



*The Epiphany Star*

*March 2025*



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

Dear Epiphany Lutheran Church,

This time of year I get asked this question, “Why does the Church make such a big deal out of Ash Wednesday, Lent, Maundy Thursday and Good Friday? I understand about Palm Sunday, and Easter.” I am going to try to give a brief answer to this question in chronological order.

**Ash Wednesday:** This year Ash Wednesday will be March 5. It is an annual event taking place 40 days prior to Easter Sunday. It is a day of remembrance and a time to renew our baptismal vows. It is a time to focus on forgiveness and to deepen our relationship with God. We have the imposition of ashes in the shape of a cross as a reminder of our baptism (a sign of the cross is made on our foreheads and sealed by the Holy Spirit), and a time of mourning (putting on ashes in remembrance of the ultimate sacrifice that Jesus made for us on the cross).

**The Season of Lent:** The Season of Lent lasts for 40 days. It does not include Sundays as they are considered “Feast Days” as we celebrate the sacrament of Holy Communion on Sunday. The 40 days of Lent symbolize the 40 days following Jesus baptism in the Jordan River. Scripture tells us that following Jesus’ baptism, he was lead into the wilderness by the angels, where he was tempted for 40 days and 40 night by the Devil. We are called upon to fast and contemplate the brokenness that is in our lives, asking God to strengthen our lives with grace and mercy. In the Catholic tradition, the season of Lent is marked with refraining from “meat and animal-based products.” This is why the Catholics eat fish on Friday in remembrance of this fasting.

**Maundy Thursday:** Maundy Thursday this year will be Thursday, April 17. Maundy Thursday commemorates the Last Supper that Jesus shared with his disciples. We are called upon throughout the day to reflect on the importance of humility, service to others, and selflessness. It is also symbolized during the Maundy Thursday worship service to have a ritual of washing people’s feet, symbolizing the intimate act that Jesus did with each of his disciple’s feet. This simple act of washing people’s feet was done during Jesus time by the slaves of the house. So, for the master to wash another person’s feet is a significant change in people’s lives.

Jesus was betrayed by Judas Iscariot on Maundy Thursday. Tradition tells us that after their meal, Jesus then gathered some water, and wrapped a towel around his waist. He then began to wash the feet of each of his disciples. We use this symbol on Maundy Thursday to symbolize the humble disciples we are called to be. To wash another person's feet in our culture today is a very personal action.

**Good Friday:** Good Friday this year will be Friday, April 18. It is a Christian holy day commemorating the crucifixion of Jesus Christ. Churches on this day become still as individuals pay homage to Jesus' journey, his suffering and ultimate sacrifice he made for all of humanity. It is a day when we are called to rethink the idea of selflessness and reflect on the impact our words and actions can have on others. It is a day when many of us wonder why it is called "Good" Friday. What is good about it... Jesus died? That is the reason why it is called Good Friday... as it is good for us that Jesus paid the ultimate sacrifice for our sinful beings.

May your Lenten journey draw you closer to God and deeper your care for one another.

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  
Wednesday evenings

**Dia:** Wednesday & Thursday 8:30 – 3:30 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:**

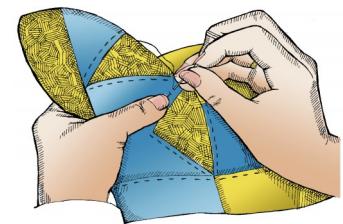
A Christian family of God committed to sharing the Gospel and serving others, through joyful worship, education and fellowship.

**Comfort Ye My People**

Our quilting group will meet Wednesday March 5th and Saturday March 9th from 10:00 am to noon. 5

We can use help laying out the layers of fabric, pinning layers together, knotting, or taking some projects home to do. We have 28 completed and 20 in process.

Please join us and help us be a blessing to others around the world!



QUILTING GROUP

**Dates to remember:**

March 12, 19, 26 - 6:00 Lenten Suppers please sign up each week.  
6:30 Vespers in Church, followed by a speaker.

March 9th - Daylight Saving Time, Spring forward!

April 2, 9 - 6:00 Lenten Suppers please sign up each week.  
6:30 Vespers in Church, followed by a speaker.

April 13th - Palm Passion Sunday 8:00 & 10:15am

April 17th - Maundy Thursday service at 7:00 pm

April 18th - Good Friday - Service at 7:00 pm

April 19th - Easter Egg Hunt

April 20th - Easter Sunrise Service 8:00am Easter Celebration Service 10:15 am



# Lenten

SUPPER & SERVICE  
SCHEDULE

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

**Vespers Starts at 6:30 pm  
In the Church**

**March 12th** - Council is providing Deli Sandwiches & all the fixins

**March 19th** - Choir is providing Taco Bar.

**March 26th** - Fellowship is providing soup and salad.

## 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, April 18<sup>th</sup>, and to take them down on Monday at 2pm, April 20<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**

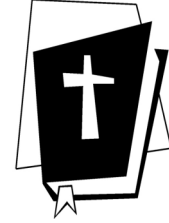
**Join us for Worship this month!**

Every Sunday at  
8:00 & 10:15 am

Wednesdays in Lent  
6:00 Suppers  
6:30 Devotions

**Please join us!**

March  
Bible  
Readings



**March 2<sup>nd</sup>**

**Transfiguration Sunday**

Exodus 34:29-35  
2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2  
Luke 9:28-43a

**March 5<sup>th</sup>**

**Ash Wednesday**

Joel 2:1-2, 12-17  
2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10  
Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

**March 9<sup>th</sup>**

**1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Lent**

Deuteronomy 26:1-11  
Romans 10:8b-13  
Luke 4:1-13

**March 16<sup>th</sup>**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Lent**

Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18  
Philippians 3:17-4:1  
Luke 13:31-35

**March 23<sup>rd</sup>**

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

Isaiah 55:1--9  
1 Corinthians 10:1-13  
Luke 13:1-9

**March 30<sup>th</sup>**

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

Joshua 5:9-12  
2 Corinthians 5:16-21  
Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32



### 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"  
**Epiphany** - "Love" gifts were received  
**Snow and salt** - removed at entryways and driveway curves salted.

**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 2024 by March 31, 2025.**

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.

Yard clean up, gas for the mower, painting inside, material and batting for quilts, baby items, kitchen supplies. Items for school kits, health kits, monthly charity, military, If labeled as service project you can use funds for items need to complete service. Any questions or help needed contact Pastor or Dia.

## **Welcome New Member Dylan Murdock**

Dylan was born in Columbia City, Indiana and  
Grew up in Andrews, Indiana.

Dylan has two brothers Kyle and Cody.

He graduated from Huntington North Highschool.

Dylan works as a Fork Lift Operator for GovParts LLC  
where he assists in the manufacturing of spare parts  
for the Department of Defense.

In his spare time he enjoys archery, riding motorcycles  
and baking desserts!





## **Mission Moment for March 2025**

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 library.

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** | 2024  
CELEBRATING A CENTURY OF SENIOR CHRISTIAN CARE

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


### **Lutheran Senior Care Ministry Update March 2025**

In addition to Worship Anew booklets, that organization also provides a publication called the Broadcaster. It contains articles that readers in facilities enjoy.

Worship Anew also conducted a research project with Barna Group called Aging Well. It shares the unique needs of older adults, and I will share some of this information in future articles.

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

Sue

	<u>Mar. 2<sup>nd</sup></u>	<u>Mar. 5<sup>th</sup></u>	<u>Mar. 9<sup>th</sup></u>	<u>Mar. 16<sup>th</sup></u>	<u>Mar. 23<sup>rd</sup></u>	<u>Mar. 30<sup>th</sup></u>
	Transfiguration	Ash Wednesday	1st Sunday of Lent	2nd Sunday of Lent	3rd Sunday of Lent	4th Sunday of Lent
<b>Organist/ Pianist</b>	Amanda	Amanda	Alicia	Alicia	Amanda	Amanda
<b>Assisting Minister</b>	Rebecca Norberg	Dia Herb	Amber Logan	Mark Herb	Steve Haag	Jim Davis
<b>Lector 8:00 am</b>	Sue Johnson	X	Cheryl Ralston	Kim Robinson	Nancy Lee	Sue Johnson
<b>Lector 10:15 am</b>	Steve Haag	Cindy Rice	Rebecca Norberg	Melissa Hartman	Mike Rumfield	Shane Pickett
<b>Communion Assistant 8:00 am</b>	Sue Johnson	X	Cheryl Ralston	Kim Robinson	Richard Lee	Sue Johnson
<b>Communion Assistant 10:15 am</b>	Nina Haag	Cathy Rumfield	Jack Swanson	Mark Herb	Dia Herb	Alicia Davis
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Rumfield's	Herb's	Haag's	Davis's	Herb's	Pickett's