



EPIPHANY

LUTHERAN CHURCH

Partnering with Christ to Renew Lives

December 2021 Newsletter

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Faith, Hope and New Beginnings

Dear Friends,

This past year, like any other year, has been filled with many ups and downs, but every year comes to an end. I am so ready to tackle 2022. I don't fear the changes that might come, but I accept them and crave them. I can't wait to see what this new year has in store for all of us as we are all connected within our Collierville Community in some way.

We are hopeful 2022 will be a step forward from all the struggles, difficulties, and troubles that came with this past year. Some need hope for new beginnings, and some need a light at the end of a dark tunnel. I personally am planning on a year filled with faith, hope, good family relationships, and a strong sense of connectedness with my neighborhood and community.

I'm planning on a year of growth. To accomplish that, I am willing to take on challenges even if that means learning how to accept failures. I am willing to make mistakes but eager to get back up and turn those mistakes into life lessons. I want to try new things. The growth I experience can come in many ways. It can be mental, spiritual, or physical. In fact, for me to be a balanced human being it probably needs to be in all these areas. Working on life balance makes a lot of sense this coming year as always.

For the new year, I plan on being faithful to my God, and hopeful in my outlook. I want to concentrate on joy more than I worry about just being happy as I see joy as a trait that exists despite my outside circumstances. Happiness on the other hand is way too dependent on what I am experiencing in my life at any given time. I wish faith, hope, and joy to all of you!

Grace, peace, and prayers,

Pastor TroyAnn

(Written for Tour Collierville Magazine)



Meet and Greet with Prospective Pastor

As you know, the Call Committee has been diligently working to identify pastoral candidates for Epiphany Lutheran Church, together with Living Word Lutheran in Arlington. The pastoral candidate will be in Collierville for a "Meet and Greet" with congregation members on Saturday, December 4, 2021 at 4 pm in the Collierville Presbyterian Church Fellowship Hall - please make plans to attend!



In December, we will hold two separate congregational meetings as follows.

On December 5, 2021, immediately following our 9 am worship service (around 10:00 am), we will be holding a special congregational meeting to vote on extending a call to the pastoral candidate. Zoom will be available for those who cannot attend in person.

On Sunday, December 12, 2021, immediately following our 10 am worship service, we will be holding our annual congregational meeting. Please make plans to attend. Here is the agenda:

- Call to Order / Establishment of a Quorum
- Opening Prayer by Pastor TroyAnn
- Review Previous Meeting Minutes (voice vote)
 - Feb. 21, 2021 Meeting
 - Dec. 5, 2021 Meeting
- Election of 2021 Council Members (ballot)
- Old Business
 - Home Place status
- 2020 Ministry / Budget Plan (ballot)
- New Business
 - Garden Recognition
- Closure / Lord's Prayer

December 5 and December 12, 2021 Meeting Link

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

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81627932095>

December 2021 Worship Services

Worship time is 9 am Sunday morning, both for in-person and Zoom worship services. 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. ***MASK GUIDELINES: While masks are no longer required, we strongly encourage the continued use of masks to protect yourself and others.*** Also, please follow reasonable social distancing as much as possible. Please respect those who continue to “mask up” and remain at home if you exhibit any symptoms. ***Thank you!***

Sunday Morning Worship Services

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

December 5, 2021 Worship Service - Second Sunday of Advent

December 12, 2021 Worship Service - Third Sunday of Advent

December 19, 2021 Worship Service - Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 26, 2021 Worship Service - First Sunday of Christmas

Zoom information for Sunday worship services in December

[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



December 2021 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](#).

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 October 2021, we received some special donations that pushed tithing well over budget. Expenses continue to be less than budget (primarily due to pandemic restrictions and other cost cutting measures).

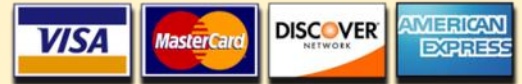
	Oct-21			2021 YTD		
	Actual	Budget	Net	Actual	Budget	Net
Revenue	\$ 14,512	\$ 9,356	\$ 5,156	\$ 107,283	\$ 96,765	\$ 10,519
Expenses	\$ 9,404	\$ 10,690	-\$ 1,286	\$ 91,737	\$ 105,948	-\$ 14,211
Net	\$ 5,109	-\$ 1,334	\$ 6,442	\$ 15,546	-\$ 9,184	\$ 24,730

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, **Christmas Staff Gifts, Going Away Gift Pastor TroyAnn, Moving Expenses New Pastor**) 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



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. **From 8/1/21 to 10/31/21, this program generated \$29.73 from 10 households.**



Retirement Party for Pastor TroyAnn

Following the worship service on December 19, 2021 (about 10 am) we will hold a retirement party for Pastor TroyAnn at Collierville Presbyterian Church! (Shhh....it's also her birthday so we will be celebrating that as well!) Please plan on attending to wish her well on her new journey!



Special Giving Requests

Our PayPal button on the website has been updated to include some special giving categories this month. Please consider giving to one of these special funds - the deadline for all of them is December 8th.

Staff Christmas Gifts
Going Away Gift for Pastor
Moving Expenses for New Pastor



Collierville Happenings



There are lots of activities in Collierville in December. [Click here](#) to find out about all the holiday festivities taking place this month!

Other activities include a holiday light tour, a plea for the local animal shelter, and more. [Read here...](#)

The Collierville Library is getting into the holiday spirit too! Join them for a Holiday Story Walk (The Polar Express), a "take and make" Craftsmas activity for adults, and a children's "Noon Year's Eve" party! [Read here...](#)

Happiest of Birthdays and God's Blessings!

Dianne Polly - December 10
Pastor TroyAnn Pouloupoulos - December 19
Andria Prouty - December 26

Have we missed **your** birthday?
[Please send the month/day to Carol Webster](#)
(carolepiphanylutheran@gmail.com)
so you can be included!



Social Ministries December Outreach Project

Epiphany Lutheran Church has "adopted" three families in Collierville who could use some help this Christmas. [Please visit our website](#) to see the items needed for each family or click on the images below to see the list. Please [let Candy Knight know](#) as soon as possible which gifts you plan to purchase and for which family. Purchased gifts can be brought to church on Sunday, December 5; all gifts need to be wrapped and labeled. If you cannot bring your gifts to church on December 5th, [contact Candy](#) and she will arrange for pickup at your home no later than December 8th. Thank you for your participation!



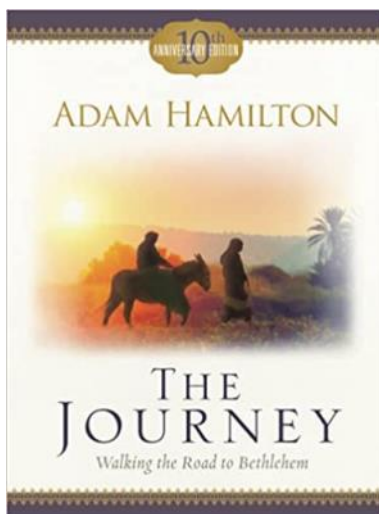
We need Outreach/Social Ministry Committee Members!

Help us help others! We are desperately in need of committee members to help us plan our outreach activities for the remainder of 2021 and into 2022! Please [contact Lois Ketcham](#) if you are interested in helping.



We collected 200 pairs of socks during our latest social ministries project! 100 pairs were delivered to the Memphis Union Mission and 100 pairs to the Calvary Rescue Mission. Thanks to all our wonderful members who donated!





Advent Study in December

On Wednesdays beginning December 1, 2021, we will hold a 4-week Advent Study at 7 pm via Zoom on “The Journey - Walking the Road To Bethlehem.” Discussion will begin with a short video. It is not necessary to buy the book, but you may purchase one if you would like to have deeper insight into the material ([available on Amazon](#)).

Join Zoom meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88123045427>

Meeting ID: 881 2304 5427

Epiphany Christmas Party December 11, 2021 at 6 pm

The Christmas party will be at the home of John and Martha Garner (1791 Brookside Drive, Germantown). Please email or text Martha if you will be attending (901-619-8939 or mngarner@bellsouth.net). Our fellowship will be a pot luck so bring a dish to share (ready to serve) and adult beverages if desired. We will have a dirty Santa game so bring a gift if you want to play (wrapped and \$10 or less). Come join the fun - it will be a good time for everyone!



Christmas Eve Worship Service

Christmas Eve worship service will take place both in person and via Zoom at 7 pm on December 24, 2021 at 7 pm. There will be no Christmas Day worship service.

On Sunday, December 26, 2021, we will worship at 9 am as usual.

[Join here via Zoom](#)

Collierville Presbyterian Church Christmas Happenings

Collierville Presbyterian Church (CPC) has graciously invited Epiphany members to join in their holiday festivities and activities. You may [sign up here](#) for the Christmas party. Anyone who would like to make cookies for Christmas caroling for the plates which will be prepared to give away, please do so! If you have any questions, please [contact Linda](#) in the church office.

DECEMBER:

12/5

5pm



Put on that ugly sweater and let's test those singing skills! We'll enjoy a potluck dinner and a visit with Santa!

12/11

9am-11am



*Light breakfast with juice, milk or hot chocolate
Visit and photo with Santa!
Treat bags, tattoos, crafts, story-time and more!*

12/12

10:30am



12/19

5pm



We'll enjoy soup/chili while we plate cookies to deliver to those needing a little Christmas cheer.

12/24

5pm



A special service celebrating the birth of our Savior.

December 2021 Calendar of Events

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

	10 am - 2:30 pm every Wednesday	Pastor TroyAnn's Office Hours (last day 12/22/21) Collierville Presbyterian Church (CPC)
Wed 12/1	7 pm - Via Zoom	Advent Study Join here: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88123045427
Sat 12/4	4 pm - CPC	Meet with prospective pastor
Sun 12/5	9 am - CPC and via Zoom 10 am - Congregational Meeting 5 pm - CPC	Second Sunday of Advent Worship Service w/ Holy Communion Join here: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81627932095 CPC Christmas Party
Wed 12/8	7 pm - Via Zoom	Advent Study Join here: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88123045427
Sat 12/11	9 am - CPC 6 pm - Garner Home	CPC Breakfast with Santa Epiphany Christmas Party
Sun 12/12	9 am - Collierville Presbyterian Church and via Zoom 10 am - Congregational Meeting 10:30 am - CPC	Third Sunday of Advent Worship Service w/ Holy Communion Join here: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81627932095 CPC Lessons & Carols
Wed 12/15	7 pm - Via Zoom	Advent Study Join here: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88123045427
Thurs 12/16	7 pm - Via Zoom	Church Council Meeting Join here: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85266458859
Sun 12/19	9 am - Collierville Presbyterian Church and via Zoom 10 am - CPC	Fourth Sunday of Advent Worship Service w/ Holy Communion Join here: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81627932095 Retirement Party for Pastor TroyAnn
Wed 12/22	7 pm - Via Zoom	Advent Study Join here: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88123045427
Fri 12/24	5 pm - CPC 7 pm - CPC	CPC Christmas Eve Worship Service Epiphany Christmas Eve Worship Service Join here: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89176610356
Sun 12/26	9 am - Collierville Presbyterian Church and via Zoom	First Sunday of Christmas Worship Service w/ Holy Communion Join here: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81627932095



December 2021 Worship Servants

Worship servants still needed for all Sundays in December and Christmas Eve - please consider volunteering!

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



Worship Servant SignUp Genius

[2021 SignUp](#)

[2022 SignUp](#)

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

[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)

202 W. Poplar Avenue

Collierville, TN 38017

Mailing Address

P.O. Box 1805

Collierville, TN 38027

Rev. TroyAnn Pouloupoulos

Email

Website

Facebook

Twitter

Instagram

[YouTube](#)

pastor@epiphanylu.org

info@epiphanylu.org

www.epiphanylu.org

www.facebook.com/EpiphanyLutheran

www.twitter.com/epiphanyville

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