

# August 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)  
*Website:* [epiphanypensacola.org](http://epiphanypensacola.org)



## PASTOR'S CORNER



*August 2023*  
*Epiphany Pensacola*

*"Still other seed fell on good soil, where it produced a crop-- a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown." Matthew 13:8*

*"For every house is built by someone, but God is the builder of everything." Hebrews 3:4*



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

Last month we heard the message of the sower and I moved the biblical expression of who the sower was in the parable to the people of God who are called to sow the Word. We learned that sometimes the seed falls in areas that will not produce fruit for God. But we learned that our calling is to spread the Good News of Jesus Christ wherever we are located. We share the ministry of Gospel with others through face-to-face conversations, phone calls, simple encounters in a store, and through social media platforms. These are just a few that God places you for the purpose of sharing His Word.

We are in the beginning of another milestone for Epiphany. God has blessed each of you with a strength and love for Christ that is visible to anyone visiting the church. You've heard me teaching from the Word that your actions and your behavior must reflect that of a follower of Jesus. It is evident that your hearts and your actions are centered in Christ. New visitors and new disciples have expressed the warmth of this congregation as well as the hospitality.

Church growth isn't up to the pastor as you learned in the two parables I preached on last month. Church growth takes all of the people of God to engage in the Word. You will need to continue to pray for strength and love as we reach each milestone of the capital campaign. With the help of God and our brother and sister churches in the NALC, I believe we will begin building before this year ends. It is very important that we remember that we are receiving the blessings of God through faithfulness to God. Hebrews 3:4 is on the top of the page to remind you that we do nothing without our God. *"For every house is built by someone, but God is the builder of everything."*

I encourage you to continue the prayers for God's church and please continue to be faithful in worship as we continue the study of God's Holy Word.

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<sup>9</sup> not by works, so that no one can boast. Ephesians 2:8-9*

## CAPTIAL CAMPAIGN/BUILDING FUND UPDATE: AUGUST 2023

We began this fund drive on April 9<sup>th</sup>, 2023. It's amazing to see and witness the commitment and devotion to God's church through this body of believers. Our brother and sister churches of the NALC have responded to our call for help by sharing a benevolence gift to Epiphany. I received a call from Christ Lutheran Church in Pennsylvania informing me that their church closed at the end of 2022. Their congregation is donating material goods that will help save us purchasing these items. This donation from Christ Lutheran has \$7,000.00 value in material for worship that can be used in the transition building.

The NALC grant application was completed, and we received a call from Pr. Brad Hales that our grant application for \$12,000.00 was approved and we should receive the funds in August. These funds will be used to establish bathroom facilities on the property that will attach to the transition building.

Trinity Lutheran Church in Ashland, Ohio has an outreach fund that receives fund requests once a year. I submitted our application for their outreach fund grant for the transition building electronic equipment and media needs. Please add this grant application to your prayer list for Epiphany.

I would like to thank our brothers and sisters of the NALC for their financial donation in response to the letter they received from Epiphany. We are delighted with the response from across The United States and pray that we continue to experience generous financial help from our brother and sister churches.

Please receive our thanks for the blessing you've given and the prayers you give. **Thank you.**

- *Shepherd of the Woods Jacksonville, FL*
- *Annapolis Evangelical Lutheran Church, MD*
- *Christ Lutheran Church, PA*
- *St. Peter's Lutheran Church, SC*
- *St. Martin's Lutheran Church, NC*
- *Word of Life Lutheran, NC*
- *New Hope Lutheran, NC*
- *Grace Lutheran Church of Winston-Salem, NC*
- *St. Peter Lutheran Church, TX*
- *Calvary Lutheran Church, Brookfield, WI*
- *Hayti Lutheran Church, Hayti, SD*
- *New Hope Lutheran Church, Hayti, SD*
- *Christiana Evangelical Lutheran Church, Salisbury, NC*
- *American Lutheran Church, Prescott, AZ*
- *Abundant Life NALC, Hilliard, OH*
- *Rindal Lutheran Church, Viking, MN*
- *Oasis Church, Lake Mary, FL*
- *Holy Cross Evangelical Lutheran Church, Pacifica, CA (being processed)*

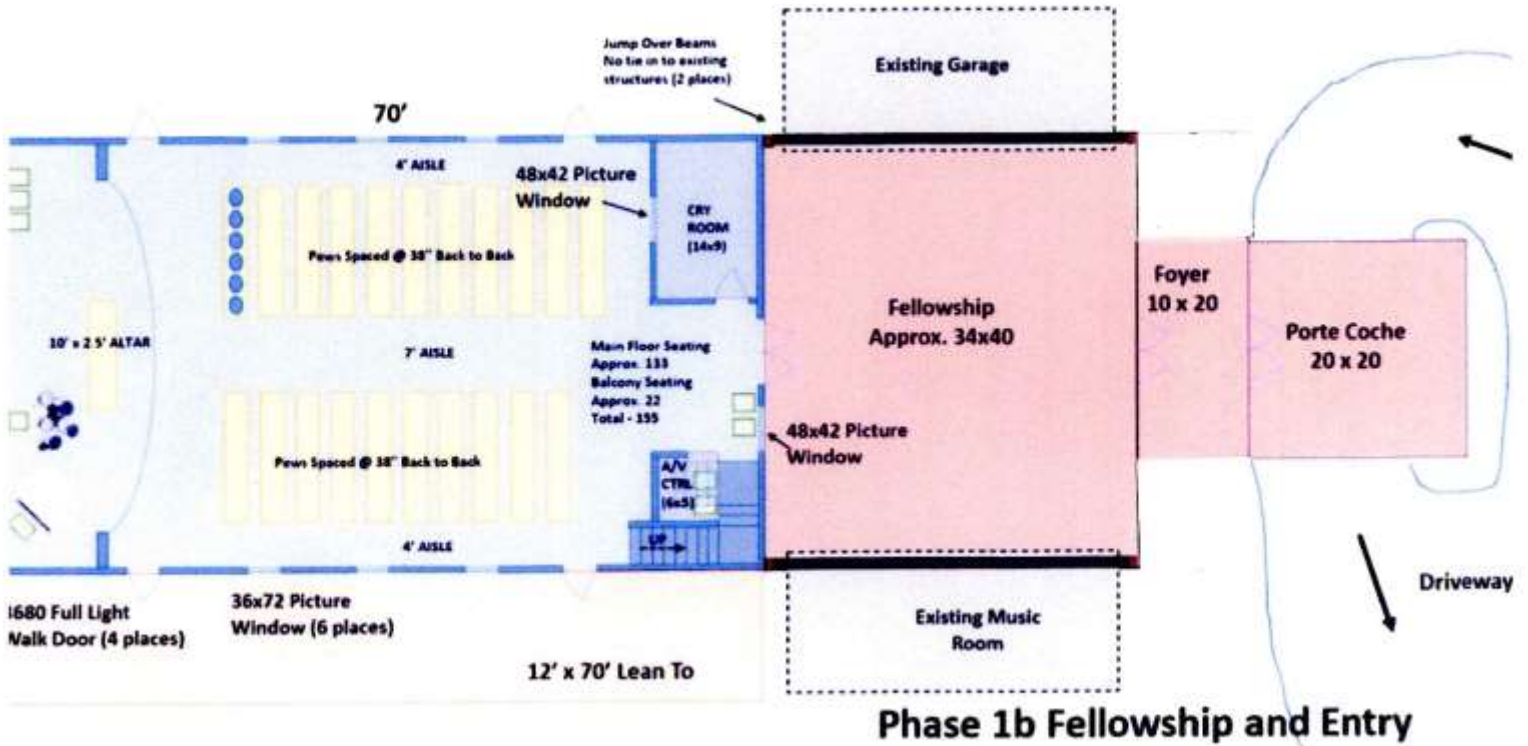
**As of Monday July 24, 2023 the Capital Campaign for the transition building has \$77.500.00 (rounded)**

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

# DRAWING OF TRANSITIONAL BUILDING

The \$300,000 Epiphany is raising for the Capital Campaign is to build the area shaded in BLUE, the main worshipping space to the left of the proposed Fellowship area.



## How to Donate to the Capital Campaign

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

### **Online Donations**

1. <https://epiphanypens.churchtrac.com/>-click on the Building Fund Donate button
2. <https://donorbox.org/building-fund-capital-campaign>
3. Scan the QR code below.



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

## **By Mail**

Payment should be made to:  
Epiphany Lutheran Church (Note: Capital Campaign)  
PO Box 999  
1450 Old Chemstrand Rd  
Gonzalez, FL 32560

## **How to Donate to the Capital Campaign as a Memorial**

### **Online Donations**

1. <https://donorbox.org/building-fund-capital-campaign>
2. Scan the QR code



It's very simple to use, click on the Donate button, enter an amount and follow the prompts. Just below the amount area, is a check box "Write us a comment", if you check that box you'll be able to specify this as a memorial for someone.

## **By Mail**

Payment should be made to:  
Epiphany Lutheran Church  
PO Box 999  
1450 Old Chemstrand Rd  
Gonzalez, FL 32560

In the memo line, please note Capital Campaign and the name of the person the donation is in memory of.

## **How to Donate to the Memorial Fund (not as a donation to the Capital Campaign)**

### **Online donations**

<https://epiphanypns.churchtrac.com/give>

First time users will have to create and verify an account. This will take a couple of days to verify you are the account holder. A small deposit (cents) will need to be deposited to the account to complete the verification. Once verified, simply login using the credentials used to create the account.

Once logged in, you may enter the amount you wish to donate, in the next box there will be a pull down arrow which will allow you to select "Memorial Fund Offerings", the default is "2023 General Offerings", simply click on the arrow and select "Memorial Fund Offerings". Choose a Payment Source, either the bank account used to create the account or another source such as a credit card, you'll be prompted through the process. Please note in the memo area the name of the person the donation is in memory of.

**By Mail**

Payment should be made to:  
Epiphany Lutheran Church  
PO Box 999  
1450 Old Chemstrand Rd  
Gonzalez, FL 32560

In the memo line, please note memorial fund and the name of the person the donation is in memory of.

**OFFERING TOTAL (YTD)**





## SOCIAL MINISTRY

### WE ARE THE HANDS AND FEET OF CHRIST

We all feel the heat of summer!! But God has blessed so many by calling YOU to serve others when they need extra help. Epiphany was obedient to His call this past month.

Manna was collected by Regina and our confirmands, Madilyn and Stella. The Dwyers and the confirmands delivered 445 pounds to Manna and helped two families of a member of Epiphany. These all totaled 515 pounds!

Manna's request again for August is for the fruit in its natural juice. It's a healthy treat for so many that can't always add this to their diets. Let's add a little extra for them this month. Liz Richbourg will be collecting on Sunday, August 13th, trunk to trunk, beginning at 8:30 am.

Do you remember your new school year and having a brand-new box of crayons, new ruler and sharp new pencils? Of course, you do! In July, Epiphany received a grant from Thrivent which helped us collect school supplies for Global Learning. This was a big success and helped provide many with much needed items such as backpacks, Kleenex, notebooks. The trunk was filled, and Carole and Carleen delivered supplies and two gift cards to the school.

Global Learning is still in need of our help! Please remember any household items and clothes, especially children's school clothes, can be picked up at your house free of charge. The items can also be brought to church and given to Carole Dwyer. Nothing goes to waste! Contact Carole if you need items picked up (850) 982-4085

Keep your eyes on Jesus and your ears and heart open to His calling in your life.... WE ARE HIS CHURCH

Serving HIM with you  
Carole



## HOSPITALITY

*“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only son, that whosoever believes in him shall not perish, but have everlasting life. John 3:16*

Do you think God was hospitable when he gave his son for us? Was this not the ultimate gift? Can you imagine?

Something to think about when we are serving others. What an honor to be called to serve God’s people, not just in Hospitality, but in many ways. Caring for the homebound, the sick, the poor, the needy. Pulling a chair out for someone, even those you don’t know or holding a door open for the person behind you. All these things are acts of Love and Hospitality.

If you think you are not “called” to serve or it “feels” like a job, you may be pleasantly surprised. God loves it when we humble ourselves to serve others, to support one another, give a hug or say a prayer.

I love serving and glorifying God. I am so thankful he called me to be a servant, to use me to help others by serving them refreshments, coffee, or something cold to drink. Come, give it a try, sign up for a feel-good moment on a Sunday, glorifying God who gave it all for us.

Our committee will be meeting sometime this month to discuss plans for the remainder of the year. Hope you can join us.

As always, it is a JOY and HONOR to serve and be part of God’s Family at Epiphany!

God’s Peace,  
Brenda

## ALTAR FLOWER GUILD

*Isaiah 40:8 the grass withereth, the flower fadeth: but the word of our God shall stand forever.*

The Altar flower guild needs men and/or women young or old willing to learn how to arrange altar flowers. At present we only have five flower arrangers, which means we must do Altar flowers every five weeks. Many of the present members also help with hospitality and Altar guild. Prayerfully, consider joining Altar flower guild.

Watch the September newsletter for information on the Altar flower guild class taught by Harland Bross. Harland has years of experience to help create Altar flower arrangements and will happily share his knowledge!

Peace of the Lord  
Carleen Bragan



## FAITH/ EVE CIRCLES

Faith & Eve Circles met in July, deciding to become one group going forward known simply as Faith Circle. We are happy to be one large group of women praising the Lord and studying His word together.

Faith and Eve circle are sponsoring a day at NAS Pensacola Naval Aviation Museum for the youth at Curry House on Thursday July 27th. The two women's Bible study groups, now combined as one, have graciously offered to send the residents of Curry House to enjoy the IMAX theater, have lunch, and experience the museum. These young people will have memories for years to come of the caring hearts of our ladies at Epiphany.

On Tuesday, August 8<sup>th</sup> we will be joined by a group of ladies traveling over from St. Paul Lutheran church in Niceville, who have recently completed their congregation's vote to join the North American Lutheran Church (NALC). Our bible study will start at 11am, but you may come at 10:30am to enjoy meeting our friends from Niceville. **Plan to stay afterward for a light lunch.**

This month we'll look at the 6th and final session from Meaning of Service: Living in Love. It has been a great study, and this is likely the best session of all called Simply Living in Love. All ladies of Epiphany are welcome and encouraged to attend. If you need a copy of the study, please contact Dawn Zeigler.

Exciting news in September! Faith Circle decided to begin watching The Chosen video series. If you've ever been curious about it, this is your chance! We will start with Season One, Episode One so you won't want to miss it. Stay tuned for more details in next month's newsletter.

Hope to see you on Tuesday, August 8<sup>th</sup> at 10:30am!

## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

### AUG. 6, 2023, SAVE THE DATE

Adult Sunday school begins Sunday Aug. 6 at 11:00.

We meet in the side classroom behind the fellowship hall. We will begin a Bible study on "To Be Rich in Giving" by the Rev Stephen F, King.

In this study we will look at not only stewardship and giving, but on a deeper level an appeal to faith. This is meant to help all of us grow, recognize, and understand the joy that comes from giving our lives in service to Christ.

We are looking forward to seeing you at Sunday School on Aug.6th at 11:00.

# August 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 4:30 p.m. Praise group Practice 6:30 p.m. Adult Bible Study in the clubhouse in the auditorium at Azalea Trace, 10100 Hillview Dr.	3	4 Office closed	5
6 <b>Tenth Sunday after Pentecost</b> 9:30 a.m. Worship 10:30 a.m. Hospitality 11:00 a.m. Social Ministry Meeting 11:00 a.m. Adult Sunday School 11:00 a.m. Confirmation	7 3:30 p.m. Choir Practice 4:30 p.m. Praise group practice 7:00 p.m. Lutheran 101 class via Zoom	8 10:30 a.m. Faith Circle Meet and Greet with group from Niceville 11:00 a.m. Faith Circle at Ashland	9 6:30 p.m. Adult Bible Study in the clubhouse in the auditorium at Azalea Trace, 10100 Hillview Dr.	10	11 Office closed	12
13 <b>Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost</b> <b>Mission Sunday</b> 8:30 a.m. Food drop off trunk to trunk 9:30 a.m. Worship at Ashland 10:30 a.m. Hospitality 11:00 a.m. Adult Sunday School 11:00 a.m. Confirmation	14 3:30 p.m. Choir Practice 4:30 p.m. Praise group practice	15	16 6:30 p.m. Adult Bible Study in the clubhouse in the auditorium at Azalea Trace, 10100 Hillview Dr.	17	18 Office Closed	19
20 <b>Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost</b> 9:30 a.m. Worship 10:30 a.m. Hospitality 11:00 a.m. Adult Sunday School 11:00 a.m. Confirmation	21 3:30 p.m. Choir practice 4:30 p.m. Praise group practice	22 7:00 p.m. Lutheran 101 class via Zoom	23 <b>Newsletter Articles Due</b> 6:30 p.m. Adult Bible Study in the clubhouse in the auditorium at Azalea Trace, 10100 Hillview Dr.	24	25 5:00 p.m. Council and staff retreat at Ashland Office closed	26 Council and staff retreat (time to be announced)
27 <b>Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost</b> 9:30 a.m. Worship 10:30 a.m. Hospitality 11:00 a.m. Adult Sunday School 11:00 a.m. Confirmation	28 3:30 p.m. Choir practice 4:30 p.m. Praise group practice	29	30 6:30 p.m. Adult Bible Study in the clubhouse in the auditorium at Azalea Trace, 10100 Hillview Dr.	31		
27						
Admin. hours: Monday -Wednesday, 9 a.m. -3:30 p.m., Thursday, 9a.m. -Noon unless otherwise noted.						



## AUGUST WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

	August 6	August 13	August 20	August 27
ASSISTING MINISTERS	Suzanne Morgan	Dawn Zeigler	Betty Bross	Brian Pascoe
LECTOR(S)	Dawn Zeigler	Steve Meyer	Suzanne Morgan	Brad Fludgate
USHERS	John Ekstrom Randy St. Louis	Steve Meyer Eric Johnson	Art Kimmel Eddie Gibbons	Harland Bross, Paul Herrick
COMMUNION ASSISTANTS	Jim and Marlene Cooper	Pete and Suzanne Morgan	John and Brenda Ekstrom	Eddie and Regina Gibbons
PORTICO GREETERS	Randy St. Louis Faye Robinson	Randy St. Louis Dawn Zeigler	Randy St. Louis Marsha Suarez	Randy St. Louis Audrey Tinsley
NURSERY ATTENDANT	Ali Baggett	Ali Baggett	Ali Baggett	Ali Baggett
FLOWER GUILD	Flower Guild	Flower Guild	Flower Guild	Flower Guild
HOSPITALITY HOST	Judy Rothdeutsch Sue Blackwell	Marliese Herrick Lee Franklin	Youth Sunday Grace Busarow	Dawn Zeigler Bonnie Baggett
CUP BEARERS	Grace and Leighton	John and Everlynn	Ethan and Brooklyn	Grace & John

### 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!**

## **DATES TO REMEMBER**

### **Adult Sunday School resumes**

Sunday, August 6 at 11 a.m.

### **Social Ministry meeting**

Sunday, August 6 at 11 a.m.

### **Lutheran 101 class via Zoom**

Monday, August 7 at 7 p.m.

### **Faith Circle at Ashland**

Tuesday, August 8, 2023

10:30 Meet and Greet the group from Niceville

11:00 Bible study begins

Light lunch to follow



\*There will not be a Council meeting in August.

### **Manna Food Collection**

Sunday, August 13, 2023, drop off trunk to trunk begins at 8:30 a.m.

### **Council and staff retreat**

Friday, August 18<sup>th</sup> beginning at 5 p.m.

Saturday, August 19<sup>th</sup> TBA

### **Lutheran 101 class via Zoom**

Tuesday, August 22 at 7 p.m.

### **Newsletter Articles Due**

Wednesday, August 23, 2023

\*Confirmation class each Sunday after Worship.

## **QUOTE OF THE MONTH**

*God has given us two hands, one to receive with, and the other to give with. We are not cisterns made for hoarding, we are channels made for sharing (Billy Graham).*