



*The Epiphany Star*



*July 2023*

*Newsletter of Epiphany Lutheran Church  
6606 Maplecrest Road Fort Wayne, IN  
(260)485-5122  
46835*

Dear Epiphany,

On Father's Day- June 18th I began a four-week sermon series on the topic of "Anger." Why would I do that? The answer is simple- there is too much anger and hatred in our world and community today. While there was anger and hatred prior to the Covid-19 pandemic, it appears to me that anger continues to be on a uprise and we need to do something about it. The amount of "grace" and "forgiveness" shown to others seems to lessen each day. When a person shows kindness to another person it is almost an exception instead of the norm. Do we really care for each other?

The word "anger" and its various forms is used over 250 times in the Bible, depending upon which translation of the Bible you are using. Most of them are used to describe the emotion God has towards the Israelites in the Old Testament. Why? I think it is to help make God more realistic to the Israelites. To help point out the kind of relationship God wants to have with Israel and each of us.

We find ourselves in a unique and difficult situation. We are a part of the world in which we live. Our emotions, fear, frustration, and anger are all on the uprise. Since we are on edge, everything that a person does that is not to our liking will cause us to be more angered. It is literally a waterfall of our emotions, and they keep increasing.

We are called out by our Baptism to be different. In Ephesians 4:29-32 we read, "Let no evil talk come out of your mouths, but only what is useful for building up, as there is need, so that your words may give grace to those who hear. And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with which you were marked with a seal for the day of redemption. Put away from you all bitterness and wrath and anger and wrangling and slander, together with malice, and be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven you (NRSV).

Each week, it is my intention in this sermon series, to look at our emotions, specifically anger, and try to find ways for us to live a more Biblical Life. We are not going to change the world overnight, but we can change it one person at a time. Join us in

this discussion and let us learn together.

Blessings,

Pastor Richard Hartman

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



**Pastor:** Sunday – Thursday 8:00 am – 2:30 pm  
Monday evenings 7-8 pm

**Dia:** Monday– Thursday 10:00 am - 3:00 pm  
Other times as needed

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

**E-mail Us:**

Pastor's office .....pastor@epiphanyfw.com  
Pastor's home..... rlhart49@frontier.com  
Dia's office ..... dia@epiphanyfw.com



**WEB SITE:**

Epiphany Lutheran Church

[www.epiphanyfw.com](http://www.epiphanyfw.com)

## 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 of them in this month's newsletter. Thank you, Angels!



**Worship services** were planned for the summer  
**Epiphany's lawn** continues to be mowed regularly  
**Church Council** prepared to welcome new council members  
**Flowers** have been watered and shrubbery trimmed

## July Baptismal Birthdays



Baptism  
Birthday

<i>Bill Williams</i>	<i>Mark Everhart</i>	<i>Sally Mertz</i>
<i>Ruth Longroy</i>	<i>Karen Payne</i>	
<i>Darla Baughman</i>	<i>Rebecca Hartman</i>	<i>Kay Evans</i>
<i>David Osheskie</i>	<i>Chris Robinson</i>	<i>Dia Herb</i>

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

STATEMENT  
**Our Mission**  
STATEMENT  
STATEMENT  
STATEMENT

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.



**We thank these Church Council Members  
who will serve: our Congregation**

Dave York – President  
Steve Haag - Vice President  
Sue Davis - Secretary  
Alicia Davis - Treasurer  
Sally Mertz - Fellowship  
Mark Herb - Property  
Vicki Malott - Outreach  
Nurture -  
Youth Leaders -  
Admin. Assistant - Congregational Life  
Pastor Richard Hartman

**Thank you to Richard Lee for his years as Treasurer  
and Alicia Davis as Outreach Chair.**

**Open Council Seats:**

Nurture \_\_\_\_\_

Youth \_\_\_\_\_

**Installation of Council on July 2nd.**



# July Bible Readings

**July 2<sup>nd</sup>**

**5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Pentecost**

Jeremiah 28:5-9  
Romans 6:12-23  
Matthew 10:40-42

**July 9<sup>th</sup>**

**5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Pentecost**

Zechariah 9:9-12  
Romans 7:15-25a  
Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

**July 16<sup>th</sup>**

**6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Pentecost**

Isaiah 55:10-13  
Romans 8:1-11  
Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

**July 23<sup>rd</sup>**

**7<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Pentecost**

Isaiah 44:6-8  
Romans 8:12-25  
Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

**July 30<sup>th</sup>**

**8<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Pentecost**

1 Kings 3:5-12  
Romans 8:26-39  
Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

**Join us for Worship this month!**

Every Sunday at 8:00 am  
and 10:15 am

10:15 am also on Facebook LIVE

Grief Small Support Group  
Monday at 7:00 pm

**Please join us!**



**We will be using the  
Janzow Service  
and Camp Sundays  
some Sundays in the  
summer months**

**Don't Miss It!**



## **Mission Moment July 2023**

Thank you to everyone who has donated baby items for the layettes. Last year we packed 101 layettes, and we currently have enough items to complete that many or possibly more this year.

Items needed for our health kits are:  
bath towels, nail clippers, toothbrushes, and soap.

In July, school supplies will be going on sale.

School supplies needed are:

Stick blue or black pens

wooden pencils not sharpened

12-inch rulers with inches and centimeters

Scissors child size

pencil sharpeners

(Do not need erasers have over 400)

24-pack crayons

notebooks spiral 60-80 pages wide or college rule

all placed inside a drawstring backpack.

Each school kit takes 4 notebooks, and we currently only have 3 so we'll need lots of notebooks this year.

If you are Thrivent member, you could even help buy supplies with a Thrivent Action Card.

Also, if you want to donate but don't like to shop, you can always give a monetary donation and we will do the shopping for you.



**L S C M**  
Lutheran Senior Care Ministry

## **Lutheran Senior Care Ministry**

**Update July 2023**

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

Our 100th Anniversary theme for next year—

Looking Back † Growing Forward

Celebrating a Century of Senior Christian Love

Our 100th Anniversary celebration will be at the Orchid on Thursday, April 18, 2024 from 5:30pm to 8:30pm. Hope some of you can join us on this special occasion.

It will be a fundraiser as well as a celebration. School and youth groups will also be engaged in projects during the year.

This year for our November 9th Ambassador meeting, we will invite pastors of congregations supporting our ministry.

Thank you for your prayers and support  
of Lutheran Senior Care Ministry!

Peace! Sue

## President letter to Congregation

June 3, 2023

Greetings to members of our Epiphany Family. I hope and pray that this short message finds everyone in good spirits. On Sunday May 21st we held our Annual Congregational meeting along with a fabulous breakfast. I want to thank all who attended and those great fellowship people who made the meeting a success. We had 31 voting members present and adopted a new Budget for the 2023-24 church year that begins in July. We take very seriously the financial responsibility to operate this Congregation in a transparent and within our adopted budget. This new budget is just a 1% increase over last year's guideline. This in itself is nothing short of a miracle with today's climate of increasing costs.

Even with this minimal 1% increase, this will present us a challenge. We run so tight on spending and intake that we cannot just assume that this increase will be covered. I am asking each of us to increase our giving by \$2.00 per week. That will cover the needs of our new budget. We continue to look for savings and cost cutting whenever possible. I am appealing to you for your support so that we can continue the mission we call Epiphany. We can be so proud of the various mission needs we meet everyday but we need to keep our doors open to do this important work. An increase in weekly giving of just \$2.00 can make a huge difference in the mission of God's Work here at Epiphany.

Thank-you and God Bless,  
David York, President Church Council

### **Harvester Home Coming** (*International Harvester*)

**Truck Show will be August 4th & 5th.**  
**They are looking for volunteers for 2 hour shifts in various areas.**  
**They are willing to make a \$25 contribution to Epiphany for every volunteer shift we help.**

The event is held at the Old Plant Facility.  
The hours are 8-4:30 and you choose the area and shift to work.

<https://harvester-homecoming.volunteerlocal.com/volunteer/?id=74261>  
Pastor and Dia have signed up to help!



# Common **WARNING SIGNS** of Mental Illness

Diagnosing mental illness isn't a straightforward science. We can't test for it the same way we can test blood sugar levels for diabetes. Each condition has its own set of unique symptoms, though symptoms often overlap. Common signs and/or symptoms can include:

- ! Feeling very sad or withdrawn for more than two weeks
- ! Trying to harm or end one's life or making plans to do so
- ! Severe, out-of-control, risk-taking behavior that causes harm to self or others
- ! Sudden overwhelming fear for no reason, sometimes with a racing heart, physical discomfort or difficulty breathing
- ! Significant weight loss or gain



- ! Seeing, hearing or believing things that aren't real\*
- ! Excessive use of alcohol or drugs
- ! Drastic changes in mood, behavior, personality or sleeping habits
- ! Extreme difficulty concentrating or staying still
- ! Intense worries or fears that get in the way of daily activities

\*Various communities and backgrounds might view this sign differently based on their beliefs and experiences. Some people within these communities and cultures may not interpret hearing voices as unusual.

## WORRIED ABOUT YOURSELF OR SOMEONE YOU CARE ABOUT?

? If you notice any of these symptoms, it's important to ask questions



Try to understand what they're experiencing and how their daily life is impacted



Making this connection is often the first step to getting treatment

## KNOWLEDGE IS POWER



Talk with a health care professional



Learn more about mental illness



Take a mental health education class



Call the NAMI HelpLine at 800-950-NAMI (6264)

**50%**

of all lifetime mental illness begins by age

**14**

**75%**

by age

**24**

	<u>July 2<sup>nd</sup></u> WOV	<u>July 9<sup>th</sup></u> Janzow	<u>July 16<sup>th</sup></u> WOV	<u>July 23<sup>rd</sup></u> WOV	<u>July 30<sup>th</sup></u> Camp Sunday
<b>Organist/ Pianist</b>	Alicia Davis	Amanda Pickett	Amanda Pickett	Alicia Davis	N/A
<b>Assisting Minister</b>	Dia Herb	Amber Logan	Rebecca Norberg	Jim Davis	Alicia Davis
<b>Lector &amp; Communion Assistant 8:00 am</b>	Nancy and Richard Lee	Sue Johnson	Sue Davis	Cheryl Ralston	Kim Robinson
<b>Lector 10:15 am</b>	Mike Rumfield	Melissa Hartman	Becky Roemer	Mark Herb	Rebecca Norberg
<b>Communion Assistant 10:15 am</b>	Mark Herb	Cathy Rumfield	N/A	Jack Swanson	Mike Rumfield