



## Epiphany: An Invitation to Contemplation

January 6th is traditionally celebrated as Epiphany – the recognition and realization of whom Jesus Christ was/is as revealed to the Magi. Those whom were present back then responded in different ways. The Magi were willing to anchor their gaze upon the star, trusting its guidance and meaning, but acknowledging the limit of their revelation as they asked for help from those within the Jewish tradition. Herod, in contrast to the wise men from afar, is guided by fear, and finally manipulates the information he receives toward his own dark ends.

The different responses are striking. Herod immediately sought to protect himself and his interests. The Magi moved more with a spirit of contemplation and in doing so, were able to respond to the Spirit and presence of God at work. Epiphany is still an important day and significant season in the life of the church. God showing up in our world— Epiphany—still threatens our human power bases and our need to control. Herod felt that and sought to protect himself. The Magi choose a different response.

The season of Epiphany is an invitation to contemplation. It is an opportunity to quiet our selves and our interests in order to better pay attention to the interests and activity of the God who is already present in the world around us. If we are patient in our contemplation, not quick to protect our own interests, then in time we become hospitable to God and how God is with us, and among us. In our congregations, in the lives and stories of church members, we begin to see the presence of God and the marks of God's work. We begin to acknowledge that this is not our work, but rather the work of God.

Epiphany is happening. We are invited to pay quiet, ongoing attention. Then we begin to know how to respond; how to co-labor with God. Then epiphany happens in our own lives. Thanks be to God.

## Identity. . .

### January Bible Study 2016

We are all created in the image of God. We are the children of God. We are loved completely by God. The problem is, sometimes, we don't feel comfortable in our own skin. Sometimes, we feel disconnected from who we are and who we dream to be. The Bible is full of people who struggled with who they were. Jacob struggled most of his life with being the second born. Hannah struggled with infertility and a body that wouldn't do what everyone else's body did easily. Joseph had to understand who he was when his family rejected him and sold him. Peter and Paul had radical shifts in what it meant to be faithful and struggled with overcoming lifetimes of teachings about what was right and wrong so that they could welcome Gentiles and the unclean. These are just a few.

Terry-Michael Newell - a minister, counselor, parent, husband, and follower of Jesus Christ will help us explore a few characters in the Bible who worked with God to understand and live into who they were. He will be leading our Bible study on Wednesday nights in January and sharing with us his insights from his work as a minister and a counselor. Come and join us as we look at these well-known heroes of the faith in a different light. Our study begins at 6:30 PM each Wednesday in January in our Sanctuary. Don't forget to bring your Bibles and an open heart ready to learn.

## Important Dates in January

1/6/16

### Wednesday Night Live Resumes

January Bible Study  
led by  
Terry-Michael Newell

1/9/16

### Buddy Break



10:00 AM -1:00 PM  
(Buddies come at 9:30 AM)  
Fellowship Hall and Youth Bldg.

1/9/16

### Warmth for Wake Workday



We will start at 8:30 AM and work until no later than 3:30 PM. We will be at Everette's Tree Service, 7044 Wildlife Trail Road in Raleigh. Please come help split, chop, load and deliver firewood for needy Wake County families. Bring gloves, hard toe shoes and safety glasses. Trucks are especially needed. Work as long as you can. Contact Greg Byrd with questions at 919-422-6716.

1/10/16

### Leadership Council Meeting and Lunch



12:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall  
You may bring your own lunch or you can place an order with Amanda or by emailing the church office, 919-847-1333 from the Jason's Deli menu and your lunch will be at the meeting for you. Deadline for orders is 10:15 AM, 1/10/16.

# January Birthdays



- 1 Cathy Gunter, Donnie Moorefield, Dottie Thompson, Joy Millikan, Jenny Nathan, Katie Perkinson
- 2 David Ammons
- 3 Virginia Creamer, Duane Long, Grey Byrd, Brian Tickle
- 4 Lee Ann Spahr, Glenn Ferris, Thomas Pendergrass, Jamie Brookshire
- 5 Allan Smith
- 6 Chris Washington, Lisa Nikaeen
- 8 John Meyer
- 9 Cynthia Griesedieck, Walker Alston
- 10 Charlie Hilliard
- 11 Gary Hollingsworth
- 12 Joe LeNoir
- 13 Kayla Jastrow
- 14 David O'Neal, Trish Boone
- 15 Hannah Allen
- 16 Jeanne Andrus, Susan Foster, Matt Birth
- 17 Jewitt Thompson
- 18 Rick Perkinson
- 19 Allison Calder, Michelle Fogwell, Megan Perry
- 20 Cheyenne Ennemoser, Aaron Ng
- 21 Greg Wallace, Spencer Noble, Megan Muncie, Michaela Steele
- 22 Jack Hughens, Durwood Johnson, Bob Penny, Sean Allen
- 23 Graham King
- 24 Helen Tugwell, John Jenkins, Anne Pickles, Raymond Byrd
- 25 Roy Pickles, Wendy Top, Wesley Wilder
- 26 Ernest Carraway
- 27 Jeb Brookshire, Virginia Niehaus
- 28 Courtney O'Donoghue, Caroline Morton
- 29 Dave Tunstall, Kathy Nobles, Matt Brawner
- 30 Michael Kanai, Andy Hunt, Stephen Herman
- 31 Joan Nelson, Mark Stewart, Ben Grant, Ellette Kleinhaus

## January 90+ years Birthday

Jan. 3..... Virginia Creamer

# Growing Greystone Through Prayer



## Praise

- Lacey Reese Gibbons, born 12/14/15 to parents, Matt and Toni and big brother, Nathan

## Concerns

- Debbie Reynolds' aunt, Francis Owens, health concerns
- Louise Estes' brother, Mike Jones, health concerns
- Aaron Vandersip, health concerns
- Amy Vandersip, recent surgery
- Sue Blow, health concerns
- Donna Tunstall, health concerns
- Thomasene Bennett, broken wrist
- Ginny Liverance's sisters, Linda and Pricilla and friend, Greg Thomas, health concerns
- Sue Blow's mother, Martha Johnson and sister, Marsha Patterson, health concerns
- Geraldine Mangum, health concerns
- Annette McSpadden's stepfather, Bill Coughlin, health concerns
- Betty Cornwell, health concerns
- Lee Ann Spahr, recovering from surgery
- Roger Gardner, health concerns
- Amanda Thompson, daughter-in-law of Dottie Thompson, health concerns
- Cindy Vestal, health concerns

## Sympathy

- Sue Blow's family on the death of her stepfather, J. B. Johnson, 12/25/15
- Madeline Griffith's family on her death, 12/21/15
- Annabel and Henry Settle's family on the death of their grandfather, Leslie Albert Squires, 12/4/15
- Jeannie Jordan's family on her death, 12/1/15

## Residential / Health Care Facilities

**Cypress (Rosewood):** John Lawrence  
**Rex Nursing Care:** Louise Abernathy, Nancy Godwin

**Springmoor (SHC):** Vergie Baxley, Mary Evelyn Divers, Martha Eames, Mildred Garrett, Sallie Greene, Albert Meiburg, Pauline Noble, Juanita Register, Grace Smith

**On call Minister:** 919-817-8975

# Growing Greystone Through Stewardship (through 11/30/15)



2015 General Fund.....	\$1,116,102.00
YTD General Fund needed ....	\$1,023,131.00
YTD Operating Receipts.....	\$816,457.53
YTD Operating Expenses.....	\$847,561.79

## Growing Greystone Through Worship

<b>November 29</b>	
8:45 Worship.....	103
11:00 Worship.....	219
<b>December 6</b>	
8:45 Worship.....	107
11:00 Worship.....	203
<b>December 13</b>	
8:45 Worship.....	141
11:00 Worship.....	221
<b>December 20</b>	
8:45 Worship.....	119
11:00 Worship.....	256
<b>December 27</b>	
10:30 Worship.....	246

## Welcome to Our New Members



Jonathan, Ellen and Samuel Steiner  
 Joined December 6 by letter  
 Pictured also are children,  
 Edwin, Seth, Louisa, Christian and Sarah



James and Shyla Tatum  
 Joined December 6 by letter  
 Pictured also is their son, William



Ben Grant  
 Joined December 20 by  
 Profession of Faith, seeking Baptism

Dear Greystone Family,

This note cannot express the love that we have for you. So many of you have gone beyond the call of duty in helping John and Cindy (and Charlie)! All the yard work, repairs and cleaning...it is more than I can ever thank you for! We thank you also for the meals, flowers sent to brighten their home and cards and calls to let them know that someone is thinking about them. Thanks for staying with Cindy when John needs to be away from home. Churches like yours are not to be found everywhere. Maybe a church helps for a little while, but not for two years or more! We love you all and if I have missed something that you did for John and Cindy, please remember that we are thankful for all you do! You are in our thoughts and prayers and I know God is smiling down on all you do! Thanks again for everything! Love always, Mary Lynn and Donald Vestal



### Winter Mountain Weekend Jan. 16-18

We will stay at the Eagle Eyrie Baptist Conference Center where we will worship and fellowship together. Additionally, we will go to the Snowflex Centre for skiing and snow tubing. Cost is \$150. Contact Allan Smith with any questions, [students@greystonechurch.org](mailto:students@greystonechurch.org).



### Youth and College Are You Receiving Text Blasts?

Be sure to link your phone to receive Greystone text blasts. Follow these steps:

Youth: text @youth20 to (919) 336-5052.  
College: To receive text blasts regarding college ministry activities text @gbcc2014 to (919) 336-5052.

If any youth, college students or parents are not receiving our emails or text message updates and would like to, please contact Allan to make sure that the church has your correct contact information at [students@greystonechurch.org](mailto:students@greystonechurch.org).



Wednesday Night Live activities resume on January 6.

### Sunday Night Youth

Sunday Night Youth will resume on January 24th. We will continue with our same schedule of meeting for dinner and fellowship from 5:30-7:00 PM in the Youth Building. We plan to continue meeting in small groups for discussion. Please be on the look out for a new Sign Up Genius to see how you can be Involved!

### Dates to Know:

Mission Trip - Week of June 25 - July 2  
Unidversity Youth Camp - July 18 - 23



With the new year come fresh new ideas and changes here in our Weekday Preschool. Registration for our 2016-2017 preschool year, (September 2016 - May 2017) begins on January 25 to currently enrolled students. Church members are able to enroll starting January 26th. Registration opens to the public on January 28th. This year we will be adding Fridays to our program for all age groups, giving parents MANY more options for child care here with us. Information on enrollment can be found on the church website, [www.greystonechurch.org](http://www.greystonechurch.org). Please help us spread the news!



During the month of January our 5th graders will be participating in a discipleship class during the Sunday School hour. We are looking forward to a wonderful time of learning and growing.

**PASSPORT Kids!** - June 29 - July 2  
A camp for children in grades 3 - 5.

**Greystone Children**  
The Media Team will be hosting the **2016 Children's Book Challenge**,



Jan. 3-Feb. 7! Preschool - 5th Grade children are encouraged to participate. Read at least one book from Books on the Corner, write a review and get your name in print! Recognition will be on Feb. 14 at the Books on the Corner Open House. For more information, contact Jane Cregger, [jane.cregger@gmail.com](mailto:jane.cregger@gmail.com).



To celebrate community and good food we invite you to our annual Chili Cook-off, Saturday, 1/30/16 at 5:30 PM, Fellowship Hall.



### Notes —from the Music Ministry

### New Year, New Opportunities

There is a divine presence humming within all of us. We feel it as the memories of last year fade to the anticipation of a new year — A presence that calls us forward, spurs us on. It's not something we can always explain in words; and where words may fail to give us language for understanding this presence...this calling, music can often interpret it for us. It's why we sing those same carols year after year — not because we necessarily have those songs on our favorites list but because we need to be reminded, as a community, of the story that both challenges us to remember while at the same time promises our future — one of hope, peace, love and joy.

In the Music Ministry at Greystone, this is our tall task. It is the mantle of challenging our community to *remember* while also reminding of God's gifts brought to us in Christ that gives us a hope and a future. We feel that music gives us the platform to experience, and to some degree understand, God's presence — this humming — that exists in us all.

Join us in this new year as we seek to lead and challenge our community. We all have a hesitancy to commit to anything, but I know it can be a rewarding experience for you. Consider being a part of the ministry of the *Adult Choir*, even if just during the Easter season. No audition is necessary. Or perhaps you're a student looking for a place to serve — In the *Student Choir* you can use your gifts to help our community worship and proclaim the good news.

Whether you're nine or ninety-nine, consider your place in the various music ministries this new year. Here are some dates and times to keep in mind:

**ADULT CHOIR** Wednesdays @ 7:15 PM, Choir Room \*Resumes Jan. 6

**GRACE TONES WOMEN'S ENSEMBLE** Sundays @6:30 PM, Sanctuary \*Resumes Jan. 10

**HANDBELL CHOIR** Sundays @ 5:30 PM, Choir Room \*Resumes Jan. 10

**STUDENT CHOIR** Sundays @ 4:30 PM, Choir Room \*Resumes Jan. 24

**WAM! (WORSHIP ARTS & MUSIC FOR CHILDREN)** Wednesdays @ 6:00 PM, Various Rms. \*Resumes Jan. 6





## Mission Statement

*With Christ as the Cornerstone, we will build a church of living stones, where every member is a minister and is equipped to express God's love by word and deed to all people."*

*Based on 1 Peter 2:5,6*

### Office Hours:

**Monday – Thursday**  
**8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.**

### THE CHURCH STAFF:

Sean Allen, Senior Pastor

[sean.allen@greystonechurch.org](mailto:sean.allen@greystonechurch.org)

April Alston, Associate Minister, Preschool & Children

[april.alston@greystonechurch.org](mailto:april.alston@greystonechurch.org)

Gordon Archambault, Property Manager

[gordon.archambault@greystonechurch.org](mailto:gordon.archambault@greystonechurch.org)

Amanda Atkin, Associate Minister, Faith Formation

[amanda.atkin@greystonechurch.org](mailto:amanda.atkin@greystonechurch.org)

Mike Eller, Associate Minister, Music

[mike.eller@greystonechurch.org](mailto:mike.eller@greystonechurch.org)

Financial Secretary [finance@greystonechurch.org](mailto:finance@greystonechurch.org)

Pamela Phillips, Weekday Preschool Director

[pam.phillips@greystonechurch.org](mailto:pam.phillips@greystonechurch.org)

Allan Smith, Associate Minister, Students

[allan.smith@greystonechurch.org](mailto:allan.smith@greystonechurch.org)

Annette Variano, Administrative Assistant

[annette.variano@greystonechurch.org](mailto:annette.variano@greystonechurch.org)

*If you do not wish to receive this newsletter, please unsubscribe at (919) 847-1333.*

**The February newsletter deadline for submissions is noon, Thursday, 1/21/16.**

Greystone Baptist Church  
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Fax: (919) 847-9893

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### Save the dates:

#### All Church Breakfast

9:30 AM, 2/7/16

Fellowship Hall

#### Women's Day Retreat

March 5, 2016

**"Paying Attention"**

A NC Museum of Art day retreat for the ladies of Greystone.

**Solos for Lunch:** This is lunch fellowship sponsored by the Senior Adult team for any adult who has no spouse or whose spouse is out of town, etc. No reservation needed. Meet at the back of the Sanctuary after the 11:00 Sunday service. The January schedule is: 1/3 - Imperial, Garden (Sawmill), 1/10 - Red Lobster, 1/17 - Tomato Pie, 1/24 - Chili's, 1/31 - Nantucket Grill

### People in Service

#### January 3

**Ushers: 8:45 am:** Bill & Sylvia Goulding, Ron & Joanne Thompson; **11:00 am:** Bill Baxley, Hunter Ouzts, Kristen Pickles, Charlie Spahr, Donnie Moorefield, Nicole Moorefield

**Worship Care: 8:45 am:** Andy & Sandra Hunt, Johnny Glover; **11:00 am:** April & Brad Walker, Pam Ouzts, Annie & Will Moody

**Greeters: 8:45 am:** Monaei Perry; **11:00 am:** Margaret Hilton, Margaret Thomas

**Deacon of the Week:** Louise Estes

#### January 10

**Ushers: 8:45 am:** Brad & April Walker, Andrew & Jamie Mabe; **11:00 am:** Jeb, Missy & Jillian Brookshire, Dorwin Lanham, Ken Mitchell, Kemp Sherron

**Worship Care: 8:45 am:** Heather Choplin, Jamie Allen, Matt & Anna Brawler, Dottie Thompson; **11:00 am:** Nancy Register, Craig Swaim, Kim Craig, Donnie & Jean Moorefield, David Alston

**Greeters: 8:45 am:** Joyce Beauchaine, Berno Kleinhans; **11:00 am:** Pat Burris, Mavis Strickland

**Deacon of the Week:** David Ammons

#### January 17

**Ushers: 8:45 am:** Wayne & Cathy Smith, Bob & Nell Panten; **11:00 am:** Heather Choplin, Steve Holden, Pete Cregger, Gabriel Mallah, Greg & Lorlen Morton

**Worship Care: 8:45 am:** Berno & Kim Kleinhans, Sarah & Chris Lannom; **11:00 am:** Susan Burnette, AnaRita Eason, Trish Boone, John Clark, Suzanne Best

**Greeters: 8:45 am:** Bill & Sylvia Goulding; **11:00 am:** Arnold & Sylvia Lawson

**Deacon of the Week:** Angela Rose

#### January 24

**Ushers: 8:45 am:** Luke Andrew, Bill Judd, Tom & Shirley Ditt; **11:00 am:** Kerry Crabb, Dustin & Emily Tuttle, Tom Ogburn, Drew Hunt, Jackson Hollingsworth

**Worship Care: 8:45 am:** Jennifer & Brent Walker, Lilian & Brian Grant; **11:00 am:** Elizabeth Santana, Gayla Hollingsworth, Eddy & Amy Ng, Eileen Trawick

**Greeters: 8:45 am:** Bobby & Peggy Hunter; **11:00 am:** Lu-Ann Lesley, Scott Naeser

**Deacon of the Week:** Jill Pike

#### January 31

**Ushers: 8:45 am:** Wayne & Cathy Smith, Bob & Nell Panten; **11:00 am:** Heather Choplin, Steve Holden, Pete Cregger, Gabriel Mallah, Greg & Lorlen Morton

**Worship Care: 8:45 am:** David & Leigh Ammons, Jamie Mabe, Joy Croom Griffin; **11:00 am:** Lori & Churck Harrelson, Linda McDaniel, Louise Estes, Genice Nix, Glenn Ferris

**Greeters: 8:45 am:** Mary Ann Barnes; **11:00 am:** Nell Panten, Dot Thomason

**Deacon of the Week:** Becky Sansbury