

# NEWS FROM THE SAINTS

## JANUARY 2025

### ALL SAINTS

Rev. Rick L. Moore, Rector  
Sami Jo Magoffin, Deacon  
Lynda Valdez, Deacon  
Ted VanderEnde, Deacon  
Verger, Justin Pierce

#### Parish Vestry

Margaret Buford, Sr. Warden  
David Keyser, Jr. Warden  
Joel Bailey, Member  
Marc Nichols, Member  
Virginia Smith, Member

Margaret Smith, Secretary  
Tom Buford, Treasure

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Margie Lambert

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## A WORD FROM FATHER RICK

Dear Saints,

Happy New Year, 2025!

Expect God in 2025. Just like in any other year. For as the psalmist reminds us, "...my times are in your hand..." With these words the psalmist was reassured that God controls history in general and his own life in particular. This is no less true for you and me. As he was comforted in his distress by this truth, even so, may we. The world is NOT "going to hell in a hand basket." The Lord's providential designs will be fulfilled for history in general and for you in particular.

The psalmist, in Psalm 31, continues: "But I trust in you, O LORD; I say, "you are my God." My times are in your hand...make your face shine on your servant; save me in your steadfast love!"

"Make your face shine..." [as per the reference in the Reformation Study Bible] is a vivid figure of God's looking favorably upon His worshipers. The words come from the OT priestly blessing found in the book of Numbers: "...*The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; the LORD lift up his countenance<sup>[c]</sup> upon you and give you peace.*"

This blessing is a promise of God to you and me. For those who believe in His Son, Jesus, this is what we can expect—the favor and presence of God. All things work together

FOR us, we are told. God is in control, and he will do it!

The Aaronic blessing concludes by promising peace. There is no true peace apart from the presence of God. For this world, in this present age, there will be no lasting peace. But when he, the Prince of Peace, returns, those who love him and trust him will know true and lasting peace.

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For now, we look for the peace of God in the promises he has given us in His Son, Jesus. They “pass all understanding” we are told. We must not judge our lives by how things appear or feel. We must instead interpret them according to God’s Holy Word. And in that Word, we are assured, that “my times are in HIS HAND!”

The Peace of the Lord be with you...

Fr Rick+



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### Why is it called “Epiphany”?

*Copied from [anglicancompass.com](http://anglicancompass.com)*



“Epiphany” comes from the Greek *epiphaneia*, meaning “manifestation” or “appearance.” In 2 Timothy 1:9–10, the word is used to refer to the manifestation of Jesus Christ:

*This grace was given us in Christ Jesus before the beginning of time, but it has now been revealed through the **appearing** of our Savior, Christ Jesus, who has destroyed death and has brought life and immortality to light through the gospel. (NIV)*

In the context of the Church year, Epiphany refers to the appearance of Jesus Christ as the savior of the world—of Israel and the Gentiles. For this reason, Epiphany is commonly associated with the visitation of the Magi (or “wise men”), who were almost certainly Gentiles, in Matthew 2:1–12.

The Church has long viewed the Magi finding Jesus (thanks to the leading light of a star) as a fulfillment of the prophecy of Isaiah 60:1–3, particularly verse 3:

*Arise, shine; for your light has come,  
and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.  
For darkness shall cover the earth,  
and thick darkness the peoples;  
but the Lord will arise upon you,  
and his glory will appear over you.  
**Nations shall come to your light,  
and kings to the brightness of your dawn.***

In addition to the coming of the Magi, Jesus’s baptism and his changing water into wine at the wedding in Cana are also commonly associated with Epiphany, especially in eastern churches. These are two other “manifestations” of Christ’s glory. You will frequently find Scripture readings about the baptism of Jesus and his miracle at Cana assigned for Epiphanytide services.

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The Season of Epiphany is one of two periods in the Church calendar known as “ordinary time.” However, there’s nothing unimportant or uninteresting about it! During Epiphany, we focus on the mission of the Church to reach all the peoples of the earth and the great gift of God’s grace in revealing healing truth and light to the world.

(Note that what is celebrated as “Epiphany” in Western churches is called “Theophany” in Eastern churches. “Theophany” means “appearance of God.”)

### NEW YEAR RESOLUTIONS



As the new year begins, many of us commit to resolutions aimed at improving our lives, whether by losing weight, exercising, or adopting healthier habits. This year, why not also consider resolutions to deepen our spiritual lives? Here are some suggestions to guide you in this pursuit:

**Sunday School:** Sunday School will resume on January 12th, with Deacon Sami Jo leading us in the continuation of “*The Unfolding Word*.” This study takes us through the narrative of the Bible, from Creation to New Creation. If you haven’t attended these classes before, resolve to start now. Even if you don’t have a copy of Zach Keele’s book (available on Amazon), you are welcome to join. As the book’s back cover states: “In ‘*The Unfolding Word*’, Zach Keele helps readers understand the narrative shape of the Bible and how each of its parts collectively tell one grand story.” Understanding the Bible is foundational to understanding God’s plan for our lives. Please join us as we continue this enriching study.

**Morning Prayer:** Morning Prayer is a spiritual discipline that strengthens our daily relationship with God. Each Wednesday, a group of dedicated men and women gather at the church for Morning Prayer. The men meet in the sanctuary at 8:00 a.m., while the women meet in the Fellowship Hall at 9:00 a.m. These are open meetings, and all are welcome! Together, participants pray using the Book of Common Prayer and lift up the needs of the church family and the nation. Those who attend often describe it as a cornerstone of their spiritual week. Resolve to join this time of prayer and experience the blessings of fellowship and spiritual growth.

**Missions:** All Saints actively supports several missions. Resolve to become more involved in these ministries. Here are just a few suggestions:

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- **Filly Feed:** This month, the women will assemble gift bags for transitory workers at Oaklawn who travel from racetrack to racetrack. These women look forward to the annual Filly Feed dinner, a catered meal accompanied by thoughtful gift bags donated by local churches. Consider joining this effort to make a difference in their lives.
- **Jackson House:** Every-other-month on the 2nd Monday, All Saints volunteers help feed the homeless and needy in Hot Springs. Jackson House serves 150-200 lunches daily, providing a lifeline for those in need. Volunteers assist with cooking and serving under the guidance of a meals director. If you would like to volunteer, contact Bob Lambert.
- **Harvey's Chapel:** Located in one of Arkansas' poorest areas, Harvey's Chapel supports families and children in need. All Saints contributes school supplies and scholarships for Christian summer camps. To get involved, reach out to Martha Nichols.
- **Herb and Mary Hand:** All Saints supports Herb and Mary Hand, Anglican missionaries in Northern Africa. Their commitment to underdeveloped areas inspires us to support them through prayers and financial contributions. For more information, contact Deacon Sami Jo.

**All Saints Memorial Garden:** Resolve to secure your final resting place this year. Our Memorial Garden, located behind the church, is a beautiful, peaceful area where members of our congregation are laid to rest. It's also a lovely place for quiet reflection. If you'd like to purchase a plot, please contact Margie Lambert or Deacon Lynda Valdez.

**Grounds Committee:** The grounds at All Saints are beautiful year-round, thanks to the efforts of our Grounds Committee. This dedicated group always welcomes volunteers. Resolve to lend a hand by contacting Joel Bailey. Whether you can plant, weed, sweep, or mow, your help will ensure our church grounds remain well cared for.

These are just a few of the resolutions you might consider as we step into the new year. May 2024 be filled with growth, service, and spiritual renewal for all. Happy New Year!



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### GET TO KNOW THE SAINTS

*Getting to know the Saints at All Saints Anglican Church has been such a joy, and Karen Johnson's story is one worth sharing. Did you know she once worked for the CIA? Her life's adventures are as inspiring as they are fascinating.*



Karen was born and raised in St. Joseph, Missouri, the historic home of the Pony Express and Jesse James. After graduating from the University of Missouri with a major in Spanish and minors in Russian and French, she embarked on a career with the U.S. government. Her first assignment took her to São Paulo, Brazil—a bustling city of nine million people. Karen didn't know anyone there and discovered that her personnel officer was unaware Brazilians speak Portuguese. Nevertheless, she dove

in, armed with only a two-week crash course in the language.

In São Paulo, Karen quickly learned that communication required more than just words; hand signs and gestures were vital. Navigating the city presented its own challenges, with its maze of one-way streets leading into the metropolis. Outbound routes were unconventional: driving on sidewalks or backing up one-way streets were common solutions. Night driving was particularly nerve-wracking, as drivers turned off their headlights and flashed them only at intersections.

Despite these challenges, Karen found Brazil's beauty captivating. However, the city's urban environment also taught her about guerrilla warfare—especially in a place with three-quarters of the country's banks and daily robberies. During her time there, the US Ambassador was kidnapped. She learned that a human life was valued at the equivalent of just \$49. After two years, Karen returned to CIA Headquarters, where she worked for six months before resigning, forgoing an assignment in Paris.

Karen's next adventure brought her back to the U.S., where she joined the military. With three brothers already serving, she chose to enlist despite being turned away by the Air Force due to vision issues. She spent the next 20 years as an Army

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Intelligence Officer, embracing the saying, “You have to have some intelligence to be in military intelligence, but the fact that you chose it proves that you aren’t.” Her career took her around the world, including four years in Panama and one in Korea, as well as to parts of the U.S. she had yet to explore. She also developed an alternate specialty in computer security.

Karen retired from the Army on April Fool’s Day in 1993 and moved to Hot Springs Village, Arkansas. There, she pursued her passion for gardening, completing the Master Gardener training course. Most days, you’ll find her working outdoors, often in someone else’s yard but occasionally in her own. She finds Arkansas’s natural beauty matched only by the warmth of its people.

When Karen first attended a service at All Saints Anglican Church with Nancy Burluson, she immediately felt at home. “This is where I chose to be,” she says, describing All Saints as a uniquely loving church where everyone feels special.

Karen’s story is a testament to a life lived boldly and with purpose. We’re so grateful to have her as part of our church family!

#### A New Year’s Prayer

*Lord, You make all things new.  
You bring hope alive in our hearts  
And cause our Spirits to be born again.*

*Thank you for this new year  
For all the potential it holds.  
Come and kindle in us  
A mighty flame*

*So that in our time, many will see the wonders of God  
And live forever to praise Your glorious name.*

*Amen*

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### CALENDAR FOR JANUARY

<b>All Wednesdays</b>	
8:00 am	Men's Prayer followed by breakfast at Caddies
9:00 am	Ladies Prayer followed by breakfast at Caddies



- January 5      Worship Service 10:30 am
- January 9      Vestry 10:00 am
- January 10     Ladies Birthday Lunch - noon
- January 12     Sunday School – 9:00 am  
Worship Service 10:30 am
- January 19     Sunday School – 9:00 am  
Worship Service 10:30 am
- January 26     Worship Service 10:30 am  
Annual Meeting

**REMINDER: All Saints Annual Business Meeting on Sunday,  
January 26 after church.**

January Birthdays	January Anniversaries
1/5 Mac Cox	Nothing here to see!
1/7 Dave Beed	
1/9 Bruce Neiswander	
1/11 Sami Jo Magoffin	
1/12 Lila Kay Lanio	
1/13 Theresa Aughtry	
1/15 Pat Hansen	
1/29 Cissy Duhon	

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