



Partnering with Christ to Renew Lives

## August 2020 Newsletter

### Growing Our Church Is Like Growing Our Garden

Epiphany's garden is a wonderful site to behold. Our garden crew has put many hours into preparing the soil, planting, building fences to protect produce from forest animals, cutting grass, working on the lawn equipment, and finally picking, drying, and delivering the produce. The crew is a well-oiled machine that invites new people to join them and welcomes them when they show up. Further they make sure that any new garden crew members are trained and don't feel alone in their work. The gardeners have a clear and appealing mission, "to grow food for the hungry."

This model is exactly the same thing that makes a church grow. We know where to find and how to invite new workers to the garden, but I'm not sure we know where to find and how to invite new people to attend Epiphany. Like the gardeners, we need to have a clear, appealing, and succinct mission. We must ask ourselves, "Can I articulate our mission, and when I do is it a mission that gets others excited about Epiphany?" The majority of new members who come to a church do so because an existing member invites them. They invite them whether they are well known or even hardly a friend. Again, like our garden crew who accepts everyone who shows up to work (even the judge's club), we need to think about how we can continually and systematically personally invite people to Epiphany. I say this because I think Epiphany is a unique and special place to worship that others would enjoy if we just got the word out in a personal way. Some churches that are growing quickly, put 10 invitation cards that can be personalized on each pew seat each week and ask people to give them away that week.

Now, we aren't out and about very much right now because of Covid-19, but we can email friends and use our telephones to invite people to zoom in on Sundays. Call someone and then forward them the zoom link and do it more than one time. I have several friends and acquaintances from whom I receive a worship link and life update email every Saturday. Epiphany can grow and be as prolific as our garden, but it is up to each family to realize that sharing the love of Jesus is the priority of any Christian Church.

Peace to you all, *Pastor TroyAnn*



### Speaking of the Garden.....

More than 1,000 pounds already harvested this year from the community garden at Home Place (as Wendell Kruse puts it, Epiphany's little piece of God's creation!) If you haven't already, stop by the garden to see the gorgeous flowers (especially the sunflowers and zinnias) and pick a bouquet to take home! Check out page 5 of the newsletter to see our invite to the community and the positive reactions we've had already!

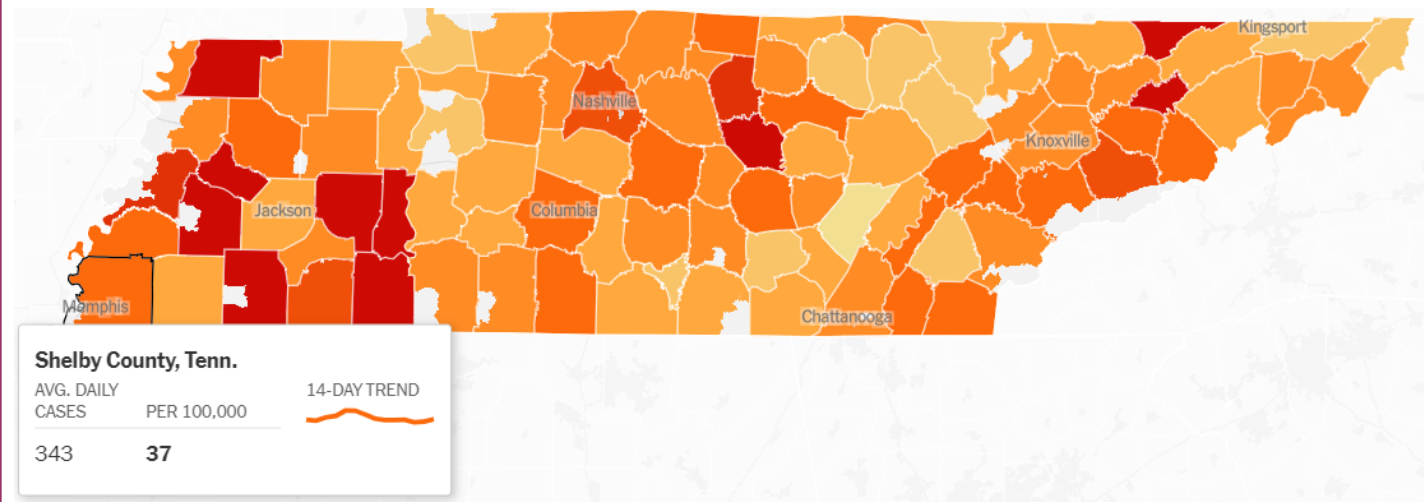


## Reopening Committee Update

Service will continue to be only via Zoom until at least September. Unfortunately, COVID-19 cases are not yet declining in Shelby County as they have been mostly flat for the last 2 weeks. Moreover, a month ago, the daily average case count was only 200, so the risks are even greater now than earlier in the pandemic.

This means that we have not yet reached even Level 1 from the ELCA guidelines which would allow indoor services of up to 10 people. Even if case counts prevent us from returning to the Chapel in September, the weather hopefully will begin cooling and services at Home Place can be reconsidered.

In lieu of in person gatherings, we will have another Zoom Social Hour on Tuesday August 11 at 7:00 PM. Mark your calendars now!



### Pastor TroyAnn on Vacation August 14 - August 30

Pastor TroyAnn will be on vacation from August 14 to August 30, 2020.

In her absence and in case of emergency, you may contact Pastor Cliff Bahlinger of St. Luke Lutheran Church. He may be reached as follows:

901.756.8850 office  
901.268.7078 cell  
[cliff@stlukememphis.org](mailto:cliff@stlukememphis.org)



## Online Worship Services Continuing in August For Now

At this time, we plan on continuing to conduct worship services via Zoom - please watch your e-mail for any changes in our schedule. Please join us for these “virtual” worship services and a time of fellowship with our Epiphany community on Sundays at 10 am. Check your weekly e-blast for the bulletin link and to download the readings and prayers for the week. [Download this document](#) for a complete set of Zoom instructions.



### **Sunday, August 2, 2020 - 9th Sunday after Pentecost**

[Join Zoom Meeting - https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89143068658](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89143068658)

Meeting ID: 891 4306 8658

Dial-In Number: +1 312 626 6799

### **Sunday, August 9, 2020 - 10th Sunday after Pentecost**

[Join Zoom Meeting - https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82520791808](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82520791808)

Meeting ID: 825 2079 1808

Dial-In Number: +1 312 626 6799

### **Sunday, August 16, 2020 - 11th Sunday after Pentecost**

[Join Zoom Meeting - https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86144894140](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86144894140)

Meeting ID: 861 4489 4140

Dial-In Number: +1 312 626 6799

### **Sunday, August 23, 2020 - 12th Sunday after Pentecost**

[Join Zoom Meeting - https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85964067672](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85964067672)

Meeting ID: 859 6406 7672

Dial-In Number: +1 312 626 6799

### **Sunday, August 30, 2020 - 13th Sunday after Pentecost**

[Join Zoom Meeting - https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81845103075](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81845103075)

Meeting ID: 818 4510 3075

Dial-In Number: +1 312 626 6799

## 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

The Epiphany Council wants to keep everyone informed about our financial situation. This month we will take a look at the numbers from June 2020. Epiphany applied for and received a SBA PPP loan of \$12,500 at the end of May. This money will be used for salaries and rent during the pandemic.

	June				2020 - Year to Date (Jan-June)		
	Actual	Budget	Difference		Actual	Budget	Difference
<b>Revenue</b>	9,118.83	10,985.84	-1,867.01		78,118.23	65,915.04	12,203.19
<b>Expenses</b>	10,709.71	12,566.11	1,856.40		72,184.13	77,396.66	5,212.53
<b>Net</b>	-1,590.88	-1,580.27	-10.61		5,934.10	-11,481.62	17,415.72

The June numbers were slightly over (\$10.61) the projected June budget deficit.

The YTD numbers are less than the projected 2020 budget deficit by \$17,415.72. (This number includes the SBA PPP loan of \$12,500.)

Even though we are not meeting in person, our expenses continue. 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) 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 mail checks to: Epiphany Lutheran Church. P.O. Box 1805, Collierville, TN 38027



**Amazon Smile** - Don't forget! Sign up for [Amazon Smile](#) - 0.5% of the price of all your eligible Amazon purchases go directly to Epiphany!

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







### Feeding the Community

## Feeding the Hungry - Can You Help?

We are currently collecting donations for the Collierville Food Pantry as well as to purchase items for The Little Food Pantry located at Home

Place. You may donate [via the PayPal button on the home page of our website](#) (please select "Food Pantry Fund" from the dropdown box when you make your donation).

**Thank you for making a difference!**

Thanks to Wendell K. for helping to get 250 lunch sacks for Peace Lutheran!



## Take home a bouquet from the Epiphany Community Garden!

The Epiphany Community Garden was started on our Home Place property in 2012 to provide healthy food options to people with limited financial resources. The Garden is tended by volunteers from the church and community, and donates almost 2,000 pounds of fresh food annually through the Collierville Food Pantry and other area soup kitchens.

This year, we have added beautiful flowers to our garden, including zinnias and sunflowers, for the enjoyment of our neighbors in the community. We invite you, your family, and friends to come to the Epiphany Community Garden (located at the corner of Bray Station Road and Wolf River Blvd. in Collierville, TN) to select some flowers and create a beautiful bouquet for your home or as a gift for a loved one.

**Stop by Wednesdays & Saturdays from 8:30 - 11:30 am if you would like to learn more about the garden!**



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**Jennifer Walters Wagg** My mom and I enjoyed this beautiful garden this morning. The flowers certainly brightened our day. Thank you for the invitation. Blessings!



Love · Reply · Message · 2d

Thanks from the community!

**Jan Randle Whitehead** Took some pics of those beauties! Thanks so much! 🌸

Love · Reply · Message · 5d



**Diane Outz** Oh my, I've seen your garden. It's fabulous!!! I can't wait to visit.

Love · Reply · Message · 5d



**Carla Swindoll** Thank you for sharing your garden with the community

Love · Reply · Message · 6d



**Lauren Shaffrey** I pass by these flowers frequently and are in awe of their beauty! Thank you for sharing them. 🌸

Love · Reply · Message · 6d

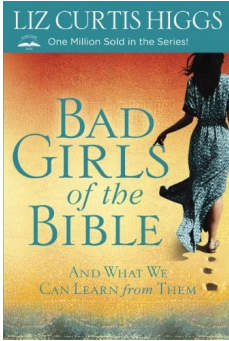


**Lea Webb Buring** Thank you 🌸

Love · Reply · Message · 5d



## Gals of Epiphany Bible Study Continues August 25th via Zoom



Please join us (and invite a friend!) for our continuing Bible Study on Tuesday evening, August 25th at 7 pm. We will be meeting via Zoom. The final date for this study will be Tuesday, September 22, 2020.

Our chosen book for this study is [\*Bad Girls of the Bible \(and What We Can Learn from Them\)\*](#) by Liz Curtis Higgs. Please read Chapters 7 and 8 prior to our meeting on August 25th. Click this link to join the Zoom session: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86403200532>  
Meeting ID: 864 0320 0532 (Call-in number: 312 626 6799)



## MOE (Men of Epiphany) Study & Fellowship On Hiatus

The MOE meetings are currently on hiatus. We hope everyone is staying healthy and sheltering in place at home as much as possible.

## Volunteer to Deliver Produce to the Collierville Food Pantry



Our garden is growing great and we have lots of produce that needs to be delivered to the Collierville Food Pantry each week on Wednesday afternoon or Thursday morning. The Collierville Food Pantry is located just off the square, behind the old gas station on the corner of Main and Washington. Look for their colorful awning. You can also look up their website online for more information. Please choose a week you can help and [sign up on SignupGenius](#). Contact Carol Rife with questions at 901-752-3957.

## Happiest of Birthdays and God's Blessings!

Rick Barnard - August 5  
Ray Heilener - August 6  
Chris Kelyman - August 8  
Olivet Lankapalli - August 10  
Andrew Prouty - August 11  
Matt Prouty - August 12  
Jennifer Sykes - August 21  
Dan Scherf - August 27  
Joann Wieland - August 27  
Linda Barnes - August 29



Have we missed **your** birthday?

[Please send the month/day to Carol Webster](#) so you can be included!



## Epiphany Community Garden Update

The garden team continues to work regular workdays on Wednesdays and Saturdays from 8:30 am - 11:30 am. The team is practicing good social distancing procedures, and workdays may be canceled as necessary due to weather issues. [Please contact Wendell Kruse](#) with any questions!

Thank you to all our volunteers!

*So far this year we have donated more than 1,000 pounds!!*





## August 2020 Calendar of Events

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

Sat 8/1	8:30 - 11:30 am - Home Place	Community Garden Workday
Sun 8/2	10 am - Via Zoom	9th Sunday after Pentecost - Online Worship Service Join here: <a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89143068658">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89143068658</a>
Mon 8/3	7 pm - Via Zoom	Worship Committee Meeting Join here: <a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83622251483">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83622251483</a>
Wed 8/5	8:30 - 11:30 am - Home Place	Community Garden Workday
Sat 8/8	8:30 - 11:30 am - Home Place	Community Garden Workday
Sun 8/9	10 am - Via Zoom	10th Sunday after Pentecost - Online Worship Service Join here: <a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82520791808">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82520791808</a>
Tues 8/11	7 pm - via Zoom	Zoom Social Hour Join here: <a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82871058352">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82871058352</a>
Wed 8/12	8:30 - 11:30 am - Home Place	Community Garden Workday
Thurs 8/13	7 pm - Via Zoom	Church Council Meeting Join here: <a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81010867366">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81010867366</a>
8/14 - 8/30		Pastor TroyAnn on vacation
Sat 8/15	8:30 - 11:30 am - Home Place	Community Garden Workday
Sun 8/16	10 am - Via Zoom	11th Sunday after Pentecost - Online Worship Service Join here: <a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86144894140">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86144894140</a>
Wed 8/19	8:30 - 11:30 am - Home Place	Community Garden Workday
Sat 8/22	8:30 - 11:30 am - Home Place	Community Garden Workday
Sun 8/23	10 am - Via Zoom	12th Sunday after Pentecost - Online Worship Service Join here: <a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85964067672">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85964067672</a>
Tues 8/25	7 pm - Via Zoom	Gals of Epiphany (GOE) Women's Bible Study Join here: <a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86403200532">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86403200532</a>
Wed 7/29	8:30 - 11:30 am - Home Place 7 pm - Via Zoom	Community Garden Workday Social Ministry Committee Meeting Join here: <a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89471582878">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89471582878</a>
Sat 8/29	8:30 - 11:30 am - Home Place	Community Garden Workday
Sun 8/30	10 am - Via Zoom	13th Sunday after Pentecost - Online Worship Service <a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/845103075">845103075</a>





## August 2020 Worship Servants



Each week while we are worshipping via Zoom, we need an assisting minister and lector to help out. We also need someone to assist with running the PowerPoint presentation, and one or two choir members to meet with Hector on Saturday at Schaeffer Chapel to record hymns from time to time - please consider volunteering! If you have any questions about serving for Zoom worship, please contact [Vicki Scherf](#) or [Pastor TroyAnn](#).

### Worship Servant SignUp Genius

[Sign up here](#) to volunteer for upcoming worship services. If you need assistance, [e-mail Carol Webster](#) - she will be happy to help you sign up if you have any issues! Want to know more about being a worship servant? [You can review the duties and guidelines here.](#)



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*  
Schaeffer Memorial Chapel  
7887 Poplar Ave.  
Germantown, TN 38138  
*Mailing Address*  
P.O. Box 1805  
Collierville, TN 38027

Rev. TroyAnn Pouloupoulos  
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)  
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[www.twitter.com/epiphanycville](https://www.twitter.com/epiphanycville)  
<https://www.instagram.com/epiphanylutherancollierville>