorf at 484-410-8449.

INSIDE:

- FREE Lunch and FOOD TRUCK!
- SOUP-er Bowl Sunday
- Super Chili Sunday
- Pics from Los Posadas

“Holy Moses, look at *this!*”

An “epiphany” (eee-piff-ann-eee) is the sudden realization or understanding of... something extraordinary!

It could be a flash of inspiration, or that eye-opening moment when your chronic prayer is finally answered, or you touch the tiny toes of your newborn baby. Maybe it’s the first time you held hands, and the heat of palm melting in palm welds together a lifetime bond.

Or, if you’re lucky, the Holy Spirit blows through your skin, submerging, soaking, and invading every organ, every bone and nerve and cell in your body, taking possession of your breath and heartbeat, and capturing your every thought. No matter how hard you try to describe this ultimate epiphany, you are speechless, ineffable, and “owned” by this Spirit for the rest of your life.

HALLELUJAH!

One night in Babylon, a small group of astronomers witnessed a brand new and brilliant star in the sky that seemed to beckon them, radiating a crystal clear message: “Come here now and see this!” Somehow these Magi understood that the sparkling, astral communique was a calling to something fantastic, something unworldly, but it *continued on pg. 3*

Teach me about: Epiphany!



Eureka, I Had an Epiphany!

By Pastor Chris Scott, WNPC

According to PNC Bank’s 40th Annual Christmas Price Index, the total cost of all the gifts of the Twelve Days of Christmas song would cost \$46,729.86. That makes the cost of the gifts I gave to my loved ones seem more reasonable. Did you stay in your Christmas budget this year, like you told yourself you would last year? No guilt trip here, but wow, \$46k. That’s a lot of gifts.

continued on pg. 2



Eureka, I Had an Epiphany!

Continued from pg. 1

Christmas is an odd holiday. The only one that's similar is your birthday and mine. That's when we give gifts to a person in celebration of them having traveled around the sun one more time. Yippee! The world's largest merry-go-round.

The difference with Christmas is we celebrate by giving gifts to everyone else, in memory of the birth of Jesus Christ. At least, that's part of how Christmas is celebrated by many.

Did you know, we don't even know the exact year Jesus was born? Death days were more important than birth days back then. At any rate, another difference with Christmas is we celebrate for twelve days rather than just one. Well, we're supposed to.

Which means that as the New Year's Eve ball drops in Manhattan and we ring in the new year, we are still celebrating the birth of Jesus. Go figure. Is that what the champagne toasts are for? Where did the mistletoe go?

The Christmas season ends when the twelve days of Christmas have lapsed, and our bank accounts are

empty. Maybe we should start rationing ourselves so we can make it 12 days instead of blowing it all on one day, but I digress.

The day after Christmastide is called Epiphany. In the Christian tradition, Epiphany is the day we remember the Magi (astrologers—wise men—from the east) visiting the Christ child in Bethlehem. Remember those nativity sets with the three mysterious figures baring gifts for Jesus? If you put them away the day after Christmas day, you're doing it all wrong! Just kidding.

But sincerely, take some more time with those nativities and let the gentile dudes from afar come and have their day.

Epiphany is a strangely familiar word. We get our English word epiphany from the Greek term epiphaneia, which means "manifestation." Epiphany is used in the general sense to indicate a sudden and strikingly important insight or revelation.

The second chapter of the Gospel according to Matthew tells us that King Herod sure was shocked when the Magi showed up on his doorstep looking for the baby born "King of the Jews". Herod had an epiphany, that's for sure!

Have you ever said, "Eureka! I just had an epiphany!" A new insight, in whatever form, can bring significantly different perspectives into play. It can lead to ways of looking at a problem or situation that can result in dramatically different assessments

and actions.

Is that not what we crave in the new year? What else are New Year's resolutions for but dramatically different assessments and actions? Perhaps reinvigorating that twelve days of



Come see our magnificent sanctuary and feel something NEW!

Christmastide might help, followed by a day of prayerful reflection on the Day of Epiphany.

What does it mean that God came as an infant? What does it mean that gentiles from afar were attracted to this infant supernaturally before the Gospel was preached to the world? Or, had it already been preached, somehow?

My hope is for all to have epiphanies throughout the year!

*Thanks for reading,
Pastor Chris Scott*

West Notting News

Published monthly by:

West Nottingham
Presbyterian Church (WNPC)
1195 Firetower Rd., Colora, MD

Phone: 410-658-6366

Office Hours: 9 - Noon, M-F
and by appointment

Editor

Reverend Chris Scott
410-658-6366

Copy Editor/Design

Cindi Lamb Wiley
443-731-1131

Events Coordinator

Laurelle Christie
410-658-6366

We welcome your comments and ideas!

IT'S TIME FOR THE:



Soup-er BOWL!



BUY LOTSA
CANNED SOUP
ALL KINDS!



**Bring them to church now
through Feb. 11th,
Soup-er Bowl Sunday!**

All soup donated to Ray of Hope

\$10/QT
SUPERBOWL
Chili Sunday



Buy A Quart of SUPER Chili on
Superbowl Sunday, 11 AM
Feb. 11th, \$10 Quart!

All proceeds benefit MD Food Bank

FREE LUNCH
Tuesday

Jan. 9th & 23rd



MARYLAND MOBILE
FOOD BANK IS HERE FOR
EVERYBODY
JANUARY 9th!!

Teach me about:
Epiphany!

continued from front page

didn't end there. The directions to this phenomenon were as clear as the star in front of them.

They packed up their camels and followed this bright compass in the sky, traveling west for almost 900 miles to Judea. They finally arrived at the house where the infant Jesus and his mother lived. Mary welcomed them, and when she brought her infant son to them, they instantly recognized his divinity. They inherently knew that Jesus was "The One" that came to save and to heal, not just for the Jews, but for the gentiles too, for men and women, for the sick and poor, for all the people ignored, left behind, or denigrated.



They knew Jesus was here for the different

people too, just like they were. "The Epiphany of the Lord", <https://shorturl.at/mylPQ>

The Three Wise Men were the first people to acknowledge the sacredness of Jesus, the first to proclaim his holiness, and the first people to experience the overwhelming epiphany of God enfleshed in the living, breathing body of a tiny baby. God Incarnate! Awe-bliterated, they fell to the floor and lay prostrate before Him.

And when they had come into the house, they saw the young Child with Mary His mother, and fell down and worshiped Him. And when they had opened their treasures, they presented gifts to Him: gold, frankincense, and myrrh. Matthew 2: 11, NKJ

Now THAT's an epiphany!

A baby is born with human parts and God's heart, Holy Hallelujah!

In most Western religions, January 6th of every year (exactly twelve days after Christmas, thus the song: "The Twelve Days of Christmas") marks the Day of Epiphany, commemorating the first time the Wise Men witnessed Jesus and proclaimed him as Immanuel, or "God with us." But in many Eastern religions, the Day of Epiphany is celebrated as the birthday of Jesus Christ, an equivalent to our Christmas day.

For many Christians worldwide, the Day of Epiphany also celebrates two other major events in the life of Jesus:

- Jesus' water baptism by John in the Jordan river. The Holy Spirit came down on Jesus like a dove and God said "This is my son, whom I love, with him I am well pleased". Matthew 3: 17, NIV
- Jesus reveals his glory with his first miracle: turning approximately 150 gallons of water into 150 gallons of (good!) wine at the wedding in Cana.

Is 2024 the year of your epiphany? I hope so!

Scrap Metal Mission Acceptable Items:

Small Appliances:

- pocorn makers
- toasters
- mixers
- electric knives
- toaster ovens/
convection ovens
- knife sharpeners
- crock pots/slow cookers
- counter-top grills
(George Foreman)
- waffle makers
- coffee makers
- microwave ovens

Electrical:

- Tabe and Floor lamps
- extension cords
- electrical cable
- computer cables
- phone cables
- Christmas lights
- ceiling fans
- chandeliers, ceiling
fixtures
- outdoor fixtures
- spotlight units
- fuse/breaker paners
- track lighting

Tools:

- screwdrivers
- pliers
- wrenches
- hammers
- power drills
- sanders
- axes
- shovels and rakes
- crowbars

Electronics:

- computers
(NO laptops,
NO monitors)
- stereo/hi-fi components
- chargers

WE DO NOT ACCEPT:

- REFRIGERATORS
- AIRCONDITIONERS
- DEHUMIDIFIERS
- FREEZERS
- FLAT SCREEN TV'S

Pics From:

LAS POSADAS



Stars of:
The **Solid**
Rock
Players

L-R: Donovan, Gabby & Reverie

L-R: Reverie,
Earl and Gabby



Miss Sue Orndorf and Donovan

Church Leadership

<p>Deacons Moderator: Stephanie Crise Class of 2024: Stephanie Crise, Deb Standiford, Sarah Deplitch Class of 2025: Gloria Kilby, Joy Monroe, Margaret Begg Class of 2026: Jamie Brown, Brenda Hughes, Connie Garvin</p>	<p>Clerk of Session: Alan Loman Class of 2024: Rick Kilby, Jim McGill, Kim Loman Class of 2025: Sue Orndorf, Toni Webb, Alan Loman Class of 2026: Laurelle Christie, Russ Gulick, Adonia Garvin</p>
<p>Treasurer – Don Henderson/Asst. Treasurer – TBA</p>	
<p>COMMITTEES</p>	
<p>Christian Education: Sue Orndorf and Toni Webb, co-chairs Fellowship and Membership: Laurelle Christie, chair Finance and Investment: Rick Kilby, chair Mission: Sue Orndorf and Laurelle Christie, co-chairs</p>	<p>Personnel and Administration: Adonia Garvin & Bill Standiford, co-chairs Property: Seth Garvin (chair) and Jim McGill Worship: Kim Loman and Stephanie Crise, co-chairs</p>