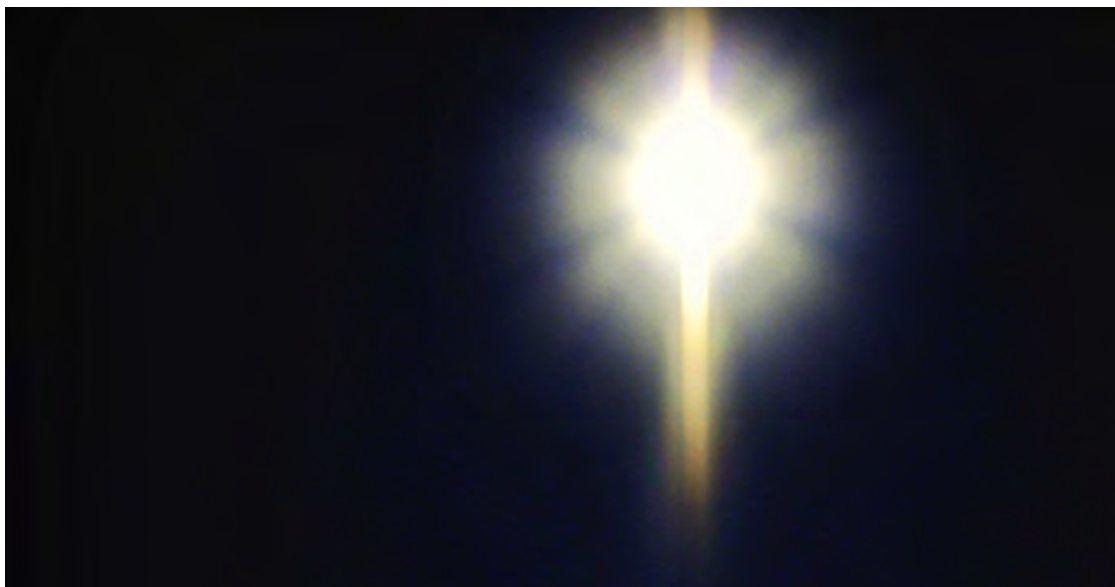




## Epiphany 2022 NEWSLETTER



The above image was selected by the Editor for this Epiphany Issue. It is a portion of the photograph by Ed Mullins featured in the current exhibit *Stories From The Road*. More information by the Curator regarding this exhibit appears in this issue.

### In This Epiphany Issue

- The Board of Directors & Welcome to Jorin Hood, our newest member of the Board
  - Message From the President
  - Join Us at the Virtual Reception, February 5, 5pm EST
  - From the Membership Director
  - *Stories From the Road* is now exhibiting: Curator Mel Ahlborn
  - Featured Artist: Erin McGee Ferrell
  - Conversations Forum: Visual Depictions of Bible Stories - How the past informs and inspires the artists of Today with Erin McGee Ferrell--Sunday, February 27 at 5:00pm EST, 4:00pm CST, 2:00pm PST
  - Call To Artists: *Sacrament and Image*
  - Important Links
  - Prayer For Artists
-

**Welcome** to the ECVA Newsletter which will appear in your email five times a year during each of these seasons: Advent ( November 28); Epiphany (January 6); Easter (April 17); and Pentecost (June 5). A fifth newsletter, *Extraordinary Artists during Ordinary Time* will be sent out some time after Pentecost and before the coming Advent as we will still be busy doing extraordinary things during Ordinary days. Please feel free to contact me at any time with your comments or questions.

—Jeanne Weaver, Editor  
[ecva.newsletter@gmail.com](mailto:ecva.newsletter@gmail.com)

## ***Your Board of Directors are:***

Joy Jennings - President and Exhibitions Director

The Rev. Robert Tate - Treasurer

Mel Ahlborn - Vice President and Secretary

Members of the Board:

Debra Murray Cook - Membership Director

Jeanne Harris Weaver, Newsletter Editor

And welcome to our newest member of the board, Jorin Hood.

For their contact information and to find out more about them, please go to the “Contact” page of the website: <https://ecva.org/about/contact.html>

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## From Our President- Joy Jennings

### Our Journey Continues--Epiphany at ECVA

I would like to wish all of you a very Happy New Year and a Blessed Epiphany. Our own story of our Epiphany journey in our ECVA community continues. I am very grateful and overwhelmed by all the gifts you have brought to this community of artists in the Episcopal Church—your gifts of your creativity, your talent, your time, your prayers, and your friendship.

Since we are now able to meet with one another in online groups, our sense of community and friendship has grown stronger. It is such a blessing to be able to reach out in conversation and discuss our art and our faith together. Our recent Icon Conversation Group, facilitated by Mary Jane Miller, was wonderful. We already have another online conversation forum in the works. It will be led by ECVA artist, Erin McGee Ferrell, in February.

And, speaking of online—our beautiful new exhibition, *Stories from the Road*, curated by Mel Ahlborn, is now on our website. Thank you to all our artists, to Mel, and to John Rollins, for creating this beautiful exhibition.

With new exhibitions already planned, with new ideas and hopes for ECVA being discussed, I would like to invite each of you to let us know what you would like to see in our ECVA community. Also, please remember that we are a community of volunteers. If you feel called to help in anyway with our work at ECVA, please tell us what your interests are and how you would like to help.

So, in closing, since I live in that part of the country where the Epiphany season is celebrated everyday until Ash Wednesday, I want to wish all of you a happy and safe Mardi Gras!

Laissez les bons temps rouler!

Joy Jennings, President and Exhibitions Director of ECVA

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*ECVA Is Having Virtual Receptions*

*Our next Virtual Reception will be held*

*February 5 at*

**2pm PST, 3pm MST, 4pm CST and 5pm EST**

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*An Epiphany Exhibition curated by Mel Ahlborn*

The Epiphany story is one of graces and of trials. The stories of the star-gazers and the Holy Family, their travels on the road and their willingness to listen with the ear of their hearts, can teach us something of how God's grace is at work in our own lives.

The art and artists selected for this exhibition illustrate the Epiphany story as seen and experienced in the artists' own lives and creative practices.

- **Lisa Thorpe** stitches hand-dyed and hand-printed fabrics to create a memoir of listening she calls '[From Sea to Sky and Back Again](#)', noting "We came off the hill that day with resolve that it was time to change our life."



*From Sea to Sky and Back Again*

by Lisa Thorpe

*Incarnation and Dust*  
by Jan Ramsey



*Solidarity*  
by Frank Logue

- **Steven Schroeder** visits Tibet and, in **'Llasa'**, shares a miracle of the road in text and photograph.
- **Jan Ramsey** accompanies her **'Incarnation and Dust'** with a reminding truth. "Little do we know how our actions in the world affect divine history, divine story. Which of the migrating families in the desert are the ancestors of the woman who speaks to Jesus at the well, or is the great, great grandfather of Nicodemus or of Mary, Martha and Lazarus?"
- **Frank Logue** records in **'Solidarity'** a chance meeting with other pilgrims at a site of modern martyrdom in Memphis.
- **Rara Schliitt** accompanies **'Beholder'** with a poem that asks,

Singer of whispers

Breeze in the trees

What is it, I can give to Thee?

- **Jack Pachuta** visually retells the Nativity/Epiphany story in one of iconography's classic presentations, **'Romanesque Nativity'**.
- **Tobias Haller**, writes an ancient prayer in his **'On The Pilgrims' Way'** as "... a reminder of the One who has redeemed him, and who is with him and upholds him in all of his journeys..."

There are 25 artists and 38 works in this diverse show. Some are color-drenched like **Alisa Clark's** 'From Where I Glean My Faith' and **Elizabeth de Sherbinin's** 'Before the Fog Burns Off.' Others like **Sally Brower's** 'Pilgrim Cross' record moments of private pilgrimage. In their art and in their words, all of the artists of this show lay at the feet of you, the viewer, the words of poet Kara Jackson, "flight is an act of fleeing as much as an act of flying."



## ***From Our Membership Director - Debra Cook***

Greetings, peace and blessings to you and yours as we journey through the New Year.

Happy to report our membership is growing and Chapters are joining!

Chapter and Affiliate members represent any area of the arts world, including professional artists, liturgical specialists, art historians, theologians, and various parish program coordinators. Varied membership fosters mentoring, networking, and sharing of resources. Through seminars, exhibitions, and conversations, the issues of the visual arts are brought to the table, shared and explored.

Typically, a Chapter begins with an artist's dinner where guests share a meal, present the work of their artists, see a presentation about ECVA, and share fellowship. Once formed, individual members will decide on the type and level of activity they will pursue. Some may choose to gather regularly; sponsor arts exhibits, seminars, and workshops; and/or publish a newsletter. Others may simply gather once a year for an artist's dinner and renewed fellowship.

ECVA Chapters offer extraordinary opportunities for artists to discuss the spiritual nature of their work, to inspire each other, and to encourage the visual arts within the life of the Episcopal Church. The first Chapters were established in 2002 in New York City and San Francisco and have since grown (including Parish Affiliates). We are a community of artists and individuals who share an appreciation of how art can influence our spiritual well-being and widen our spiritual expressions. Our roots are in the Episcopal Church, and our branches reach up and out. As a community, ECVA explores the visual arts and the ways in which they can be used within our churches, our ministries, and as part of our worship.

I hope you will consider joining The Episcopal Church & Visual Arts community.

Peace and Blessings,  
Debra M. Cook  
Episcopal Church & Visual Arts  
Membership Director and Chapter Coordinator

For Information Inquiries, please contact Debra at: [ecva.membership@gmail.com](mailto:ecva.membership@gmail.com)

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## **Featured Artist**

In each issue of ECVA Newsletter, we will be featuring an artist from our membership. This issue's featured artist is

***Erin McGee Ferrell***



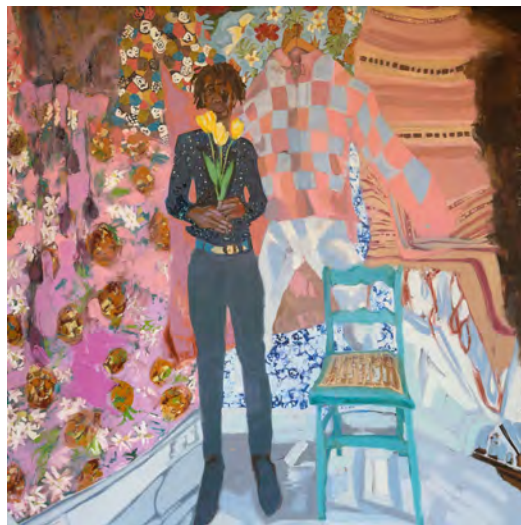
*Erin McGee Ferrell*, Contemporary Professional Oil Painter and Arts in Health Advocate teaches 2D Design at The University of New England. McGee Ferrell is Published Researcher and Patient Advocate for the Arizona Cancer Evolution Center, a National Cancer Institute Research Advocate, Arizona State University, CSBC, and the Department of Defense as a consumer reviewer for the Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs (CDMRP), Breast Cancer Research Program (BCRP). Ferrell was raised with a Nigerian upbringing; family having spent 35 years in Ekiti State. She spent a semester painting in West Africa, experiencing its cultural benefits and influences. Born in Kentucky, Ferrell now lives in Maine. Erin is a graduate of Mount Holyoke College and University of the Arts Philadelphia and has studied at Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts, University of Louisville in Italy, School for International Training in Nigeria, the Artist Students League of New York, and Maine College of Art.



Of the four 6 x 6 feet paintings shown, three are based on my missionary grandmother's Sunday School printed educational materials she used in Nigeria 1940's- 1980's.



**315 True Home Beckons**, symbolizes my return to the Louisville, Kentucky home of my childhood. With the cardinal as the State Bird, my time of wandering around the country following my husband's ministry career is almost over. Our family home was gifted to me in 2020, bringing great Joy. (72x72, oil)



**David**, is a portrait of my friend, a refugee from Rwanda. David is a deeply intelligent world traveler, statistician, and multilingual adopted family member. ( 2021, 72x72, oil)



**We need to hear from You (Feeding of the 5000),Manna, and Storm (painting below)** are oil paintings based on collages that I created from vintage Bible Story Prints and current news magazines. I created them the year I was going through Breast Cancer Treatment and wanted a sense of closeness to God and my grandmother. (oil on canvas, 72x72 inches-2019)



For more information on Erin's works please visit:

<https://www.artistamerican.com/>

<https://www.piratecrewpaperdolls.com/>

<https://www.instagram.com/artistamerican/>

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## SACRAMENT AND IMAGE

*"Artworks that reflect the sacraments of the church as they are made manifest in our care for one another, our communion with Mother Earth, and our stewardship of the planet where we live"*

OPEN TO THE ENTIRE MEMBERSHIP, ALL MEDIUMS

SUBMIT 4 images for review, all mediums

Please include:

JPEG, Name, Title, Size, Medium, Dimensions, Bio and artist statement (max: 200 words) for each work.

Call Out for submissions: January 10, 2022

Submissions Close: March 18, 2022

Exhibit Opens: April 18, 2022

Please send submissions and or any questions to the Curator, Mary Jane Miller at the following e-mail address: [millericons@gmail.com](mailto:millericons@gmail.com)

" I want to encourage the importance of a description to accompany the work. Words that describe why and how your image illustrates sacrament life in today's political, social or economic landscape." --Mary Jane Miller

"The Curator, Mary Jane Miller, is quickly becoming a voice in the iconography community for her dedication to learning and exploring the limitless potential in Byzantine style sacred art. Her interest in the divine feminine and love for God's creation finds a clear and provocative voice through her work..." --taken from the *Call to Artists* email.

For more information regarding this exhibit and additional notes by the Curator, please be on the look out for a *Call to Artists* email coming to you or go to:

[Sacrament and Image](#)





**Don't know your ECVA password?**

[Reset your password here.](#)

**Call To Artists: [Sacrament and Image](#)**

**Download the Submissions Guidelines**

[Click here to view the Submissions Guidelines at the ECVA website.](#)

**Visit and Join the ECVA Artists Registry.**

[The Artists Registry | A Division of ECVA, Inc.](#)

## **EPISCOPAL CHURCH & VISUAL ARTS COPYRIGHT POLICY**

“It is the policy of Episcopal Church & Visual Arts, Inc. that all rights in copyright shall remain with the creator.

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## Renew Your ECVA Artist Membership Today



**The Artists Registry @ ECVA** is once again able to accept your membership renewal, after an unexpected interruption due to a software update.

To renew your membership online, [log in to The Artists Registry](#) with your email and password.

**Don't know your password?** [Reset your password here.](#)

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## In closing, a prayer

**O God, whom saints and angels delight to worship in heaven: Be ever present with your servants who seek through art and music to perfect the praises offered by your people on earth; and grant to them even now glimpses of your beauty, and make them worthy at length to behold it unveiled for evermore; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**



THE ARTISTS REGISTRY @ ECVA

EPISCOPAL CHURCH & VISUAL ARTS, INC.

815 2ND AVE, NY, NY 10017 [WWW.ECVA.ORG](http://WWW.ECVA.ORG)

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