



EPIPHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH

Partnering with Christ to Renew Lives

July 2019 Newsletter

Help a Stranger....

What is the 'appropriate' Christian response to a request for help from a complete stranger? This world tells us to beware of scam artists, so we end up not trusting anyone, and that leads us to flat-out ignore a legitimate plea for assistance. We succumb to the power of evil by paying more attention to our fear than to Jesus' command to help even people we don't know personally. I think that's the key to our response and obedience to Christ: Jesus understands that when we reach out to a stranger, we make a personal connection. We see him or her as a beloved child of God, not as a threat or scam artist. When we connect to others, we're silently saying, "I see you. I'm here for you. I can help you, because I love and obey Jesus."



It is precisely these personal connections, no matter how brief they are, that demonstrate the Kingdom of God and God's love for all people. We have a choice each time God places someone in need on our path: we can turn our heads and walk away to let "someone else or some agency to do it," or we can acknowledge the person as a human being, hear their story and discern how we can assist them. We are baptized into new life in Christ by a covenant that demands response to the needy, not a turning away. Jesus doesn't ask you to sacrifice yourself, but he does call you to love your neighbor as yourself. Think about this, the next time you encounter a person in need. Your response will reveal much about your faith in God and your obedience to Jesus Christ. 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.

Epiphany Revealed...

This is the last newsletter to look for the blue "word bubbles" like the one on the right to find out a little more about the people with whom you worship - who they are, what they like, their habits, likes, loves and more! Enjoy your "treasure hunt!" - truly you are all treasures in the eyes of the Lord!





Brunch Church Continues Through July 21st!

Our Brunch Church series continues for the next three Sundays - July 7th, July 14th and July 21st. We will conduct worship from 10 am - 10:20 am, then serve food and conduct our study discussion as we eat together. Brunch Church will end by 11:30 am with a brief cleanup.

On Brunch Church Sundays, please bring "potluck" brunch items to serve, including a serving utensil. Also, we have a special SignUp Genius signup for Brunch Church - [please click here](#) to sign up to serve on these five Sundays.

I am a teacher, a Christian and a grandmother who loves arts and crafts, and enjoys travel.

Updated Epiphany Lutheran Church Directory

The directory has several new updates - be sure to [view and download a copy](#) so you have the most up-to-date contact information for everyone.

(Password: Luther2019)



Happiest of Birthdays and God's Blessings!

- Stu Polly - July 9
- Martha Garner - July 11
- Evan Prouty - July 12
- Pat Marzahl - July 13
- John Garner - July 31



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

I am a handyman and a family man.

Although 67 years old, I still compete in running races and win my age group.



Service Opportunities



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

Upcoming Outreach/Evangelism Opportunities

Date	Activity	Contact
	<i>No Service Activities in July Please volunteer in Epiphany's Community Garden!</i>	Wendell Kruse
September 14	Rise Against Hunger/God's Work Our Hands	Pastor Monica
September 15	Collect Canned Holiday Hams for Collierville Food Pantry	Lori Goetz

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. **Special Brunch Church Sign Up!**

Epiphany Community Garden - **We are working regular garden hours throughout the summer - please come help us grow by volunteering your time on Wednesday and Saturday morning from 8:30 - 11:30 am!** [Donate here](#) to help the garden grow - help us fund our efforts for 2019 and beyond!

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. **The RITI program will resume again 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.

I am an avid reader, runner,
and mountain climber.

Congrats & Blessings to the latest Epiphany Seminarian, Adam Waddell!

It is with great joy and thanksgiving to God that we announce Adam Waddell's acceptance into Luther Theological Seminary's Distance Learning Master of Divinity program. Adam is presently discerning a vocation in ELCA pastoral ministry as a candidate based at his home congregation of Epiphany. His candidacy will be supervised by the SE Synod and he will be guided in this process by Pastor Monica and our ELCA Deanery pastors. As part of this discernment over the next several years, Adam will take part in leading worship and working with Christian Education as directed by Pastor Monica, in conjunction with his studies. He will also receive regular Spiritual Direction as a standard candidacy requirement.

Please keep Adam and family in your prayers as he begins this exciting phase of his discernment journey!

I am a photographer and political junkie.

I am a new grandfather, looking to ultimately transition to spending more time perfecting my grandfatherly skills!

AT DAY'S END (thanks to Jennifer Parker for sharing!)



Is anybody happier because you passed his way?
Does anyone remember that you spoke to him today?
The day is almost over, and its toiling time is through;
Is there anyone to utter now a kindly word of you?
Can you say tonight, in parting with the day that's slipping fast,
That you helped a single brother of the many that you passed?

Is a single heart rejoicing over what you did or said;
Does the man whose hopes were fading,
Now with courage look ahead?
Did you waste the day, or lose it? Was it well or sorely spent?
Did you leave a trail of kindness, or a scar of discontent?
As you close your eyes in slumber, do you think that God will say,
You have earned one more tomorrow by the work you did today?"

-By John Hall

Kingsway Wednesday Night Fellowships

Kingsway is holding Wednesday Night Fellowships on July 17 and Aug 21. Instead of potlucks, they will have cooks for all three meals; if you would like to attend, please [e-mail Nicole Moore](#) or call her at 901-683-3505.

Over the years I have learned to repair mechanical things, and am able to build things out of wood and metal.

What's Happening at Home Place?

The garden is going gangbusters! On June 26th, we had a very productive day, thanks to our energetic and AWESOME garden angels and crew! Home Place was buzzing with the sound of riding mowers, push mowers and weed whackers - inside and around the garden. All looks great!

Other maintenance work included spreading grass clippings in several beds, and adding steel fence posts and a plastic mesh fence to support the young cucumber plants.

The weeds will NOT win! We attacked them with ferocity in ABC beds, and will continue to hold them at bay. We worked up and planted several hills of butternut squash, planted acorn squash and bean seeds, fed and fertilized the tomato plants, and re-seeded some cucumber plants.

We harvested 46 pounds of potatoes, 90 pounds of turnip greens, 7 pounds of cucumbers, 2 pounds of onions, 3 pounds of tomatoes, as well as eggplant and mint, for a total on 6/26 of 148 pounds. That's 325 pounds this season to date, with much more to come! Thanks to our volunteers in the month of June for taking all the produce to the Collierville Food Pantry on Thursdays.

And thanks to the wonderful volunteers who have been showing up so regularly these past few weeks - your help is so appreciated! We also had a young volunteer on 6/26 - thanks Renwick Tucker for putting in some service hours at the Garden - we look forward to seeing you again!



We love our neighbors at Holy Apostles!

The Holy Apostles garden atrium between their fellowship hall and sanctuary now has a lovely garden urn - it was theirs originally but was lost for awhile 20 years ago when their church and preschool moved out east. The urn was watched over for those many years by members from Epiphany and is now back home in its church home. Isn't that a good story? In kindness, a plant of curly willow from their garden was given to us to be planted in the Epiphany Community Garden where it is now growing.

We have been blessed to have the Akers family from Holy Apostles helping in the Epiphany Garden every Wednesday morning with members from Epiphany. We are so fortunate to have such loving neighbors!

I am a retired aviator
and I fix things.

I am a scholar.

I am a golfer.

I am a numbers person and
want order.

I am a master gardener.

I am a sailor.

Upcoming Events & Activities

Spare Change Sunday July 7th



All the funds collected on Spare Change Sunday benefit the Collierville Food Pantry, and provide them with the cash to purchase the items most needed. Thank you for your ongoing support of this important outreach!



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

Save the Date - August 4th

On August 4th, we will be collecting the following items for the [Memphis Oral School for the Deaf](#):

- Washable markers
- Jumbo crayons
- Pencil boxes (to store audiological equipment)
- Large glue sticks
- Large bottles of Elmer's white school glue
- Ziploc bags: Snack size; sandwich size; quart size; gallon size



Confirmation Student Outings in July

We have two outings planned for our confirmands in July to help give them an insight into poverty in Memphis as well as Christian solutions to live out Jesus' Great Commission, including the Trinity feeding program and the Church Health Ctr. It will also give them a good base of Lutheran baptismal doctrine in a fun setting with their peers from other area ELCA churches.

On Tuesday, July 9, we will depart St. Luke Lutheran Church for downtown Memphis. We will ride the trolley downtown, visit the Civil Rights Museum, visit the Slave Haven/Underground Railroad, and eat lunch. The total cost per student is no more than \$40. Parents and Mentors are welcome to attend as chaperones at your own cost. If your child requires confidential financial assistance [please contact Pastor Monica](#). We will return to St Luke/Epiphany late in the afternoon for parent pickup.

On Wednesday, July 10, we will meet at Epiphany Chapel at 8:15 am, drive to Crosstown Concourse for a guided tour of the Church Health Center, then drive to Peace Lutheran to serve a hot lunch to homeless persons as part of Peace Lutheran/Trinity Ministries' regular lunch program (we will eat lunch together with them and then clean up - confirmands can obtain service hours for this). After cleanup we will gather with the Peace confirmation students for an introduction to the Affirmation of Baptism Rite and God's promises, plus snack time. Pastor Cliff, Pastor Tonie and Pastor Monica will lead the session and the students will have plenty of activities and discussion. We will return to the Chapel no later than 4pm on Wednesday for parent pickup. There is no cost to students for the Wednesday programming.

Please [RSVP to Pastor Monica as soon as possible](#) for these two day sessions, and contact her for any questions. Participation is strongly encouraged.

Prime Timers July 17th

On July 17, 2019 there will be a potluck lunch with a speaker to follow. Before the lunch, Father John of Holy Apostles will give a talk about end-of-life planning which will begin about 10:00 am. After lunch, speaker Sandra Trammell will share her out of body experience that occurred during a life emergency event. Drinks will be provided. All are welcome. If you have any questions, please call Diane and Wendell Kruse.

July 2019 Calendar of Events

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

Wed 7/3	8:30 - 11:30 am - Home Place	Community Garden Workday
6/30 - 7/6		Pastor Monica on retreat
Sat 7/6	8:30 - 11:30 am - Home Place	Community Garden Workday
Sun 7/7	10 am - Kingsway Parish Hall	SPARE CHANGE SUNDAY! Fourth Sunday after Pentecost - Brunch Church
Tues 7/9	8:30 am - Meet at Schaeffer Chapel 7 pm - Kingsway Boardroom	Confirmation Students Field Trip Council Executive Committee Meeting
Wed 7/10	8:15 am - Meet at Schaeffer Chapel 8:30 - 11:30 am - Home Place	Confirmation Students Field Trip Community Garden Workday
Sat 7/13	8:30 - 11:30 am - Home Place 8:30 am - IHOP Collierville	Community Garden Workday Men of Epiphany Study & Fellowship (MOE)
Sun 7/14	10 am - Kingsway Parish Hall	Fifth Sunday after Pentecost - Brunch Church
Tues 7/16	7 pm - Kingsway Boardroom	Church Council Meeting
Wed 7/17	8:30 - 11:30 am - Home Place	Community Garden Workday
Sat 7/20	8:30 - 11:30 am - Home Place	Community Garden Workday
Sun 7/21	10 am - Kingsway Parish Hall	Sixth Sunday after Pentecost - Brunch Church
Wed 7/24	8:30 - 11:30 am - Home Place	Community Garden Workday
Sat 7/27	8:30 - 11:30 am - Home Place	Community Garden Workday
Sun 7/28	10 am - Schaeffer Memorial Chapel 11:15 am - Schaeffer Memorial Chapel	Seventh Sunday after Pentecost - Worship w/ Holy Communion Coffee Fellowship
Wed 7/31	8:30 - 11:30 am - Home Place	Community Garden Workday



July 2019 Worship Servants

	7/7	7/14	7/21	7/28
Altar Setup	N/A	N/A	N/A	Lori Goetz
Altar Cleanup	N/A	N/A	N/A	Lori Goetz
Assisting Minister	N/A	N/A	N/A	Carol Rife
Lector	Diane Kruse			
Greeter/Usher				
Communion Assistant				
Communion Linens	N/A		N/A	
Coffee & Cookies	Carol Rife		Carol Rife	
Cleanup	Carol Rife		Carol Rife	N/A
Council Offering #1	Lori Crossmock	Chris Kelyman	Phil Goetz	Andrea Prouty
Council Offering #2	Ed Schumacher	Dan Scherf	Wally Knight	Martha Garner
Confirmation Chaperone	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Worship Servants Needed!

NOTE: [SPECIAL BRUNCH CHURCH SIGNUP](#)

[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.



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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
Phone
Email
Website
Facebook
Twitter

Instagram
[YouTube](#)

pastormonicaepiphanylutheran@gmail.com
901-861-6227
info@epiphanylu.org
www.epiphanylu.org
www.Facebook.com/EpiphanyLutheran
www.twitter.com/epiphanyville
www.twitter.com/pastormonicaweb
<https://www.instagram.com/epiphanylutherancollierville>