



*The Epiphany Star*

*March 2024*



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

Dear Epiphany,

Last month I shared with you that 2024 was going to be a unique year because of some of the various events that would occur during the year... Ash Wednesday- February 14- Valentine's Day. In the month of March, we will be celebrating Easter on March 31. Interestingly Easter most frequently occurs on March 31 or April 16 than any other date. Why does that happen? How do they determine when Easter occurs?

The Season of Lent began on Ash Wednesday, February 14, 2024, and will end on Holy Saturday, March 30. The liturgical season of Lent lasts for forty days, not counting Sundays. They don't count Sundays as we celebrate the resurrection with worship and the sacrament of Holy Communion. The Season of Lent moves according to when the Spring Equinox occurs- the first Sunday following the first full-moon of Spring (March 21 or later). This tradition dates to the Council of Nicaea of 325. The Council of Nicaea is where we have authored the Nicene Creed that we use in worship as a statement of faith.

The Season of Lent serves as a special time of repentance, self-examination, and spiritual renewal in preparation for the celebration of Christ's Resurrection on Easter Sunday. I have been asked many times why the Season of Lent seems to be so "dark" or at least "shrouded." I usually answer to think about why we have the Season of Lent in the first place... Jesus dies on the cross for the ultimate sacrifice for our sins. Jesus willingly dies on Golgotha. When have done something wrong or broken a law- there is a consequence for our actions. It is called sin. The Season of Lent gives us the opportunity to think and pray about those consequences. We break the relationship with God and God found a way to restore it.

During the Season of Lent- take some time to reflect on the ultimate price Jesus paid for your salvation. Take some time to think about how you can live a better life, because Jesus gave you the opportunity to do that. God wants to spend time with you, are you willing to turn back and meet God?

Blessings on your Lenten Journey,  
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

**Dia:** Wednesday 10:00 – 4:00 pm  
Other evening 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.....herbs5@hotmail.com



**WEB SITE:**

Epiphany Lutheran Church      [www.epiphanyfw.com](http://www.epiphanyfw.com)

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:**

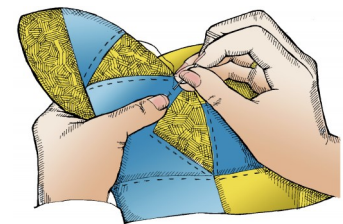
A Christian family of God committed to sharing the Gospel and serving others, through joyful worship, education and fellowship.

**Comfort Ye My People**

Our quilting group will meet Wednesday March 6th and Saturday March 9th from 10:00 am to noon.

We can use help laying out the layers of fabric, pinning layers together, knotting, or taking some projects home to do. We need to add knots to some completed on the shelves per new guidelines.

These can be worked on at church or taken home. Please join us and help us be a blessing to others around the world!



QUILTING GROUP

**Dates to remember:**

**March 6, 13, 20 - 6:00 Lenten Suppers please sign up each week.**

**6:30 Devotions in Fellowship Hall**

**Each week there will be a devotion online available Wed am**

**March 12th - Daylight Saving Time, Spring forward!**

**March 24th - Palm/Passion Sunday - need readers!**

**March 28th - Maundy Thursday Service 7:00 pm**

**March 29th - Good Friday Service 7:00 pm**

**March 31st - Easter (Easter breakfast 8:45 am) Sonrise Service 8:00 am  
Regular Service 10:15 am**



# Lenten

SUPPER & SERVICE  
SCHEDULE

**Suppers Start at 6:00 pm  
Please sign up each week**

**Devotion Starts at 6:30 pm  
In the Fellowship Hall**

**March 6th** - Fellowship is having soup and salad.

**March 13th** - Quilting group is providing baked potatoes with ALL the toppings.

**March 20th** - Council is providing deli sandwiches and fixin!

## Crosses for Holy Week

We will again be lining our driveway with crosses in memory of loved ones who have been called to the Church Triumphant.

Help is needed to put up the crosses on Friday at 2pm, March 29th, and to take them down on Monday at 2pm, March 25<sup>th</sup> (2:00 pm both days).

If you are available for either or both activities, please sign up on the sheet on the bulletin board outside the office. Thank you!

**WEATHER PERMITTING**



**Join us for Worship this month!**

Every Sunday at  
8:00 & 10:15 am

Worship Monday at 7:00 pm

Wednesdays in Lent  
6:00 Suppers  
6:30 Devotions

**Please join us!**

**HOLY WEEK**

**March 28<sup>th</sup>**

**Maundy Thursday**

Exodus 12:1-14  
1 Corinthians 11:23-26  
John 13:1-17, 31b-35

**March 29<sup>th</sup>**

**Good Friday**

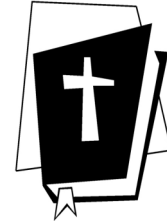
Isaiah 52:13-53:12  
Hebrews 10:16-25  
John 18:1-19:42

**March 31<sup>st</sup>**

**5<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent**

1 Samuel 16-13  
Ephesians 5:8-14  
Mark 16:1-8

March  
Bible  
Readings



**March 3<sup>rd</sup>**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Lent**

Exodus 20:1-17  
1 Corinthians 1:18-25  
John 2:13-22

**March 10<sup>th</sup>**

**4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent**

Numbers 21:4-9  
Ephesians 2:1-10  
John 3:14-21

**March 17<sup>th</sup>**

**5<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent**

Jeremiah 31:31-34  
Hebrews 5:5-10  
John 12:20-33

**March 24<sup>th</sup>**

**Passion/Palm Sunday**

Isaiah 50:4-9a  
Philippians 2:5-11  
Mark 14:1-15:47



### 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!

**Quilters** working at home and on Wednesdays/Saturday once a month  
**"Souper Bowl" contributions** of canned goods delivered to Associated Churches  
**Baby Items** delivered to "A Baby's Closet"  
**Just Neighbors** - items being collected and delivered

**THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS** - If you have any Thrivent Products check to see if you have Choice Dollars you can donate to Epiphany. Easy to do [www.thrivent.com/thrivent choice](http://www.thrivent.com/thrivent choice) or call 1-800-847-4836 and say Thrivent Choice when prompted. Need help - call David Herman at 260-387-6488. **Choice Dollars need to be designated for 2021 by March 31, 2024.**

Action Teams monies are available 2 @ \$250 each per person each year. In the past we have used Action Teams for layette , health and school kit items. Items for our various monthly mission.

50th Anniversary costs, yard clean up, gas for the mower, painting inside, upgrades in the kitchen, faucet, garbage disposal, material and batting for quilts, baby items, kitchen supplies. If labeled as service project you can use funds for items need to complete service. Any questions or help needed contact Pastor or Dia.

## **PRESENT REFUGE**

A wellness ministry of  
St. John's Lutheran Church and School  
Experience God's Grace in Christ Jesus.

**Mental Wellness**  
**Emotional Wellness**  
**Physical Wellness**  
**Spiritual Wellness**

God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.  
Psalm 46:1

**God's Word helps us deal with fear.**  
**Do not fear is in the Bible 365 times!**

Behold God is my salvation, I will trust, and will not be afraid, for the  
Lord God is my strength and my song,  
and he has become my salvation. Isaiah 12:2

Anxiety Disorders are the most common  
mental health concern in the US.

We all have anxiety about certain situations.

When feelings of intense fear and distress become over whelming  
and prevent us from doing everyday activities,  
an anxiety disorder may be the culprit.

They have one thing in common:

Persistent fear or worry in situations that are nor threatening.

**The difference between a bad day and a good day?**

### **GRATITUDE**

When looking for meaning in your life,  
thankfulness is one path to fulfillment.

**STOP.THINK.SAY THANKS**

What makes you thankful - Every ...Little...Thing

Sunshine, child's laugh, smile, making the green light...

Notice the small things that can have a bid impact on your day!



## **Mission Moment for March 2023**

Our mission for March will be our annual collection Fishes and Loaves for the Associated churches food bank.

We will be collecting canned tuna, salmon, and mackerel, along with crackers, tuna helper, chicken, stews, and beef. Items may be placed on the round tables or the bin in the hallway.

They are also asking for any other canned goods or box items for the food bank.

We also want to continue to show support for the military. We are collecting hygiene items, snacks, lip balm, puzzle books, hard candy, small paperback books, playing cards, flavored drink mixes for individual bottles and Lifesavers.

Place these donations in the red bin in the gathering area.

Blessing, Vickie and Cindy





## March Baptismal Birthdays

Eric Hedin

Lucy Davis

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

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 March 2024


I posted a Save The Date copy of LSCM’s Centennial Gala on April 18<sup>th</sup> at the Orchid.

Please let me know if you would like a copy of the invitation when it is mailed. It promises to be a great celebration.

We also now have an active Facebook site and a new video is being developed for viewing at the Gala.

This promises to be an exciting year for our ministry. Thank you for your prayers and continued support of this ministry as we serve our community’s elders!

Sue

 <b>Worship Assistants</b>	<b><u>Mar. 3<sup>rd</sup></u></b>	<b><u>Mar. 10<sup>th</sup></u></b>	<b><u>Mar. 17<sup>th</sup></u></b>	<b><u>Mar. 24<sup>th</sup></u></b>	<b><u>Mar. 28<sup>th</sup></u></b>	<b><u>Mar. 29<sup>th</sup></u></b>	<b><u>Mar. 31<sup>st</sup></u></b>
	3rd Sunday of Lent	4th Sunday of Lent	5th Sunday of Lent	Palm Passion Sunday	Maundy Thursday 7:00 pm	Good Friday 7:00 pm	Easter
<b>Organist/ Pianist</b>	Amanda	Alicia	Alicia	Amanda	Amanda	Amanda	Amanda
<b>Assisting Minister</b>	Mark Herb	Amber Logan	Jim Davis	Alicia Davis	Rebecca Norberg	X	Dia Herb
<b>Lector 8:00 am</b>	Nancy Lee	Sue Davis	Cheryl Ralston	Kim Robinson	X	X	Sue Johnson
<b>Lector 10:15 am</b>	Alicia Davis	Jim Davis	Mike Rumfield	Steve Haag	Sue Johnson	7 Readers	Cathy Rumfield
<b>Communion Assistant 8:00 am</b>	Richard Lee	Sue Davis	Dave York	Kim Robinson	X	X	Sue Johnson
<b>Communion Assistant 10:15 am</b>	Mike Rumfield	Mark Herb	Dia Herb	Jack Swanson	Cheryl Ralston	X	Nina Haag