



EPIPHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH

Partnering with Christ to Renew Lives

January 2023 Newsletter

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From the Pastor's Desk

6 *He has made my teeth grind on gravel;
he has made me cower in ashes;
17 my soul is bereft of peace;
I have forgotten what happiness is;
18 so I say, "Gone is my glory
and all that I had hoped for from the Lord."*

19 *The thought of my affliction and my homelessness
is wormwood and gall!
20 My soul continually thinks of it
and is bowed down within me.
21 But this I call to mind,
and therefore I have hope:*

22 *The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases
his mercies never come to an end;
23 they are new every morning;
great is your faithfulness.
24 "The Lord is my portion," says my soul,
"therefore I will hope in him."*

25 *The Lord is good to those who wait for him,
to the soul that seeks him.*

~Lamentations 3:6-25



We've turned over our calendars now, and said goodbye to 2022. I've heard a lot of people expressing relief that the old year has gone and we can start with a fresh slate. For the world, the nation, and many of us individually there have been too many things we ache to put behind us.

Wars, illnesses, storms, fires, floods, drought, political chaos, personal and family tragedies—the list goes on and on. Endlessly, it seems; we can sit and lament with the author of Lamentations.

That is a faithful response to the horrors and troubles that afflict us. To name it and the pain it causes. To complain—yes it is perfectly acceptable and honest to shake your fist at heaven and scream out your
(cont. next page)

From the Pastor's Desk cont.

pain and complaint. If you have been taught that you can't be angry with God, here's a secret: God knows already of your pain and anger! The only one you are fooling is yourself!

So, express all of that to God. It opens up for you, for your psyche, for your soul, the turn that can only occur when you empty yourself of the pain that is causing you to "grind your teeth on gravel" and remember that which gives you hope.

The steadfast love of God never ceases.
God's mercies never end.
They are new every morning.

Therefore I will hope in God!

May this be true for you this day, this year, and always.

*Happy and blessed New Year,
Pastor LaVonne*

January 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](#).



A BIG thank you to everyone who participated in this year's Angel Tree Project!

We delivered all the packages to Peace Lutheran on December 17th - so many children had a nice Christmas thanks to the generosity of our congregation!



January 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**

January 1, 2023 Worship Service w/ Holy Communion - Epiphany of our Lord

January 8, 2023 Worship Service w/ Holy Communion - Baptism of our Lord

January 15, 2023 Worship Service w/ Holy Communion - 2nd Sunday after Epiphany

January 22, 2023 Worship Service w/ Holy Communion - 3rd Sunday after Epiphany

January 29, 2023 Worship Service w/ Holy Communion - 4th Sunday after Epiphany

Zoom information for Sunday worship services in January

[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

***Coffee Hour and Fellowship immediately following worship
on January 1st and 15th!***



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 November, both tithing and expenses were pretty close to budget. For 2022 YTD, Revenue is above budget (by 4%) and Expenses are under budget by 10%. However, our bank account totals are down due to payments from designated funds.

	Nov-22			2022 YTD		
	Actual	Budget	Net	Actual	Budget	Net
Revenue	\$ 7,086	\$ 7,432	-\$ 346	\$ 84,712	\$ 81,752	\$ 2,960
Expenses	\$ 7,336	\$ 8,019	-\$ 683	\$ 82,504	\$ 91,422	-\$ 8,918
Net	-\$ 250	-\$ 587	\$ 337	\$ 2,208	-\$ 9,670	\$ 11,878

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)) 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 8/1/22 to 10/31/22, 9 households contributed \$ 30.28 by using their Kroger card!**





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!



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

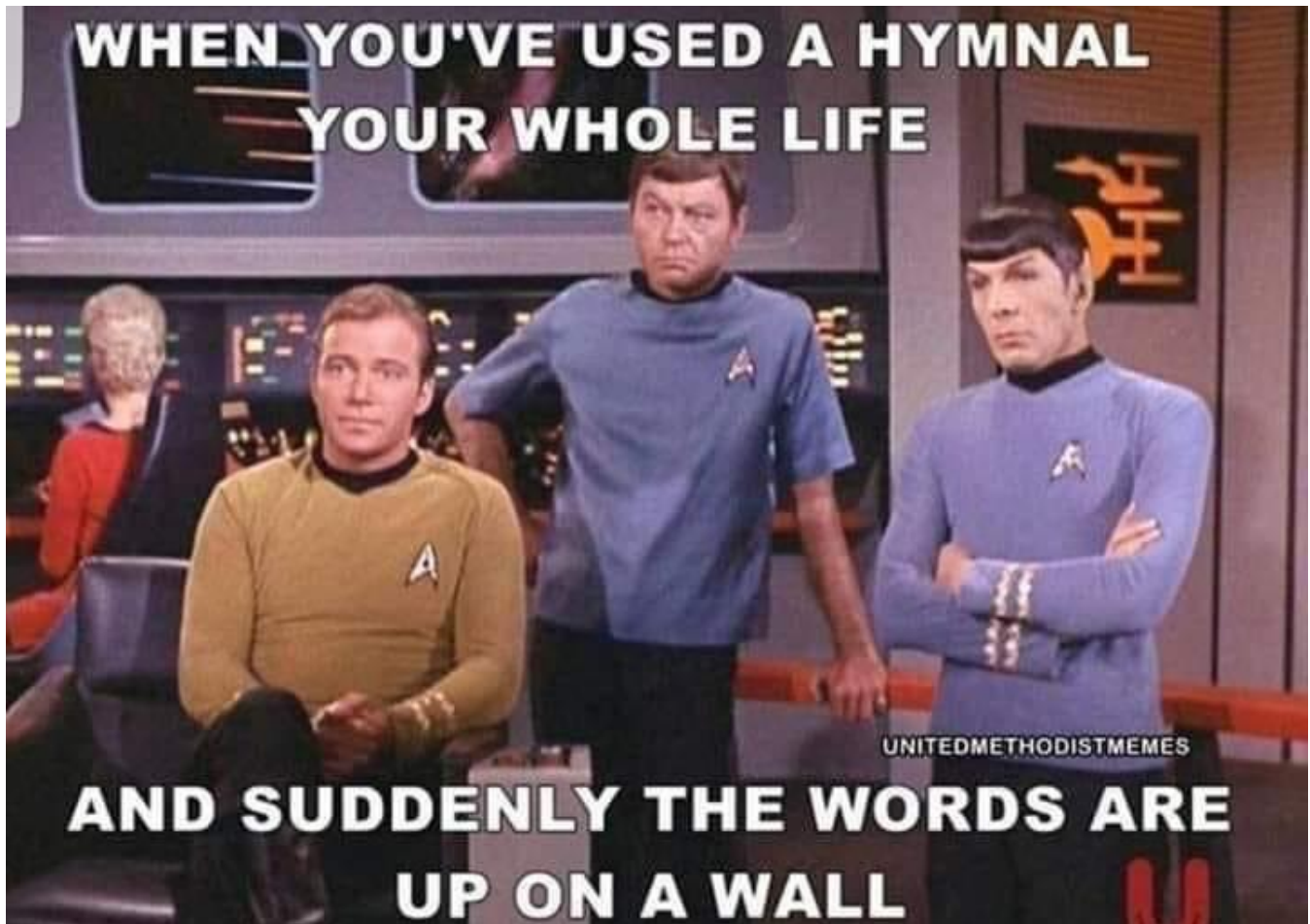
Christmas Fellowship 2022



*Thank
you*

Thank you from Carol Webster

Thank you so much for the very generous Christmas gift! I am so grateful to work together with this wonderful congregation, and look forward to a fantastic 2023 as you continue to do God's work. Wishing you all a very joyous, happy and healthy New Year! (And as a long-time Star Trek fan, I had to share the meme below! ☺)





Bishop's Commemorative
Martin Luther King Jr.
Worship Service

Sunday, Jan 15, 2023 4pm ET
Lutheran Church of the Redeemer, Atlanta
and livestreamed via [ELCA-SES.org](https://www.elca-ses.org)

Preaching:



**Senator
Kim Jackson**

Featuring:



**HONORING
THE DREAM:**

**Pursuing
Justice
Proclaiming
Hope
Providing
Help**

January 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 1/1	9 am - CPC and via Zoom 10 am - Coffee Hour & Fellowship	Epiphany of our Lord Worship Service w/ Holy Communion Join here: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81627932095
Sun 1/8	9 am - CPC and via Zoom	Baptism of our Lord Worship Service w/ Holy Communion Join here: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81627932095
Sun 1/15	9 am - CPC and via Zoom 10 am - Coffee Hour & Fellowship	Second Sunday after Epiphany Worship Service w/ Holy Communion Join here: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81627932095
Mon 1/16	7 pm - Via Zoom	Church Council Meeting Join here: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85341174437
Sun 1/22	9 am - CPC and via Zoom	Third Sunday after Epiphany Worship Service w/ Holy Communion Join here: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81627932095
Wed 1/25	7 pm - Via Zoom	Social Ministries/Outreach Meeting Join here: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82439156754 Passcode: 596978
Sun 1/29	9 am - CPC and via Zoom	Fourth Sunday after Epiphany Worship Service w/ Holy Communion Join here: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81627932095

Happiest of Birthdays and God's Blessings!

Vicki Scherf - January 14th
 Dick Wieland - January 19th
 Beth Schnitkey - January 23rd
 Praharsh Lankapalli - January 30th



Have we missed **your** birthday?

[Please send the month/day to Carol](#)

[Webster\(carolepiphanylutheran@gmail.com\)](mailto:carolepiphanylutheran@gmail.com) so you can be included!

Happy New Year!

January 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)

202 W. Poplar Avenue

Collierville, TN 38017

Mailing Address

P.O. Box 1805

Collierville, TN 38027

Rev. LaVonne Johnson

Email

Website

Facebook

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Instagram

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pastor@epiphanylu.org

info@epiphanylu.org

www.epiphanylu.org

www.facebook.com/EpiphanyLutheran

www.twitter.com/epiphanyville

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