



EPIPHANY
LUTHERAN
CHURCH

The Examiner

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

October 2026

Welcoming Pastor Tina Toburen: A New Chapter in Virginia Synod Youth Ministry

The Virginia Synod is beginning a new chapter in ministry as Pastor Tina Toburen has been called to serve as the new Director for Youth and Young Adult Ministry, and we are excited to welcome her and to see where God will lead this ministry in the years ahead.

As you know, Youth Ministry at Epiphany is a partnership between God, our youth, parents and families, Timothy Ministers, pastors, teachers, and congregation. We also have a relationship with the Virginia Synod and one of the main ways this gets lived out is through our Synod retreats for youth.

These retreats are one important way our youth are invited to grow in faith, build friendships, serve their neighbors, and discover that they are part of something much larger than our own congregation.

If you have been a part of Synod Youth Ministry at any point over the past 40 years you will have come to know Pastor Dave Delaney who served as our Synod's Director for Youth and Young Adult Ministries. Dave was a faithful leader for generations of Virginia Synod youth, and his leadership, musical gifts, and commitment have helped make synodical youth ministry what it is today. You could think of Pastor Tina as the "New Dave" for a few minutes but we also know that she will bring her own gifts and vision to the ministry!

So who is Pastor Tina? — Pastor Tina grew up in Michigan and studied psychology at Gettysburg College before attending the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg. She has served congregations in Pennsylvania as well as Trinity Lutheran Church in Newport News. Outside of ministry, she enjoys reading, movies, following University of Michigan and Detroit sports, and spending time with her 14-year-old dog, Scully. We will, of course, get to know her more as we journey together.

One particularly important piece of news for us: the synod youth retreats – Lost and Found, Winter Celebration, 7th Day, Kairos and Launch -- will continue. Of course, Pastor Tina has been blessed with her own unique constellation of gifts and we can expect some things about Virginia Synod youth and young adult ministry to change and develop under her leadership, and I think that is something to look forward to! But the ministry will continue to grow because our young people continue to grow—and because God continues to call them into lives of faith, service, friendship, and discipleship.

We will be hosting Pastor Tina this coming Sunday, October 4 at Epiphany. She will bring greetings during worship, visit our Sunday school classes, and join us for our EYG Gathering after worship in the Star Lodge. This will be a great way for you to get to know her and put a name with a face.

I look forward to working with Pastor Tina and ask you to please join me in welcoming her and praying for her as she begins this new ministry.

With you in the joy of the gospel,

Pastor Joseph





Meet Elisa Walsh!

Elisa Walsh is Epiphany Lutheran Church's new Office Administrator. A Richmond native who now lives in Chesterfield, she brings a background in church administration and a heart for serving the church. Outside of work, Elisa enjoys shopping, decorating, graphic design and Bible study. Be sure to stop by the office and say hello—she'd love to meet you!

Upcoming Opportunities to Serve Our Neighbors

Looking Ahead!

October 11 - Blood Drive in Price Hall

October 25- Moments of Hope Lunch Service Event.

November 3 - Cookie Bake for Kairos Prison Ministry

November - Thanksgiving Collection

November 15 - Annual Congregation Meeting

December - Giving Tree Collection



GO.



SERVE.



LOVE.



REPEAT.

Music Ministry

NOTES FROM THE CHOIR LOFT

Children's Corner

Our young musicians have an exciting month ahead! Please review the rehearsal and worship schedules below to keep your calendars up to date.

Wednesday Rehearsals (October 7, 14, and 28)

*Please note: There will be **no rehearsals** on Wednesday, October 21.*

Cherub Choir: Meets from 6:30 PM – 7:00 pm in **Room 104**.

Singing Saints: Meets from 6:30 PM – 7:00 pm in the **Sala Music Center**.

Special Ensembles

Junior Handbells: Meeting as part of *Lil Youths* on Sunday, **October 11**.

Steel Crossticks: Meeting at 12:15 pm on Sunday, **October 25**.

Worship Leadership

Sunday, October 11: The **Cherub Choir** will sing at both worship services.

Sunday, October 18: The **Singing Saints** will lead music at both worship services.

For full details on each of these groups, please pick up a Music Ministry Handbook online, in the Sala Music Center, or on the front table in the Burger Commons.

Epiphany Brass: Reformation Sunday

Members of our brass ensemble will be playing for worship and providing hymn accompaniments on **Sunday, October 25** as we celebrate Reformation Sunday.

If you play a brass instrument and are available to share your talents, we would love to have you! If you haven't already signed up, please contact **Kevin Barger** at kbarger@epiphanyelca.org as soon as possible to secure your music.



The Finance Team Ministry will meet on 4th Tuesday, September 22 at 7:00 pm.

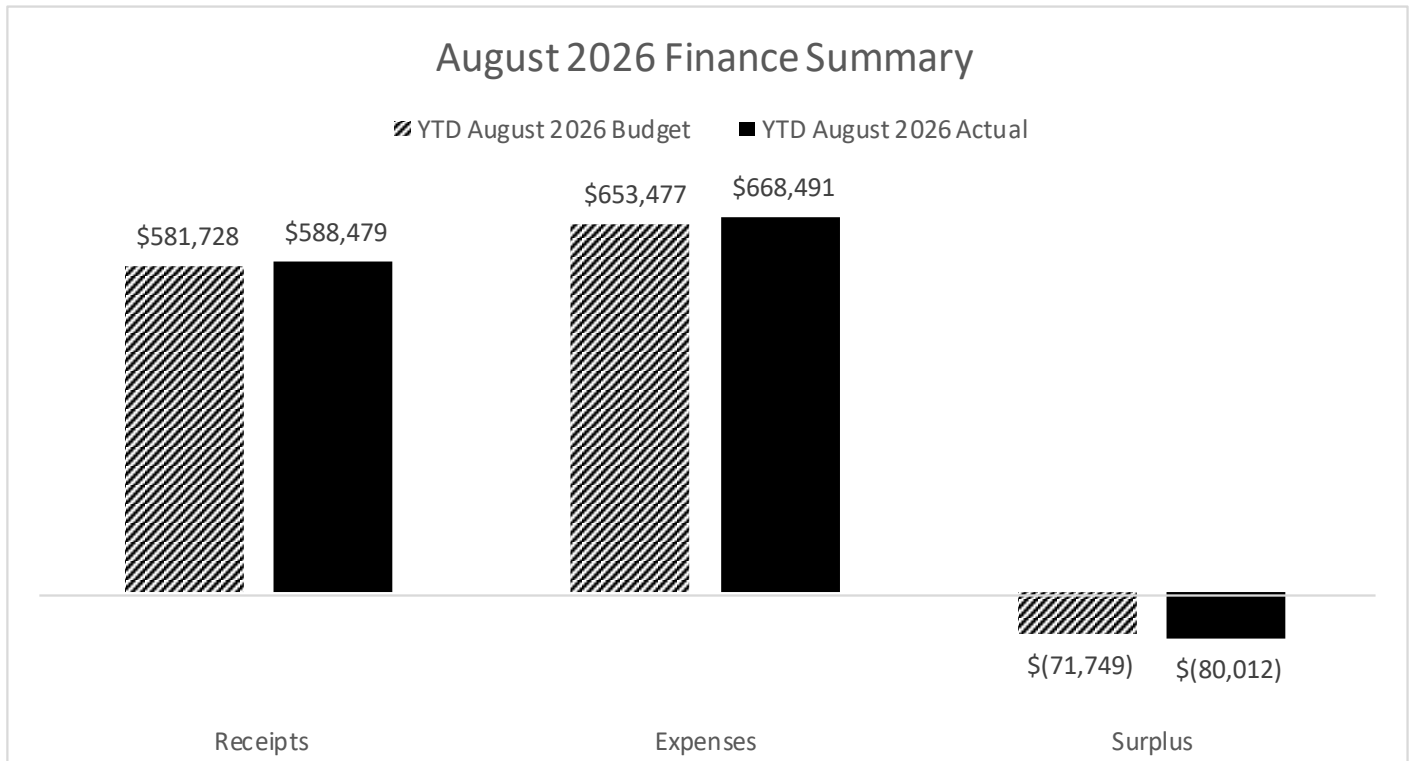
If you would like to attend, please let Jim Huddle know.

Jrhuddle1us@gmail.com

704-779-3307



Finance Ministry



YTD August receipts are \$588,479 which is \$6,751 ahead of plan and on par with 2025.

Expenses were \$668,491 which is \$15,014 above planned expenses. Property expense is unfavorable at \$8.1k due to electricity bills being higher than normal due to the cold winter. Also, water and sewer expenses are unfavorable by \$5k due to water leaks.

We have a net deficit of \$80,012 which is more than the planned deficit of \$71,749 by \$8,263. We typically run a deficit through the early part of the year and make it up in the 4th quarter.

Church Council Nominating Team

The Church Council Nominating Team is now accepting suggestions from the congregation for individuals to serve on our Congregational Council beginning in February 2027. Do you know someone who would be a great person to serve on our church council?

Any member can be suggested for the Nominating Team's consideration. Please leave your suggestions on the purple slips found on the table in the Commons under the television monitor and on the pews in the Sanctuary and then place your slip in the drop box outside of the Church office. Thank you.



October Baptism Birthdays



Altar Care

Thank you to those who served in September:

First Service - Poppy Ebbesen Linda Martin
Second Service - Tracy Bucknam,
Kathy Kaufmann, Linda Martin

Altar Care for October:

First Service - Janet and Bob Johnson
Second Service - Jean Henry and JoAnn Fawley

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.

Altar Care Volunteers Needed

Each Sunday morning, when you enter the sanctuary, you find the table set and prepared for Holy Communion. Epiphany's Altar Care team plays a vital role in the life of our community of faith by ensuring that the sanctuary is prepared for worship services. Their quiet, behind the scenes work allows our worship to proceed smoothly and reverently. Serving on the Altar Care team is a meaningful way to contribute to the spiritual life of our community, offering your time and talents in service to God and the Congregation.



The Altar Care team needs volunteers for this ministry. Volunteers work in teams of two for one or two months of the year to prepare the sanctuary for communion and clear up after the service for either the early or late service. Typically, the combined amount of time to prepare for the service and clear up after the service takes approximately forty-five minutes to an hour but on special occasions it may take a bit more time. Please consider volunteering for this important ministry. If you are interested and would like to learn more about altar care, please contact Linda Martin in the church office (804) 282-6066 or lmartin@epiphanyelca.org. Thank you.

Faith Formation



Sunday School for Children and Youth

Sunday morning learning for children and youth is in full swing!
Join us for singing, playing, and learning!

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

10 AM - Sunday school begins for our younger learners:

2 YO & 3 YO: Room 102

Pre-K & K: Room 101

1st & 2nd Grade: Room 104

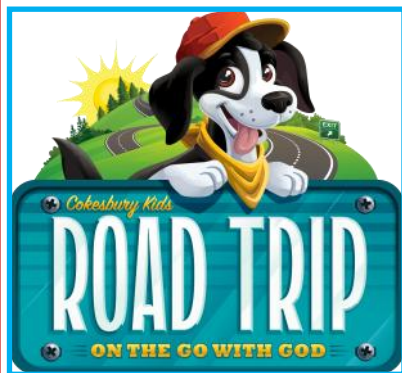
9:45 AM - 10:45 AM - Sunday School for Older Children and Youth

3rd, 4th, & 5th Graders: von Bora Room

Middle School: Luther Room

High School: Star Lodge

*** Epiphany organizes its Sunday School age groups based on the same guidelines that determine appropriate school age. For example two-year-olds are children born between October 1, 2023 and September 30, 2024. If your child is in a different grade than their birthdate specifies, please speak with Pastor Sarah to have them placed on the correct list.*



VBS 2027

Save the Date!

Join us June 14-18, 2027 for a Road Trip as we travel with God! Registration will open in January 2027.

Vacation Bible School is open to 3-year-olds (born between October 1, 2022 and September 30, 2023) through 5th Graders.



Blessed and Stressed

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). Sunday school is available for children ages 2 and up. If you have children who are not yet old enough for Sunday school, they are welcome to join us in Blessed & Stressed or can also play in the staffed nursery. 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!

Faith Foundations for Families

Epiphany partners with families to help fulfil the baptismal promises we make together by presenting Bibles at significant milestones in children's lives and teaching children about important parts of our faith—like how and why we worship and Holy Communion. Check out the dates for 2025-2026!!



Learning About Worship Kindergarteners and their Parents Sunday, October 4 9:45 am Room 101

Why do we worship? What do we do in worship? What are the different parts of our worship space for exactly? Come explore with Pastor Joseph some of the answers to these questions in a hands-on, experiential way!



Bible Presentation: Sunday, October 25 Exploring the Bible: Sundays, November 8 & 15 3rd Graders & Their Parents

Third graders are beginning to read more and more independently and to mark this milestone, Epiphany presents 3rd Graders with a new study Bible. The presentation happens during worship on Sunday, October 25 followed by two classes in November about how to use their new Bibles. **A parents' only meeting is set for Sunday, October 4 to share details about the Bible presentation.**



Lord's Prayer Class 1st & 2nd Graders & Their Parents January 10 & 17, 2027

All 1st and 2nd graders and their parents or loving adult are invited to a two-week class on the Lord's Prayer. Join with one of the pastors to learn more about how Jesus teaches us to pray! Questions? Email Pastor Sarah at slang@epiphanyelca.org

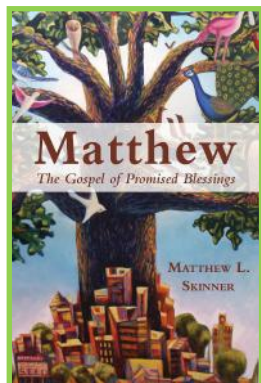


Holy Communion Class 4th Graders & Their Parents March 7, 14, & 21 2027

Whether your 4th Grader is already receiving Holy Communion or is ready to begin, these classes set aside time with one of the pastors to learn about this meal and make plans for receiving communion on Maundy Thursday, March 25.

Faith Formation for Adults

Mid-Week Opportunities



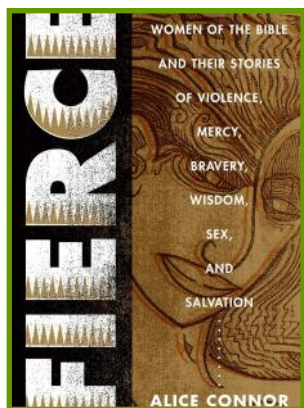
TUESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

10:30-Noon in the Parlor

Join this lively group for study and conversation about scripture, prayer, and fellowship. All adults are welcome! If you have questions specific for the group, you may reach out to Wayne Shimko, Lyle Gleason or Pastor Sarah Lang.

September 15—October 20: *Matthew: The Gospel of Promised Blessings*

October 27 — December 8: *How Lutherans Interpret the Bible*



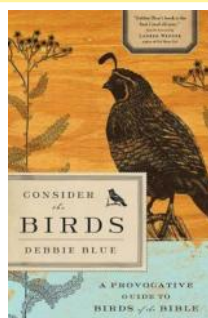
MOMS' BIBLE STUDY

Thursdays, 5-6:30 pm

Epiphany Moms' Bible Study (MBS) continues to meet at 5 PM on Thursday evenings in the Parlor. Moms' Bible Study (MBS) is open to moms of any age, with kids of any age. Our group started almost 20 years ago, and as our kids have grown, so has our group. All moms are welcome!

We continue reading together Alice O'Connor's book, *Fierce: Women of the Bible and Their Stories of Violence, Mercy, Bravery, Wisdom, Sex, and Salvation*.

Sunday Morning Opportunities



Consider the Birds: A Provocative Guide to the Birds of the Bible Sundays, 9:45 AM

October 4, Price Hall

October 11, Bonhoeffer Room

Join Pastor Phillip for this book study based on the birds of the Bible.

Note the different locations in October!



Theology of Baseball

Sundays, 9:45 AM

October 18 & 25, Bonhoeffer Room

Batter up! Just in time for the World Series, join us as we think out loud together about what baseball teaches about community and devotion by examining the spiritual metaphors inherent in baseball. We'll use biblical passages to understand the unique objective in baseball of starting at home and overcoming obstacles to return home, as in Luke 15 The Prodigal Son. Led by Epiphany member, the Rev. Tim Gerde and Marilyn Gerde.



Children, Youth, Families, and Friends!

Join us for an afternoon of fellowship and fall fun!

We'll share lunch, carve pumpkins, and for a costume parade.

Individuals and families—bring your own pumpkins to carve along with carving tools. We'll set aside time to carve pumpkins together and vote for our favorites at the end!

Pizza lunch will be provided. [Sign-up here](#) so we can gather a head count. Please bring a dessert or side dish to share.

Children and adults are invited to wear costumes and participate in a costume parade.



YOUTH MINISTRY FOR FALL 2026

Epiphany Youth Group, or EYG, is ministry for, with, and by, seventh through twelfth grade youth and their adult leaders, Timothy Ministers. Our Sunday "Gatherings" are the heart of EYG ministry, and we meet about every other week as we grow closer to God and one another, and as we serve the world God loves. Lil Youth is our youth group with the same mission and focus; except it's for fourth through sixth grade youth and meets once a month.

Unless otherwise specified, our gatherings happen in Star Lodge from noon to 2pm and include lunch.

OCTOBER

Sunday, October 4 - EYG Gathering (to include a brief crucifer training)

Sunday, October 11 – Lil Youth Gathering (to include a brief acolyte training)

Sunday, October 18 – EYG Gathering

Planning Meeting for the Year – bring your ideas!

Sunday, October 25 - Trunk or Treat

Immediately after second worship service – EYG and Lil Youth to lead carnival games

NOVEMBER

Sunday, November 8 – EYG Gathering

Sunday, November 15 – Lil Youth

Also the Annual Congregation Meeting – Lil Youth meet in Star Lodge after lunch in Price Hall

Friday to Sunday, November 20-22 - Lost and Found Retreat (7-8th grade)

Sunday, November 29 - EYG, 12-5pm, meet in Star Lodge -- Leaf-Raking Service Project

DECEMBER

Sunday, December 6 - Lil Youth Christmas Party

Sunday, December 13 - EYG Christmas Party, 5-9PM

Lil Youths!

Hello Fourth, Fifth, and Sixth Grade Families!

We know that this is an exciting time of the year for you with lots of new adventures and we're so excited to invite you to join us for...

Lil Youths!

Epiphany's YOUTH GROUP just for 4th 5th and 6th graders!



We invite you to join us for our monthly gatherings this year which will include games, crafts, service projects, music, and much more!

Each gathering will begin in Star Lodge with lunch right after the 11am service and go until 2pm (unless noted otherwise below).

We hope that each family might volunteer to provide lunch once during the year so that we can enjoy a nice meal together. Often families choose to work with another family to share the task together. Check out the sign-up below.

There will be a music element to each gathering and we'll use these times to prepare for leading worship on various Sunday mornings but if you prefer not to do music there will also be an alternate activity.

Here is our meeting schedule for the year:

Sunday, October 11 - Will include an acolyte training

Sunday, November 15

Sunday, December 6 - Christmas Party

Monday, January 18 - MLK Service Day (9am - noon)

Sunday, February 21

Sat-Sun, March 6-7 "Seventh Day" Retreat at Eagle Eyrie in Lynchburg for 5-6th Graders

Sunday, April 11 - End of year celebration

Friends are always welcome! Likewise, parents are always welcome to stay but are not required to attend. We look forward to a year of fun and growing in faith!

We hope to see you soon —

Pastor Joseph and Mr. Kevin

EYG - From Pastor Joseph

REGISTRATION IS OPEN for our Summer Service Trip to Puerto Rico during the week of Sunday, June 27 through Saturday, July 3, 2027.

This experience will be for youth who are current 8th through 12th grade students and you are invited to register now — then we will register Timothy Ministers with a child in EYG, then Timothy Ministers, then parents with a child in EYG.

All you need to do at this time to register is to submit a check for \$150 made out to Epiphany with “Puerto Rico Trip” and the participants name in the subject line. An additional and final payment of \$280 will be due in January for a total cost to you of \$430. Epiphany will cover the difference. As always, *if you would like financial assistance please just speak with me. We have already had people come forward offering to contribute to make this experience possible for any youth who need assistance.*

Puerto Rico is part of the United States and passports are not needed to travel, and yet this is a big adventure. Parents are welcome to join us -- indeed we will need several of you to join us to make this happen!

Imagine this experience for our group! It will include four solid days of service along with strong relational connections to the communities we visit. We will be serving in a place where Spanish is the primary language which will give our group an opportunity to step into a genuine cross-cultural experience. There will be fun evening activities and we will take part in the vibrant culture by learning local history from local leaders and enjoying regional cuisine.

This will be a chance to experience the church working in a truly unique way and we will be addressing the effects of poverty and natural disasters in a community that manages daily life with limited resources. Most service projects will include supporting children, older adults, and marginalized communities through relationship-building and hands-on projects. YouthWorks has been serving in the metro area since 2005 so the partnership runs deep.

This is a thrilling opportunity to take part in ministry with individuals, churches, schools, and service organizations invested for the long run, through four days of meaningful service, a unique cultural experience, relationship-building, and fun.

Peace+

Joseph



Property Ministry

Days of Pumpkin Spice

facilities article October 2026

October arrives and the smell of suntan lotion is replaced with pumpkin spice. And just like that, it's the holiday season. It's been a busy year, and we're not done yet!

September brought many changes and accomplishments. Big thanks to all who helped make Rally Day a big success. Once again, mother nature had other plans for any outside activities besides a well-visited bouncy house. Maybe next year we'll be grilling and eating outside!

The biggest line item in the Shine to 75 property budget was our new Audiovisual system. The install tied up Price Hall for a week, but the crew from Code 3 AV under the watchful eye of Wayne Shimko got the job done on time. We've had to work out a few network glitches but by now most of you have seen the system in action.

Jim Behrens completed work on our hall water fountain, once again donating his time as well as the materials.



Steve Collins and I have begun assessing and donating old and unused equipment and materials to clear out the boiler room and garage. One large grate made of copper yielded \$361 to the property budget! We were also able to repair the lock to the archive's storage room. They also have a new shelf to work with. Ashley Vavra and team continue the work of Barry Westin and John Hartman sorting our historical documents. There are a lot of creative ideas on the way involving our whole congregation and the documentation of the history of our church. I can say no more!

As hinted in the last article, the next big-ticket item to occur will be the replacement of the flooring in Price Hall and beyond.

This is scheduled to begin Monday October 19th, and will put that area off limits for that week. It's possible the work could extend to the next week-we'll see how things progress. The game lines will be laid down the week of the 25th. I would like some help as the Quilter's and I move their new cabinets out of the way the week of October 11th. Call me!



Ken Reckenbeil and the columbarium team continue to maintain and upgrade that area's plantings. We're fighting the invasive weeds in our center committal area, as well as looking to better secure the entranceway lighting posts.

There is much more going on and any time you may have to donate towards our many projects would be much appreciated. I'll do my best to keep you all informed as to what's going on with the Price Hall install.

Don't forget Trunk or Treat on the 24th!

Rob Hamlin
Facilities Manager

Fellowship Ministry



Join us on Thursday, October 15th at 7:00 pm for an evening of fellowship. We will gather at Waygone Brewery, 10612 Patterson Ave, Henrico, 23238

All men are welcome, we hope to see you there! For more information contact Joe Barnes 804-836-5394.



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)



Fellowship Ministry, cont'd

Women's Circles

The Clara Sullivan Circle met on September 9, in the Burger Commons.

We had light refreshments while taking time to catch up with everyone after the summer break.

Carol Diehl gave the devotion from Romans concerning God's love for everyone. His wish is that, without condition, we love one another.

Our next meeting will be on Wednesday October 14, 10:00 am in the Parlor.

The Program will be "Getting to Know Our Epiphany Lutheran Church Ministries."

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@microtelsystems.com

The Margaret Miller Circle We are back and anxious to welcome you to our WELCA

gatherings! We will meet this month on Tuesday, October 13, at 10:00 am. in the Commons. We will be studying one of the women of the New Testament presented by Sally Trone; a devotion given by Jackie Collins; and exceptional treats prepared by Sharon Bertelson. No one would want to miss this delightful set of threes.

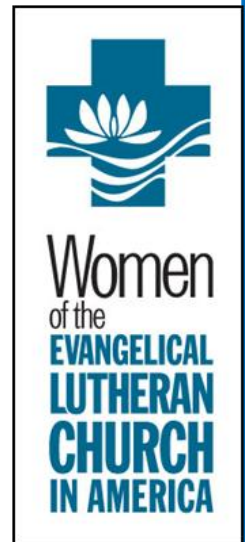
At our September meeting we were blessed to have our outstanding Fall Luncheon prepared by Sally Trone with the presentation of our fond memories of Miss Betsy Williamson and the recipes from Miss Betsy's very own cookbook: Williamsburg

Hot Chicken Salad; Orange Sherbert Salad; Crunchy Cole Slaw; and Sock-It-To-Me Cake.

For many years we so looked forward to our September meetings being held at the home of Miss Betsy and now we are truly blessed to have Sally offer her home, food and inspiration for our Fall Luncheon.

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.

The Katie Luther Circle will meet on Thursday, October 8 at noon at the home of Tatter Hartmann. Sign up emails will be sent the week prior. If you are interested in joining our circle, please contact Tatter Hartmann at maryhartmann279@gmail.com or 804 338 3578.



All Ladies of Epiphany

I am a member of the Clara Circle at Epiphany. My term as Secretary just ended on the Virginia Synod Women's Board. I wanted to let you know that the **2027 Virginia Synod Women's Convention will be held at Christ Lutheran in Staunton, Virginia.** I'm sure you know that Daniel Hess serves as pastor. The Virginia Synod Women's Board will be meeting in Staunton in November to begin planning. The last I heard the board was hoping that Sarah Hess would agree to serve as the Convention Chaplain.

The dates for the 2027 convention is June 24-26, 2027. Please save these dates. More information will be coming in November. This is a 2-night convention, but it would be possible to attend just for a day.

JoAnn Fawley

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, October 20 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



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 parts of our ministry is to offer our congregation the opportunity to request and provide a Prayer Shawl for someone they know who is in need of comfort.

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.

Simply go the church office and Hanne or Linda can assist you with your need.

The Prayer Shawl is a symbol, garment, shroud, canopy, or cloak which envelopes 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.

Ridge Elementary is looking for volunteers, especially male volunteers. The goal is to help students see that there are caring, supportive men in their school and community who believe in them and want to be involved in their success.



They need volunteers for the following positions, men and women.

- Henrico Heroes- a mentoring group. It works with students once a week.
- Reading and tutoring positions
- Helping with school activities and events
- Career talks and presentation
- Lunch/recess activities
- Sports and recreational activities

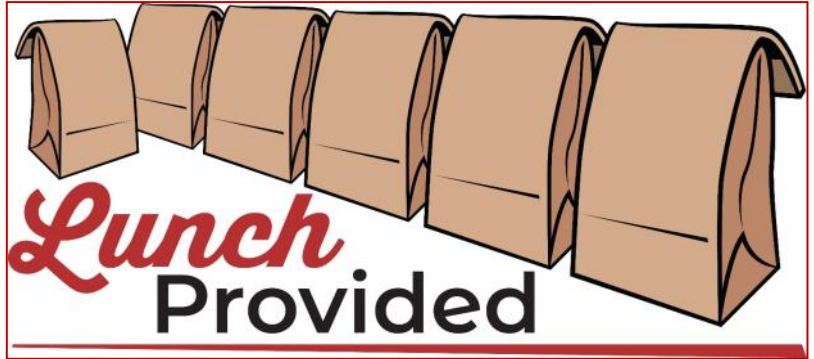
Supporting classrooms and teachers.

If you are interested in helping out, call Toni Powell 804-673-3743, ext.2

Community Service Ministry, cont'd

October 24th, 2026 – Moments of Hope Lunch Event

The Community Ministry Team will be providing over 400 bag lunches to folks in need on Saturday, October 24th, through the non-profit in Hanover called Moments of Hope. We will be preparing and packaging these meals to deliver on that day to their location for this event at 601 Azalea Avenue. Please note that in the past we have been asking for 300 bag lunches, but because of the growing needs that MoHope is seeing, that number has increased considerably.



For those who want to help us with the preparation of the bag lunches, please sign up through SignUpGenius or the sign up sheet on the information table in the Commons outside of the Narthex. We've had such overwhelming support from our congregation each and every time we've had this event, so we hope that we can count on you again to assist us even with the growing number of needed lunches. As before, we will be preparing simple but filling bag lunches, and we turn to you, our congregation members, to assist in any way you can in getting this done. You can sign up for as many lunches (in groups of 10) as you wish.

Link to sign up for lunches: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050A4CAFAA22A6FE3-58985185-moments>

We will also be preparing 200 little Halloween bags filled with candy. If you'd like to contribute bags of candy, that would be greatly appreciated. ***No candy with peanuts, no hard candy and no full size candy bars, please.*** Some candy suggestions: M & M's, Hershey Bars, Mints, Hershey Chocolate Kisses, Junior Mints, Sweet Tarts, Gummie Bears, Twizzlers, York Peppermint Patty, Rolos, KitKats, and Milky Way Bars. **Candy should be individually wrapped.**

For those who want to help us with **Purchasing Bags of Candy**, please sign up on the sign-up sheet located on the information table in the Commons outside of the Narthex.

All candy must be delivered to the Church Office by Wednesday, October 14 between

9:00 am and 3:00 pm. The High School Youth Group will be filling the bags after the 11:00 service on Sunday, October 18. Since they are not allowed to participate at the luncheon serving (must be 18 or older), this is a great service project for them.

Community Service Ministry, cont'd

Thanksgiving Basket Ministry Begins on Sunday, October 18!

Continuing Epiphany's long-standing tradition of providing a Thanksgiving meal for our neighbors, the Community Service Ministry Team will collect non-perishable food items and monetary donations. On Sunday, October 18th, grocery bags with an attached list of food needed to feed a family of six will be available to take home and fill.

For those who prefer not to shop, envelopes will be available on the table in the Commons for monetary donations. Monetary donations collected will be used to purchase gift cards so families can buy a turkey. Please write "Thanksgiving Basket Ministry" on the memo line of your check, place it in an envelope, and put it in the white drop box outside the office.



Please return all donations to the church no later than Sunday, November 8th. Thank you for your generous support!



Community Service Ministry, cont'd

100 dozen home baked cookies needed Can you help meet the goal??

Rob McClintock is a volunteer with Kairos Prison Ministry International, Inc. and assigned to the Greenville Correctional Center. His team is scheduled to meet and share the Good News with inmates November 5-8. Volunteers are asked to bring with them on their assigned weekend 100 dozen home baked cookies which the volunteers will distribute to the inmates. Epiphany has really rallied in support of this ministry in the past, and your efforts have truly been a blessing to the incarcerated.



If you can help Rob with this ministry and bake a couple dozen (or more) cookies please let us know by signing up on this sign-upgenius link: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050A4CAFAA22A6FE3-66306573-cookie> or on the sign-up sheets on the table in the Commons outside of the Narthex. You will also find on the table a copy of the instructions for baking the cookies and suggested cookie recipes provided by the Kairos Prison Ministry. Please take one.

*Cookies should be delivered to the church office no later than **Tuesday, November 3 between 9:00 am and 3:00 pm.***

Additionally, the team has activated a Prayer Vigil link (see below.) The team is asking folks who would like to further support the team and the inmates at GCC to consider signing up for a 30-minute slot to pray for those involved in this Kairos Weekend. We pray for the Holy Spirit to be with those in attendance so that the Word is heard and acts upon the hearts and minds of both the team of volunteers, but also the inmates participating in the program, the staff at the institution, and the families of those incarcerated. On Friday morning, we roll out a "Prayer Vigil Wheel" which is a large, colorful poster which shows that folks have signed up for the 30-minutes slots around the clock through Sunday. It makes a powerful impact on the inmates, that folks who do not know them are keeping them in prayer. We often refer to the wheel throughout the weekend, noting for example, that "Right now at 2:00PM Saturday, Sally Smith is praying for us all."

Prayer Vigil link: <https://prayervigils.net/vigils/580>

Members in Our Prayers



CHURCH STAFF

Pastor - The Rev. Phillip W. Martin, Jr.
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We will be in the office during these listed times.

9:00 am - 3:00 pm Monday through Thursday

9:00 am - Noon on Friday (Pastors off on Fridays)

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Address Service Requested



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

In-Person Worship Times
September 13-May 23
8:30 am and 11:00 am

Online Worship Times on YouTube
September 13-May 23
11:00 am

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