

# JANUARY NEWSLETTER 2023

## *Epiphany Lutheran Church*

A Congregation of the North American Lutheran Church

*Worshiping at:*  
6700 Spanish Trail  
Pensacola, FL 32504  
Ph. 850-287-5667



*Mailing Address*  
1450 Old Chemstrand Rd.  
PO Box 999  
Gonzalez, FL 32560

*Worship Services*  
Sundays at 9:30 a.m.  
(Nursery Available for children Preschool age and under)  
Holy Communion celebrated each Sunday

*Hospitality to follow*

*Email:* [nalcofpensacola@gmail.com](mailto:nalcofpensacola@gmail.com)  
*Follow on Facebook:* Epiphany Lutheran Church-Pensacola, FL  
*Church Connect page:* [epiphanypns.churchtrac.com](http://epiphanypns.churchtrac.com)



## PASTOR'S CORNER

January 2023  
*Epiphany Lutheran Church*

*But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,<sup>23</sup> gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law.<sup>24</sup> Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the sinful nature with its passions and desires.<sup>25</sup> Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit.<sup>26</sup> Let us not become conceited, competing against one another, envying one another. **Galatians 5:22-26***

We begin a new year and a renewed Spirit as we begin another chapter for Epiphany Lutheran Church. Last month we purchased the new church property and now we begin the journey of renewal for this beautiful location.



The passage from Paul's letter reminds the followers of Jesus that it is the fruit of the Spirit that makes all the difference in life. It is that same Spirit that fills each of you today as we celebrate a start to the new location. Galatians 5:22-26 expresses the church we know as Epiphany Pensacola as the disciple of Christ share in ministry and mission.

You've shown that we are living in the Spirit as the Spirit keeps us in step with our Lord. You've shown through faithful giving and faith attendance the commitment of loving one another and loving the people who attend while in flight school or military instruction. The visitor is welcomed, the poor are fed, the sick are prayed for and visited, the passion for serving has been greeted with joy.

At times, we want to move faster in getting everything done. But we've stepped back, listened, prayed, and waited for the Spirit to guide. Our commitment to not commit ourselves to a debt that burdens ministry, pleases God. How do I know this? Just look around at how the Spirit has guided our mission and ministry. We seek to provide a place that is not only affordable but allows us to save for the expansion and provide for others in need. The mission of the church cannot and will not be to make the mortgage payment. God calls for you and I to share the Spiritual gifts that were provide by our Lord. Therefore, let's not get too far ahead of what we need and what we want. Through faithfulness and prayer, God has provided for our needs. So, let's continue to trust in the power of prayer and give glory to God as we express our Love in action.

*Merry Christmas and Happy New Year  
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<sup>9</sup> not by works, so that no one can boast. **Ephesians 2:8-9***

# January 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
<b>1 FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS</b> <b>Happy New Year!</b> 8:30 a.m. Choir practice 9:30 a.m. Worship 10:30 a.m. Hospitality	<b>2 Office Closed</b> Pastor's day off 3:30 p.m. Praise group practice 4:30 p.m. Choir practice 6700 Spanish Trail	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> 6:30 p.m. Adult Bible Study in the clubhouse in the auditorium at Azalea Trace, 10100 Hillview Dr.	<b>5</b>	<b>6 FEAST OF EPIPHANY</b> 7:00 p.m. Worship Service  Office closed	<b>7</b>	
<b>8 BAPTISM OF OUR LORD</b> <b>Mission Sunday</b> 8:00 a.m. -9:15 a.m. Manna food drop off (trunk to trunk) 8:30 a.m. Choir practice 9:30 a.m. Worship – Council Installation 10:30 a.m. Hospitality 11:00 a.m. Adult Sunday School 11:00 a.m. 5 <sup>th</sup> grade – High School Sunday School in Sanctuary 11:00 a.m. K-4 <sup>th</sup> grade Sunday School education trailer	<b>9</b> 3:30 p.m. Praise group practice 4:30 p.m. Choir practice 6700 Spanish Trail	<b>10</b> 11:00 a.m. Faith/Eve Circle in Education trailer at Brit Ahm  7:00 p.m. Lutheran 101 class via zoom	<b>11</b> 6:30 p.m. Adult Bible Study in the clubhouse in the auditorium at Azalea Trace, 10100 Hillview Dr.	<b>12</b> 11:00 a.m. Council reports due	<b>13 PASTOR'S DAY OFF</b> Office closed	<b>14</b>	
<b>15 SECOND SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY</b> 8:30 a.m. Choir practice 9:30 a.m. Worship 10:30 a.m. Hospitality 11:00 a.m. Adult Sunday School	<b>16</b> 3:30 p.m. Praise group practice 4:30 p.m. Choir practice 6700 Spanish Trail	<b>17</b> 7:00 p.m. Council meeting	<b>18</b> <b>Annual Reports Due</b> <b>Newsletter Articles Due</b>  6:30 p.m. Adult Bible Study in the clubhouse in the auditorium at Azalea Trace, 10100 Hillview Dr.	<b>19</b>	<b>20 PASTOR'S DAY OFF</b> Office closed	<b>21</b>	
<b>22 THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY</b> 8:30 a.m. Choir practice 9:30 a.m. Worship 10:30 a.m. Hospitality 11:00 a.m. Adult Sunday School 11:00 a.m. 5 <sup>th</sup> grade – High School Sunday School in Sanctuary 11:00 a.m. K-4 <sup>th</sup> grade Sunday School education trailer	<b>23</b> 3:30 p.m. Praise group practice 4:30 p.m. Choir practice 6700 Spanish Trail	<b>24</b> 7:00 p.m. Lutheran 101 class via zoom	<b>25</b> 6:30 p.m. Adult Bible Study in the clubhouse in the auditorium at Azalea Trace, 10100 Hillview Dr..	<b>26</b>	<b>27 PASTOR'S DAY OFF</b> Office closed	<b>28</b>	
<b>29 FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY</b> 8:30 a.m. Choir practice 9:30 a.m. Worship 10:30 a.m. Hospitality 11:00 a.m. Adult Sunday School	<b>30</b> 3:30 p.m. Praise group practice 4:30 p.m. Choir practice 6700 Spanish Trail	<b>31</b>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;">           Pastor Conference San Antonio         </div>				

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



## CHRISTMAS WORSHIP SCHEDULE REMINDER

December 24	<b>Christmas Eve</b>	7:00 p.m.
December 25	<b>Christmas Day</b>	9:30 a.m.
January 1	<b>New Year's Day</b>	9:30 a.m.
January 6	<b>Epiphany Service</b>	7:00 p.m.

## OFFICE HOURS AFTER CHRISTMAS

Monday, December 26 - Office closed, Pastor's day off  
Tuesday, Dec. 27-Thursday, Dec. 29 - 9 a.m.-Noon (Sherry cover)  
Friday, December 30 – Office closed, Pastor's day off  
Monday, January 2 – Office closed, Pastor's day off

If there is a pastoral emergency outside of office hours, please contact Deacon Glenn or Carole Dwyer. In a non-emergency case, you may email the office at [nalcofpensacola@gmail.com](mailto:nalcofpensacola@gmail.com) or leave a voice mail at 850-287-5667. Emails and voice mails will be monitored but may not be answered until the following day.

## CHRISTMAS CARDS TO EPIPHANY

Thank you to all who sent wishes of a Merry Christmas to the church and staff. Epiphany also received a card from Bishop Selbo and staff at the North American Lutheran Church.



*But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger."*

— Luke 2:10–12 NRSV

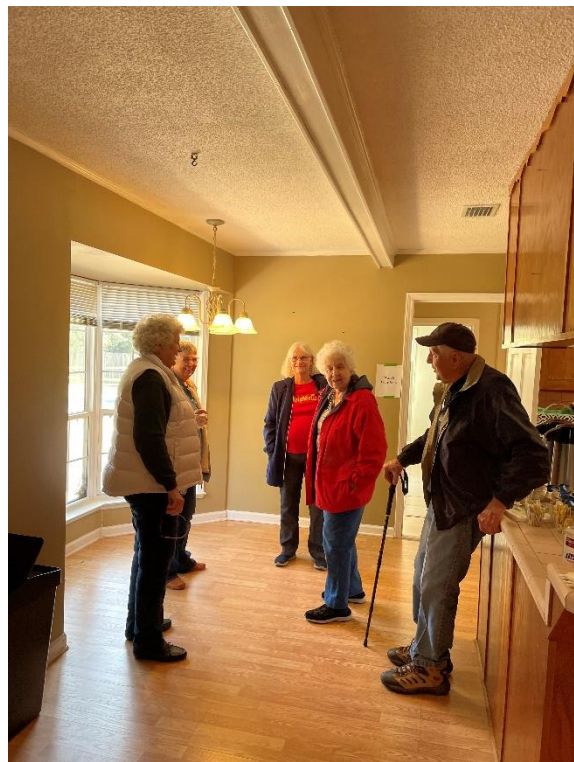
*This holy season, let us find true happiness where it may be found—in the good news that Christ became human—that God loves us with all His heart!*

*May your heart be filled with the joy and gladness that is ours in Him.*

*Bishop Dan Selbo and Staff  
North American Lutheran Church*



OPEN HOUSE AT NEW PROPERTY (DEC. 18)









## SOCIAL MINISTRY

Committee sorting the Love in Action donations for the Holidays.



### A Kind Offer from a member of Epiphany

Members of Epiphany: Are you in need or want of disposing items after Christmas? We have a member offering to come to your home, free of charge, and he will take them to Teen Challenge. If you have appliances, he will remove these for you. And if you have items to go to the landfill, he will take them for a nominal fee charged by the landfill. As of this time we would like to have your request by the end of January. This is a personal ministry offered by a member of our church family.....what a blessing.

Please contact Carole Dwyer for further information .

## FAITH/EVE CIRCLE

Faith and Eve Circle women's bible study will meet on January 10th at 11am in the classroom at Brit Ahm. We'll finish the "My Faith" course with Session 9: I Believe, and discuss what we want to look at next.

December's "Circle" study was followed by a delicious lunch held at Pastor and Wanda's home. It was a lovely day of fellowship, food and Jesus. (Not necessarily in that order!)

Looking forward to seeing you in January!

Dawn





## HOSPITALITY

*When God our Savior revealed his kindness and love, he saved us, not because of the righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He washed away our sins, giving us a new birth and new life through the Holy Spirit. Titus 3:4-5*

*Happy New Year!*

A “New Year”, a new beginning! Don’t you just love to have that feeling of a “clean slate” to start over. We sure know how to do that!

We started over with our “New” beginning as Epiphany Lutheran Church only a year ago. Look how far we have come! We recently celebrated our “Open House” at the new property, where we see how far God has brought us and the vision for our future, faithfully serving him. Through it all we have never forgotten how we got here, “Christ Centered, Faith Driven, Bible Based! That is who we are!

The Open House was a joyful time to celebrate and be reminded how God blesses those who follow him, “faithfully”!

We have added new beginnings to Hospitality as well. We have members and friends baking and providing refreshments each Sunday, thank you Liz for filling up the sign-up sheet. We have a “host” helping us serve on Sundays and especially the youth that are so excited to assist. We thank each of them and enjoy the excitement they bring as they serve the Lord through Hospitality. As we begin this New Year, we will be very busy, getting our “new” kitchen set up, hosting each Sunday with Hospitality and Fellowship. We will need your help for sure! Please pray about how you can serve at Epiphany, if not in Hospitality, then where? Help us share the “JOY” of giving back and serving others! You will be blessed!

Wishing everyone a “Happy New Year” and many blessings in 2023

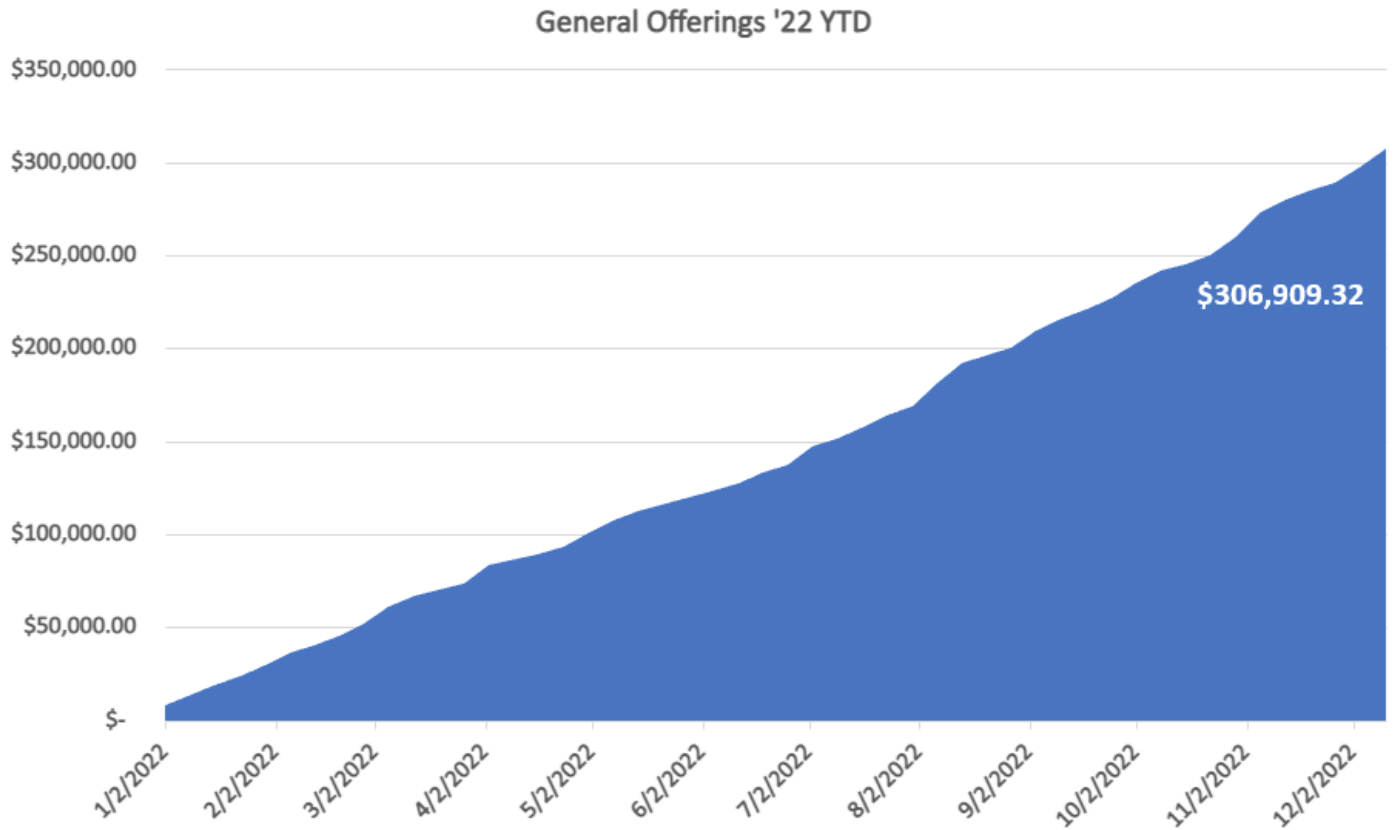
God’s Peace!  
Brenda

*As always, it is a JOY and HONOR to serve in GOD’S House!*

## NOW HIRING

An Assistant Nursery Attendant position is currently available. If you are interested in applying please contact the office to fill out an application and schedule an interview with Pastor. A background check is required. Hours and pay will be discussed during the interview with the Pastor.

## YTD GENERAL OFFERINGS (Running total through 12/11)



## NOTE FROM THE TREASURER

Do you have an IRA that you are taking “Required Minimum Distributions” from? If yes, you could receive a tax benefit for making “Qualified Charitable Distributions”, or QCDs. A QCD is where you tell the custodian of your IRA to send a portion of your RMD to a qualified public charity. The custodian sends this amount directly to the charity and you can exclude that amount from your taxable IRA distributions on your tax return for the year. This only works for IRA distributions – not pensions, not 401(k) plans. Your IRA custodian should have paperwork for you to complete should you choose to make QCDs. If you have general questions, Vanessa is happy to talk to you



## JANUARY WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

	January 1	January 6 Epiphany	January 8	January 15	January 22	January 29
ASSISTING MINISTERS	Dawn Zeigler	Suzanne Morgan	Carole Dwyer	Brenda Ekstrom	Daniel Turner	Dawn Zeigler
LECTOR(S)	Jim Cooper	Rod Dwyer	Marlene Cooper	Brad Dye	Karen McCabe	Steve Meyer
USHERS	John Ekstrom Harland Bross	Chuck Glassmire Harland Bross	Eddie Gibbons Chuck Glassmire	Art Kimmel Eric Johnson	Steve Meyer Dan Zeigler	John Ekstrom Randy St. Louis
COMMUNION ASSISTANTS	Audrey Tinsley Sidney Glassmire	Wanda Gore Kim McCormick	Jim Cooper Marlene Cooper	Betty Bross Molly Harvey	Pete Morgan Suzanne Morgan	Judith Lewing Karen McCabe
PORTICO GREETERS	Randy St. Louis Betty Bross	Randy St. Louis	Randy St. Louis Regina Gibbons	Randy St. Louis Marliese Herrick	Randy St. Louis The Davis's	Randy St. Louis Marsha Suarez
NURSERY ATTENDANT	Ali Baggett	Ali Baggett	Ali Baggett	Ali Baggett	Ali Baggett	Ali Baggett
FLOWER GUILD	Flower Guild	Flower Guild	Flower Guild	Flower Guild	Flower Guild	Flower Guild
HOSPITALITY HOST	Marliese Herrick	NA	Heidi Long	Youth Sunday	Regina Gibbons	Audrey Tinsley

### 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 can not switch with someone, please contact Brenda or the office. Thank you!**

**Feast of Epiphany Worship Service**

**January 6, 2023                      7 p.m.**



**Installation of 2023 Council and Committee Chairs**

**January 8, 2023                      9:30 during Worship**

**Mission Sunday-Bring food for Manna**

**January 8, 2023                      8:00 a.m. – 9:15 a.m. drop off**

**Annual Reports due from Exec. Comm./ Committee Chairs/ Staff**

**January 18, 2023**

**Newsletter Articles Due**

**January 18, 2023**