



EPIPHANY

LUTHERAN CHURCH

Partnering with Christ to Renew Lives

May 2020 Newsletter

A Message from Pastor

Grace, peace, and blessings to you all!

It has been a long time for us to have been separated and worshipping by Zoom and it may be a while longer. We do not want to come together until we can do so safely and even then, we will continue to be sure the service goes out by Facebook Live or Zoom.

We are beset by this pandemic storm at this time. I went through a thunderstorm that was closer to my house than any in a long time. My phone continually lit up informing me that lightning had struck within a mile of my house and it sure sounded like it and felt like it as the house shook, the wind howled, and the thunder boomed.

Earlier in the evening I had listened to [my sister Kathie's bedtime Bible story from Mark 4:35-41](#) that she read to the young children at her church, The Bridge in Farmington, Missouri, concerning Jesus calming the storm. It reminded me that Jesus is with us in all the storms of our lives whatever age we are – those created by weather, those created by disease, those associated with economics, and those around fear and concern. Remember, even the wind and the waves obey Jesus' voice and Jesus has not forgotten one of us during this time of pandemic and the follow-on confusion. It is a reminder that Jesus has the power to calm not only the wind and the waves but has the power to calm all of the other storms in our lives. We only need to turn to Christ as the disciples did. Today I pray that you feel the peace that only Christ can offer. Also, maybe share the story with a grandchild or great-grandchild as a way to share your faith.

Grace, peace and prayers, *Pastor TroyAnn*

[Jesus and the Storm -
Read by Kathie Klima](#)



Online Worship Services Continue Through May 2020

At this time, we plan on continuing to conduct worship services throughout the month of May 2020 via Zoom. 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 ONLINE

Sunday, May 3, 2020 - Fourth Sunday of Easter

[Join Zoom Meeting - https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89037768178](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89037768178)

Meeting ID: 890-3776-8178

Dial-In Number: +1 312 626 6799

Sunday, May 10, 2020 - Fifth Sunday of Easter

[Join Zoom Meeting - https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88315910966](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88315910966)

Meeting ID: 883-1591-0966

Dial-In Number: +1 312 626 6799

Sunday, May 17, 2020 - Sixth Sunday of Easter

[Join Zoom Meeting - https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83077156461](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83077156461)

Meeting ID: 830-7715-6461

Dial-In Number: +1 312 626 6799

Sunday, May 24, 2020 - Seventh Sunday of Easter

[Join Zoom Meeting - https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86426668772](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86426668772)

Meeting ID: 864-2666-8772

Dial-In Number: +1 312 626 6799

Sunday, May 31, 2020 - Day of Pentecost

[Join Zoom Meeting - https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89223038193](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89223038193)

Meeting ID: 892-2303-8193

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 March 2020.

	March			2020 - Year to Date		
	Actual	Budget	Difference	Actual	Budget	Difference
Revenue	9,396.38	10,985.84	-1,589.46	31,627.80	32,957.52	-1,329.72
Expenses	11,825.92	12,566.11	740.19	37,302.72	37,698.33	395.61
Net	-2,429.54	-1,580.27	-849.27	-5,674.92	-4,740.81	-934.11

The March numbers exceeded the projected March budget deficit by \$849.27

The YTD numbers exceed the projected 2020 budget deficit by \$934.11

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 are now accepting donations, offerings and payments to special funds (Easter lilies, Pastor Tonie's gift fund, and Outreach Mission Grant) 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 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.



Important

Re-Opening Task Force

Pastor TroyAnn and Phil Goetz, Council President, are looking for volunteers to join a re-opening task force to help Epiphany Lutheran Church determine when and how we can once again worship in person using the best recommended practices to keep all members and visitors safe. All are welcome to participate, including those who work in or have knowledge of the medical field. The task force will be meeting via Zoom to review the recommendations for best practices from the South-eastern Synod Bishop, the CDC, and the local health department. The resumption of in-person worship services and other activities depends on many factors, including the number of Covid-19 cases, hospital capacities, social distancing guidelines, and more. Even after in-person worship resumes, we plan on continuing to stream via Facebook Live or Zoom to include those who are not comfortable with meeting due to health concern. Please contact [Pastor TroyAnn](#) or [Phil Goetz](#) if you are willing to participate.

Make Someone's Day! Quite a Few Slots Still Available...

The women that Linda Barnes works with in a re-entry program at Henning State Penitentiary are on lockdown. No visitors or volunteers can visit the prison. During this time it would be a nice gesture for those of you who feel called to write a note or letter of encouragement to one or more of the women. Christ has called us to visit those in prison. Please [review the available slots and click this link to sign up!](#) Please follow the guidelines provided by Linda Barnes. Thank you! [Download Guidelines](#)



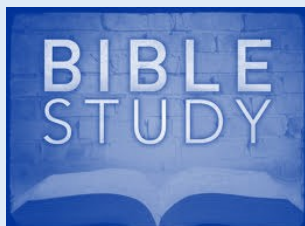
Feeding the Hungry - Can You Help?



Feeding the Community

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 when crops start to come in, but you can also help now!

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!



New Midweek Bible Study Coming Soon!

Stay tuned for a new midweek Bible Study

led by Pastor TroyAnn - watch your weekly e-blast for details!

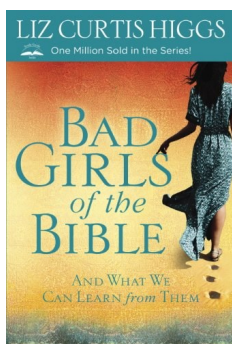
Congratulations Linda Barnes!

Linda Barnes is being officially called by the Bishop to serve as the pastor of [Peace Lutheran](#) Church in Memphis. As she has not completely finished seminary, she will be a Rostered Lay Leader with the Synod staff and Dean continuing to support her through this transition. Please keep her in your prayers as she takes on this responsibility and celebrate with her the fruition of the dream she has had of becoming a pastor.



NEW Gals of Epiphany Study Begins May 26th via Zoom!

Please join us (and invite a friend!) for our new Bible Study beginning on Tuesday evening, May 26th at 7 pm. We will be meeting via Zoom in May (with 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. of the Gals of Epiphany (GOE) Spring Bible Study on Saturday, April 18, 2020 from 9 - 11 am. Click the link or the picture of the book to order from Amazon. Please read the first two chapters prior to our meeting on May 26th.

Click this link to join the Zoom session: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83332338887>
Meeting ID: 833-3233-8887(Call-in number: 312 626 6799)

MOE (Men of Epiphany) Study & Fellowship May 9th is Canceled

Due to the Covid-19 virus, the MOE meeting for May 9th has been canceled. We hope everyone is staying healthy and sheltering in place at home as much as possible. We hope to see you in June!



Happiest of Birthdays and God's Blessings!

Jim Bryson
Steve Rife - May 1
Wally Knight - May 3
Phil Goetz - May 8
Prannoy Lankapalli - May 15
Dan Marzahl - May 17
Gideon Waddell - May 21
Emmy Crone - May 28



Have we missed **your** birthday? [Please send the month/day to Carol Webster](#) so you can be included!

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 Covid-19 precautions or weather issues. [Please contact Wendell Kruse](#) with any questions!

Much work has been done already! Beds have been cleared, mulched and fertilized, soil has been tilled, weed whacking and mowing has been ongoing, and planting has begun! Onions, potatoes, cucumbers, okra, sweet peas are already well on their way to providing a bountiful harvest for those in need.

This year, we also plan on having flowers to beautify the garden for our community to enjoy! Sunflowers, marigolds, calla lilies, and zinnias are just some of the gorgeous plants which will provide a touch of sunshine and color to Home Place!

Special thanks to Ruth Goodman of the [Collierville Herald Independent](#) for taking some wonderful pictures on Saturday, April 11th and to Carl Wayne, our Resident Master Gardener and Consultant for tracking our progress via photos as well!

And as always, a special thanks to our Garden Angels and Work Crew - we couldn't do this without you!



May 2020 Calendar of Events

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

Sat 5/2	8:30 - 11:30 am - Home Place	Community Garden Workday
Sun 5/3	10 am - Via Zoom	Fourth Sunday of Easter - Online Worship Service Join here: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89037768178
Wed 5/6	8:30 - 11:30 am - Home Place	Community Garden Workday
Sat 5/9	8:30 - 11:30 am - Home Place	Community Garden Workday
Sun 5/10	10 am - Via Zoom	Fifth Sunday of Easter - Online Worship Service Join here: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88315910966
Wed 5/13	8:30 - 11:30 am - Home Place	Community Garden Workday
Sat 5/16	8:30 - 11:30 am - Home Place	Community Garden Workday
Sun 5/17	10 am - Via Zoom	Sixth Sunday of Easter - Online Worship Service Join here: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83077156461
Wed 5/20	8:30 - 11:30 am - Home Place	Community Garden Workday
Thurs 5/21	7 pm - Via Zoom	Church Council Meeting Join here: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85259439151
Sat 5/23	8:30 - 11:30 am - Home Place	Community Garden Workday
Sun 5/24	10 am - Via Zoom	Seventh Sunday of Easter - Online Worship Service Join here: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86426668772
Tues 5/26	7 pm - Via Zoom	Gals of Epiphany (GOE) Women's Bible Study Join here: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83332338887
Wed 5/27	8:30 - 11:30 am - Home Place	Community Garden Workday
Sat 5/30	8:30 - 11:30 am - Home Place	Community Garden Workday
Sun 5/31	10 am - Via Zoom	Day of Pentecost - Online Worship Service Join here: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89223038193



May 2020 Worship Servants



Since we are meeting online for the month of May, we have limited spots available for our congregation members to serve as worship servants. We need a lector and an assisting minister each week for our Zoom online virtual worship services. [Please sign up here.](#) If you have any questions about serving for Zoom worship, please contact [Vicki Scherf](#) or [Pastor TroyAnn.](#)

2020 Worship Servant SignUp Genius

For now, we have a full slate of worship servants for our June 2020 worship services, hoping that we will once again be meeting in person at that time. If that should change, we will adjust SignUp Genius accordingly. [Sign up here.](#) If you need assistance, [e-mail Carol Webster](#) - she will be happy to help you sign up if you have any issues! We will have a new SignUp Genius sign-up for the 2nd half of 2020. 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
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Website
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www.twitter.com/epiphanyville
<https://www.instagram.com/epiphanylutherancollierville>