



Epiphany Lutheran Church

Service at 9:30 am

Worshiping at:

6700 Spanish Trail, Pensacola, FL 32504

850-287-5667

Mailing Address:

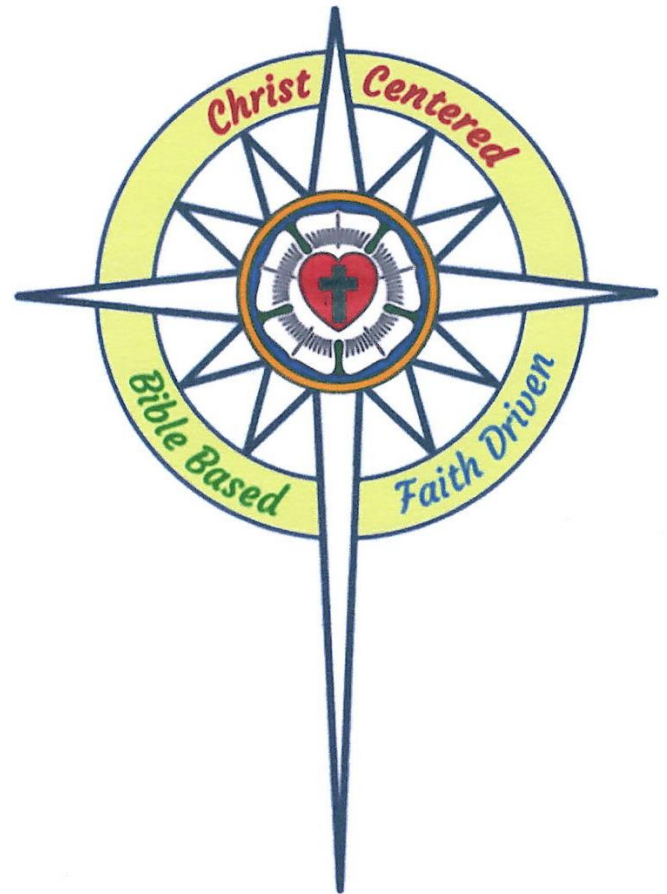
1450 Old Chemstrand Rd.

P.O. Box 999, Gonzalex, Fl 32560

Email: nalcofpensacola@gmail.com

Facebook: Epiphany Lutheran Church-Pensacola, Fl

Church connect page:
epiphanypns.churchtrac.com



EPIPHANY PENSACOLA

February 2023 Newsletter

A congregation of the NALC



February 2023
Epiphany Pensacola

*February 2024
Epiphany Lutheran Church*

“Lent”

“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.” John 3:16

But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us. Romans 5:8



Lent is an important time in the life of a disciple of Christ. It is a time to nurture our spiritual, our inner life. During these 40 days I urge you to pray, meditate, and prepare yourselves to celebrate the mystery of the death and resurrection of Jesus. In your lent devotion, I'd like you to consider how your own life is tied into death and resurrection.

Life is a continuing process of the death of the old and the familiar, and being reborn again into a new hope, a new trust, and a new love. The death and resurrection of our Lord is not just a place in historical events that took place long ago, it is an event that takes place in our hearts when we are willing to be alert to the transformation taking place.

Lent offers a beautiful opportunity to discover the mystery of Christ within us. Lent can be challenging as it takes commitment to give up time for devotion, prayer, and worship. Most people do not commit themselves to the spiritual reflection time in the church calendar. What I've heard over the years is, "Our lives are busy and there isn't enough time to do everything so we can't make it to church." This is another reason why we truly need to commit ourselves to this spiritual renewal.

When you live Lent with attentiveness and commitment, Easter can truly be a celebration which the full proclamation of the risen Lord will resonate into the deepest place of your being.

Feb. 14th Ash Wednesday 2:00 PM & 6:00 PM at Brit Ahm

Wednesday 2:00 PM Services at Ashland

Feb. 21st	Sermon Title: "Face Up To Sin"	Feb. 28th	Sermon Title: "Justified by Faith"
Mar. 6th	Sermon Title: "Day of Mercy"	Mar. 13th	Sermon Title: "Love in Action"
Mar. 20th	Sermon Title: "Pure Faith"		
Mar. 28th	Sermon Title: "Disciples Together/Examples of Love"		

*In His Service,
Rev. Dr. Franklin Gore*

For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith-- and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God⁹ not by works, so that no one can boast. Ephesians 2:8-9

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<i>February 2023</i>						
28	29	30	31	1	2 11:30a Bell practice Office closed	3
4 FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY 9:30a Worship 10:30a Hospitality 11:00a Adult Sunday school 11:00a Kids' Sunday School 11:30a Social Ministry meeting	5 3:30p Praise group practice 4:30p Choir practice	6	7 6:30p Adult Bible Study in the clubhouse in the auditorium at Azalea Trace, 10100 Hillview Dr.	8	9 11:30a Bell practice Office closed	10
11 TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD "Souper" bowl Sunday 8:30a Manna drop off 9:30 Worship 10:30a Hospitality 11:00a Adult Sunday school 11:00a Kids' Sunday School	12 3:30p Praise group 4:30p Choir practice	13 11:00a Faith Circle @ Ashland	14 Ash Wednesday 2:00p Worship 6:00p Worship Newsletter articles due!	15 11:00a Council reports due	16 11:30a Bell practice Office closed	17
18 FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT 9:30a Worship 10:30a Annual Meeting 11:00a Adult Sunday school 11:00a Kids' Sunday School 11:00a Hospitality	19 3:30p Praise group 4:30p Choir practice	20	21 2:00p Lent worship @ Ashland 6:30p Adult Bible Study in the clubhouse in the auditorium at Azalea Trace, 10100 Hillview Dr	22	23 11:30a Bell practice Office closed	24
25 SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT 9:30a Worship 10:30a Hospitality 11:00a Adult Sunday school 11:00a Kids' Sunday School	26 3:30p Praise group practice 4:30p Choir practice	27 12:00p SOLE	28 2:00p Lent worship @ Ashland 6:30p Adult Bible Study in the clubhouse in the auditorium at Azalea Trace, 10100 Hillview Dr	29		

Admin. hours: Monday -Wednesday, 9 a.m. -3:30 p.m., Thursday, 9a.m. -Noon unless otherwise noted.



Sunday 9:30 Services at Brit Ahm

Feb. 18th Sermon Title: "Paradise" *"Verily, I say unto thee, Today shalt thou be with me in paradise."* (Luke 23:43)

Feb. 25th Sermon Title: "Love shared" *"He saith unto his mother, woman behold thy son! Then he saith to the disciple, behold thy mother!"* (John 19:25-27)

Mar. 3rd Sermon Title: "Feeling alone" *"My God, My God, Why hast thou forsaken me?"* (Matthew 27:46)

Mar. 10th Sermon Title: "I Thirst" *"After this, knowing that all things were now accomplished, that the scripture might be fulfilled saith, I thirst."* (John 19:28)

Mar. 17th Sermon Title: "It is Finished" *"It is finished!"* (John 19:30)

Mar. 24th Sermon Title: "Trusting in God" *"Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit."* (Luke 23:46)

Mar. 31st **Easter Morning** **7:00 am at Ashland** (under the tent)
9:30 am at Brit Ahm

DATES TO REMEMBER

SOCIAL MINISTRY MEETING

Sunday, February 4 @ 11:30am

FAITH CIRCLE

Tuesday, February 13 @ 11:00am

ASH WEDNESDAY

February 14: 2:00p Worship
6:00p Worship



NEWSLETTER ARTICLES DUE

Wednesday, February 14

COUNCIL REPORTS DUE

Thursday, February 15

ANNUAL MEETING

Sunday, February 18 @ 10:30am

LENT WORSHIP SERVICE @ ASHLAND

Wednesday, February 21 @ 2:00p

Wednesday, February 28 @ 2:00p

SOLE

Tuesday, February 27 @ 12:00p

E-MAIL UPDATE**



As part of our Social Media upgrades coming in 2024, we're upgrading our e-mail services for the staff and Church Council at Epiphany. Here are the new e-mail addresses effective January 1, 2024.

STAFF

Pastor	Rev. Dr. Franklin J. Gore	pastor@epiphanypensacola.org
Office Manager	Kim McCormick	officemgr@epiphanypensacola.org
Parish Deacon	Deacon Glenn	deacong@epiphanypensacola.org
Traditional Worship	Kelly Koontz	traditionalworship@epiphanypensacola.org
Contemporary Worship	Donna Busarow	contemporaryworship@epiphanypensacola.org
Office Asst.	Brenda Ekstrom	officeasst@epiphanypensacola.org
Off. Asst./Bookkeeper	Sara-Margaret Seevers	bookkeeper@epiphanypensacola.org

CHURCH COUNCIL OFFICERS

President	Pete Morgan	president@epiphanypensacola.org
Vice President	Paul Herrick	vicepresident@epiphanypensacola.org
Secretary	Regina Gibbons	secretary@epiphanypensacola.org
Treasurer	Ken Busarow	treasurer@epiphanypensacola.org
Fin. Secretary	Judie Cox	finsec@epiphanypensacola.org
Co-Fin. Secretary	Valerie Creedon	co-finsec@epiphanypensacola.org

CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS

Worship & Music	Kathie Shoff-Norem	worship@epiphanypensacola.org
Social Ministry	Rod Dwyer	socialministry@epiphanypensacola.org
Hospitality	Suzanne Morgan	hospitality@epiphanypensacola.org
Mutual Ministry	Harland Bross	mutualministry@epiphanypensacola.org
Prayer Requests		prayerrequest@epiphanypensacola.org
Tech Support		support@epiphanypensacola.org
Facebook Support		facebook@epiphanypensacola.org

ATTENTION THRIVENT MEMBERS!

Did you know you have FREE MONEY for projects at Epiphany? If you have a policy, no matter the size, with Thrivent you are eligible to do two Action Team projects per year. These projects can be used to increase the ministry of our church. Each project can have \$250.00 used toward the proposed project. All you have to do is go online to Thrivent and fill out the application.

If you need help Brenda Ekstrom, in the church office, can set up an appointment for you to come to the office and help you fill out the application or Deacon Glenn will come to your home and assist you in filling out the grant application

Once again it costs you nothing but a few minutes of your time. And with two annual projects, a total of up to \$500.00 could be used to increase the outreach of Epiphany Church.

Please contact the office and find out how you can expand the mission of Epiphany.

Thanks

In His Service

Deacon Glenn

FROM THE OFFICE:

Thank you to the Council and Congregation for the Christmas bonus we generously received at the end of 2023. We are truly thankful to be a part of Epiphany and serve our Lord Jesus and everyone in this Congregation. May you all have a Blessed 2024!

~Your Epiphany Staff

COMMITTEE NEWS

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL ADVENTURE!

The children began the 2024 Sunday School year adventure by reading the "NIV Adventure Bible" about some amazing biblical characters: Josiah, who became king at 8 years old, Balaam and his talking donkey; Ruth and Naomi, loyal friends; Job and Daniel who trusted God.

The children discussed why prayer is so important; why we need to trust the Lord with all our heart not depending on our own understanding; and always have a thankful heart. We are thankful for many things including all our council members. Each child made a thank you card and presented them to Epiphany Council members. The children are thankful for all the opportunities they have in Sunday School for related crafts and special activities. They especially like word finds that pertain to our biblical characters. The 3- and 4-year-olds join with the elementary aged children for songs, crafts, and Luther bucks. It is a lot of fun!

Parents are welcome to join in the fun each Sunday. Sunday School is a wonderful opportunity for children to learn about God and to experience God's love through His precious word, the Bible, and each other. Both classes meet in the trailer from 11:00 to 12:00 each Sunday. We look forward to seeing all the children in Sunday School. There are more wonderful things being plan for 2024.

We enjoy working with your children.
For additional information, contact:
Donna Busarow, Karen McCabe, Marlene Cooper

FAITH CIRCLE

Faith Circle will meet February 13th at 11:00a.m. at the Ashland property. We will continue The Chosen series.

Please bring your Bibles and a brown bag lunch. Dessert will be provided.

All are welcome. Bring a friend to share learning and fellowship with a lively loving group of ladies.

Peace,
Wanda

Social Ministry News for February 2024



Then the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; ³⁵ for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, ³⁶ I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.' ³⁷ Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? ³⁸ And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? ³⁹ And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?' ⁴⁰ And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.' Matthew 21:34-41

Social Ministry in our congregation is an extension of the public ministry of Christ. Social Ministry is not only the right, but also the responsibility of all the members of Epiphany, and the calling comes directly from Christ's teachings. He frequently reminds his followers to care for one another, to support those in need, and to give preference to the poor. In the reading above, our Lord describes how we participate in the ministry he calls us in to.

This month we have a goal of collecting 700 lbs of food for Manna Food Pantry. This is a challenge that has not yet been met. We've collected a lot of food and many times over 500 lbs for this local organization. I believe we can meet or exceed this challenge. You will notice that there is no 3rd week ministry opportunity. Without the 3rd week mission ministry support, you will be able to apply your full dedication to this special event. We are going to work on quality of outreach not quantity. That doesn't mean we will not be serving other ministries. But, this month we are focused on providing more for the food bank.



I would also like to introduce you to the new chairs for Social Ministry: Dianne Ledkins and Jeremy Gorday have volunteered to lead the social ministry committee and its volunteers. Dr. Rod Dwyer is staying on as the council liaison and I confirmed that with him last month. We are excited for Dianne and Jeremy as they begin this new ministry opportunity. They met with me in January to understand their role for helping our volunteer ministry team to extend the love of Christ into our faith community as well as the areas around our church.

Dianne Ledkins, Chair of Social Ministry: Her email address is – cdledkins@yahoo.com.
Jeremy Gorday, Co-Chair of Social Ministry: His email address is – jgorday5@gmail.com.

*Faithfully Serving,
Rev. Dr. Franklin Gore*

For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith-- and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God ⁹ not by works, so that no one can boast. Ephesians 2:8-9



Dear friends,

Thank you for your faithful support. Because of your past generosity and compassion, a hungry child had nutritious food and a senior citizen didn't have to choose between buying needed medication and buying food. It's because of you that we are able to offer hope to our neighbors in need all year long.

This year, we invite you again to join us for our 20th Annual Souper Bowl of Caring on Super Bowl Sunday, February 11, 2024, by conducting a food drive to support the hungry in our community. A nationwide day of caring and giving, this event provides essential food to our neighbors in Escambia and Santa Rosa counties!

From,
Manna

Collection: before worship from 8:30 a.m. – 9:15 a.m. Terry and Linda Bartlett will have their trunk available for drop off.

Delivery: Super Bowl Sunday, from 10am – 12 noon

Our goal is 700 pounds!

SOLE

The SOLE group had a wonderful January luncheon. We enjoyed great fellowship and lunch from Sonny's Barbecue. Our next meeting will be on February 27. Watch future web blasts and announcements for more information!



HOSPITALITY

“Love knows no limit to its endurance, no end to its trust, no fading of its hope; it can outlast anything. Love never fails.”
1 Corinthians 13:7-8

Happy Valentine’s Day!

Since February is known as “the month of love” I thought the scripture above was very fitting. Of course, at Epiphany the love of Christ is what we are about. Letting our light so shine for all God’s children.

Hospitality is how we show that love to each and everyone we encounter. We are on a mission for Christ. If you are shying away from getting involved or getting to know everyone, we would love to show you how it is done. There are many ways for you to serve under Hospitality, Member Care and Bereavement Team.

Thank you to everyone that completed their Time and Talent forms. You will be hearing from a member of Hospitality soon. We are thrilled about the interest everyone has shown.

Our team would like to extend a BIG THANKS to everyone who helped with the Epiphany dinner, especially Ken Busarow for preparing the meatballs and sauce and to Wanda Gore for preparing the salads, bread, and spaghetti. We served approximately seventy (70) plates (to include our home bound members). Thanks to Mia Chiarello and Brooklyn Gorday for their help in cleaning up the tables for us. Many hands make light work! Thanks everyone!

As always, it is **still** a JOY and HONOR to serve in God’s House at Epiphany!

God’s Peace,
Brenda



COUNCIL INSTALLATION

Council members (left to right)

Suzanne Morgan: Hospitality
Ken Busarow: Treasurer
Regina Gibbons: Secretary
Pete Morgan: President
Paul Herrick: Vice President
Harland Bross: Mutual Ministry
Rod Dwyer: Social Ministry
Kathie Shoff-Norem: Worship and Music



CHILDREN'S CHOIR

MEET YOUR COUNCIL

Worship and Music Chair and Alter Guild Liaison: Kathleen (Kathie) Shoff-Norem



Growing up in a military family, by the time I was thirteen years old I had lived in every state bordering the Atlantic Ocean and for three years in a foreign country. I attended high school in Fort Pierce and was a member of the marching band and the band ensemble, where I played my French Horn during special programs and events. To add to my qualifications to work as Worship and Music Chair, I learned to read music and follow musical direction carefully and accurately, as my school band won several awards and competitions – after many hours of marching and rehearsals, aching feet, and in my case, aching lips!

High school graduation was in Miami, Florida and I began working my way through college as a switchboard operator and service representative for Southern Bell. With no car to drive to work, a stroke of luck was finding a small apartment right next to the building in which I worked! Walked out of my front door and into theirs.

In 1965 I married, and we moved to the University of Florida in Gainesville. My only child, a daughter, was born in 1967. In 1969 my husband went to work as the Administrator of MD Anderson Hospital and we moved to Houston, Texas for the next 32 years.

In 1973 I joined the Houston Independent School District (HISD) I also attended night school while teaching and completed my Master's Degree and an advanced degree program for Administration and Supervision. I then was named Special Education Coordinator and wrote and implemented the Behavior Program for HISD and it is still in place today.

As one of the 4% of applying students accepted by the Harvard Graduate School of Education during the summer to study school reform. After this special education, 1992 became a banner year. We opened a new school. After operating only two years, it was recognized as a *National School of Excellence*, an exciting first for HISD. I took the well-deserving staff to Atlanta, Georgia to receive the award. Many school administrators from other schools and states came to our "Friday Open House" to visit the school for the day. This visiting plan was a great success and heavily attended for over a year.

I had speaking engagements all over the South on school reform. I created the first HISD School of Technology and linked it to a school in Arizona. I served as Assistant Principal at many schools and then as Principal at one. I wrote curriculum and I trained many other Principals in the unique administrative duties and procedures necessary for their personal success and their school's most productive operation.

During this time, I also worked with a new term Houston Council Woman. We negotiated, designed, funded, and built two new city parks and assisted with many other worthwhile city improvement projects.

I ventured into the usually all-male world by purchasing a Ralston Purina Farm Store in Houston. From a small store with a big warehouse attached, the business grew in a short time to an annual million-dollar producer, becoming the largest female-owned store in Harris County, Texas. To assist the community, I sponsored FAA Chapters and became the Show Secretary for the Texas American Saddle Horse Association providing everything from schedules to catalogues! But the most fun was passing out I invested in several real estate properties at this time.

I retired from HISD to accept a position with an education firm out of Baltimore, Maryland. I was to contract with School Districts to establish schools for Alternative Education Students. This change in my career was the acceptance of the corporate position of Executive Director for Kansas City, Kansas, where I completed my Juvenile Justice School. Then it was onto St. Louis, Missouri to set up the first Juvenile Justice Alternative School. Next in Chicago, Illinois I completed five new Alternative Schools.

All these responsibilities included contract negotiations with various School Boards to ensure the building of completely new schools. It was my job to scout locations, procure facilities (usually currently unused large properties), design the programs, and fully furnish, equip, and provide all supplies and staff for these schools.

In Naples, Florida, I created a *Drop Back In Academy* for students with various issues that were going to prevent them from walking the Graduation Stage with their fellow students. Following successful completion of our program, there were some happy students and parents on that special day!

My last assignment was serving as Director for the State of Florida After-School Program.

Retiring once again, this time to Pensacola, Florida, I sold my real estate holdings in Houston and now spend my time on real estate projects here. I enjoy memberships in the Pensacola Federation of Garden Clubs, The Heritage Society, The Little Theatre, Beta Sigma Phi Society and the WRL, Women for Responsible Legislation.

I am so very thankful to also share my time, talents, and service with the Epiphany Lutheran Church and all its members. I was introduced to this loving congregation by my husband, David Norem, and joined this Christian family many years ago. I look forward to continuing to contribute to our Church's future and further spiritual growth.

FEBRUARY WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

	FEB 4	FEB 11	FEB 14 (ASH WED) See next page	FEB 18	FEB 25
ASSISTING MINISTERS	Ken Busarow	Stephen Clements	See next page	Regina Gibbons	Carole Dwyer
LECTOR(S)	Jeremy Gorday	Rob Krauss	See next page	Mia Chiarello	J.R. Lee
USHERS	Steve Meyer Harland Bross	Chuck Glassmire John Ekstrom	See next page	Eric Johnson Randy St. Louis	Eddie Gibbons Paul Herrick
COMMUNION ASSISTANTS	Jim and Marlene Cooper	Karen McCabe Alice Fludgate	See next page	Heidi Long Shelly Johnson	Art and Camille Kimmel
PORTICO GREETERS	Randy St. Louis Chris Davis	Randy St. Louis Brad Fludgate	See next page	Randy St. Louis Marliese Herrick	Randy St. Louis Ron Davis
NURSERY ATTENDANT	Ali Baggett	Ali Baggett	See next page	Ali Baggett	Ali Baggett
FLOWER GUILD	Flower Guild	Flower Guild	See next page	Flower Guild	Flower Guild
HOSPITALITY HOST	Marliese Herrick *Regina Gibbons	Linda Bartlett *Bonnie Baggett	See next page	Youth Sunday *Gerry Selland	Hospitality *Ginger Given
CUP BEARERS	Grace Busarow Everlyn Harvey	Leighton Marchant Brooklyn Gorday	See next page	John Reitmire Ethan Oomens	Grace Busarow Everlyn Harvey

Worship Assistant Scheduling

Brenda Ekstrom is scheduling assistance for Worship each Sunday as she works on the bulletins. The Assisting Ministers will continue to be scheduled by Pastor. Brenda will be in contact with members for availability to serve. If you are willing to serve and/or have scheduling conflicts, please contact Brenda. Also, as Sunday approaches and you discover you cannot serve and cannot switch with someone, please contact Brenda or the office. Thank you!

FEBRUARY WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Continued

FEB 14 (ASH WED) FEB 14 (ASH WED)

2PM

6PM

ASSISTING MINISTERS	N/A	N/A
LECTOR(S)	Ron Davis	Wanda Gore
USHERS	Randy St. Louis Paul Herrick	Eddie Gibbons Rob Krauss
COMMUNION ASSISTANTS	Brenda Ekstrom Kim McCormick	Karen McCabe Regina Gibbons
PORTICO GREETERS	Randy St. Louis Faye Robinson	Randy St. Louis Faye Robinson
NURSERY ATTENDANT	N/A	N/A
FLOWER GUILD	Flower Guild	Flower Guild
HOSPITALITY HOST	Hospitality	Hospitality
CUP BEARERS	N/A	N/A

Ways to Give

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

One more reminder on the Capital Campaign. We don't have to do it all ourselves. We sent letters to sister congregations asking for their help and we can and should be asking family and friends to help too. It'll take more than just us, and you never know who might be looking for an opportunity to be a part of something greater...until you ask.

We've set up several very simple ways for anyone to give.

<https://epiphanydns.churchtrac.com/> - click on the Building Fund Donate button

<https://donorbox.org/building-fund-capital-campaign>

Scan the QR code below.



Share the link on our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/EpiphanyLutheranPensacola/>

or by mail:

Payment should be made to:

Epiphany Lutheran Church (Note: Capital Campaign)

PO Box 999

1450 Old Chemstrand Rd

Gonzalez, FL 32560

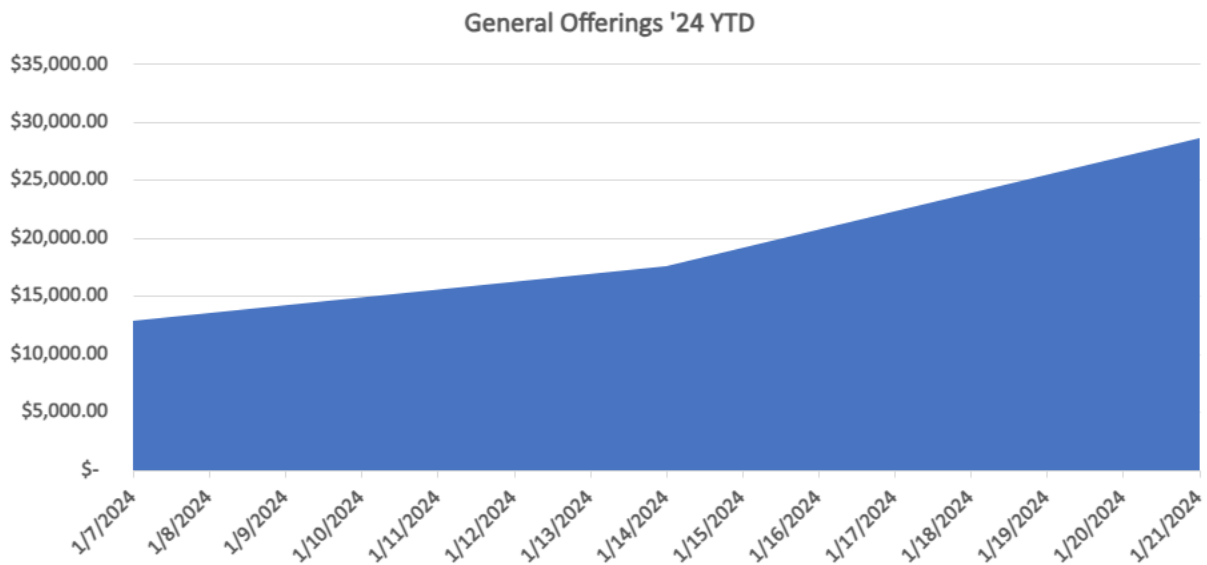
Ken Busarow – Treasurer

treasurer@epiphanypensacola.org

PRAYER REQUEST PROCEDURES

All listed on the prayer request will be lifted up in prayer for a period of three weeks at which time the request will be removed unless indicated otherwise. If you wish your request to remain on the prayer list for a longer period of time, please notify the office with that information.

OFFERING TOTAL (YTD)



NEWSLETTER UPDATE

Sara SeEVERS will be compiling the newsletter. Newsletter articles for March are due February 14. Please send all articles for the next newsletter to Sara at bookkeeper@epiphanypensacola.org by February 14. If you have any questions, please contact the office.