

# The Paxton Prayer Journal

## First Quarter - 2026

As we begin a new year and enter the season of Epiphany, we reflect on the way in which God revealed the birth of Jesus to the Gentiles, represented by the Magi. Alaina Kleinbeck writes:

*The star, much like the infant Jesus, miraculously manifests and changes those who encounter it, drawing them closer to one another as they dream of the new ways of being this child is bringing to the world: sight for the blind, rest for the weary, freedom for the enslaved, hope for all.*

*The shining star of Epiphany beckons us to gather with others whose lives have been forever changed by an encounter with the divine. We cannot dream these dreams alone. We cannot become these new ways of being on our own. We need friends and community, with all their unlikeliness and messiness.*

45 years ago, a small and unlikely group of people—forever changed by their encounter with Christ—came together to practice this new way of being in Harrisburg. By the sheer grace of God, and thanks to the prayerful support of partners like you, Paxton Ministries continues to be a place where God's kingdom is manifested (in spite of our messiness) day after day. Thank you for upholding our ministry in prayer. May the light of God's everlasting love continue to shine brightly through this place.

*See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?  
I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland. Isaiah 43:19*

### Praises

- Praise God for his abundant provision throughout 2025, and for the countless ways He continues to bless and sustain this ministry!
- We're thankful for a wonderful and joy-filled holiday season at Paxton. We are especially thankful for the many donors, volunteers, and hard-working staff who made Paxton such a special place to be over Christmas.
- Praise God for the generosity of our donors, particularly on Giving Tuesday and throughout the month of December!
- We're blessed to benefit from the tremendous skills of our facilities crew -- particularly in our maintenance department. Their ability and willingness to tackle complex and often critical repairs to HVAC, electrical, and plumbing systems enable us to work within a limited budget while keeping our aging building in excellent shape!

## Petitions

- Pray for God to be glorified as Paxton celebrates our 45th anniversary throughout the coming year!
- Please continue to pray for God to send qualified individuals with hearts for service to fill our open staff positions. We currently have multiple openings across several departments, and staff are feeling the pinch as they step up to cover these vacancies month after month.
- Pray for a young staff member (and mother of two young children) whose husband unexpectedly passed away last month.
- Please lift up the entire Paxton community as we grieve the sudden death of a beloved resident this January, along with the loss of several former residents who passed away after moving out of Paxton Street Home in recent months.
- Pray for protection and health over the Paxton community through the remainder of this particularly severe flu season.
- As God has opened doors for some residents to transition to homes better suited to meet their current needs, please pray for these individuals as they adjust to their new environments, and pray for appropriate referrals as we seek to fill several open beds with those who can thrive at Paxton Street Home.