

WELCOME to the Season of EPIPHANY - the manifestation of the Christ-child! This year I am wondering about how visual light shows up. After all, isn't God's moment of sudden [revelation](#) (or insight) the actual Epiphany we seek?

At this year's companion Synod Visit to Papua New Guinea, I found myself one night lying in bed (yes, securely under a mosquito net). As I was raising up prayers, I heard in the distance, a soft drumming, a heartbeat, that came carrying musical notes right into the space where I lay. Then lyrics of songs by singing women who were celebrating their 60th anniversary of women's ministry in the Kote District, our Central States Companion Synod.



I stopped my prayers for a moment and heard the songs! Some seem to be lamenting while others rejoicing, strangely mirroring the substance of my prayers! Yet sounds filled the room in a new way, so maybe this Epiphany Season, as I think about light from Light that fills the space, it illuminates our prayers and fills our hearts! I'm wondering, maybe it's not visible light, but Glowing Harmonies and Voices of others... of the Neighbors we love, and of All who rhythm words in their lyrics that praise True God from TRUE GOD - THE WORD MADE FLESH!

RATHER - In the time spent on the adventure of being in Papua New Guinea, I detected movements of an In-breaking God from the sounds carried within and from the beams of smiling faces in the joy of children, barefoot and running up, welcoming and shaking our hands! And in the wrinkles of the smile of the eyes of the Elders who were so excited that we had shown up... that we had simply been present for their wonderful event. Yes, I am convinced that TRUE LIGHT can come in any kind of sensing form because of God's hospitality! It brings us closer to God, and to others where your Epiphany is filled with the LIGHT that touches you perhaps in your ears, and eyes, and in your heart!

May this season's Epiphany open you to new ways to love your Neighbor and God!

Amen! Let it be SO!

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