



EPIPHANY

LUTHERAN CHURCH

Partnering with Christ to Renew Lives

February 2019 Newsletter

Finding True Love....

February has been called “the month of love” but many people have a love/hate relationship with Valentine’s Day, thanks to over-zealous retailers who suggest to us what true love ‘ought’ to look like.

We can’t put a price on true love, because true love has no expectation of return or reward. True love doesn’t require gifts or flowers or even the words “I love you.” True love can simply be silent presence in accompaniment through struggles and pain; true love can be holding the hand of an ill or dying person; true love can be reading a bedtime story to a child. But these are all expressions of human love, and while God gives us one another to enjoy in loving relationships, in our holy baptism we have already experienced the truest, purest and most powerful divine love of all: the love given to us by the death on the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, who asks God to forgive us, for his sake, for every sin we’ve ever committed, or will commit.



In the waters and Spirit of baptism, we have already received the truest form of love that exists, and it never dies. Jesus the Christ loves each one of us for who we are, just as we are, and this love burns brightly beyond our death. So if you’re tempted this Valentine’s Day to feel sad because no one sends you a valentine, or gives you a box of chocolates, or if everyone in the office receives roses but you, remember your baptism. You. Are. A. Beloved. Child. of God. Trace the cross of Christ on your forehead, imprinted there by the undying fire of the Holy Spirit, because Jesus, our true love, loved you first and loves you best, forever.

Peace to all here. — *Pastor Monica*

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.

From Your Past Council President Carol Rife...

A new year and a new council! I am so proud of those who stepped up to lead our congregation this next year and into the next. The team members are already meeting and planning activities for the year. Please join their teams - the more people involved the more ideas generated. And the more ideas generated the better the ideas. Remember our vision statement, "God's purpose for Epiphany is to welcome all, SHARING God's promises and love THROUGH OUR ACTIONS."

Congratulations to Our New Council Members!



Back row, L to R Ed Schumacher, Wally Knight, Jennifer Parker, Dan Scherf, Lori Crossmock (Treasurer), Phil Goetz (President)
Seated, L to R Martha Garner (VP), Andria Prouty (Secretary), Chris Kelyman

January 2019 Council Summary Report

President, Carol Rife, called the council meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Kingsway library. All members were present except Pastor Monica Weber who was away for a Spiritual Director's seminar. The newly elected council members were also present. A quorum was established.

Business requiring a vote of the council:

- Council voted to donate a laptop to Collierville Connected Resource Center which has been on loan to them.
- Council voted to pay the balance of \$430.10 on the copier which Collierville Connection has been using. Once the transaction is complete the copier will be donated to the Collierville Connection.
- Council voted to pay the \$250.00 dues for continued membership in the Collierville Chamber of Commerce. What Epiphany has received from its membership with support from Collierville Youth Leadership working in the garden in March warrants our renewed membership.

The South East Synod Assembly will convene May 31st through June 2nd. Epiphany can send two delegates which could be a husband/wife team. February registration is required. More details to come.

New Business:

Council decided on new council officers and team leaders. Phil Goetz will serve as council President, Martha Garner will remain as Vice President and Fellowship, Lori Crossmock will remain as Treasurer, Dan Scherf as Financial Secretary, Andria Prouty will become the new Council Secretary and will help with Christian Ed. and Evangelism/ Outreach, Chris Kelyman will continue with Stewardship and T-2, Jennifer Parker for Evangelism, Wally Knight will oversee Property, Ed Schumacher will continue with Long Range planning and Pastor will oversee Worship and Music. The Council looks forward to an exciting and productive year with the full support and backing of the entire congregation. *Respectfully Submitted, Chris Kelyman, Council Secretary*

Service Opportunities



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

Upcoming Outreach/ Evangelism Opportunities		
Date	Activity	Contact
February 25th	Room in the Inn (w/ Kingsway)	Chris Kelyman
March 6th	Drive-By Ashes & Cuppa Joe to Go	Pastor Monica

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 - **Please stay tuned for information on when garden work will resume (we will have some special work days soon for maintenance, garden prep, etc.) Thank you to ALL who were such a big part of making our garden grow last year! [Donate here](#) to help the garden grow - we need funding to get started on a bumper crop for 2019!**

Room In The Inn (RITI)

Volunteers will be needed to help serve and cleanup, and help make the sack lunches the guests will take with them Tuesday morning, as well as to pick up sheets and towels on Tuesday to launder and return to Kingsway within the week. If you have never participated in RITI, you will find it to be a most meaningful experience as a volunteer. There will be other ways to help as well in November!

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.

Lent and Easter Schedule

March 6 - Ash Wednesday

6:30 - 8 am Drive-By Ashes and Cuppa Joe to Go; Noon Imposition of Ashes; 7 pm Worship Service

Wednesdays beginning March 13

Weekly Online Bible Study with Pastor Monica

April 14 - Palm Sunday

Procession and Worship Service at 10 am; potluck luncheon following service

April 18 - Maundy Thursday

Worship Service at 7 pm

April 19 - Good Friday

Tenebrae Worship Service at 7 pm

April 21 - Easter

Worship Service at 10 am



Pastor Monica and other pastors from the ELCA Region 9 participated in a study of Lenten preaching texts during the ELCA Region 9 Preaching Retreat at Lutheranch.



Happiest of Birthdays and God's Blessings!

Jennifer Parker - February 1
John Crossmock - February 13
Becca Schumacher - February 13
Meagan Crone - February 21
Lori Crossmock - February 24

Have we missed **your** birthday?
Please send the month/day
to Pastor Monica so you can be included!



Lutheran Services of Georgia has changed its name to Inspiritus.

The Board of Directors felt the new name Inspiritus better embodies the essence of the organization's mission of guiding individuals and families on a path from surviving to thriving. The new name is derived from the word "inspirit," which means to fill with strength or courage. Inspiritus emboldens individuals and families to find their courage, inner strength and resilience so that they can lead a more fulfilling life. Lutheran Services of TN will fold into the new organization as well; the new Southeast-based relief and assistance organization will serve the ELCA and SE Synod, and is not limited to "Lutheran" causes.

Same Services.

Same Mission, Vision and Values.

New Name.

For more information on Inspiritus, [visit the website](#). [Click here to view an FAQ sheet](#) which will answer frequently asked questions.



A Note From Diane and Wendell Kruse...Invitation and Building Relationships



Greetings to All Members of Epiphany,

Last November, Wendell and I attended a Thanksgiving Service at Emmanuel Methodist Church. There were clergy and members from several Protestant and Catholic churches as well as a Rabbi from Temple Israel. The main speaker was the head of [MIFA](#). We were quite struck by how close many of the various churches' clergy and their members have become. Their relationships were like that of a big happy family who have joined each other in service and fellowship activities.

In one of her recent sermons, Pastor Monica addressed the idea of invitation in building relationships.

[Holy Apostles Episcopal Church](#) has extended an invitation to us in fellowship, and some of you have been attending their Prime Timers Fellowships events in the last few months (the most recent one was a fun game night on January 18th). They are asking questions about our community garden, and someone suggested that maybe some of the St. George high school students could help in the garden (they earn service points). One lady has even asked questions about the Lutheran Church. It is sometimes awkward to do the inviting, but in this fellowship activity, **we** are the ones who have been invited. Perhaps, by accepting their invitation, we are showing evangelism, the desire for friendship, and the building of relationships. *We will have more Prime Timers Fellowship activities coming up in 2019 - please watch for future announcements!*

We are so fortunate at Epiphany to be able to help and serve with people at [Peace Lutheran](#) and [Kingsway Christian](#). We have also built relationships with [St. Mark](#), Holy Apostles and [St. Andrews](#) in Collierville. We are blessed indeed!

Peace & Blessings - Diane & Wendell

Clerical/Computer Work Needed

Epiphany member Meagan Crone is searching for freelance clerical or computer work she could do from home for short-term projects or on a long-term basis. Meagan is competent in Microsoft, Google and PhotoShop platforms, can code HTML and CSS, and is available immediately. If you or someone you know might be able to send work Meagan's way, please [contact her via e-mail](#).

Upcoming Events

MOE (Men of Epiphany)
Saturday, February 9th



The Men of Epiphany (MOE) will meet at 8:30 am at Perkins Family Restaurant in Collierville for breakfast, fellowship and devotion. Please join us!



GOE (Gals of Epiphany)
New Study Starts February 9th!

All women of Epiphany and Kingsway Christian are invited to join us as we examine recent scholarship surrounding Mary Magdalene’s life and her important participation in Jesus’ ministry. Mary Magdalene was among the first witnesses to the Resurrection, but in the Medieval Era was suddenly viewed as a threat to male power in the Church. Study materials will include a series of articles and The Gospel of Mary Magdalene. Pastor Monica will distribute links to the articles in mid-January. GOE meeting dates for this study are on the following Saturdays: February 9, March 9, April 13 and May 11, at 9 am in the Kingsway Christian Library. For more information, [email Pastor Monica](#).

Little Free Pantry Eagle Scout Project at Home Place

Our very own Prannoy Lankapalli has elected to build a “Little Free Pantry” to be located at Home Place by the Community Garden as his Eagle Scout project. He already has the plans for it, and is now in the process of raising funds - the goal is \$750.00 to cover the materials for the project. Please consider a donation to his project - building will begin in February 2019 and we are excited about helping him make this pantry available to those in need in our area!

To find out more about Little Free Pantries, [visit the website](#).

***Feeding Neighbors.
Nourishing Neighborhoods.***

Ready to Get Involved??

We have so many wonderful things going on at Epiphany, and our new council members and team leaders are already working hard to plan upcoming events and activities. BUT they need your help and involvement to “make things happen.”

***Reach out to our new team leaders
to get involved in 2019!***

Team	Leader	E-Mail
Christian Education	Andria Prouty	andria0520@gmail.com
Evangelism	Jennifer Parker	JMP0823@msn.com
Fellowship	Martha Garner	mngarner@bellsouth.net
Long-Range Planning	Ed Schumacher	Ed.schumacher1021@gmail.com
Property	Wally Knight	wierdwk456@aol.com
Stewardship	Chris Kelyman	CABKelyman@aol.com
Worship & Music	Pastor Monica	pastormonicaepiphany.lutheran@gmail.com
T2 Ministry	Chris Kelyman	CABKelyman@aol.com



February 2019 Calendar of Events

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

1/31 - 2/2		Pastor Monica attends ELCA Region 9 Preaching Retreat
Sun 2/3	9 am - Bride's Room/Schaeffer Chapel 10 am - Schaeffer Memorial Chapel 11:15 am - Schaeffer Memorial Chapel	Confirmation Class Fourth Sunday after Epiphany - Worship & Holy Communion Coffee Fellowship
2/5 - 2/8		Pastor Monica attends First Call Conference
Sat 2/9	8:30 am - Perkins Restaurant 9 am - Kingsway Library	Men of Epiphany Study & Fellowship (MOE) Gals of Epiphany Study & Fellowship (GOE)
Sun 2/10	9 am - Bride's Room/Schaeffer Chapel 10 am - Schaeffer Memorial Chapel 11:15 am - Schaeffer Memorial Chapel	Confirmation Class Fifth Sunday after Epiphany - Worship & Holy Communion Coffee Fellowship
Sun 2/17	9 am - Bride's Room/Schaeffer Chapel 10 am - Schaeffer Memorial Chapel 11:15 am - Schaeffer Memorial Chapel	Confirmation Class Sixth Sunday after Epiphany - Service of the Word Coffee Fellowship
Tues 2/19	7 pm - Kingsway Boardroom	Church Council Meeting
Sun 2/24	9 am - Bride's Room/Schaeffer Chapel 10 am - Schaeffer Memorial Chapel 11:15 am - Schaeffer Memorial Chapel	Bold Women Sunday Crone Baptisms Confirmation Class Third Sunday after Epiphany - Worship & Holy Communion Coffee Fellowship
Mon 2/25	6 pm - Kingsway Fellowship Hall	Room in the Inn (together with Kingsway Christian Church)



February 2019 Worship Servants

	2/3	2/10	2/17	2/24
Altar Setup	Jennifer Parker		Phil & Lori Goetz	Phil & Lori Goetz
Altar Cleanup	Jennifer Parker		Phil & Lori Goetz	Phil & Lori Goetz
Assisting Minister	Wendell Kruse			John Garner
Lector	Carol Rife	Vicki Scherf	Adam Waddell	
Greeter/Usher	Ed & Becca Schumacher		Rick & Marjorie Barnard	
Communion Assistant	Twila Hooverson		Twila Hooverson	Martha Garner
Communion Linens	Twila Hooverson		Twila Hooverson	
Coffee	Carol Rife	Ed & Becca Schumacher		
Council Host	Dan Scherf	Lori Crossmock	Martha Garner	Phil Goetz
Council Money	Phil Goetz	Andria Prouty	Jennifer Parker	Lori Crossmock
Confirmation Chaperone	Rick Barnard	Marjorie Barnard	John Garner	

The 2019 Worship Servant sign-up process will remain on SignUp Genius. [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. Thank you!



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Valid through 06/27/2019

Partnering with Christ to Renew Lives



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
PO Box 1805
Collierville, TN 38027

Rev. Monica Weber
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