

Celebrating Epiphany this Sunday January 8

Arise, shine for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord rises upon you.

Isaiah 60:1

Dear Friends,

Even though we see the wisemen arrive at the stable in our children's Christmas pageants, scripture tells us they actually came to a house, not the manger scene, and by the time they arrived Jesus was a "child."

The arrival of the wisemen is celebrated on Epiphany, which is always on January 6 on the Church calendar. This Sunday we will have a special worship service. We will celebrate Epiphany by handing out stars with special words on them and at the end of the service we will light candles to remind us that Christ is the light of the world, and we are called to carry that light out into our community. I hope you will take your star home and put it by your desk or on the refrigerator or somewhere you will see your star "word" during the year.

As we begin a new year, I invite you to share with me any ideas you have that will help our congregation bring more light into our sometime dark world. We are blessed with resources of talent; some of us have the time and we are ALL called to share our bounty with those who have less.

I once had a colleague in ministry tell me the most important word in the New Testament is the preposition 'with.' He said Jesus always took someone with him when he did ministry. As your pastor I want to be with you as we love God and love our neighbors in this coming year.

I hope to see you Sunday and hear what 'word' is on your star!

Blessings in 2023,
Mike