



EPIPHANY

LUTHERAN CHURCH

Partnering with Christ to Renew Lives

February 2023 Newsletter

Newsletter Index

From the Pastor's Desk	p. 1-2
February Prayers, Google Reviews, Baby Shower	p. 2
February Sunday Worship Service Information	p. 3
Information for Lent and Easter	p. 4
Financials, PayPal Instructions	p. 5
Social Ministries/ Outreach	p. 6
Bishop Eaton Statement, February Birthdays, Local Happenings	p. 7
February Calendar, Black History Month	p. 8
SignUp Genius, Prayer Requests	p. 9

From the Pastor's Desk

Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

Love never ends. But as for prophecies, they will come to an end; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will come to an end. For we know only in part, and we prophesy only in part; but when the complete comes, the partial will come to an end. When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child; when I became an adult, I put an end to childish ways. For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known. And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love. ~1 Corinthians 13:4-13

February is seen by many to be the season of love. Hearts, candies, flowers, proclamations of love. Signs and symbols of human love are on full display everywhere you look.

It's tempting to become cynical at the obvious commercial forces suggesting to us that there can be no love if there isn't an eye-poppingly expensive display to herald one's love proclamation.

In truth, the reminders to express our love for others is a good reminder. Once a year is inadequate however; we are called to love as God loves—inclusively, completely, without reservation or time limits.

Writers, poets, and preachers are all reminded to show, not tell. So it is with love; following Christ's example, we are to show before we tell or our words ring hollow. To do is to love; visiting, feeding, clothing, standing for and with, befriending—there are so many ways to show love, to be love.

The three great spiritual gifts that abide—faith, hope, love—all seem to be passive qualities. They are all actually active in how we are called and gifted to use them. An active faith not only believes, but also acts to bring about the
(cont. next page)

ways of God's Kingdom. An active hope not only dreams a future but also actively prepares for it. An active love looks at the world through the eyes of Jesus and sees it filled with life that is loved enough to be saved, then reaches out with human hands to do God's work for the restoration of God's holy will and ways.

These three abide. And the greatest of these is love. Greatest because love is the truest definition we have of God. And in this month we again turn our attention to the greatest gift of love we have been given as we start our Lenten journey.

With prayers that all your days are filled with faith, hope, and love,

Pastor LaVonne

February 2023 Prayers

Every month, the ELCA provides its Prayer Ventures for member congregations. The link to the monthly prayers can always be found on our website on the [Christian Education page](#), along with an ELCA Daily Bible Reading and Luther Seminary's God Pause Daily Devotion. [Here is the link for this month's prayers.](#)

You may also access our Epiphany Lutheran Church prayer list [here](#). If you would like to add someone to the prayer list, [please e-mail Carol Webster](#).



Please Review Epiphany on Google!

It's a proven fact that organizations with five or more reviews get seen much more frequently on Google! Reviews are a great way to build trust, show you're established, and stand out when people view your profile on Google. Right now we only have two reviews (although they are both five stars!!!) Please consider leaving a review of Epiphany on Google by

[using this link](#). This is a great (and inexpensive!) way to spread the word to prospective congregation members and visitors - thank you in advance!



Baby Shower for Kinsey & Baby Girl!

Join us for a baby shower for Kinsey and her baby girl on February 25, 2023 from 11 am - 1 pm at the home of Becca Schumacher! We will have a simple lunch, desserts and drinks - volunteers needed to help. Please [contact Becca Schumacher](#) to RSVP (by 2/18) and to help! Nursery colors are blush pink, light green and gold - this is a first baby so she needs everything!

February 2023 Worship Services

Worship time is 9 am Sunday morning - all in-person worship services continue to be offered via Zoom for those who are unable or unwilling to attend worship in person. Holy Communion is offered at all in-person worship services unless otherwise indicated.

Sunday Morning Worship Services

**All Sunday worship services are held in person and via Zoom at 9 am
at Collierville Presbyterian Church**

February 5, 2023 Worship Service w/ Holy Communion - 5th Sunday after Epiphany

February 12, 2023 Worship Service w/ Holy Communion - 6th Sunday after Epiphany

February 19, 2023 Worship Service w/ Holy Communion - Transfiguration of our Lord

February 26, 2023 Worship Service w/ Holy Communion - 1st Sunday in Lent

Zoom information for Sunday worship services in February

[Join Zoom Meeting - https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81627932095](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81627932095)

Meeting ID: 816 2793 2095

Dial-In Number: +1 312 626 6799

(Please see page 4 for information about Lent and Easter services)

***Coffee Hour and Fellowship immediately following worship
on February 5th and 19th!***





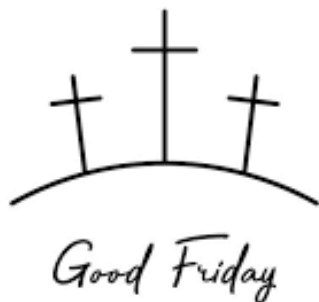
Ash Wednesday, February 22, 2023

On Ash Wednesday, together with Collierville Presbyterian Church, there will be a daytime service and imposition of ashes. Please watch your weekly e-mail and the website for more information.



Palm Sunday, April 2, 2023

On Palm Sunday, we will hold our normal 9 am worship service, and the congregation will participate in a Reading of the Passion.



Good Friday, April 7, 2023

We will hold a worship service on Good Friday at 3 pm.



Resurrection of our Lord/Easter Sunday April 9, 2023

On Easter Sunday, we will hold our normal 9 am worship service

***We will provide daily Lenten devotionals
to the entire congregation for your use at home.***

Epiphany's Core Values — Faithfulness, Inclusion, Love

Our Guiding Principles

We accept and appreciate your presence.

We serve everyone.

We grow personally through the word of God.

We are God's hands, feet, and voice to serve our community.

We rejoice and share in the love of God.

Our Purpose — to welcome all, sharing God's promises and love through our actions.

Epiphany Financial Update

In December, Tithing was 13% below budget continuing a trend over the last several months. Expenses were 5% under budget. For 2022 YTD, Revenue was above budget (by 2%) and Expenses were under budget by 9%. These offset each other so that we were slightly in the black. However, our bank account totals are down due to payments from designated funds. Two families contributed funds to paying down our MIF loan.

	Dec-22			2022		
	Actual	Budget	Net	Actual	Budget	Net
Revenue	\$ 6,487	\$ 7,432	-\$ 945	\$ 91,200	\$ 89,184	\$ 2,016
Expenses	\$ 8,429	\$ 8,019	\$ 410	\$ 90,633	\$ 99,441	-\$ 8,808
Net	-\$ 1,942	-\$ 587	-\$ 1,355	\$ 566	-\$ 10,257	\$ 10,823

Donate

As always, you may mail your check to Epiphany (see address below) or give via ACH bank draft ([click here for instructions](#)).

We also accept tithes and offerings as well as payments to special funds (Property Fund, Food Pantry Fund, God's Barnyard) through PayPal. [Please visit our website](#) and click on the PayPal button at the top of the home page to donate. (You may have to refresh your website or delete cookies to use the button more than once.) You may also click on the PayPal logo above.

You may also mail checks to: Epiphany Lutheran Church. P.O. Box 1805, Collierville, TN 38027



PLEASE NOTE THAT AS OF FEBRUARY 20, 2023 THE AMAZON SMILE PROGRAM WILL NO LONGER EXIST - THANKS TO THOSE WHO HAVE PARTICIPATED!

Kroger Community Rewards - [Click here to register](#) with Kroger's Community Rewards program. We are registered as Epiphany Lutheran Church, organization #39854.





Pastor LaVonne on Vacation February 7–10

Pastor LaVonne will be on vacation from Tuesday, February 7 until Friday, February 10, 2023. She will return prior to worship on Sunday, February 12th.

Social Ministries/Outreach

Alpha Omega Project

On the first Sunday of every month in 2023, we will be collecting change to benefit the [Alpha Omega Veterans Association](#). Please help us support this worthy organization - **our first collection is Sunday, February 5th!**



God's Barnyard - Help Make a Difference

As members of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), we believe that God is calling us into the world – together. And with generous, loving hands, we can make a difference.

[ELCA Good Gifts](#) is your opportunity to provide critical support to the ministries and programs that mean the most to you and the people you love.

[Using the gift catalog link provided here](#), browse and choose the gifts that mean the most to you, or choose gifts to give in honor of friends and loved ones. Once you have decided what gifts you want to purchase, please make a list of the gifts and submit the list along with a check made out to Epiphany Lutheran Church to Twila Hooverson - we will order all the gifts at one time and take care of the rest! ***You may also designate (God's Barnyard) through the PayPal link on our website.***

Every project in every community starts with listening. We believe that our congregations, companion churches and partners know their communities best. That's why they identify the needs and priorities in their communities, as well as the solutions they believe will make the biggest impact. The items in this catalog are real examples from projects currently supported through different churchwide ministries. The projects have been planned by our partners – meaning that each community receives exactly the kind of support they need and none of what they don't.

Your donation will be used where it is needed most within the wider category of each gift you've selected. (For example, a gift of vaccinations may be used to support other health care initiatives.) This allows our church to stay adaptive, flexible and effective in the work that we do. Because we seek to honor your generosity and keep administrative costs low, we do not track individual financial gifts to specific families or locations in the U.S. or abroad. More than 85 percent of your gifts directly support our programs. Less than 15 percent is used for administration and fundraising.



Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton's Statement on the killing of Tyre Nichols

As the nation watches another video exposing police violence against a Black man after a traffic stop, we feel grief not only for the lives lost and forever altered but also for our loss of confidence in a system that continues to fail us, over and over.

[Please read Bishop Eaton's statement](#) on the killing of Tyre Nichols.

Happiest of Birthdays and God's Blessings!

Jennifer Parker - February 1
Becca Schumacher - February 13

Have we missed **your** birthday?
[Please send the month/day to Carol Webster](#)

(carolepiphanylutheran@gmail.com) so you can be included!



Town of
Collierville
TENNESSEE

[Click here](#) to find out what's happening in your town!

[Click here](#) to find out what's happening at your local library!



Collierville
BURCH
LIBRARY

February 2023 Calendar of Events

(Please [check our calendar online](#) for the most up-to-date information)

	Pastor LaVonne's Office Hours	Pastor LaVonne holds office hours on Wednesdays and Thursdays - please e-mail her to make an appointment.
Sun 2/5	9 am - CPC and via Zoom 10 am - Coffee Hour & Fellowship	Fifth Sunday after Epiphany Worship Service w/ Holy Communion Join here: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81627932095
	Pastor Lavonne on Vacation	February 7 - 10, 2023
Sun 2/12	9 am - CPC and via Zoom	Sixth Sunday after Epiphany Worship Service w/ Holy Communion Join here: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81627932095
Sun 2/19	9 am - CPC and via Zoom 10 am - Coffee Hour & Fellowship	Transfiguration of our Lord Worship Service w/ Holy Communion Join here: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81627932095
Mon 2/20	7 pm - Via Zoom	Church Council Meeting Join here: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85341174437
Wed 2/22	TBD	Ash Wednesday - Worship Service & Imposition of Ashes
Thurs 2/23	7 pm - Via Zoom	Social Ministries/Outreach Meeting Join here: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82439156754 Passcode: 596978
Sat 2/25	11 am - Home of Becca Schumacher	Baby Shower for Kinsey and Baby Girl
Sun 2/26	9 am - CPC and via Zoom	First Sunday in Lent Worship Service w/ Holy Communion Join here: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81627932095

February is Black History Month!

African Descent Ministries of the ELCA celebrates Black History Month Talks at the Desk, a four-part video series that will explore diverse expressions of the church. A new video will premiere each Wednesday in February at 7:30 pm Central time.

[Watch them live on YouTube](#) or download them at ELCA.org/ADM.



The “Talks at the Desk” video series returns with another season for 2023! In Episode 1, meet engaging and inspiring Black leaders from Milwaukee, Wis. Learn how Milwaukee Water Commons is working to build anti-racist community and reimagine the way people engage with water and the environment. Hear from leaders at Cross Lutheran Church and Hephatha Lutheran Church who are active in their community both through direct service and advocacy. And, meet Hephatha member Deanna Branch and her two sons, Jaidyn and Aidan, who are working to fight lead poisoning in homes.

February 2023 Worship Servants

Worship servants still needed for Sundays in January - please consider volunteering!

Want to know more about being a worship servant? [You can review the duties and guidelines here.](#)



Worship Servant SignUp Genius

[2023 SignUp](#)

If you need assistance, [e-mail Carol Webster](#) - she will be happy to help you sign up if you have any issues!

[View current prayers](#)

Please [send your prayer requests to Carol Webster](#). You may also [submit a prayer request online here](#).

Thank You!



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

Epiphany Lutheran Church

Worship Location

Collierville Presbyterian Church (USA)

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Collierville, TN 38017

Mailing Address

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Collierville, TN 38027

Rev. LaVonne Johnson

Email

Website

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www.facebook.com/EpiphanyLutheran

www.twitter.com/epiphanyville

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