

## July 2023 Newsletter

### From the Pastor's Desk

#### Newsletter Index

From the Pastor's Desk	p. 1-2
Hispanic Food Bank collection	p. 2
Backermann's Outing	p. 3
July Sunday Worship Service Information	p. 4
Financials, PayPal Instructions	p. 5
Social Ministries/ Outreach	p. 6
Staying Healthy	
Summer Concerts	p. 7
Farmer's Market	p. 8
Synod Information	p. 9
Investing in Epiphany, Bingo Fun	p. 10
July Calendar, July Prayers, Birthdays	p. 11
SignUp Genius, Prayer Requests	p. 12

*Psalm 63:1-5*

*O God, you are my God, I seek you, my soul thirsts for you; my flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary land where there is no water.*

*So I have looked upon you in the sanctuary, beholding your power and glory.*

*Because your steadfast love is better than life, my lips will praise you.*

*So I will bless you as long as I live; I will lift up my hands and call on your name.*

*My soul is satisfied as with a rich feast, and my mouth praises you with joyful lips*

The Hebrew word "hesed" is translated into English as "lovingkindness." Like so many words, it means that and so much more.

Part of the problem with translating anything into English from any other language is that we have such a huge vocabulary. Having the largest number of words means that terms from other languages can carry multiple meanings and English translations can be varied. So it is with the term "hesed," which carries much more nuance than you might think.

[jewish.shop/37781/hesed-and-chesed-in-hebrew/](http://jewish.shop/37781/hesed-and-chesed-in-hebrew/) explains hesed:

"In the Torah, the Hebrew word for loving kindness is hesed, and the term can be translated as "kindness toward one's neighbor."

It is a covenantal gesture expressing faithfulness to God, and this covenant is described in Dt 7:12. The plural of hesed is mercy, and this can be used to refer to the hesed of the patriarchs and the hesed of David.



The hesed of God is rooted in his unfailing love for His creation, and the prophets teach that hesed should be the hallmark of God's people. Micah 6:8 and Zec 7:9 teach that Israel should show hesed love to God, but the nation of Israel failed to do so, resulting in a controversy and call to repentance from the Lord. The word hesed appears over 250 times in the Old Testament, including

more than half of those instances in the book of Psalms. It occurs first in Genesis 19:19 and last in Zechariah 7:9.

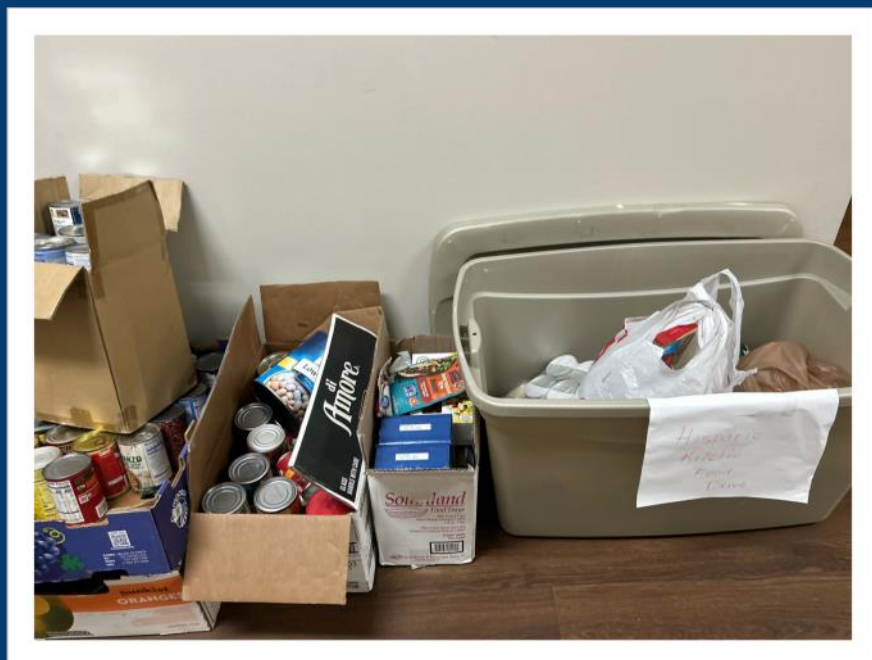
Hesed is not a feeling, but rather an action. It involves intervening and rescuing others. In the bible, Abraham's servant miraculously found a wife for Isaac, praising God for his faithfulness. Throughout the Scriptures, hesed is a constant theme and is an important part of the God's character. If we follow the commandments, God's hesed will lead us to the happiness we desire.

Hesed can be applied to human love. It is often used in the context of a covenant, and is associated with betrothal. It also suggests God's love for us, and we are meant to return the favor. In the Bible, Hesed is often used in the context of a covenant. It demonstrates the faithfulness of God toward us and those around us."

The importance of hesed and its related term, chesed, meaning grace and/or mercy, is central to our understanding and experience of God in our lives and our world. Following the Psalmist, we recognize God through acts of steadfast love—hesed—and respond with praise and with offering our own acts of hesed and chesed. And there is comfort, there is joy, there is where we are called to live.

May it be where we abide.

Blessings,  
*Pastor LaVonne*



In June, Twila Hooverson delivered a load of food and a check to the Asbury United Methodist Church's Hispanic Food Bank. Many thanks to all who contributed and helped make this a wonderful outreach project.

*And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.*

*Hebrews 13:16*





# Bäckermann's Country Market

The ladies of ELC and Living Word had a wonderful time at Bäckermann's Country Market on Tuesday, June 13. The group of 16 enjoyed some shopping, a little lunch, and some more shopping!





## June 2023 Worship Services

Worship time is 9 am Sunday morning - all in-person worship services continue to be offered online [via Facebook Live](#) 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 morning worship services  
are held in person and online at 9 am  
at Collierville Presbyterian Church**

July 2, 2023 Worship Service w/ Holy Communion - Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

July 9, 2023 Worship Service w/ Holy Communion - Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

July 16, 2023 Worship Service w/ Holy Communion - Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

July 23, 2023 Worship Service w/ Holy Communion - Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

July 30, 2023 Worship Service w/ Holy Communion - Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

**[Instructions for watching via Facebook Live](#)**

***Coffee Hour and Fellowship immediately following worship  
on June 4 and June 18!***



## 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 May, income was 4% under budget but is 1% over budget YTD. Meanwhile, Expenses were 6% under budget for the month and 5% under budget YTD.

	May-23			2023 YTD		
	Actual	Budget	Net	Actual	Budget	Net
Revenue	\$ 6,204	\$ 6,483	-\$ 279	\$ 42,455	\$ 41,835	\$ 620
Expenses	\$ 8,789	\$ 9,351	-\$ 562	\$ 38,929	\$ 41,155	-\$ 2,226
<b>Net</b>	<b>-\$ 2,585</b>	<b>-\$ 2,868</b>	<b>\$ 283</b>	<b>\$ 3,526</b>	<b>\$ 680</b>	<b>\$ 2,846</b>

### 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, Hispanic Food Pantry - El Redentor) 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



## Kroger Community Rewards

[Click here to register](#) with Kroger's Community Rewards program.

We are registered as Epiphany Lutheran Church, organization #39854.



## Social Ministries/Outreach



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 next collection is Sunday, August 6th. Thanks for your support!**

### STAYING HEALTHY DURING THE SUMMER MONTHS

The main cause of a heat-related illness is your body's inability to cool itself. Sweat is your body's natural tool for cooling you down. If you over-exercise or work strenuously in hot weather or a heated room, your body may have difficulty producing enough sweat to keep you cool.

Other causes of heat exhaustion include:

- dehydration
- wearing heavier, tight clothing
- consuming alcohol

If you are experiencing heat exhaustion for an extended period of time, it can lead to heat stroke. Heat stroke can come on quickly if it is very hot or you are overexerting yourself. That's why it's important to begin treatment at the first signs of heat exhaustion.

## HEAT EXHAUSTION

### Symptoms

- Faint or Dizzy
- Headache
- Profuse Sweating
- Irritability
- Weak, Rapid Pulse
- Shallow Breathing
- Pale, Cool, Clammy Skin
- Nausea or Vomiting
- Muscle Cramps

### Treatment

- 1) Have victim lie down in a cool shaded area or air conditioned area.
- 2) Drink water if victim is conscious.
- 3) Use caution when victim stands up, apply cold compresses.

## HEAT STROKE

### Symptoms

- Absence of Sweating
- Pulsating Headache
- Hot, Red, Dry Skin
- High Body Temp: Above 103
- Nausea or Vomiting
- Strong, Rapid Pulse
- Confusion
- Convulsions
- May Lose Consciousness

### Treatment

## 1) DIAL 911

- 2) Take action to cool victim by any means. Place victims in a cool area, wrap in wet towel, sponge victim with cool water.



TRAILMOB.COM

Info Source: MayoClinic.org



**MAIN STREET COLLIERVILLE**

# **SUMMER CONCERT SERIES**

**THURSDAYS 7:00P**

**JUNE 8-29**

**JULY 13-27**



**JUNE 8<sup>TH</sup>  
THE MIGHTY ELECTRIC ST. JUDE BAND**

**JUNE 15<sup>TH</sup>  
BETHANY AND KEVIN PAIGE**

**JUNE 22<sup>ND</sup>  
THE MIXERS**

**JUNE 29<sup>TH</sup>  
CRUISIN HEAVY**

**JULY 13<sup>TH</sup>  
BONFIRE ORCHESTRA**

**JULY 20<sup>TH</sup>  
SOUTHBOUND**

**JULY 27<sup>TH</sup>  
RUSTENHAVEN**



BUILT BY  BRANDTOWN USA

The Main Street Collierville Summer Concert Series is held every Thursday night in the Collierville Town Square from 7 to 9 PM. Guests are invited to bring blankets and chairs to sit in the grassy areas of the Square and listen to the various bands that will take the Gazebo stage this summer.



*Shop Fresh  
Shop Local*



Thursdays  
8am-11am

454 West Poplar Ave



## Collierville FM Vendors

A New Life Herbs	<b>2023</b>	Paradise Seafood
Bills Gardening		Rhodes Farm
Blue Glass Jar Farmacy		Ripley Produce
Brazilian Bake Shop		Samya's Kitchen
Breena's Gourmet Kitchen		Studio 55
Chequy Bull Dairy		The Farmstand at La Grange
Dabbling Dough & Books		The Sift Bakery
Deer Creek Farms		Vu's Family Farm
Faith Farms		Your Personal Chef
Falcon Ridge Farm		317 Clay Company
Fresh From the Farm		Aaccezzories
Garden Fresh		The Artful Granny
Gardens of Greenleaf		Barefoot Bouquets
H&H Farms		Boo and Finni
La Belle Bakery		Fletchy's Freeze Dried
Las Delicias		Flipside Asia
Marla's Garden		Hampton Oaks Farm
More Than Bread		Honey Phase Jewelry
New Way Aquaponic Farms		

Check it out! Fresh local produce including a few early tomatoes, cherry tomatoes, strawberries, flowers, sweet and savory croissants, macarons, art, pottery, raw milk, casseroles, bread, meat, honey, soap, sensory kits & kids books, jewelry, Thai cuisine, Brazilian desserts, tea, real fruit lemonade, Guacamole +pico+chips, homemade candy, freeze dried candy, herbs, tinctures, kombucha, eggs, and so much more!



# SYNOD NEWS

## LUTHERANISM 101: a 4-part series

[Click here to register.](#)

In the Southeastern Synod, we are engaging our laity in Fall 2023 to enter into a series called "LUTHERANISM 101, a 4-part series." These will be 4, 1.5 hour online classes to help our laity (and perhaps rostered ministers) to engage in learning about the basics of the Lutheran faith and tradition. Register just ONCE for all 4 sessions. Attend as many as you can. The series is free. Held via Zoom - link and reminder emails will be sent upon registration



**SOUTHEASTERN SYNOD**  
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

**Dates & Times: Tuesdays - 7-8:30pm ET / 6-7:30pm CT**

**September 5:** "What Do We Believe?" with Rev. Dr. William R. Russell, Coordinator for The Lutheran Confessions' Project, LWF

**September 19:** Adult Catechism, with Bishop Emeritus Julian Gordy

**October 3:** "Who is Luther?" with Rev. Dr. Justin Nickel, Lenoir Rhyne - LTSS

**October 17:** Lutheranism in North America, with Rev. Dr. Susan McArver, Lenoir Rhyne - LTSS

All sessions will be recorded and posted to the Southeastern Synod Formation landing page on the synod website, and a digest of videos and resources will be emailed to all at the end of the series.

## Lutheranism 101 - a 4-Part Series



Tuesdays - Sept. 5 & 19, Oct. 3 & 17

7:00-8:30pm ET / 6-7:30pm CT

Register at [elca-ses.org](http://elca-ses.org)



## Investing in Epiphany Lutheran Church

### ***If You Are Over 72***

As many of you know, if you have an IRA investment account and you are over 72 you are required to take a minimum distribution from that account each year. What you might not be aware of is that you can make contributions to any charitable organization from this distribution and those contributions are tax exempt. It is excellent way to make a contribution to Epiphany. You should check with your investment advisor and find out how you can take advantage of this benefit.

### ***At Any Age***

If you have an investment portfolio with significant gains, ask your financial advisor about setting up a charitable donor-advised fund. You can transfer stock, mutual funds, etc. directly to it without paying capital gains and that transfer counts as a charitable contribution for your itemized deductions. Many investment companies sponsor donor-advised charitable funds (e.g., Fidelity, Schwab, Vanguard); some banks (such as Bank of America) offer them as well. You can then manage this donor-advised fund to donate to charities (including Epiphany) whenever you want.



**Bingo Fun at the Linda Kerley Center!  
Second Tuesdays of the month  
11am-12:30pm | \$7 (covers meal)**



Please bring a \$1 gift item (unused & usable items) to put on the bingo table. Top prizes for 1st/2nd/3rd place winners will be supplied by callers or department.

**Register early to reserve your spot!**

Contact: LINDA KERLEY CENTER • (901) 457-2769

MEETING DATES/MENU: Includes Drink/Small Dessert

July 11 – Pizza/Salad

August 8 – Turkey Sub/Chips

September 12 – BBQ Sandwich/Potato Salad

October 10 – Chicken Salad/Crackers/Pretzel Salad

November 14 – Baked Potato Bar (variety of toppings)

December 12 – White Bean/Ham Soup/Cornbread

Note: Menu's subject to change based on availability.

***Click here to find out what's happening at your library!***



**Collierville  
BURCH  
LIBRARY**



**Town of  
Collierville  
TENNESSEE**

***Click here to find out what's happening in your town!***



## June 2023 Calendar of Events

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

	<b>Pastor LaVonne's Office Hours</b>	Pastor LaVonne holds office hours on Wednesdays and Thursdays - please <a href="#">e-mail her</a> to make an appointment.
Sun 7/2	9 am - CPC and via Facebook Live 10 am	<b>Fifth Sunday after Pentecost</b> Worship Service w/ Holy Communion Coffee Hour & Fellowship
Sun 7/9	9 am - CPC and via Facebook Live 10am	<b>Sixth Sunday after Pentecost</b> Worship Service w/ Holy Communion
Sun 7/16	9 am - CPC and via Facebook Live 10 am	<b>Seventh Sunday after Pentecost</b> Worship Service w/ Holy Communion Coffee Hour & Fellowship
Mon 7/17	7 pm - Via Zoom	Church Council Meeting Join here: <a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85341174437">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85341174437</a>
Sun 7/23	9 am - CPC and via Facebook Live 10am	<b>Eighth Sunday after Pentecost</b> Worship Service w/ Holy Communion
Sun 7/30	9 am - CPC and via Facebook Live 10am	<b>Ninth Sunday after Pentecost</b> Worship Service w/ Holy Communion

### July 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 email Linda Stamps](#).



### Happiest of Birthdays and God's Blessings!

Martha Garner            July 11  
John Garner                July 31



Have we missed **your** birthday? [Please send the month/day to Linda Stamps \(lutheran.epiphany@gmail.com\)](#) so you can be included!

## July 2023 Worship Servants

**Worship servants still needed for Sundays in July** - 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, [email Linda Stamps](#) - she will be happy to help you sign up if you have any issues!

[View current prayers](#)

Please send your [prayer requests to Linda Stamps](#). 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)

202 W. Poplar Avenue

Collierville, TN 38017

*Mailing Address*

P.O. Box 1805

Collierville, TN 38027

Rev. LaVonne Johnson

Email

Website

Facebook

Twitter

Instagram

[YouTube](#)

[pastor@epiphanylu.org](mailto:pastor@epiphanylu.org)

[info@epiphanylu.org](mailto:info@epiphanylu.org)

[www.epiphanylu.org](http://www.epiphanylu.org)

[www.facebook.com/EpiphanyLutheran](https://www.facebook.com/EpiphanyLutheran)

[www.twitter.com/epiphanyville](https://www.twitter.com/epiphanyville)

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