



Partnering with Christ to Renew Lives

July 2020 Newsletter

Pinning Dragons

I have a signed copy of Salvador Dali's "St George and the Dragon." It usually hangs in my church office when I have a church office. St George was a martyr from the 11th century who among other things that distinguished him among men of faith was credited with defeating a "dragon" and saving a princess.

I keep this particular picture close to me to remind me that we all have dragons in our lives that threaten us, or character flaws, or areas of life that we aren't as good at, or things that draw us toward sin. In Dali's rendering of St. George and the Dragon I like that the dragon is not killed, but rather just pinned by St. George's lance. It is hard to totally root out and eliminate all our fears, flaws, and things that draw us toward sin, but with God's help we can learn to control or manage them.

Like St. George we can pin our dragons.

Peace to you all, *Pastor TroyAnn*





Reopening Committee Update June 29, 2020

While the worship service at Home Place on June 14 was successful from a spiritual and fellowship perspective, several people complained about the heat with at least one person having heat-related illness afterwards. Unfortunately, moving the service to start at 9:00 am would not substantially alleviate this problem and it will only get worse

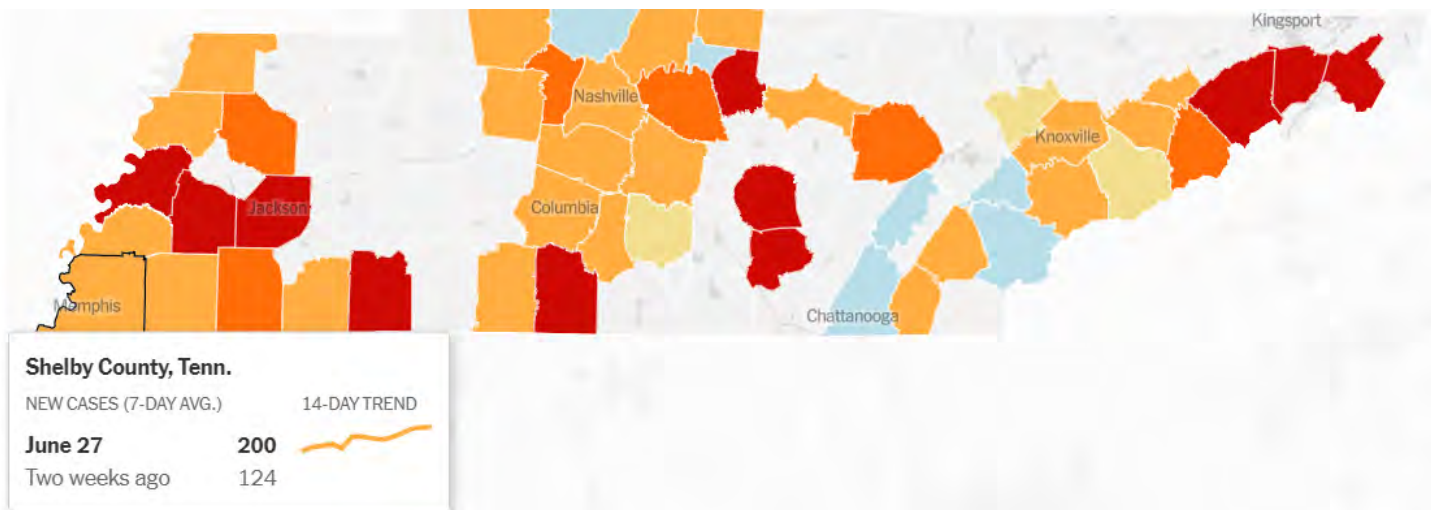
as we move further into summer. Therefore, the Reopening Task Force has recommended, and Council has approved, not returning for worship to Home Place for the foreseeable future.

Regarding having services at Schaeffer Chapel, there are several concerns that the Task Force is still evaluating:

- Despite the restrictions put in place, COVID-19 cases continue to rise at an accelerating rate in Shelby County. This means the risks are even greater now than earlier in the pandemic.
- Hospitalizations are also rising. There are some hospitals that running low on ICU beds.
- There have been several “super spreader” events that have been traced back to worship services.
- Due to the data points shown in the graph below, the ELCA SE synod is strongly discouraging normal services. They are also very concerned about the health of elderly members of the congregations.
- Locally, Kingsway has not yet provided cleaning procedures for the Chapel. The Council is concerned about the risk of accidentally damaging Kingsway property (e.g. pews) by using incorrect cleaning solutions.
- Finally, attendance would be very constrained in the Chapel. We could fit only 20 attendees, and this would be for a non-singing, shortened service. Also, significant time would have to be allowed for cleaning both before and after service.

Therefore, service will continue to be only via Zoom for at least several more weeks. The Task Force is continuing to monitor the situation and consider alternatives.

In lieu of getting together in person at the Chapel, the Task Force will be organizing a Zoom social hour. The current tentative date is Wednesday, July 8. This will be a chance for everyone to reconnect with each other. Be looking for a separate email announcement. If there is positive response, we can continue this on a periodic basis.



Online Worship Services Continuing in July For Now

At this time, we plan on continuing to conduct worship services via Zoom - please watch your e-mail for any changes in our schedule. Please join us for these “virtual” worship services and a time of fellowship with our Epiphany community on Sundays at 10 am. Check your weekly e-blast for the bulletin link and to download the readings and prayers for the week. [Download this document](#) for a complete set of Zoom instructions.



Sunday, July 5, 2020 - Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

[Join Zoom Meeting - https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86867358049](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86867358049)

Meeting ID: 868 6735 8049

Dial-In Number: +1 312 626 6799

Sunday, July 12, 2020 - Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

[Join Zoom Meeting - https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89623970026](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89623970026)

Meeting ID: 896 2397 0026

Dial-In Number: +1 312 626 6799

Sunday, July 19, 2020 - Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

[Join Zoom Meeting - https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82963077664](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82963077664)

Meeting ID: 829 6307 7664

Dial-In Number: +1 312 626 6799

Sunday, July 26, 2020 - Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

[Join Zoom Meeting - https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82405474600](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82405474600)

Meeting ID: 824 0547 4600

Dial-In Number: +1 312 626 6799

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

The Epiphany Council wants to keep everyone informed about how we are doing financially. This month we will take a look back at May 2020.

	May				2020 - Year to Date (Jan-May)		
	Actual	Budget	Difference		Actual	Budget	Difference
Revenue	22,231.47	10,985.84	11,245.63		68,999.40	54,929.20	14,070.20
Expenses	13,201.38	14,566.11	1,364.73		61,474.42	64,830.55	3,356.13
Net	9,030.09	-3,580.27	12,610.36		7,524.98	-9,901.35	17,426.33

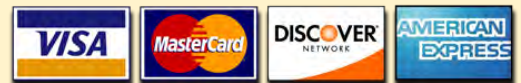
The May numbers beat the projected May budget deficit by \$12,610.36. This includes the SBA PPP loan of \$12,500.

The YTD numbers are less than the projected 2020 budget deficit by \$17,426.33. This number includes the SBA PPP loan of \$12,500.

Even though we are not meeting in person, our expenses continue. 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 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.



Collierville Food Pantry Deliveries from the Community Garden



Our garden is growing great and we have lots of produce that needs to be delivered to the Collierville Food Pantry. This needs to be done each week during our growing season.

The garden worker bees will put the produce they have harvested in plastic grocery bags and place them under the picnic table near the back of the garden.. They harvest every Wednesday so it can be picked up at or after noon on Wednesday and delivered to the food pantry box that is outside in front of the pantry. Or you can pick it up on Thursday morning and bring it to the pantry when they open at 8:30 am. We want to get it there early so everyone has a chance to get fresh produce!

The Collierville Food Pantry is located just off the square, behind the old gas station on the corner of Main and Washington. Look for their colorful awning. You can also look up their website online for more information. Please choose a week you can help and [sign up on SignupGenius](#). Contact Carol Rife with questions at 901-752-3957

Feeding the Hungry - Can You Help?

According to Feeding America, more than 934,000 people in Tennessee are struggling with hunger - and of them 285,770 are children. In Shelby County alone, more than 21% of the population is food insecure. Our community garden at Home Place will continue to donate fresh produce to the Collierville Food Pantry but you can also help with monetary donations!

We are currently collecting donations for the Collierville Food Pantry as well as to purchase items for The Little Food Pantry located at Home Place. You may donate [via the PayPal button on the home page of our website](#) (please select "Food Pantry Fund" from the dropdown box when you make your donation). Thank you for making a difference!



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



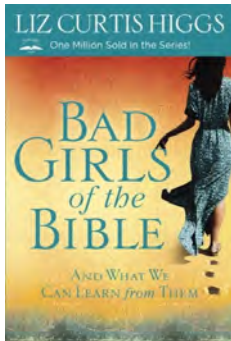
Have we missed **your** birthday?

[Please send the month/day to Carol Webster](#) so you can be included!



Gals of Epiphany Bible Study Continues July 28th via Zoom

Please join us (and invite a friend!) for our continuing Bible Study on Tuesday evening, July 28th at 7 pm. We will be meeting via Zoom (locations and details for later dates TBD). This study will meet the 4th Tuesday of every month through September 22, 2020.



Our chosen book for this study is [*Bad Girls of the Bible \(and What We Can Learn from Them\)*](#) by Liz Curtis Higgs. Please read Chapters 5 and 6 prior to our meeting on July 28th.

Click this link to join the Zoom session: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84111819457>
Meeting ID: 841 1181 9457 (Call-in number: 312 626 6799)

MOE (Men of Epiphany) Study & Fellowship On Hiatus

The MOE meetings are currently on hiatus. We hope everyone is staying healthy and sheltering in place at home as much as possible.



Stand for Justice and Peace Gatherings

Thank you to all who joined us for the four Saturdays in June for our Justice & Peace Gatherings! We appreciate all of you (and also those who drove by and honked to show their support!) Stay tuned for more possible gatherings in July.



Epiphany Community Garden Update

The garden team continues to work regular workdays on Wednesdays and Saturdays from 8:30 am - 11:30 am. The team is practicing good social distancing procedures, and workdays may be canceled as necessary due to weather issues. [Please contact Wendell Kruse](#) with any questions! ***So far this year we have donated 278 pounds and we are just getting started!!!***



**Thank you to
all our wonderful volunteers!**

July 2020 Calendar of Events

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

Wed 7/1	8:30 - 11:30 am - Home Place	Community Garden Workday
Sat 7/4	8:30 - 11:30 am - Home Place	Community Garden Workday
Sun 7/5	10 am - Via Zoom	Fifth Sunday after Pentecost - Online Worship Service Join here: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86867358049
Wed 7/8	8:30 - 11:30 am - Home Place	Community Garden Workday
Sat 7/11	8:30 - 11:30 am - Home Place	Community Garden Workday
Sun 7/12	10 am - Via Zoom	Sixth Sunday after Pentecost - Online Worship Service Join here: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89623970026
Wed 7/15	8:30 - 11:30 am - Home Place	Community Garden Workday
Thurs 7/16	7 pm - Via Zoom	Church Council Meeting Join here: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82242360578
Sat 7/18	8:30 - 11:30 am - Home Place	Community Garden Workday
Sun 7/19	10 am - Via Zoom	Seventh Sunday after Pentecost - Online Worship Service Join here: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82963077664
Wed 7/22	8:30 - 11:30 am - Home Place	Community Garden Workday
Sat 7/25	8:30 - 11:30 am - Home Place	Community Garden Workday
Sun 7/26	10 am - Via Zoom	Eighth Sunday after Pentecost - Online Worship Service Join here: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82405474600
Tues 7/28	7 pm - Via Zoom	Gals of Epiphany (GOE) Women's Bible Study Join here: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84111819457
Wed 7/29	8:30 - 11:30 am - Home Place	Community Garden Workday



July 2020 Worship Servants



Each week while we are worshipping via Zoom, we need an assisting minister and lector to help out. We also need someone to assist with running the PowerPoint presentation, and one or two choir members to meet with Hector on Saturday at Schaeffer Chapel to record the hymns for that week - please consider volunteering! If you have any questions about serving for Zoom worship, please contact [Vicki Scherf](#) or [Pastor TroyAnn](#).

Worship Servant SignUp Genius

[Sign up here](#) for worship services beginning July 5th. If you need assistance, [e-mail Carol Webster](#) - she will be happy to help you sign up if you have any issues! Want to know more about being a worship servant? [You can review the duties and guidelines here.](#)



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
Schaeffer Memorial Chapel
7887 Poplar Ave.
Germantown, TN 38138
Mailing Address
P.O. Box 1805
Collierville, TN 38027

Rev. TroyAnn Pouloupoulos
Email
Website
Facebook
Twitter
Instagram
[YouTube](#)

pastor@epiphanylu.org
info@epiphanylu.org
www.epiphanylu.org
www.facebook.com/EpiphanyLutheran
www.twitter.com/epiphanycville
<https://www.instagram.com/epiphanylutherancollierville>