



Pastor Brian Coffey

EPIPHANY STAR

Epiphany Lutheran Church

Carbondale, Illinois

September 2024



Notes from the Pastor

Greetings in the name of our risen and ascended Lord, Jesus Christ!

Here we are in September heading into the end of the third quarter as well as the start of a new program year. **Rally Day will be held on Sunday, September 8th and will feature the installation of church council members, and a fellowship potluck with games following worship.**

Liturgically, we remain in the season after Pentecost (Ordinary Time) marked by the color green and enhanced with our new wall paraments. We've spent five weeks in John's gospel learning about what it means that Jesus is called the "Bread of Life". Now in September, we return to reading Mark's gospel until Reformation Sunday (Oct. 27th). In our adult forum each Sunday morning from 8:30 – 9:15, we study the weekly lessons in more detail, enriching our appreciation of the appointed scriptures of the day.

During these eight weeks, we will also return to using the liturgy "This is the Day", composed by **Tim Fink**. This year, Tim has trained a team of musicians to lead the congregation in singing: **Sharrie, Addie and Matilda Miller** on vocals, **Dorothy McDaniel** on bass guitar and flute and **Devin Miller** on drums.

A highlight for this month will be the Southern Conference Assembly on Sunday afternoon, September 22nd. At this event, we will gather with the other congregations of our Conference to pack 10,152 dry meals through an organization called Lifeline Christian Mission (www.lifeline.org). **This will serve as the "God's Work, Our Hands" event of the year for us and our fellow ELCA congregations.** All are welcome and needed to participate in this fun and hugely impactful event. It will be held from 2:30 – 5:30 p.m. at Our Redeemer Lutheran Church in Marion. Please speak with me if you would like additional information. **There is a letter from Pastor Marlin Otte on page 3 and a colorful flyer on page 4.**

Another exciting opportunity to connect with the wider church will be an event to meet the Presidents of our Companion Synods from Madagascar! Details will be forthcoming, but a "meet and greet" is being scheduled for somewhere in the Metro East area likely on Wednesday, October 2nd. Synod rostered leaders and SAMs will be spending time with them at the Fall Theological Conference on Monday-Wednesday, so I will have personal information to share as we prepare for our Global Mission emphasis starting on October 6th.

As you may have read in eHappenings, I am in a preaching mentorship with the Crossings Community from September through November. To assist in this process, I'm asking folks who worship (both in person and via Zoom) to write sermon notes to help me and my mentor, **Rev. Dr. Fred Neidner** of Valparaiso University, assess the effectiveness of our work together.

Thank you for your participation in the ministry of our Lord here at God's mission outpost on Chautauqua. We are making ourselves known through consistent signage, neighborhood mailings, newspaper ads – and most importantly, personal invitation. The Holy Spirit is at work through us in this place!

Your fellow servant in Christ,

Pastor Brian

Ginny Solverson Says “Thank You”



Ginny Solverson

If you were in church this past Sunday you may have been surprised to see **Ginny Solverson** after a long absence while she was recovering from a fractured femur.

I wish to thank all the members of Epiphany for thoughts, prayers, visits, cards, flowers, and snacks during my rehab time waiting repair of a fractured femur. All much appreciated. It's great to be home and be able to attend church again!

Ginny Solverson

... And So Does Olivia Terry

I would like to thank the congregation for the opportunity to attend the ELCA Youth Gathering in New Orleans. It was an amazing experience to be able to worship with so many other Lutherans. I loved being able to explore the city and experience city life in the south. I especially enjoyed seeing the different types of people throughout our time there. It was inspiring to see people my age speak at the mass gatherings about their life experiences.

Thank you again for this extraordinary opportunity. I hope to inspire other Epiphany youth to go to the next gathering in Minneapolis.

Olivia Terry



Olivia Terry

Rally Day — Sunday, September 8



**A day for coming together - a day to celebrate a new start
for worship, for digging into God's Word,
for praying, for serving, and for witnessing.**

(The Sunday school kids will be doing a “service day” project instead of class by helping decorate the tables for the fellowship POTLUCK.)

“God’s Work, Our Hands” — A Letter From Pastor Marlin Otte

Greetings Sisters & Brothers of the Southern Conference:

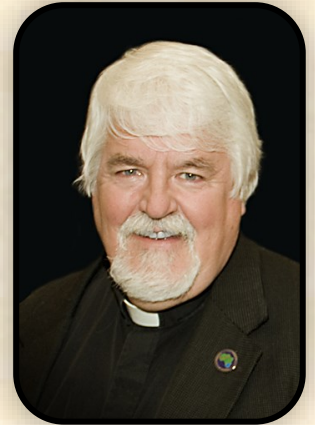
I hope your summer is ending well and that you are looking forward to a great fall schedule. I want to share with you an exciting Mission Opportunity we will be doing at our Southern Conference Fall Assembly, September 22, in Marion, IL.

Together with Lifeline Christian Ministries, we can reach our goal of packing over 10,000 shelf stable, nutritious meals to be sent to communities facing starvation.

Saturday, September 22, 2024 (2:30-5:30 p.m.)

Our Redeemer Lutheran Church

1501 Brooking Road, Marion, IL



Pastor Marlin Otte

I am sure you know the benefits we receive when we work together with our hands to accomplish a task, such as building a home with Habitat, cleaning the church, canvassing a neighborhood. We not only bless and serve others, but we feel blessed and build community with one another. We want those blessings for our Southern Conference on September 22! Imagine the exhilarating blessing at 5:30 p.m., September 22, in Marion when you are able to sit back and survey the 10,000 shelf stable nutritious meals you helped make stacked before you!

Imagine the blessing each hungry person who eats that meal will experience! One of our Conference Executive Members described this joy and blessing she received when she participated in this ministry in another church. It was palpable. I hope a good group from your congregation will come.

Feel free to invite friends to join us for this Southern Conference Project of “God’s Work, Our Hands.”

Pray. Show Up. Have fun!

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Marlin Otte

Dean Southern Conference

Editor’s note: Many of us know Pastor Otte, as a guest pastor at Epiphany when Pastor Waterman or Pastor Coffey were on vacation or attending synodical conferences. He now is heading up the 2024 “God’s Work Our Hands” project for the Southern Illinois congregations.

On the next page is a poster he has sent that hopefully includes all we need to know about this event.

“God’s Work. Our Hands”: Project For 2024

Southern Conference 2024 Fall Assembly



God’s work. Our hands.



Join us for a day of service!

Together with Lifeline Christian Ministries we can reach our goal of packing over 10,000 shelf stable, nutritious meals to be sent to communities facing starvation. No matter your age or whether you have physical limitations you can participate in this life-changing event.

Sunday, September 22, 2024 (2:30-5:30)
Our Redeemer Lutheran Church
1501 Broeking Road Marion, IL Phone: 618-993-5919

Save the date. Make it a youth or outreach project.
 Pray. Show up. Have fun!

Scan this QR code for more information about
 Lifeline Christian Ministries and meal packing



A Busy Campus Ministry At Southern Illinois University

August was a very satisfying and busy time for campus ministry at SIU! Epiphany members collected houseware basics and winter gear for international students. **Pastor Brian** attended an International Student Open House and visited with students at an on-campus breakfast.



Members of the Evangelism Committee joined Pastor and the Director of Wesley Foundation to co-host a "Taste of Carbondale" event supported by a Thrivent Action Grant. If you focus on the Epiphany helpers (the ladies in red shirts) you may recognize **Susan Bausch, Nan Gher** and **Trish Welch**.

Pastor led Holy Communion at the Wesley Foundation student worship service and also along with volunteers from Epiphany and the American Baptist House, served s'mores at a lakeside concert on a hot and humid summer night!

Pastor Brian serving Holy Communion at a Wesley Foundation student worship service



Pastor Brian is ready to assist SIU students who need an "official roasting stick" for their s'mores.



Check it out ... isn't that **Trish Welch** resupplying the graham cracker table?



Lots of activity, lots of students, but who is brave enough to put their marshmallows into one of the "pits of fire"?

On September 6th, Pastor will purchase and deliver food for the weekly International Student Coffee, hosted that day by SIU Campus Ministries. At the moment, we are awaiting word from the Air Force ROTC cadets regarding their intentions to return to the weekly Bible study at Epiphany, which has been held here the past two academic years.

John Gets a Cake, a Book, and a “Car” For His 60th Birthday



John Schneider was hoping for a birthday cake from his sister, **Mari**, but she added a couple of extra presents: a toy Volkswagen “Beetle” and a book, *VW Beetle The Golden Years 1949—1968*, that chronicles the early history of Germany’s remarkable automobile. If you have a question about the “Beetle,” ask John and he will probably have the answer or knows where to find it. **John**, thank you for sharing your birthday cake during fellowship hour!



“Thank you” to the members and friends of Epiphany for all the cards and good wishes that John received on his birthday. You made his day very special.

Mari Schneider

JAZZ VESPERS: 5:00 PM ON SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2024

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

Jazz Vespers

an Evening Prayer Service led by **Pastor Brian Coffey**

with members and guests of the **New Arts Jazztet**—Bob Allison, trumpet; Mel Goot, vibraphone; Tom Edgar, piano; Phil Brown, bass; and Jimmy Beers, drums—**September 8, 2024**

works by **Phil Brown, Cyrus Chestnut, Brent Hoyte, Milt Jackson, Thaddeus Tukes, and Kamasi Washington**
 streaming at <https://www.facebook.com/NewArtsJazztet>

Worship News



Tim Fink
Worship
Committee
Chair

This month is a brief follow-up to the detailed article in the August Newsletter. If you haven't read it or would like to refresh your memory, please refer to it.

As a reminder, during worship services in September and most of October, we will be experimenting with a different bulletin and screen/slide format. We expect it will take some time to figure out what works best, so we ask for your patience. And I reiterate what I said in last month's newsletter: Enter this experimentation "like getting into a swimming pool, adjust to the new temperature for a bit before final judgment." Then we will be happy to hear your thoughts.

- ◀ Something else we'd like to draw your attention to: During the Sundays of September and October we have selected at least one hymn that "leans in" to the theme "unity." We may even have some prayers doing the same. During these two months our nation will be at a fever pitch with election campaigning. Whatever your political perspective, we can all agree we are all on Team USA. May the spirit of the Olympics continue through these important months for our nation and our world.

Learning in Retirement— September Program — Wednesday, September 18

Angela Povolish, an attorney with expertise in estate matters and real estate law, will speak at the September 18 meeting of Southern Illinois Learning in Retirement (SILIR). She will discuss the role of the executor of a will and answer questions about how to select an executor, roles, obligations, and pitfalls of an executor. Angela is a native of Murphysboro and is currently with the Campanella law firm in Carterville, having previously practiced with FMGR in Carbondale.

The presentation, free and open to the public, will begin at 10:30 am at Epiphany Lutheran Church at 1501 W. Chautauqua, Carbondale. A coffee hour begins at 9:30 am. For more information about SILIR contact **Diane McIntyre** at 618-536-7751 or email silir@siu.edu, or check the website: conferenceservices.siu.edu/silir.



Angela Povolish
Attorney

Good News From "Bread For the World"



Samantha Power

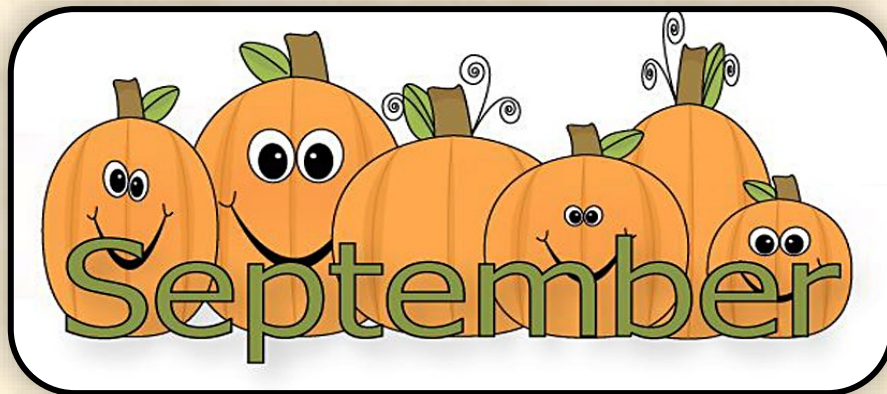
During last month's 2024 Advocacy Summit – Nourish Our Future, Bread For the World was honored to feature a video from USAID Administrator **Samantha Power** highlighting the vital impact of Bread's work. With 164 million people facing severe or crisis levels of food insecurity, our advocacy has never been more crucial.

[To watch the short video, place your mouse cursor over the underlined words in blue, hold down the computer "Control" key and click your mouse. You should be able to watch the video featuring our former US ambassador to the United Nations.]

Each year our congregation participates in a letter writing campaign urging our elected national officials to continue their support for Bread For the World.

September Birthdays

MAREN LANGAN	September 4	DEVIN MILLER	September 19
JULIE BOHNSACK	September 8	GARY BERNHARDT	September 20
EMILY HANSON	September 10	JIM SYLWESTER	September 23
JANE TERRY	September 10	MARK SCALLY	September 25
KIMBERLEY COOK	September 12	KAREN JEZIERSKI	September 26
SARAH FERGUSON	September 12	ISLA GRIFFITH	September 28
LEE SWAYZE	September 14	RUBY BENZ	September 29
AMY EIGENRAUCH	September 16	NAN GHER	September 29
ELI TERRY	September 17	SHARRIE MILLER	September 29
CALLA CHEATWOOD	September 17		



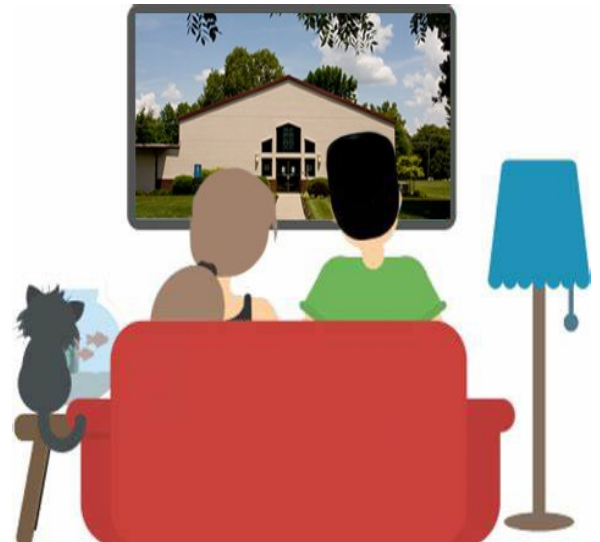
Worship: The Link for the Zoom Service



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](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2101246575?pwd=MVhOR1FOb3BkWDJrQ09sMmR3ZTcyZz09)

Meeting ID: 210 124 6575
Password: 1501
Phone: 312-626-6799



A Thank You For the Items For SIU International Students

A car full of items for the international students was taken over to Southern Illinois University recently... and the summer is not over, so let's hope more items appear here at Epiphany.

Here is the Thank You" from **Elaine Conrad**.

Pamela,

Thank you for all the items that your church donated to the Loan Closet. Our incoming students will be thrilled at the wide variety, and we truly are grateful!

Elaine

ELAINE CONRAD, Ph.D.
Community and Educational Programs Coordinator

CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION
SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY
425 CLOCKTOWER DRIVE
CARBONDALE, ILLINOIS 62901
econrad@siu.edu
P: 618.453.5774



Pam Umlauf-Brown

Here Are Items That Are Still Needed — When the Weather Changes

The weather is still hot, and our SIU international students are wondering about all the warnings they have heard about Illinois winters. Our advice: "Just wait." We are hoping for one more collection at Epiphany including: **warm coats, hats, gloves, mittens and scarves. We also will be collecting towels, small rugs, single sheets, washable blankets, pillows and covers.**

There is a **red basket** under the table near the congregational photos in the Fellowship Hall. Put your "treasures" in that basket (it's labeled) and I will get those items to the students who need them. Thanks for your help! **Pam Umlauf-Brown**

Global Mission Reminder: Change-For-Change Jars



Trish Welch

December 8 is right around the corner, just three months away. If that isn't a reality check, it is the day we will collect our change-for-change jars that have been gathering coins for the past year. After coins and other monetary donations are collected, our support is sent to our Global Missions partner, **Willie Langdji**, the ELCA's West and Central Africa Regional Representative, and to Madagascar.

Jars are available in the Narthex.

Thanks for your help!

The Evangelism Committee



Does this image look familiar?

We hope it does!

Altar Guild Information



Laurel Fleming

Thank you to all the members that have helped with Altar Guild this year. Everyone appreciates your assistance!

We need to have members (old and new) sign up for Altar Guild activities for this coming year. It is not difficult and the set up for communion can be completed on your own time: either Saturday or early Sunday morning.

The trays are prepared with wine and white grape juice ahead of time. Baked bread is set out on the communion table.

There are checklists and pictures to follow in the sacristy, so the procedure is easier to complete.



It would also be very helpful to have more volunteers in placing banners, etc. in the narthex and sanctuary area as we follow the church year calendar.

Please let me know if you can help! I will be glad to explain the procedures that are followed. Thank you!

Laurel Fleming

618-996-2046

fleming610@gmail.com

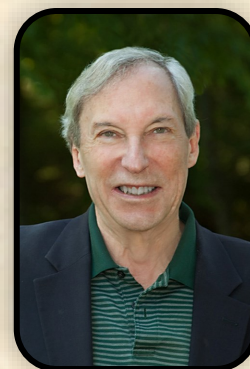
A Course on the Confessions of St. Augustine

Epiphany Lutheran Church is hosting a course on St. Augustine of Hippo, based on the autobiography, St. Augustine's Confessions. The course is taught by just retired Episcopal priest, **Fr. Dale Coleman**, who called St. Augustine "the greatest Christian theologian and philosopher."

Recently Coleman wrote that the autobiography was written in 397 AD, and "Augustine's Confessions have always fascinated large numbers of educated readers, with his story of trying several philosophies and religions seeking the truth about who we humans are, and our place in the universe. The book covers his first 30 years, from 354 to 384, when he is baptized as a Catholic Christian. He also teaches traditional Christian doctrine, and has many asides and comments about Scripture, the Nicene Creed, and how to recognize true Christian churches. He does this while offering his observances of the history and culture around him near the end of the Roman Empire."



St. Augustine



Fr. Dale Coleman

The class meets on Thursdays, beginning August 29, from 5:00 to 6:00 pm, at Epiphany Lutheran Church in the church fellowship hall. It will run 8 consecutive Thursdays and if you missed the first meeting and you are interested, you are still invited. Attendees are asked to bring their own copy of the Confessions. Coleman recommends the Oxford University edition, translated by Henry Chadwick.

Confluence Books (705 W Main St) is ordering multiple copies. 618-525-9740.

For more information, call **Fr. Coleman's** cell at 618-789-3723.

Sermon Feedback Form

Epiphany members,

Pastor Brian is seeking feedback regarding his sermon content and delivery since he is working on improving this aspect of his ministry service. He has connected with a mentor through the Crossings Community, **Rev. Fred Neidner**, who is watching and listening to his sermons on Sunday and reading his written manuscripts. Since **Pastor Brian** is especially interested in getting congregational feedback, the Worship Committee has suggested that we offer the following form to the congregation for additional written feedback. If you are interested in supplying some thoughts on Pastor's sermon, you will find this form near the back as you enter the sanctuary in the red basket. Please return your completed form to the basket after service. These forms will be in place beginning September 1 for the next several weeks. **Pastor Brian** will review them and share them with his mentor, **Rev. Fred**.

Thank you for your interest in helping **Pastor Brian** grow in his ministry to our congregation.

Ministry Support,

Jane Terry

Roland Person

Editor's note: The Feedback Form below provides the 5 areas of consideration, but has been tightened up for this newsletter to conserve space.
The "official form" will provide an entire page for comments and feedback.

Sermon Feedback Form

Reviewer's Name: _____

Date of sermon: _____

Bible Text(s) used: _____ (note that this is not always the gospel lesson)

1. Summarize the content of the sermon as you heard it. (If the content was not clear, please say so.)

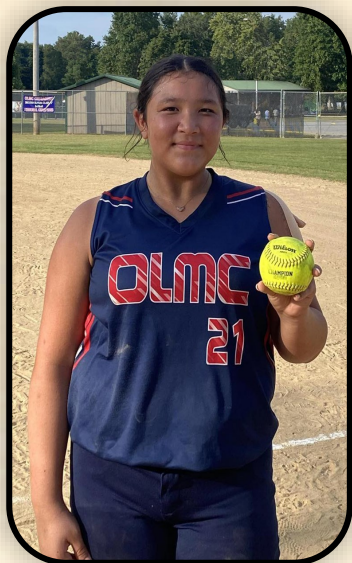
2. What part of the sermon related to your experience of life? (If none, please say so.)

3. What good news did you hear in the sermon? (Please make it clear why it is good news to you – what was or what might be the result of the sermon in your feeling and/or action?)

4. In what ways did the preacher's delivery – demeanor, language, style, illustrations, etc. – help or hinder communicating the message?

5. What, generally, would you like to tell the preacher about his/her communicating the gospel?

Congratulations To Our Viernum Softball and Volleyball Players



Sidney Viernum



Congratulations go out to **Sidney Viernum** of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel on throwing a no hitter against Unity Christian (Energy, Illinois) on a 15-0 win in 3 innings. The game was played in Herrin and Sidney pitched to 11 batters, with 9 strikeouts, 2 walks and a total of 42 pitches in 3 innings. (The "mercy rule" shortened the playing time to 3 innings.)



Kaelyn Viernum, who plays for the Carbondale volleyball team, has been named to the American Coaches Volleyball Association's "Phenom Watch List."

Looks like we will be hearing more about #7.

Congratulations, **Kaelyn!**



Kaelyn Viernum

LSSI: Thank You, Members and Friends of Epiphany

Last month we learned that the total amount of contributions from Epiphany members and friends exceeded \$2,000 for the school supplies for children who are served by Lutheran Social Services of Illinois. That money was used by **Olise Mandat** to shop for supplies that "filled the gaps." Olise had the pleasure of spending the donated funds on pencils, headphones, shoes, calculators, notebooks, paper, crayons, markers, and lots of other items! The fellowship hall table was stacked pretty high because you folks did some serious shopping yourselves! Altogether three carloads were delivered to the LSSI office in Marion. Here are the "saints" who loaded, delivered and unloaded the many boxes of supplies: (L to R) **Carolyn Langan, Mike Langan, and Olise Mandat**. (We're not certain that any of these volunteers ever agreed to be photographed, but ...)



Here's the Invitation: We Are Invited and Admission Is Free



The
Marianne Webb and David N. Bateman

Distinguished Organ Recital Series

2024 Brought to you by SIU Carbondale

Chelsea Chen

Concert Organist

*Program to include works by
Alain, Debussy, Duruflé,
Weaver, J.S. Bach, Vierne,
and Chen*



Friday, September 20, 2024, 7:30 p.m.

Shryock Auditorium
Southern Illinois University

Free Admission

Reception immediately following



September Calendar Items - Provided by Olise Mandat

Sunday, September 1 - Pentecost 15

- 8:30 am -- Adult Christian Education
- 9:30 am -- Worship
- After worship—Signup for next Sunday's Potluck

Monday, September 2 - Office closed for Labor Day

Thursday, September 5

- 5:00 - 6:00 pm - Adult Education- St. Augustine - Epiphany Fellowship Hall

Sunday, September 8 - Pentecost 16 - Rally Day

- 8:30 am -- Adult Christian Education
- 8:30 am — Kid's Decorating Tables for Fellowship Potluck
- 9:30 am -- Worship, Council member installation
- 10:45 am — Potluck meal and games
- 5:00 - Jazz Vespers

Monday, September 9

- 3:30 pm - Evangelism Committee meeting, fellowship hall

Thursday, September 12

- 5:00 - 6:00 pm - Adult Education St. Augustine - Epiphany Fellowship Hall

Sunday, September 15 - Pentecost 17

- 8:30 am -- Children and Adult Christian Education
- 9:30 am -- Worship

Tuesday, September 17

- 6:00 pm - Church Council meeting, fellowship hall

Thursday, September 19

- 10:00 am - Worship Committee meeting, fellowship hall
- 5:00 - 6:00 pm - Adult Education St. Augustine - Epiphany Fellowship Hall

Friday, September 20

- 7:30 pm - American Guild of Organists, free concert, Shryock Auditorium (See page 17)

Sunday, September 22 - Pentecost 18

- 8:30 am -- Children and Adult Christian Education
- 9:30 am -- Worship
- 2:30 - 5:30 pm -- "God's Work: Our Hands" project at Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, 1501 Broeking Road, Marion

Thursday, September 26

- 5:00 - 6:00 pm - Adult Education St. Augustine - Epiphany Fellowship Hall

Sunday, September 29 - Pentecost 19

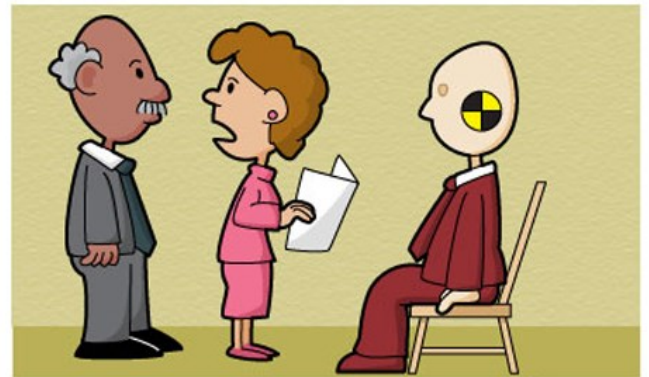
- 8:30 am -- Children and Adult Christian Education
- 9:30 am -- Worship

Special Note:

Monday, September 30 - Wednesday, October 2 -- Pastor at Synod Fall Theological Education (Madagascar delegation)

Sunday, October 6 - Global Mission Sunday kickoff event - Change for Change jars for Madagascar missions

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K.Spear

"This church bulletin should be safe.
I tried it on the crash test dummy."

Epiphany Lutheran Church (ELCA)

1501 W. Chautauqua, Carbondale, IL 62901



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

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Facebook: *Epiphany Lutheran Church*

Newsletter Editor: Jim Womack

JWomack473@aol.com

2024-2025 Epiphany Church Officers:

Cory Newman	Council President
Tim Fink	Vice-President
Chalmer Post	Secretary
Kevin Bame	Treasurer
Lynn Smith	Financial Secretary
Olise Mandat	Business Manager

Epiphany Church Council Members:

Jan Womack	Christian Education Committee
Cory Newman	Communications/ IT Committee
Beth Bivens	Evangelism Committee
Ann Mays	Fellowship Committee
Patrick Seger	Property Committee
Chalmer Post	Social Ministry Committee
Trish Welch	Stewardship Committee
Tim Fink	Worship Committee
Devin Miller	Youth Committee