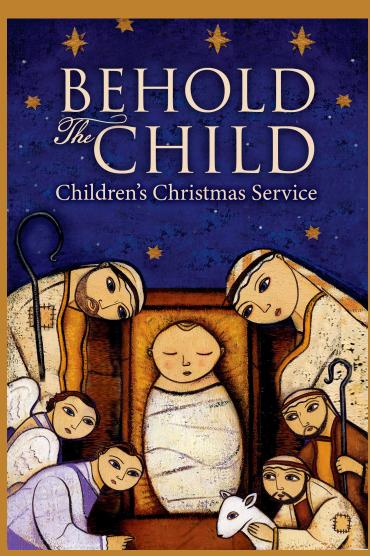


The Light December 2019

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8 | 10:30 A.M.



The children from Epiphany's Sunday School (3 years-6th grade) and Mother's Day Out Program will join together to share the Good News of Christmas. The Sunday School children will be learning the songs during Sunday School and will have a special practice on Saturday, December 7 from 9:30 - 10:30 a.m. Contact Pastor David for more information.

Epiphany Lutheran Church 5515 WEST BROADWAY
PEARLAND, TX 77581
281-485-7833
281-485-5040 (FAX)

WWW.SHININGTHELIGHT.ORG (Pastor of Music Ministries, (Associate Pastor) **Pastor David Johnson** Pastor Jon Salminen Pastor Nathan Misch (Senior Pastor)

Dear Pastor Salminen and precious people of God at Epiphany Lutheran Church,

On behalf of the many people who have newly received the gift of eternal life, who have been brought to faith through a new church plant, who have received assistance for becoming church planters and evangelists, and who have benefitted from the mission efforts of the Texas District, LCMS, please accept my deep and sincere gratitude for your generous mission contributions.

Your congregation is in the top tier of contributors to our Texas District, LCMS mission efforts. Your selfless, cheerful, first-fruit gifts allow the district to press forward in catalyzing a movement of the Gospel in Texas. Your contributions, prayers and participation have resulted in new baptisms, new followers of Jesus, new ministry outreach among new cultures and generations, new churches, and expanding mission outreach throughout our state. Thank you for your partnership and dedication to reaching God's precious people throughout the territory God has given us. The work we've been given to do together is bearing fruit.

Firmly Standing and Boldly Sending with you,

Rev. Michael Newman, President Texas District, LCMS

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE NOVEMBER 17 LEADERSHIP COUNCIL MEETING:

 Good news for the concern of Epiphany's end of the year budget shortfall.

A member has come forward with a matching gift challenge of up to \$50,000 between now and the end of the year. The one request from the donor is that the gift be above and beyond one's pledge or normal giving. You should have already received a letter in the mail.

Jo Lauppe, President
Joan Simonson, Vice-president
Eric Anderson
Aaron Carpenter
Christy DiLuca
Christina Hartman
Steve Kunkel
SueEllyn Kunkel
Brent Snyder
Scott Stewart
Pam Van Maaren

In an effort to continue addressing Epiphany's ongoing IT needs,
 the Council is reviewing the present provider's contract and assessing present capabilities.

Several needs to be addressed include:

- -improving logging on performance
- -upgrading Wi-Fi for electronic giving
- -integrating security system
- -replacing old server
- -getting new phone system
- -prioritizing equipment repair and maintenance
- -increasing IT closet space.

HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS

One of my favorite songs says: "there's no place like home for the holidays". There is something in all of us that longs to be home for the holidays. There is a deep yearning in our hearts that desires to know that there is a place where we can be ourselves, be loved for who we are and are always welcomed—a place we can call "home".

Did you know that your Heavenly Father wants you to come home for the holidays? He longs to welcome you into His house, bless you with His love and let you know "there really is no place like home for the holidays". You might be new to our church family or a long time member—it makes no difference. Maybe you haven't been home for a while—that's okay. Now is a great time to come home. I want you to know that Epiphany is your home for the holidays! Come experience God's love through God's people and I think you'll agree "there's no place like home".

This Advent Season, the midweek services on December 4, 11 and 18, will focus on the theme "Come, Lord Jesus, be our guest . . ."; so begins the common table prayer. During Advent services, in the spirit of Revelation 22:20, we will apply this petition to Advent devotions. Through short and simple daily practices we will learn to pray, "Come, Lord Jesus" in a way that gives daily strength and hope. Even as Jesus invites us home to be with Him, so too, does the child of God invite our Lord to come into our homes and hearts. In addition to these Wednesday midweek worship services, there are also several other opportunities for you to come home for the holidays:

December 8 - "Behold The Child" Children's Christmas Program at 10:30a.m. in the AFLC

December 14 - The Light Fest from 6:00-8:30 p.m.

December 24 - Christmas Eve Services at 3:00, 5:00 (AFLC), 7:00 and 9:00 p.m.

December 25 - Christmas Day Service at 10:00 a.m.

And of course, we will gather round our Lord's Word each Sunday morning in December. Come on home and let's celebrate God's love together!

In Christ's Love.

aster In

Pastor Jon

Please note that on Sunday, December 29, we will only have two services, at 8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. Both of these services will be in the sanctuary.



WHAT MAKES A DINNER MMM, MMM GOOD? WHEN SOMEONE ELSE PRÉPARES IT!

The Altar Guild is selling 13 varieties of premade casseroles by FitChef Texas. You can also purchase individual meals for our shut-in Epiphany members. You can pick up your order on December 8 after the 10:30 a.m. service in the AFLC or pick up at the store in Pearland no later than December 14. For more information or to place an order, go to www.TheUpperCrustMeals.com, click

"Fundraising", click "Order Fundraiser" and enter ELC. Order before December 8. Gluten-free. vegetarian, keto and paleo friendly options are available! Contact Jennifer Williams if you have questions.





Share Your Blessings With Those Less Fortunate

This year, from January 6-27, the Connect Ministry is collecting the following items for the Star of Hope:

Adult Depends Underwear

for Men & Women (Large/X

- Deodorant for men and women (regular & travel size)

• Twin-size fitted & flat sheets only

- Large lotion
- Razors

-Large)

Baby wash

- Large bars of soap
- Hand Sanitizer

Baby wipes

- Diapers Sizes 5 & 6
- Bath towels, face towels and washcloths
- Sippy cups

Please place your donations in the collection boxes in the narthex of the main building no later than January 27. The items will be delivered to the Star of Hope the week of January 27.

Your donations will certainly be appreciated by those who visit the Star of Hope. Thank you!



Grieving the death of a loved one?



A new 13-week session begins on January 13, 2020!

> **GriefShare Mondays** 6:45 - 8:45 p.m. Sanctuary

GriefShare is a group that meets weekly. You'll find it to be a warm, caring environment and will come to see your group as an "oasis" on your long journey through grief. There are three key parts to your GriefShare experience:

- Video Seminar
- **Support Group**
- Workbook

To register or for more information: cindy@epiphanypearland.org

griefshare.org

GriefShare.

Find support



Wake Awake

J. S. Bach's Cantata 140 "Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme" plus contemporary Christmas choral arrangements including works by Dan Forrest, John Rutter and others Focusing on the nativity and the wondrous mystery of "God in flesh".



December 6, 2019 Memorial Lutheran Church 5810 3rd St. Katy, Texas 77493 7:30 PM

December 7, 2019 Lord of Life Lutheran Church 3801 S Tanther Creek Dr. The Woodlands, Texas 77381 7:30 PM

> December 8, 2019 Trinity Lutheran Church 800 Houston Ave. Houston, Texas 77007 4:00 PM





HOMEMADE COOKIES FOR CHRISTMAS EVE

Homemade cookies are needed for the Christmas Eve services. Please label them for "Christmas Eve" and bring them to either kitchen. Cookies are needed by Sunday, December 22 or Monday, December 23! Volunteers are also needed to serve cookies. If you can help, please contact Linda Easto at 281-485-7833. Thank you for your help!



ORDER YOUR POINSETTIAS NOW!

Once again you will be given the chance to help adorn our altar with poinsettias this Christmas Season. Flowers will be placed on the altar on Christmas Eve and remain through Epiphany.

The following will be available: 20 - 6 inch pots of red poinsettias for \$8.50 each, 10 - 6 inch pots of pure white poinsettias for \$8.50 each, 4 - 8 inch pots of pure white poinsettias for \$20.00 each and 6 red mini poinsettia topiary trees for \$28.00 each. The last day to sign up will be Sunday, December 22. Sign-up sheets are posted on the bulletin board across from the main building kitchen. Checks should be made payable to Mary Lou Medack and placed in the adjacent envelope. No cash please!







IT'S A PARADE!





The route will travel east on FM 518.
The parade begins at Old Alvin Road and ends at Pearland Parkway.

The theme is "Toy-Land" and Epiphany's float will be a giant Lite-Brite!

Save the date and come and watch the parade!



Epiphany's LWML will hold the annual cookie sale in the narthex beginning December 11 from 5:15 - 6:15 p.m. (after the 4:30 p.m. Advent Service) and again from 7:45 - 8:45 p.m. (after the 7:00 p.m. Advent Service). The sale will continue Thursday and Friday, December 12 and 13 from 9:00 a.m. – noon during the Mother's Day Out hours.

Decorated cans and/or bags will be sold for \$5 and \$10 and filled with the cookies of your choice. Once again, we are asking for help with the baking and donation of cookies to help make our sale a success. All funds raised will be donated to a mission project. Thank you again for your continued support.

Questions should be directed to Linda Easto in the church office or LWML President, Tammy Earley.







ADVENT DEVOTIONALS AVAILABLE!

"Call His Name Jesus" is the theme for this year's Advent devotionals from Lutheran Hour Ministries. They begin on the First Sunday in Advent, December 1 and continue through Epiphany, January 6. Pick up a copy at either of the Welcome Centers.

Devotionals are also available on our website at: www.ShiningTheLight.org.



THE GIVING TREE

This holiday season Epiphany will support the Christmas gift needs of Glocal Mission. Glocal Mission is a multi-ethnic network of disciples of Jesus committed to intentionally seek the lost, disciple the found and multiply disciple makers and churches locally (Houston, TX) and globally (USA and around the world) with the caring love of God.

Trees are up in the narthex and the AFLC. Please pull one or two tags and fulfill the needs or wants. Glocal has asked for all gifts to be wrapped. Please return the wrapped gifts to either the tree in the narthex or the tree in the AFLC no later than Sunday, December 8.

Thank you for being a blessing to this important ministry. If you have any questions, please contact Jennifer Ward.











CROSS DEDICATION

On November 10, 2019,
Epiphany held a dedication for
the three new crosses at the
front of the campus. The
crosses were an Eagle Scout
Project that was a gift to the
Church from Cohen Carpenter.
The church will be blessed for
many years as the crosses will
become a sign to Pearland of
the love and sacrifice of our
Lord Jesus Christ.

CONTRIBUTIONS

Year End Contributions:

Donors must deliver or mail (and postmark) checks on or by December 31, 2019 in order to claim a charitable contribution deduction for 2018. Checks that are placed in the church offering during the first worship service in 2020 will not qualify for a charitable contribution deduction in 2019, even if the check is backdated to 2019 or was actually written in 2019.

Deducting church contributions:

To ensure the deductibility of your church contributions, please do not file your 2019 income tax return until you have received a written acknowledgment of your contributions from the church. Some of your contributions may not be tax-deductible if you file your tax return before receiving a written acknowledgement of your contributions from the church.

BILL PAY

Have you ever gotten to church and realized that you forgot to write your check for your offering and your checkbook is at home? No need to worry again even while on vacation! Set up Epiphany through Bill Pay at your bank! Just call Debbie in the church office (281-485-7833) to get your account number for Bill Pay to place in the memo on your check. Then complete the Bill Pay set up with Epiphany as a "bill". The information you need is here: Epiphany Lutheran Church, P.O. Box 2461, Pearland, TX 77588. This can be done online or by phone to your bank. What better way to manage your stewardship pledge!

ONLINE GIVING

We have partnered with Vanco in order to offer Online Giving. There are two ways you can participate in this: 1. Go to www.ShiningTheLight.org and click on the green "Online Giving" button. You will be redirected to another page where you can set up a onetime gift or set up a recurring gift. (If you already use bill pay, please continue to do that.) 2. Download the Give+ App for Android or iPhone. Search for Epiphany Lutheran Church by name or zip code (77581) and then click on Epiphany then follow the instructions to give from your phone. Online Giving (or through the app) is simply one more avenue to express the thankfulness and joy we have for what our God has done for us in Jesus.

2020 OFFERING ENVELOPES - THERE WILL BE CHANGES

We are going to be reassigning some envelope numbers in 2020 in order to fill in the gaps that have occurred from members transferring and those who are using bill pay. If you never used your 2019 envelopes, call Debbie in the church office at 281-485-7833 by Monday, December 9 so she can assign you a contribution record number that you can write on your loose check. This will help us assess how many envelope sets we will need for 2021 and reduce waste.

LOOK FOR YOUR 2020 OFFERING ENVELOPES IN YOUR CHURCH MAILBOX LATER THIS MONTH!

- 1. Please do not use these until January 2020.
- 2. If you like giving your check without using the envelope, just return the box and we will assign you a new offering number for 2020.
- 3. Please put your envelope number or assigned offering number on your check.
- 4. When using your envelope, please write the amount on the envelope.
- Your counters thank you.



BIRTHDAYS

12/01 Scott Langston

12/01 Brad Piel

12/01 Lorene Bennett

12/03 Jennifer Barrera

12/03 Jacob Raess

12/03 Gary Doerre

12/03 Pat Doerre

12/04 Renee Hernandez

12/05 Elizabeth Kiihne

12/05 Gwen Gentry

12/06 Luke Gonzales 12/06 Dawn Lester

12/07 Gwen Ayres

12/07 Rev. Vijay Gurrala

12/07 Mike Cloeter

12/09 Vernon Smith

12/09 Krystle Gutierrez

12/10 Terry Schomberg

12/10 Erik Andersen

12/11 Linda Kramer

12/11 Karen Werres

12/11 Elizabeth Stewart

12/12 Ainsley Garza

12/13 Harrison Garrett

12/13 Aubrey Birkelbach

12/13 Dottie Reimer

12/14 Adam St. Romain

12/14 Karsten Quinton

12/14 Michelle Gilbertson

12/14 Luke Davis

12/14 Chris Wolff

12/14 Brad Hollis

12/15 Julie Allen

12/16 Brittny Berges

12/17 Cordelia Degner

12/18 Pastor Jon Salminen

12/19 Sandra Chancellor

12/19 Rosa Kelley

12/20 Mason Barrera

12/20 Evelyn Rohne

12/21 Alyssa Langston

12/21 Denise Hager

12/22 Lynn Tharp

12/25 Kate Lausch

12/26 Craig Carothers

12/26 Jagger Paden

12/26 Donna Fay Reeh

12/26 Cayden Birkelbach

12/27 Christopher Stewart

12/27 Jonathan Stewart

12/27 David Williamson

12/27 Mary Wood

12/28 Debbie Dawson

12/28 Christian Dick

12/29 Chris Moore

12/29 Emily McDonald

12/29 Thomas Holt 12/30 John Hartman

12/31 Kelly Tharp

12/31 Mike McDonald

12/31 Debbie Dick



ANNIVERSARIES

12/10 Ronnie & Donna Fay Reeh

12/10 Johnnie & Fran Walther

12/13 Brian & Leslie Krause

12/13 John & Pat Succop

12/16 Michael & Vicki Jardon

12/17 Dave & Kim Brackney

12/17 Gregg & Chris Kiihne

12/18 Jack & Katy Ostermaier

12/19 Larry & Karen Helton

12/19 Jeff & Pam West

12/23 Larry & Sherry Cornelius

12/27 Waddell & Marlene Heinrich

12/29 Kevin & Gwen Ayres

12/29 Eric & Miriam Helton

12/29 Ken & Gloria Mills

12/30 Rick & Lyn Wolff

Introducing...

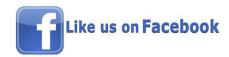
NEW MEMBERS

Scott & Nicole Langston, with children Tyler, Alyssa and Ashlyn Marvin & Sue Langston Rick & Janet O'Connor Orlando & Vicky Ramos Dan & Ashley Reed,

with child Andrew

Connee Stine Leslie Waycott Dean Wright Steven Wright Susan Thonhoff,

with sons, Roland and Raimund





BIRTHS

Kendall Faith Davis November 12, 2019



SYMPATHY

Roy Richard Armstrong November 15, 2019



THANK YOU

The GriefShare Leadership Team would like to thank all of you who contributed desserts and snacks for our support group. Those who attend are so touched by your generosity and support; it speaks volumes to them about how much Epiphany cares for them. Bless you!

Cindy Eppelheimer Joan Simonson Arlene Gumbiner Saul Pontifes



www.ShiningTheLight.org

Sunday Morning Schedule: 8:00 am - Traditional Worship Service-sanctuary 9:15 am - Sunday School & Adult Bible Class 10:30 am - Blended Worship Service-sanctuary 10:30 am - *The Light* Worship Service-AFLC

*WOR: Worship COM: Worship with Communion SS: Sunday School ABC: Adult Bible Class



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 COM/SS & ABC/COM/WOR* LWML Mite Box Sunday U-0.10.15 am-Blood Pressure Screening-106 9:15 am-201 Class-202 11:45 am-Orchestra Practice-sanctuary 11:45 am-Vouth Choir/Praise Teens-203 Noon-Light Fest Setup 2:00-4:00 pm-Basketball-gym No Youth Nights!	2 Announcements Due! 9:30am-Ladies' Bible Study-203 10:00-11:30am-Bible Markers-207 6:45pm-GriefShare-sanctuary 7:00pm-IFC-ESL Classes-203	3 9-2 MDO 9:15am-IFC-ESL Classes-203 4:00pm-Bible Study-202	4 9-2 MDO 4:30pm-Advent Service 5:15-6:30pm-Advent Meal 7:00pm-Advent Service 7:45pm-Choir/Praise Team	5 9-2 MDO 6:45pm- <i>The Light</i> Worship 7:00pm-Handbells -sanctuary	6 9-2 MDO 5:30am-Men's Bible Study Group –MB kitchen	7 9:30am-2:00pm-LWML Christmas Party & Cookie Baking-AFLC Kitchen & 104 9:30-10:30am- Children's Christmas Program Rehearsal- AFLC 6:00pm-Pearland Christmas Parade
8 WOR/SS & ABC/WOR/WOR* MDO Sunday (10:30am AFLC service!) 9:15am-201 Class-202 11:45am-201 Class-202 11:45am-7 outh Choir/Praise Teens-203 2:35-4:30pm-Basketball-gym 6:00-8:00pm-Youth Nights-gym/204	9 Announcements Due! Meals on Wheels Week 9:30am-Goodtimers-104 9:30am-Ladies' Bible Study-203 7:00pm-IFC-ESL Classes-203	10 9-2 MDO 9:15am-IFC-ESL Classes-203 4:00pm-Bible Study-202	11 9-2 MDO 4:30pm-Advent Service 5:15-6:30pm-Advent Meal 5:30-6:15pm-LWML Cookie Sale 7:00pm-Advent Service 7:45pm-Choir/Praise Team 7:45-8:45pm-LWML Cookie Sale	12 9-2 MDO 9:00am-Noon LWML Cookie Sale 6:45pm- <i>The Light</i> Worship Team -AFLC 7:00pm-Handbells -sanctuary	13 9-2 MDO 9:00am-Noon LWML Cookie Sale Light Fest Setup AFLC 5:00-8:00pm	7:30am-Men's Bible Breakfast-203 9:15am-Elders' Meeting-203 The Light Fest AFLC 6:00-8:30 p.m.
15 COM/SS & ABC//COM/WOR* 9:15am-201 Class-202 11:45am-Orchestra Practice-sanctuary 2:00-4:00pm-Basketball-gym 6:00pm-Leadership Council Meeting-202 No Youth Nights!	16 Announcements Due! 9:00am-Quilting-202 9:30am-Ladies' Bible Study-203 10:00-11:30am-Bible Markers-207 7:00pm-IFC-ESL Classes-203	17 9-2 MDO 9:15am-IFC-ESL Classes-203 4:00pm-Bible Study-202	18 9-2 MDO 4:30pm-Advent Service 5:15-6:30pm-Advent Meal 7:00pm-Advent Service 7:45pm-Choir/Praise Team	19 NO MDO: 6:45pm-The Light Worship Team -AFLC 7:00pm-Handbells -sanctuary 7:00pm-Women's Fellowship Group	20 NO MDO! 5:30am-Men's Bible Study Group -MB kitchen 6:30-9:00pm- Christmas Party (5-12 grades)-AFLC	9:00-11:00am-Christmas Music Rehearsal -sanctuary
22 WOR/WOR/COM* No Sunday School or Adult Bible Classes! 11:45am-Orchestra Practice-sanctuary 2:00-4:00pm-Basketball-gym No Youth Nights!	23 Announcements Due! No Ladies' Bible Study! No IFC-ESL Classes!	24 NO MDO:	25 NO MDO! Holiday- Church Office Closed! 10:00am-Christmas Day Worship Service with communion -sanctuary	26 NO MDO! Holiday- Church Office Closed!	27 NO MDO:	28
29 WOR/WOR (Both Services in the Sanctuary) No Sunday School or Adult Bible Classes! 2:00-4:00pm-Basketball-gym No Youth Nights! Only 2 services!	30 Announcements Due! No Ladies' Bible Study! No IFC-ESL Classes!	31 NO MDO: No IFC-ESL Classes!		JANUARY NEWSLETTER ARTICLES DUE DECEMBER 10!		

AT EPIPHANY

Saturday, December 14 6:00 - 8:30 p.m.

activities, living nativity and LIGHTS! An evening of food, music, children's

This is a free event! Food will be available for purchase. 281-485-7833 | www.ShiningTheLightorg Epiphany Lutheran Church, 5515 Broadway