



# EPIPHANY

## LUTHERAN CHURCH

Partnering with Christ to Renew Lives

### September 2022 Newsletter

#### Newsletter Index

|  |        |
|--|--------|
| From the Pastor                                    | p. 1-2 |
| September Sunday<br>Worship Service<br>Information | p. 3   |
| September Prayers                                  | p. 3   |
| Financials   | p. 4   |
| PayPal Instructions                                | p. 4   |
| Local Happenings,<br>Delta Fair                    | p. 5   |
| TN Suicide Preven-<br>tion Network Event           | p. 6   |
| Social Ministries/<br>Outreach                     | p. 7   |
| Garden, "Why<br>Worry, Birthdays                   | p. 8   |
| September Calendar                                 | p. 9   |
| SignUp Genius                                      | p. 10  |
| Prayer Requests                                    | p. 10  |

#### From the Pastor's Desk

These are the words of the letter that the prophet Jeremiah sent from Jerusalem to the remaining elders among the exiles and to the priests, the prophets, and all the people whom Nebuchadnezzar had taken into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon of Judah sent to Babylon to King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon.

*For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope. Then when you call upon me and come and pray to me, I will hear you. When you search for me, you will find me; if you seek me with all your heart, I will let you find me, says the Lord, and I will restore your fortunes and gather you from all the nations and all the places where I have driven you, says the Lord, and I will bring you back to the place from which I sent you into exile.*

*~Jeremiah 29:1, 11-14*

The world is a terrible mess. According to globalcitizen.org, there are currently 27 ongoing armed conflicts worldwide. Nearly 59,000 wildfires burned across the world in 2021. Ten percent of the world's population go to bed hungry every night, with many facing starvation and death.

Not to mention disease, poverty, inflation, drought and flooding exacerbated by global warming, political and social unrest; it seems the list is endless. What is there to do? How do we begin to address any of it, let alone all of it? And where is God in all this mess?

These words from Jeremiah provide promise and hope; a road map to the future. God's message through the prophet was not for a quick fix; the omitted verses mention that if anyone comes with messages of immediate salvation, reject the message; it is not from the Lord. Instead, they exiles were told, they should build houses and grow gardens, marry, have children, see their children



married and their grandchildren born. They are to live for the time being where God has sent them. Verse 7 is poetic and prophetic in what the exiles are to do now: "But seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you into exile, and pray to the Lord on its behalf, for in its welfare you will find your welfare."

This is where we are, I think. Perhaps we feel exiled from the lives we dreamed as situations seemingly out of our control continue to arise. This is not the world we envisioned, and yet it is the world we currently inhabit.

So, what do we do? How do we move forward?

Where is God?

God's words spoken through Jeremiah are brilliant. The people are informed about what is happening, and about how to deal with it. It is a long time that they can expect to be exiles, and they are to make lives for themselves while also looking forward to the day when their exile will end. God gives great hope and promise of that day, and instructions on how to live good lives in the meantime.

Following Jeremiah's stirring words, we seek the welfare of the city, of the nation, of the world. We pray on behalf of the planet and all its inhabitants. And we work toward mutual welfare. Don't try to do everything; identify something you are passionate about and focus your energies there, both for your welfare and the welfare those most closely impacted.

And we thankfully look to a better future, where our efforts and God's promises come together to make a future that is full of blessing.

Remember always, and remind God often that we are held in the palm of God's hand, and God will not let us go. Not in the current mess, not in the past, not in the future. God's got us!

Blessings,

*Pastor LaVonne*



## September 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 unless otherwise indicated. ***MASK GUIDELINES: Epiphany and Collierville Presbyterian no longer require masks for in-person worship, but strongly encourage vaccines/boosters. Thank you!***

# Sunday Morning Worship Services

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

September 4, 2022 Worship Service w/ Holy Communion - 9th Sunday after Pentecost

September 11, 2022 Worship Service of the Word - 10th Sunday after Pentecost

September 18, 2022 Worship Service w/ Holy Communion - 11th Sunday after Pentecost

September 25, 2022 Worship Service w/ Holy Communion - 12th Sunday after Pentecost

## ***Zoom information for Sunday worship services in September***

[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



## September 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 July, tithing was down substantially (note: 07/31 service donations will appear in August) while expenses pretty well matched budget. For 2022 YTD, Revenue is above budget (by 5%) and Expenses are under budget by 10%. However, our bank account totals are down due to payments from designated funds and accounts receivable.

|            | Jul-22           |                |                  |  | 2022 YTD      |                  |                 |
|------------|------------------|----------------|------------------|--|---------------|------------------|-----------------|
|            | Actual           | Budget         | Net              |  | Actual        | Budget           | Net             |
| Revenue    | \$ 5,377         | \$ 7,432       | -\$ 2,055        |  | \$ 54,391     | \$ 52,024        | \$ 2,367        |
| Expenses   | \$ 7,576         | \$ 8,019       | -\$ 443          |  | \$ 53,522     | \$ 59,346        | -\$ 5,824       |
| <b>Net</b> | <b>-\$ 2,199</b> | <b>-\$ 587</b> | <b>-\$ 1,612</b> |  | <b>\$ 869</b> | <b>-\$ 7,322</b> | <b>\$ 8,191</b> |

### 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 May 1, 2022 to July 31, 2022 10 households registered with Kroger Community Rewards generated \$38.48 in donations.**





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

it's always **FUN** SEPT. 2 - SEPT. 11  
at the  
**Delta Fair**

**Senior American Day**  
Wednesday, Sept. 7th

**AGRICENTER WING A**  
Memphis, TN  
DELTAFAEST.COM

**SCHEDULE**

**9:30 AM** - Marines Present Colors in Wing A

**10:00 AM** - Delta Fair Senior American Spelling Bee

**10:45 AM** - The Memphis Police Department Peacemakers

**11:30 AM** - Senior Talent Contest

**1-3 PM** - Annual Delta Fair Tea Dance with Jim Mahannah, Jr., Band

**ALL DAY** - Senior Vendors

**FREE ADMISSION AND FREE PARKING SEPT 7th 9AM - NOON FOR AGES 60 AND UP!**



[Click here to download an entry form for the Senior American Spelling Bee](#)

[Click here to download the guidelines and entry form for the Senior Talent Contest](#)

# Here I am : Hear My Voice



September 15, 8:30am-12:30pm

## Speakers



### The Face in the Mirror: Does Anybody See Me?

Melissa Sparks, TN Division of Hospital Services, Deputy Assistant Commissioner



### Lived Experience Rebekah Hope

[Click here to register](#)



### Silent Epidemic of Men's Health Stephanie Johnson, M.Ed., LPCA

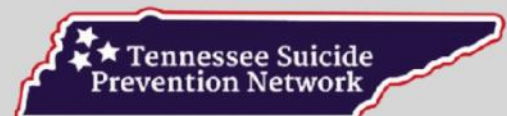


Hosted by



HOPE  
CHURCH

Co-sponsored by  
**LAKESIDE**  
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SYSTEM



"Saving Lives in Tennessee"

## Social Ministries/Outreach News



**Thanks to everyone who donated socks this summer for Calvary Mission! We donated 110 pairs of socks following our summer drive.**

### Fall Outreach Project - Calvary Rescue Mission

Calvary Rescue Mission is a non-profit, independent, faith-based shelter for homeless men in Memphis, TN. They serve two full meals a day, offer clothing to the homeless, have a 2,500 volume library, and provide nightly chapel services, counseling, a discipleship program, and lodging.



Calvary has volunteer opportunities to help with the evening meals. The staff is served at 5 pm and the clients are served at 5:30 pm. Meals can be prepared in the Calvary kitchen or prepared elsewhere and brought to the mission. We may also partner with Living Word Lutheran Church for this outreach project. Stay tuned for more information, and [visit the Calvary website](#) to find out more about the organization and what they do.

**Immediate Needs: We need several more volunteers to serve dinner on Tuesday, September 20th. On Thursday, September 22nd, we need additional workers and volunteers to make casseroles. Please [contact Lois Ketcham](#) if you can assist.**



**God's work.  
Our hands.**

### God's Work, Our Hands Shirts

If you would like to have a God's Work, Our Hands T-shirt (we are doing a blue shirt with the church logo and the God's Work, Our Hands logo - a women's V-neck shirt and a regular T-shirt for men), please [contact Lois Ketcham](#) for more information and to place an order.

### Collierville Hot Air Balloon Festival

Volunteers are needed for the [Collierville Hot Air Balloon Festival](#) taking place September 17-18, 2022. The Collierville Balloon Festival will take place on Maynard Way (behind Walmart). The Festival brings together more than 20 stunning hot air balloons, live entertainment, food, arts & crafts vendors, and more to provide a great time for the whole family. Proceeds from the event will support education programs in the local community. Interested volunteers can [sign up using this link](#).

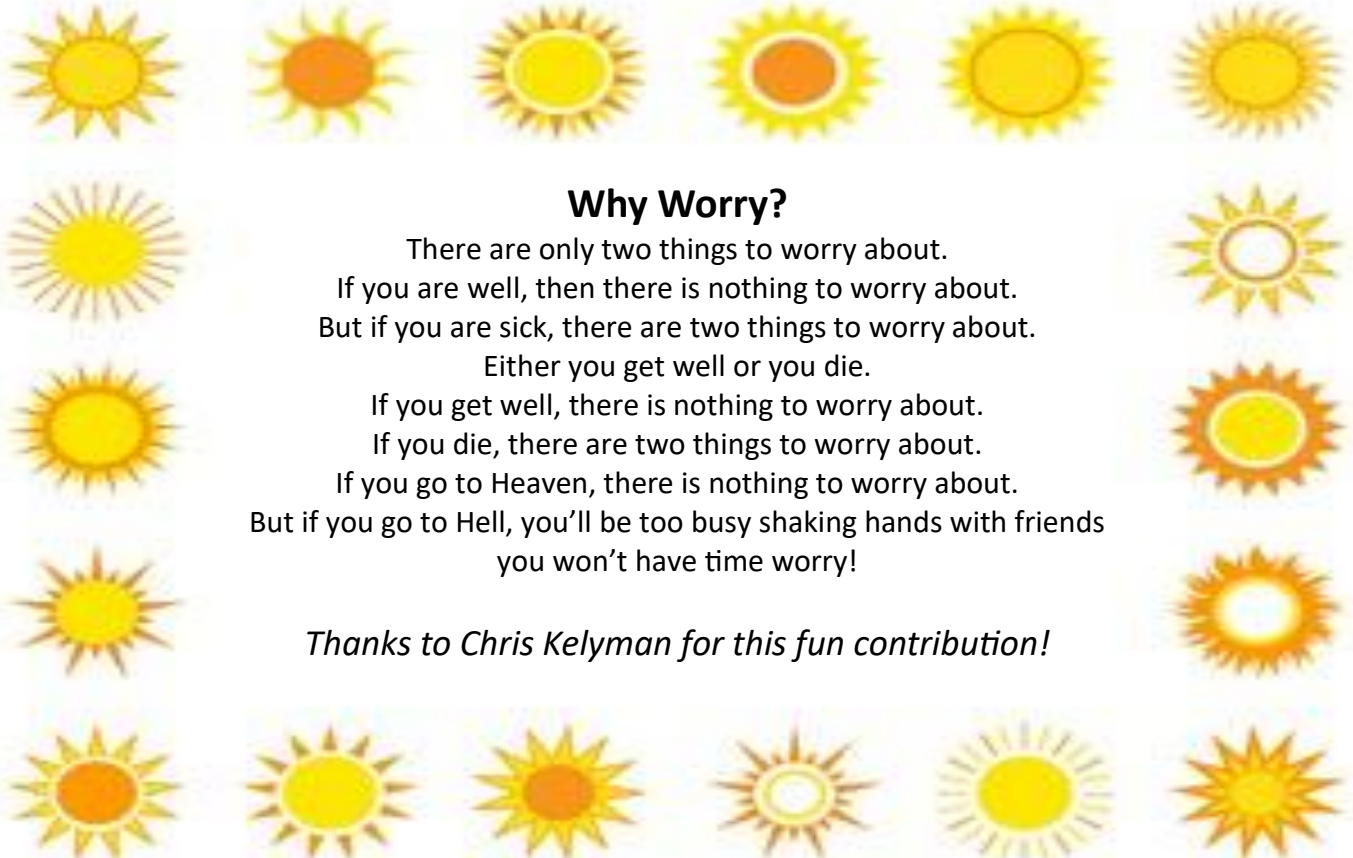


### Planning Ahead - Angel Tree for Peace Lutheran Church

This year, as we did two years ago, we will be doing an Angel Tree for Peace Lutheran Church again. Peace Lutheran will provide us with a list of recipients in a few months. Please [contact Lois Ketcham](#) and let her know if you are interested in being a part of this worthwhile project.

## Epiphany Community Garden

*Come work with us on Wednesdays and Saturdays 8:30 - 11:30 am*



### Why Worry?

There are only two things to worry about.  
If you are well, then there is nothing to worry about.  
But if you are sick, there are two things to worry about.

Either you get well or you die.

If you get well, there is nothing to worry about.

If you die, there are two things to worry about.

If you go to Heaven, there is nothing to worry about.

But if you go to Hell, you'll be too busy shaking hands with friends  
you won't have time worry!

*Thanks to Chris Kelyman for this fun contribution!*

## Happiest of Birthdays and God's Blessings!

John Kelyman - September 7

Linda Fisher - September 25

Have we missed **your** birthday?

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

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





## September 2022 Calendar of Events

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

|          |   |   |
|----------|---|---|
|          | <b>Pastor LaVonne's Office Hours</b>            | Pastor LaVonne holds office hours on Wednesdays and Thursdays - please <a href="#">e-mail her</a> to make an appointment.   |
| Sat 9/3  | 8:30 - 11:30 am - Home Place                    | Community Garden Workday  |
| Sun 9/4  | 9 am - CPC and Via Zoom                         | <b>13th Sunday after Pentecost</b><br>Worship Service w/ Holy Communion<br>Join here: <a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81627932095">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81627932095</a>                       |
| Wed 9/7  | 8:30 - 11:30 am - Home Place                    | Community Garden Workday  |
| Sat 9/10 | 8:30 - 11:30 am - Home Place                    | Community Garden Workday  |
| Sun 9/11 | 9 am - CPC and via Zoom                         | <b>14th Sunday after Pentecost/God's Work, Our Hands</b><br>Worship Service w/ Holy Communion<br>Join here: <a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81627932095">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81627932095</a> |
| Wed 9/14 | 8:30 - 11:30 am - Home Place                    | Community Garden Workday  |
| Sat 9/17 | 8:30 - 11:30 am - Home Place                    | Community Garden Workday  |
| Sun 9/18 | 9 am - CPC and via Zoom                         | <b>15th Sunday after Pentecost</b><br>Worship Service w/ Holy Communion<br>Join here: <a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81627932095">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81627932095</a>                       |
| Mon 9/19 | 7 pm - Via Zoom                                 | Church Council Meeting<br>Join here: <a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85341174437">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85341174437</a>  |
| Wed 9/21 | 8:30 - 11:30 am - Home Place                    | Community Garden Workday  |
| Sat 9/24 | 8:30 - 11:30 am - Home Place                    | Community Garden Workday  |
| Sun 9/25 | 9 am - CPC and via Zoom                         | <b>16th Sunday after Pentecost</b><br>Worship Service w/ Holy Communion<br>Join here: <a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81627932095">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81627932095</a>                       |
| Wed 9/28 | 8:30 - 11:30 am - Home Place<br>7 pm - Via Zoom | Community Garden Workday<br>Social Ministries/Outreach Meeting<br>Join here: <a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82439156754">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82439156754</a><br>Passcode: 596978            |



## September 2022 Worship Servants

**Worship servants still needed for all Sundays in September** - 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](mailto:pastor@epiphanylu.org)

[info@epiphanylu.org](mailto:info@epiphanylu.org)

[www.epiphanylu.org](http://www.epiphanylu.org)

[www.facebook.com/EpiphanyLutheran](https://www.facebook.com/EpiphanyLutheran)

[www.twitter.com/epiphanyville](https://www.twitter.com/epiphanyville)

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