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## 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.

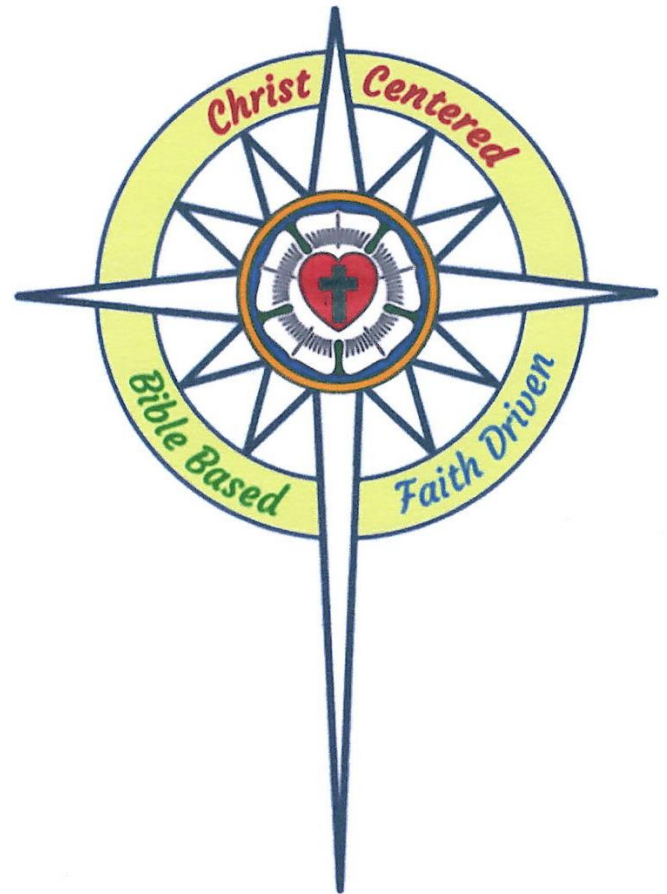
P.O. Box 999, Gonzalez, Fl 32560

**Email:** [nalcofpensacola@gmail.com](mailto:nalcofpensacola@gmail.com)

**Facebook:** Epiphany Lutheran Church-  
Pensacola, Fl

**Church connect page:**  
[epiphanypns.churchtrac.com](http://epiphanypns.churchtrac.com)

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# EPIPHANY PENSACOLA

## *December 2024 Newsletter*

A congregation of the NALC



December 2024  
Epiphany Pensacola

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## Christmas 2024 Schedule Advent-Epiphany

### Wednesday, December 4<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, and 18<sup>th</sup>

- Advent Services at Ashland-Noon
- Soup lunch to follow

### Sunday, December 1<sup>st</sup>

- First Sunday of Advent-Worship at 9:30 a.m. at Brit Ahm

### Sunday, December 8<sup>th</sup>

- Second Sunday of Advent-Worship at 9:30 a.m. at Brit Ahm
- Last day to bring Love in Action items for Favor House

### Sunday, December 15<sup>th</sup>

- Children's Christmas play during Worship-9:30 a.m. at Brit Ahm
- Last day to turn in Poinsettia order forms

### Sunday, December 22<sup>nd</sup>

- Lessons and Carols during Worship-9:30 a.m. at Brit Ahm

### Tuesday, December 24<sup>th</sup>

- Christmas Eve-Worship at 7 p.m. at Brit Ahm

### Sunday, December 29<sup>th</sup>

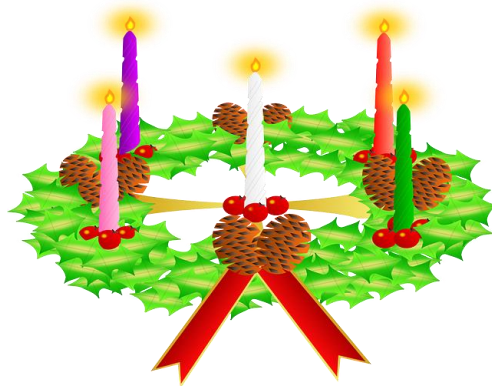
- First Sunday of Christmas-Worship at 9:30 a.m. at Brit Ahm

### Sunday, January 5<sup>th</sup>

- Second Sunday of Christmas-Worship at 9:30 a.m. at Brit Ahm

### Monday January 6<sup>th</sup>

- Epiphany-Worship at 7 p.m. at Brit Ahm



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<i>December 2024</i>						
<b>1</b> <b>1<sup>ST</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT</b> <b>9:30a</b> Worship <b>10:30a</b> Budget/Elections mtg <b>10:40a</b> Children's choir practice <b>11:00a</b> Children's Ch. Ed. <b>11:00a</b> Hospitality <b>11:15a</b> Adult Ch. Ed	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> <b>5:30p</b> Bell practice	<b>4</b> <b>12:00p</b> Advent mid-week <b>3:30p</b> ByGrace practice <b>4:30p</b> Choir practice <b>5:30p</b> Confirmation class	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> <b>Office closed</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b> <b>2<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT</b> <b>MISSION SUNDAY</b> <b>8:30a</b> Manna drop off <b>9:30a</b> Worship <b>10:30a</b> Hospitality <b>10:40a</b> Children's choir <b>11:00a</b> Children's Ch. Ed. <b>11:15a</b> Adult Ch. Ed.	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> <b>9:00a-noon</b> Office hours <b>11:00a</b> Faith Circle <b>5:30p</b> Bell practice	<b>11</b> <b>12:00p</b> Advent mid-week <b>3:30p</b> ByGrace practice <b>4:30p</b> Choir practice <b>5:30p</b> Confirmation class	<b>12</b> <b>11:00a</b> Council reports due <b>7:00p</b> Building in use	<b>13</b> <b>Office closed</b>	<b>14</b> <b>4:00p</b> Set up for worship
<b>15</b> <b>3<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT</b> <b>Poinsettia orders due</b> <b>9:30a</b> Worship-Children's Program <b>10:30a</b> Hospitality <b>10:40a</b> Children's Choir <b>11:00a</b> Children's Ch. Ed. <b>11:15a</b> Adult Ch. Ed.	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> <b>12:00p</b> SOLE Christmas lunch <b>5:30p</b> Bell practice <b>6:30p</b> Executive meeting via Zoom	<b>18</b> <b>12:00p</b> Advent mid-week <b>3:30p</b> ByGrace practice <b>4:30p</b> Choir practice <b>5:30p</b> Confirmation class  <b>Newsletter articles due (Hard deadline!)</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> <b>Office closed</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b> <b>4<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT</b> <b>9:30a</b> Worship-Lessons and Carols <b>10:30a</b> Hospitality <b>10:40a</b> Children's choir <b>11:15a</b> Adult Ch. Ed.	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> <b>9:00a-noon</b> Office hours	<b>25</b> <b>CHRISTMAS DAY!</b>  <b>Office closed</b>	<b>26</b> <b>Office closed</b>	<b>27</b> <b>Office closed</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b> <b>1<sup>ST</sup> SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS</b> <b>9:30a</b> Worship <b>10:30a</b> Hospitality <b>10:40a</b> Children's choir <b>11:15a</b> Adult Ch. Ed.	<b>30</b> <b>9:00a-1p.m.</b> Office hours	<b>31</b> <b>9:00a-1 p.m.</b> Office hours	<b>1</b> <b>Office closed</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>



# ***DATES TO REMEMBER***

## **Budget and Elections meeting**

Sunday, December 1 @ 10:30a

## **Advent Service**

Wednesdays, December 4, 11, 18 @ noon

## **Mission Sunday- Manna drop off**

Sunday, December 8 @ 8:30a

## **Faith Circle**

Tuesday, December 10 @ 11:00a

## **Council reports due**

Thursday, December 12 @ 11:00a

## **Children's Program**

Sunday, December 15

## **SOLE Christmas Lunch**

Tuesday, December 17 @ noon

## **Executive council meeting via zoom**

Tuesday, December 17 @ 6:30p

## **Newsletter articles due (This is a hard deadline)**

Wednesday, December 18



# COMMITTEE NEWS

## MUSIC DEPARTMENT



### Children's Christmas Program

We're thrilled to invite everyone to our Christmas Program during the 9:30 a.m. service on **December 15th**! The Children's Choir will lead us in joyful songs, making this a memorable celebration for all. We'd love to see families, friends, and neighbors join us, so please spread the word! After the program, enjoy some delicious Christmas treats.

### Why Join the Bell Choir?

1. **Musical Enrichment:** Playing handbells introduces you to a new way of making music. You'll learn about rhythm, harmony, and teamwork while enjoying the satisfaction of creating melodies together.
2. **Community Connection:** The Bell Choir is a wonderful way to meet new friends and build relationships within our church community. It fosters a spirit of fellowship and collaboration among participants.
3. **Enhancing Worship:** By joining the Bell Choir, you play a crucial role in enhancing our worship services. Bell music heightens the liturgical experience and brings an added layer of beauty to our celebrations.
4. **Develop New Skills:** No prior experience with handbells? No problem! Our choir is open to all skill levels, and we offer guidance and training to help you develop your talents.

We invite you to come to a practice to try it or just watch as we learn together, the techniques, the rhythms and the timing that turns 20 hands and three octaves of bells into fun and creative music to enhance and deepen our worship experience. We practice each Tuesday evening at 5:30 at the Ashland campus. If you can't make it to practice but would like more information, contact me at [belldirector@epiphanypensacola.org](mailto:belldirector@epiphanypensacola.org).

We'd love to have you join us.  
Ken Busarow, Bell Choir Director, Epiphany  
Pensacola



HAND BELL CHOIR

## *Celebrating the Season*

As the Advent season approaches, we are filled with anticipation and joy in our hearts. This time of year holds special significance for many, as we prepare to celebrate the birth of our Savior. Our church choir plays a vital role in enhancing the worship experience during this glorious season, bringing the spirit of Christmas alive through song.



Our choir rehearses diligently each week, preparing a beautiful selection of music for both Advent and Christmas services. The choir members are committed to serving the congregation by creating an atmosphere of reverence and celebration. From their anthems to traditional hymn arrangements, their music lifts our spirits and draws us closer to God.

Advent, the four-week season leading up to Christmas, is a time of preparation and reflection. Our Advent services will feature special music performed by the choir. Each week, we will light a candle on the Advent wreath, symbolizing our journey toward Christ's birth. The choir's music will help set the tone of anticipation and preparation for the birth of our Savior. As we move toward Christmas, our service of Lessons and Carols is filled with music from beginning to end. Join us for a night of joyous worship as the choir leads us in song, filling the sanctuary with beautiful melodies that echo the joy of the season.

The church choir is always looking for new members who share a passion for music and worship. If you love to sing and want to be a part of this vibrant ministry, we invite you to join us for a rehearsal. Whether you're a seasoned vocalist or new to singing, there's a place for you in our choir family.

As we embark on this Advent season, let us prepare our hearts to embrace the true meaning of Christmas. Let our choir's music enhance and enrich our worship experience as we celebrate the birth of Jesus with hearts full of praise.

Wishing you a blessed Advent and a joyful Christmas!  
Ken Busarow, Choir Director, Epiphany Pensacola

If you're interested in joining the choir or would like more information, you can contact me at [choirdirector@epiphanypensacola.org](mailto:choirdirector@epiphanypensacola.org).

# *CHRISTIAN EDUCATION*



## **Luther Buck's Store**

The Luther Buck's store will also be open on **December 15th**, giving our youth an opportunity to redeem their earned bucks for fun items.



## **Christian Education Schedule**

Classes for Pre-K through Middle School will pause on **December 15th** and resume on **January 5th**. We hope everyone enjoys a wonderful holiday break!



## **Advent Wreath Making**

Come start the season with us on **December 1st** as we create Advent wreaths together! This activity is open to all ages—bring your family for this special tradition to kick off Advent.

# *FAITH CIRCLE*

Faith Circle will meet on December 10th at 11:00am. We will meet at the Ashland property and have a potluck and ornament exchange. Any questions please see Marlene or Wanda

As we conclude this year's study, we look forward to a new year filled with exploring and strengthening our relationship with God.

Please bring your bible and a dish to share. ALL are welcome.

Merry Christmas,  
Marlene and Wanda





**SOLE Christmas Luncheon**  
**December 17, 2024 at noon**  
**9176 Ashland Ave**

**All Seniors are Invited**

Lunch will be catered from Petrella's Italian Cafe; the cost will be \$14.00 ea.

**Menu**

Salad ~ Breadsticks ~ Steamed Vegetables  
Chicken Parmesan with Spaghetti  
Dessert & Ice Tea

After lunch we will play the Dirty Santa game. If you would like to participate, bring a wrapped gift. It can be funny or serious, ugly or pretty, old or new but the limit is \$15 or less. This will be fun!

If you plan to come please let Alice Fludgate know by Thursday, December 12th so the catering can be finalized.  
email [a.fludgate@icloud.com](mailto:a.fludgate@icloud.com).

**FLOWER GUILD**

Poinsettias for the Christmas Eve service may be ordered in remembrance of loved ones. Red and white poinsettias will be \$15 each. Watch the bulletin insert for the order form. Place the completed order form along with payment in the offering basket. The deadline to order them is December 15. After the service, please take home your poinsettia.





## Hospitality

*Mercy, peace and love be yours in abundance.*

*Jude 1:2*

Let us talk about the “candy cane”. Although we think of it as a refreshing piece of candy, do you know what it represents? When the Candy Cane was first made, the candy maker made it with a purpose, to remind us of what Jesus did for us. It doesn’t have to be Christmas for us to remember, we should celebrate this every day for Jesus is always with us.

*Look at the candy cane, what do you see?  
Stripes that are red, like the blood shed for me.  
White for my Savior who’s sinless and pure.  
“J” is for Jesus, my Lord for sure.  
Turn it around and a staff you will see,  
Jesus my shepherd is coming for me!*

The Hospitality Team had a busy November. Together with the congregation we celebrated our new members, John and Cheryl Longhouser. If you have not introduced yourself to them, please do so.

Secondly, we honored our Veterans with a cake and good ole’ fashion sloppy joes. This was a big hit, and we will have to do it again. Then we had our “Pie Fest”, which was an exciting time. There were 30 pies to sell. A special thanks to all who baked and helped us out with this fundraiser. All the pies were sold, and all proceeds will go to the Building Fund!

Our team wishes each and every one a blessed, *Merry Christmas!*

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

## ***FUNDRAISING***

### **~Aluminum Can Collection~**

We are always looking for ways to contribute to the building fund and we already save pop tabs for Ronald McDonald House. Why not save the aluminum cans for the building fund?

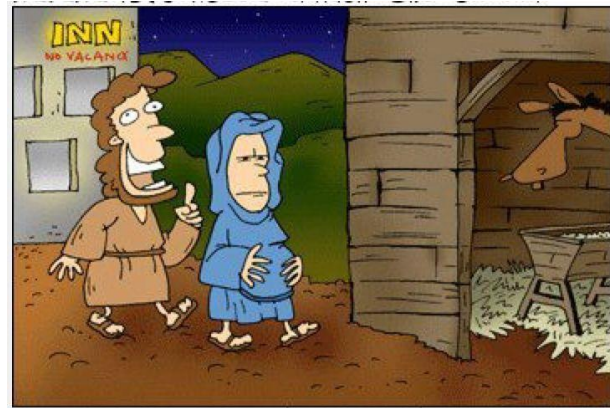
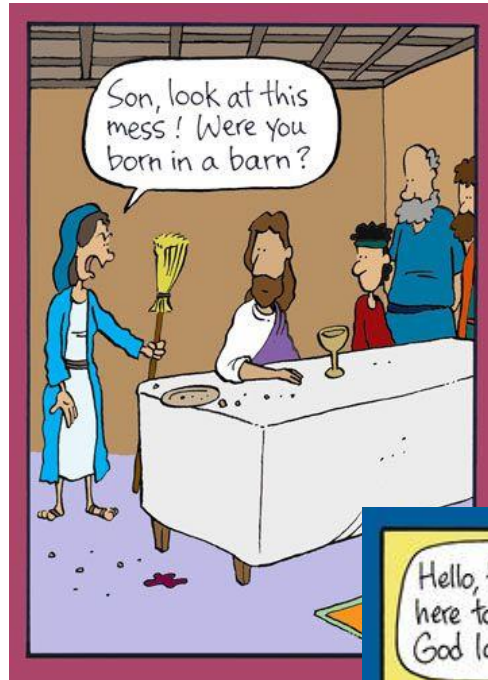
One tall kitchen size trash bag full of aluminum cans = approx. \$1 to the building fund.



Going forward, there will be a **black** trash can on the north side of the Ashland office designated for aluminum can collection. You may bring your **bagged** aluminum cans and drop them in the can anytime. If the can is full, please place the bags on the ground near the can. Please **do not** bring cans to Brit Ahm. This collection is **only at Ashland**.

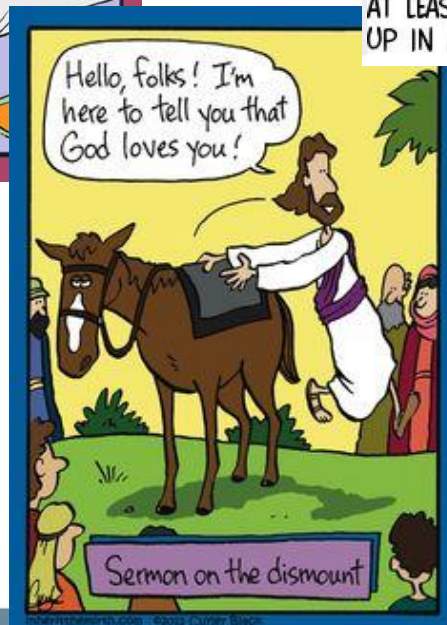
Every dollar gets us one step closer to Epiphany's Worship center!

# ~CARTOON CORNER~



Thanks to John Michael Sullivan (See Luke 2:1-16) 12-23-2008

AT LEAST WE CAN SAY THAT HE WAS BROUGHT UP IN A STABLE HOME

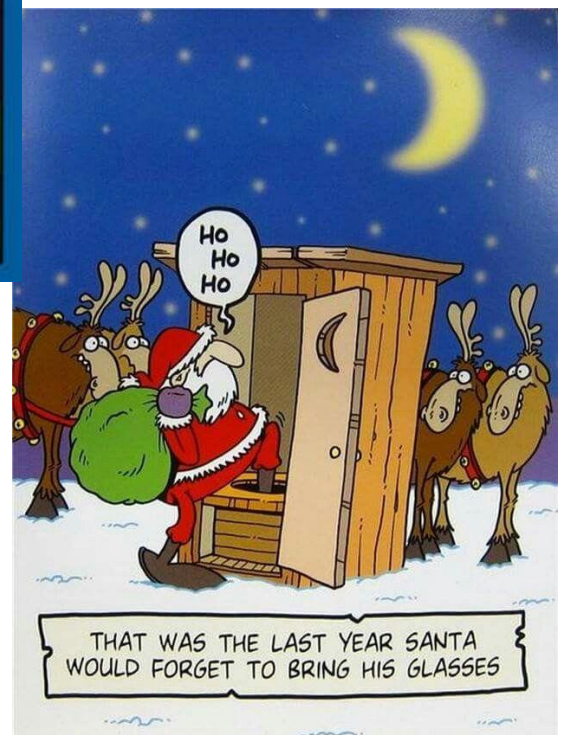


Sermon on the dismount



DT Walsh

Santa has a senior moment





# *DECEMBER WORSHIP ASSISTANTS*

	DEC 1	DEC 8	DEC 15	Dec 22	DEC 24	DEC 29
<b>ASSISTING MINISTERS</b>	Regina Gibbons	Carlo Canapa	Madilyn Marchant	N/A	N/A	Karen McCabe
<b>LECTOR(S)</b>	Art Kimmel	Ron Davis Grace Busarow	Stella McAllister Leighton Marchant	Stephen Clements	Wanda Gore	Brenda Ekstrom
<b>USHERS</b>	Chuck Glassmire John Ekstrom	Eric Johnson Eddie Gibbons	Steve Meyer Art Kimmel	Chuck Glassmire Eddie Gibbons	Harland Bross John Ekstrom	Randy St. Louis Paul Herrick
<b>COMMUNION ASSISTANTS</b>	Judith Lewing Karen McCabe	Bonnie Baggett Wanda Gore	Shelly Johnson Heidi Long	Betty Bross Brenda Ekstrom	Sara-Margaret Seevers Kim McCormick	John Ekstrom Harland Bross
<b>PORTICO GREETERS</b>	Randy St. Louis Chris Davis	Randy St. Louis Ron Davis	Randy St. Louis Marsha Suarez	Randy St. Louis Faye Robinson	Randy St. Louis Betty Bross	Randy St. Louis
<b>NURSERY ATTENDANT</b>	Ali Baggett	Regina Gibbons	Regina Gibbons	Ali Baggett	Ali Baggett	Ali Baggett
<b>FLOWERS</b>	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Harland
<b>REFRESHMENTS</b>	Hospitality	Hospitality	Hospitality	Hospitality	Hospitality	Hospitality
<b>CUP BEARERS</b>	Leighton Marchant Ethan Oomens	Brooklyn Gorday Eli Baggett	Everlynn Harvey John Reitmire	Leighton Marchant Ethan Oomens	Volunteers	Brooklyn Gorday Eli Baggett
<b>CLEAN-UP</b>	Ken Busarow	Regina Gibbons	Pete Morgan	Harland Bross	Suzanne Morgan	Eddie Gibbons

## 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!

# 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

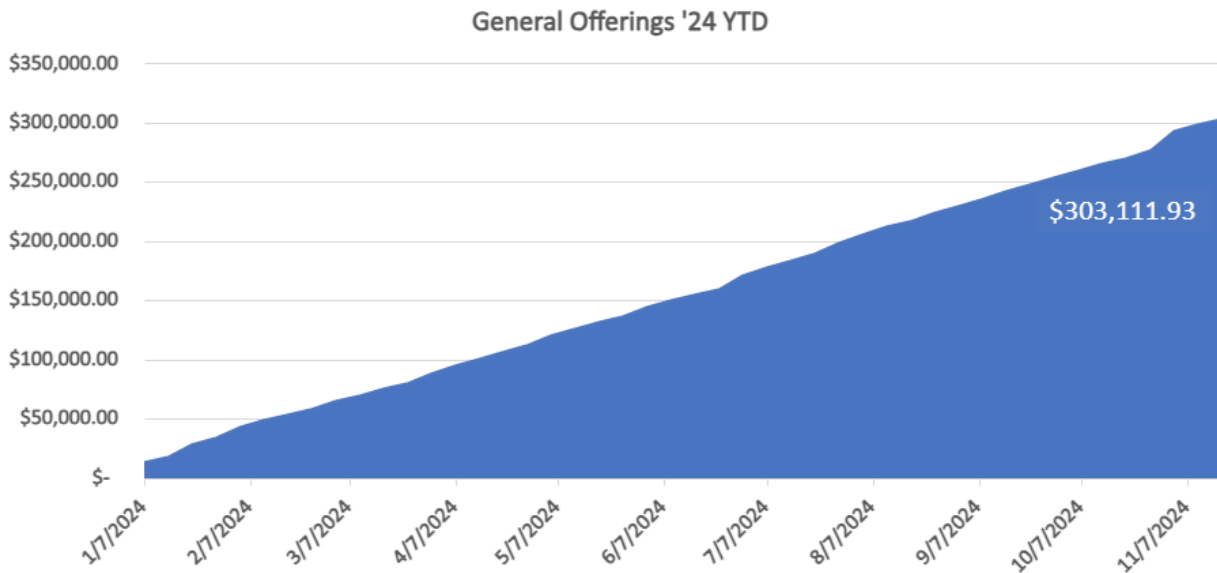
Ken Busarow – Treasurer

[treasurer@epiphanypensacola.org](mailto: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)



## 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.

In His Service

Deacon Glenn

**If you have any Choice Dollars to spend, PLEASE DONATE them to the church**

## 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	<a href="mailto:pastor@epiphanypensacola.org">pastor@epiphanypensacola.org</a>
Office Manager	Kim McCormick	<a href="mailto:officemgr@epiphanypensacola.org">officemgr@epiphanypensacola.org</a>
Parish Deacon	Deacon Glenn	<a href="mailto:deaconglenn@epiphanypensacola.org">deaconglenn@epiphanypensacola.org</a>
Traditional Worship	Ken Busarow	<a href="mailto:choirdirector@epiphanypensacola.org">choirdirector@epiphanypensacola.org</a>
Bell Choir	Ken Busarow	<a href="mailto:belldirector@epiphanypensacola.org">belldirector@epiphanypensacola.org</a>
Contemporary Worship	Donna Busarow	<a href="mailto:contemporaryworship@epiphanypensacola.org">contemporaryworship@epiphanypensacola.org</a>
Office Asst.	Brenda Ekstrom	<a href="mailto:officeasst@epiphanypensacola.org">officeasst@epiphanypensacola.org</a>
Off. Asst./Bookkeeper	Sara-Margaret Seevers	<a href="mailto:bookkeeper@epiphanypensacola.org">bookkeeper@epiphanypensacola.org</a>

### **CHURCH COUNCIL OFFICERS**

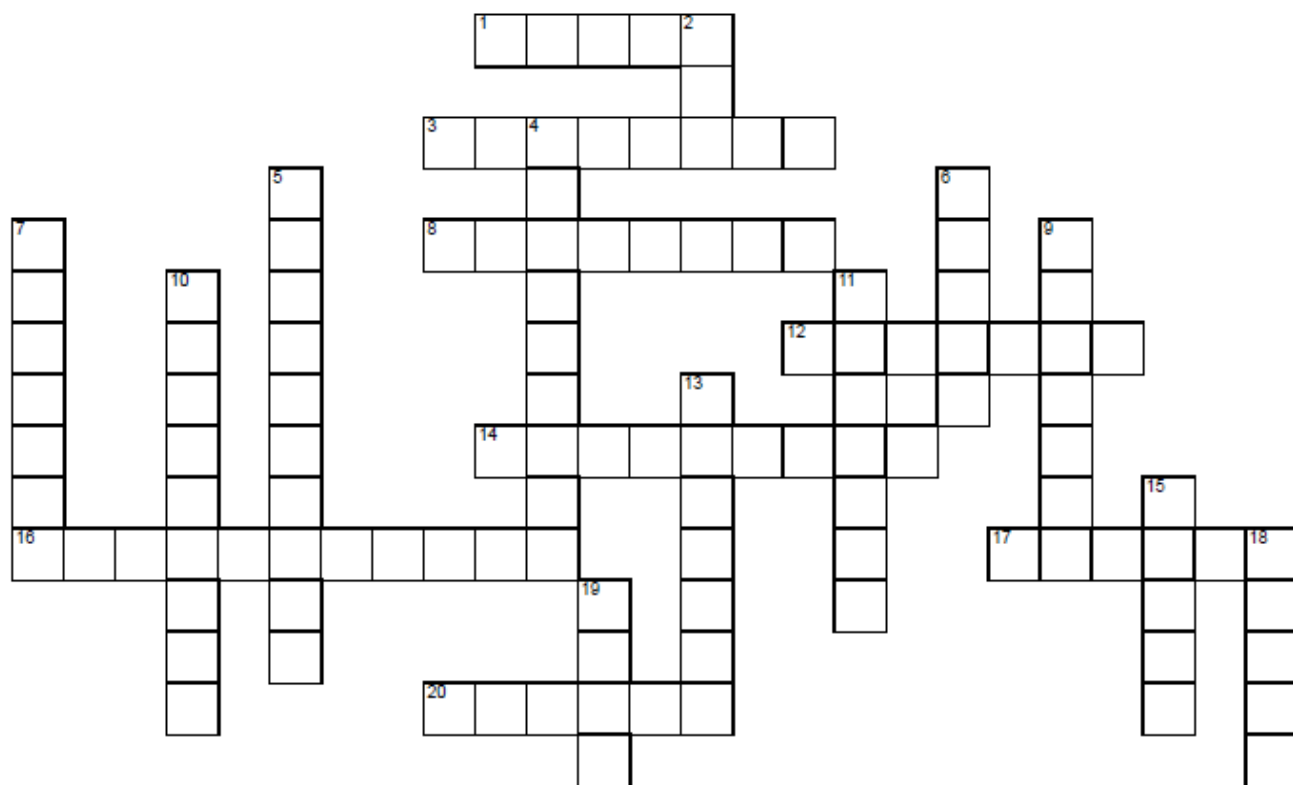
President	Pete Morgan	<a href="mailto:president@epiphanypensacola.org">president@epiphanypensacola.org</a>
Vice President	Paul Herrick	<a href="mailto:vicepresident@epiphanypensacola.org">vicepresident@epiphanypensacola.org</a>
Secretary	Regina Gibbons	<a href="mailto:secretary@epiphanypensacola.org">secretary@epiphanypensacola.org</a>
Treasurer	Ken Busarow	<a href="mailto:treasurer@epiphanypensacola.org">treasurer@epiphanypensacola.org</a>
Fin. Secretary	Judie Cox	<a href="mailto:finsec@epiphanypensacola.org">finsec@epiphanypensacola.org</a>
Co-Fin. Secretary	Valerie Creedon	<a href="mailto:co-finsec@epiphanypensacola.org">co-finsec@epiphanypensacola.org</a>

### **CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS**

Worship & Music	Kathie Shoff-Norem	<a href="mailto:worship@epiphanypensacola.org">worship@epiphanypensacola.org</a>
Social Ministry	Rod Dwyer	<a href="mailto:socialministry@epiphanypensacola.org">socialministry@epiphanypensacola.org</a>
Hospitality	Suzanne Morgan	<a href="mailto:hospitality@epiphanypensacola.org">hospitality@epiphanypensacola.org</a>
Mutual Ministry	Harland Bross	<a href="mailto:mutualministry@epiphanypensacola.org">mutualministry@epiphanypensacola.org</a>

Prayer Requests	<a href="mailto:prayerrequest@epiphanypensacola.org">prayerrequest@epiphanypensacola.org</a>
Tech Support	<a href="mailto:support@epiphanypensacola.org">support@epiphanypensacola.org</a>
Facebook Support	<a href="mailto:facebook@epiphanypensacola.org">facebook@epiphanypensacola.org</a>





ACROSS

- 1 Aluminum can bags should be put in the \_\_\_\_\_ can
- 3 Faith Circle will do an ornament \_\_\_\_\_
- 8 the money raised from pie fest went to which fund
- 12 Do not brings cans to \_\_\_\_\_
- 14 SOLE will have lunch from \_\_\_\_\_
- 16 order forms due on December 5th
- 17 service held on Wednesdays starting in December
- 20 develop new \_\_\_\_\_ (Why join Bell Choir?)

DOWN

- 2 contact \_\_\_\_\_ to join the choir
- 4 Christmas program on December 15th
- 5 musical \_\_\_\_\_ (Why join Bell Choir?)
- 6 Pre-K through Middle School Christian Ed. classes start back January \_\_\_\_\_
- 7 enhancing \_\_\_\_\_ (Why join Bell Choir?)
- 9 can collection is only at \_\_\_\_\_
- 10 \_\_\_\_\_ connection (Why join Bell Choir?)
- 11 we will be making Advent \_\_\_\_\_ on December 1st
- 13 As we move toward Christmas, our service of \_\_\_\_\_ and carols is filled with music
- 15 what does the candy cane represent?
- 18 number of octaves of bells used in Bell Choir
- 19 practice held on Tuesdays at 5:30