



Epiphany Lutheran Church

Service at 9:30 am

Worshiping at:

6700 Spanish Trail, Pensacola, FL 32504

850-287-5667

Mailing Address:

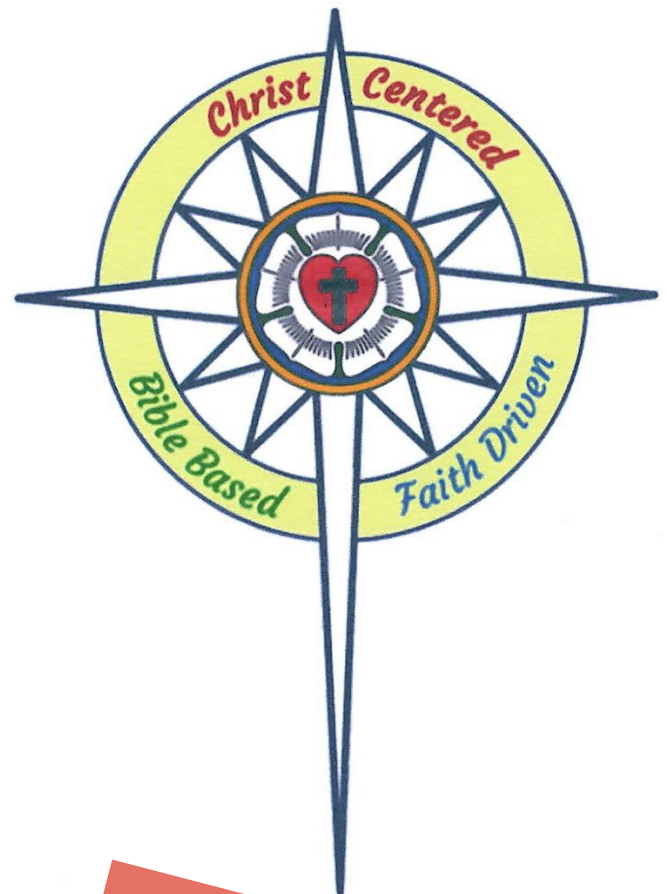
1450 Old Chemstrand Rd.

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

May 2024 Newsletter

A congregation of the NALC



May 2024

Epiphany Lutheran Church

“Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.” Matthew 28:19

“We were therefore buried with Him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life.” Romans 6:4

Image from: St. Theresa of the Child Jesus



Education Material on the Sacrament of Holy Baptism:

The Lutheran Book of Concord, small and large catechism gives us the reference for the Sacrament of Holy Baptism. In Holy Baptism the Triune God delivers us from the forces of evil, puts our sinful self to death, gives us new birth, adopts us as children and makes us members of the body of Christ, the Church. “Baptism is not simply plain water. Instead, it is water enclosed in God’s command and connected with God’s Word. It brings about forgiveness of sins, redeems from death and the devil and gives eternal salvation to all who believe it.”¹

Baptism was given to the Church by Jesus Christ in the “great commission” (Matt. 28:19) But also in his own baptism by John and in the baptism of the cross. Baptism is for the sake of life in Christ. In baptism, the individual becomes a member of the body of Christ, “the Church” not the denomination. Christians continue in the covenant God made with them in baptism by participation in the community of faith, by hearing the Word and receiving Christ’s Supper, by proclaiming the good news in word and deed, and by striving for justice and peace. Baptism is for children. It is for adults. It is done once, yet it is for life.

Baptism is for all ages: “*Principle*: God, whose grace is for all, is the one who acts in Baptism. Therefore, candidates for Baptism are of all ages. Some are adults and older children who have heard the Gospel of Jesus Christ, declare their faith, and desire Holy Baptism. Others are young or infant children of active members of the congregation or those children for whom members of the congregation assume sponsorship.”²






I am writing this educational material for our newsletter as I discern how we can better serve Christ in the “Great Commission”. I am discerning a change in our baptism policy for the sake of Kingdom Building. I will continue to pray about this and will speak with the Congregation Council on this matter.

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

¹ *The Book of Concord* (Minneapolis MN: Fortress Press, 2000) p. 359

¹ *The Use of the Means of Grace: A Statement on the Practice of Word and Sacrament*, (Minneapolis MN: Augsburg Fortress, 1997) p. 24

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
May 2024						
28	29	30	1 6:30p Adult Bible Study in the clubhouse in the auditorium at Azalea Trace, 10100 Hillview Dr.	2	3 Office closed	4 8:00a Backyard cleanup 9:00a – 1:00p OUTDOOR MARKET! 
5 SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER 9:30 Worship 10:30a Hospitality 11:00a Children’s service rehearsal 11:15a Adult Sunday school 11:30a Social ministry meeting	6 3:30p Praise group 4:30p Choir practice	7	8 6:30p Adult Bible Study in the clubhouse in the auditorium at Azalea Trace, 10100 Hillview Dr.	9	10 Office closed	11 9:00a – 1:00p OUTDOOR MARKET!  4:00p Children’s service dress rehearsal
12 SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER Mission Sunday 8:30a Manna drop off 9:30a Worship-youth led service 10:30a Hospitality 11:00a Kids’ Sunday School 11:15a Adult Sunday school	13 3:30p Praise group 4:30p Choir practice	14 11:00a Faith Circle	15 6:30p Adult Bible Study NEWSLETTER ARTICLES DUE!	16 11:00a Council reports due	17 Office closed	18 9:00a – 1:00p OUTDOOR MARKET 
19 DAY OF PENTECOST WEAR RED! 9:30a Worship 10:30a Hospitality 11:00a Kids’ Sunday School 11:15a Adult Sunday school	20 3:30p Praise group practice 4:30p Choir practice	21 6:30p Executive Committee meeting	22 6:30p Adult Bible Study in the clubhouse in the auditorium at Azalea Trace, 10100 Hillview Dr	23	24 Office closed	25 9:00a – 1:00p OUTDOOR MARKET! 
26 HOLY TRINITY SUNDAY 9:30a Worship 10:30a Hospitality 11:00a Kids’ Sunday School 11:15a Adult Sunday school	27 MEMORIAL DAY  Office closed	28 12:00p S.O.L.E.	29 6:30p Adult Bible Study in the clubhouse in the auditorium at Azalea Trace, 10100 Hillview Dr	30	31 Office closed	

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



DATES TO REMEMBER

The Outdoor Market/Yard Sale @ Epiphany

Saturday, May 4, 11, 18, 25 @ 9:00a – 1:00p

Backyard Clean-up

Saturday, May 4 @ 8:00a – 11:00a

Children's worship service rehearsal

Sunday, May 5 @ 11:00a

Saturday, May 11 @ 4:00p

Mission Sunday

Sunday, May 12 – drop off @ 8:30a

Faith Circle

Tuesday, May 14 @ 11:00a

Newsletter articles due

Wednesday, May 15

Council reports due

Thursday, May 16 @ 11:00a

Day of Pentecost

Sunday, May 19

Everyone please wear RED!

Executive Committee meeting

Tuesday, May 21 @ 6:30p

SOLE

Tuesday, May 28 @ 11:00a



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
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

The Outdoor Market at Epiphany Epiphany Lutheran Church 9176 Ashland Ave, Pensacola, FL 32534



The “Outdoor Market/Yard Sale at Epiphany” is held every Saturday
9:00a – 1:00p

“The Outdoor Market @ Epiphany” is a family friendly event where locals come together to buy and sell from local farmers/vendors. All items will be locally made, locally grown and locally crafted by locals. Local means within 50 miles. Items such as fresh eggs, milk, meat, produce, trees, honey, farm animals/puppies (UPON APPROVAL), homemade goodies, art, jewelry, bakery goods, crafts, soaps, crocheted items, fresh cut flowers, gourmet keto coffee, etc... Produce vendors are allowed to source their produce from other farmers within 50 miles.



UPDATE** We have also added a yard sale portion to our market! If you have **gently used** items at home that you would like to get rid of, bring them to the market and reserve a yard sale space. Do you have a few items but not enough for a full table? **Contact Karen McCabe** for help in coordinating a few members to share a space.



Since our Market meets on church grounds, we ask that all products sold are respectful of the church’s religious preferences. Vendors will be asked to put away any products that do not comply with these standards. To maintain the family friendly environment that we promote, we also hold the right to ask any vendor to remove a product from their table that is not family friendly.

We encourage members of the congregation to come to the market and support these local vendors so we may continue to grow as a force for good in this community. The more support we have, the more vendors we will have. With that will come more opportunities and resources to grow Epiphany and minister to our community.

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.

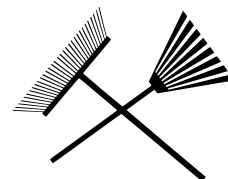
In His Service

Deacon Glenn

***Update:** We've had several members come in and fill out their applications. Make your appointment with Brenda today! Also, Thrivent has sent T-shirts to be given away to anyone who wants one. There are several different sizes. You can pick one up during office hours.

BACKYARD CLEAN UP DAY

On Saturday, May 4 at 8:00a – 11:00a, we will have a backyard clean up day. Please come to help rake and bag leaves.



DAY OF PENTECOST

May 19 is Pentecost Sunday. We encourage everyone to please wear red.



When Does Life Begin?

written by M. Roy Schwarz | March 5, 2024



Editor's Note: by M. Roy Schwarz, M.D.

The American Heritage Dictionary, 2nd College Edition defines “life” as “the property or quality that distinguishes living organisms from the dead or inanimate matter manifested in functions such as metabolism, growth, reproduction, and response to stimuli.” These four criteria can be used to judge whether some object is alive or dead.

Science has taught us that the process of human development begins when the male sperm penetrates the female egg. This triggers a series of events leading to division of the fertilized egg. Hence, a single cell divides into two cells, these cells divide into four, those cells divide into eight, and those cells divide into sixteen. This all occurs before the fertilized egg attaches to the wall of the uterus. By seven days, or when implantation begins, a significant cell mass has developed. At ten days, the cell mass shows signs of differentiation as the cells become specific in their nature. At three weeks, the cardiac or heart muscle fibers may be seen that are capable of contracting. By six weeks, brain waves appear and, by eight weeks, the human form has appeared and organs are developing. By fifteen weeks, fetal movement is evident and, by twenty-four weeks, the fetus is a viable person. By thirty-six weeks, we have a full term infant. **THIS PROCESS, FROM FERTILIZATION THROUGH DELIVERY OF THE INFANT, IS CONTINUOUS WITHOUT INTERRUPTIONS.** There are no stops and no pauses in the process. Once fertilization occurs, bio-chemical events are initiated that continue until a mature human being is formed.

So when does life begin? To answer that question, it is well to go back to the definition of life and use the four end points for judging if life exists. These include metabolism, growth, reproduction, and response to stimuli.

Immediately after penetration of the egg by the sperm, bio-chemical events start the process of development. Thus, the metabolism end point has been met. When the cells begin to divide, the growth criteria has been met. Third, when the cells are reproducing in the course of their division, the criteria required for reproduction is met. The fourth end point, response to stimuli, is a little more vague. It is clear, however, that any cell when confronted with a toxic stimulus will respond by changing the movement of its membrane.

Based on this analysis, one is led to the inexorable conclusion that: **LIFE BEGINS AT THE TIME THE SPERM PENETRATES THE EGG AND LIFE CONTINUES UNTIL DEATH.**

M. Roy Schwarz, M.D.

February 2024

Article from Lutheran CORE Newsletter, March edition

COMMITTEE NEWS

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL ADVENTURE!

April Sunday School was an adventure in new beginnings. The children began at the beginning of their "NIV Adventure Bible" and "Adventure Storybook" reading scriptures in the book of *Genesis*. "In the beginning, God created the Heavens and the Earth." They discovered that create means "make something new." That is what God did. They continued their study in the book of *Genesis* with many stories about new beginnings.



Sunday School is not only a time to study God's precious word, but also a time of fellowship with each other and getting to know their Christian friends at Epiphany better. It is also a time of sharing their knowledge of God's word and making disciples. Yes, children CAN be "fishers of men." Participation in games, crafts, and songs is something they look forward to as well.

We are all looking forward to the youth led service on May 12, which no one will want to miss. It will be very special! Another special day for the children is May 19. This is the day they get to go shopping at the Epiphany Treasure Chest using the Luther Bucks they earned by participating in Sunday School and Children's Choir. The chest needs more children's item. Donations are appreciated and can be brought to the church at any time.

We look forward to new children coming to Sunday School. Thank you for the time you allow us to spend with your children and the opportunity to watch them grow spiritually.

If you have any questions or would like to volunteer, please contact Donna Busarow, Marlene Cooper, or Karen McCabe.



Kids use their Luther Bucks to buy prizes from the treasure chest. They earn Luther Bucks by participating in Sunday School and Children's Choir.

FAITH CIRCLE

Faith Circle will begin a new Bible study entitled, "A Biblical Adventure in Womanhood," on May 14, 2024, at 11:00a at Ashland. Our adventure will take us on a journey through the entire Bible discovering one of the unique features of the Bible—the way the Bible exalts women.

Please join us on this journey each month (May 14, June 11, July 16, Aug 13) exploring scriptures together that show us God's wonderful grace at work in the lives of women.

Please bring your Bible. Bring a brown bag lunch. Dessert will be provided by Shirley.

For more information, contact Marlene Cooper
Email: marymarlene2@yahoo.com

SOCIAL MINISTRY

Hi everyone,

Don't forget Manna! The last couple of months we have donated under 500 pounds of food. It would be great if we could start increasing our donations.

On June 14, 2024, is our lunch date with Camp Happy Sands. We are looking forward to participating with the campers and provided lunch. We would appreciate anyone who would love to come out and help with this great adventure! We are also collecting flip flops for these kids. Wouldn't it be great to see all of these kids have a pair of flips flops from Epiphany?!

We donated 19 pounds of pop tabs for the Ronald McDonal House. That is approximately 27,170 tabs. A big thank you goes out to the cousins of Pat Brune who are from Duluth, MN! It is really amazing how such a small item can help so much in providing help for this very worthwhile cause!

Again, our main focus for the month of May is Manna food collection and flip flops for Camp Happy Sands.

Respectfully submitted by Chairperson,
Dianne Ledkins
April 18, 2024

SOLE (Sharing Our Lives at Epiphany)

Seniors....

May's gathering is a potluck event at the new church property. Cook up your favorite dish and bring it to share on May 28 at 12:00p, noon. The address is 9176 Ashland Ave. Please call Alice Fludgate if you plan to come.



All seniors are invited!

HOSPITALITY

The Lord bless thee, and keep thee: the Lord make his face shine upon thee, and be gracious unto thee: the Lord lift up his countenance upon thee, and give thee peace. Numbers 6:24-26

Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Thank you to everyone who helped with our Easter Brunch. As always it was well attended and enjoyed by many. Our congregation celebrated Easter with beautiful music, a wonderful, spirit filled message in celebration of our risen Lord.

The Hospitality Team set the Fellowship Hall in a beautiful Spring setting with beautiful table arrangements. Please let them know how much you appreciate all their efforts in making each Sunday special.

This month we will be celebrating our Youth as they will be leading us in Worship on Mother's Day. Speaking of youth, we continue to enjoy them assisting us with Hospitality. Our goal is to get them hosting and serving as a team.

You are SO appreciated! Yes that is you, who bake and provide refreshments each Sunday. You that helps set up and clean up! I trust you never think you are taken for granted; you are not. You are SO appreciated and a special thanks to all! Our team could not do and serve without YOU! So, THANK YOU from all my heart and soul.

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

EASTER AT EPIPHANY



MAY WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

	MAY 5	MAY 12	MAY 19	MAY 26
ASSISTING MINISTERS	Brenda Ekstrom	Madilyn Marchant	Karen McCabe	TBA
LECTOR(S)	Brad Fludgate	Youth	Art Kimmel	Randy St. Louis
USHERS	Steve Meyer Rob Krauss	Eric Johnson Chuck Glassmire	Eddie Gibbons Randy St. Louis	Harland Bross Paul Herrick
COMMUNION ASSISTANTS	Casey McAllister Marlene Cooper	Molly Harvey Ali Baggett	Art and Camille Kimmel	Audrey Tinsley Kim McCormick
PORTICO GREETERS	Marsha Suarez Randy St. Louis	Eddie Gibbons Randy St. Louis	Faye Robinson Randy St. Louis	Marliese Herrick Randy St. Louis
NURSERY ATTENDANT	Ali Baggett	Ali Baggett	Ali Baggett	Ali Baggett
FLOWER GUILD	Brenda Ekstrom	Mother's Day	Faye Robinson	Marlene Cooper
HOSPITALITY HOST	Bonnie Baggett *Liz Richbourg	Bill Baggett Brad Fludgate John Ekstrom *Hospitality	Youth Sunday *Judie Cox	Christina Luques *Linda Beal
CUP BEARERS	Everlynn Harvey Eli Baggett	John Reitmire Brooklyn Gorday	John Reitmire Leighton Marchant	Eli Baggett Ethan Oomens

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!

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.

- 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

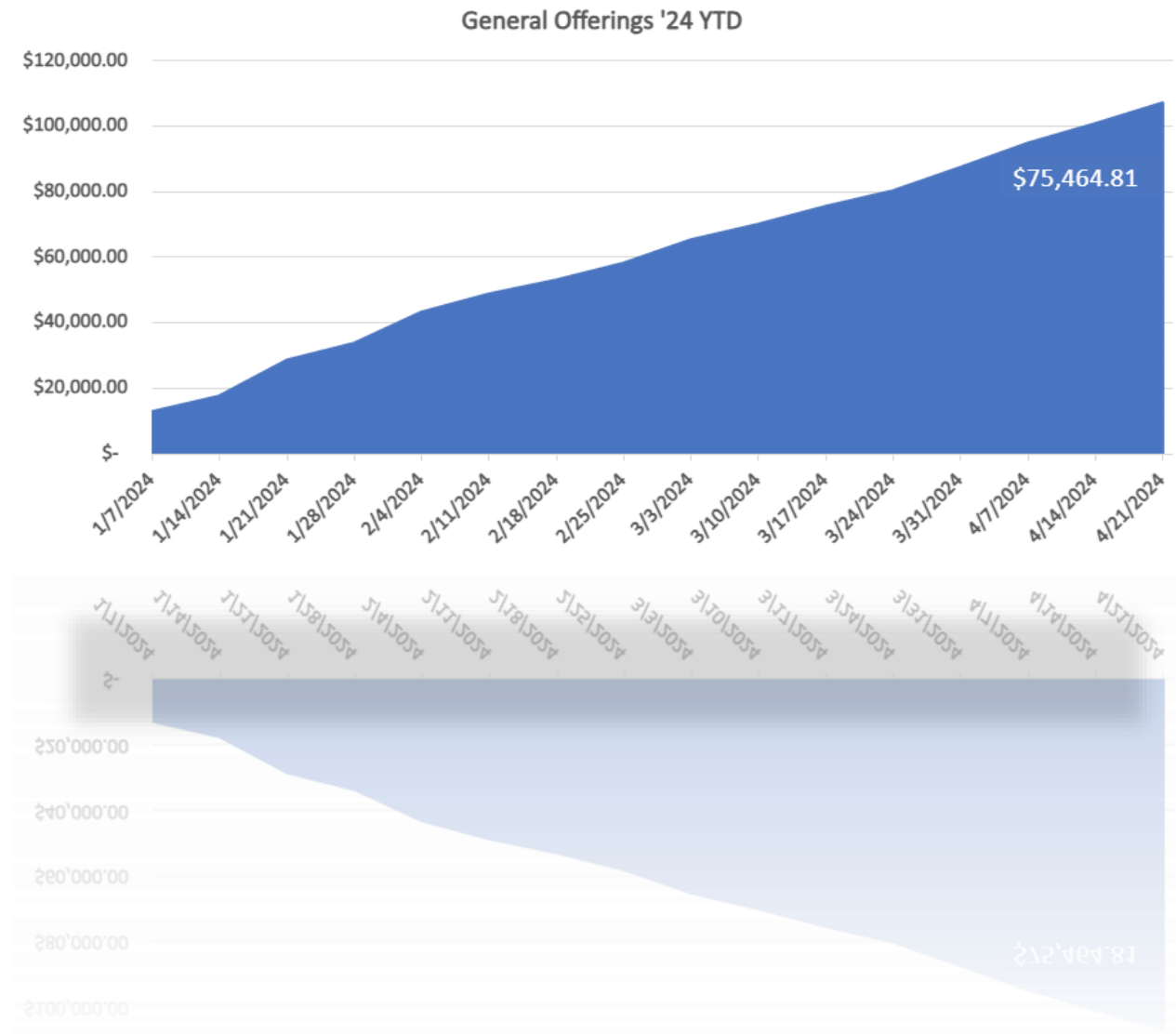
treasurer@epiphanypensacola.org

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.

Ways to Give

OFFERING TOTAL (YTD)

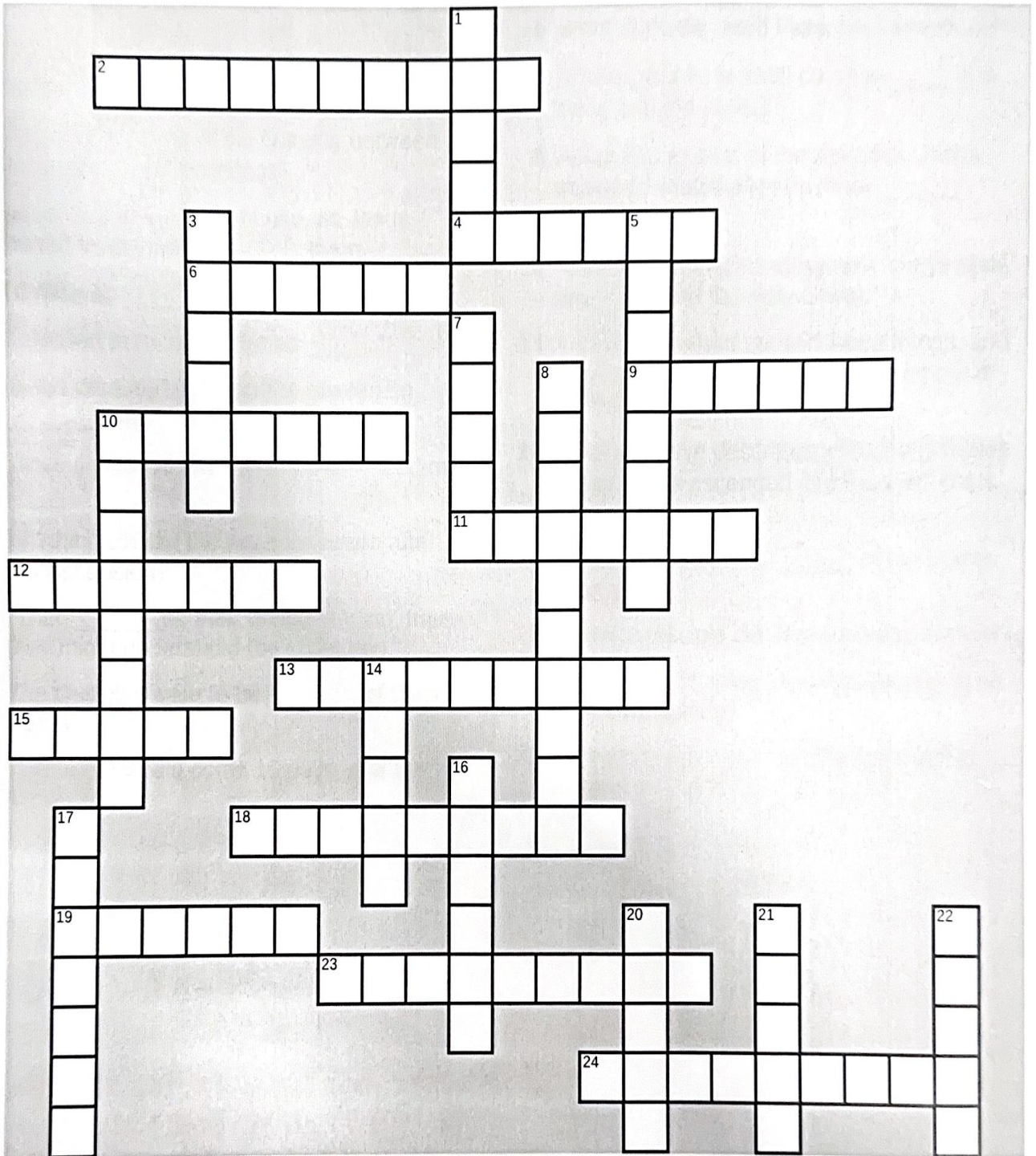


NEWSLETTER UPDATE

Sara SeEVERS will be compiling the newsletter. Newsletter articles for May are due April 17. Please send all articles for the next newsletter to Sara at bookkeeper@epiphanypensacola.org by April 17. If you have any questions, please contact the office.

Jesus Christ's Ascension

Answers will be provided in June's newsletter



Across

- 2 Who did Jesus promise to send to be their helper? (John 14:16,17)
- 4 To which disciple did Jesus come to remove his doubt?
- 6 Name another individual who ascended into heaven.
- 9 What is the name of the Sunday between Ascension and Pentecost?
- 10 According to Gospel of Luke, as Jesus parted from them, He _____ them.
- 11 Christ was _____ in His Ascension.
- 12 "...He led them out as far as _____."
- 13 Jesus departed this earth to heaven on _____ day.
- 15 Twice did Jesus say this to Peter, "Feed my _____."
- 18 To which city did the disciples return after the Ascension?
- 19 "Then _____ he their understanding, that they might understand the scriptures."
- 23 The disciples were to be _____ of these things.
- 24 This event would come 10 days after the Ascension.

Down

- 1 Jesus Christ now sits at the _____ hand of the Father.
- 3 Jesus Ascended into _____?
- 5 What does the word Paraclete mean?
- 7 "From thence He shall come to _____ the living and the dead."
- 8 According to Acts of the Apostles, Jesus showed Himself alive by many _____ proofs.
- 10 "John truly baptized with water, but ye shall be _____ with the Holy Ghost."
- 14 And when he had spoken these things, and they beheld... a _____ received him out of their sight.
- 16 What adjective describes what the disciples did as Jesus ascended into heaven? (Acts 1:11)
- 17 "...Behold, I send the _____ of my Father upon you:"
- 20 To which disciple did Jesus seek to restore?
- 21 How many disciples did Jesus appear to as they were fishing?
- 22 How many days after the Resurrection is Ascension Day?