

EPIPHANY TIDINGS

Volume MMXIX, Issue II
May 2019

Epiphany Ministries of Texas, Inc.

Roy's Ramblings...

As I, and others on the State Epiphany Board travel around the state, we are often asked what exactly does the State Board do? Sometimes that is an honest question born of curiosity. Other times it is asked in a semi-sarcastic manner. When I first started working in Epiphany I knew there was this Board somewhere. I had no idea who they were or what they did. I will give you the very short version here, and in doing so tell you who can give you all the information about the Board.

Each individual Unit Team should have a Unit Advisory Committee. The UAC elects a representative to the State Board and other officers. The Chairman of that Committee, and the elected State Board Rep are members of the State Epiphany Board. So within your Unit Team you have at least two State Board members. Some Units will have more do to internal elections on the State Board.

The State Board takes care of maintaining manuals and training manuals. It provides training, and oversight so that all units adhere to the manual. The Board maintains and invests Epiphany funds. Those funds used to provide, and maintain equipment, or cover large ticket items for the various units.

Board members are frequently the first team members of a start up Unit. The actual list of what the Board does is long. That is a very skimpy explanation. If you want more information, find out who from your team is on the Board and talk to them. They are the persons who carry your comments, concerns, and ideas to the State Board.

Grace and Peace
Roy

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Epiphany Events

- Evins #9 - July 2019
- Gainesville #39 - July 2019
- State Board Quarterly Meeting:
August 24, 2019.



REFLECTING THE
LOVE OF CHRIST
TO YOUTHFUL
OFFENDERS.

*“Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works,
and glorify your Father which is in heaven.”* *Matthew 5:16*

WEEKEND BOARD REPORTS...

Brownwood #37

February 16-18, 2019
Board Rep: Roy Bradshaw

The Brownwood Epiphany started off with a few Team members having to drop off the team due to illness. The Lay Director handled the situation very effectively by shuffling assignments and doubling some assignments as required. We opened the Epiphany with 6 Superstars and 18 Stars. We ended with 16 Stars, all accepting Crosses.

The Meditations and Skits were well done and very entertaining. The Brownwood team once again proved their flexibility adapting to a continuously changing environment. The two Chaplains were very helpful, jumping in to help with party decorations and hanging the prayer chain.

Some talks had to be reassigned at the last team meeting. Previously used and previewed talks were used. Talks were on point and followed the outlines. A few talks ran over slightly but not so much that it created any schedule issues.

All areas appeared to run well.

GOOD NEWS!!!

The online Epiphany store is up and running! Epiphany team members can now choose from a variety of styles, colors, and prices!

The secure link for the store is:
<https://texasepiphany.qbstores.com>

Happy Shopping!

Evins #8

January 19-21, 2019
Board Rep: Sarah Holden

Epiphany #8 was a blessing for the stars and for the team. The Holy Spirit showed up and helped the team overcome the challenges; 15 boys finished the weekend and accepted their crosses.

We were blessed by a large group of team members from a church in Austin; most were college students whose youth helped to engage the boys. I was asked to serve at the same family with the Austin pastor and a young UT student. There were several boys who loved rap music and constantly sang under their breath; the pastor from Austin and the young woman both liked rap and were able to encourage them to switch to Christian rap. I am clueless about rap so would have been lost without those two.

The talks followed the outlines and time limits, and the speakers' stories were a witness to God's transforming power. Skits were good, but I don't think there was enough rec. The outside team did a good job of preparing the meals.

All in all, the Holy Spirit showed up and it was a successful weekend. Through the power of God, the boys responded to the message. I am so thankful that I could serve as Table Leader and Board Rep on Epiphany #8. I hope that other board members will think about helping this group because they are working hard to keep Epiphany going at Evins.

Gainesville #37

January 18-20, 2019
Board Rep: Lisa Seaton

Gainesville Epiphany #38 was an excellent weekend! Twenty-nine Stars and 12 Superstars completed the program. This veteran team worked well together and supported their leadership in an impressive way! When cold weather affected Day 2, everyone was flexible with remaining in the gymnasium and conducting chapel in the bleachers. This team also did an excellent job helping the Stars engage in the music, discussions and other activities. The band was rockin' and there was lots of dancin'!

This weekend ran very smoothly, greatly in part to the Stars desire to be there. The Chaplain chose the Stars by asking those interested in attending to write a letter stating why they wanted to come. We didn't experience any discipline issues and the Stars were not only there for the good food, but they seemed hungry to receive from God. All of the Stars accepted their crosses!

The team had also distributed a survey to the Stars and it was a blessing to hear feedback from them on how the weekend helped them grow closer to God.

Listen,
Listen,
Love,
Love!



UPCOMING EPIPHANY WEEKENDS

Facility	W/E#	Date	LD	ALD	WC	SD	B. Rep
Brownwood	E 38	TBD	Trudy Smith				
Ellis	E 1	TBD					
Evins	E 9	July - 2019	Priscilla Lozano	Joel Benitez	Virginia Sanchez	Susan Elkow	
Gainesville	E 39	July - 2019	Patrick Hunt	Marquita Huland		Buster Noah	
Giddings	E 34	Oct - 2019	Mike Jones			Steve Wilson	
Krier	E 27	TBD - 2019	Carolyn Wallock			Sarah Holden	
Mart	E 31	TBD - 2019	Paul Taft	Tami Glaser			
Post	E 25	Oct 11-13, 2019	Christy DeLaCruz				

Hi Everyone,

I wanted to share with you all, my experience on Epiphany #24. I was blessed to be Lay Director for Epiphany #24. It was quite challenging from the start. We had 10 team members drop out of this Epiphany. Almost all of them due to serious illnesses. But we didn't let that discourage us. We prayed and trusted that God would send the people he wanted to complete the team. One of our newest team members felt lead to send out a mass email to the La Mesa De Dios Emmaus Community. And through that email God sent us people who have a heart for these kids and this ministry. God is so good!

We had 18 young men on Epiphany #24. They are a great group of kids. Good natured and respectful. This group really loves to sing and worship. They seemed to be a little bit more reserved in some ways than some of our past Stars. But you can never tell sometimes what's going on under the surface. Some of these young men have learned to not show or share their emotions. Not by word, gesture, or even

facial expression. But God knows what's in a person's heart.

For the word of God is alive and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart. Hebrews 4:12

Saturday night we nail our forgiveness lists to the Cross. This is often an emotional time for some. But not for this group. At first. Everyone nailed their lists to the cross and were back in their seats. I open my schedule to proceed with what is next and I see a line in the schedule I don't remember seeing before. It said "If anyone would like to pray with their Weekend Guide (a team member that was assigned to mentor them) you may meet with them at this time."

That's when Holy Spirit showed up with a big SHABANG!

Next thing I know all these kids are praying with their Weekend guides. Walls came crashing down. Many of the emotions they had been holding in

came out in a flood of tears. Forgiveness and healing began in that cell block that night. It was glorious to witness! God is so good!

All 18 young men either accepted Christ as their Lord and Savior or rededicated their lives to Christ. All 18 received their crosses and openly declared their love for Jesus. And the prayer that I have been praying over these kids was answered. The Scripture for Epiphany #24 was:

"I will give them a heart to know me, that I am Lord. They will be my people, and I will be their God, for they will return to me with all their heart." Jeremiah 24:7

God is so good!

Thank you to all of you that are so faithful to give money and to pray. We have 18 little brothers in Christ because you help make it possible for us to do this ministry. Truly I can't thank you enough!

God bless each and every one of you,
Linda Roberts

Goodbye Sweet Marilyn, Marilyn:

Marilyn Jackson, 74, passed away on March 31, 2019, in San Angelo, Texas.

Marilyn served as the publisher of the Epiphany Newsletter for several years, during the time when her husband, Dean served on the State Board. Her newsletters were always filled with a lot of useful and informative articles, and you could tell she spend a great deal of time putting them together. If you have not done so already, check them out in the Newsletter archives on our Epiphany website.

Marilyn Jackson was born June 27, 1944 in McPherson, Kansas. She married Dean Jackson on June 13, 1965. Marilyn received her Bachelor and Master degrees from Kansas State Teachers College in 1974. She then taught high school in both Opie, Kansas and Roswell, New Mexico. She then started teaching at the New Mexico Junior College in 1981 and became Dean of Transitional Studies in 1994. She retired as Dean in 2004. Marilyn has been a resident of San Angelo since 2016. She was a member of Community Hills Christian Church in San Angelo.



Survivors include her husband of 54 years, Dean Jackson; two sons, Darren Jackson of Austin and Devlin Jackson and wife Valerie Zurcher of San Marcos; a daughter, D'arcy Jackson of Austin; a sister, Grace Anne and husband Joe of Emporia, KS.

We celebrated the beautiful life of God's faithful servant, Marilyn Leist, this morning. She will be deeply missed by Epiphany Ministries, the Boy Scouts and many family and friends.



Marilyn Leist, beloved and dedicated wife, mother, grandmother, and great-grand mother went to be with the Lord on Thursday, April 11, 2019 at the age of 68. She was born in Ennis, OK on April 20, 1951 to John and Ann Elley.

Surviving relatives include: her loving husband of 31 years, Stephen Leist; their children, Scott Hodge (Tracy), Anita Hodge, Frank Hodge (Tiffany), Michael Hodge (Pepper), Roxanna Leist, Stephen M. Leist Jr. (Beth), Sherry Leist; 21 grand children, and numerous great-grand children.

You would be hard-pressed to find a person that touched more lives than Marilyn. She was dedicated to teaching children as was evident in her career as a teacher for 30 years. Marilyn didn't stop there. She continued by volunteering with numerous youth outreach programs. However, the organization that was nearest and dearest to her heart was the Boy Scouts of America.

Marilyn nurtured countless youth and became a second mother to so many in her over 45 years with the organization. Her dedication and commitment not only to the organization itself, but to the countless youth that she inspired was unmatched. Marilyn was awarded the highest award a volunteer in scouting could receive which is the Silver Beaver Award for service and dedication. She was a staple at McGimsey Park from Cub 'N Ones to Day Camps to Leadership training.

Marilyn was also a dedicated member of the Epiphany Ministry for Youthful Offenders for 12 years. She was the embodiment of Epiphany's emphasis which was "Listen, listen; love, love." She touched many of the Stars from the program and gave them a sense of hope which was previously not in their lives.