



*The Epiphany Star*



*May 2023*

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

Dear Epiphany,

How well do you plan your finances and household goods? Experts in financial matters tell us that we need to have at least six months finances in “liquid” assets in case of an emergency. Experience from the Covid Pandemic tells us that we should have a minimum of at least a month’s worth of household resources in reserve in case we need them.

In Matthew 6:19-21 we read, “Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth where moth and vermin destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moth and vermin do not destroy, and thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also (Matthew 6:19-21 NIV).” Then Jesus goes on to teach us in Matthew 6:28-30, “And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toll nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will God not much more clothe you- you of little faith. (Matthew 6:28-30 NRSV).”

Our church needs to do the same thing and ask the same questions about resources given for our mutual ministry and mission. How are we supposed to plan for the coming year and be the wise stewards of the “Time, Talent, and Resources?” Much like we should do at home is to plan a budget and try our best to stick to it. It doesn’t mean that we automatically have that much money to spend on any given line item. It does mean that we have this as a guide to our spending in relation to other expenses.

Each year your church council tries very hard to put together an Annual Budget which is presented at the Annual Meeting (May 21, 2023 at 9:00am). It is very important that this budget process has all of our input as it is a reflection of our resources and talents. God gives us all the resources we need to have a successful life and mutual ministry. Are we willing to allow God to use those; time, talent, and treasures? The question each of us should be asking is, “What is God asking of me to contribute to the mutual ministry of Epiphany Lutheran Church?” As a mission and ministry, Epiphany Lutheran Church is blessed because of what you and how you give to this ministry. We are only as good as the smallest donor. God loves a gener-

ous giver. Is this the year that you begin to venture out and trust God's generosity and give beyond where you have in the past?

Reminder the Annual Congregational Meeting is scheduled for May 21, 2023 breakfast starts at 8:45a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. See you there.

Blessings,  
Pastor Richard Hartman

## **Annual Congregational Breakfast Meeting**

We will be having our annual congregational meeting on  
Sunday, May 21<sup>st</sup>, at 8:45 am.

There are a number of things on the agenda, report will be sent before the meeting, the Annual Budget and voting in new council members, so please plan to attend and be a part of the decisions made here at Epiphany!  
Hope to see you there!

**Military Boxes** - we are continuing to collect much needed items for our military overseas. Place items in the red bin in the narthex.

*Gum Hard Candies Chap Stick Wipes Hand Sanitizer (small) books  
Snack Crackers Playing Cards Travel Size games personal items  
Word Search, Sudoku, Crossword Books*



### 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!



**Lawn Mowing** began with the beautiful spring weather  
**Crosses** were placed for Good Friday and Easter  
**Easter Flowers** were purchased and arranged for services  
**Lectors** gave voice to the stories of Holy Week  
**Easter Egg Hunt** organizers and helpers, super job!



## May Baptismal Birthdays

<i>Corey Davis</i>	<i>Sean Rumfield</i>	<i>Samantha Williams</i>
<i>Cheryl Ralston</i>	<i>Rachael Pickett</i>	<i>Jim Davis</i>
<i>Nina Haag</i>		

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

**Join us for worship this month!**

Every Sunday at 8:00 am  
and 10:15 am  
Both services in person  
10:15 also on Facebook LIVE

Grief Support Group  
Mondays at 7:00

**Please join us!**

**Meals on Wheels**

Let me know if you need an envelope for Meals on Wheels.

Please remember this mission outreach of meals.

Here is a way to donate to the program online:  
[.https://agingihs.org/join-us/donate/](https://agingihs.org/join-us/donate/)

You can also sign up for their Newsletter.

Check out the other programs and information that is available, very helpful resource.

May  
Bible  
Readings



**May 7<sup>th</sup>**  
**5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter**  
Acts 7:55-60  
1 Peter 2:2-10  
John 14:1-14

**May 14<sup>th</sup>**  
**6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter**  
Acts 17:22-31  
1 Peter 3:13-22  
John 14:15-21

**May 21<sup>st</sup>**  
**7<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter**  
Acts 1:6-14  
1 Peter 4:12-14, 5:6-11  
John 17:1-11

**May 28<sup>th</sup>**  
**Pentecost**  
Acts 2:1-21  
1 Corinthians 12:3b-13  
John 20:19-23

STATEMENT  
**Our Mission**  
STATEMENT  
STATEMENT  
STATEMENT

We are Christians, called by God, committed to:

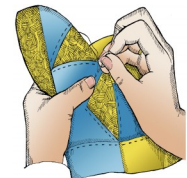
**Sharing** the Gospel,  
**Serving** others as Christ taught us, and  
**Creating** disciples for witness.

**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  
on Wednesday May 3rd and Saturday May 6th  
from 10am to noon. We have steadily been making  
tops and assembling them here at church. The  
closet is getting full!  
Come and enjoy the fellowship  
while we tie knots and share.



QUILTING GROUP

**E-mail Us:** Pastor's office.....[pastor@epiphanyfw.com](mailto:pastor@epiphanyfw.com)  
Pastor's home.....[rhart49@frontier.com](mailto:rhart49@frontier.com)  
Dia's office.....[dia@epiphanyfw.com](mailto:dia@epiphanyfw.com)

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

*Dia will be out of the office from May 23rd - May 27th*

## May is Mental Health Awareness Month

Please remember we all have mental health and it greatly affects our physical health. Take time to think of your mental health and the mental health of family and friends this month.

Remember there is no shame in asking for help if you need it. One out of five people suffer from a mental health issue. It is a biological illness and just like a physical illness it should be talked about and addressed. There is help. There is hope.

There is a small display table in the narthex with resources. As a church we should support each others' mental health and I hope we will reach out to one another.

Following is a list of tips to help a person with mental illness from NAMI, the National Alliance on Mental Illness.

How best to approach someone who might be struggling?

1. Talk to them in a comfortable space, less interruptions and distractions
2. Ease into conversation gradually. Sometimes they are not ready to talk, greeting them and gentle kindness can go along way..
3. Speak in a relaxed and calm manner, straightforward and one topic at a time.
4. Be respectful, compassionate and empathetic to feelings and listen.
5. Let them talk, don't push or pry, share your feelings
6. Be aware of a person becoming upset or confused.
7. Show respect and understanding for how they describe symptoms.
8. Express genuine concern
9. Offer support, how can I help, can I pray for you?
10. Give them hope for recovery, offer encouragement and prayers

**Don't say** - just pray about it,  
You need to change your attitude  
Stop harping on the negative, just start living  
Everyone feels that way sometimes  
You have the same illness as \_\_\_\_\_.  
Yes we all feel a little crazy now and then.

**AVOID** - criticizing, blaming or raising your voice at them  
Talk too much, too fast, too loud. Silence and pauses are ok  
Show any hostility towards them

Be sarcastic or make jokes about their condition, patronize or condescending.

**Vacation Bible School  
June 12th - 16th  
6:00 - 8:00 pm**

**Pre Register - ages 3-10  
Ask neighbors, kids, grand kids, relatives...  
There will be story time, music, crafts,  
snacks and games.**

**We still need some helpers!!!!**

**Supplies needed:**

Cardboard paper rolls (toilet or towels)  
Sandwich bags  
Newspapers  
Magazines  
Glue sticks and elber's glue  
Crayons  
Markers  
Pencils  
Colored paper  
Paper plates for projects

**SNACKS:**

Juice boxes  
Small water bottles  
Single serving crackers or chips  
Napkins





### **Mission Moment May 2023**

Thank you to everyone who donated food for our fishes and loaves collection. We donated some to Associated Churches and some of the food was taken to the community food pantries located throughout Fort Wayne.

Throughout May we will continue our collections for Lutheran World Relief. We will collect bar soap for our layettes and health kits. Each kit needs 8-9 ounces of soap (2-3 bars). Last year we did 101 layettes and 135 health kits, so we'll need a lot of soap. Health kit items needed include bath towels, tooth brushes, nail clippers, combs, and soap.

If you shop at garage sales, please keep in mind the needs of our missions for Lutheran World Relief. The quilters can use cotton fabric, mattress pads, blankets, and sheets. Items needed for layettes include long sleeve outfits, T-shirts, sweaters/jackets, socks, hats, hand towels, and receiving blankets. All clothes for layettes need to be 6 months to 2T.

Thank you, Alicia Davis





## **Lutheran Senior Care Ministry Update May 2023**

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

Our 100th Anniversary planning committee

is working on a theme for next year—

Looking Back † Growing Forward


Celebrating a Century of Senior Christian Love

We also want to involve our Ambassadors, students at Lutheran schools, and member congregations, so you will hear more as plans develop.

The number of residents attending weekly services continues to increase as LSCM’s mission expands.

Thank you for your prayers and support of this ministry!

Peace! Sue

	<u>May 7<sup>th</sup></u> 5th Sunday of Easter	<u>May 14<sup>th</sup></u> 6th Sunday of Easter	<u>May 21<sup>st</sup></u> 7th Sunday of Easter	<u>May 28<sup>th</sup></u> Pentecost
<b>Organist</b>	Guitar	Alicia	Amanda	Amanda
<b>Assisting Minister</b>	Mark Herb	Rebecca Norberg	Jim Davis	Dia Herb
<b>Lector/ Communion 8:00 am</b>	Sue Davis	Cheryl Ralston	Sue Johnson	Kim Robinson
<b>Lector 10:15 am</b>	Steve Haag	Melissa Hartman	Cathy Rumfield	Shane Pickett
<b>Communion Assistant 10:15 am</b>	Jack Swanson	N/A	Nina Haag	Mike Rumfield