

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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ANNOUNCEMENTS SHEET

FIRST SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY BAPTISM OF THE LORD

11 January 2026

Welcome! We extend a warm welcome to our guests, and invite you to sign the guest book at the back of the sanctuary. Everyone is invited to remain for coffee and fellowship, downstairs in the Church Hall, following the service. We thank **Brian Yeo** for hosting today.

We thank **Wilma Shirriff**, who is leading our service today.

Welcome & Announcements - **Margaret Dunn**.

The Greeters this morning are **Bruce and Lisa Sneesby**.

The Reader today is **Lisa Sneesby**.

Scripture Readings - The readings for today's service are
Isaiah 42. 1-9 - Servant Song 1
Psalm 29 - The voice of Yahweh
Acts 16.34-43 - Gentiles believe
Mathew 3.13-17 - The baptism of Jesus

This Week at First Church:

Monday, 7:00 p.m. - Bible Study - "Paul: His Life & Teaching", Jack Kuhatschek (2012), by Zoom

Mission Moment

“The lack of drinking water in the home is tiring and disappointing,” explained 28-year-old Carolina Coronado. “During this year, the water pressure of the piped [municipal] system has decreased a lot. We have asked the community authorities for the expansion of drinking water, which hasn’t been possible due to the low water pressure.” To help respond to this challenge in Guatemala, *Presbyterian World Service & Development (PWS&D)*, together with our partner, the Maya-Mam Association of Research and Development, provided water tanks to families in need. Carolina explains: “The water tank will be very useful to me. Now I will be able to continue planting vegetables in my family garden. I am very grateful.”

The Christian Year - We are now in the **Season after Epiphany**, the third of the six seasons of the Christian Year (the first two being Advent and Christmas). The Season after Epiphany begins on January 7 (the day after Epiphany), and lasts until Lent (which begins on Ash Wednesday). Since the date of Ash Wednesday changes each year, the length of the Season after Epiphany also varies.

This season is properly called the Season *after* Epiphany, not the Season *of* Epiphany. It’s a season of “ordinary time”, which means it has no particular focus or theme (unlike Advent or Easter, for example). The symbolic color for this season is **green** (signifying life), the color for ordinary time.

However, the first and last Sundays of this season do have a special focus: the First Sunday after Epiphany commemorates Jesus’ **baptism**, and the Last Sunday after Epiphany commemorates his **transfiguration**. On both of these Sundays, the theme is the revelation of Jesus’ true identity as the Son of God, which continues the theme of Epiphany itself (the “manifestation” of Jesus to the world). The symbolic color for both of these Sundays is **white**, signifying joy and celebration.

(adapted from "Announcements Sheet", 9 January, 2022)

Our sympathy - We extend our sympathy to Wilma Shirriff and family in the death of Wilma's sister, Anne Tegtmeyer, on January 6.

Proverb of the Week - (from "Announcements Sheet", 10 October, 2021)

Fools show their annoyance at once,

but the prudent overlook an insult. (Proverbs 12.16)