



EPIPHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH

Partnering with Christ to Renew Lives

March 2022 Newsletter

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From the Pastor's Desk

*Give ear, O my people, to my teaching;
incline your ears to the words of my mouth.*

*I will open my mouth in a parable;
I will utter dark sayings from of old,
things that we have heard and known,
that our ancestors have told us.*

*We will not hide them from their children;
we will tell to the coming generation
the glorious deeds of the Lord, and his might,
and the wonders that he has done. ~Psalm 78: 1-4*

Stories. It's how humans make sense of our world. How we share information, dreams, visions. Psalm 78 is a long retelling of Israel's history, its high points and its low points. Its faithfulness and its failings. The Psalmist tells those stories to call back into the people's memories who they are, who God is, what their own holy history is - in an effort to bring them back to the place of trusting God's activity in their own lives. To invite God back into the story.

We all have stories, stories of our own lives and of others we've known, others we've read about, others we've seen. For this season of Lent, our weekly Bible study will be to look at the stories of some of the people recorded in the Gospel accounts who encountered Jesus. What does the Bible share about those encounters? Imagine how those encounters impacted those people. How were they changed? Is it possible to meet Jesus and walk away unchanged? And what of us, those exploring the stories centuries later? Do these ancient stories have the power to change us? Are we able to encounter Jesus through them?

I invite you to join in the study and the discussion Monday evenings starting March 7, via Zoom at 7 pm. Please see the link in the weekly e-blast and on the calendar page in this newsletter.

Blessings to you all,

Pastor LaVonne

March 2022 Worship Services

Worship time is 9 am Sunday morning, both for in-person and Zoom worship services. We are worshipping in person! 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. **MASK GUIDELINES: Beginning Sunday, March 6, 2022, Epiphany and Collierville Presbyterian no longer require masks for in-person worship, but strongly encourage vaccines/boosters, and recommend masks for in-person worship. Thank you!**

Sunday Morning Worship Services

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

March 6, 2022 Worship Service - First Sunday in Lent

March 13, 2022 Worship Service - Second Sunday in Lent

March 20, 2022 Worship Service - Third Sunday in Lent

March 27, 2022 Worship Service - Fourth Sunday in Lent

Zoom information for Sunday worship services in March

[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



March 2022 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 2022 Financial Update

In January, tithing was significantly under budget. This may have been caused by our switch to remote-only worship in mid-January due to the Omicron variant of COVID-19. Expenses were also under budget but not by enough to overcome the tithing shortfall.

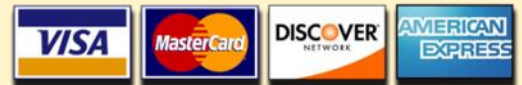
	Jan-22			2022 YTD		
	Actual	Budget	Net	Actual	Budget	Net
Revenue	\$ 5,958	\$ 7,432	-\$ 1,474	\$ 5,958	\$ 7,432	-\$ 1,474
Expenses	\$ 7,081	\$ 8,019	-\$ 938	\$ 7,081	\$ 8,019	-\$ 938
Net	-\$ 1,124	-\$ 587	-\$ 537	-\$ 1,124	-\$ 587	-\$ 537

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 Ministry) 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.





LENT

Ash Wednesday



On Ash Wednesday, March 2nd, Pastor Mark of Collierville Presbyterian Church and Pastor LaVonne are offering Imposition of Ashes in the Collierville Presbyterian Church parking lot from 4:30 - 5:30 pm. You may drive through or park.

The Epiphany congregation and the community are invited to join Collierville Presbyterian Church for an Ash Wednesday worship service at 7 pm.

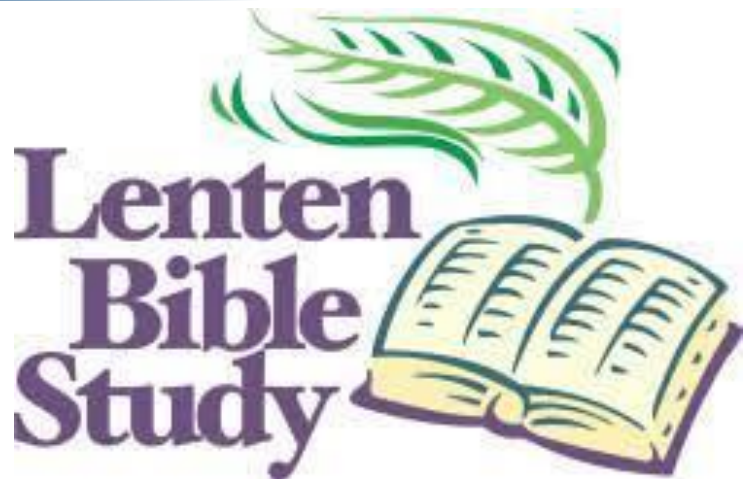
Lenten Bible Study - Encounters with Jesus

Beginning on Tuesday, March 7, 2022, Pastor LaVonne will be leading a Lenten Bible Study about people in the Bible who encountered Jesus, and how we may also encounter him and be transformed.

The study will take place via Zoom at 7 pm on Mondays, and will end on Tuesday, April 4th.

Zoom Link

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84210375307>



Collierville Presbyterian Church Labyrinth

Thanks to the Collierville Presbyterian Church for once again offering our congregation the use of their labyrinth during Lent. Please see the information on p. 7; in addition, they have provided a finger labyrinth (p. 8) for those who would like to use this meditative practice at home.

Unmute Yourself



Southeastern Synod Assembly
June 3-5, 2022

Southeastern Synod Assembly

The Southeastern Synod will gather in Assembly on June 3-5, 2022, at the Chattanooga Convention Center in Chattanooga, Tennessee. The Assembly will be focused on the theme: "Unmute Yourself: Proclaim the Love of God to all the World."

[Find out more...](#)

40-40-40

Disaster Ministry Appeal

March 2 - April 16, 2022

#FortyForLent



SOUTHEASTERN SYNOD
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

To benefit
Southeastern
Synod
Disaster
Response

40 Days | 40 Miles | \$40

40/40/40 Lent Challenge

Each year during Lent, the Southeastern Synod decides on a ministry to support, as well as ask for folks to commit their own physical health. "Forty For Lent" invites you to commit to the following:

Over the 40 days of Lent

- Commit to walking a total of 40 mile
- Make a donation (for Lent 2022) to Southeastern Synod Disaster Response

[Click here](#) make your gift / commitment known today

Happiest of Birthdays and God's Blessings!

Lori Goetz - March 9

Jill Bryson - March 11

Bill Sykes - March 16

Have we missed **your** birthday?

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

(carolepiphanylutheran@gmail.com) so you can be included!



Outreach News

We have several projects active in March! Linda Barnes has asked that we send cards of encouragement to the women currently in the [Chosen Vessel Ministry](#) program - please e-mail Lois Ketcham for more information.



Also, please join us as we “Feed Our Neighbors” - we are collecting donations for the Hispanic Food Pantry at [El Redentor](#) United Methodist Church until Cinco de Mayo (May 5th). A \$20 donation will help provide one box of food to an Hispanic family (beans, rice, tortilla flour, oil, coffee, etc.). You may donate through the [PayPal link on our website](#) - please choose the option “Hispanic Food Ministry.”



Town of
Collierville
TENNESSEE

[Click here](#) to find out what's happening in your town!

Town of Collierville Emergency Alert System

The Town of Collierville now has a new emergency alert system that will send rapid notifications of hazardous and urgent situations using a mix of telephone calls, text and email messages, and additional special services for the visually and hearing impaired.

WAYS TO SIGN UP:

Text “alerts” to 901-446-0299

Call 901-446-0299

Visit hyper-reach.com/tncolliervillesignup.html

Tell your Alexa device: “Alexa, enable Hyper-Reach”

[Click here](#) to find out what's happening at your local library!



Collierville
BURCH
LIBRARY

March 2022



LENT

| A journey that moves us toward the cross.

The prayer labyrinth is open to all and will remain in the Fellowship Hall through our Lenten Journey. Lent is a time for reflection, for the letting go of regrets and stepping into renewal. Walking a labyrinth can facilitate this journey by providing a spiritual path for prayer, reflection and meditation. Whoever you are and wherever you are you are welcome to walk the labyrinth. Set aside time to visit. Embrace the labyrinth path. There is no right or wrong way to walk. You only have to enter and follow the path. Play music or sing. Pray out loud. Walk alone and with a crowd. Listen to the sounds. Most of all pay attention to your experience.

In this newsletter you will find an insert with a **finger labyrinth**. Finger labyrinths are “walked” by tracing the path with a finger of the non-dominant hand. Print this out. Keep it with you. Use it often. Here are some general guidelines for walking a labyrinth:

1. Before you start any finger labyrinth “walk,” take time to breathe and relax. If you keep a journal, have it ready for recording any insights after your walk.
2. Set an intention or question for the walk. Without an intention a finger labyrinth walk can become an exercise in hastily and mindlessly moving your finger along the circuits and wondering why at the end of the walk you even bothered. Say a prayer for guidance.
3. Place a finger from your non-dominant hand at the entrance to the labyrinth. As you trace the circuit, stay open to whatever presents itself: feelings, sensations, memories, images, or just “knowings.” Pause at any time to breathe, be with a memory, work with an image, or simply relax into the labyrinth.
4. Remain a while in the center continuing your prayer or silent contemplation. Be open to God's influence and be willing to receive. The center is a wonderful place to relax, pray, or sing.
5. When you are ready, trace your way out continuing on the pathway.
6. As your finger leaves the labyrinth, give thanks and close with a prayer.



Experiment and play with your labyrinth. Try using a word, phrase, or scripture. Repeat it slowly in your heart as you “walk.” You may also walk with questions such as, “In what way do I most need to grow spiritually right now?” or “What most blocks me from fully receiving and living God’s love?” You can also walk the labyrinth in intercessory prayer for someone else, sending them the fruits of your walk.

If you are experiencing a difficult feeling such as anger, grief, or bitterness, walk with the intention for healing and release.

If you are struggling with a problem or illness, ask for insight and guidance: What must I release in order to allow healing? What am I not feeling or acknowledging to allow healing? Whom do I most need to forgive, and for what? What part of my life (or me) am I neglecting that needs attention?

"Your life is a sacred journey. And it is about change, growth, discovery, movement, transformation, continuously expanding your vision of what is possible, stretching your soul, learning to see clearly and deeply, listening to your intuition, taking courageous challenges at every step along the way. You are on the path...exactly where you are meant to be right now...and from here, you can only go forward, shaping your life story into a magnificent tale of triumph, of healing of courage, of beauty, of wisdom, of power, of dignity, and of love."

FINGER LABYRINTH

We're all on a path...precisely where we need to be.



March 2022 Calendar of Events

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

	Pastor LaVonne's Office Hours	Pastor LaVonne will hold office hours on Wednesdays and Thursdays - please e-mail her to make an appointment.
Wed 3/2	4:30 pm - CPC 7 pm - CPC	Drive-Through Imposition of Ashes Ash Wednesday CPC Worship Service
Sun 3/6	9 am - CPC and Via Zoom	First Sunday in Lent Join here: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81627932095
Mon 3/7	7 pm - Via Zoom	Lenten Bible Study Join here: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84210375307
Mar 9-16		Pastor LaVonne on vacation
Sun 3/13	9 am - CPC and Via Zoom	Second Sunday in Lent Service of the Word Join here: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81627932095
Mon 3/14	7 pm - Via Zoom	Lenten Bible Study Join here: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84210375307
Thurs 3/17	7 pm - Via Zoom	Church Council Meeting Join here: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85341174437
Sun 3/20	9 am - CPC and via Zoom	Third Sunday in Lent Worship Service w/ Holy Communion Join here: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81627932095
Mon 3/21	7 pm - Via Zoom	Lenten Bible Study Join here: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84210375307
Tues 3/22	7 pm - Via Zoom	3+3+1 Meeting Join here: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83998904207
Wed 3/23	7 pm - Via Zoom	Social Ministries/Outreach Meeting Join here: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82439156754
Sun 3/27	9 am - CPC and via Zoom 10 am - CPC	Fourth Sunday in Lent Worship Service w/ Holy Communion Join here: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81627932095 Congregational Meeting
Mon 3/21	7 pm - Via Zoom	Lenten Bible Study Join here: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84210375307



March 2022 Worship Servants

Worship servants still needed for all Sundays in March - please consider volunteering!

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



Worship Servant SignUp Genius

[2022 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

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>