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January 2012 (Epiphany Season)

the Sursum Corda

News and Information from EAF~Boulder Campus



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January Calendar for EAF~Boulder

1 The Holy Name of Jesus Our Lord;
Festival of Christmas carols
4 Elizabeth Seton,
Founder of the American Sisters of Charity, 1821
6 The Epiphany of Our Lord; 7 pm Holy Eucharist
8 Commissioning of LEMs
9-17 Fr. Dick & Debbie
on vacation in NC
10 William Laud,
Archbishop of Canterbury, 1645
13 Hilary, Bishop of Poitiers, 367
14 LEM Training 9.30a
- Fr. Patrick Dorn
15 ML King Jr. Civil Rights Leader, 1968;
Fr. Gerry+ preacher and president
18 Confession of St Peter, the Apostle
23 Phillips Brooks,
Bishop of Mass., 1893
25 The Conversion of St Paul the Apostle
26 Timothy, Titus, and Silas: Companions of St Paul

Cup & Chalice: A Word from the Pastor



Church expert Lyle Schaller, published a book titled Small Church; Big Potential. Since our Boulder congregation meets the definition of a "small church" (less than 125 on a Sunday, about 75% of American churches), I thought I would share a summary of Schaller's findings based on years

of study, peppered with a few of **my thoughts**:

1. "The natural, normal, and comfortable size for a worshipping community in American Protestantism includes somewhere between 18 and 40 worshippers..." **Should EAF-B start thinking about founding a new "eucharistic community" that could grow into another congregation of 30-40? Does our size (and comfort level) work against this?**
2. "...the vast majority of congregations ...are **not** organized to welcome a flood of newcomers." **Do we think of new folks as "visitors" or guests? Are we utilizing all the hospitality gifts of our people or is guest welcome the priest's job only?**
3. "...the possibility of merger with another small congregation should rank no higher than 28 [*not a typo*] on that list of 25 options open to contemporary small American congregations..." **Don't even think about it!**
4. "...the combination of modern technology and affluence poses the greatest threat to the future of tens of thousands of small....churches." **How can EAF~Boulder remain attractive without giving in to the temptation of drawing people with mere entertainment?**
5. "...affluence and modern technology have greatly expanded the list of options open to the vast majority of small....congregations..." **Are we doing 8-track ministry in an I-Pod world?**
6. "...the recent trend toward an enterprise serving constituents at several geographically separate locations will accelerate." **Our EAF model!**
7. "...ecclesiastical systems that set ministers up to fail rather than to create an ecological environment that fosters success." **How can we encourage the Order of Laity to provide ministry in ways the priest can't? Is the priest willing to share ministry with laypeople?**
8. "...American culture is increasingly organized around the value of long-term relationships." **This is one of many things the small church can offer that the large church cannot. Are we doing our best, or**

27 Lydia. Dorcas, and Phoebe: Witnesses to the Faith

28 Thomas Aquinas, Priest and Theologian, 1274

29 Andrei Rublev Monk and Iconographer, 1430;

EAF~Boulder Agape Meal (potluck)

30 Samuel Shoemaker Priest and Evangelist, 1963

Ministry Quicklinks

www.epiphanyanglican.org

www.theamia.org

www.acna.org

We Are EAF~Boulder

We are evangelical in faith and sacramental in worship style, rooted in the ancient Nicene and Apostles' creeds, and eager to engage the modern culture. We do not believe in insulating our faith or retreating into a safe place of non-engagement.

We are here for the sake of others.

We are old and young, ancient and modern, black, white, and brown,

have we convinced ourselves that smallness reduces quality?

9. "...traditional denominational systems...have two choices....to change... [or]...to be written off as obsolete or irrelevant..." **Does our denominational system get in the way of helping people?**

10. Small churches can operate a variety of ministries by using clergy-laity teams. **Worship music is just one example of how we do this.**

Our little congregation has just entered our third year of public ministry. Typically, by the third year "bugs" are worked out and the congregation is ready to grow and expand. Are we ready?

We have weathered storms that would have fractured lesser groups. We have experienced growth and have begun to accept the responsibility for gospel ministry in the greater Boulder community. But we have to think in new and creative ways that will touch the Boulder community. We have many strengths and **BIG potential** if we stay focused on the present instead of only the past!

For example, the Christian Broadcasting Network (CBN) recently aired a report on "Anglican fever." While mistakingly calling us a "new denomination," it emphasizes the current attraction young people (18-25) find in the ancient liturgy, the Sacraments, 500 years of Anglican stability, creative evangelical expressions of faith and worship, its "Third World" connections as well as the authority of Scripture and the centrality of Christ, God-Man, Saviour. To see the report go to <http://www.cbn.com/cbnnews/us/2011/December/Anglican-Fever-Youth-Flock-to-New-Denomination/>

Here's the challenge: while remaining true to our Anglican roots, we need to think about the Boulder community and build an Anglican church "for the sake of others" and not just to suit ourselves (see the "**We Are**" left sidebar). I'll have more to say about this "sanctified sociology" later.

We need everyone doing his/her part in the fulfillment of **GC2**: The Great Commandment (GC1) and the Great Commission (GC2)!

Every Epiphany blessing,

Dick+ Miller

Feast of St Stephen, 2011

Epiphany Pilgrimage/Vacation



Ever want to walk in the steps of the Apostle Paul? Do you wish to visit the sites in the Bible associated with both the Older and Newer Testaments? Are you intrigued by Anglican history and locations associated with that turbulent time 500 years ago?

Fr. Miller will be leading a group of 10-12 people on one of the pilgrimages listed below in the next 12-14 months:

The Steps of Paul (Greece and Turkey) 14 days, 22 meals inclusive. Visit Athens, Corinth, Ephesus and Patmos, Thessaloniki and beyond. (\$2299 pp land) **OR**

The Holy Land (Israel) 10 days, 15 meals inclusive. Visit Jerusalem, Jericho, Nazareth, the Dead Sea, Qumran and beyond. (\$1799 pp land)

OR

Our Anglican Heritage (England) 10 days, 13 meals inclusive. Visit

*male and female,
seekers and
pilgrims. We look
forward to church
planting, outreach,
and discipleship
opportunities in
our future.*

*We are spreading
the "Good News" in
incarnational ways.*

*We are
always sinners
in need of God's
redeeming and only
unworthy servants
even after we have
done all required of
us.*



London, Canterbury, Oxford, Cambridge and beyond. (\$1899 pp land)

Each pilgrimage will include free time, Morning Prayer, Sunday Communion as well as historical and biblical background provided by Fr. Miller. **The pilgrimage will be open to all EAF members at any campus and their friends.**

Please indicate your interest (no commitment) and an indication of the pilgrimages you prefer in first, second, third order **by January 20** to demiller211@comcast.net Don't forget friends who may like to join us. An informational meeting is planned for the evening of Jan. 25.

Lay Eucharistic Ministers to be Trained and Commissioned



Lay Eucharistic Ministers (LEMs) are drawn from the order of Laity and work closely with the order of Clergy. In fact, they represent Anglican clergy when LEMs conduct services and/or deliver the reserved sacrament (RS) of Bread and Wine to the homes, hospital rooms, or long-term care facilities where Christians live.

There has always been some need for LEMs sent out by EAF~Boulder, but that need has become acute in the Manor Care nursing facility ministry God is blessing. Lay persons are needed, not just to conduct Prayer Book services, but also to offer life-giving Eucharist and the Real Presence of Jesus.

With this need in mind, Fr. Patrick+ Dorn is coming to the EAF~Boulder campus to conduct LEM training from interested people from **every EAF site**. You must receive approval by your local pastor/priest to attend. **This training will be held on Saturday, 14 January at 9.30 a - Noon.**

LEMs in the Boulder congregation will be commissioned in a service on Sunday, 8 January.

Upcoming Events

Festival of Christmas Carols on 2nd Sunday in Christmas (January 1) and short mediation ("What's in a Name?") on the Holy Name

EAF~Boulder Agape Meal (Potluck)

After Worship Service

January 29th at Church (Invite your friends!)

Continuing Ministries:

LIFE Groups: Sunday and Tuesday evenings in homes; varying times

Manor Care Evening Prayer and Holy Communion (RS): every Sunday @ 1.15p

CS Lewis Society Reading Group: alternate Tuesdays at Barnes and Noble @ 7.30p

Epiphany at Epiphany (Boulder)

Each January 6 marks the end of the Christmas Season and the start of the new Season of

Epiphany. This year (2012) we will be celebrating the Day of Epiphany by holding an Epiphany Season service at our site and hosting all the other EAF worship campuses. Remember to be a part of Word and Sacrament as we gather at 7 pm on January 6 and continue to thank God for "His indescribable gift" with friends from Broomfield, Lakewood and Longmont. A dessert potluck will follow the service.

Contact Info

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Reminder: Be in prayer for the Anglican Mission and Bishop Chuck Murphy during the Winter Conference, Jan. 11-14 in Houston.

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