The Pen and Praise

St. Andrew’s Episcopal Church January, 2019



**Prayer for a Happy New Year**

**from Guideposts Magazine (January 1973)**

May the Lord make my New Year a happy one…

Not from shielding me from sorrow and pain,

but by strengthening me to bear it if it comes…

Not by making my path easy, but by

making me sturdy enough to tread any path.

Not from taking hardship from me, but by

taking all cowardice and fear from my

heart as I meet hardships.

Not by granting me unbroken sunshine, but by

keeping my face bright even in the shadows

Not by making my life always pleasant,

but by showing me where men and His

cause need me most and by making me

zealous to be there and to help…

God, make my year a happy one.

**Knitting Circle**

**Isabel Kempton**

It is mitten time again. Don’t like to make mittens? That is OK, we need more prayer shawls too. Please join the Knitting Circle at 1:30 PM on Friday, January 11th and Friday, January 25th. We will meet by the fireplace in the Parish Hall.

**Music and Worship**

**Bob Garrels, Director of Music**

The Epiphany season continues until the beginning of Lent on March 6. Epiphany means the manifestation; the manifestation of the Son of God in Jesus Christ. The readings and stories from the Bible for this season deal with Jesus Christ being the revelation of God’s activity to humankind.

White or green are the liturgical colors for Epiphany. Green symbolizes the growth we all experience in hearing and acting upon the stories in the Bible dealing with God’s involvement with humankind. White symbolizes Christ bringing light to the world.

The hymns and songs for the Epiphany season often reflect the various ways Christ’s life is gloriously manifested to the people. *Brightest and Best of the Stars of the Morning* is a typical Epiphany seasonal hymn*.* Reginald Heber wrote the text for this hymn. He also wrote the text for *Holy Holy, Holy.*

*Shine Jesus Shine* by Graham Kendrick is an energetic praise song for this season which we will sing this month.

Our Hymn/Song Selection Team meets each month to select the music for worship. Members of the group are Beth Hamelund, Kathy Filkins, and Bob Garrels. If you have a favorite hymn or worship song, let any one of these persons know about that.

**Rector Search Committee**

**Isabel Kempton**

The Search Committee has been quiet recently. We are getting a joint profile for St. Andrew’s and St. Mary’s in final form. The St. Andrew’s family has completed a survey regarding the desired service times. Twenty-one of the surveys were returned out of the thirty that were mailed out. The preferred times of the services were 9:00 AM, 10:15 AM and 11:00 AM.