



The Epiphany Star ✨ *January 2025*

*Newsletter of Epiphany Lutheran Church
Fort Wayne, Indiana*

Dear Epiphany Lutheran Church,

A couple of weeks ago the memory verse for the day was, Philippians 4:4, "Rejoice in the Lord always; and again, I say Rejoice!" What great words the Apostle Paul wrote from his prison cell to the church in Philippi. Even in the midst of living in a prison cell, the Apostle Paul was rejoicing in the fact that God's love was and is very real. He lived in the fact that God's love is enough to carry us through some of the most difficulties life throws at us.

By the time you are reading this newsletter we have celebrated Christmas and are preparing to celebrate the coming of the New Year... 2025. Many of us wonder what 2025 will be like for us. What will the economy be like? Will I be able to live the lifestyle I have grown accustomed to or will I have to make massive lifestyle changes to stay afloat. Did I pick the correct health insurance plan for myself and my family? What kind of things am I going to need to repair or replace in 2025? All these questions and more await us in the coming New Year.

Looking into the future can be a scary way of looking at life. Yet, as Jesus said to his disciples- can worrying add 1 more second to your life? This answer is no. Yet, it does not stop us from doing it. We want to feel like we are in control when we are not. Does that stop us from doing things to help other people? Of course not! We still struggle alone with what the world sends us.

"Rejoice in the Lord, always, and again I say REJOICE!"

What a wonderful way to begin the New Year with this statement from Philippians. We need to give credit where credit is due. GOD! Every breath we take. Every time our eye lids open, our heart beats, our brain thinks. We should be giving thanks to God for the many blessings we share each and every day! Why not start 2025 with exciting news that you are going to deepen your walk and faith in God. You are going to spend more time in prayer. You will give thanks to God with all of your resources. We have a God who loves us.

May 2025 be a stellar year for all of us. May God bless us abundantly. May we experience peace in your life. Happy New Year! Happy Epiphany!

Blessings, Pastor Richard Hartman

Financial Update

December	Deposits	Bills Paid	Balance
12/1/2024	3,619.68	4,661.37	(1,041.69)
12/8/2024	4,440.61	603.82	3,836.79
12/15/2024	2,883.47	5,586.72	(2,703.25)

Our Mission

We are Christians, called by God, committed to:

Sharing the Gospel,
Serving others as Christ taught us, and
Creating disciples for witness.

Epiphany Lutheran Church's Vision Statement:

A Christian family of God committed to sharing the Gospel and serving others, through joyful worship, education and fellowship.

Please feel free to stop in or call for any of your Pastoral needs.
Our office hours are as follows:



Pastor: Monday – Thursday 8:00 am – 2:30 pm
Monday evenings at 7:00 pm

Dia: Wednesdays & Thursdays 9:00 am – 3:00 pm,
Other times as needed during tax season,
(always available by email and/or text)

Due to unexpected circumstances,
these hours may be subject to change.

E-mail Us:

Pastor's officepastor@epiphanyfw.com
Pastor's home..... rlhart49@frontier.com
Dia's office herbs5@hotmail.com



WEB SITE:

Epiphany Lutheran Church www.epiphanyfw.com

1924

LOOKING BACK GROWING FORWARD

CELEBRATING A CENTURY OF SENIOR CHRISTIAN CARE

2024

Our Mission: “Sharing Christ’s Love with the ones you love!”

Lutheran Senior Care Ministry Update January 2025

I have posted the list of services by LSCM chaplains and a poster about this ministry on the bulletin board in the gathering area. You are welcome to attend any of the posted services which include scripture readings, hymn-singing, prayers, a sermon, and a benediction.

Many of these residents do not have a home church and these services are their only church contact.

Chaplains have baptized residents at their request and services are a special time for those who attend.

Thank you for your prayers and continued support for this ministry!

Sue

January
Bible
Readings



January 5th
1st Sunday after Christmas
Jeremiah 31:7-14
Ephesians 1:3-14
John 1:1-18

January 12th
Baptism of our Lord
Isaiah 43:1-7
Acts 8:14-17
Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

January 19th
2nd Sunday after Epiphany
Isaiah 62:1-5
1 Corinthians 12:1-11
John 2:1-11

January 26th
3rd Sunday after Epiphany
Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10
1 Corinthians 12:12-31a
Luke 4:14-21

Join us for Worship this month!

Every Sunday at
8:00 am and 10:15 am
10:15 am on Facebook.Live

Worship
Every Monday at 7:00 pm

Please join us!

Bible Study Wednesdays
6:00 meal—sign up
6:30 study



Please join us for our annual Epiphany Service on Sunday, January 12th, For the 8:00 or 10:15 am service. Or on Facebook Live at 10:15am learn more about this important festival in the church year.



Mission Moment January 2025

Thank you to everyone for supporting our military families this Christmas. Every ornament was taken from the tree and all gifts were delivered.

Thank you to all who donated items for the Lutheran Disaster Response - Children's Comfort Kits. We were able to put 40 shoeboxes together. This project was possible because Pastor Hartman delivered these items to North Carolina. We would not have been able to afford to ship them.

January we will kick the year off with collecting items for the Associated Churches - **A Babies Closet**. Parents receive coupons for learning about nutrition and parenting, keeping prenatal and well child appointments, childbirth classes, and keeping their children's immunizations up-to-date. Some parents also earn coupons by continuing their education.

Much needed items are: Diapers sizes Newborn, 3, 4, and 5, (no pullup needed at this time) wipes, diaper cream, car seats, bottles and bottle brushes, shampoo, bath wash, hairbrush, nail clippers, pacifiers, spoons, teething rings, crib sheets, blankets, socks, thermometers, towels and wash cloths.

If donating clothing, they accept new or gently used sizes newborn - 4T. All underwear must be new.

Blessings, Vickie and Cindy

Recap of 2024 Missions:

What a year! Epiphany's generous donations have blessed the following organizations:

- A Baby's Closet
- Associated Churches Food Bank
- Just Neighbors
- Lutheran Disaster Response -
Children's Comfort Kits
- Lutheran World Relief -
Layettes 203
Health Kits 240
Backpacks 536
Quilts 109
- Military Christmas families
- Shepherd's House - including 10
quilts from our quilters!
- St. James Lutheran Church-
clothing bank
- St. Joseph Women's Shelter

Cindy and I appreciate all the help we have received this year. It definitely is a group effort! All these missions could not be possible without Epiphany's wonderful support.

Blessings, Vickie and Cindy

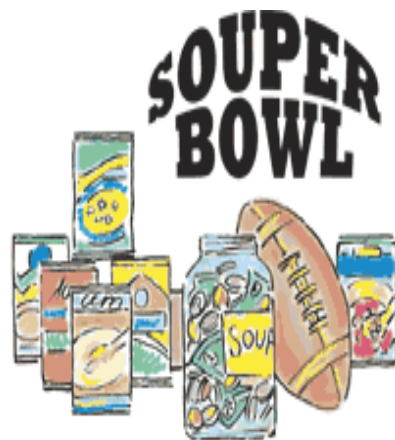
It's SOUPER Bowl Time!

In mid-January, we will begin collecting for our annual "Souper Bowl" contest!

Each year, Epiphany members have the chance to root for their favorite Super Bowl team by bringing in non-perishable food items to be donated to the Associated Churches Food Bank.

Once the teams have been set, simply bring in your items and place them on the appropriate side of our "field" to let us know which team you want to see win!

Epiphany almost always correctly predicts the winner of the big game, so if you want to see your team emerge victorious, bring in those canned goods!





Christmas decorations will be put away on
Saturday, January 18th at 9:30 am.

Thank you in advance for the gift
of your time and assistance!



ANGELS AMONG US!

We have members of our congregation who do many things behind the scenes, and we want to take the time to recognize just a few in this month's issue! Thank you, Angels!

Greens were hung and poinsettias donated to beautify our worship space
Prayers were said for members and friends in need of God's care
Lectors lent their voices to our annual Service of Lessons and Carols
Special music enhanced our Christmas Eve worship
Donations of gifts and food brought the Christmas spirit to military families
Community members that use our building and give back to our outreach programs.



January Baptismal Birthdays

Terry Goodspeed

Krista Rumfield

Alicia Davis

Adam Auman

Dawn Osheskie

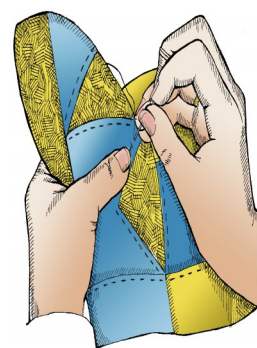
“Happy birthday!” to those who celebrate their second birthday during the month of January! Martin Luther said, *“When you wash your face remember your baptism.”* Take time to remember and celebrate this month!

Comfort Ye My People


Our next quilting gathering is scheduled for Wednesday January 8th and Saturday January 11th from 10:00 am to noon.

We have 10 tops/bottoms matched ready to knot and finish.

18 completed quilts in the closet!



QUILTING GROUP

 <i>Worship Assistants</i>	<u>Jan. 5th</u> 2nd Christmas	<u>Jan. 12th</u> Epiphany	<u>Jan. 19th</u> 1st Sunday of Epiphany	<u>Jan. 26th</u> 2nd Sunday of Epiphany
Organist/ Pianist			Amanda Pickett	
Assisting Minister	Amber Logan	Rebecca Hartman	Alicia Davis	Jim Davis
Lector Communion Assistant 8:00 am	Sue Johnson	Sue Davis	Nancy and Richard Lee	Kim Robinson
Lector 10:15 am	Cathy Rumfield	Steve Haag	Jim Davis	Mark Herb
Communion Assistant 10:15 am	Nina Haag	Jack Swanson	Dia Herb	Mike Rumfield
Altar Guild	Davis Family	Herbs	Amanda Pickett	Rumfields