

# Epiphany Outreach News

January 2011

## Mission and Outreach Commission Update

Since our September newsletter, our Mission and Outreach at Epiphany has gone through a few changes. As a follow up to decisions made at our June meeting, we created three teams, one to write our mission statement, the second to outline a list of criteria that missions need to meet for Epiphany to support them and a third grants team to determine where funds will be disbursed. Thank you to all team participants who helped us with this process ! With the dissolution of the Women of Epiphany, the timing of setting up the grants committee became important as Mission and Outreach incorporated all of Women of Epiphany's outreach programs and set up a WE Global Mission Fund. With these changes we hope mission and outreach will continue to grow and offer opportunities for anyone to get involved in whatever way they wish. Even though Women of Epiphany isn't officially continuing as a formal entity, women and men at Epiphany are as involved as ever in the many outreach opportunities available to our entire parish. See below for our new mission statement:

*Striving for justice and peace, and seeking to serve Christ in the world, our parish Outreach seeks to mutually transform and empower lives through hands-on service and by sharing resources with our neighbors, both locally and globally.*

You can learn more about all that Epiphany Mission and Outreach does, our new list of criteria and all the organizations Epiphany supports on our webpage @ [http://www.3crowns.org/we\\_serve/justice.html](http://www.3crowns.org/we_serve/justice.html)

## Winter/Spring 2011 Dates to Remember

Sundays Jan through Feb at noon	El Hogar Soup and Bread lunches to support WE March mission trips
Mon and Thurs Jan-Mar 9-11:30	Blackstone School library, Boston
Tues Jan 25 10:30-11:30	Meals on Wheels, Winchester
Fridays Jan-Mar 9:15-11	St Lukes food pantry, Chelsea

Mon, Feb 7, 7:30-9 pm	Mission and Outreach Committee mtg-Jack Roll's
Tues Feb 8 10:30-2	Rosie's Place, Boston
Sat. Feb 19, 8-10:30 or 10:30 - 1:00	Serving at St. Luke's Chelsea-breakfast or lunch
Tues Feb 22 10:30-11:30	Meals on Wheels, Winchester
Tues Mar 8 10:30-2	Rosie's Place, Boston
Friday Mar 11 7-9 pm	Multicultural Network community workshop
Sat. Mar 12 9:30-4:30 pm	Multicultural Network community workshop
Sat. Mar 19, 8-10:30 or 10:30 - 1:00	Serving at St. Luke's Chelsea-breakfast or lunch
Tues Mar 22 10:30-11:30	Meals on Wheels, Winchester
March 19-26	1 <sup>st</sup> Women's mission trip to El Hogar
Mar 26-Apr 2	2 <sup>nd</sup> Women's mission trip to El Hogar



**Follow the links below and join us in any of the following ministries:**

Enjoy fellowship and make a difference by volunteering at any of the following organizations this winter/spring. For carpools and planning just contact the leader mentioned below:

\* To work on The Blackstone Elementary School Library Project (help us get a library running at a school in the South End) contact **Eileen Marks** @ [eileenmarks@verizon.net](mailto:eileenmarks@verizon.net) or click here:

[www.SignUpGenius.com/go/blackstone/177118](http://www.SignUpGenius.com/go/blackstone/177118)

\* To deliver Meals on Wheels (deliver food in Winchester to shut ins and others) contact **Celia Ceruolo** at [cceruolo@comcast.net](mailto:cceruolo@comcast.net) or click here:

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/meals212>

\* To serve at Rosie's Place (feeding lunch to homeless women in Boston's South End) contact **Susan Becker** @ [susandb.becker@gmail.com](mailto:susandb.becker@gmail.com) or click here: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/rosies>

\* To work at St. Luke's Food Pantry (help organize pantry and prepare bags of food for Chelsea residents in need) contact **Betsy Walsh** @ [walshhome@mindspring.com](mailto:walshhome@mindspring.com) or click here: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/stlukes>

\* To work at St. Luke's Soup Kitchen (help serve breakfast and lunch for Chelsea residents in need) contact **Claudia Bell** @ [claudiacantey@gmail.com](mailto:claudiacantey@gmail.com) or click here: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/stlukes2>



### Outreach Meeting

February 7

7:30-9 pm @

Jack Roll's house in Winchester,

7 Wainwright Rd., Unit #45

Please join us in planning for the upcoming year. We meet 3 times per year, Oct, Jan and June to share ideas to help our missions.

### Blackstone Library update

by Eileen Marks



On 9/11/10 St. Stephens led over 200 volunteers, including a large contingent from Epiphany, in cleaning and organizing the abandoned library at the Blackstone Elementary School in Boston. A committed group of Epiphany volunteers has remained focused on the library, along with others from Simmons and Belmont Day School. Books

have been sorted, shelving organized, spine labels applied. We no longer need general donations of books, but are developing a "wish list" of books to fill gaps in the collection. When developed, we will post this list on the Epiphany website. We thank everyone who purchased books for this purpose from our Giving Tree! A simple inventory and circulation system is being developed that can be maintained by volunteers (since there is no funding for a librarian). As soon as this system is determined we will be in need of more help to implement it before the library can open for business. The students are quite eager! A grand opening is tentatively planned for March 2nd, which is both Read Across America Day and Dr. Seuss' birthday. For more information please contact Eileen Marks at [eileenmarks@verizon.net](mailto:eileenmarks@verizon.net).

### MLK Day of Service at the Blackstone School in Boston's South End

By Allyson Hart

*"Everybody can be great. Because anybody can serve. You don't have to have a college degree to serve. You don't have to make your subject and your verb agree to serve.... You don't have to know the second theory of thermodynamics in physics to serve. You only need a heart full of grace. A soul generated by love."*  
~Martin Luther King, Jr.

On January 17, 2011, Eileen Marks, Stephanie Terry, Martha and Sarah Lewis, Pat Hitchcock, and Laura Reboul volunteered at the Blackstone library to help with their day of service. The meaning of the day is beautifully summarized below in a thank you note from Allyson to all the volunteers:

I am so pleased by the work that was done at the Blackstone this past weekend. It was humbling to have so many people on site who were working so hard to make our school even better. You have made magic happen again! On behalf of the Blackstone School community, thank you. As service partners, I continue to be impressed by your willingness to give back and your belief and hope in our school. It felt so right being at the Blackstone today with a team of volunteers because after all, the greatest way to celebrate the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. is to serve. I am inspired by your kindness and the love that you put into planning and executing the service day(s.) Thank you for your hearts - full of grace and your souls - generated by love.

Yours in Service,  
Allyson Hart  
Director of Student Success,  
Blackstone Elementary School

***Supporting the People of Southern Sudan***  
*by Roger and Daniel*

On January 9 there was a referendum in South Sudan concerning whether or not the people of South Sudan wish to be independent of the government on North Sudan. It is expected that the referendum will pass, but then the question arises as to if the North will let the South go peacefully, or whether the civil war will resume after a five year hiatus. Parishioners are concerned not only about the situation in general, but also about the safety of Daniel's family: his mother, his sister Lily and her three young children, and his brothers Gabriel and Deng. On January 8<sup>th</sup> Grace Episcopal Church in Everett hosted an Ecumenical Prayer Vigil from 4:30pm – 9:00 pm. Prayers, readings, meditations and songs were offered on behalf of a peaceful voting process, an end to the civil upheaval, and a referendum result that allows self-determination for the people of Southern Sudan.



***At the vigil this prayer was shared:***

***"Prayer in the Time of War"***

Our father, who art in heaven, slow to anger and of great mercy, lover of all the peoples of the earth,  
*Hallowed be thy Name*

Remind us that "all the nations are as nothing before thee", their governments but a shadow of passing age;  
*Thy kingdom come on earth.*

Grant to thy children throughout all the world, and especially to the leaders of the nations, the gift of prayerful thought and thoughtful prayer; that following the example of our Lord, we may discern what is right, and do it;  
*Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven.*

Help us to protect and to provide for all who are hungry and homeless, especially those who are deprived of food and shelter, family and friends, by the tragedy of war;  
*Give us this day our daily bread.*

Forgive us for neglecting to "seek peace and pursue it," and finding ourselves in each new crisis, more ready to make war than to make peace. "We have not loved thee with our whole heart; we have not loved neighbors as ourselves";  
*Forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.*

Let us not seek revenge, but reconciliation;

Let us not delight in victory, but in justice;  
Let us not give ourselves up to pride, but to prayer;  
*Lead us not into temptation.*

Be present to all thy children ravaged by war;  
Be present to those who are killing and to those who are being killed;  
Be present to the loved ones of those who are killing and to the loved ones of those who are being killed;  
*Deliver us from evil.*

Subdue our selfish desires to possess and to dominate, and forbid us arrogance in victory;  
*For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever.*

*Amen*



*Come one, come all ... Soup lunches will be served after Adult Ed and Sunday School every Sunday in January and February in Hadley Hall. The soup is being made by 22 women travelling to Honduras in March. All proceeds will go towards the \$4,000 that must be raised to cover project supplies. Please come join us for fellowship and a warm bowl of soup and bread.*

***Rosie's Place***  
*by Susan Becker*

The mission of Rosie's Place is to help women maintain their dignity, seek opportunity and find security in their lives. Since 1974 poor and homeless women have found an oasis of hope and nourishment there. Many of those women are working and in housing but simply can't make ends

meet. Some are newly homeless, while others have been living on the streets for years. Approximately one-third of the guests have children.

Each month, on the second Tuesday, a group from Epiphany gathers to serve lunch to Rosie's women. We leave Epiphany at 10:30 and return by 1:30 (a schedule-friendly event for people with school aged children). It's a simple job, in a well-organized and efficient kitchen with Rosie's staff in the lead and the hands of numerous volunteers lending support. I find it a way to go beyond the confines of what I normally consider a chore – chopping, cooking, wiping down tables; and experience these simple tasks as meaningful and joyful.

Our next trip there will be on February 8th with subsequent visits on 3/8, 4/12, 5/10 and 6/14. We welcome you to join us and feel free to bring a friend or neighbor. You can visit the website to find out more at [www.rosiesplace.org](http://www.rosiesplace.org); or call me, Susan Becker at 781.756.1528 or go to <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/rosies> and sign up to help.



*Lydia Broderic playing the piano at St Lukes soup kitchen*

### ***The Winchester Multicultural Network*** *by John Suhrbier*

The WMN celebrates, beginning March 2011, twenty years of building inclusive community and again offers its Multicultural Community Workshop. Sharing its dedication to educating about, advocating for, responding to, and confronting intolerance and injustice with a constructive, community building approach, the Network invites residents to join its efforts, through growth in both personal and institutional awareness.

“Addressing challenging topics such as race, religion, sexual orientation, class, mental and physical abilities can be difficult,” says Angela Giudice, facilitator for the Multicultural Network's annual community workshop Friday evening March 11 (7 to 9 p.m.) and continuing Saturday, March 12 (9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.). WNCN offers

“Deepening Your Multicultural Understanding” to anyone who lives or works in Winchester, without charge.

Giudice, who has been consulting with the Multicultural Network for many years is an independent multicultural consultant, educator, and community activist. “The workshop provides us with awareness, guidelines, and tools to stay in constructive dialogue and build collaborative relationships—all within a safe and structured environment,” says Sandra Thompson, a Network board member, founder, and one of the workshop coordinators, along with Gloria Welch Legvold.

“In September 2009, the Board of Selectmen passed the Winchester Human Rights Statement,” says Legvold. “Workshop participation allows another step forward in building Winchester's reputation and reality as a welcoming and inclusive community. Participants are making an investment in keeping our schools, institutions, businesses, and neighborhoods alive through the richness of our differences, perspectives, experiences and talents.”

Community workshops have been a cornerstone in the Network's 20 years of programming; over 300 people have come together to learn how to address issues of diversity in a respectful way. The workshop will be held at the First Congregational Church in Winchester Center and is free and open to all, thanks to support from contributions made to the Network. “There are still a few spaces,” says Legvold, so register through the Network's office, [office@wmcn.org](mailto:office@wmcn.org), call WMCN at 781 729-7100, or contact Gloria Welch Legvold at 781-729-8247.



*We are looking for a few new leaders to represent some of the ministries previously supported by the Women of Epiphany. If you are passionate about Winchester Hospital Breast Care, Winchester ABC House or the Winchester Youth Center please join us at our February 7 meeting to learn more, or contact*

*Betsy Walsh @ 781-729-6598,  
[walshhome@mindspring.com](mailto:walshhome@mindspring.com) or Kate Reynolds  
@ 781-729-9618, [kateandjosh@kjreynolds.com](mailto:kateandjosh@kjreynolds.com)*

## **A Glimpse Back at Fall/Winter 2010**

### ***Apple Picking at Honey Pot Hill Orchard with Brookview House***

*By Julie Dalton*



We had a fantastic day at the apple farm on Sunday. Thirty members of Epiphany and 52 guests from Brookview House enjoyed the hay maze, hay rides, caramel apples, apple cider and cider donuts – not to mention TONS of freshly picked apples. As you can see from the picture above, the weather was perfect - bright blue sky, warm sunshine and a hint of Autumn in the air. And the apples practically jumped off of the trees into our bags. The families from Brookview House had a great time too.

I met my friend Angie 10 years ago when she was a resident at Brookview. Now she is a terrific, strong, self-sufficient mom AND, as the assistant to the director at Brookview House, she has made a career of helping other homeless mothers. She is one of so many success stories that have risen from Brookview House, and she is a true inspiration to me. The financial support, field trips, (such as apple picking,) the afghans many of you knit for the moms, the donated children's books, and the Christmas gifts Epiphany provides, are small but important parts of a comprehensive program that builds these mother up, helps them become strong, self-sufficient parents, and to pass that knowledge on to their children so they never find themselves homeless again. Together, we are helping to break the generational cycle of homelessness. Thanks for all your support!

## ***Council of Social Concern Food Delivery for Thanksgiving***

On November 17, nearly \$3,000 worth of food was donated to the Council of Social Concern to help families in need celebrate this special holiday. We thank everyone at Epiphany who donated food, money and help to make the project happen. The Council was truly grateful.

### ***Thanksgiving Wahoo at St. Stephen's Church on Tuesday, November 23***



*Ralph stirring a giant pot of mashed potatoes at the Wahoo*

Thank you to all our volunteers who donated food, helped deliver, cook and serve the meal and to all our volunteers who helped with arts and crafts and games. We played games, made crafts, funded turkeys and fed close to 200 people in a tiny space! For St. Stephens church, this is their favorite celebration from a staff, kid and family viewpoint. Numerous Epiphany families provided the food and 15 parishioners helped on site.



*Holiday cookie decorating with friends at Germaine Lawrence*

## The Advent Giving Trees



*Ellie Rappole delivering gifts to Brookview House*

The Advent Giving Trees were decorated this year with wish list tags from all the organizations Epiphany supports. Parishioners chose from tags requesting toys, gift cards, food, clothing, books and household items to support local and Boston area families in need and made financial donations to support our global mission work in Palestine/Israel, Honduras, Sri Lanka and South Africa.

As just 2 examples, we delivered 50 hefty bags full of gifts totaling 216 toys, to 18 families from Brookview House. Eileen, Jenny, Ellie, Clara and Julie drove in 3 cars to make this enormous delivery. Julie Dalton called it “The best haul ever!”. Kate and MJ delivered 5 huge santa bags of toys to 52 girls and boys attending daycare at the Council for Social Concern in Woburn. It was quite festive arriving in a minivan, full of toys, amidst freshly fallen snow. The true holiday spirit spread as we shared gifts that had been carefully selected by so many Epiphany parishioners. Thank you for your thoughtfulness and generosity !

### **Thank you everyone for your giving tree donations.**

#### **See below for a tally of what we received:**

Am. Friends of the Diocese of Jerusalem - \$430  
 Blackstone Library – 15 books for library  
 Books for S Africa- \$225  
 Brookview- 216 gifts for 18 families  
 Children’s Book Shipments- \$50  
 Council for Social Concern -52 gifts, socks, mittens  
 El Hogar- \$1,020  
 Environmental Partnerships- \$175, gifts for food program  
 Germaine Lawrence- gifts for 23 girls  
 Habitat- \$440  
 Kiva Microlending - \$225  
 Saturdays/ Sundays Bread- \$250, gifts for food program  
 St. Luke’s- \$360  
 St. Stephen’s- 75 gift cards totaling \$1,500  
 Win Multicultural Network - \$75

## Update on Microlending

In June 2009, through [www.kiva.org](http://www.kiva.org), Epiphany made a small loan of \$100 to a female entrepreneur in Honduras. As of December 2010, we have made 11 loans for a total of \$1025 of which \$400 has been repaid. We are helping entrepreneurs grow their businesses in Honduras, Paraguay, Pakistan, Palestine and Rwanda. In 2010, a \$300 donation from outreach and \$225 from the Giving Tree allowed us to fund more loans. As loans are repaid, we reinvest in new entrepreneurs. A group of us, called “Team Epiphany”, are set up on Kiva. If you would like to join us or learn more about the entrepreneurs we are supporting contact Kate Reynolds @ [kateandjosh@kjreynolds.com](mailto:kateandjosh@kjreynolds.com).

## Looking Ahead to Lent: Empowering Women Globally and Locally

Each spring our mission and outreach team selects a topic to focus on as part of our Lenten outreach program. This year we will be learning more about empowering women locally and worldwide. In addition to providing a devotional to help families learn more about this topic, and some of the ministries we support including Brookview House and Rosie’s place, we will read the book *Half the Sky* by Pulitzer prize winning authors, Nicholas Kristof and Sheryl Wudunn. Khaled Hosseini, author of *the Kite Runner* had this to say about the book:

*An unblinking look at one of the seminal moral challenges of our time. This stirring book is at once a savage indictment of gender inequality in the developing world and an inspiring testament to these women’s courage, resilience, and their struggle for hope and recovery. An unexpectedly uplifting read.*

We’ll also offer an opportunity for Sunday school teachers to read and discuss microlending children’s books in class: *One Hen*, *Good Garden* and *Beatrice’s Goat*, to teach the children about how they can help, even in just a small way, to empower people worldwide. More to come on this topic soon ....

### Third Sunday Offerings '10/'11

Sept.	ERD	\$498
Oct.	Brookview House	\$403
Nov.	Council of Social Concern	\$408
Dec.	Germaine Lawrence	\$424
Jan.	Haiti Earthquake Relief efforts through Partners in Health	\$311