



EPIPHANY STAR

Epiphany Lutheran Church
Carbondale, Illinois
February 2024



Pastor Brian Coffey

Notes from the Pastor

Blessings to you this Lenten season! We are midway through Lent and heading towards Easter Sunday on March 31st. I encourage you to participate in the Wednesday evening meals at 6:00 followed by a brief service of prayer, song, and contemplation at 7:00. It's a special opportunity we are given each week to step away from the busyness of daily life and reflect on our relationship with Jesus Christ. This year's focus is on "Lament", which is a rich tradition within Christianity that often gets overlooked.

As always, I encourage you to take a moment each week to read the eHappenings that are sent via email by our Business Manager, **Olise Mandat**. eHappenings has more than just the "basics" about the upcoming Sunday worship service. I like to call this our "bonus content." In it, you will find more details about "goings on" and additional resources to keep up with the ministry at Epiphany, the Synod, and the ELCA.

Please also take the time to read through this beautiful newsletter that is expertly produced by Jim Womack each month. By spending a little time, you can be sure to stay "in the know" and plug into the mission we are about for our Lord and Savior based at 1501 W. Chautauqua. This month you will also note several opportunities to assist important local organizations that are represented by Epiphany members.



Rev. Amy Zietlow

Please attend worship in person or via Zoom on **March 3rd** to hear from Guest Preacher, **Rev. Amy Zietlow**. **Pr. Zietlow** completed her pastoral internship at Our Redeemer in Marion some years ago. She has served as the Pastor of Holy Cross in Decatur and most recently accepted a new call on **Bishop Greg Busboom's** staff as the director of Transformational Leadership. She will be participating in our Adult Education class at 8:30 a.m. as well.

Finally, I would like to extend a sincere "thank you" for the new Audio-Visual (AV) furniture built by **Cory Newman's dad** and stained by **Cory** to improve the look and functionality of our AV area. Zoom participation has remained steady and even reached 23 people one Sunday, maintaining a consistent worship experience - including Wednesday evening services. Similarly, **Phil Brown** is working on livestreaming the monthly Jazz Vespers service via Facebook (follow the page "Jazz Vespers at Epiphany" for updates and viewing.)

Blessings to you as we complete our Lenten journey this month and look forward to the start of the Easter season.

Your Fellow Servant in Christ,

Pastor Brian

March 3 Southern Conference Spring Assembly At Epiphany

Per **Bishop Greg Busboom**, the focus of our time together is to be a facilitated "Listening Session" to gather information from congregation members. Given this, it is important that as many members as possible have their voices heard by the Synod, so we invite the congregation to come and participate in this event.

If you will be unable to attend, please take a moment to complete this online survey www.surveymonkey.com/r/CSIS-Conference. Paper copies will also be included as a bulletin insert on this Sunday, March 3.

Thank you for sharing your perspectives to assist Bishop Greg and Synod leaders with understanding the needs of our Synod to help determine the best way forward in ministry together as the people of God dwelling in our part of the State of Illinois.

-- **Pastor Brian**

- 2:45 pm – 3:00 pm - Registration
- 3:00 pm – 3:30 pm - Introduction to Synod Assembly Festival Worship Liturgy
- 3:30 pm – 3:45 pm - Conference Business: Elections, 2024 Spending Plan, Synod Greetings from **Rev. Amy Zietlow**
- 3:45 pm – 4:45 pm - C/SIS Listening Process: Small groups – with refreshments
- 4:45 pm – 5:00 pm - Closing devotion: Anointing of Hands

Call for Fellowship Assistance for the Synod Assembly

I am seeking Fellowship Assistance for the Synod Assembly at Epiphany this Sunday, March 3, at approximately 2:30 p.m. There will be around 30 to 40 people in attendance. I am seeking some of the following types of refreshments: **cookies, coffee cake, cheese, meat, crackers, fruits, nuts....** If you could please provide any of these types of items, [let me know](#), and bring them to church labeled as "for Assembly." I could also use some assistance setting up and cleaning up.

In addition, Fellowship is in sore need of Sunday hosts for after church services. Please consider signing up!

Thank you!

Deb Sarvela, Fellowship Chair **618-303-7178** dsarvela@hotmail.com

Help Is Needed In Haiti

Pam Umlauf-Brown will have a table set up in the Fellowship Hall this Sunday, March 3 (and possibly also March 10) to raise funds and awareness for a special medical device that is desperately needed in the small country of Haiti. It is a handheld Butterfly ultrasound instrument and will be used by the **Midwives for Haiti** group which runs community clinics, two rural birth centers, a continuing education institute for healthcare providers, and a traditional birth attendant training program. They are looking for financial help to save the lives of expectant mothers and their babies.

Please take a minute to read the next page to understand what one of the Rotary Clubs in Carbondale is doing to raise funds to make a huge difference in the lives of people we may be able to help.



Pam Umlauf-Brown

Continued

Help Is Needed In Haiti (continued)

Midwives For Haiti - Maternal & Infant Health in Haiti

Pam Umlauf-Brown will have a table set up in the Fellowship Hall this Sunday, March 3, to raise funds and awareness for a handheld Butterfly ultrasound device. The device will be used by the **Midwives for Haiti** which runs community clinics, two rural birth centers, a continuing education institute for healthcare providers, and also a traditional birth attendant training program ... and they are busy!

Led by the Rotary Club of Carbondale (Noon Group), a global grant from the manufacturer has resulted in a discounted price for the device (\$2,300) and free support services. **You can talk to Pam to get more information and possibly purchase raffle tickets (\$5 each) or make a monetary donation. The items for raffle are 12 ounces of Haitian coffee and a lovely breezy linen poncho.**

Here is some important background information:

"Haiti is the most dangerous country in the Western Hemisphere to give birth. Most of these maternal deaths are caused by sepsis, and postpartum hemorrhage (bleeding). In other words, most of these deaths are preventable."

Haiti also has the highest rates of infant and under-five mortality in the Western Hemisphere. Children who have lost their mothers are up to 10 times more likely to die prematurely than those who have not. Midwives for Haiti is a grassroots, community-based organization, dedicated to lowering these numbers. Midwives for Haiti has community clinics, birth centers, a continuing education institute for healthcare providers, and a traditional birth attendant training program. What they truly need is a decent piece of equipment to monitor a mother's health and the baby she is expecting. Together we can make a difference for people in Haiti who need some help.

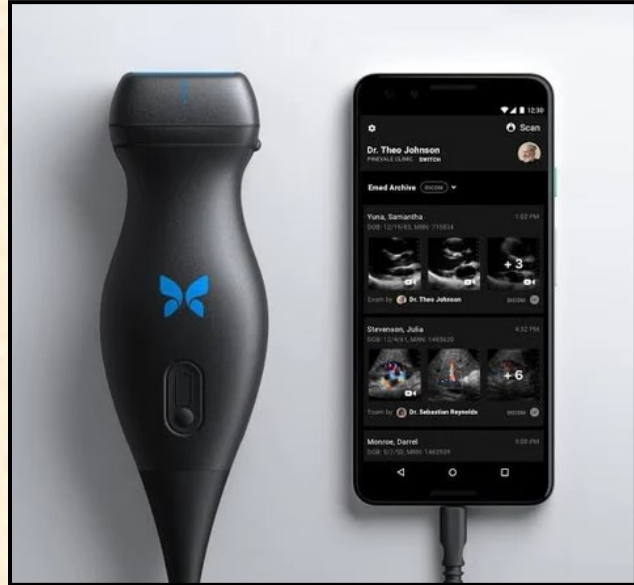
On the top of the next page is a photo of the handheld Butterfly Ultrasound Machine.

Continued

Photo Of the Handheld “Butterfly” Ultrasound Device

It's not much larger than most cell phones, but that's part of its versatility and convenience. It can be coupled with a cell phone to provide accurate information to doctors hundreds or thousands of miles away.

How many raffle tickets would you like?



JAZZ VESPERS: 5:00 PM ON SUNDAY, MARCH 10, 2024

Second Sundays at 5:00P
Epiphany Lutheran Church
Carbondale, Illinois

Jazz Vespers

a Lenten Evening Prayer Service led by **Pastor Brian Coffey**
with members and guests of the **New Arts Jazztet**—Bob Allison, trumpet;
Mel Goot, piano; Phil Brown, bass; and Kyle McDonald, drums—**March 10, 2024**

works by **Dave Brubeck, Dan Haerle, Jeff Lorber, New Cool Collective, Ben Tankard, and Dan Willis**

Thoughts From the President

Good Morning to you, siblings in Christ!

We are in the midst of Lent and have had a lovely “Fat Tuesday” on Ash Wednesday fundraiser meal provided by the Men of Epiphany on Valentine’s Day! **Tim Fink** of the Worship Committee organized the meal, and sufficient funds were raised to cover our commitment to seminaries! It really was a delightful evening, followed by the solemn Ash Wednesday service. The Lenten meals and services have also been quite nice, food, and time for reflection.

Remember, we will be having a special meeting immediately following the Palm/Passion Sunday Service (March 24!) to ratify the Constitution!!! Please review the constitution before then so that the vote can be a quick one. I will not be at that service because it is the weekend of my granddaughter’s first birthday party. **Cory Newman** will head the meeting.

The Finance Committee met and decided on areas to use some of the memorial funds. The Worship Committee is purchasing some new banners and a Christmas Tree, the Property Committee will be having a landscaping assessment, and some funds will support LuMin (a campus ministry initiative). The Mutual Ministry (Staff Support) committee has compiled all of the responses from the pastoral survey. Council will review and provide **Pastor Brian** with an evaluation and goals for this next year. Fellowship is providing refreshments for the Synod Assembly being hosted here at Epiphany this Sunday, March 3. Fellowship is also preparing for a light Easter Brunch. And Evangelism has sent out another targeted mailing, which has brought in some additional attendees to our Lenten services. Check out the rest of the newsletter to see all the things going on at Epiphany!

Lenten blessings to you all,

Deb Sarvela

Council President



Deb Sarvela

Council President

March Birthdays

Ella Gulbrandsen	March 3
Lori Scimeca	March 3
Kristin Sarvela	March 7
Sydney Lay	March 8
Steve Logan	March 8
Zoey Lee-Person	March 15
Aiden Andert	March 18
Deb Sarvela	March 20

Kevin Bame	March 23
Shelby Cook	March 23
Margaret Dwyer	March 25
Vivienne Sarvela	March 26
Chalmer Post	March 27
Maureene Gulbrandsen	March 28
Ola Fulton	March 29
Nora Geiselman	March 31



Worship News

Some Thoughts About “Underscoring”

I receive feedback somewhat regularly on what we call “underscoring” in film and theater. For those that don’t know the term, this is music that continues under non-sung, spoken text, such as prayers, words of institution, etc. Some people very much dislike it, and let me know that. Others like it, and ask for it when I don’t do it. I suspect the vast majority have little opinion, no opinion at all, or aren’t even aware of it.

Its function is to establish mood mostly, sometimes transition. It is so common in film, television, the news, and musical theater that most people aren’t even aware of it. If you watch the news show **Frontline** on PBS, it is almost continuous. As I type this, I’m listening to the playout of the **Newshour** with music as the credits are read.

So, what do we do? If we stopped doing everything someone didn’t like, we might be left with nothing left to do. We do about 30 things in a Lutheran service. Everything is liked or disliked by someone.

During Lent, a time of reflection and austerity, and, for some, a time to lament, I don’t underscore the prayers or any of the communion sequence. The same for Advent.

When we do the Haugen setting “This is the feast,” I play the underscoring that he has written and suggested. Haugen also wrote underscored humming for his “Evening Prayers” service that we do during Advent. For those not familiar with this, the litany of prayers is sung/chanted with congregational humming underneath each petition. I stole this idea from him for the liturgy I wrote as well.

When we do the older, more formal settings in the Red hymnal (ELW), I’ll usually not play. When we do the Blue book (WOV) settings, I often play.

For some people, underscoring reminds them of Eastern religions, both good and bad. For some people, it helps put them in a prayerful, meditative mood. Others find it a distraction from focusing on the words. So, we share time--do things sometimes, other times not, with the hope that being together triumphs over all.

Thank you.

Tim Fink, Worship Committee Chair



Tim Fink
Worship
Committee
Chair

Worship: The Link for the Zoom Service



Our Sunday morning worship is at 9:30 AM (Face-to-Face and livestreamed on Zoom), with sung liturgy and hymnody. Here is the link for the Zoom services.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2101246575?pwd=MVhOR1FOb3BkWDJrQ09sMmR3ZTcyZz09>

Meeting ID: 210 124 6575

Password: 1501

Phone: 312-626-6799



“Book In A Basket” Is In Full Swing



Lynn Smith

The “BOOK IN A BASKET” project is in full swing now that Lent is upon us and we are looking toward Easter! This long-running Easter basket project for the children who are involved in LSSI’s Children’s Community Services, especially their Foster Care Services and Intact Family Services through the Marion office, is special for the Epiphany congregation, as well as for several other congregations in our Southern Conference of the Central/Southern Illinois Synod. For many years now, Epiphany has put together as many as a hundred Easter baskets; these include a book, an Easter-themed bookmark, a small stuffed animal, a “toy” (often bubbles, crayons, silly putty, or sidewalk chalk), and a reasonable amount of candy!



Pam Umlauf-Brown

The books are designated for preschool, primary, intermediate, middle school, and high school readers, and **Olise Mandat** has already printed labels to indicate the grade level of each basket. Persons in the congregation with a sense of the reading levels of the donated books will label each basket after the other items have been added. If you think you have a good idea of the grade level of particular books, please let **Lynn Smith** or **Pam Umlauf-Brown** know and we will be happy to have your input.



A small group of Epiphany members got together this morning (Thursday, February 29) at 10:00 a.m. to assemble a small group of baskets (about 20), which **Mike and Carolyn Langan** took home until they could transfer them to the Marion office of LSSI. **Robin Hopper**, who is one of those in a leadership position at the Marion office, had indicated to **Mike Langan** that receiving a smaller number of baskets weekly would make the distribution of them easier on the LSSI staff in Marion than receiving over a hundred of the baskets all at once. If you can meet with the small group assembling baskets on Thursday mornings at 10:00, you are welcome! Otherwise, we look forward to setting up a larger assembly line on March 17 after the worship service and during the Fellowship time.

Since the children served by LSSI in Marion number in the hundreds, we can look forward to assembling at least one hundred, and, perhaps, many more than that! Still needed are baskets, not huge or tiny ones; Easter grass; “toys” appropriate for junior high/middle school/high school students, and books, especially for the intermediate/junior high youngsters. And, if you are puzzled by what to purchase, checks or cash donations are welcome and that will send some of the rest of us shopping for Easter items on your behalf.

You can put cash or check into an envelope, marking the check’s memo line or the envelope with “Easter baskets.” For credit, add your name to the envelope and put it into the offering plate on either of the next two Sundays, if possible!

Thank you!

Lynn Smith and Pam Umlauf-Brown

Book In A Basket: "An Inventory and More"



Mike Langan

We spoke with **Robin Hopper** at the Marion Office of LSSI about current numbers of "kids" and age ranges. Robin said they now have 120 households in the Intact Family program, which vary in make-up from a single child to multiple children in the home. **There are presently 408 children being served in foster care.**

Robin said she will look through the data in more detail and get back to us early next week with more information about how the numbers break down in terms of high schoolers, middle schoolers, elementary, and pre-school age children. She also said it would be helpful and appreciated if we could start bringing at least some baskets earlier, rather than waiting until after basket assembly Sunday and bringing all of the baskets in just a

few very large deliveries. This would enable them to start disseminating baskets sooner. Robin sounded quite enthusiastic about the continuation of this effort!



Carolyn Langan

Mike & Carolyn Langan

P.S. **Just brainstorming here, we were thinking it might be a good idea to have a few people specifically tasked with putting together baskets for a particular target age, like high school or middle school, and that for those ages we might have some alternative basket stuffers, such as nice pens, Post-It Notes, journal books, etc. for a high schooler who may not care to get bubbles or PlayDoh. Please share any other ideas you may have as to what to include in the baskets and how to go about putting them together in an efficient manner. Thanks!!**



Book In A Basket: More Items Needed

Between now and March 17th, items are being requested to provide Easter Baskets for children in LSSI's Children's Community Services programs. Epiphany has been a leading source of the baskets over the years.

Please be on the lookout for more baskets, books, and items to fill and secure these Easter baskets. **Donations may be placed on the table beneath the windows in the Fellowship Hall.**

It looks like **Mike and Carolyn Langan** have already delivered a nice collection of baskets to start with. Way to go, Epiphany members and friends!

After doing an inventory of what we currently have, our team says we have plenty of cute, little, stuffed animal toys and books. However, we could use more:



Olise Mandat



- Baskets (small)
- Grass for baskets
- Individually wrapped candies
- Small, individual activity toys such as PlayDoh, small boxes of Crayons, bubbles, and sidewalk chalk.
- Any other toys that are appropriate for small children and can easily fit into an Easter basket.
- Appropriate books for 5th through 8th graders.
Easter-themed toys are especially welcome.

Celebrate ELEA Lutheran Schools Week March 3-9, 2024

The Evangelical Lutheran Education Association (ELEA) has a network of over 1,300 schools and learning centers that serve as ministries of ELCA congregations nationwide. Those schools and centers nurture, educate, and provide faith formation for approximately 140,000 children through the excellent teaching and support of nearly 16,700 staff. The Central/Southern Illinois Synod has 10 early childhood programs vital to their congregations and community. The ELEA serves as both the office for schools of the ELCA and a membership association with elevated services, resources, and support.

The ELEA asks all in this Synod and throughout our church body to pray for the leaders, teachers, staff, parents and caregivers, and the children of our ELCA schools and learning centers throughout the year, especially during Lutheran Schools Week.



Cory Newman
Executive Director
ELEA

“On the Road” This Week With the ELEA

This year’s Lutheran Schools Week takes us “On the Road,” looking at scripture that meets Jesus, or other disciples, on their journeys.

Monday: The Israelites Wandering

Tuesday: Ruth and Naomi Choose Their Road

Wednesday: Jesus on the Road of Palms

Thursday: Mary Magdalene Goes on the Road

With News of an Empty Tomb

Friday: On The Road to Emmaus

Through daily devotionals, age appropriate worship services and activities we will engage in spiritual discovery of a God who reveals God’s self to us wherever we travel.

Whether your congregation has a school or early center or not, together we can celebrate the gift of our Lutheran Schools this week.

Learn More about the ELEA

[@ELCASCHOOLS.ORG](https://www.elcaschools.org)



You’re invited to support the future of the ELEA and the access to benefits and resources like these that we offer all ELCA schools and centers by using the QR code.

Lutheran Schools Week

March 3-9 2024



The ELEA, Evangelical Lutheran Education Association, serves our Lutheran educational communities.

1,300 Schools | 18,000 Employees | 120,00 Students

We Celebrate This Ministry Together!

Ukraine: Report from the Scene — Here at Epiphany on March 6



Cindy Buys

Professor of International Law at the SIU School of Law

On Wednesday, March 6, **Cindy Buys**, Professor of International Law at the SIU School of Law, will share her impressions of the situation in Ukraine. She made her second visit to Ukraine over the recent holidays. This presentation will be held from **10:30-11:15 am here at Epiphany Lutheran Church, 1501 W. Chautauqua Road.**

Professor Buys joined the SIU School of Law faculty in 2001, where she has served as a Professor, Director of International Law Programs, and Interim Dean. She is a Fulbright Senior Specialist and has been a Visiting Professor at both Bangor University in Wales and Nicolaus Copernicus University in Poland. She has received both the Outstanding Teacher of the Year and the Outstanding Scholar of the Year as well as other state and national awards for her work and her service.

Professor Buys holds leadership positions in the American Association of Law Schools, the American Society of International Law, the American Bar Association, and the Illinois State Bar Association. She is a Commissioner on the Illinois Commission on Discrimination and Hate Crimes, is a member of the Illinois Advisory Committee to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, and serves on the Boards of The Immigration Project and the Southern Illinois Immigrant Rights Project. She also is a panelist for NAFTA/USMCA trade disputes.

Also Coming To Epiphany This Month ...

Gary Williams: March Speaker For Learning In Retirement

Gary Williams, Carbondale City Manager, will speak at the **Wednesday, March 20**, meeting of Southern Illinois Learning in Retirement. He will provide information on city improvements, including updates on the Transportation Center and outdoor venue. The presentation, which is free and open to the public, will be held from **10:30-11:30 am at Epiphany Lutheran Church, 1501 W. Chautauqua. A social hour begins at 9:30 am.**

SILIR classes that are scheduled to begin mid-March include:

- * "Hinduism Revisited,"
- * "More Munro" (Alice Munro short stories),
- * "A Brief History of Revolutionary America," and
- * "Restoring American Statesmanship."



Gary Williams

Carbondale City Manager

For more information see the SILIR web page at: conferenceservices.siu.edu/silir or call **618/536-7751** to register for classes.

Fellowship Updates

Our Fellowship hosts during the month of February included **Anne Terry, Beth Bivens,** and the “**Cookie Bank.**” I thank those who provided refreshments and also thank those who put out Cookie Bank for me when I was out of town, **Jane Terry** and **Mari Schneider Parris.**

Hosts for the month of March are:

March 3 _____
 March 10 _____
 March 17 _____
 March 24 _____
 March 31-Fellowship Easter Brunch



Look at all those opportunities to excel and show your snacking prowess! I have had complaints regarding the lack of non-sweet items when Cookie Bank is the fellowship host, so I would really appreciate signups to host.

Fellowship will be providing refreshments for the Synod Assembly at Epiphany on March 3. Anyone willing to help setup and cleanup or provide a snack (cookies/cookie cake, fruit, cheese/meat, crackers, nuts, etc.) please let me know, and **bring your snack to church by 2:30 on March 3 and label it “Assembly.”**

Fellowship will also be providing a light Easter Brunch as we have in the last few years after the Easter Service on March 31. If you are willing to help setup and cleanup or provide something for that, please let me know. I'm looking for slider-sized sandwiches (egg salad, ham or ham salad, etc.), fruit salads, deviled eggs, baked goods, etc.

Deb Sarvela

Fellowship Chair
 618-303-7178
dsarvela@hotmail.com

Christian Education



Anne Terry
 Christian
 Education

The season of Lent is in full swing and the children have been learning about the covenants God has made with us. We have already learned about **Noah** and **Abraham.** In March we will continue our study of God's promises for us, beginning with the 10 Commandments!

As we get ready for Easter, we want to remind parents that there will **not** be Sunday School on Easter Sunday. Instead, we want everyone to gather at the start of the church service to resurrect our Alleluias and make the Easter proclamation. We also will have an egg hunt during the Fellowship time. I will call on the big kids to help us hide eggs for the younger ones. There will be plenty of eggs for anyone who wishes to participate!

Please plan to attend.

As always, I thank you for sharing your children with us this year. It is a delight to see their growth and insight each and every Sunday.

In Christ,

Anne Terry



Moses with the
 Ten Commandments

Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (WELCA)



Bonnie Wright
President
WELCA

WELCA met at noon on Thursday, February 22, with 5 members present. We discussed obtaining a list of upcoming Epiphany high school graduates. We also talked about collecting items for non-profit organizations.

Our next meeting will be on **Thursday, March 28, at noon.**

WELCA is open to all women in our congregation. It's a way of gathering with other Christian women with interest in our community and church. We welcome all to attend and share our love. **Please feel free to contact Bonnie Wright at 618-967-1154 with any questions or concerns.**

WELCA also has an active yarn group which meets on the 4th Saturday of the month at 10 a.m. in the fellowship area. Anyone interested in learning to knit or crochet is also welcome to join us. We are making prayer shawls and would appreciate any help.

From the Epiphany “Green Team” : Advocacy

Connecting faith and public life

As members of the ELCA, we believe that we are freed in Christ to serve and love our neighbor. God uses our hands, through our direct service work and our voices, through our advocacy efforts, to restore and reconcile our world. Through faithful advocacy, the ELCA lives out our Lutheran belief that governments can help advance the common good.

ELCA advocacy works for change in public policy based on the experience of Lutheran ministries, programs and projects around the world and in communities across the United States. We work through political channels on behalf of the following Biblical values: peacemaking, hospitality to strangers, care for creation, and concern for people living in poverty and struggling with hunger and disease.



Join a growing movement

Together, we achieve things on a scale and scope that we could never do otherwise. When we act as a coordinated network of advocates and reach out to officials on relevant, timely issues, we effectively impact public policies. [Join thousands of ELCA members — sign up for the ELCA e-Advocacy Network now.](#)

Take action

We are a church that rolls up our sleeves and gets to work. We stand up for policies that create opportunities to overcome poverty, promote peace and dignity, and defend God's creation — visit the [Advocacy News and Updates](#) page to find advocacy opportunities now.

Learn more

On the Advocacy [resources page](#), you'll find information that will educate and equip you to be a more effective advocate.

Sale To Fight Hunger



Nan Gher

The 49th Annual “**Hunger Sale**” will once again be held at the University Mall, in the former Old Navy location. Coordinated by Church Women United, this event provides funding to organizations that feed hungry people, with at least 80% of the proceeds remaining in southern Illinois.

Sale dates: Friday and Saturday, April 26 & 27

Donations accepted on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, April 23, 24 & 25

We are grateful for the help of Silkworm, Carbondale Self Storage, Burris Disposal, and others. Volunteers are needed, especially before and at the end of the sale. Epiphany has a long tradition of giving generously to this event. **We still need your help! Donate your treasures (including baked goods and plants), shop, make a monetary donation, and help feed your neighbors!** The monetary donations are truly appreciated. Make checks to **Church Women United**. Send to the treasurer of CWU at the address below, or give to **Nan Gher** at church.

Donna Howard
175 Sunset Dr
Carbondale IL 62901

For more information or to volunteer, contact:

Lori Fink 618-713-7903 blureznite@gmail.com or

Nan Gher 618-203-1121 nangher43@gmail.com



Social Ministry

Here’s a brief overview of some of the projects that we encourage the members and friends of Epiphany to help support with their time, their energy, and their contributions of a variety of donations. For all of which the members of the Social Ministry Committee say “Thank You.”

Good Samaritan Food Pantry

The Food Pantry is a cooperative effort by the churches of the Carbondale Interfaith Council. Members of Epiphany supply the Food Pantry with canned goods and other items during two months each year. Thank you to all who donated to the Food Pantry this month.

Church Women United Hunger Sale

Church Women United works for a world of justice and peace. The Carbondale chapter was organized in 1957 and includes 20 churches. Since 1975, they have held a **Sale To Fight Hunger**. Proceeds go to agencies to feed people, and 80% of the sale proceeds remain in our community. The next event will occur April 26-27 at University Mall. You can help by donating merchandise or items for the Bake Sale. For information, or to volunteer, contact: **Katie Carl** at (618)925-2252 or kdcarl57@gmail.com

Carbondale Laundry Project

Laundry World at 601 South University Avenue, holds a free laundry day. This happens the second Wednesday of every month, from 10 AM to 2 PM. We can support this effort by purchasing Tru Earth laundry strips. These detergent strips dissolve completely in water and eliminate the waste of large plastic bottles. Laundry strips and other environmentally friendly cleaning products can be ordered at www.tru.earth.



Peter Gimse
 Social Ministry

2024 Seminary Support – Ham Dinner for the Win!



Epiphany Lutheran Church every year raises at least \$1000 each for Wartburg Theological Seminary (WTS) and the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago (LSTC) per our constitution. These funds have been raised in various ways over the years - the last two years being the March Madness competition.



Pastor Brian

This year, the Worship Committee decided to try something different based on a fun event from the past – a “Fat Tuesday” dinner hosted by the men of the congregation. While years have passed and members have changed, the men rallied together under the leadership (cajoling) of **Tim Fink** to prepare an incredible ham dinner with side dishes and desserts before the Ash Wednesday worship service. **The meal was such a hit that \$2,656 (\$1,328 each) was donated before, during, and after the meal, exceeding our congregation’s support goal!**



The money for WTS will fund student scholarships and will actually be matched by a challenge grant from a member of the seminary board. The money for LSTC will similarly be used for student scholarships. Thanks to everyone for their generosity in time, talent, and monetary gifts to guarantee a “pipeline of pastors” to serve the ELCA.



While **Pastor Brian** was busy taking all these “action photos,” **Wayne Griffith, Roland Person, Harlan Bohnsack,** and **Steve Logan** appeared to know their way around a kitchen!



Always ready to help her Dad, **Isla Griffith** knows where the ketchup needs to go.

Council Highlights — (February 13 Meeting)

Here are the highlights from the February 13, 2024 church council meeting:

- Communications/IT: Potentially create a maintenance schedule for Audio/Visual equipment. Exploring the idea to have A/V use listed as a subset to the building use plan.
- Cost of living increases for Epiphany non-clergy office employees with approval by council.
- A Children's Ministry Workshop with strategic planning will be conducted by **Cory Newman and Pastor Brian**.



Patrick Dwyer
Council
Secretary

Respectfully submitted,
Patrick Dwyer, Secretary

Congregational Meeting on March 24 (Palm Sunday)

Congregational vote to immediately follow the Palm Sunday service.

The Epiphany Constitution, presented to you by your Congregation Council, has been aligned with the ELCA Model Constitution and updated to reflect our current practices.

There will be a Special Congregational Meeting on March 24, 2024, immediately following the Palm Sunday service, for the Congregation to approve this document. Please review the document that **Olise Mandat** attached to the eHappenings two weeks ago ([hardcopies upon request](#)) and be ready to vote at the Special Meeting.

Address any comments, clarifications or questions to [Deb Sarvela](#). (For your information, sections with an asterisk (*) are required.)

Deb Sarvela, Council President

The ELCA Is Developing a New Social Statement

The ELCA is developing a social statement on civic life and faith, the relationship of church and state, and related matters, as called for by the 2019 ELCA Churchwide Assembly.

Social statements are the ELCA's primary documents to address significant social issues. They are intended to aid reflection, shape conscience, and set forth the ELCA's teaching and policy on the major social issues and questions of contemporary life. Social statements are developed by task forces, using an established process of study and widespread participation across the church to guide theological and moral deliberation.

During November and December, the Sunday morning adult study group went through the education materials for the proposed social statement. It has been updated as a draft to submit to the Churchwide assembly. Links to the draft document, paper (print and mail), and online survey are included here if you would like to provide comments to the ELCA to help shape the document before it goes before the Assembly. The feedback period is open until September 20, 2024.

[Civic Life and Faith Draft.pdf \(elca.org\)](#)

[ELCA Social Statement on Civic Life and Faith Survey](#) - paper copy to print and mail

[Draft of a Social Statement on Civic Life and Faith Survey \(surveymonkey.com\)](#) (online survey)

If you would like a printed copy of the draft social statement, please contact **Pastor Brian** in the church office.

“Dinner For Dictionaries”

The “Rotary Club of Carbondale – Breakfast” has had a history of Epiphany member participation, now including **Pastor Brian**. One of the club’s annual service projects is buying and distributing dictionaries to every third-grade student in the CCHS feeder schools. The primary fundraising event to purchase the dictionaries is called “Dinner for Dictionaries.”

Details are on the next page including the order due date of March 14th. Catered meals and locally famous dinner rolls are available just in time for Easter – catered by Simply David’s. Meals are delivered cold for serving anytime.

Pickup will be at the Elk’s Club in Carbondale on Maundy Thursday (3/28) between 4:30-6:30 p.m. Meals and/or rolls can be ordered by email or purchased online: <http://tinyurl.com/RCCBD4D>.



Remember this photo? It’s from early in November 2023 when **Pastor Brian** was able to get acquainted with third grade students in 11 classrooms as he visited 3 elementary schools and gave out dictionaries that were provided by the Rotary Club in Carbondale.

Continued 

Looks like these third graders like their new dictionaries! Soon their vocabularies may be too copious for even their parents’ comprehension and they will have to occasionally reiterate and elucidate.

Say what?



Rotary Sponsors "Dinner For Dictionaries" (continued)



Club of
Carbondale
Breakfast

PRESENTS

Dinner for Dictionaries

... AND MORE

ONE DINNER PROVIDES THREE DICTIONARIES
TO CARBONDALE THIRD-GRADE STUDENTS

Enjoy a delicious meal by
Simply David's in Marion.

Thursday, March 28, 2024

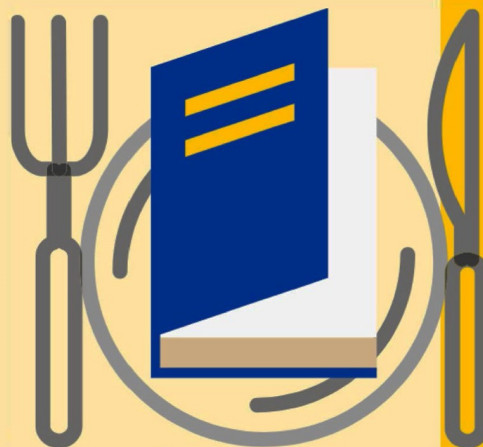
Pickup from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m.

@ Carbondale Elks back parking lot

220 W Jackson St, Carbondale

\$30 per meal or \$55 for two

Rolls - \$25/dozen



**Order by Thursday,
March 14th!**

For 13 years the Rotary Club of Carbondale-Breakfast has provided a Student's Dictionary to every third-grade student in the CCHS feeder elementary schools. The project costs around \$1,000 each year. It's part of a nationwide effort via dictionaryproject.org. The joy that the students show our members when they visit classrooms and distribute the dictionaries is a highlight of our service activities.

Email your order to rccbdtinner@gmail.com.

Payment in advance by check or [paypal.me/carbondalebreakfast](https://www.paypal.com/merchot/?x=1&from=paypal-me) (@carbondalebreakfast) is required.



Payment by check details will be sent after ordering. Direct questions to Dan or Fran Becque by calling 618-529-3307.

Meals will be cold with reheating instructions. All dinners are served with a Honeybakers recipe homemade yeast roll and cookie.

Entree choices (please indicate the number of each entrée or how many dozen rolls you are requesting):

- ___ Meatloaf with Green Beans, Mashed Potatoes
- ___ Poppyseed Chicken Casserole with Corn, Green Beans
- ___ Chicken & Dumplings with Green Beans, Mashed Potatoes
- ___ Spinach Lasagna with Corn, Side Salad
- ___ Dozen yeast rolls (\$25/dozen)

NAME: _____

PHONE: _____

___ No thank you, but here is a donation

March Calendar Items - Provided by Olise Mandat

Sunday, March 3 - Lent 3

- 8:30 am - Christian Education - Children
- 8:30 am - Adult forum with **Pastor Amy Zietlow** - CSIS office
- 9:30 am - Worship (in person and Zoom) - **Rev. Amy Zietlow**, guest preacher
- 2:45 pm - 5:00 pm - Southern Conference Assembly hosted by Epiphany in Carbondale - Synod Listening Session

Tuesday, March 5

- 7:00 pm - Confirmation Class

Wednesday, March 6- **Lenten Mid-week**

- 6:00 pm - Meal
- 7:00 pm - Midweek Lenten Service 3 - Laments from the Depths (in person and Zoom)

Sunday, March 10 - Lent 4

- 2:00 am - **Daylight Savings Time officially begins**
- 8:30 am - Christian Education
- 9:30 am - Worship (in person and Zoom)
- 5:00 pm - Jazz Vespers



Tuesday, March 12

- 7:00 pm - Confirmation Class

Wednesday, March 13 - **Lenten Mid-week**

- 6:00 pm - Meal
- 7:00 pm - Midweek Lenten Service 4 - Individual Lament (in person and Zoom)

Sunday, March 17 - Lent 5

- 8:30 am - Christian Education
- 9:30 am - Worship (in person and Zoom)

Tuesday, March 19

- 7:00 pm - Confirmation Class

Wednesday, March 20 - **Lenten Mid-week**

- 6:00 pm - Meal
- 7:00 pm - Midweek Lenten Service 5 (final) - Communal Lament (in person and Zoom)

Sunday, March 24 - Palm Sunday

- 8:30 am - Christian Education
- 9:30 am - Worship (in person and Zoom)
- 10:45 am - Fellowship and congregational meeting to vote on the adoption of the newly revised Church constitution

Thursday, March 28 - Maundy Thursday service

- 7:00 pm - with communion Worship (in person and Zoom)

Friday, March 29 - Good Friday service

- 7:00 pm - Worship (in person and Zoom)

Sunday, March 31 - Easter Sunday (No Christian Education)

- 9:30 am - Worship (in person and Zoom)
- 11:00 am - A light brunch and then (for the kids) an Easter egg hunt

Special Note:

April 26 and 27 - Church Women United 2024 Hunger Sale - Volunteers and donations are welcome! Any questions?

Call **Nan Gher** 618-203-1121

Epiphany Lutheran Church (ELCA)

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Brian Coffey, Pastor
Mary Kelly, Church Secretary
Olise Mandat, Business Manager

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Church Website: <http://elcarb.org>

Facebook: *Epiphany Lutheran Church*

Newsletter Editor: Jim Womack

JWomack473@aol.com

2023-2024 Epiphany Church Officers:

Deb Sarvela	Council President
Cory Newman	Vice-President
Patrick Dwyer	Secretary
Kevin Bame	Treasurer
Lynn Smith	Financial Secretary
Olise Mandat	Business Manager

Epiphany Church Council Members:

Anne Terry	Christian Education Committee
Cory Newman	Communications/ IT Committee
Beth Bivens	Evangelism Committee
Deb Sarvela	Fellowship Committee
Patrick Seger	Property Committee
Tim Fink	Worship Committee
Peter Gimse	Social Ministry Committee
Trish Welch	Stewardship Committee
Patrick Dwyer	Youth Committee