



EPIPHANY
The GOD IS LOVE Church

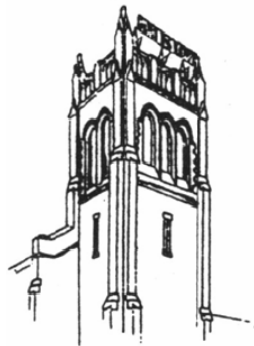
4301 Raspe Avenue
Baltimore, Maryland 21206-1913
410/485-7654
www.God-Is-Love.org

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Time Value

Call 410/347-4422
if delivered late.

NOVEMBER 2009 TOWER LIGHT

Our Mission: To tell the Good News that GOD IS LOVE in Word and Deed!



the TOWER Light

VOLUME 71 ✕ NOVEMBER 2009 ✕ ISSUE 11

EPIPHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH

4301 Raspe Avenue ✕ Baltimore, Maryland 21206-1913
410-485-7654 ✕ www.God-Is-Love.org ✕ USPS 177-780

The Rev. William J. Gohl, Jr. (443-708-1258)

Pastor

The Rev. Edward Kay (443-854-9232)

Pastor

The Rev. John Yost (410-296-7409)

Pastor

Mrs. Vernene Rodgers Lenz

Director of Music

Mr. Andy Evans

Mrs. Elizabeth Holland

Mr. Charles Engler

Mrs. Virginia Staab

Miss Donna Fairley

Treasurer

Mr. Curt Ketter

Contemporary Music Coordinator

Office Administrator

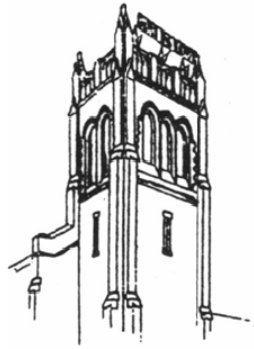
Social Ministry Coordinator

Housekeeper

Financial Recorder

November 2009 HAPPENINGS AT EPIPHANY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>1</p> <p>ALL SAINTS' DAY 9:00 AM Wa/Fel Cl. 9:00 AM Contemp. 10:30 AM Sun. Sch. 10:30 AM Trad. Wor. 11:45 AM Chr. Ed/Youth Comm. 4:30 PM Conf cl 6:00 PM Youth grp</p>	<p>2</p> <p>7:00 PM Cub comm 8:30 PM AA/A/Anon</p>	<p>3</p> <p>10:00 AM Sr. Powell. 7:00 PM Choir 7:00 PM Basketball</p>	<p>4</p> <p>10:30 AM Hmks 12:00 PM Thrift Shop 7:00 PM Bible Study</p>	<p>5</p> <p>6:30 PM Fellowship 7:00 PM Praise Band Reh. 7:00 PM Cubs</p>	<p>6</p> <p>6:00 PM Family Game Night 7:00 PM Boy Scouts</p>	<p>7</p> <p>CNCS Inter Dinner-HH (set up 2p --- 6-10) 9:30-12N Student Council Retreat at CNCS side. 9:00 AM Thrift Shop 5:00 PM Worship 5:00 PM Dance Class-Rm. 12</p>
<p>8</p> <p>9:00 AM Wa/Fel Cl. 9:00 AM Contemp. 10:30 AM Sun. Sch. 10:30 AM Trad. Wor.</p>	<p>9</p> <p>7:00 PM Finance Comm. 8:30 PM AA/A/Anon</p>	<p>10</p> <p>10:00 AM Sr. Powell. 7:00 PM Choir 7:00 PM Basketball 7:00 PM Crafts</p>	<p>11</p> <p>12:00 PM Thrift Shop 5:00 PM Mission Trip Info. Mtg. 6:15 PM Exec. Comm. 7:00 PM Council</p>	<p>12</p> <p>7:00 PM Praise Band Reh. 7:00 PM Cedmont Improvement Assn. 7:00 PM Cubs</p>	<p>13</p> <p>7:00 PM Boy Scouts</p>	<p>14</p> <p>8:30 AM Bread for life 5:00 PM Worship</p>
<p>15</p> <p>9:00 AM Wa/Fel Cl. 9:00 AM Contemp. 10:30 AM Sun. Sch. 10:30 AM Trad. Wor. 11:45 AM Worship Com 12:00 PM Mission Trip Info. Mtg. 4:30 PM Conf cl 6:00 PM Youth grp</p>	<p>16</p> <p>8:30 PM AA/A/Anon</p>	<p>17</p> <p>10:00 AM Sr. Powell. 7:00 PM Choir 7:00 PM Basketball</p>	<p>18</p> <p>10:00 AM Ruth Circle 12:00 PM Thrift Shop 7:00 PM Bible Study</p>	<p>19</p> <p>7:00 PM Praise Band Reh. 7:00 PM Cubs-Pack Mtg. Rm. 12</p>	<p>20</p> <p>set up for Bazaar 7:00 PM Boy Scouts</p>	<p>21</p> <p>9:00 AM BAZAAR 5:00 PM Worship</p>
<p>22</p> <p>9:00 AM Wa/Fel Cl. 9:00 AM Contemp. 10:30 AM Sun. Sch. 10:30 AM Trad. Wor.</p>	<p>23</p> <p>8:30 PM AA/A/Anon</p>	<p>24</p> <p>10:00 AM Sr. Powell. 7:00 PM Choir 7:00 PM Basketball</p>	<p>25</p> <p>12:00 PM Thrift Shop 7:00 PM Bible Study</p>	<p>26</p> <p>THANKSGIVING 9:15 AM Continental Breakfast 10:00 AM Worship</p>	<p>27</p> <p>OFFICE CLOSED</p>	<p>28</p> <p>8:30 AM Bread for life 5:00 PM Worship</p>
<p>29</p> <p>ADVENT BEGINS 9:00 AM Wa/Fel Cl. 9:00 AM Contemp. 10:30 AM Sun. Sch. 10:30 AM Trad. Wor. 11:45 AM 5th Sunday lunch</p>	<p>30</p> <p>8:30 PM AA/A/Anon</p>					



the tower light

EPIPHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH
VOLUME 71 ✕ NOVEMBER 2009 ✕ ISSUE 11

NOVEMBER IS A MONTH OF THANKSGIVING AT EPIPHANY!

All Saints Day
November

Saturday, 31 October & Sunday, 1

All Saints' Sunday, the church's memorial day when we remember with thanksgiving those who have died since the last All Saints' Sunday, is one of the most beautiful and touching days of the year. As we sing, "For All the Saints" we celebrate that as Christ rose from the dead so shall we and all who have died in the faith. All Saints' is nothing less than the believer's Easter.

Christ the King Sunday
November

Saturday & Sunday, 21/22

On the **Feast of Christ the King**, we will celebrate the one whose throne was a cross and whose only campaign promise was one of redeeming sacrificial love. Truly Christ's Kingdom is not to be confused with the kingdoms of this world.

Thanksgiving Day
November

Thursday, 26

On our national day of **Thanksgiving**, we gather to thank God for all the blessings he has bestowed upon America. A special offering of Foodstuffs is received to share with those less fortunate. A festive Service for all of the Epiphany Family at 10am. Come early for a light Brunch at 9:15am in the Commons.

Advent I
November

Saturday & Sunday, 28/29

Advent reminds us of the threefold coming of Our Lord Jesus: his coming as a baby in Bethlehem, his coming at the end of history to judge the living and the dead, and his coming into our lives this day through Word and Sacrament. With the church of every age we pray, "Come Lord Jesus."

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Pastoral Acts



BAPTISM

Pastor Gohl administered the Sacrament of Holy Baptism to **Riley Isabella Jett**, born 5-14-09, on 6 September 2009. Her parents are Stefanie Jeanne (Riley) Jett and Terry Evan Jett,



FUNERALS

On 29 September 2009, Pastor Gohl officiated at the Funeral of **Elsie Leah Akers**. Mrs. Akers was laid to rest at Parkwood Cemetary follow-ing the service at the Oak Crest Village Chapel.

On 16 October 2009, Pastor Gohl officiated at the Funeral of **Ruth Norine Hudgins**

. The funeral was offered at the Lassahn Funeral Home and interment was at Moreland Park.

Pastor Gohl

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

My colleague, the Rev. John Sabatelli of Christ Church, spent his monthly newsletter article reflecting on what he was thankful for within the life of that vibrant congregation. I feel inspired to do the same during November, the month of Thanksgiving.

I am thankful for the faithful members of this congregation who make weekly worship a high priority. There is nothing more wonderful than a full chapel, full Hightman Hall and full sanctuary when the people of God lift their hearts and voices in praise!

I am thankful for the privilege of serving God among people who take seriously Christ's call to care for one another and to not neglect the needs of others in our community. I am amazed by your generosity when it comes to the food pantry, thrift shop, toy drive, and the list goes on and on. You are gracious and generous, for which I am not only thankful – but often, a beneficiary.

I am thankful that, though we cherish our glorious past, we are living into God's sure promise of a still more glorious future! You are a flexible people, responsive to well-thought-out change and encouraging toward your pastors and staff.

I am thankful for my colleagues at Epiphany. The staff here is not only professional, but deeply faithful in their walk with Christ. You can't know what a difference that makes for me and my own walk with the Lord.

I am thankful for volunteers – of all sorts and shapes and commitments – who are the church Monday through Saturday here in this place. Never forget, you each make a difference!

I am thankful for your willingness to try just about anything! Remembering a quote from a 1990s movie, *Mr. Holland's Opus*, "I will use anything from Bach to Billie Holiday to The Beatles to teach a kid the love of music." I feel similarly about Christ. Whatever it takes to tell the world the Good News that God is Love. Amen?

I am thankful for my church family which thoughtfully cares for my own family. My wife and children – as well as my parents and grandmother – count Epiphany as part of "the family." How blessed am I?

And as St. Paul said to the Philippians, "I thank my God for you!"

Wishing you and yours, all the blessings of Thanksgiving!

Pastor Kay

It was a Sunday morning, just a couple of weeks ago. But I wasn't standing in the pulpit at Epiphany – I was at a microphone in front of 300 middle school youth and their adult advisors, pumping-up the crowd in thanksgiving for all of the staff of the event that was coming to a close. It was the DE-MD Synod's middle school event, FreeRide – an event where I served as the primary coordinator in my work for the young people & families of the wider Synod.



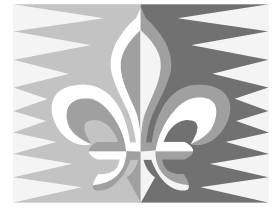
And I stood there with my co-coordinator, Marta Wallace from St. Martin Lutheran Church in Annapolis, thanking all of those people who had made the weekend possible: the staff of the retreat center, the adult advisors who had brought their young people (including our own April Crosby who primarily led our group of 5 Confirmation students), the work crew who spent their weekend in the kitchen, the small group leaders, the high school young people in our leadership program, the primary event staff, and my friend and colleague Marta.

But as I stepped off stage and into the back room, I said a prayer of thanksgiving for you, the people and wider community of Epiphany, as well. Because without your prayers and encouragement, my work and the wider ministry I help to coordinate in the Synod, would not be possible. From my friend and partner in ministry, Pastor Gohl, to the office volunteers who help to cut-out materials and stuff envelopes, to the people who help pack the truck – your physical presence, your words of encouragement, and your prayers are what make my work in the wider Church possible and successful. And I am so thankful for you!

And as I'm coming on my second full year of ministry at Epiphany, never had I dreamed that such a wonderful partnership would be possible – a place where I can be one as part of the Body of Christ but also connect to the wider Church. It is such a blessing to me and my family – thank you.

In Christ,

Pastor Ed Kay



New Orleans
Mission Trip

It's time to start thinking about our Mission Trip to New Orleans, LA next summer! The trip dates are tentatively June 16-24, 2010 which is right when many school systems are letting out for the summer. Youth who are currently in 7th grade through adults of any age are invited to come and be a part of this continued rebuilding effort in New Orleans.

To share details and experiences from previous trips, anyone who is interested in coming should plan on coming to one of the 45-minute information sessions which will be held at the following times in Celebration Hall:

Wednesday, November 11th
at 5pm

Sunday, November 15th
at 12pm

If you'd like more information in advance of the meetings or if you're unable to attend one but are still interested in coming on the trip, please contact Pastor Kay by calling the church office or e-mailing him at pastorkay@God-is-Love.org.

In Our Prayers

Our Friends who are Sick...

Jeremy Amell, Karen Avita, Philip Becker, Doris Bozman, Tony Bowneller, Denise Crosby, Dorothy Duvall, Buddy Geiger, JoAnne Hauck, Edith Hicks, Chuck & Bobbie King, Carol Myers, Pr. Carl Myers, Jen Schleupner, Jeremiah Schleupner, Bill Shaffer, Dorothy Smith, Evie Williams and Pr. Kate Zimmerman.

Those who are Hospitalized

Emma Miller Surgery - GBMC
Melinda Horst Zimmerman FS

Those who are Convalescing

Alva Perry Levindale
Carolyn Wright Levindale
Barbara Lehman Frnkln Wds
Jean Raymo Golden Living
Muriel Gibbons with Daughter

Those going through Chemo.

Charlie Smith

Those who were baptized

Mackenzie Lily Ray Fitzsimmons

Expecting a Child

Pastor and Lisa Kay in
February

Fostering/Adopting a Child

The Cancila Family – Caden
The Gohl Family – Andrew,
David & Saliese

Those who Serve

in the Armed Forces

Christopher Berg, Ricky Buria, James B. Welsch, Mike Kay, Eric Cullotta, Tony Martin, Matthew Sather, Robert Ruth, Matthew Harrington, Jason Harrington, Stephen Veres, Douglas Engler, and Eric Wertz.

tower light ~6~

Pastor Yost

What a surprise! I received an invitation to the 250th Anniversary of Salem Lutheran Church, Lebanon, Pa. Fifty-six years ago; I began my ministry at this church. I have been invited back and am most definitely looking forward to this. These were treasured memories. The first of anything is special. My next call brought me to All Saints Edmondson Avenue in 1955. While serving at St. Mark's they were celebrating their 50th Anniversary and I was not able to get back to Lebanon for their 100th Anniversary. I am doing my best to be present at this one of Salem's anniversary. First of anything is a treasured memory. I can almost remember my first year at Epiphany. That was 1970. We were worshipping in Hightman Hall because the church was being renovated. What an experience! We were so eager to get back to the church and the fellow who was redoing the organ had every excuse imaginable as to why he would not be finished the time he intended to finish. That is part of getting things done!

What a joy to be here! The many shut-ins I now visit were very active members of our church. I am so glad to minister to them, and share the memories we have of those years from 1970 - 1994. When Pastor Gohl invited Carolyn and me for lunch nearly two years ago, it did not take me long to accept the task he was offering me. It is like a new experience each time I come into the church. The changes have been beneficial in many ways. Our pastors have made great strides in ministering affectively to each of us. God bless them. May God continue to guide each of us in the tasks to which each of us has been called.

Pastor Yost

Family & Friends Game Night!

We will meet on Friday, 6 November at 6pm. We plan to order pizza and soda for dinner and split the cost. We usually have two rooms going—one with pinochle and one with games. We have been playing Trivial Pursuit or Cranium. If you have a favorite game, bring it! Call Carol Thomas if you plan on coming and want to be included in the pizza order! 410-931-1908.

Sponsorships in November

FLOWERS

November 1

ALTAR—In loving memory of dear friend, June Kammer Herthum by Betty Clare.

November 8

ALTAR—In honor of Pastor Gohl on his 9th Anniversary of Ordination by Bill & Sharon Gohl, Arwyn Gohl and Joyanne, Andrew, David and Saliese.

CHANCEL—In loving memory of the 44th birthday of Kim Engler by her family

November 15

ALTAR—In honor of our son, Daryan V. Rodgers Lenz, on his birthday by Gary and Vernene (Rodgers) Lenz

CHANCEL—In loving memory of Helen McGraw 'Gran' on her birthday with love from her family

November 22 — Available

November 26 – Thanksgiving

ALTAR - In honor of Carol and Rodger Thomas on their 39th Wedding Anniversary

November 29 – Available

BULLETIN

Available for the whole Month

COMMUNION ELEMENTS

November 1 – In honor of Shirley Ernst on her 20th Anniversary of Home Communion Ministry by the Pastors.

November 8 – In loving memory of Helen McGraw 'Gran' with love from her family.

November 15 – In loving memory of Helen McGraw 'Gran' with love from her family

November 22 – Available

November 26 – Thanksgiving – In honor of Audrey Gohl, Bill & Sharon Gohl, Arwyn Gohl and Joyanne, Andrew, David & Saliese by Pastor Gohl

November 29 – Available

TOWER LIGHT "GOD IS LOVE" FOR NOVEMBER

In loving memory of my parents, Lillian and Alexander Donald,
and my husband Robert by Betty Clare

SANCTUARY LIGHTS

With thanks by Carol Addison

LOOKING AHEAD – SPONSORS NEEDED!

Altar Flowers for Dec. 27

Bulletin for Dec. 6, 13, 20 and 27

Comm. Elements for Dec. 27

Please call the Church Office to Sponsor any of these memorials.

410-485-7654

Memorials

THE PERMANENT MEMORIAL FUND

Given to the Glory of God in loving
memory of:

Catherine Eckenrode

By L. Michele Hoover

Loving Thoughts

A Broken Home?

– No Just Different

When we have felt the sting of a broken home our lives change completely....everything is different. How do we handle things? We face sadness, loneliness, Depression....what do we do now? God seems so far away. Why, OH! Why doesn't He help us. Are we blaming Him? This is the time we need him, do not turn away. Ask Him for his help and he will be there with unconditional love ready to lead you on to happier days. This is the time we have to put our trust and have complete faith in him. Although everything will change in our lives, we will be able to handle things that we have to face, knowing that our savior is there beside us. Happier, brighter days will be ahead of us. God said, "I will be with you always."

The Lord is close to the broken hearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit. Psalm 34:18

Audrey Thomas

About Altar Flowers...

If flowers are not picked up on Sunday or other arrangements made ahead of time with the church office, they will be given to the sick and shut-ins of our community.

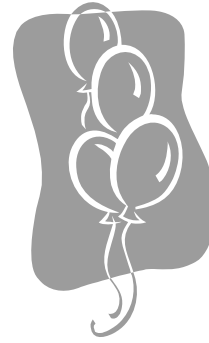
God Bless Those Who Celebrate!

December Birthdays

Tara Becker
Ryan Becker
Kristina Wittich
Ellen Krich
Charles Kay
Alva Perry
Edith Becker
David Arnold Jr.
Chet Haack
Diane Nies
Brittany Marie Oakes
Jason Nies
Jodi Aryee
Christopher Halford
Carl Becker Jr.
Stephen Fogle
Janet Oakes
Aida Gonzalez
Charlotte Anne Hohne
Eunice Lattik
William Nies
Elise Thompson
Esther Hall
Anna Sanders
Terry L. McGee
Jeremy Crosson
Edna Rau
Michelle Bartholomew
Lydia Paige DeWeese
Lydia Hunt

December Anniversaries

Rosalie and Jimmy Boden
Stefanie and Keith Polanowski
Kristi and Christopher Halford
Joan and Carl Becker Jr.
G. Robert and Melissa Horst
Joan and Melvin Rychwalski Sr.
Kathryn and Dan Thompson
Connie and Tom Frizzell Jr.



Remember our Friends!

CELEBRATE THE BIRTHDAYS
OF OUR OCTOGENARIANS
DECEMBER 2009

Dec. 8 – Edith Becker

Dec. 9 – Chet Haack

Dec. 9 – Alva Perry

Dec. 17 – Aida Gonzalez

Dec. 18 – Eunice Lattik

Dec. 25 – Esther Hall

Dec. 25 – Anna Sanders

Dec. 30 – Lydia Hunt

ALTAR CARE

Tom Kopriva

ALTAR CLEAN UP

01—Donna Fairley, Susy Pfarr, Gladys Ilgenfritz, Carol Schlepner

08—Linda Gruz, Carol Myers, Margaret Kramer, Tom Kopriva, Stephanie Cancila

15—Jim & Elsie Bell, Marion Johnston, Joan Gullion, Audrey Thomas

22—Shirley Stevens, Emmie Shelsby, May Heidelmaier, Amie McGee, Gladys Ilgenfritz

26—Donna Fairley, Susy Pfarr, Gladys Ilgenfritz, Carol Schlepner

29—Jim & Elsie Bell, Marion Johnston, Joan Gullion, Audrey Thomas

USHERS

01—Henry Berg, Carol Thomas, Norman Albaugh, John Kluver, Walter and Kay Koepper.

08—Don Watson, Henry Berg, Al Zang, Woody Smeltzer, Denise Loverde, Phyllis Single.

15—Leo Schlepner, Don Watson, Carl and Joan Becker, Henry Koenig, Charlie Engler.

22—Pat Nemec, Carol Thomas, Bud Stevens, Roland Smith, Virginia and Charles Smith.

26 – Thanksgiving Day—Don Watson, Stephanie Cancila, Jack Roeder, Gil Shelsby, April Crosby, Bill Momberger.

29 – Stephanie Cancila, Pat Nemec, Katie Kwiatkowski, Terry McGee, Carl and Joan Becker.

ASSISTING MINISTER

01— Tom Kopriva

22—Tom Kopriva

08— Rodger Thomas

26—TBA

15—Doug Wittich

29— Jacob Schlepner

LAY READERS

1st Lesson

2nd Lesson

01	Gil Shelsby	Sue Fitzsimmons
08	Robert Sacks	Amber Leber
15	Jeremiah S.	Bill Momberger
22	Shirley Stevens	Carol Myers
26 Thanksgiving	Heather Sacks	Joan Nies
29	Elaine Wagenfuehr	John Nies

ACOLYTES

to be announced

Thank You Susan Sacks & Crew!

Many Thanks to Susan Sacks and her fabulous crew of family and friends who pulled-off another outstanding dance!

Thanks for Your Stewardship!

September 26/27, 2009

ATTENDANCE: 150
 5p: 17 ✕ 9a: 30 ✕ 10:30a: 103
 OFFERING: \$3,364.00
 BUDGET: \$4,469.00

October 3/4, 2009

ATTENDANCE: 169
 5p: 15 ✕ 9a:71 ✕ 10:30a: 98
 OFFERING: \$4,283.40
 BUDGET: \$4,469.00

October 10/11, 2009

ATTENDANCE: 168
 5p: 22 ✕ 9a: 42 ✕ 10:30a: 104
 OFFERING: \$4,472.06
 BUDGET: \$4,469.00

October 17/18, 2009

ATTENDANCE: 181
 5p: 20 ✕ 9a: 41 ✕ 10:30a: 120
 OFFERING: \$3,235.60
 BUDGET: \$4,469.0

Wish List

- BRASS ADVENT WREATH FOR THE CHAPEL \$195**
- CHRISTMAS TREES FOR THE CHURCH 2 @ \$100**
- CHRISTMAS TREE FOR THE CHAPEL \$ 65**
- CHRISTMAS TREE FOR HIGHTMAN HALL \$ 85**
- PASCHAL CANDLE STAND FOR THE CHAPEL \$225**

Please call the Church Office or speak to Pr. Gohl to Sponsor any of these memorials.

Epiphany Homemakers

The Epiphany Homemakers would like to wish each and everyone a very Happy Thanksgiving.

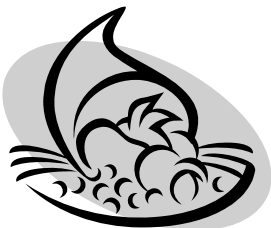
We continue to work on our Christmas project for Ivy Hall. As I mentioned in our October report – we do NOT need anymore bottles for our Easter project. Thank you for your overwhelming support of this project. We will try to show you a sample of how these turned out.

Our November Business Meeting is on Wednesday, November 4th at 10:30 AM in Room 107 (Celebration Hall). There will be no Craft Day in November, as that will be the day before Thanksgiving and I am sure everyone will be busy getting ready for Thanksgiving dinner.

Everyone is welcome to attend our meetings – we have space available for you.

Any questions, please call me at 410-665-3473.

Esther M. Balles, *President*



tower light ~10~

THE MUSIC BOX

Through the Lens, “As I See It!”

Vernene Rodgers Lenz, Music Director

Thanks to everyone for either participating or appreciating the worshipful music at Epiphany Lutheran! In addition, to the choirs, who prepare music for each service, we are blessed with musicians joining us for some special occasions. Please mark your calendars NOW! These people are coming to help us celebrate the special liturgical / historical days on the religious calendar. Below is a synopsis of the exciting and melodious music that YOU have been invited to come enthusiastically enjoy, as you worship.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 1st, ALL SAINTS SUNDAY

Extended Prelude / Mini Concert 10:15am with the BALTIMORE LUTHERAN H.S. CHORUS. We will hear the forty + teenagers resonate on anthems throughout the service, too. This is Amber Leber’s alma mater.

THANKSGIVING MORNING SERVICE: YOUR CHOIR WILL BE WITH US, singing, “I WILL GIVE THANKS!” There may be another musical surprise, too.

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE, 3:15 pm: The Gregorian Family’s violinists, David and Mariam, will play throughout the 3:30 pm service. Bios will be presented in the December Tower Light. You met these talented and spiritual musicians at all Christmas Eve services the past two years. They will begin playing the Christmas prelude at 3:15 pm sharp, so come and worship! This year, they will only be with us in the afternoon as they will take their 1-year-old daughter home to Virginia for Christmas.

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES, 7:15 and 10:15 pm: There will be a fifteen minute mini concert beginning fifteen minutes before the appointed time of the services so be in place at 7:15 pm or 10:15pm, for worship and celebration of the Christ child’s birth. The choir has been working on Christmas music since September, would you believe – so it will be good! The choir will sing throughout both evening services.

HARPIST, LINDSEY BUFFINGTON, who is finishing her Masters Degree in Switzerland, will fly home to join us for the two evening services, at 7:15pm and 10:15pm. She loves people at Epiphany and looks forward to sharing celestial harp melodies throughout our Christmas Eve services in the evening. World famous TENOR OPERA & ORATORIO SOLOIST, NORMAN SHANKLE, will fly home from Toronto’s “Messiah” in time to join us for both evening services – at least that is his plan, at the moment! You will remember Norman from last Easter and the Christmas Eve afternoon service of last year. His voice is a gift from God and he loves the friends at Epiphany. Bio will be in next month’s Tower Light.

Remember your lifetime member, Dane Krich, who plays marimba and tympani? Well, you will meet his new wife, EMILY KRICH, at all THREE Christmas Eve services because she is coming to lend her soprano voice and directing skills. (3:15, 7:15, and 10:15)

We pray for the good health, safety and peace of our church musicians, pastors, leadership, the membership, community at large, and people of our world. May God’s arms hug you, always surrounding you with His comforting love. HAPPY THANKSGIVING TO ALL OF YOU!

LOOKING AHEAD TO CHRISTMAS!

~ CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES AT EPIPHANY ~

Christmas Eve – Thursday, 24 December 2009

3:30pm – Candlelight Holy Communion in the Church with Children's Message

5:30pm – Contemporary Candlelight Service in Hightman Hall with Children's Message & Nursery

7:30pm – Family Holy Communion in the Church with Children's Message

10:30pm - Candlelight Holy Communion in the Church

~ CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICES AT JERUSALEM CHURCH ~

Christmas Day – Friday, 25 December 2009

10:00am – Festival Holy Communion followed by Christmas Brunch with the Gohls

News and Notes

Christmas Bazaar



Saturday, 21 November from 9am 'til 2pm is our Annual Christmas Bazaar Fundraiser! Join us for a Pancake and Sausage

Breakfast with Santa and Mrs. Claus, Pictures with Santa, Flowers, Nuts, Crafts, Books, Plants, Jewelry, Fancy Table and More, not to mention a fabulous lunch! Help is needed both on the day of the bazaar as well as for set-up ahead of time. To volunteer, please call Pat McGowan: 410/661-3759 or Linda Gruzs: 410/325-5216.

Thanks, Bingo Players!

The Basket Bingo event on 4 October netted a profit of \$2000 for our Church! Many thanks to all who played, all who cooked and all who planned! Linda Gruzs chaired, the Fellowship Committee worked their tails off, and Sue Fitzsimmons called Bingo! Thanks too, to all of our donors and all of our helpers!

December **TOWER LIGHT**

Please be reminded that material for the December Edition of The Tower Light will be due by December 11th this month, due to the holy days! We are trying to keep this a 'hard deadline'. You may email material to Betty@God-Is-Love.org or drop your material to the Church Office.

Thrift Shop

Thrift Shop is up and running on Wednesdays from 12 'til 2pm and on the First Saturdays from 9am 'til 1pm. Many thanks for all our volunteers!

Advent Wednesdays

We are pleased to remind everyone that we will gather for Wednesday Dinner, Fellowship and Worship on December 2, 9 & 16 with dinner beginning at 5:30pm (and serving 'til 6:30pm) and worship from 7 'til 7:30pm in Hightman Hall. We expect to be joined by friends from Jerusalem Church.

Similarly, Epiphany will join with Jerusalem at Jerusalem for noontime Advent Worship on December 2, 9 & 16 at 11:30am followed by Soup and Sandwich Lunch!

Christmas Bazaars

Jerusalem Lutheran Church

Saturday, 7 November from 9am 'til 2pm
4605 Belair Road at Moravia Road

Living Water Lutheran Church

Saturday, 7 November from 9am 'til 2pm
8912 Philadelphia Rd. (north of Rossville Blvd)

A Month of *Thanksgiving* at Epiphany Lutheran Church *Come and See!*

The Stewardship Committee is pleased to announce that this year's Stewardship Theme is **A Month of Thanksgiving!** During the month of November, we will explore a number of different thoughts about Thanksgiving and how God is inviting us to respond with thanksgiving to share our time, talent and treasure.

Beginning on 31 October/1 November, will be invited to **CELEBRATE** the gift of time we have to share with one another and the ministry of Christ's Church here at Epiphany. You will be invited to reflect on how you are sharing your time – and how you might offer yourself to share in the next year.

CONSIDER will be our theme for 7/8 November with a deeper look at the gift of talent. In what ways do you give *yourself* to the ministry we share? How has God gifted you in a very unique and special way to fulfill his purposes through Epiphany Church?

When we gather on 14/15 November, we will be invited to **COMMIT** ourselves again to the ministry of the Church with the gifts of our lives and labors – the financial commitments we make to support what we say we want to be about as a church and community of faith in this corner of Christ's Kingdom.

And finally, the series will wrap-up in magnificent **CONSECRATION** Services on 21/22 November, when we will ask God to bless all of our gifts of time, talent and treasure. *The Rev. Wolfgang D. Herz-Lane, a friend of Pastor Gohl and Pastor Kay, will be our preacher this weekend.*

Of course, **THANKSGIVING DAY** will be a most special celebration of all that God has given us in the last year when all of Epiphany gathers for the festive 10am Holy Communion.

Truly, November is **A MONTH OF THANKSGIVING** at **EPIPHANY CHURCH**. *Come and See!*

*Come You Thankful People Come!
Raise the Song of Harvest Home!
All is Safely Gathered in
Ere the Winter Storms begin!
God our Maker doth Provide
For our Wants to be Supplied!
Come to God's own Temple, Come!
Raise the Song of Harvest Home!*



Youth Group

November 1st & 15th from 6 'til 8pm

Youth Group has continued to be exciting and lively, with our Sunday evenings averaging over 15 youth for fellowship, games, discussion, and prayer. We continue to meet on the 1st & 3rd Sunday evenings of the month throughout the school year, beginning in Hightman Hall with dinner and then continuing in the Youth Room for the rest of the evening.

Is there a teenager in your home or life who may be interested in becoming a part of this community? Give them a little encouragement to give Youth Group a try one Sunday evening! Any questions (or if you're an adult and would like to help), see Pastor Kay or e-mail him at pastorkay@God-is-Love.org

And looking ahead, we will be on retreat together on December 4th-6th at Camp Nawakwa (just north of Gettysburg, PA) – look outside Pastor Kay's office for retreat forms!

***** Special thanks to Epiphany members & families for your abundant response to sponsoring the meals for Youth Group this year! Each Youth Group, we gather for dinner before we go into the night's activities, and your response has filled our needs for this calendar year! So far this year, Donna Fairley, the Cancila family, Carol Myers, and Linda & Kent Gruz have helped make a dinner for Youth Group... can you help?**

We have openings beginning in February-June, 2010. Hosting the dinner entails bringing the main course and dessert for 15-18 people (we handle the drinks & table settings), being prepared to eat right at 6pm. And we will help with the clean-up too! If you've got your 2010 calendar and would like to sign-up for one Sunday evening, please see Pastor Kay (e-mail = pastorkay@God-is-Love.org) or look for the sign-up sheet outside of his office.

Congregation Council

The Council of Epiphany Church will meet on Wednesday, 11 November 2009 at 7pm in Celebration Hall. The Executive Committee will convene at 6:15pm in Pastor Gohl's Study. Council Members are reminded to submit their written reports to Mrs. Holland (Betty@God-Is-Love.org) by Wednesday, 4 November and to pick-up their Action Packets on Sunday, 8 November to prepare for the meeting.

The Nominating Committee of the Council (Pr. Gohl, Bob Horst, Stephanie Cancila, Bobbie King, Don Watson, Diane Steinmetz and Henry Berg) are working to secure Council nominees for the January Congregation Meeting. Please keep them in your prayers and please prayerfully consider serving if you are asked to consider that opportunity. Surely, if God is calling you to serve as a leader in this way, please identify yourself to a member of the Committee so that your name might be brought forward.

Congratulations



Mr. and Mrs. Henry J. Berg, Jr. are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter Sarah Joan Berg to Paul Fry. An October 2010 wedding is being planned.

Epiphany QUESTIONS? |

tower light ~13~

1. I should contribute to the Church ONLY when I attend services, right?
2. I feel a pledge is a “moral” obligation. I refuse to pledge, because if I lose my job I can’t fulfill the pledge; is that okay?
3. What is a “tithe” and is it mandatory in the Lutheran Church?
4. Can Epiphany be named a beneficiary on my modest estate?
5. This current economy is bad and times are tough. The Church never experienced times as bad as these, did they?
6. I come to Church occasionally, when I feel like it. That’s enough, right?
7. Years ago I taught Sunday School at another Church, but now I’m a bit rusty. Would I be welcome to take training and ease back in?
8. Could I sing in the choir even though I don’t read music?
9. My spouse doesn’t like to wear a suit, dress shirt and tie or fancy clothes, and uses that to avoid attending Church, especially in the summer. Is that a reasonable excuse?

Mums for Thanksgiving

An envelope is attached to this edition of The Tower Light for you to place a potted Chrysanthemum at the altar for Christ the King (November 21/22) and Thanksgiving Day. Each is \$7.50 and may be given in honor or memory of a loved one. You would be welcome to take your mum after the Thanksgiving Morning Service or to leave it to be shared with the sick and shut-in friends of our congregation. *These are due November 15, so please hurry!*

1. Wrong! Expenses are all year; they don’t stop when you don’t attend.

2. Yes and No. Your conscience “faith” must be your guide, so if you feel this way, don’t “pledge”; BUT tell us what you “intend” to do, if able. We budget on anticipated giving; your reply is confidential (but critical) to us.

3. Tithe comes from an old English word meaning 10%, i.e. Ten percent of your income. It is not mandatory, though the scriptures lift it up as an expectation, a goal and a faithful sacrifice that comes with great blessings.

4. Yes, with our thanks. Talk in confidence with Church Council President or Pastor Gohl for guidance before establishing any estate gift.

5. The 1929 Depression hit hard. Some locals said “Epiphany should put a “for sale” sign on the beautiful, new church”. Members said “we showed them!” - holding dinners, emphasizing stewardship, voluntary staff salary reductions. Epiphany was dedicated to God’s service and would not fail! We succeed because God wants us to, regardless of the difficulties.

6. Welcome, but do you really feel nourished in your soul? Food nourishes, hunger pangs tell us to eat, but few have “soul pangs”, except in times of crisis. God’s grace is revealed more clearly to those who nourish their soul regularly. We are open every weekend, become a regular!

7. You bet! It’s like riding a bike; you still have it; tell a Pastor.

8. Yes, keys are: willingness to attend rehearsals, both prior to Sunday service and Tuesday 7:00-8:30pm and ability to carry a tune; see Director.

9. Not for Epiphany! Alive at 5 and Contemporary worship services are designed for casual attire, and all manner of clothing is found at the traditional service. Jesus NEVER set a dress code; clean, neat, respectful and casual is fine, but more critical is your spouse’s need to hear God’s words. Tell your spouse, “Come on down” to worship at Epiphany! We will all benefit.

Epiphany ANSWERS

