

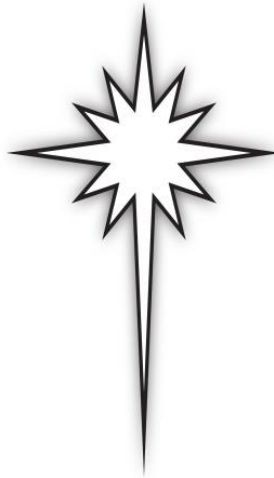
**NOVEMBER/ DECEMBER
NEWSLETTER
2021**



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)
Holy Communion celebrated each Sunday

Hospitality to follow

Email: nalcofpensacola@gmail.com
Follow on Facebook: Epiphany Lutheran Church-Pensacola, FL
Church Connect page: epiphanypns.churchtrac.com



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November 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14 TWENTY FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST 8:15 a.m. Choir practice 9:30 a.m. Worship 10:30 a.m. Hospitality	15 4:00 p.m. Choir practice 6700 Spanish Trail	16	17 6:30 p.m. Bible Study The Crossings at Milestone 1431 W. Nine Mile Rd. Meet in the clubhouse	18	19 PASTOR'S DAY OFF	20
21 CHRIST THE KING SUNDAY 8:15 a.m. Choir practice 9:30 a.m. Worship 10:30 a.m. Hospitality	22 4:00 p.m. Choir practice 6700 Spanish Trail	23 9:00 a.m. – Noon admin hours	24 9:00 a.m. – Noon admin hours No Bible Study	25 HAPPY THANKSGIVING Pastor and Admin off	26 PASTOR'S DAY OFF	27
28 FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT 8:15 a.m. Choir practice 9:30 a.m. Worship Hospitality after Worship is tentative due to Brit Ahm special event	29 4:00 p.m. Choir practice 6700 Spanish Trail	30	1 6:30 p.m. Bible Study The Crossings at Milestone 1431 W. Nine Mile Rd. Meet in the clubhouse	2	3 PASTOR'S DAY OFF	4

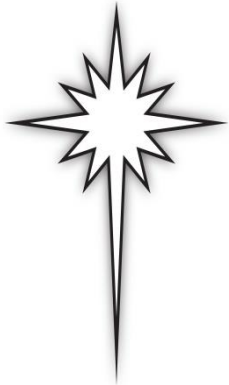
Admin. hours: Monday -Thursday, 9 a.m. -3:30 p.m. unless otherwise noted

December 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 6:30 p.m. Bible Study The Crossings at Milestone 1431 W. Nine Mile Rd. Meet in the clubhouse	2	3 PASTOR'S DAY OFF Admin off	4
5 SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT 8:15 a.m. Choir practice 9:30 a.m. Worship 10:30 a.m. Hospitality	6 4:00 p.m. Choir practice 6700 Spanish Trail	7	8 6:30 p.m. Bible Study The Crossings at Milestone 1431 W. Nine Mile Rd. Meet in the clubhouse	9 4:30 p.m. Eve Circle at the AMC theaters on Bayou Blvd.-prior ticket purchase required	10 PASTOR'S DAY OFF Admin off	11
12 THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT 8:15 a.m. Choir practice 9:30 a.m. Worship 10:30 a.m. Hospitality Poinsettia order forms due	13 4:00 p.m. Choir practice 6700 Spanish Trail	14	15 Noon Council Reports due 7:00 p.m. Lessons and Carols Service No Bible Study	16 Admin off Contact Deacon Glenn for questions/ emergencies	17 PASTOR'S DAY OFF Admin off	18
19 FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT 8:15 a.m. Choir practice 9:30 a.m. Worship 10:30 a.m. Hospitality	20 4:00 p.m. Choir practice 6700 Spanish Trail	21 6:15 p.m. Executive Comm. meeting 7:00 p.m. Council meeting	22 No Bible Study	23	24 CHRISTMAS EVE 7:00 p.m. Worship Service	25 CHRISTMAS DAY
26 FIRST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS 9:30 a.m. Worship 10:30 a.m. Hospitality	27 Pastor off No Choir practice	28 9:00 a.m.- 1 p.m. Judie/ Sherry cover phone	29 9:00 a.m.- 1 p.m. Judie/ Sherry cover phone No Bible Study	30 9:00 a.m.- 1 p.m. Judie/ Sherry cover phone	31 NEW YEARS EVE PASTOR'S DAY OFF Admin off	1 NEW YEARS DAY
Admin. off 12/25-1/2						

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PASTOR'S CORNER



November 2021
Epiphany Lutheran Church

For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. Jeremiah 29:11

Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ,

Thanksgiving is just around the bend and many of you will be spending time with friends and family. Wanda and I feel blessed and thankful as we welcomed new grandchildren this year. Hazel Rain Shannon was born a little early but she is happy and growing like a weed. Our soon to be born grandson, Kyzer John Sercia is expected to be born around Thanksgiving. We are truly blessed as our grandchildren are all doing well. Andrew works for The University of Pittsburg and loves his job. Parker recovered from a serious car accident and is attending Edenborough University in Waterford, PA. Kenzo has been walking for some time now. He took swimming lessons and knows how to hold his breath and swim at 20 months. It's amazing for us to think that we had 2 grandchildren for years and now we'll have 5 and hopefully more. We truly feel blessed! We give thanks to God for the gift.

Another gift that God has provided for us is the congregation of Epiphany Lutheran Church. After serving most of you for 8 years, we've been blessed with wonderful relationships. Today, we look at the new relationships as another blessing or gift from God. God knows the plans he has for us and you are all part of God's plan for his church in Pensacola. We're amazed as we've witnessed the spiritual growth of our congregation. The joy and the love expressed by the people of God isn't just a passing fancy. Wanda and I can feel it and see it as we spend time with the members. Thank you for sharing the love of Christ with us and with each other!

My last expression of thanks goes to Rabbi Eric and his congregation. It is truly a time of thanks for the church of Epiphany Lutheran Church and the relationship being established at Brit Ahm Messianic Synagogue. God has plans for each of you and he will give us a vision of our future as we continue to grow in love toward him and each other. What does the year ahead bring? I don't know, but God does. So, I encourage to pray and be thankful for today and let God guide us for the future. Because the future of God's church brings hope as we remain faithful to the Lord.

Faithfully Serving,
The 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

JOINT CONGREGATION PICNIC-Nov. 7, 2021

*Thank you to Brit Ahm Messianic Synagogue for your Hospitality.
We are blessed to share your space.*



SOCIAL MINISTRY

Manna Food Collection will resume in January 2022. Procedures for collection will change. Look for new instructions in the coming weeks.

The last “pop tab” collection given to the Ronald McDonald House yielded 4 pounds, 7 ounces which is equivalent to 5,628 tabs.

FAITH CIRCLE

Faith Circle will resume in January. The time and day will remain the same. Second Tuesday of the month at 11:00a.m. Location will be announced before our first study.

It has been a whirlwind year and I know we are all looking forward to getting back together.

God’s Peace, Wanda

EVE CIRCLE

Hello Everyone. The Chosen has created a Christmas special. "Christmas with The Chosen - Messengers" This will be shown at The AMC theater on Bayou Dec. 1-9th. It is the story of Christmas through the eyes of Mary & Joseph. You do not have to have watched any of the tv series to be able to enjoy it. If you are interested in going here is how to get tickets. Go to the AMC web page as you would normally to find out what's at the movies. At the top click on showtimes. Put in the date you would like to attend. This will bring up the special event and you can purchase tickets. If you can't see it at the theater it will eventually be on their app, but I doubt during this Christmas Season.

Eve Circle will be attending the 4:30 showing of "Christmas with The Chosen - Messengers" on Dec. 9th.

WEBSITE/ONLINE GIVING UPDATE

We are in the beginning stages of setting up a new website. It will be quite different from the past and we ask that you bear with us as we learn how best to utilize this web tool (which is free for our use!). Many of you will be happy to know that the Online Giving within this tool is fully functional! You can now use your bank account, a credit/debit card, or text message for your weekly/monthly offerings.

Some important items to know:

- You will need to create an account at : [Epiphany Lutheran Church \(churchtrac.com\)](https://epiphanylutheranchurch.com) (<https://epiphanylutheranchurch.com>). Creating an account is for your protection and helps prevent fraud should you choose to give online.
- If you use the email that we have on file for you, most of your information will be automatically added to your account. You can also take this opportunity to update any personal information for you and/or your immediate family members.
- Click on the large green box on the home page to set up online giving.
 - There are 3 headers across the top of the page – Credit/Debit, ACH/Checking and SMS/Text
 - You can schedule a one-time offering or set up a recurring offering. Be aware that automatic offerings begin on the date you enter the information and then at the frequency you set. So, if it is the 12th of the month and you set up a monthly offering, they will all be on the 12th. To change this, you'll need to delete and re-schedule your automatic giving.
 - If you use your bank account, you'll need to verify two small deposits that will appear in your account in about 2 days. Once you have those deposits, log back in and go to online giving to enter the number of pennies that you received. After confirming the amounts you'll be able to set up your giving amount and frequency.
 - You have the option to add a memo to your gift – for instance if you are giving to the general fund but it is for your flower sponsorship you can add "Flower Sponsor" as a memo.
 - If you wish to also give to a restricted fund, you have the option to add another fund and then choose from the drop-down list for these funds: Building, Memorial, Pastor's Discretionary, or WNALC.

You have the option to cover the processing fee for your credit/debit card giving. If you choose yes, the software will automatically increase your offering to cover the cost.

You can have multiple offering frequencies and store more than one credit/debit card. You might want to give weekly to the General Fund and once a month to the Building Fund.

If you have any questions, please let Kim or Vanessa know. Thanks to everyone who helped to test the system with us!

FUND OFFERING UPDATE

A note about fund offerings

You will recall that over the last few years we have made a concerted effort to have our budgets be comprehensive for the church. We worked hard to ensure that all areas of ‘operations’ were included in the church budget – not just the monthly bills but also the expenses that help to create a warm and welcoming worship experience – from Worship and Music to Flowers, from Member Care to a joyful Hospitality experience, from Christian Education to the fun of Social Ministry, etc.

To facilitate that oneness, we began budgeting in the General Fund for these items, rather than have designated funds with separate budgets. Over the past couple years, we achieved the comprehensive budget, but allowed members to still indicate a “designation” on their offerings.

As we are embarking on a new beginning, we have decided to have only the General Fund as a designated offering for all operations of the church. If you are sponsoring Flowers or giving to Social Ministry, your offering will go to the General Fund. In your giving statement, it may have a ‘memo’ on that line of the purpose, but we will no longer show ‘designated offering’ to separate funds. This change will make the accounting for your finance team less cumbersome and more streamlined.

We still have restricted offerings – a new Building Fund (!), Memorial Fund, Pastor’s Discretionary Fund and WNALC Fund. Eventually we will have an Endowment Fund again too.

We hope that you understand the reasons for this slight change and realize that it doesn’t change the good works we are doing.

Respectfully, The Finance Team

THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLAR DONATIONS

Calling all Thrivent members!

If you are a Thrivent member, you will be pleased to know that Epiphany Lutheran Church is now on the list of organizations that can receive Choice Dollars. These "Choice Dollars " are Thrivent's distribution of a portion of its charitable funding.

Are you eligible for participation in Choice Dollars? It is simple to find out.....either review your account online, or call Thrivent at 1-800-847-4836.

If you are eligible to donate, once you have logged into your account, (1) go to "Membership Overview", (2) Scroll down to Thrivent Choice" (3) click on "Direct Choice Dollars", and (4) click on "Direct to a new organization" and enter "Epiphany Lutheran Church, Pensacola, FL. (5) and donate the Choice Dollars. 2021 Dollars must be donated before March 1, 2022.

If you have any questions, please let me know.

Barbara Lenn

NOVEMBER/ DECEMBER WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

	November 21	November 28	December 5	December 12	December 19	December 26
ASSISTING MINISTERS	Carole Dwyer	Dawn Zeigler	Carole Dwyer	TBA	TBA	TBA
LECTOR(S)	William Slotter	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA
USHERS	Eric & Shelly Johnson Chuck & Sidney Glassmire	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA
COMMUNION ASSISTANTS	Judy Taylor Dianne Ledkins	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA
PORTICO GREETERS	Faye Robinson Audrey Tinsley	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA
NURSERY ATTENDANT	Ali Baggett	Ali Baggett	Ali Baggett	Ali Baggett	Ali Baggett	Ali Baggett
FLOWER GUILD	Harland Bross	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA

Worship Assistant Scheduling Update

Brenda Ekstrom is now scheduling assistance for Worship each Sunday as she works on the bulletins. She will be in contact with members for availability. If you are willing to serve and/or have scheduling conflicts, please contact Brenda.