



EPIPHANY
LUTHERAN
CHURCH

The Examiner

The Newsletter of Epiphany Evangelical Lutheran Church, Richmond, VA
Walk the Journey + Worship the Christ + Witness with Joy

May 2026

“Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of our faith...” – Hebrews 12:1–2

In this Easter season, our readings continually return us to the story of the first apostles—those who knew Jesus, who witnessed his crucifixion, resurrection, and ascension, and who faithfully passed that witness on to others. One image that captures this beautifully is a relay race: runners moving with purpose, handing off the baton from one to the next, each carrying the race forward.

At Epiphany, we are living into a similar moment. In our Community Service Team, we are witnessing a meaningful passing of the baton—faithful leaders who have served for many years are stepping back, and new leaders are stepping forward to continue the work. These transitions have unfolded (and will continue to unfold) throughout the year, but this is a fitting moment to give thanks and to look ahead with hope.



Matt Greenshields, who has led Liberation Veterans Service, is stepping down due to health reasons as he undergoes chemotherapy. We give thanks for Matt’s passion, leadership, and deep care for veterans. We are also grateful for Nate Sann, John Sann, and Chris Moffitt, who will carry this ministry forward, continuing to feed and care for those who have served.

Cheryl Hamm and Faye Coppage are retiring from Lamb’s Basket and Moments of Hope—two vital feeding ministries. Their dedication, organization, and ability to draw others into service have been a gift to this congregation and community. We give thanks for Cheryl and Faye, and we welcome Stephanie Hamlet as she steps into leadership of these ministries.

Eileen Johnson and Faye Coppage are also stepping back from the Easter Baskets ministry, which has brought joy to children and families through our partners at enCircle, Safe Harbor, and Moments of Hope. We give thanks for their work and for Beth Ann Gustufson, who will now lead this ministry.

Brenda Barnes is retiring from Thanksgiving Baskets, a ministry that has provided meals for many families in our community. We are grateful for Brenda’s faithful service and welcome Joyce Stahl and Peggy Hinson, who will take on leadership beginning this fall.

Marilyn Gloyer has faithfully organized our participation with Habitat for Humanity, helping to build homes for neighbors in need. As she steps down, we give thanks for her dedication and leadership. While we do not anticipate appointing a successor at this time—due to the distance of current worksites—we remain grateful for the impact of this ministry.

In all of this, we see the race continuing. The baton is being passed, the witness is being carried forward, and Christ remains at the center—our guide, our strength, and our goal.

Please join me in giving thanks to God for Matt, Cheryl, Faye, Eileen, Brenda, and Marilyn—for their years of faithful service and their continued commitment to this shared ministry – and for all those who have stepped up to receive the baton of leadership.

Our new Community Service Team Chairpersons are Gary and Peggy Hinson, who have brought their compassionate leadership, attention to detail, collaborative leadership style, and good humor to the team. We are very grateful for their guidance.

Our Community Service Team meets every third Tuesday of the month (excluding June and July) in the Conference Room and any one is invited to join us – In fact, I am happy to share that we even have members of the team who are not officially members of our congregation. If you feel called to serve you are most welcome to plug into our conversations and shared ministry.

With you in Christ's service –

Pastor Joseph Bolick

Epiphany Shines to 75 Campaign Update

Thank you to everyone who joined us in Price Hall on April 19 for our campaign breakfast. It was a wonderful morning of fellowship as we officially kicked off Epiphany Shines to 75!

The Progress So Far

Because of your incredible generosity and commitment to Epiphany's future, we have seen extraordinary progress in just a few short weeks. As of late April, \$517,754 has been pledged toward our \$750,000 goal!

In addition to these pledges, we include in our count the \$100,000 capital disbursement that the congregation voted to request on March 1. When combined, we are remarkably close to reaching our target. We are excited to see that our goals—essential property repairs to securing our financial footing before 2029—are well within reach.



Crossing the Finish Line

While we have much to celebrate, we aren't there yet. If you have not yet had the opportunity to submit your pledge, we encourage you to do so by June 7. Reaching our full goal ensures we can address every prioritized project identified by our Property Team and significantly reduce our mortgage principal.

Resources for Pledging and Giving

To assist you in your planning, campaign materials are available for pickup in the church commons. These include:

- The Campaign Prospectus: A detailed guide outlining our goals and providing clear financial charts. These charts show how various weekly, monthly, or annual giving amounts translate into a total 3-year gift, helping you find a commitment level that works for your household.
- Commitment Cards: Ready for you to fill out and return to the church office or place in the offering plate.

Thank you for your continued support and for being such an integral part of this journey. Together, we continue Walking the Journey, Worshipping the Christ, and Witnessing with Joy.

A Voice from the Pews: Matt Greenshields

Reflecting on my time at Epiphany, the word that best describes what this community has meant to me is ***blessed***, and it has shown up in my life by ***reigniting my faith***. ***While baptized into the Church of Christ as an infant, I came to Epiphany as one in a far country, but this community of Believers welcomed me as a fellow brother in Christ and did not hesitate to put me to work for the Lord. It's been a virtuous circle. Worship and hearing the word strengthens my faith so that I can do the good work God has prepared in advance for me, and I'm then drawn by the Holy Spirit to study His word which strengthens me to again do the work He's called me to do. Thanks be to God!***

Music Ministry

NOTES FROM THE CHOIR LOFT

Children's Choir Reminders

Cherub Choir, Steel Crossticks, Junior Handbells, and Singing Saints will participate in worship leadership on May 10 as part of Youth Sunday. Singing Saints will also sing on May 17 at the latest service only singing.

Saints and Cherub Choir will run through their song as part of Sundaes on Wednesday on May 6 at 6:30 pm. Other groups will finalize details on the Saturday, May 9 rehearsal.

Then we are all on break until September! Thanks for your participation this year!



Summer Musicians

A long-standing summer tradition has been for our members to share their musical talents with us during worship. This is an opportunity for those that might have time to only share once a year to do so. We enjoy the variety and it is wonderful to hear (and see) all the talent that we have in our midst! It could be an instrument or you can sing something or maybe even play something unique!

If you are interested in sharing your musical talents in worship during the summer months, please sign up now! Please reach out to Kevin at

kbarger@epiphanyelca.org to get on the schedule! This is always a favorite for our congregation! Please consider being a part! We welcome all!

Sundaes on Wednesdays

To celebrate our music ministry together for this year, we invite all music ministry participants and their families to “Sundaes on Wednesday” on May 6 in Price Hall from 6:00 - 7:00 pm. Please come out and enjoy this fellowship and celebration opportunity with your many co-musicians! There is a sign-up sheet on the board outside the Music Room. Please sign up by May 4 so we can plan accordingly. There is no cost for this event. Musicians from all music ministry groups are welcome to attend with their families! Singing Saints and Cherubs will run through their song for Youth Sunday around 6:30 this night.



Music Minutes with Kevin

Our music director continues to offer time on Saturdays at 7:00 pm to focus on music. Kevin provides some insight to the hymns we will be singing in worship the following day (very brief tidbits or comments) and then offer a musical presentation of those hymns – generally on piano. This time provides primarily music for you to listen to during the week but also a little history and knowledge of hymnody along the way. It is available on Facebook and our YouTube Channel. Be sure to “stop in” and join those catching these moments each week!

Summer Worship Times

May 24 - September 6

In person Worship

8:30am and 10:30am

Online Worship

10:30am



Scholarship Applications

Are you a senior in High School? If so, you have an opportunity to apply for our church's college scholarship!

Applications are in the Commons on the table by the Narthex.

Please remember that completed applications are due in the office by Noon on Sunday, May 10.

Questions? Contact the church office, 282-6066, for additional information.



Garden Blessing on May 3th!



Garden Blessing & Creation Walk

Sunday, May 3, 9:45-10:45 am

Epiphany's Garden and Grounds

Join with children and adults to bless Epiphany's Community Garden and stay after for a Creation Walk with Pastor Phillip. Explore the church grounds, listen for birds, and learn about the creation God has called us to care for right in our backyard!



**You care
for the land
and water it;
you enrich it
abundantly.**

Psalm 65:9, NIV

Beating of the Bounds 2026

Beating of the Bounds is an old European church tradition of visiting the boundaries of a church's parish on Ascension Day. We've revived it for the modern days as a way for the pastors to get out and about in the Richmond metro area to meet with as many parishioners as possible! It's so easy to participate!

If you can, join us at one of these locations on **May 14** and get to know some of your other congregation members. We have a brief Bible study devotion and plenty of time for conversations!

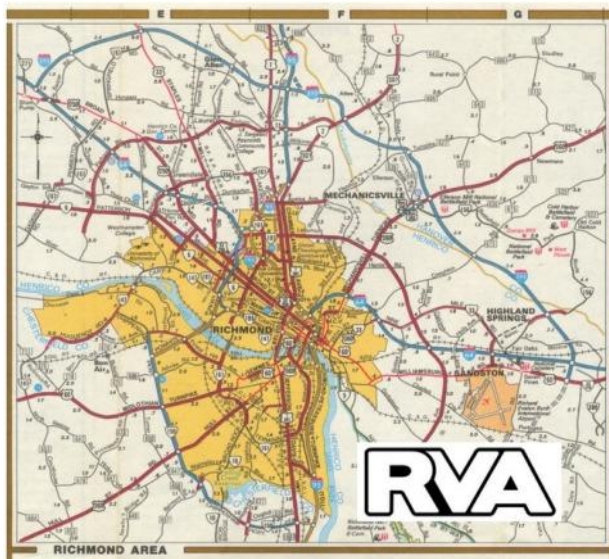
8:30 am – The Brick House Diner
(100 Schofield Drive, Midlo, 23113)

10:30 am – Blanchard's Coffee Broad Street
(3121 W. Broad St. 23230)

12:00 noon – Taziki's Mediterranean Café Innsbrook (4024 Cox Road Suite C 23060)

7:00 pm – Rare Olde Times (10602 Patterson Avenue). Pastor Joseph will be performing on stage
7:30-9:30 pm. Come and eat or just come and listen!

BEATING the B



O U N D S

You are invited to join us at the
CONGREGATIONAL SPRING BANQUET

Sunday, May 17; 12:30 pm

HONORING OUR 2026 CONFIRMANDS
and CONFIRMATION MENTORS

On May 17, the young people who have spent the last two years in special study for the affirmation of their baptism will be confirmed.

In celebration of this event, a congregational banquet hosted by the first year confirmation class is being planned to honor them and their mentors.

All members and family guests are invited to the banquet which will be in Price Hall immediately following the 11 am service.

Our menu includes:

Lemon Basil Chicken, with Rosemary Roasted Potatoes, Green Beans with Caramelized Onions, Vegetable Paella, Salad, Iced Tea, Lemonade and cake! Gluten-free items will also be available.

Please make your reservation by signing the signup sheet, which can be found in the Commons and in the “Weekly Announcements from Epiphany” email by using Signup Genius.

or by contacting the church office at 804-282-6066 by the reservation deadline Monday, May 11.



The second year Confirmation Class includes:

Ben Brown, Heidi Carlson, Zachary Diehl, Mark Hodges, Jake Nelson, James Newman, Addison Ozlin, Hudson Pickels, Caroline Samos, Nate Stevens and Ryan Urban.

Congratulations Graduates!

We extend congratulations and best wishes to all the 2026 graduates! Our youth graduating from High School are:

Olivia Anderson, Joshua Baker, Sam Brown, Greyson Castle, Bridget Charleston, Arden Ebbesen, Lilly Grisham, Laura Martin, Alex Mertz, Addie Perryman, Rylan Samos, Jacob Sann, Beckett Sarych, Mitchell Scheid, Riley Stapleton, and Mollie-Aidan Kacani.

Congratulations to those in our congregation who are graduating from a trade school, university or college.

Job well done!



May Baptism Birthdays



Altar Care

Thank you to those who served in April:

First Service - Cathy DeLesDernier and Melissa Newman

Second Service - Chris Crouch and Linda Martin

Altar Care for May:

First Service - Pamela Bosserman and Stephanie Hamlett

Second Service - Bobbie Jo Carroll and Beth Barger

Would you like to join the Altar Care Team? We could use your help!

Please contact Linda Martin at 804-282-6066 or lmartin@epiphanyelca.org if you are interested.



The Finance Team Ministry will meet on 4th Tuesday, May 26 at 7:00 pm.

If you would like to attend, please let Jim Huddle know.

Jrhuddle1us@gmail.com

704-779-3307



Faith Formation



Sunday School for Children and Youth

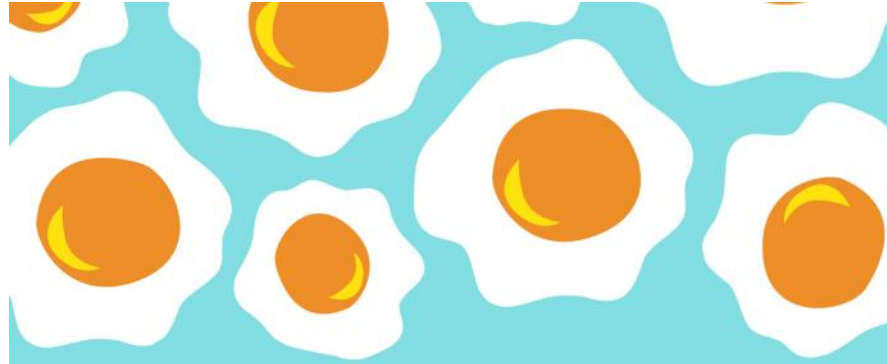
We gather for our last Sunday morning learning on May 3! Join us!

9:45 AM - Music Opening in Room 104 for Children 2 Years through 2nd Grade

10:00 am - Sunday school begins for our younger learners:
2 YO & 3 YO: Room 102
Pre-K & K: Room 101
1st & 2nd Grade: Room 104

9:45 AM - 10:45 am - Sunday School for Older Children and Youth
3rd, 4th, & 5th Graders: Room 201
Middle School: Luther Room High School: Von Bora Room





Rise & shine...and give God the glory, glory

at our
Faith Formation
Breakfast!

Sunday, May 10
9:45-10:45 AM in Price Hall
All are welcome!

Join us for breakfast on Sunday, May 11 to celebrate the end of our Faith Formation year and thank our volunteers and teachers!

Pancakes, sausage, breakfast casserole and fruit will be served!

Signing up isn't necessary but a preliminary head count would be helpful! Sign-up [here](#).

Faith Formation—Plan now for Summer!



Join us for Vacation Bible School

June 8-12, 2026!

“Be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power.” Ephesians 6:10

Registration is full!

If you missed out on registering and want to be placed on a waiting list, email Pastor Sarah (slang@epiphanyelca.org).



Snack Item Donations

Snack Donation slips are currently available in the Commons. If you'd like to donate an item or two to be used at VBS this year, check out what's needed.

Remember to return your donations by Sunday, May 24!



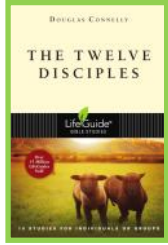
VBS Art Sundays!

May 3, May 17

9:45-10:45 am,

Join us to make simple art projects for Vacation Bible School! No craft skills are necessary! If you can cut and glue, you can help! These are simply fun projects to help our Decorating Team get ready for VBS. Join us!

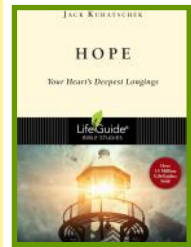
Faith Formation for Adults



TUESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

Tuesdays, 10:30-Noon in the Parlor

Our group continues a study on the 12 Disciples which will help us finish out our year together. Join us!



MOMS' BIBLE STUDY

Thursdays, 7-8:30 pm

Moms' Bible Study (MBS) is open to moms of any age, with kids of any age. All moms are welcome! We meet through the end of May and are studying *Hope: Your Heart's Deepest Longings*.

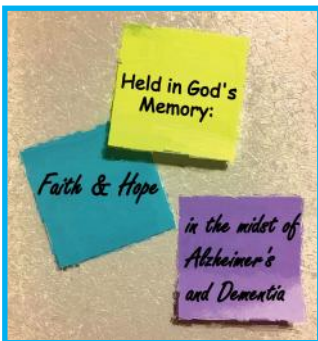
Questions? Contact Amy Boyle aimandbub@msn.com or 804-347-2724.



Blessed and Stressed

Sundays, 10:00 am
Parlor

Blessed and Stressed is a gathering for parents of younger children that meets in the parlor during Sunday school hour (beginning at 10:00 am). The purpose of our gathering is to provide a casual setting where we can socialize and support each other. We will have a discussion topic and hear prayer requests each week. Join us!



When Memory Fades: Faith and Hope in the Midst of Alzheimer's and Dementia

Sundays in Easter: May 3
9:45 am-10:45 am, Price Hall

Join us for this important conversation that will touch most, if not all of us, in some way during our lifetime. We'll be focusing on three different topics on each of these three Sundays. Join us for one or for all!

May 3: Sacred Accompaniment: Caregiving: Gifts, Challenges, and Resources (led by Pastor Sarah Menke)



New(er) Members' Classes

Sunday, May 3
9:45 am-10:45 am, Star Lodge

Are you interested in joining or learning more about Epiphany or have you recently become a new member? If so, you are invited to a two week class that serves as an introduction to the Epiphany community. Join with Pastor Phillip, as we get to know one another, our community, and learn about the mission we share to Walk the Journey, Worship the Christ, and Witness with Joy.

YOUTH MINISTRY IN MAY



Epiphany Youth and Families --

You're invited to join us for our EYG Gathering this Sunday, May 3 -- (Noon to 2:00 pm)

All 6-12th Grade Youth are invited to join us for our final Youth Sunday Preparations!

So far I have heard from Rylan, Addie, Beckett, Sam, Riley, and Lilly who are giving a senior sermon -- (seniors are invited to meet with me at 2:00 pm after EYG to look at this together). YOUTH OF ALL AGES are invited to participate by reading lessons, giving the children's sermon, offering prayers, playing an instrument, and/or leading the congregation with singing! we will divide up tasks at this gathering. Our BRAND NEW EYG T-SHIRTS are here and will be handed out this Sunday as well!

Saturday, May 9 we will also have a Youth Sunday Rehearsal (All 6-12th Grade Youth are invited to join us from 9:00 am to Noon) - Donuts will be provided! Senior sermons should be complete by this gathering and presented at 11:30am to the group.

Sunday, May 10- Youth Sunday All 6-12th Grade Youth are invited to join us as we lead worship (Both Services, 8:30 am and 11:00 am with breakfast between the services)

Epiphany Class of 2026 Graduation Party - Monday, May 11 from 6:00 pm to 8:30 pm at Sam Brown's house! Join us as we celebrate our EYG Seniors. This party is for all graduating seniors and their whole families, the 6-12th grade youth group, and our Timothy Ministers. All are welcome!

I'm so proud of you all and look forward to the next few weeks together!

Peace+

Pastor Joseph

Faith Formation—Plan now for Summer!



Summer Servant Day Camp for Middle School Youth!

July 13-17, 2026
9:00 am—3:00 pm

Registration remains open for a new summer day camp experience for Middle School Youth (rising 6th, 7th, 8th graders along with rising 9th graders). There are 16 youth registered! Does that include you?

Join Pastor Joseph and Pastor Sarah **July 13-17, 2026** for a week of service-learning, Bible study, crafts, games, songs, and friendship-building. We'll gather from 9:00 am - 3:00 pm each day and spend part of our time off-site serving in the community. Cost is \$50 and scholarship is available!

Questions? Reach out to [Pastor Sarah](#) or [Pastor Joseph](#). [Register Today!](#)



ELCA Summer 2026 Camp Scholarship Applications are available!

Epiphany is again thrilled to be able to provide a 50% scholarship for the price of tuition for any program at an ELCA camp in the summer of 2026 (one per child). Fill out the scholarship form found in the Commons on the table under the monitor and return to the Epiphany office.

Property Ministry

A Fast Spring

facilities article May 2026

The back and forth weather pattern may be finally settling down. Recent chill swings haven't slowed the Epiphany garden-check it out!



Of course, all things property lean hard into proposed repairs and upgrades. The response to the Shine to 75 campaign has been swift and huge! While the usual daily repairs continue, here's two of the projects that had been staged that are now moving forward.

An improved audio-visual setup in Price Hall is finally getting the last few details ironed out. When signed off on, completion is tentatively estimated to be August.

A series of cabinets is in the process of being fabricated for our quilters. This will greatly increase their storage and help to complete their move from the second floor to the first. This ministry has grown so much that it's just easier to have a huge work area just off our parking lot.

Many more items are in the works, and I'll mention them in these articles as we go along. The largest projects, such as the floors in the Franklin street hallway, Price Hall, and the kitchen will require quite a bit of choreography and you'll be sure to hear about it way before it happens. Stay tuned!



Many thanks to all who came to the campaign kickoff breakfast on April 19th. Cheryl Hamm put together a great team including Linda Martin, Robyn Bridges, Faye Coppage, Carolyn (and Jim) Behrens, Ken and Linda Reckenbeil and myself.



It was a bit of work, but everyone did a great job, and thanks to all those who pitched in at the end to help with the cleanup. Here's wishing you all a great May, blink and it will be summer!

Rob Hamlin
Facilities Manager

Fellowship Ministry



Join us on Thursday, May 21st at 7:00 pm for an evening of fellowship. We will gather at Hardywood Craft Brewery, West Creek 820 Sanctuary Trail Drive All men are welcome, we hope to see you there!

For more information contact Joe Barnes (804) 836-5394.



Men's Lunches

Epiphany has two men's lunches that meet every month led by the pastor(s). Come join in fellowship and lunch!

The Second Tuesday of the month is our Men's "Manna" Lunch which meets at 11:45 am, at Tony's Italian Restaurant, (3409 Cox Rd, Richmond, VA 23233)

The Third Tuesday of the month is our Tuesday Men's Lunch which meets at 11:45 am, at Frank's West-located at 11238 Patterson Ave, Richmond, VA 23238 (Tuckahoe Village Shopping Center)



To our Church friends at Epiphany Lutheran,
Thank you for the flowers that were brought to us here at our home.
They remind us that we are loved and cared for by the church.
Thank you very much.

Peace,
Bev and OB Kelley



Community Service Ministry

The **Community Service Ministry Team** offers many ways for you to serve others. These opportunities are perfect for families and individuals with a busy schedule, work and school commitments and holiday seasons.

Chose one or more of these opportunities to do God's Work through you today!



Community Service Ministry Team Meeting

The Team is meeting on Tuesday, April 21 at 7:00 pm in the Conference Room and by Zoom. Come and see what we do to help our community. Ideas? Bring those too! Questions? Contact Peggy Hinson at psumd76@verizon.net or (703) 472-8701.



PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY MEETING

Our Mission Statement: The Prayer Shawl Ministry has been created to provide comfort for those in need of God's embrace.



One of the most important part of our ministry is to offer our congregation the opportunity to request a Prayer Shawl for someone you know that is in need of comfort. Simply go the church office and Hanne can assist you with your need.



The Prayer Shawl is a symbol, a garment, shroud, canopy, or cloak which envelops the wearer both physically and spiritually, in prayer and celebration, in joy and sorrow. The Prayer Shawl is a commanded blessing, given by God.

We will be sharing our skills by working from home unless there is a need to start meeting back at the church. Should anyone be interested or need more information, or product, please contact Jackie Collins at ejc070944@gmail.com

We are interested in sharing our shawls with the Epiphany homebound. Let us know if you know of someone that would benefit from our shawls. We are blessed to have such workmanship.

There are so many reasons for us to share a prayer shawl with those we care about: those with health issues; those in distress; those who mourn; those who travel or move away from friends and/or family; new baby; graduate; newlyweds; to name a few.



Thank you to everyone who made cookies for our Kairos Prison Ministry International Inc, Greenville Correctional Center! Your contribution is much appreciated!

Community Service Ministry, cont'd

We had an excellent turnout at the Liberation Veterans Services (LVS) dinner on March 31st. Ten members, along with some friends, provided outstanding support by helping serve the meal at LVS's new location off Midlothian Turnpike.

The facility is impressive. The facility features shared bathrooms and bedrooms, and at Veterans Village, every veteran will have their own private space. In addition to the private units, the space features a communal dining hall and kitchen.



We served dinner to 32 residents that evening and met several staff members, who expressed sincere gratitude for our support and were pleased to welcome us back.

A special thanks goes out to Alvah and Bonita Wyatt, as well as John Sann, for their help reheating all the food and preparing it for transport.

The next opportunity to serve will be on Tuesday, June 30. If you'd like more information or want to join our team, please contact Nate Sann.

SAVE THE DATE - MAY 31 - EPIPHANY'S FIRST BLOOD DRIVE IN 2026

Oh my! It has been a long time, hasn't it? Well, the wait is soon over. Epiphany will finally host its first blood drive of 2026 on Sunday, May 31.

Prior to February's cancelled, in October 2025 we collected a total of 34 units, a record for Epiphany, and more importantly, a contribution which impacted up to 102 lives in the Richmond community.

With no snow in sight, we're hoping that this May we will have even more Epiphany members sign up.

Signing up online is easy. Follow this <https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/drive-results?zipSponsor=epiphanyrva> Be sure to select the May 31 date.



Many thanks to all who have graciously donated in the past year.

As always, if you have questions about donation or problems signing up, call Carl Erickson at 804-873-5163.

Community Service Ministry, cont'd

The Sew Blessed quilters are appreciative of Councils approval of the LWR Ingathering that we hosted Saturday, April 18th. It was a huge success! We could not have done it without everyone's help. THANK YOU to everyone for tying, sewing, cutting, bringing in goodies for our visitors, and just being a great group of people to do good work with. We thank the staff, council, and the congregation for supporting our work for LWR.

Including Epiphany, we had donations from 9 churches and it was very special to welcome fellow Lutherans and quilters to our church. They were all very surprised at the size and beauty of our church, lots of pictures were taken. We also shared some of our resources with fellow quilters. Many sheets and a few tops were shared with those from smaller churches.

They sent a truck which we did not nearly fill (see pictures).

We had a total of
12 school kits, 20 Baby Care Kits, 424 Quilts, 36 Fabric Kits
Packed in 72 boxes

The driver was an immigrant who had been sponsored by the Lutheran Church. He said he had a soft spot for the Lutheran Church.

Churches included were:

Epiphany Lutheran, Richmond, VA
Redeemer Lutheran, Fredericksburg, VA
Christ the King, Richmond, VA
Christ Lutheran, Richmond VA
Holy Spirit Lutheran, Eldersburg, MD
Messiah Lutheran Church, Mechanicsville, VA
Grace and Glory Lutheran, Palmrya, VA
Bethlehem Lutheran, Richmond, VA
Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church, Waynesboro, VA

So the closets are empty and it is time to start filling them up again.

A few pictures from yesterday are included. Again THANK YOU ALL!



Fellowship Ministry, cont'd

Women's Circles

The Clara Sullivan Circle met on April 8, in the Parlor.

Eileen gave the devotion from The One Year Women of the Bible. This passage noted the women that followed Jesus and were at his crucifixion.

Plans for programs were discussed for the 2026-2027 year. If you would like to sign up to give the devotion at one of the meetings, Eileen will have the sheet to pass around at our next Clara Sullivan meeting.

The WELCA Spring Luncheon will be on Wednesday May 13. See the Epiphany Newsletter for more information.

Our next Clara Sullivan Circle meeting will be on September 9, 2026. Have a great summer everyone!

Please call Eileen or Bonita if you are interested in more information about the Clara Sullivan Circle. We will be glad to talk with you and include you in the email chain. Everyone is welcome! **Call, text, or email:**

Eileen Johnson: 804-513-3005 jay3boating@gmail.com

Bonita Wyatt: 804-347-5357 bwyatt@microtel systems.com



Women
of the
**EVANGELICAL
LUTHERAN
CHURCH
IN AMERICA**

Margaret Miller Circle

We Are Strong Women And Love Sharing Our Life Gifts: The Margaret Miller Circle and the other WELCA ladies will gather to meet this month on Wednesday, May 13 at 11:00 am. for the Annual Spring Luncheon shared with all Epiphany woman. We will rest for the summer and then come together in the Fall 2026.

We welcome the opportunity to share our circle with others. If interested in joining our circle or have any questions, please contact Donna Josephson (804) 883-5955.

Katie Luther Circle will meet on Thursday, May 14 for lunch. If you are interested in joining our circle, contact Tatter Hartmann at 804 338 3678 (phone or text) or at maryhartmann279@gmail.com.

YOU ARE INVITED

May is the month for garden club membership renewal and new applications.
We'd love to have you join us!

Sleepy Hollow Garden Club was founded in 1962 - and since 2013, we have met at Epiphany in Price Hall on the 3rd Friday, September-May.

We established a Natural Habitat Garden out back and have planted several trees on the property. We spearheaded the plastic film recycling project. We held a Flower Show in Price Hall last year.

And we enjoy doing horticulture projects with the four-year-olds at the Epiphany Lutheran Nursery School.

We are a hospitable group of nature enthusiasts!

Our club promotes gardening, floral design, and environmental conservation. Membership includes educational programs, workshops, demonstrations, community service projects, and the opportunity to learn about and exhibit horticulture and floral designs.

We invite you to join us! To learn more, contact:

Kathy Kaufmann, Membership Chair kkkaufman@comcast.net 717-659-8952



Affiliated with National Garden Clubs, Inc., South Atlantic Region of Garden Clubs, Virginia Federation of Garden Clubs Piedmont District, Richmond Council of Garden Clubs

Epiphany Women's Spring Luncheon

May 13, 2026, 11 am to 1:00 pm in Price Hall

VMFA's Fine Arts and Flowers

"Behind the Scenes - a Designer's Experience"

Presenter – Gail Goodrich Harwood

Virginia Museum of Fine Arts will once again stage Fine Arts and Flowers in 2026 - October 8-11. This PowerPoint-based presentation shares insights into the floral designer's experience: from artwork assignment, to container selection and design composition, to interpretative remarks, to flower ordering, to building the design onsite.

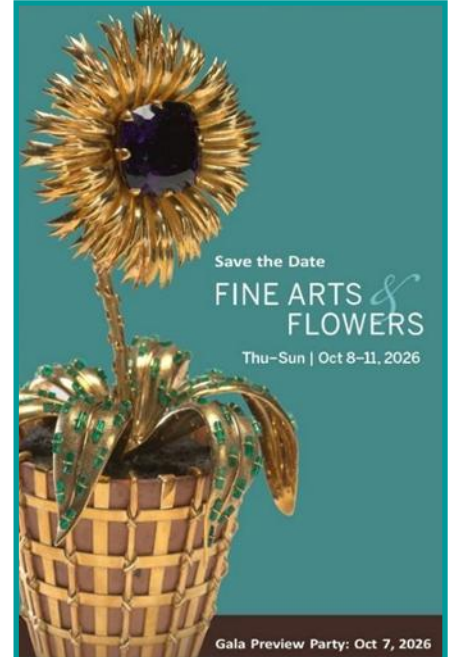
Gail is a member of Katie Luther Circle and Sleepy Hollow Garden Club that meets at Epiphany. 2026 will be her third time creating an interpretative design for Fine Arts and Flowers. Gail is a member of the VMFA Council and serves as an Atrium Ambassador. She is also a designer for the Hirshler Foundation program, creating large floral designs for the atrium to welcome visitors to the museum.

Donations will be collected for the Evelyn D. Reinhart House, a home away from home for caregivers of patients at St. Mary's Hospital. Current needs are gift cards to Target, Walmart or Kroger, and personal sized items including water, healthy snacks, flavored creamers, and cereal.

Please register by Sunday, May 3. Indicate your choice of lunch on the form below and submit with \$15 to the white mailbox outside the church office. Make checks payable to "Epiphany WELCA."

Print Your Name _____

Questions? Call or text, Eileen Johnson
(804) 513-3005



Lunches from Sally Bell's Kitchen

Please Choose **Either** a Box Lunch **OR** a Cold Plate

Box Lunch Menu Please choose one sandwich from the list below:

- Chicken Salad on a Roll
- Turkey & Provolone on Wheat Sandwich Bread
- Pimento Cheese on White Bread
- Roast Beef & Swiss Cheese on a Roll

Box lunch comes with Potato Salad, Deviled Egg, Cheese Wafer, and a Cupcake

OR

Cold Plate Menu Please choose one salad from the list below:

- Chicken Salad
- Tuna Salad
- Egg Salad

Cold Plate comes with Potato Salad, Deviled Egg, and a Cupcake

Epiphany Lutheran Nursery School News

April was a short month at ELNS since we were off the first week of the month for spring break. As we have gotten back into the groove again, we are sailing toward the end of our school year which is the 15th of May. Between now and then we have much to do though....teacher appreciation week, bike and trike day, our moving on ceremony for our rising kindergarten students, our end of the year picnic and more!



In April we celebrated Earth Day. Our Red and Yellow classes enjoyed a visit from a tree expert brought to us by the Sleepy Hollow Garden Club. These students learned about trees, helped plant a new one here on the church grounds and then all went home with a tree of their own to plant. A special Thank you to Sleepy Hollow Garden Club for providing a program to our oldest students each year. This has become a tradition each spring and we appreciate their thoughtfulness and always enjoy the program and time with the Garden Club members. We also had a visit from the baby petting zoo from Teeny Tiny Farm on Earth Day as we celebrated all God's creatures. We all learned ways we can take better care of our planet Earth.

In keeping with our May theme of new life, all of our classes have started their lifecycle units which are always a sure sign of spring at ELNS. We have classes raising tending caterpillars in hopes that they become butterflies, watching a praying mantis egg sack awaiting the arrival of 200 new praying mantises and even a class incubating six chicken eggs in hopes of hatching chickens in early May. These units are always student favorites as we get to watch nature up close!



We are also gearing up for our summer camp which will begin on May 18th and run for two weeks. Our theme this year for is Curious Creators and we will explore both engineering and art. During week one, we will build with everything we can think of...including Legos, blocks, recyclables, and more. During week two we will focus using our imaginations to create with clay, found objects, textiles, and more. We can't wait to see what our little learners create together!

Although we are almost completely full for next year, with 95 students currently enrolled, we do still have a few spaces remaining in a couple of our classes so if you or someone you know is interested in our preschool program, don't hesitate to get in touch with us. We are always happy to give tours and to share information with new families.

More information is also always available on our web site at www.epiphanylutherannurseryschool.com.
Happy Spring!

Melinda Martin

ELNS Program Director

Members in Our Prayers



CHURCH STAFF

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We will be in the office during these listed times.

9 am - 3 pm Monday through Thursday

9 am - Noon on Friday (Pastors off on Fridays)

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Address Service Requested



In-Person Worship Times

September 7-May 17
8:30 am and 11:00 am

**Online Summer Worship Times on
YouTube**

September 7-May 17
11:00 am

In-Person Summer Worship Times


May 24 - September 6
8:30 am and 10:30 am

Summer Worship on YouTube

May 24 - September 6
10:30 am



www.facebook.com/EpiphanyLutheranRVA

 Instagram: epiphanyelca