

WEEK OF SUNDAY, JANUARY 18

THE STAR

Official Newsletter of Church of the Epiphany-Tempe

Pictured above: ProWest Roofing Crew Working on the Church Roof

Women's Ministry Meeting: Tuesday, January 20 @ 7pm in the Ed. Bldg.

Epiphany is starting a new Women's Ministry! We plan to start meeting monthly on Tuesday evenings. During this first meeting, we will decide what our meetings will look like and what biblical and spiritual topics we want to discuss together. If you are a woman or identify as a woman, we would love you to join us and help to shape this new ministry!



Church of the Epiphany's office will be closed on Monday, January 19, in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

In case of a pastoral emergency please call (480)968-4111 and choose option 9



Sunday at Epiphany

The Second Sunday after the Epiphany

Celebrant:

The Rev. Hunter Ruffin

Lay Ministers 8:00AM

Greeter:

Pamela Waterman

Reader:

Carol Dalton

Acolyte:

Joe Moritz

Eucharistic Ministers:

Rita Liddy

Lay Ministers 10:00AM

Greeters:

Barbara Behrens, David Dean

Readers:

Peter Crane, Kathy Carney

Acolyte:

Diane Spillum

Eucharistic Ministers:

Nancy Keith

Music:

Dr. Miriam Hickman, Matt Fora, Choir

A/V Ministers:

Cassandra Kariuki

Join us in-person at 8:00 or 10:00, or online at 10:00

Worship | Serve | Love



Ordination of Tamara Nicole Noel

Saturday, January 24
10am at Trinity Cathedral

The Cathedral is located at 100 West Roosevelt St., Phoenix AZ, 85003. We are looking for a few ride-share drivers who would be willing to take folks from Epiphany to the Cathedral. The plan would be to meet here at Epiphany, drive together to the cathedral, and drop back off here afterwards. If you are willing and able to give some fellow parishioners a ride, please contact the church office.

Celebration of Tamara's Ordination

Sunday, January 25 at Epiphany

Congratulations to Tamara Noel!

Help celebrate Tamara's hard work and devotion to sharing God's love at the completion of her four-year long discernment and training process to become an ordained deacon. You are invited to bring your favorite brunch dish to a pot-luck style reception following each service on January 25. Mark your calendars to join in on commemorating Tamara's amazing achievement! You are also invited to make a financial donation towards an ordination gift for Tamara. Donations received in excess of the cost of the gift will go to kick-start a Deacon's Discretionary Fund. You can give to Tamara's gift online by clicking [here](#), or drop it in the offering plate on Sunday.



Epiphany VIP Team Launches Monthly House Meeting Series!

Small Group Conversation Series:
Following the Call to Be Prophetic
Starts Sunday, January 25 @ 12:30pm

The Epiphany VIP Team is launching a monthly house meeting series to help our parish live into its prophetic vocation of working for justice, equity, and love. Inspired by the biblical prophets who acted as "listening posts" for their communities, these small group conversations are designed to help us better understand the challenges facing our members and neighbors in maintaining their health, economic security, safety and general welfare.

- **Dates:** Sunday, January 25, with subsequent meetings in February and March, dates to be determined.
- **Time:** 12:30 PM.
- **Campus Location:** Education Building, Room 3



Epiphany
Sock Drive
Underway!

All this month into early February, we will be collecting socks to be

distributed at Paz de Cristo to those who need them. Men's white tube socks are most requested, but all are welcome. Socks can be placed in the grocery cart near the west Parish Hall doors where Matthew's Crossing food items are collected. It's cold out – clean, dry, hole-less socks can be a huge blessing to someone who is homeless or living in a car. Please help. Thanks.

Capital Project Update: Roofing “Re-foam-ation”

World-class pun courtesy of Jerry Adwell

Over \$15,000 raised so far!

[Click Here to Make a Gift to our New Roofs!](#)

ProWest Roofing began with the church building on Monday, January 12, and is on track to have it fully re-roofed by this Saturday! Roofing crews will be working Monday through Saturday from 7am to 5pm for the next two or three weeks. Work on the Nursery roof has begun and the Education Building roof will be next, with the more delicate Farmhouse roof to follow. The Parish Hall roof will also receive some minor repairs during this time.

What to expect during the next few weeks at Epiphany:

- Construction crews will be on site during weekdays and Saturdays from 7am to 5pm.
- You may see debris on the sidewalks and parking lot during this time. ProWest roofers will be cleaning up the debris as they finish each building.
- Some areas of the parking lot may be temporarily unavailable, particularly the small parking strip in front of the parish hall.
- We encourage those who are able to park a bit farther away to avoid debris and spray particles from landing on your vehicle. For those who have trouble walking longer distances, there is parking by the Farmhouse.



As many of you know, the roof replacement was made possible through support of the Diocese. Thanks to your generosity, we have raised over \$15,000 so far! [Every contribution—large or small](#)—helps us to continue our ministry in the City of Tempe, and celebrates our shared mission and ministry. We will continue to share updates here as the project progresses. Thank you for your continued generosity, understanding, and care for Epiphany. Please keep the workers, our campus, and one another in your prayers.

[Click Here to Give](#)

Worship | Serve | Love

Chapter One Book club

3rd Saturdays @ Noon

Start the new year with these book club picks to get ready for the monthly discussions! **January pick is** Killers of the Flower Moon by David Grann. Meeting January 17th at noon on Zoom. **February pick is** Olive Kitteridge by Elizabeth Stout. Meeting February 21st at noon on Zoom. **March pick is** A Prayer for Owen Meany by John Irving. Meeting March 21st at noon on Zoom. If you would like to join the book club, need the Zoom link, or have any questions, contact Gillian Murphy at: (480)907-4933 or gillian@kirkyhomes.com.

Exploring Life and Faith together

Being With is for anyone who's curious about faith—or wondering if the Christian faith has something meaningful to offer.

No special knowledge needed. Just what you have learned in life so far.



Church OF THE Epiphany

Wednesday Evenings
April 8 - June 10, 2026
6:00PM-7:30PM

Church of the Epiphany-Tempe
2222 S Price Rd., Tempe, AZ
<https://www.epiphanytempe.org/BeingWith>

Being With



*Pictured, left to right,
Top: Jan Wagner, Stanlie James,
Bishop Jennifer Reddall, Rev.
Hunter Ruffin, Pat & Dave Young
Bottom: Christine Otaluka,
Cassandra Kariuki, Floyce Chavez,
Shiela Otaluka*

MLK Diversity Awards Jan. 12, 2026

The MLK Diversity Awards honor people who demonstrate a commitment to diversity, inclusion, and who exemplify the spirit of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. The program honors people and organizations, including students, who work to make Dr. King's dream a reality.

This year, Church of the Epiphany was awarded a Certificate of Appreciation from the City of Tempe!

The MLK Diversity Awards are hosted by the City of Tempe and the Human Relations Commission.



Church OF THE Epiphany

MARDI GRAS PARTY

Saturday

FEBRUARY 7, 2026

6pm - 8pm

Red beans & rice with sausage (vegan option available), dessert, wine & soft drinks, raffle baskets, music, fellowship

\$20 per adult

(includes 2 drink tickets)

\$10 per child under 12

(childcare for 5 and under available)

More info at: epiphanytempe.org/mardigras

Scan here for tickets



Worship | Serve | Love



Tell Out My Soul

2026 Estimates of Giving

Many thanks to everyone that has submitted a 2026 estimate of giving! If you did not receive one in the mail, or need assistance filling one out, please contact the church office. You can mail yours back to the office, drop it in the offering plate on a Sunday morning, or [fill it out online by clicking here.](#)

Thank you for your generosity



Economists are talking about our economy being "K" shaped right now. That means that some people who already have substantial incomes are adding to their wealth while people with lower to middle incomes are finding prices rising and income either staying the same or falling. At Matthews Crossing we are seeing more and more families from the downward side of the K, those who are losing ground and need help feeding their families while coping with rising prices in housing, health insurance, etc. I don't think this trend is ending any time soon. Please donate staple food, paper products, and personal care items to help fill the food boxes that we distribute five days a week at Matthews Crossing. The grocery cart is outside the west Parish Hall doors for donations every Sunday. Thank you.



2025 Annual Reports

Ministry leaders, please begin to consider compiling annual reports for your ministry team! You can email your completed reports, or reach out with any questions, to the church office at office@epiphanytempe.org. We would like to have them no later than Sunday, January 25.



Vestry Nominations Are Open!

Are you interested in standing for election to the vestry, junior warden, or convention delegate in the new year? Click and fill out the form below for the position you are feeling called to, or share this with a member of the parish that you think would be a good candidate!

[Vestry nominations](#)

[Jr. Warden nominations](#)

[Convention delegate nominations](#)

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING & POTLUCK

Join your parish for the Annual Meeting & Potluck! We'll be reviewing the Treasurer's Report for FY2025, the proposed budget and mission plan for FY2026, and voting on Vestry and Jr. Warden candidates.

Sunday, February 1
11:30am

In the parish hall following the 10:00am service.
Bring your favorite dish to share!





2026 YOUTH RETREAT

Who and Whose We Are

What is the true self? Do you know who you are and who you want to be? What does it mean to belong to God and each other?

Join the fun as we explore our true selves and discover God with games, prayer, and activity in the beautiful pines at Chapel Rock!

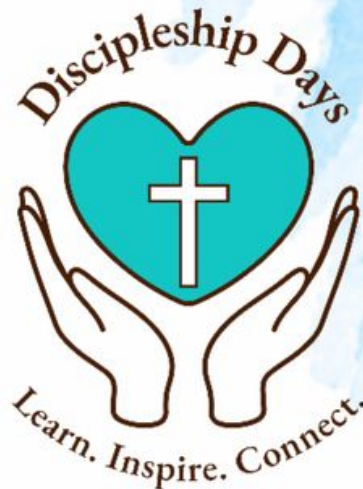
Friday, Feb. 13 - Sunday, Feb 15
\$200 per person

 **REGISTER NOW**

TELLING OUR STORIES

WITH THE REV.
ANDREW
STRAVITZ

**Register 3
Get 1 Free!**



AZDIOCESE.ORG

DAY 1 - FEBRUARY 21

**St. Anthony on the Desert,
Scottsdale**

DAY 2 - MARCH 14

**St. Michael & All Angels
Tucson**

DAY 3 - APRIL 25

**St. Luke's Church
Prescott**

Registration for the 2026 Discipleship Days is NOW OPEN!

2026 Discipleship Days are 1-day, in-person gatherings to help you learn, inspire, and connect. The Diocese is hosting 3 days: one in Scottsdale, one in Tucson, and one in Prescott. You can attend one day, or all three days, as the programming is catered to each specific region of the diocese.

Each session is \$30 per person, and lunch will be provided. Childcare is available upon request.

Who should come to the Discipleship Days?

Anyone who wants to grow in their faith and learn. That includes clergy, vestry/bishop committee members, parishioners, church staff and more! Even if you are new to the Episcopal faith, these 1 day sessions are great for you to get to know how our church works, and how to deepen your connection and discipleship with Christ.

What can I expect to learn?

Each day will begin with an opening prayer, followed by Bible study and reflection, then breakout workshops, and finally lunch. During lunch, there will be open tables with Diocesan Staff so you can ask questions and get to know the different ministries of our diocese. In the afternoon, we will gather together to hear from our keynote speaker, Andrew Stravitz, on "Telling our Stories" of faith and love. Following the keynote will be time with Bishop Reddall and a closing prayer.

For more information and to register, visit our website at azdiocese.org/discipleship.

Scholarships are available. Contact the church office if you need one.

This Week's Prayers

We are all invited to pray for these people in our personal prayers throughout the week.

- **Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** The Province of the Anglican Church of Congo
- **Diocesan Cycle of Prayer:** All Saints of the Desert – Sun City
- **Parish Cycle of Prayer:** Dr. Miriam Hickman, Pat Jacobs
- **Parish Prayer List:** Belinda & family, Beth, Betty, Bill, Carol & Walt, Connie & Kathy, Cooper, Cynthia, David, Fifi, Frances, Jeanne, Jenn, Joe & Kathi, Kathy & Chris, family & friends of Marsha, Martha, Matt, Michael, Mike & Lois, Patrick, Rene & family, Rob, Sara, Stuart & family, Susan, Tony, Wanda

This Week at Epiphany

- **Sunday, January 18-** ~Worship Ministry Training at 11:15am in the Ed. Bldg. ~Vestry Meeting at 12:15pm in the Farmhouse. ~A.A. at 4pm in the Parish Hall. ~Al-Anon at 5:15pm in the Parish Hall.
- **Monday, January 19- *Office closed in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day** ~A.A. at 6pm in the Parish Hall.
- **Tuesday, January 20-** ~Morning Prayer at 9am in the Chapel. ~A.A. at 6pm in the Parish Hall. ~Men's A.A. at 6pm in the Church. ~Women's Ministry Meeting at 7pm in the Ed. Bldg.
- **Wednesday, January 21-** ~Eucharist at 10am in the Chapel. ~Discipleship Group at 11am in the Farmhouse. ~Men's A.A. at 6:30pm in the Ed. Bldg.
- **Thursday, January 22-** ~Morning Prayer at 9pm in the Chapel. ~Business Networking International Meeting at 9am in the Parish Hall. ~A.A. at 6pm in the Parish Hall. ~Choir Rehearsal at 7pm in the Church.
- **Saturday, January 24-** ~A.A. at 4pm in the Parish Hall. ~Tamara's Ordination at 10am at Trinity Cathedral.

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Vestry Leadership

Jan Wagner – Senior Warden
Senior_Warden@epiphanytempe.org

Curtis Wood – Junior Warden
Junior_Warden@epiphanytempe.org

Ann Neal – Treasurer

Andrea Stewart – Clerk

Aaron Van Briesen

Heidi Thomas

Pat Blackman

Kathy Carney

Beth Hunt

Kim Stone

Alex Mather-Charles

Floyce Chavez

Clergy & Staff

The Rev. Hunter Ruffin – Rector
hunter@epiphanytempe.org

The Rev. Martha Seaman – Deacon

The Rev. Canon Steve Schaitberger –
Seasonal Assisting Priest

The Rev. Dr. Corey Meier – Assisting Priest

Dr. Miriam Hickman – Organist, Pianist

Matthew Flora – Choir Director

Jeanne Trembeth – Sexton

Nellie Lichtenstein – Nursery Attendant

Christian Rodriguez-Ortiz – Parish
Administrator & Assistant to the Rector
christian@epiphanytempe.org

Contact the office: 480-968-4111 or
office@epiphanytempe.org