

In the Interim...

About Two Special Sundays in January:

January 6: On Epiphany Sunday we ran out of 2019 Star Words for all in worship. If you missed getting an Epiphany Word, you may get one through the church office or at Sunday worship on January 13. You are challenged to ponder that word this year, allow it to speak to your heart and let it be a means of experiencing God's presence. For more information, see "Star Words; Star Gifts" on the Pastor's Page on the church web site, <http://fpcmorganton.org/>.

January 13: "Remember your baptism and be thankful." Christians worldwide will hear this charge on Baptism of the Lord Sunday, as many services like ours will include a reaffirmation of baptismal vows.

I grew up and was baptized in a different Christian tradition, one where there was no baptism for infants and young children, only adults and older children. You were baptized, and that was it. It was done, completed, checked off. Then I became a Presbyterian. At first I was not so sure about baptizing infants and young children. How does that work? I wondered. They will not remember their baptism, must less understand it.

Then I came to see that Presbyterians spend their entire lives remembering and coming to understand baptism. We are always talking about it. "Remember your baptism," we say. Or, "We need to do this for our children; we have baptismal vows to keep." We are always pointing to baptism. We would never put up a curtain to conceal the place of baptism. The baptismal font is out in full view for every service, Sunday mornings, Christmas Eve, weddings, even funerals. In fact especially funerals, because that is when our baptism is finally complete.

Come January 13, take part in the reaffirmation of baptismal vows and recommit yourself to Christ. Experience rebirth within the community of water and the word. Not been baptized? Contact me about receiving this sacrament.

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