
Epiphany Outreach News

January 2010

Feliz Ano Nuevo !

To get started, we've outlined activities coming up later this winter and spring below you may wish to learn more about. This Lenten season we have chosen to focus on "Engaging Our Neighbors" and plan to serve, learn more about and share in worship with St. Luke's, Chelsea. To help with this we have developed a multi-faceted program to include many opportunities for parishioners to worship, learn or serve. We also accomplished many meaningful outreach missions this past fall which we have shared in photos and summaries below.

Save These Dates*

Jan - Feb	<i>Ecclesia Ministries and City Reach Clothing Drive for the Homeless</i>
Sundays Jan 10, 17, 24 and 31 at 12:15 pm	<i>El Hogar Soup and Bread Lunches to support WE March mission trip</i>
Sat. Jan 16 8-10:30 or 10:30 – 12:30	<i>Serve breakfast and/or lunch at St. Luke's Chelsea</i>
Jan 22	<i>City Reach overnight for YPF- 1st Delivery of Collected items</i>
Feb 20	<i>Serving at St. Luke's Chelsea- breakfast 8-10:30 or lunch from 10:30 – 1 pm.</i>
Feb 27 Time TBD	<i>Germaine Lawrence scrap-booking activity</i>
Feb 17 – April 7	<i>Lenten Program – Focus on Engaging our Neighbors and St. Luke's in Chelsea</i>

Haiti Earthquake Relief Efforts

In response to the earthquake that devastated Haiti on January 12, the Parish of the Epiphany held an interfaith prayer service on Saturday, January 16. Clergy from 4 other churches in Winchester joined Thomas and Roger at this service of music, scripture and prayer. The parish will be directing funds collected for Haiti relief to Episcopal Relief and Development. A check, made out to either ERD or Epiphany (**with "Haiti Relief" in the memo**), may be placed in the collection plate or sent to the church office. You may also donate directly to ERD through their website www.er-d.org. Recovery and rebuilding in Haiti will take years and there may be opportunities in the future to help in other ways but for now, the most useful gift is money.

Focus on Homelessness January/February

In mid January, the YPF is again going on a CityReach weekend at the Cathedral in Boston. They are looking to bring with them donations of items that can be used by the homeless: old backpacks, fanny packs, small toiletries, sweatshirts and pants, raincoats, sweaters, shirts, hats, gloves, new white t-shirts, jeans, sneakers, and belts. Please put your donations in the box in Hadley Hall.

1. *Ecclesia Ministries* offers social services to homeless people in concert with spiritual companionship and community in order to provide dignity and continuity for lives that have little or none of either.
2. *CityReach*, Boston is an overnight urban outreach program begun in March 1996 for youth (with accompanying adults), young adults, and college students from churches of any denomination. The program gives these young people the opportunity to learn first hand about homelessness from people who have experienced it.

Building Inclusive Community

A three-part workshop with Rev. Eric Dupee January 20, 27, and February 3 from 7:00-8:30 p.m. in the Meeting Room at the Winchester Public Library.

Last year Rev. Dupee of the Crawford Memorial United Methodist Church offered a very well-received workshop titled "Race and Faith." This year, his focus will be on using spiritual resources for building inclusive community. In any community, there are implicit cultural norms that operate below the level of consciousness of its members. Often it is these implicit understandings, rules of behavior and expectations, that become barriers to the inclusion of those who come with alternative cultural norms. What happens when cultures collide? How does a community maintain its boundaries and open itself to "outsiders?"

Over the course of these three meeting times, we will look at culture, boundaries and specific ways a community can become more inclusive. Even though Rev. Dupee will draw from resources both within the Christian tradition and secular culture, these meetings are open to anyone with a heart for building inclusive community in any context.

For more information or to register call the Winchester Multicultural Network (781-729-7100) or email office@wmcn.org.

Lenten Program: Engaging Our Neighbors

Our Lenten Outreach program this year will focus on St. Luke's – San Lucas Episcopal Church in Chelsea. There are many aspects to this program that we hope will engage as many Epiphany parishioners as possible. The program will begin on February 21st where parishioners, teachers and students will be presented with information about the program. Parishioners will have the opportunity to serve at St. Luke's in Chelsea, join a book group to read, *Take This Bread* by Sara Miles, learn more about St. Luke's through a devotional booklet handed out in Sunday school, learn Spanish and/or attend a service at St. Luke's. Look for more details in upcoming Lenten program descriptions. It will conclude on April 7th with an interesting and educational meal for families and parishioners to share in fellowship and reflect on hunger locally and internationally.

Father Edgar of St. Luke's, Chelsea, writes about his congregation:



We are individuals and families of all ages that reflect the diversity of Chelsea and the Greater Boston area. Some of us are from Latin America (especially Honduras, Guatemala, El Salvador, Puerto Rico, Dominican Republic, Mexico, Costa Rica, Colombia and Venezuela), others from Africa (Nigeria, Ghana, and Cape Verde); Asia (Sri-Lanka and China), the Caribbean (Montserrat, Haiti, Jamaica) and yes, also New Englanders from European and Afro American stock. We have diverse sexual orientations, and some among us have disabilities. We come together to this corner of Chelsea to celebrate our unity in diversity and to honor God through Worship and service to the community. We are a Mission Church of the Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts.

Join us to prepare and serve hot meals at St. Luke's - San Lucas Community Kitchen



On October 21st, November 21st, January 2nd & 16th, members of Epiphany cooked and served breakfast and lunch to 60-80 Chelsea residents. There will be opportunities to help with the community kitchen feeding program or with the distribution of food from their food pantry every Saturday morning during Lent. Please be in touch with Claudia Bell, claudiacantey@gmail.com) to help with this important ministry with our neighbors.

Reflecting on Fall Programs

Apple Picking at Honey Pot Hill Orchard with Brookview House



This year's apple picking was enjoyed by over 30 parishioners and over 80 members of Brookview House. It was peak weekend so the apples were abundant! Brookview House members enjoyed getting out of the city on a beautiful, crisp fall day and Epiphany treated them to delicious cider, a homemade donut and apples to take home.

Making a Difference at Germaine Lawrence

Karina Nolasco and Stephanie Terry organized 4 intimate gatherings at Germaine Lawrence this fall in Arlington. A few Epiphany parishioners and adolescent girls knitted together in September, shared a yoga class in October, created Christmas crafts for the Goose Fair in November and decorated cookies together in December. They plan to gather again on February 27 for scrapbooking pending confirmation.

Council of Social Concern Food Delivery for Thanksgiving



On November 19, nearly \$4,000 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. They distributed 853 food baskets over the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays this year.

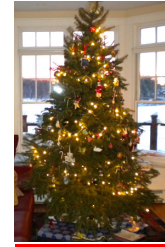
Thanksgiving Wahoo at St. Stephen's Church on Tuesday, November 24



St. Stephens's students working on a turkey craft

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, bagged over 150 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. 25 Epiphany families provided the food and 15 parishioners helped on site.

Giving Trees Offered Holiday Cheer to Many on Christmas Day



Thanks to the generosity of many at POE, the Giving Tree was able to distribute; \$3900 in monetary donations to organizations we support, 150 gifts for 50 mothers and children at Brookview House, 25 gifts for 25 girls at Germaine Lawrence, 15 gifts for the feeding program at Mount Calvary Holy Church in Dorchester, 100 gift cards for the children attending the Christmas Eve service at St. Stephen's, and 45 gifts for children at the Council of Social Concern. Thank you!

2010 Mission Trips To El Hogar in Honduras



Women's El Hogar Mission Trip – March 6-13
High School Youth Trip - July 24-31
Adult Trip - October 2-9

Third Sunday Offerings '09/'10

Oct.	Brookview House	\$627
Nov.	Woburn Council	\$688
Dec.	Germaine Lawrence	\$341
Jan.	Episcopal Relief & Development- Earthquake in Haiti	\$2908
Feb.	Ecclesia	
Mar.	St. Luke's – San Lucas	