

# The Morning Star

*Wycliffe College Student Newsletter*



## Have You Had an Epiphany Moment Yet This Year?

*By Glen Taylor*

Christians familiar with liturgical traditions will know that we are in the season of Epiphany, a period that focuses on Bible passages that disclose the fact that Jesus was divine. Yet for most of us the word epiphany means having an “aha” moment, a time when we discover something that makes a huge difference in the way we look at things. So, which sense of the word epiphany is best? The good news is that we don’t have to choose, because at least one of the Bible passages for this season of Epiphany—the story of the Wise Men in Matthew 2—beckons us to our own personal (and amazing) aha moment.

Based on what we typically hear about the story of the three wise men (we actually don’t know how many there were), you might be thinking the aha moment is so trite as the saying on the Christmas cards: “Wise People Still Seek Him.” But that’s not what the story is about at all. The aha moment begins when we realize these people, from a biblical perspective, weren’t wise at all. (Other passages that refer to magi—intellectuals who were astronomical astrologers, or simply magicians—would lead us to believe that “those people” would be the last on God’s invitation list to a baby shower for his newly incarnate Son. Instead, these Babylonian astrologers get a private invitation that King Herod and the prestigious religious leaders did not!)

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## WHAT’S HAPPENING AT WYCLIFFE?

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- Jan 30 – Wednesday Event: Bishop George Sumner on “If I Could Tell a Young Seminarian/Priest 10 Things...” – page four
- Feb 1 – At Home Dinner & Dance – registration closed
- Feb 5 – “Has Bethsaida-Julias Finally Been Found?” – page three
- Feb 6 – Info Session on International Summer Internships – page three
- Feb 12 – UofT’s Research Ethics Board Review Process Info – page three
- Feb 19 – Preaching Day – page three
- Feb 22 – Theology Pub Evening with Bruxy Cavey – page three

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Where the aha moment in this story depends on, frankly, who you are. If you are someone like King Herod (affluent, powerful, well connected) the aha is that, in God's eyes, you aren't as special as you are inclined to think; in fact, if you are selfish and have no room for a king other than yourself, you are on the sidelines, in need of a miracle from God (which could still happen, but not likely). If on the other hand, you are someone like the Magi, well-meaning, but looking for God in all the wrong places, the aha moment consists of three truths: 1) God cares (especially!) about you; 2) following God's leading to the feet of Jesus can bring immense joy (v. 7 says, literally, "they rejoiced with joy that abounded exceedingly"); 3) this joy-filled personal encounter with Jesus changed their lives in that gladly "they worshipped Him" and "offered gifts." Now there's a surprising aha moment: finding joy at the worship of Jesus—and at putting money in the plate! Something has changed. It was an epiphany!

### **The joyous "aha" that comes when we recognize Jesus for who He is**

The epiphany that awaited the magi awaits us as well: the joyous "aha" that comes when we recognize Jesus for who He is, God incarnate. He is a Life Changer, a source of joy amid reorientation to Him.

Wise people still seek Jesus, but our story suggests that God is more inclined to lead the well-meaning spiritually minded to find him. There are lots of spiritually curious people around today. If you are one of them, may I ask: have you had that epiphany? If not, God is waiting.

#### *About the Author*

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**This article is also featured on the Wycliffe Blog: [wycliffecollege.ca/blog](http://wycliffecollege.ca/blog)**

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## **News & Announcements**

### **From the Registrar**

**The deadline is Jan 28!** Do you expect to graduate this May? Be sure to sign up for a photo sitting for January 30 or 31. Your robe and hood will be provided for you at the session. These photos will be used for the graduating class composite which will be hung in the ambulatory, so be sure that you are included! You also have the option of purchasing copies for yourself. Please choose a time slot on the signup sheet which will be posted at the front desk the week before the photo shoot. Cannot make either day? Please contact Jeffrey Hocking ([jhocking@wycliffe.utoronto.ca](mailto:jhocking@wycliffe.utoronto.ca)) to make alternative arrangements.

**Christians Against Poverty Course** — There will not be a CAP course at Wycliffe but for anyone interested, St. Pauls Bloor Street has invited our students to participate in their course. Tuesdays, Starting February 5th, for 3 weeks (Feb 5, 12, 19). No Cost. You do not need to be a member of the Parish to attend.



**Kim Beard on Opportunities for International Internships — Feb 6** Thinking globally? Thinking mission? The Rev Canon Kim Beard, adjunct professor at Wycliffe College and Canon of both St. James Cathedral (Toronto) and Diocese of Tarime (Tanzania), coordinates International Internships for Wycliffe Students. He will be speaking on opportunities for International Summer Internships. Join us at the Principal's Lodge on Wednesday at 3 p.m.!

**UofT's Research Ethics Board Review Process Info Session — Feb 12 Tuesday** The DMin Program will be hosting a half-day information session on UofT's Research Ethics Board review process from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. This session is open to all DMin, conjoint PhD, ThD, ThM and conjoint MA students who are using human subjects in their research. TST faculty supervising students in these programs are also encouraged to attend. The session is free and will be held in the Toronto School of Theology building. Register for the session: <https://www.facebook.com/events/795839930808455/>

**Preaching Day — Feb 19** Preaching is an incredible privilege and a daunting responsibility. Dr Joseph Mangina and the Rev. Dr. Annette Brownlee will be looking at the gospel of the beloved disciple, the book of John. Early bird tickets available by Jan 15: [wycliffecollege.ca/preachingday](http://wycliffecollege.ca/preachingday)

**Theology Pub – Feb 22 Friday** Enjoy a Friday evening of conversation with Bruxy Cavey from the Meeting House! Come have a pint (non-alcoholic beverage is also available) and deepen our perspectives. Registration is not required. Just show up (and bring your friends)! Anyone is welcome!

## More News & Announcements

### This Wednesday

#### Wednesday Event with Bp George Sumner

#### “If I Could Tell a Young Seminarian/Priest 10 Things”

The former Principal of Wycliffe will give a talk at 3 p.m. in the Principal’s Lodge: “If I Could Tell a Young Seminarian/Priest 10 Things.”

Join us this Wednesday for Eucharist at 4:45 p.m. in the Chapel!  
Our guest homilist will be Bp George Sumner.

And don’t forget to sign up for the 6:00 p.m. community dinner at the front desk before 11:00 a.m. on Wednesday!

## STAY CONNECTED!



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## Chapel Service Schedule

	Service	Sacristan	Officiant / Homilist	Readers, Servers, etc.	Greeters
Mon	MP	B. Poole	E. Radner	K Baker / M. Tse	M. Tse
	Taize	M. Garner	A. Brownlee	P. Karsgaard	A. Thomas
Tue	MP	L. Hurst	P. Robinson / J. Sholl	J. Lee / L. MacKichan	L. MacKichan
	Evensong	S. Lawley	E. Teel	A. Fung / J. Mangina	A. Thomas / M. Tse
Wed	MP	M. Garner	+SGWA	P. Karsgaard / R. Henderson	P. Karsgaard
	Eucharist	B. Poole	E. Radner / George Sumner	J. Lee / A. Thomas	A. Thomas
Thu	MP	S. Lawley	J. Paulsen / E. Radner	N/A	
	P&P	Z. Bartkus	R. Bartlett / G. Taylor	J. Sholl	J. Sholl
Fri	MP	L. Hurst	A. Brownlee	M. Taylor	
	Inform. EP	S. Kim	Student Officiant	L. MacKichan	L. Mackichan

Morning Prayer  
Mon-Fri, 8:30 a.m.

Wine Before Breakfast  
Tue, 7:22 a.m.

Taize Evening Prayer  
Mon, 5:30 p.m.

Sung Evensong  
Tue, 5:30 p.m.

Community Eucharist  
Wed, 4:45 p.m.

Prayer & Praise  
Thu, 5:00 p.m.

Informal Evening Prayer  
Fri, 5:30 p.m.