



EPIPHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH

Partnering with Christ to Renew Lives

November 2020 Newsletter

Abundant Giving

Luke 12:48 To whom much is given, much is required.

If you've heard that line of wisdom, you know God holds us responsible for what we have. If we have been given talents, wealth, knowledge, time, and the like, God expects us to benefit others. Yet we always give joyfully and out of our abundance.

Another scripture that I always think of during stewardship time is Romans 12:6-8:

6 We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; 7 ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; 8 the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

It talks about the spiritual gift of giving. If the Divine has blessed you with any gifts like those mentioned above, God did it so that you could be a blessing to humanity. The only reason we exist on this earthy is to glorify God and enjoy our Creator forever. We honor God by using our time, talents, and gifts to God's glory. (continued on page 2)

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Scam E-Mail Alert

In the last month, more scam e-mails have been coming in that look like they may be from Pastor TroyAnn. This continues to be an issue for pastors all over the country. Pastor will never

ask for gift cards or money by e-mail without calling you beforehand if someone needs assistance.

Please do not respond to any e-mails that don't come from one of Pastor's two e-mails: revtroyann@gmail.com or pastor@epiphanylu.org.

I thank all of you for being so faithful in meeting your pledges. That is an accomplishment. Some of you are struggling to pay your bills, and I honor every dollar you are able to give. Even those of you on fixed incomes show great generosity, and, therefore, show your love for God and that you feel blessed well beyond the level that many others in Memphis and the world have been. I hope that those of us still working are in a position to consider whether we can pledge a tithe, or 10% of your income.

Sometimes Creator really blesses you, and you have the gift of making, earning, or investing money above and beyond what you need to live. You have discretionary income. In this case you may wish to give an even higher percentage. You may also want to consider legacy giving or endowment giving so that Epiphany is strong for years to come. This is in keeping with our 2 scriptures.

Epiphany is a generous church, and I like that about Epiphany. You are a mission and service church. I like that about Epiphany. You participate in many service projects and you frequently give over and above your pledges to those projects. Thank you.

I also thank you for supporting the Synod Missions which is a line item in our budget. You paid almost \$8,000 in missional support. This is money that supports our Bishop and the Bishop's Assistants' support. This money supports seminary students, our seminary in Atlanta and lay pastors like Linda Barnes' study. It allows for our Synod's disaster support for families during hurricanes, tornados, and flooding particularly in south Alabama and Mississippi which have been hit so hard this year. Also, St. John's Lutheran church near Nashville was destroyed this past spring by a tornado that also killed 24 people . Lutheran disaster was on the ground to help the entire community. Epiphany has benefitted from Synod mission funds with a garden grant and a publicity grant. Close to \$2,000 of our Synod giving came back to us. I hope that we can continue to support Synod missions as it is one measure that shows a new pastor that you may call just how much you care about others.



As you fill out your pledge card, consider how God has blessed you and the abundance that Creator has provided to you. You might consider what Epiphany might need to spend in advertising to help us grow, or maybe consider the expenses involved with calling a new pastor including travel and relocation, etc. And maybe most important consider Epiphany's service and mission roll in our community. I would think we want to continue to be well known for our hospitality, the way we care for others, and the service projects that we faithfully support.

Peace and prayers,

Pastor TroyAnn

STEWARDSHIP

Hello Epiphany members,

We are currently in the middle of our Stewardship Campaign. I would like to send out a special thanks to Vicki Scherf, Chris Kelyman, and Phil Goetz for doing this year's temple talks. After this campaign is over on the 8th of November, everyone will get to submit their pledge cards for the 2021 year. We are also holding the Harvest Celebration on this day, so everyone who is coming to this event on Sunday, November 8, can bring their pledge cards as well. Anyone who is not coming to the Harvest Celebration can e-mail or postal mail them. Instructions are provided on the pledge card - [you may download a copy of the pledge card here](#).

In addition to the tithing section, we are also looking for new Council members and/or committee members. For Council, two of the current members will be rolling off and we need replacements. If you want to learn more about the responsibilities, please [contact Phil Goetz \(plmegoetz@bellsouth.net\)](mailto:plmegoetz@bellsouth.net). For committee members, we will always welcome new faces and ideas.

We thank you in advance for your contributions whether they are of the time, talent, or treasure nature.

Sincerely,

Prannoy Lankapalli and the Epiphany Lutheran Council

Harvest Celebration Sunday, November 8 from 3 to 5 pm

Our harvest celebration will take place at Epiphany Home Place on Sunday, November 8, from 3 pm to 5 pm (rain date is same time on Sunday, November 15th).

Come and drop off your pledge forms, listen to a mini concert, eat a bite and have the opportunity to take Holy Communion. Please also consider bringing some canned goods to replenish the Little Pantry.

We will maintain social distancing and will wear masks. Bring a lawn chair if you want to sit outside your car to listen to the music. If you have any questions, please contact Dianne Polly at diannepolly@gmail.com



Save the Date - Advent and Christmas

Midweek Advent Services Wednesdays at 7 pm (Readers needed!)

December 2 - Love

December 9 - Hope

December 16 - Peace

Christmas Eve Worship Service December 24th at 6 pm

Online Worship Services Continuing in November

At this time, we plan on continuing to conduct worship services via Zoom through November - 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 prayers, readings and hymns for the week. [Download this document](#) for a complete set of Zoom instructions.



Sunday, November 1, 2020 - All Saints' Day/22nd Sunday after Pentecost

[Join Zoom Meeting - https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89983281302](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89983281302)

Meeting ID: 899 8328 1302

Dial-In Number: +1 312 626 6799

Sunday, November 8, 2020 - 23rd Sunday after Pentecost

[Join Zoom Meeting - https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87404950925](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87404950925)

Meeting ID: 874 0495 0925

Dial-In Number: +1 312 626 6799

Sunday, November 15, 2020 - 24th Sunday after Pentecost

[Join Zoom Meeting - https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85139990422](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85139990422)

Meeting ID: 851 3999 0422

Dial-In Number: +1 312 626 6799

Sunday, November 22, 2020

Christ the King Sunday/25th Sunday after Pentecost

[Join Zoom Meeting - https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85357728685](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85357728685)

Meeting ID: 853 5772 8685

Dial-In Number: +1 312 66 6799

Sunday, November 29, 2020 - First Sunday of Advent

[Join Zoom Meeting - https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89391834830](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89391834830)

Meeting ID: 893 9183 4830

Dial-In Number: +1 312 66 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 our financial situation. This month we will take a look at the numbers from September 2020. Epiphany applied for and received a SBA PPP loan of \$12,500 at the end of May. This money will be used for salaries and rent during the pandemic. The PPP loan is included in our revenue.

	September			2020 - Year to Date (Jan-Sept)		
	Actual	Budget	Difference	Actual	Budget	Difference
Revenue	7,163.83	10,985.84	-3,822.01	111,055.63	98,872.56	12,183.07
Expenses	9,485.15	12,566.11	3,080.96	109,574.26	115,094.99	5,520.73
Net	-2,321.32	-1,580.27	-741.05	1,481.37	-16,222.43	17,703.80

The September numbers were higher than the projected September budget deficit by \$741.05

The YTD numbers are less than the projected 2020 budget deficit by \$17,703.80. (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, Wildfire Disaster 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.



November Outreach Project - Toiletries for Veterans



In November, Epiphany members will be collecting much-needed toiletries for veterans - these will be donated to the [Alpha Omega Veterans Services](#) organization. Alpha Omega Veterans Services is a 501(c)(3) non-profit charitable organization headquartered in Memphis, Tennessee that assists military veterans to reintegrate into society, often after achieving recovery and rehabilitation from debilitating mental and physical conditions.

We are collecting (125) full-size tubes of toothpaste and Men's 3-in-1 shower gel (check your local Dollar Tree or Dollar General for great prices!). Items can be dropped off between 3-5 pm on Sunday, November 8 at the Epiphany Harvest Celebration being held at Epiphany Home Place (corner of Bray Station Rd. and Wolf River Blvd. in Collierville) or at the home of John Garner in Germantown any time during the month of November. Thank you for supporting this project! [Please contact Lois Ketcham](#) with any questions.

Gals of Epiphany

Stay tuned to hear about our next study - more information coming soon!



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.

Happiest of Birthdays and God's Blessings!

Hector Johnson - November 4
Wendell Kruse - November 19
Lois Ketcham - November 24
Scott Fisher - November 27

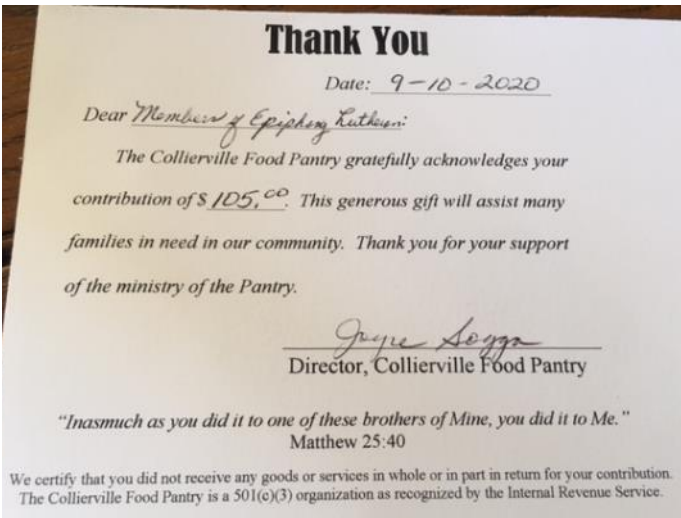
Have we missed **your** birthday?
[Please send the month/day to Carol Webster](#)
(carolepiphanylutheran@gmail.com)
so you can be included!





Thank you from the Memphis Men's Mission!

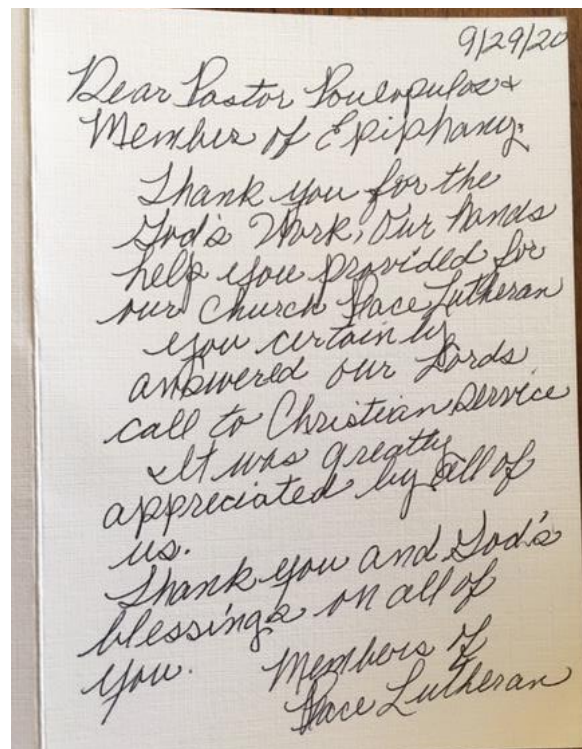
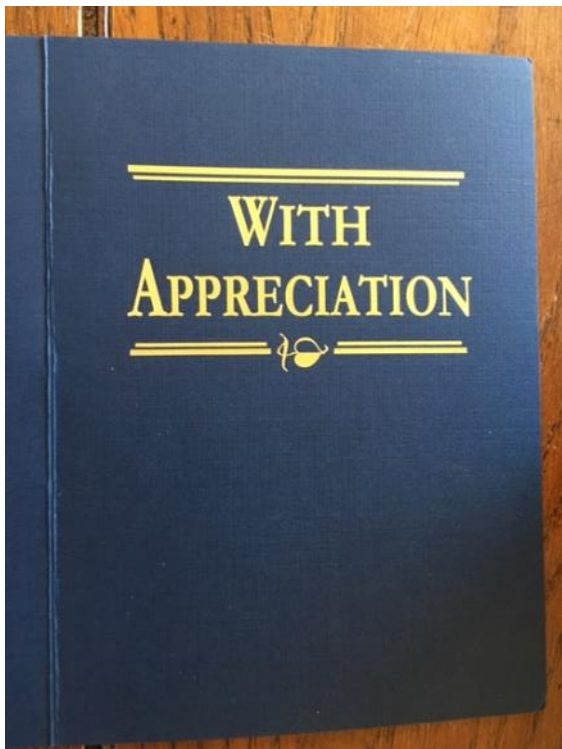
We had 15 separate donations, which maxed out the back of the SUV we used for delivery. Pastor Randy Daniels, their leader, who also provides a daily sermon at lunch, said that the Mission provides shelter, food, and clothing for about 190 men nightly. He was very grateful for our donations.



Thanks to all who donated to our October "Sock it to me" project for the [Memphis Union Mission](#). We delivered 210 pairs of socks, boxer underwear, T-shirts and shoes to them!



Thanks to all who so generously donate to the Collierville Food Pantry. 2020 has been an especially difficult year for so many families, and your generosity helps many in our community!



Epiphany Community Garden Update

The garden team continues to work regular workdays on Wednesdays and Saturdays from 8:30 am - 11:30 am - we still have greens to harvest, and fall work to get our garden ready for spring. 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!

We accomplished SO much in the month of October! We harvested okra, sweet corn, peppers, turnip greens, green tomatoes, mustard greens, and more! 40 paving stones were donated to the garden, and we now have a nice walkway into the garden from the back gate. We picked up two loads of compost, broke down and stored the irrigation system, shredded leaves and planted winter cover crops. Thanks to all who helped deliver the produce to the Collierville Food Pantry and to Page-Robbins Adult Daycare Center!

Thank you to all our volunteers, including our “Judge’s Club” youth!

*So far this year we have donated
more than 1,818 pounds - our best year ever!!!*



November 2020 Calendar of Events

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

Sun 11/1	10 am - Via Zoom	All Saints Day/22nd Sunday after Pentecost - Online Worship Service - Join here: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89983281302
Wed 11/4	8:30 - 11:30 am - Home Place	Community Garden Workday
Sat 11/7	8:30 - 11:30 am - Home Place	Community Garden Workday
Sun 11/8	10 am - Via Zoom 3 - 5 pm - Home Place	23rd Sunday after Pentecost - Online Worship Service Join here: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87404950925 Harvest Celebration
Mon 11/9	7 pm - Via Zoom	Worship Committee Meeting Join here: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89166764271
Wed 11/11	8:30 - 11:30 am - Home Place	Community Garden Workday
Sat 11/14	8:30 - 11:30 am - Home Place	Community Garden Workday
Sun 11/15	10 am - Via Zoom	24th Sunday after Pentecost - Online Worship Service Join here: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85139990422
Wed 11/18	8:30 - 11:30 am - Home Place	Community Garden Workday
Thurs 11/19	7 pm - Via Zoom	Church Council Meeting Join here: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85389930377
Sat 11/21	8:30 - 11:30 am - Home Place	Community Garden Workday
Sun 11/22	10 am - Via Zoom	25th Sunday after Pentecost /Christ the King Sunday Online Worship Service Join here: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85357728685
Wed 11/25	8:30 - 11:30 am - Home Place	Community Garden Workday
Sat 11/28	8:30 - 11:30 am - Home Place	Community Garden Workday
Sun 11/29	10 am - Via Zoom	First Sunday of Advent Online Worship Service Join here: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89391834830
Mon 11/30	7 pm - Via Zoom	Social Ministries Committee Mtg. Join here: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89471582878



November 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 hymns from time to time - 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](#) to volunteer for upcoming worship services. 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
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<https://www.instagram.com/epiphanylutherancollierville>