

Announcements for December 8, 2019

ADULT EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

- SUNDAY** **Adult Bible Class** — This class, taught by the pastors, meets at 9:15 a.m. in the AFLC gym. The current study is on Isaiah 2:1-5.
- The 101 Class: "Discovering the Lutheran Faith"** — This class, taught by the pastors, is for those who are interested in learning more about the Lutheran Church, Epiphany in particular and is required for those desiring membership at Epiphany. It is held on Sunday morning at 9:15 a.m. in room 203 of the AFLC. **The next class will begin in January.**
- The 201 Class: The Lutheran Difference: Daily Prayer** — We look at the Lord's Prayer to engage God's holiness, provision, forgiveness and protection in prayer. This class meets on Sunday in room 202 of the AFLC at 9:15 a.m. Contact Kevin Ayres, Jeff West or Rick Wolff for more information.
- MONDAY** **Ladies' Bible Study** — This Bible Study is open to women of all ages; it's a chance to gather together in fellowship and friendship. This class meets every Monday at 9:30 a.m. in room 203 of the AFLC. The current study is: *Gideon: Your Weakness. God's Strength.* by Priscilla Shirer.
- TUESDAY** **Tuesday Afternoon Bible Study** — This study, open to men and women, meets from 4:00 - 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday in room 202 of the AFLC. The next study is Max Lucado's *Life Lessons from Matthew*. Contact Saul Pontifes at 832-276-3029 for more information. **The next study begins on December 10!**
- THURSDAY** **LifeLight Bible Study** — This class meets weekly on Thursday at 9:15 a.m. in room 203 of the AFLC. The next study will be on the book of Romans. **The next class will begin in January.**
- FRIDAY** **Men's Bible Study Group** — This class meets at 5:30 a.m. on various Friday mornings (check the weekly schedule) in the main building kitchen. The current study is called *Paul: A Biography* by N.T. Wright.
- SATURDAY** **Men's Bible Breakfast** — The men of Epiphany meet on the second Saturday of the month in the gym at 7:30 a.m. for Bible Study, breakfast and fellowship.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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"ADDING TO ADVENT": A MATCHING GIFT OPPORTUNITY THIS CHRISTMAS SEASON — The church is currently experiencing a budget shortfall for 2019 and we are on track to be short of our budget by ~\$100,000 (8% of annual budget). A member has come forward with a matching gift challenge of up to \$50,000 between now and the end of the year. The donor requests that these matching funds be over and above your normal giving. Blue envelopes are available at the Welcome Centers for donations. Please consider "Adding to Advent" this Christmas season.

ADVENT MEALS — Sign-up sheets for Advent Meals are on the bulletin board across from the main building kitchen. Please take a moment to sign up to contribute to one of the meals. If you would like to sign up for the December 11 Advent Meal (nachos), there is also a link: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70a0a45a8a62aa57-advent5>.

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.

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 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!

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!

SAVE THOSE STAMPS — The LWML collects cancelled postage stamps as one of their fundraisers. Since this is the time of year for mailing/receiving Christmas cards, the LWML asks that you consider cutting the cancelled stamps from the envelopes you receive and put them in a plastic bag and place in the LWML receptacle in the narthex. These stamps are collected by every LWML society in the U.S. and then sold to a stamp collector with proceeds going toward overseas mailing expenses for quilts and kits put together for mission in foreign countries. The stamps should be trimmed leaving a minimum of 1/4" border. If you have questions regarding this project, please contact Wanda Wood.

MEALS ON WHEELS THIS WEEK! — Epiphany members will be delivering meals this week; December 9-13. Please check the bulletin board for the schedule. If you would like to help in this important ministry, contact Lillian Barath.

GOODTIMERS — The Goodtimers will meet on Monday, December 9 at 9:30 a.m. for fellowship, fun and games. They meet in room 104 of the AFLC (downstairs) for fellowship and then begin at 10:00 a.m. with devotions followed by games. If anyone would like to join them for their annual luncheon catered by Central Texas BBQ, please put \$10.00 per person in an envelope and put it in Evelyn Rohne's church mailbox. Desserts will be provided. Anyone who is 50+ is welcome to join us. For more information, contact Evelyn Rohne.

MEN’S BIBLE BREAKFAST — The Men’s Bible Breakfast will meet on Saturday, December 14 in room 203 of the AFLC. Breakfast is served at 7:30 a.m. and we dismiss at 9:00 a.m.

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 2019. 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!


THE CHRISTMAS COOKIE SALE

... and that means it's
time for baking and
enjoying those wonderful
Christmas cookies

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.



Wednesdays: December 4 , December 11, December 18

MIDWEEK ADVENT SERVICES

4:30 & 7:00 p.m.

Sanctuary

FOOD & FELLOWSHIP

5:15 - 6:30 p.m.

Family Life Center



CHRISTMAS SERVICE TIMES

CHRISTMAS EVE (TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24)

3:00 p.m. (in the sanctuary) with bells and the youth choir

5:00 p.m. (in the AFLC) our contemporary Christmas service

7:00 p.m. (in the sanctuary) with adult choir and brass ensemble

9:00 p.m. (in the sanctuary) with instruments and Holy Communion

CHRISTMAS DAY (WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 25)

10:00 a.m. (in the sanctuary) with Holy Communion

Light Fest

AT EPIPHANY

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

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

Epiphany Lutheran Church, 5515 Broadway
281-485-7833 || www.ShiningTheLight.org

This is a free event! Food will be available for purchase.