

# Sharing the Life of the Church

**THE MAGI FOLLOWED A STAR TO WORSHIP JESUS AND PRESENT HIM GIFTS. WE TOO HAVE BEEN GUIDED HERE BY GOD'S LIGHT, TO WORSHIP JESUS AND OFFER HIM OUR GIFTS OF LOVE. WELCOME.**

**Coffee Hour** - Coffee is available at 10 a.m. in the Harris Room. If you would like to host a Coffee Hour, please sign up on the chart outside the Harris Room.

**"Pic a Prayer Partner"** - We have begun a new intergenerational ministry allowing adults to connect with, get to know, and pray for an individual child in the church. There will be group events four times a year when adults and their youth Prayer Partners will gather for a meal and/or fun activities. The first such event is **Sunday, January 19**, following 10:30 Worship. Partners will have lunch, play board or other games and become acquainted.

If you choose to participate, sign up at the table display outside the office, or contact Kelly Beckett at [kellybeckett@gmail.com](mailto:kellybeckett@gmail.com) or 304-991-3613. Then, take the child's photo from the board, where you will find their name and other basic information.

**Book Study** - Pastor Annie will begin a study of Eric Eines's *Gifts of the Dark Wood* in January, running through Lent. If you are interested, you may attend an introduction to the series on **January 15, at 6 p.m. in the Harris Room.**

**Worship Change** - On **Sunday, February 2**, we will combine our Worship services at **9:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary**, so that we may join as one body to share the Sacrament of Communion. Please mark your calendars.

## HOPES GREAT AND SMALL

"The Christian lives with three hopes, two great and one small," writes Bryan Wolfmueller. In his "Wednesday What-Not" blog, the pastor explains: "Our first great hope is in Christ our Redeemer, whose death and resurrection are our forgiveness, life, salvation and great hope. Our second great hope is in Christ the King returning soon to judge the living [and] the dead, and establish the new heaven and earth where the righteous dwell. This is our hope for the resurrection and the life of the world to come."

Amazingly, there's more! "Sandwiched between these two great hopes is our small hope, our lesser hope, our hope for tomorrow, our hope that we might begin to love and serve our neighbor, and do some little something to bless the people around us," Wolfmueller continues. "This is the hope that energizes our vocations, that motivates our love, and that is the reason we make New Year's resolutions. We hope that we might do something a little bit better tomorrow than we did yesterday."

The pastor concludes, "If this was our only hope, it would be despair. But sandwiched between the love of Christ and the joy of the resurrection, this little hope is wonderful, and certainly not to be despised."

## THIS WEEK AT FPC

**Today, Sunday, January 5**    **Epiphany Sunday**  
**Star Words / Communion**



NO 8:30 a.m. Worship  
10:00 a.m. Coffee Hour - Harris Room  
10:30 a.m. Service for the Lord's Day - Sanctuary

### **Monday, January 6**

6:00 p.m. Deacons' Meeting - Room 204  
7:00 p.m. KOM Knitters - Harris Room

### **Tuesday, January 7**

6:00 p.m. Worship/Discipleship Comm. - Harris Room

### **Wednesday, January 8**

6:00 p.m. The Gathering - Harris Room  
6:00 p.m. Girl Scouts - Room 124

### **Thursday, January 9**

6:00 p.m. Cub Scouts Pack meeting - Room 123  
7:15 p.m. Troop 3 Boy Scouts - Scout House

### **Friday, January 10**

6:00 p.m. Girl Scouts Recruitment Drive - Stevenson Hall

### **Saturday, January 11**

12:00 p.m. HA Meeting - Room 204

### **Sunday, January 12**    **Baptism of the Lord**

8:30 a.m. Service of Morning Prayer - Chapel  
9:30 a.m. Confirmation Class - Room 201  
10:00 a.m. Coffee Hour - Harris Room  
10:30 a.m. Service for the Lord's Day - Sanctuary

**Prayer List** – Please remember the following in your prayers:

Bobby Craig	Hurricane victims	Carl Gheen
Doug Anderson	Mary Essenmacher	Ken Stoller
Tyler Mackey	Pat & Ann Patterson	Ed Ball
Sophie Boothby	Derrick Sheppard	Kitty Brown
Dan Sombeck	Ruth Ann Huddle	Fred Jackson
Butch Shepherd	Cunningham Family	Susan Miller
Harriet Litteral	Homebound Members	Peter Headlee
Mary Withum	Troops – World Peace	Brad Carter
Fleming Family		Dan Ellis