

EPIPHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH

Partnering with Christ to Renew Lives

December 2019 Newsletter



Interactive Creche and Nativity!

We are offering an interactive Creche and Nativity for the community on Friday, December 6th from 4 to 7 pm, and again on Saturday, December 7th from 3 to 7 pm. Look for more information coming soon! Everyone is invited to dress in the costumes being provided, and take pictures. We will be handing out candy canes and the schedule for our Advent and Christmas worship services, and hope to have a bonfire too! **Please plan on attending and invite your family, friends, neighbors & coworkers!**

Pursuant to the Epiphany Lutheran Church bylaws, we will hold our Congregational Meeting on December 8, 2019 following the 10 am worship service. It is very important that you attend. We will be voting on the 2020 ministry plan and budget as well as changes to our Epiphany constitution, and will also be electing new council members. Please take the time to review the pertinent documents ([all available for print and download here](#)) prior to the meeting. Please [contact Phil Goetz](#) with any questions, and make plans to attend!



Sign up to serve on Christmas Eve!

Please consider signing up to serve as a worship servant for our 5 pm Christmas Eve service! We need to fill all the usual positions, and in addition also would like to have an acolyte, crucifer and need additional greeters/ushers. [Sign up here.](#)

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 how we are doing financially. This month we will take a look back at October 2019.

Financial Focus on October 2019		
October offerings	\$12,422.00	
October total revenue (Interest, Kroger, Amazon Smile, etc.)	\$12,681.24	
October Expenses	\$11,736.65	
Offering surplus + Expense savings	\$944.59	
Land mortgage payment	\$1,020.00	
Net revenue for October	-\$75.41	
For October, our financial result was a \$75.41 deficit.		

Spread the Word about Epiphany on Social Media!

Please consider "checking in" to Epiphany Lutheran Church on Facebook when you come to worship on Sundays. By doing so each time you're here, you supply those who follow you on Facebook with information about Epiphany they might otherwise not know - a map, our physical address, and other helpful information. How do I check in?

- Scroll to the top of your Facebook news feed or profile.
- Click on "What's on your mind?"
- Scroll down & click on "Check in."
- Select Epiphany Lutheran Church as your location.

Also, consider sharing our events on Facebook to let your family and friends know what's happening at Epiphany, and encourage them to attend! And if you share a picture on Facebook or Instagram from an event at Epiphany, be sure to tag the picture with hashtag #epiphanylutheran. And of course, [continue sending your pictures to Carol Webster](#) to post if you prefer. Thank you - we appreciate your help!



Service Opportunities



But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. ~James 1:22

Upcoming Outreach/Evangelism Opportunities

Date	Activity	Contact
December 1	Spare Change Sunday!	
December 17	Room in the Inn Laundry Pickup	Becca Schumacher/Chris Kelyman

Worship Servants - a variety of ways to participate in Sunday morning worship. [Sign up here](#), add our name to the clipboard available on Sunday mornings, or [contact Carol Webster](#) to sign up.

Epiphany Community Garden - **The garden is winding down - Wednesdays we will be working from 9 am - 11 am (last workday 12/18); Saturdays will be on an "as needed basis."** [Contact Wendell Kruse](#) for more information.

Room In The Inn (RITI)

Starting in November, volunteers are needed to pick up sheets and towels on the third Tuesday every month through March to launder and return to Kingsway by the following Sunday - **next date is December 17th**. If you have never participated in RITI, you will find it to be a most meaningful experience as a volunteer. [Contact Becca Schumacher](#) for more information.

Collierville Connected Resource Center (CCRC) - Epiphany is a coalition partner church with the Collierville Connected Resource Center which provides job skills training such as basic computer operation, resume assistance, help with job applications and interview skills, and offers job search tips for unemployed persons. Without at least two volunteers present, the Center cannot open due to Safe Church practices. If you have an hour to spare, CCRC could use your help. Hours are Tuesdays, 9 - 11:30 am and 4 - 7 pm; Thursdays 9 - 11:30am; Saturdays 9 -11:30 am. A one-hour light training session is provided. The CCRC is located in the basement of Sanctuary on the Square, 104 N. Rowlett St., Collierville. See Pastor Monica to volunteer or for more information.

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.

A BIG thank you to everyone who helped with Room in the Inn in November! 17 Epiphany families participated by donating their time, talent and resources in one way or another - by providing items for the dental kits (each kit included dental floss, a tooth brush in a travel container and toothpaste in a reusable travel bag), providing food items for the evening meal for 13 guests, making beds, setting up, preparing lunch bags for the guests to take with them Tuesday morning after spending the night, serving the meal and mingling with guests, and cleaning up and doing the laundry for the next round of guests on December 16th.

Life at Epiphany



Remembering our loved ones on All Saints Day



Preparing meals for Room in the Inn on 11/18



**Celebration of
Abundance on
November 10th**



MOE (Men of Epiphany) Study & Fellowship December 14th

Please join us for the monthly MOE (Men of Epiphany) meeting at 8:30 am on the 2nd Saturday of every month for breakfast, fellowship and devotion. Meetings are held at the home of retired Pastor Ray Heilener. Please contact

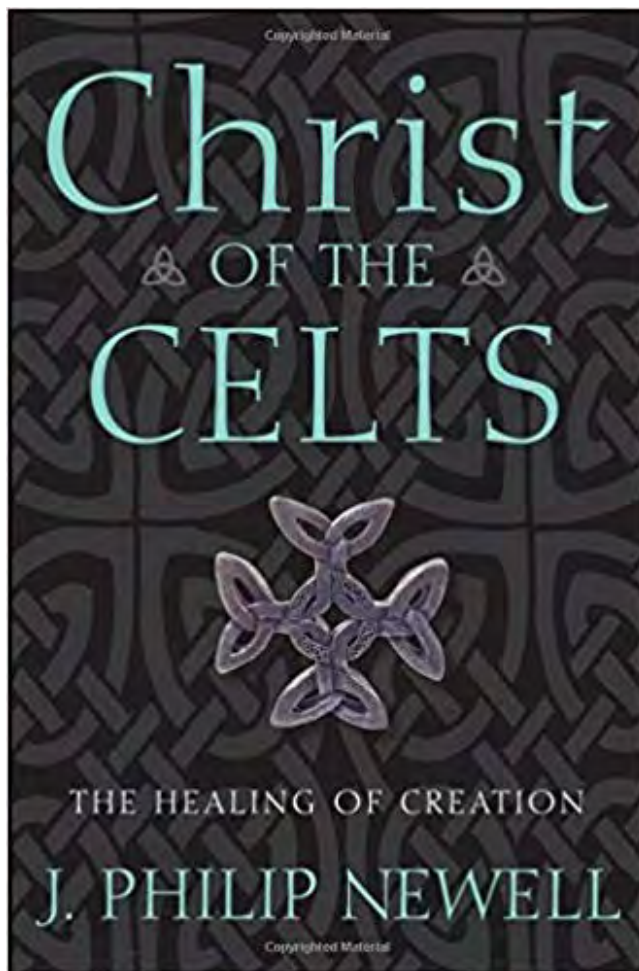
[Wendell Kruse](#) or [Carol Webster](#) if you are interested and need the address!



Gals of Epiphany Study Resumes January 11

Please join us for the Gals of Epiphany (GOE) Spring Bible Study! We will be meeting the second Saturday from January through March 2020 (January 11, February 8 and March 14) from 9 - 11 am in the Kingsway Library. Please bring a friend!

For this study, we will be using the book "Christ of the Celts - The Healing of Creation" by J. Philip Newell. According to Publishers Weekly, "Diagnosing the human soul with a longing for peace in the face of fear and fragmentation nurtured by global political forces and fundamentalisms, Newell offers the ancient traditions of Celtic Christianity as a way forward in healing humankind and the earth." This is one of Pastor TroyAnn's favorite books! The book is available through [Barnes & Noble](#) and [Amazon](#). Please read chapters 1 and 2 prior to our first meeting on January 11th.



The Garden is Winding Down for 2019!

Thanks to all who worked so hard on the Epiphany Community Garden this year! We harvested more than 1,000 pounds of produce for the Collierville Food Pantry. We still have some work to do (preparing beds for next year, equipment maintenance, etc.), and are currently working only on Wednesdays from 9 - 11 am (Saturdays as needed) - the last work Wednesday for 2019 will be December 18th. [Contact Wendell Kruse](#) for more information!





Christmas Fellowship on December 14th!

Carol Rife has graciously agreed to host the Epiphany Christmas fellowship at her home on December 14th starting at 6 pm.

Please bring a “ready to serve” potluck dish for everyone to share (don’t forget a serving utensil!)

This event is “BYOB!”



Next Room in the Inn on December 16th!

Once again, we will be helping Kingsway Christian Church with the Room in the Inn program. The Epiphany congregation will be responsible for picking up laundry on the third Tuesday of every month from December through March (December 17, January 21, February 18, and March 17). The goal is to pick up the laundry from the Allen Garner Sunday School room between 8 am and 11 am on Tuesdays, and return it by

Sunday morning to the same place. [Contact Becca Schumacher](#) for more information. [Sign up here to volunteer!](#)



Happiest of Birthdays and God's Blessings!

Dianne Polly - December 10
TroyAnn Poloupoulos - December 19
Andria Prouty - December 26

Have we missed **your** birthday?

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

Please remember to pick up a prayer card from the ushers during worship service and hand them in during the offering.

You may also [submit a prayer request online here](#).

Thank you!



December 2019 Calendar of Events

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

Sun 12/1	9 am - Bride's Room, Schaeffer Chapel 9:15 am - Schaeffer Memorial Chapel 10 am - Schaeffer Memorial Chapel 11:15 am - Schaeffer Memorial Chapel	<i>Spare Change Sunday!</i> Confirmation Class Choir Practice First Sunday of Advent - Worship w/ Holy Communion Coffee Fellowship
Wed 12/4	9 - 11 am - Home Place	Community Garden Workday
Fri 12/6	4 - 7 pm Home Place	Interactive Nativity Scene
Sat 12/7	3 - 7 pm Home Place	Interactive Nativity Scene
Sun 12/8	9 am - Bride's Room, Schaeffer Chapel 9:15 am - Schaeffer Memorial Chapel 10 am - Schaeffer Memorial Chapel 11:15 am - Schaeffer Memorial Chapel	Confirmation Class Choir Practice Second Sunday of Advent - Worship w/ Holy Communion Congregational Meeting!
Wed 12/11	9 - 11 am - Home Place	Community Garden Workday
Sat 12/14	8:30 - 10 am - Home of Pastor Ray 6 pm - Home of Carol Rife	Men of Epiphany (MOE) Fellowship and Bible Study Epiphany Christmas Fellowship
Sun 12/15	9 am - Bride's Room, Schaeffer Chapel 9:15 am - Schaeffer Memorial Chapel 10 am - Schaeffer Memorial Chapel 11:15 am - Schaeffer Memorial Chapel	Confirmation Class Choir Practice Third Sunday of Advent - Worship w/ Holy Communion Coffee Fellowship
Tues 12/17	8-11 am Allen Garner Sunday School room - Kingsway Christian Church	Room in the Inn Laundry Pickup
Wed 12/18	9 - 11 am - Home Place	Community Garden Workday
Thurs 12/19	7 pm Kingsway Room 100 - Boardroom	Church Council Meeting
Sun 12/22	9 am - Bride's Room, Schaeffer Chapel 9:15 am - Schaeffer Memorial Chapel 10 am - Schaeffer Memorial Chapel 11:15 am - Schaeffer Memorial Chapel	Confirmation Class Choir Practice Fourth Sunday of Advent - Worship w/ Holy Communion Coffee Fellowship
Tues 12/24	5 pm - Schaeffer Memorial Chapel	Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship Service
Wed 12/25		Merry Christmas!
12/25 - 1/2		Church offices closed for Christmas/New Year's Holiday
Sun 12/29	10 am - Schaeffer Memorial Chapel 11:15 am - Schaeffer Memorial Chapel	First Sunday of Christmas - Worship w/ Holy Communion Coffee Fellowship



December 2019 Worship Servants

	12/1	12/8	12/15	12/22	12/24	12/29
Altar Setup	Bill & Jennifer Sykes	Bill & Jennifer Sykes	Phil & Lori Goetz	Carol Rife		
Altar Cleanup	Bill & Jennifer Sykes	Bill & Jennifer Sykes	Phil & Lori Goetz	Carol Rife		
Assisting Minister	Wendell Kruse	Carol Rife	Linda Barnes			
Lector	Diane Kruse	Linda Barnes	Carol Rife		Linda Barnes	Linda Barnes
Greeter/Usher	Dan & Vicki Scherf					
Communion Assistant	Linda Barnes					
Communion Linens	Jennifer Sykes	Jennifer Sykes		Carol Rife		
Coffee & Cookies	The Garners	The Parkers	Carol Rife			
Council Offering #1	Andria Prouty	Phil Goetz	Jennifer Parker	Wally Knight		Andria Prouty
Council Offering #2	Wally Knight	Martha Garner	Ed Schumacher	Chris Kelyman		Phil Goetz
Confirmation Chaperone	Linda Barnes	Linda Barnes	Linda Barnes	N/A	N/A	N/A
Children's Church	Jennifer Parker/OPEN	N/A	Candy Knight/Andria Prouty	N/A	N/A	N/A

Worship Servants Needed!

Please [sign up](#) at least four weeks in advance if possible in order to assist in planning. You may also [contact Carol Webster](#) for assistance in signing up.

Want to know more about being a worship servant?

[You can review the duties and guidelines here.](#)



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
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