



THE EXAMINER

The Newsletter of Epiphany Evangelical Lutheran Church

February 2015

Lent 2015: "The HeART of the Matter: Creative Reflections on the Cross"

Ever since the very first Good Friday, the crucifixion of Jesus Christ has provoked deep, often inexplicable emotions and thoughts. Even the first witnesses of Jesus' death seem at a loss of words to understand what is happening to the rabbi and leader they have come to admire. Disciples who are normally talkative and inquisitive fall strangely silent. Others at the tomb do their work of caring for the dead in quiet solitude. Come to think of it, not even the gospel writers offer a lengthy theological reflection on the death of Christ and what it means. They simply report it.



In the end, that is often what we, as people of faith, find ourselves doing: replaying the events of Jesus' Passion in private devotion and in our public worship, listening to the story again and again, and then responding in faith...or in doubt...or in absolute awe. Never can we seem to sum up its importance in one simple phrase. And the cross affects each person a little differently.

Many times we find our faith, doubt, and awe spilling over into other creative expressions. We sing old hymns and write new ones. Some grab a paintbrush and bring the story to life on canvas or paper. Many a cathedral and church is etched with some version of the passion in stone, wood, or glass. Still others reach for media like poetry, dance, or drama as a means of reflecting upon and responding to the central, earthshattering, and yet life-giving event of the cross of Jesus Christ. Even those who do not consider themselves particularly "artistic" still find themselves drawn to the arts as spectators in order to worship and learn more about our suffering Lord.

This year our Lenten Wednesday series will focus on some of these artistic renditions of the cross of Jesus. Each preacher will present an artist's or a composer's experience or depiction of the crucifixion and then explain it in light of the scriptural witness. This Lent we invite you to come and reflect on the "HEART of the Matter" with us, and perhaps be moved to new experiences of wonder, discipleship and creativity, yourself.

All worship services will be offered at 12 noon and 7pm on each Wednesday of Lent. A light lunch will follow the noon service and a light supper will precede the evening service.

February 25: PROSE - Diaconal Minister Christy Huffman

March 4: SCULPTURE - Pastor Tom Bosserman

March 11: SONG - Pastor Joseph Bolick

March 18: STAINED GLASS - Pastor Phillip Martin

March 25: HYMNODY - Kevin Barger, Director of Music Ministries

ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICES

Ash Wednesday is on February 18 - Services begin at Noon and 7 pm.
(There will be no Wednesday Healing Service during Lent)

On the five following Wednesdays of Lent, services will be held at 12 Noon
(followed by a light lunch) and at 7 pm (preceded by a 5:30 pm supper).



2015 United Lutheran Appeal

As Christians, we have the honor and privilege of loving our neighbor. Sometimes they're easy to love and sometimes they're not. Regardless, it's a charge given to us.



Our Mission Partners, those we support through United Lutheran Appeal, serve hundreds of people every day in ways that enrich their lives deeply and meaningfully.

They care for the elderly, the frail, and the imprisoned. They find loving homes for children. They shelter those who suffer from mental illness and disabilities. They teach our children through camping and classroom experiences. They even educate and nurture our pastors.

By supporting them, we become their partners, working alongside them to ensure that the love of God is felt by those who are served.

Please give generously to the United Lutheran Appeal. To make an online gift, go to: www.vasynod.org/ula

Many of our neighbors are counting on us.

Thank you from all our Mission Partners!

Beginning in February we will have three guest speakers:

Sunday, February 1: Camp Caroline Furnace (Warren Hammer)

Sunday, February 8: GraceInside [formerly Chaplain Service Prison Ministry of Virginia, Inc.]
(Lynn Litchfield)

Sunday, February 15: Lutheran Partners in Mission (Ellen Hinlicky, Director)

The Mission Partners of the Virginia Synod:

Caroline Furnace Lutheran Camp and Retreat Center: www.carolinefurnace.org Reuben Todd, Director

Grace Inside (formerly Chaplain Service Prison Ministry of Virginia, Inc.): www.graceinside.org
Rev. J. Randy Myers, President

Hungry Mother Lutheran Retreat Center: www.hungrymother.org Mike Mucha, Director

Lutheran Family Services of Virginia: www.lfsva.org Ellen Bushman, Vice President of Development

Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary: www.ltss.lr.edu
Rev. Paul Summer, Executive Director for Advancement

National Lutheran Communities and Services: www.nationallutheran.org
Kathryn Baerwald, Chief Philanthropy Officer

Roanoke College: www.roanoke.edu Rev. Chris Bowen, Dean of the Chapel

Virginia Lutheran Homes: www.vlhnet.org Rev. Kathleen Miko, Chaplain/Church Relations



Epiphany's Second Annual Pancake Supper and Youth Talent Show Extravaganza!



Sunday Night
March 1
Beginning at 6pm.

Price Hall

Talent show by youth to follow!

Join us for pancakes and syrup, sausage, and other breakfast favorites while the youth group provide quality dinner entertainment. Proceeds will help offset costs for the National Youth Gathering and other youth events.



**Serving "In the Name of Love" on January 19, 2015
in and around Richmond with Coal Pit Learning Center, Easter Egg
Decoration Station, New 2 U Sports, Renew Crew, Epiphany Nursery
School, and East End Cemetery**



**Special thanks to Ruth and Gary Hobson, Susan and Jean Bracken,
Donna Josephson, Kim Gardner, Mark and Jenny Schuetze, and Jeremy
and Kate Schenk!**



Epiphany Youth Group News

+ February 2015 +

Epiphany Youth Group is a ministry to and with youth in grades 7-12.



Richmond Conference Worship **February 22**

**Come catch up with your friends
from Winter Celebration!**

4:30–5pm Practice for Worship
**(We will offer a couple Winter
Celebration songs for anthems)**

5-6 Conference Worship

6-7 Pizza and Games
**(with our friends from around the
Richmond Conference)**



Youth Group **Gathering**

**Sun. Feb. 8, 12-2pm, in
the Star Lodge.**
Lunch included.

We will be
PRACTICING our
TALENTS for the
Pancake Supper on
March 1!

Mark your calendars!!

Sunday, March 1 at 6:00pm

Epiphany's Second Annual

Pancake Supper and Youth Talent Show!!

Join us for pancakes and syrup, sausage, and other breakfast favorites while the youth group provide quality dinner entertainment. Proceeds will help offset costs for the National Youth Gathering and other youth events.

NOTES FROM THE CHOIR LOFT
KEVIN BARGER, DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRIES

Special Concert Opportunity

The premier choral ensemble at Muskingum University, the Muskingum Concert Choir, from New Concord, Ohio, will present a concert at **7:30 p.m. Friday evening, March 6, 2015 in our sanctuary**. The ensemble performs sacred and secular music from a variety of cultures and historical periods, from Renaissance pieces to contemporary choral works. Each year the Concert Choir presents numerous concerts on and off campus, both independently and in collaboration with the Muskingum Choral Society and the Southeastern Ohio Symphony Orchestra. Recent national and international tours have taken members of the choir to New York City, Philadelphia, St. Louis, Nashville, Salzburg, Vienna, and Lucerne. The concert is part of their 2015 concert tour.

Muskingum University (New Concord, Ohio) is a four-year liberal arts institution affiliated with the Presbyterian Church—USA. Founded in 1837 as Muskingum College, Muskingum University educates approximately 2,400 undergraduate and graduate students each year on its 215-acre campus, nestled in the scenic hills of southeastern Ohio.

There will be no charge for admission, though a freewill offering will be taken.

We are excited that they will be joining us for this special event. To make this the most successful, we need you in the following capacities:

Assist in cooking dinner Friday, March 6. Dinner will be served around 5:30.

Usher at the concert by handing out programs and collecting a free will offering.

Host two or more students in your home Friday night, give them breakfast Saturday morning and have them back to the church.

Come to the concert!

To assist with any of these tasks, or if you have any questions, please call Beth or Kevin Barger at 746-5756.



Children's Choir Reminders

Both the Cherub Choir and Singing Saints will meet each Wednesday in February for rehearsal. On February 4 and 11, the groups will meet from 6:30 – 7:00 as they normally would. For the remaining Wednesdays (18, 25), the groups will meet from 6:15 – 6:45 in order to better accommodate the Lenten services that begin at 7:00 p.m. ***Please note this change!*** The Cherub Choir will sing in worship on February 15 at both services. The Singing Saints will sing in worship on February 1 at both services.



Junior Handbells will only meet on February 4 in the balcony at 7:00 p.m. They will participate in worship at both services on February 8. This group will take a break during the Lenten season.



Easter Singers – “Come and See”

Taking this phrase from Pastor Joseph’s sermon on January 18, there is the perfect opportunity for you to “come and see” what singing with a chancel choir might be like. If you are interested in joining the chancel choir for the Easter services on April 5, please plan to join us at rehearsal on Wednesdays beginning February 25 immediately following the Lenten worship service. We will rehearse the Easter music first to better meet your schedules. Anthems will be offered at all three worship services on Easter Sunday. This is a great “part time” opportunity to join the chancel choir! Won’t you consider it?



Join the Choir...
You'll Be Glad
You Did!

Time change for Chancel Choir rehearsals

Beginning Ash Wednesday, chancel choir rehearsals will immediately follow the Lenten worship service. For February 18, we will meet at about 8:00 p.m. For the remaining Wednesdays in Lent, except Holy Week, we will meet at 7:40.

An Appeal from Pastor Phillip...

What is (or was) your profession? When people ask you “what do you do for a living?” what do tell them? Do you ever feel that your answers to those questions line up in some way with how your Christian faith compels you to live in the world? Even if the answer to that last question is “no,” do you find that your life’s work gives you opportunities to use your God-given gifts in ways that build up God’s kingdom and to serve all people in the manner of Jesus? Have you found an avocation that does this?

Too often I fear the church may send the message that the only way to “have a vocation” is by becoming a pastor, a missionary, or some other type of church professional. The reality is that everyone lives out their call to follow Christ and to serve his kingdom in their daily life...and even through their career. The Lutheran understanding of vocation is related to our baptismal call—to serve all people following the example of our Lord Jesus Christ and to work for justice and peace throughout the earth—and this can apply to any occupation. Attorneys, homemakers, accountants, human resources workers, park rangers, astronauts, computer programmers, pharmacists, graphic designers...the list goes on and on. God uses them all to build up Christ’s kingdom. I am not talking here about evangelism or proselytism. I am talking about viewing one’s life-work through the lens of Christ. A teacher, for example, may feel a call to impart knowledge with compassion to her students so that the next generation is equipped with certain gifts. An attorney may live out a responsibility to advocate for the oppressed. An electrician may consider one of his work’s goals to offer good information about environmentally-friendly power to homes and communities, or may just like connecting communities and individuals through the fascinating power of electricity. These are just some examples.



I am in search of a handful of volunteers from a broad spectrum of professions and jobs or hobbies who are (1) comfortable and articulate in expressing how they see their faith at work in/through their job or profession and (2) who would be willing to share their experiences and thoughts with high-school age young people. If you feel this is something you might be interested in, then please let me know (pastorphillip@epiphanyelca.org, or just speak to me at church) and we can talk more about what I’m looking for. Thank you!

You're Invited to
the 2015 Conference Gatherings with Bishop Jim Mauney:

"Finding My Voice"
Sunday, February 22, 3-6pm
Epiphany Lutheran Church

Let me tell you what I believe is vital for today: being able as a church to say who Jesus the Christ is for our lives!

1-Each of us has a voice for speaking the name of Jesus to others, and we already have the stories to tell from (about?) Jesus in our lives!

2-So it is smart for the conference to gather and share Jesus with each other because we are not alone in this, and can learn from one another or be encouraged by one another...because we already are one in Jesus.

3-It is an opportunity for lay leaders to meet the Bishop, Pastor Delaney, Pastor Price (in four conferences), and Ellen Hinlicky who so look forward to meeting you

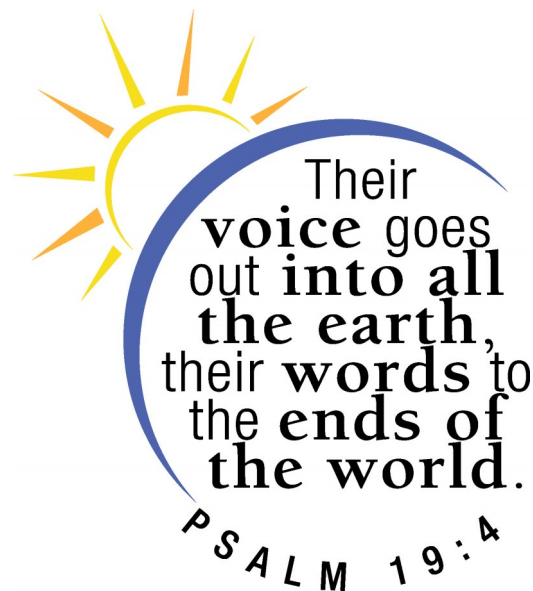
4-It is an opportunity for congregational leaders to meet one another and be strengthened in faith by leaders of other congregations. It builds a confidence in the Church as a greater community of faith.

5-It is a golden opportunity for the conference to worship together.

This special time with me is...for council members who were elected to be the spiritual leaders of the congregation; for 5th graders through high schoolers who have a wonderful voice for Jesus and can share it willingly; for Christian teachers, worship leaders, parents, grandparents who have a voice that influences others; and for everyone of us because the Spirit intends for us to have a voice to speak! This time is also for everyone who would love to hear others speak about Jesus in their lives. When we hear stories about Jesus in our lives, we will be glad we heard them. I will be glad I heard them because I need them...and may use them! :) This is the proper and historical work of the bishop, to keep the church connected with one another in Jesus.

The beloved Christian education/witnessing course of the 1980's, "Word and Witness" spoke to the intersection of "Your Story", "My Story", God's Story". I need to truly listen to the person I'm with, so that I can truly understand the person's story and need. But I have a story to tell as well! ...A story of Jesus Christ to be spoken from my life and experience. "Come, Holy Spirit, so that I FIND MY VOICE!" We will focus on 2 Timothy 1:3-7. "God did not give us a spirit of cowardice..." I'd like us to help folks fight the sense of intimidation so many feel as they think about voicing their faith...even to a spouse.

Bishop Jim Mauney
The Virginia Synod, ELCA



2nd Annual Vino Valentine Gathering for the ENTIRE family!

Saturday, February 14th 5:00-8:00

Hosted by: The Paget Family

4424 Cedar Forest Rd. Glen Allen, 23060

There will be a lasagna dinner provided. Please bring your favorite bottle of wine to share & enter into the "best wine" contest! There will be assorted apple & grape juice for the kiddos!

A-M last names, please bring a salad or appetizer to share

N-Z last names, please bring dessert to share.

Please RSVP by Saturday February 7.

Contact Marcie Perryman w/questions. 828-244-0530 or m.perryman@yahoo.com

Something New In The Narthex

If you have not noticed, there is now an Archives Display Case in the Narthex. Over the past several years, there have been several displays created by the Archives Team that were well received by the Congregation. As a result, it was agreed that 'the time has come' for a full time display case.

The case is located on the left as you enter the Narthex from the The Commons. The case was brought in at the same time the new called staff pictures were hung. The first display showed Pastor Sala's cassock, some of his stoles and the baptismal bowl he used. Currently, the display is of various original documents from meetings of the 1951 Provisional Council under Pastor Schroder – mission pastor to the "Far West End Lutheran Chapel". Of particular note are the minutes of the congregational meeting of November 25, 1951 where the name "Epiphany Evangelical Lutheran Church" was formally adopted.



All of these items are in the Archives. In the coming months there will be more displays highlighting our history and the work of Epiphany. The archives Team hopes you enjoy viewing these items.

Do you know??

What two persons who are still active members of our church co-chaired the Sunday Nursery for babies and infants during the services in the year 1957?

Hint: they are among the four living charter members of our church.

Answer on page 16.

COMMUNITY SERVICE MINISTRY

HHOPE NEWS

When you think of Epiphany's HHOPE ministry, you usually think about HHOPE ministry team members providing food, support and God's love to needy families. While this is true, did you ever think that we the providers, would be the ones to receive food, and God's love from the ones we serve? Well, this is exactly what happened on the first Saturday distribution in January. A member of one of our new families made us "Nacatamales" which are South American tamales cooked in banana leaves. She told us she was so thankful for the turkey that we gave her family at Thanksgiving, that she wanted to use some of it to make food for us. As she was leaving, she thanked us again for everything we do and said "God bless you all". What a wonderful way to receive God's wonderful love!

Reports

December Distribution (one distribution)

People served: 7 seniors, 31 adults, 28 children, 66 people, 18 households

Food distributed: 1,144 pounds

Year Distribution (2014)

Food Distributed: 16, 706 pounds



LAMB's Basket Food Drive

We will be handing out grocery bags with a list of needed food items for The Lamb's Basket on **Sunday, February 1** immediately following both services. We hope that you will provide support either through buying requested groceries or providing financial support. Needed items are: **Canned Pasta Sauce, Canned Meat, Canned Vegetables, Canned Fruit, Mac and Cheese, 16 oz. box of Spaghetti, Cereal, Peanut Butter, and Grape Jelly.** If you wish to participate, we ask that you bring your donations to the church by **Sunday, February 15.**

Thank you so much for your continued support for this much needed community organization. Any questions check out our church display or call Cheryl Hamm at [\(804\) 399-7650](tel:8043997650).



LAMB's Basket Food Drive

"Anyone interested in representing Epiphany at the Thrivent Capital Chapter Chili Cook-Off on Feb 21, please contact Julia Minnigh at 804-382-2968 or Julia.minnigh@thrivent.com. The Chili Cook-Off will be held at Christ the King Lutheran Church with all proceeds benefitting CARITAS."



Youth For Hire!

Once again our Epiphany youth are ready to be put to work. In the past the youth have done yard work (including weeding, raking, mulching, and gardening), housework, pet and baby sitting, and even helping at receptions. All money earned will be used for youth events and mission trips. We are still figuring out dates but there will be a sign up sheet in the Commons for when the youth are available to work, so keep a lookout!

Please contact Kim Greenshields, Tatiana Horacek, or Pastor Joseph if you have any questions.



NURSERY SCHOOL NEWS

Can you believe that registration is already well under way for the 2015-2016 school year? Our priority registration for current families and church members ended on January 19 and we then opened registration to everyone. We are well ahead of the numbers we had at this time last year, so if you are thinking of sending your child to ELNS in the fall, be sure to get in touch with the school office as soon as possible!



We want to give a big thank you to the youth group volunteers who painted a wall in our 2 year old classroom on Monday, January 19. The orange class looks great! Our students and parents have really enjoyed the splash of color in the classroom and we are excited about doing the same in other classrooms.

I know that some of you are starting to plan your summer breaks already and we are busy planning for our two weeks of summer camp as well. We are changing our dates a bit from the past couple of years. Due to feedback from our families and staff members, we will no longer be offering camp in August. We will be doing two weeks of 4 days each in May and June immediately after the school year ends. The first week will be May 26-29 and the second week will be June 1-4. Registration for camp will begin in March, so be sure to check our website for the registration link!

If you have any questions, feel free to contact me by phone or email. Our phone number is 282-7506 and my email address is nurseryschool@epiphanyelca.org.

Sincerely,

Jessica Hendricks

Devotions for Lent

Devotions for families, individuals and children will be available in the Commons on Sunday, February 15. Please take one home with you to use as a guide as we journey through the 40 days of Lent, which begins Ash Wednesday, February 18.



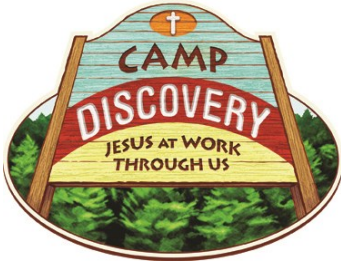
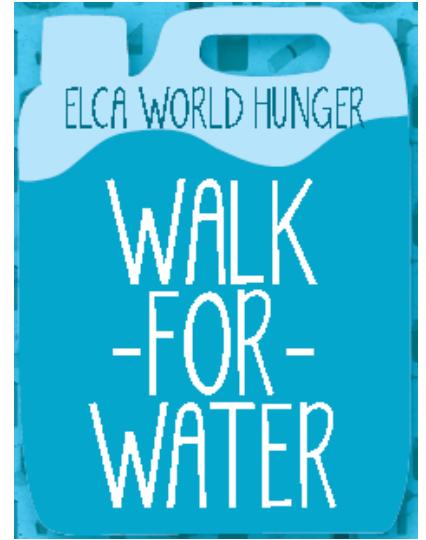
February 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 8:30am Worship 9:30 Epiphany Ringers 9:30 Blood Pressure Readings, Parlor 9:45 Sunday School 11am Worship w/Holy Communion	2	3 10:30am Bible Study, Chapel 7 pm HHOPE Meeting, Chapel	4 10 am Archives, Narthex 11 am Healing/Holy Communion 12 Noon Micah Initiative Meeting, Parlor 5:45 pm Wed. Even. Meal 6:30pm Bible Study, Parlor 6:30pm Sing. Saints/Cherub Choir, Parent Chat 7pm Timothy Ministers Meeting, Star Lodge 7 pm Jr. Handbells 7:15pm Chancel Choir	5 9:30am Mom's Bible Study, Chapel	6	7
8 8:30 am Worship w/Holy Communion 9:45 Sunday School 9:30 am Epiphany Ringers 11:00 am Worship Noon-2pm EYG, Star Lodge	9 7 pm Evangelism Meeting, Chapel	10 10 am Margaret Miller Circle, Star Lodge 10:30am Bible Study, Chapel 11:30am Men's Manna Lunch 7pm Council Mtg, Chapel	11 10 am Archives, Narthex 10 am Clara Sullivan Circle 11 am Healing/Holy Communion Service, Chapel 5:45 pm Wed. Even. Meal 6:30pm Bible Study, Parlor 6:30pm Sing. Saints/Cherub Choir, Parent Chat 7pm Confirmation 7:15pm Chancel Choir	12 9:30am Mom's Bible Study, Chapel	13	14 9 am Teller Training, Chapel 10-11:30 am HHOPE Distribution, Narthex
15 Transfiguration of Our Lord 8:30 am Worship 9:30 Epiphany Ringers 9:30 Blood Pressure Readings, Parlor 9:45 Sunday School 11 am Worship w/Holy Communion	16 10:30 am Book Discussion, Parlor	17 10:30am Bible Study, Chapel 11:30am Men's Lunch 7:30 pm Endowment Board Meeting, Chapel	18 ASH WEDNESDAY 10 am Archives, Narthex Noon Service, Sanctuary 5:30 pm Evening Meal 6:00 pm Bible Study, Parlor 6:15 pm Parent Chat 6:15 pm Sing Saints/Cherub Choir 7:00 pm Service, Sanctuary 8:00 pm Chancel Choir	19 9:30am Mom's Bible Study, Chapel 11:30am Men's Lunch	20	21
22 8:30 am Worship w/Holy Communion 9:30 Epiphany Ringers 9:45 Sunday School 11 am Worship 3-6 pm Synod Event, Price Hall	23	24 10 am Quilters 10:30am Bible Study, Chapel	25 10 am Archives, Narthex Noon Lenten Service, Sanctuary 5:30 pm Evening Meal 6:00 pm Bible Study, Parlor 6:15 pm Parent Chat 6:15 pm Sing Saints/Cherub Choir 7:00 pm Lenten Service, Sanctuary 7:40 pm Chancel Choir	26 9:30am Mom's Bible Study, Chapel	27	28 9am-noon Quilters, Fellowship Hall 10am-11:30am HHOPE Distribution, Narthex

FAITH FORMATION NEWS

Lent Service Project ELCA's World Hunger Walk for Water

Women in Sub-Saharan Africa walk an average of three miles each day to fetch clean water for their families. This year our ELCA National Youth Gathering has set a goal to raise \$500,000 for ELCA World Hunger-supported water projects around the world. Our gifts will provide water for drinking, growing crops and sanitation, as well as ongoing maintenance and training, to create healthier families, stronger economies and a future filled with hope. **On Sunday, February 22**, each child will receive an ELCA World Hunger box to collect money during Lent. We will send our collection with our youth when they head to the National Youth Gathering in Detroit this July.



**Make Plans to Join us This Summer
for one or both weeks of
Vacation Bible School**



Week 1—*Camp Discovery*

For ages 3—Rising 5th Graders

Mark your calendars for...

July 20-24, 2015

8:45 am—12 Noon

Directors: Kristy Anderson, Jennifer Baker, &
Sarah Bergh

Week 2—*Hometown Nazareth*

For ALL ages

Mark your calendars for the evenings of.

August 2-6, 2015

5:30-7:30 pm (with dinner)

We are looking for families to “host” one night during the week. Interested in learning more? Contact Christy Huffman

Registration will begin online in March.

February Baptism Birthdays



ADULT FAITH FORMATION NEWS

Sunday Morning Offerings

Lead Like Jesus Christians have more in Jesus than a great spiritual leader. We have a practical and effective leadership model for all organizations, for all people, for all situations. Jesus is simply the greatest leadership model of all time, and He asks us to make a difference in the world by being effective servant leaders. This twelve week Sunday School program is designed to be the beginning of a new exciting chapter in your personal journeys to becoming effective leaders. Whether you are leading a business team, a nonprofit organization, a family, a congregation or a group in your community, you'll become a leader like Jesus. And that makes Jesus smile! Join us in Price Hall as we continue our discussion.

Essentials of Marriage: Handle with Care Join Ally Waller and Caroline Wake in the Chapel, as we continue to discover Bible-based strategies for dealing with the biggest threats couples face.

The Gospel According to PIXAR Join Pastor Van O'Linda in the Chapel beginning Sunday, February 22 as we look at how Pixar films portray the basic concerns of everyday life and connect them with a Christian understanding of the world. Using imaginative stories about fish, monsters, cars, Pixar films touch on such deeply human themes as love, identity, suffering, forgiveness, fear, freedom, guilt, purpose and belonging.

Tuesday Morning Offering—Tuesday mornings at 10:30 am in the Chapel

Twelve Extraordinary Women. We continue our study of the lives and influences of women throughout Scripture.

The Lord is Our Salvation is a study of the lectionary texts heard on Sunday mornings during Lent. Through this study we are invited to a deeper understanding of the salvation Christ offers by exploring the various ways God restores us and our world to wholeness. Through each week of Lent, we will open the Scriptures to show God's redemption at work in the men, women, and communities of the Bible. This study begins February 17.

Wednesday Evening Offerings

Parent Chat While the children are making a joyful noise unto the Lord, join us in Room 101 from 6:30-7:00 pm for dessert and light-hearted chats.

Twelve Extraordinary Women. Join us Wednesday evenings at 6:30 pm in the Chapel. We will explore the lives and influences of women throughout Scripture.

The Lord is Our Salvation is a study of the lectionary texts heard on Sunday mornings during Lent. Through this study we are invited to a deeper understanding of the salvation Christ offers by exploring the various ways God restores us and our world to wholeness. Through each week of Lent, we will open the Scriptures to show God's redemption at work in the men, women, and communities of the Bible. This study begins February 18 at 6:00 pm.

Thursday Morning Offering

Moms' Bible Study Join us Thursday mornings, beginning January 8 at 9:30 am in the Chapel. We meet to share in the study of God's Word and a time of fellowship with moms. We continue our study of Proverbs.

Book Discussion Group

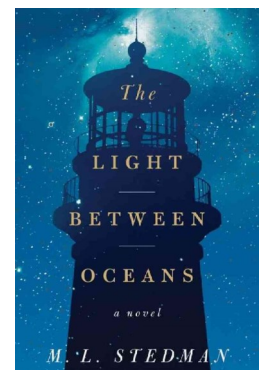
All are welcome to join us the third Monday of each month at 10:30 am in the Parlor, as we discuss the month's book and share in fellowship together.

Monday, February 16—*The Light Between Oceans* by M.L. Stedman

Monday, March 16—*Silver Sparrow* by Tayari Jones

Monday, April 20—*The Outlander* by Diana Gabaldon

If you have any questions about the Book Discussion Group, please contact Christy Huffman at 282-6066.



Wednesday Evening Meals

Continuing through February 11, all are welcome to join us for food, fellowship, and faith each Wednesday beginning with dinner at 5:45. Choir rehearsals, Bible Studies, and Confirmation classes are offered.



Wednesday Lenten Meals

Beginning on February 18, all are welcome to join us for food, fellowship, and faith each Wednesday. A light lunch is being served following the Noon Lenten Worship Service and the evening "Soup and Salad" meal will be served at 5:30 pm. Choir rehearsals, Bible Study and Confirmation classes are also offered. Lenten worship services begin at 7 pm.



Suggested donations for the evening meal are \$5/adult and \$3/child 12 and under. For the latest menu, check the church's website at www.epiphanyelca.org. Please sign up in the Commons or email the church office by Monday night at churchoffice@epiphanyelca.org

Watch for sign up sheets in the Commons or contact Beth Barger at 282-6066 to lend a hand with serving or clean up for the dinners.

No need to sign up for the lunches.

TIME AND TALENTS

Thanks to the 150 people who filled out this year's survey. The results were shared with the ministry leaders who attended the Leadership Orientation in January, and you can expect some form of contact in the next few weeks. If you do not hear something about an area in which you would like to serve, please contact Beth Barger at bethbarger@epiphanyelca.org or contact someone from that ministry directly.

Those who were unable to attend the Leadership Orientation, please see Beth Barger to get the list of those interested in serving.



Team Epiphany – it's not too late!

There is still time to join Team Epiphany to prepare to walk or run the Monument Avenue 10K on Saturday, March 28. While training has already started, please feel free to come on out and get going with us on Saturday mornings. We meet in the Star Lodge at 7:30 a.m. We have a quick devotion together, feature a running tip each week, and then a group run. We have plans for walkers and runners of all abilities. This is a great way to enjoy each other's fellowship, work off those extra holiday pounds, or strive for a personal record in your performance on race day.



If you have further questions or concerns, talk with Josh Shaffer or Tatter Hartmann. Josh can be reached by calling 608-234-1787 or emailing jshaf595@yahoo.com. You can reach Tatter Hartmann at tatterh@hotmail.com or by calling 804-741-0276.

CIRCLES MEET

The three Women's Circles are: Margaret Miller Circle, Clara Sullivan Circle and Heidi Michelsen Circle. These three circles of women are part of the WELCA (Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church) and participate in various missions such as stewardship, growth, community, and action.



The Margaret Miller Circle will meet on February 10, at 10 am in the Star Lodge.

The Clara Sullivan Circle will meet on Wednesday, February 11, at 10 am at the home of Bettie Baecher. Martha Boyer will do the program and Pastor Joseph will be our special guest speaker. We will car pool from the church parking lot, leaving at 9:40 (parking is limited at Bettie's). Please let Leanne know if you will be joining us (254-2849). If you are interested in more information about this Circle you can also contact Leanne.

Heidi Michaelsen Circle will meet on Thursday, February 12, at 6 pm. If anyone is interested in joining our circle, please contact Tatter Hartmann at tatterh@hotmail.com or 804-741-0276.

If you would like more information on what the Women's Circles are all about, call

Co-leaders for the Margaret Miller Circle - Cheryl Froom, 804-754-7129 and Donna Josephson, 804-883-5955

Leader for the Clara Sullivan Circle - Leanne Spletzer, 254-2849

Leader for the Heidi Michaelsen Circle - Tatter Hartmann, 741-0276

FIRST COMMUNION INSTRUCTION

Do you have a child that is ready?

A preparatory class for 4th and 5th graders who wish to be admitted to Holy Communion will be held on the Sundays of March 15, 22, and 29 at 9:45 am. The first communion of those persons who complete the instruction will be on Maundy Thursday, April 2, when we commemorate the first communion as Jesus held his Last Supper with his disciples. Parents wanting their children to participate should contact the church office at 282-6066.

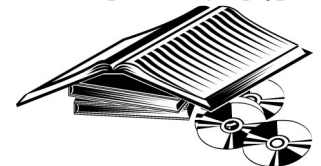


Parents with younger children who wish to take the class must petition church council by its meeting on February 10.

From the Church Archives.....

February 28, 1988 - Jerry and Sylvia Schreiber join Epiphany with 14 other new members at the 11 AM Service. 11 of them lived within one block of each other. (Thanks to Jerry Schreiber for remembering this.)

Church
Archives



Answer to question on page 6: Ellen Berryman and Betsy Williamson

MEMBERS IN OUR PRAYERS

During illness or recuperation ~

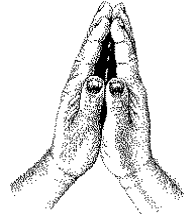
For those serving in the Armed Forces ~

**Please continue to keep all those serving our country to keep us safe and free,
in your prayers.**

Family and Friends in our Prayers

For the families and friends of those who died ~

Rest eternal grant them, O Lord; and let light perpetual shine upon them ~



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS



Congratulations
on Your
New Baby!



CHURCH STAFF

Pastor – The Rev. Phillip W. Martin, Jr., pastorphillip@epiphanyelca.org

Pastor – The Rev. Joseph L. Bolick, pastorjoseph@epiphanyelca.org

Diaconal Minister – Christine V. Huffman, cvanolinda@epiphanyelca.org

Visitation Pastor – The Rev. Tom Bosserman, pastortom@epiphanyelca.org

Director of Music Ministry – Kevin Barger, kevinbarger@epiphanyelca.org

Administrative Assistant – Hanne Hamlin, churchoffice@epiphanyelca.org

Coordinator of Volunteers – Beth Barger, bethbarger@epiphanyelca.org

Youth Ministry Assistant – Mark Schuetze, markschuetze@epiphanyelca.org

THANK YOU NOTES RECEIVED

I want to thank you for your visits to me and the congregation for sending me cards and flowers and you especially your very nice phone calls. I am home now. All of a sudden things fell in place and doctors did a fantastic super job. I walk with a cane at times since my balance is not good and I go for physical therapy to help me. Again, you are a great pastor as I told you a while back and thank you for everything and hoping to be in church this Sunday or the following Sunday.

Don Smith

Many thanks to Epiphany for the prayers and caring extended to me during my recent surgery. For all the visits, calls, food, flowers, (from the Sanctuary) and Pastor Joseph's visit I am deeply grateful.

The note with the flowers was so meaningful to me.

Sincere thanks to all,

Carla Schwartz



To Pastor Phillip, Joseph and members of the congregation of Epiphany Lutheran Church-Carole and I hope that each of you enjoyed a glorious Christmas with your families. Most of all we want to thank you for your many calls, cards, prayers and other expressions of concern during and following my recent back surgery. Although this is going to be a long recovery, I look forward to seeing each of you by late Lent and Easter.

Bless all of you,

Mac Alfrend

We wish to thank all of the members of the Epiphany community who have expressed their sympathy to us on the death of our granddaughter, Brenna. It is comforting to have your support.

Eddie and Barry Westin

Dear Epiphany Congregation,

During Christmas someone was kind enough to give the staff an ornament. It was a clay angel with the Luther Rose on the front. I have never seen one like it! It is really nice. I took mine home and hung it on our tree.

To the anonymous person who gave us each one, I thank you for your thoughtfulness and kindness.

Hanne Hamlin

Dear Friends in Christ,

As I mentioned to some of you, Advent and Christmas are far and away my favorite season of the year, because we celebrate that God has come among us in Jesus, and promises to return bringing the fullness of the Kingdom. To celebrate with you this year in Richmond, Virginia, was truly wonderful. God has blessed us richly by calling us to serve among you and with such a gifted, Spirit-filled staff.

Thank you for continuing to welcome our family and make us feel at home among you. Thank you for the generous gift presented at the Christmas Eve service, and for all the kindness shown to us in cards, presents, and prayers.

Love,

Pastor Joseph, Sarah, and Lucia

THANK YOU NOTES RECEIVED CONTINUED...

Members and friends of Epiphany,
Thank you very much for the very generous Christmas gift you presented on Christmas Eve. I was also moved by the kind words that Sarah Robbins, Council Secretary, said as she handed us the gifts. It is a pleasure to serve you as your pastor with such a wonderful staff, and it was a joy to see God at work in you throughout 2014. My family and I are so thankful to be at Epiphany. We are excited to see what 2015 will bring. Thank you, also, for all the goodies, gifts cards, and other treats that you gave during the holidays. We enjoyed them immensely!

Yours in Christ's service,
Phillip Martin and the Martin family



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,
What a wonderful blessing! My family and I are so very thankful for the many ways you support us, from Christmas cards, ornaments, notes, sharing family photos, delicious goodies, and the generous Christmas gift. You continue your witness of sharing the good news in your friendships, care and concerns. We are in awe to serve and live and work with such wonderful stewards of Jesus Christ.

Peace be with you,
Christy Huffman and family

Interested in joining Epiphany?

Have you been joining us for worship for a while and thinking about becoming a member of Epiphany? Or maybe interested in learning more about what Lutherans believe?



Please contact Pastor Phillip or Pastor Joseph for more information.
804-282-6066 pastorphillip@epiphanyelca.org
pastorjoseph@epiphanyelca.org

Save the Date!



February 14 - Vino Valentine Gathering

February 15 - Transfiguration of Our Lord

February 18 - Ash Wednesday

February 21 - Chili Cook-off at Christ the King

February 22 - "Finding My Voice" Synod Event

March 1 - Pancake Supper/ Talent Show

March 6 - Muskingum Concert Choir

March 28 - Palm Sunday



www.facebook.com/EpiphanyLutheranRVA

Follow us on Twitter! @EpiphanyELCA

Epiphany Evangelical Lutheran Church
1400 Horsepen Road
Monument Ave. at Horsepen Road
Richmond, VA 23226

Address Service Requested

Non-Profit Org.
U. S. Postage Pd.
Richmond, VA
Permit # 711

Phone: 804-282-6066
Fax: 804-282-6067
www.epiphanyelca.org

Worship Times

Sunday 8:30 & 11:00 a.m.
Wednesday Healing/Holy
Communion 11:00 a.m.



a congregation of the ELCA

MINISTERS WANTED

Contact Beth Barger at 746-5756 or thebargers@comcast.net for any of the ministries listed below or for information about additional areas in the life of Epiphany Church.

LAMB's Basket -- Epiphany sends volunteers each month to the Community Food Pantry, located at **8419 Oakview Avenue**, near Staples Mill and Hermitage Roads. Directions are listed below. Contact Beth to volunteer or sign up in the Commons, and call the pantry at 565-8007 for additional information. Inclement weather? Check channel 8 for closings or if Henrico schools are closed, then the LAMB's Basket is closed.

Epiphany's upcoming dates in February:

Friday, February 6; 9:30-1

Wednesday, February 18; 9:30-1

Directions From Epiphany

Take Glenside Dr North,

Turn Left on Staples Mill Rd.

Turn Right onto Hermitage Rd.

Turn Left onto Oakview Ave.