



Happy New Year! 2025 flew by!

Now it is time to make the sanctuary look like a sanctuary once more! Taking down the tree, putting away the Nativity, Advent wreath, and all those other wreathes, easily restored our sanctuary to its pristeen beauty.

And, it must have been exactly the sense of accomplishment that Mary and Joseph must have felt after traveling all the way from Nazareth to Bethlehem, then forced to camp in a place for animals, giving birth to the Christ Child that had to sleep in a food trough. It was time to get cleaned up and go home – but we all know now that was not going to happen!



The Second Sunday of Christmas is observed with special liturgies that may include the

singing of Christmas carols, readings that reflect on the Nativity, and prayers that acknowledge the significance of Christ's birth. Many communities also use this time to reflect on the joy and hope that the Christmas season brings. acknowledge the significance of Christ's birth. In summary, the Second Sunday of Christmas is a time for Christians to continue celebrating the

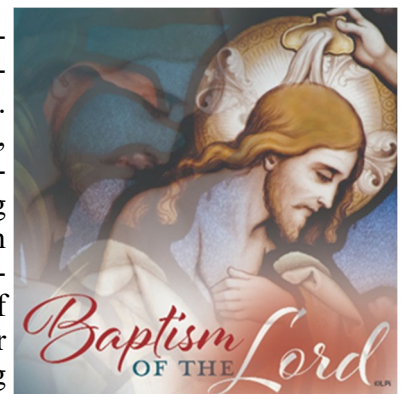
birth of Jesus and to reflect on the profound mystery of the Incarnation, reinforcing the message of hope and salvation that Christmas brings. That happens on January 4th but we can't wait around too long because two days later, on January 6th we jump into Epiphany!

The Epiphany of the Lord



The Epiphany of Our Lord, celebrated on January 6, commemorates the manifestation of Jesus Christ to the world, particularly through the visit of the Magi and His baptism in the Jordan River. Significance of the Epiphany The term "Epiphany" comes from the Greek word meaning "manifestation" or "revelation." This feast highlights several key events in the life of Jesus that reveal His divine nature and mission to humanity. In the Western Christian tradition, the focus is primarily on the visit of the Magi, who followed a star to find the newborn King, symbolizing the revelation of Christ to the Gentiles.

In the Eastern Christian tradition of the Epiphany, celebrated on January 11th – known as Theophany, the emphasis is on Jesus' baptism, where the Holy Trinity is revealed. It commemorates the baptism of Jesus in the Jordan River by John the Baptist, marking the beginning of Jesus' public ministry and his identification with humanity. This event is celebrated in various Christian denominations, including the Roman Catholic Church, Lutheran, Anglican, Episcopalian, and Eastern Orthodox Churches. It is considered one of the most important Christian holidays, symbolizing God revealing Himself to humanity and the initiation of Jesus' mission. The Baptism of the Lord invites believers to reflect on their own baptism and the baptism of others, emphasizing the importance of living a life of love and following God's path. And following that path is always important because we can always trust that Jesus, who is the Christ, is walking with us. No wonder while we're still celebrating Christmas we continue to sing "Joy to the world! The Lord is come"! God bless you all this Christmas and throughout this New Year of 2026!



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OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Thursday

9 am—3 pm

Closed on Friday

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COMMUNITY/SERVICE, GROWTH/OUTREACH MINISTRY

PENNIES FOR PRESCRIPTIONS.....RX Program

Interfaith Outreach Services are still implementing this program for the elderly and for persons who can not afford to buy their medications. We have a jug to put change in on the counter in Fellowship Hall.

USED EYE GLASSES

Yes! We still do collect eye glasses and cases. Sunglasses are also needed. So don't throw your old ones away, recycle them and bring them to the church and put in the box for eye glasses. They will be delivered to Hayley's Eye Clinic

FOOD BASKETS.....

Food baskets go Wichita Falls Area Food Bank, Interfaith Outreach and Faith Mission, So lets fill the food baskets to the rim. Let's help stamp out hunger in our neighborhood.

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

James Beegle Jan. 10

Sally Krueger Jan 13

Jean Billing Jan. 23

Bill Craddock Jan. 24

Robert Billing Jan. 25

ANNIVERSARIES

Patty & Jim Lawrence Jan. 6



Welcome, visitor!

We are glad that you have chosen to walk with us today. And we hope that God will move you to share your spiritual journey with us.

Items for the Food Pantry at Interfaith Ministries for January are: Everyone needs something sweet!!! Cake Mixes and Canned Icing

Trinity Members in Assisted Living: Hildegard Snyder, James Beegle, and Amber Ward. Cards sent to them would be appreciated. Share a bit of joy with them.



Council Meeting, January 21 at 6:30 pm
All Council Members are urged to be there. It's budget time.

Have you chosen your date on the Flower Chart to furnish flowers for the Altar?

Have a safe and Happy New Year!

LECTONARY LESSONS

January 4, 2026: Second Sunday of Christmas

Worship 10:15 a.m. Traditional Liturgy; Communion

Jeremiah 31:7-14

Psalm 147:12-20

Ephesians 1:3-14

John 1:1-18 John begins his gospel with this prologue: a hymn to the Word through whom all things were created. This Word became flesh and brought grace and truth to the world.

January 11, 2026: Baptism of Our Lord

Worship 10:15 a.m. Traditional Liturgy; Communion

Isaiah 42:1-9

Psalm 29

Acts 10:34-42

Matthew 3:13-17 Before Jesus begins his ministry, he is baptized by John, touched by the Spirit, and identified publicly as God's child.

January 18, 2026: Second Sunday after Epiphany

Worship 10:15 a.m. Traditional Liturgy; Communion

Isaiah 49:1-7

Psalm 40:1-11

1 Corinthians 1:1-9

John 1:29-42 John the Baptist's witness to Jesus initiates chain of testimony as his disciples begin to share with others what they have found.

January 25, 2026: Third Sunday after Epiphany

Worship 6:00 p.m. Traditional Liturgy; Communion

Isaiah 9:1-4

Psalm 27:1, 4-9

1 Corinthians 1:10-15

Matthew 4:12-23 Jesus begins his public ministry shortly after John the Baptist is imprisoned by Herod. He proclaims the nearness of God's reign and calls four fishermen to be his first disciples.

Betty Offield, a member of Trinity Lutheran went to her heavenly Father on December 25, 2025. Graveside services will be held on January 2, 2026 at 1:00 pm, at Bowman Cemetery in Lakeside City, Texas, with Pastor Darren Ward officiating. Keep the Offield family in your prayers.

| January Volunteers | 4 | 11 | 18 | 25 |
|---|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| Tellers: Gail Deason Erwin Soell | | | | |
|  | Cindy Pearce | Cindy Pearce | Cindy Pearce | Cindy Pearce |
|  | | | | |
|  | Gail Deason | Sally Krueger | | |
|  | Cindy Pearce | Gail Deason | Jeff Hams | Gary Pearce |

THE NEW YEAR— The New Year always suggests the comparison of the old and new. Jesus' parable of the householder (Matthew 13:52) teaches that there is value in both. A Christian disciple, a learner in the school of Christ, is compared with a householder who brings out his treasures, things both new and old. It is a picture of a wealthy man bringing out of his storehouse and distributing to his servants, garments or supplies, some recently acquired, some which he had had on hand for some time, using wisdom and care in the distribution of both classes of goods. Both the new and the old would have their use. He did not use only old things and fail to provide himself with new supplies as needed, nor did he discard all the old and make exclusive use of new things. So it is with a man who is a follower of Christ.

There are three attitudes that men take with reference to the old and the new. The conversions say, "The old is best, let us not change anything." The radical says, "The new is best, let us change everything," The proper attitude for the Christian is, "There is good in both the old and the new. Let us prove all things, hold fast that which is good." It would be well if we would a New Year resolution to carry out this correct Christian attitude.

— W.C. Boone

2026

HAPPY NEW YEAR

| Sunday | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|-----------------------|-----------|---|-------------------------------------|-----------|----------------------------------|
| | | | | 1 New Years Office Closed | 2 | 3 |
| 4 Install Council SS 9 am Worship 10:15 am | 5 | 6 | 7 In Stitches 10 am | 8 | 9 | 10 Take Down Christmas |
| 11 SS 9 am Worship 10:15 | 12 ASG 1 pm | 13 | 14 In Stitches 10 am | 15 | 16 | 17 |
| 18 SS 9 am Worship 10:15 am | 19 | 20 | 21 In Stitches 10 am Council 6:30 | 22 | 23 | 24 |
| 25 SS 9 am Worship 10:15 am Annual Cong. Meeting | 26 ASG 1pm | 27 | 28 In Stitches 10 am | 29 | 30 | 31 |

Your help will be appreciated to take down the Christmas decorations in the Sanctuary, on Saturday, January 10 at 9.00 am. See you then!