



# The Morningstar

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF

**EPIPHANY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**

20 Old Kingston Road, Scarborough, Ontario M1E 3J5

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Submissions 15th of the month  
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## Preparing to Prepare

*In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near." This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, "The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.'" (Matthew 3:1-3, NRSV)*

I find it difficult to believe that this article will mark the beginning of my second year serving as your interim pastor at Epiphany. The year has certainly gone by quickly as we have experienced the joys and challenges that are a part of life.

As I wrote last year, November is an interesting month in the church year. In quick succession we recognize Reformation Sunday, followed by All Saints, and then Christ the King Sunday. And then, we are into the season of Advent and counting down the days until we celebrate Christmas. Fall is a busy time in the church, but November is when everything kicks off into overdrive. As we sit in these weeks before Advent, where we are preparing to prepare for the birth of our saviour, we hear the words of John the Baptist shouting in the wilderness, echoing through the ages: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight." (Matthew 3:3, NRSV).

What does this time of preparation look like for us? How do we apply John's message to our own lives as we anticipate the advent of Christ into the world?

First, we find ourselves called into a season of repentance. This calling is not about dwelling on guilt and shame but rather an invitation to self-examination and transformation. As we journey through life, we inevitably accumulate burdens and distractions that may distance us from God. Repentance offers us the opportunity to shed these burdens, redirect our focus, and realign our lives with God's will.

Second, we hear John's words to make His paths straight. The advent season is an opportunity to examine the obstacles in our lives that keep us from fully experiencing the presence of Christ. It could be distractions, materialism, unresolved conflicts, or a busyness that leaves little room for reflection.

Finally, we join in John the Baptist's proclamation to be a voice in the wilderness. Just as John's voice cried out in the wilderness, we too have a vital role to play in preparing the way for the Lord. Our words and actions can serve as a beacon of hope and love in a world often filled with noise and chaos.

As we celebrate my first anniversary as your pastor, I am grateful for the privilege of walking this path of faith with you. Together, we can be the voices that cry out in the wilderness, preparing the way for the advent of Christ. Let our unity and our shared commitment to faith be a testament to the power of God's love, as we continue to reflect on where our journey is leading to next and respond to the new forms of ministry that God is placing before us.

**Pastor Jordan Smith**

## NOVEMBER CALENDAR

### FRIDAY NOVEMBER 3

10:00-11:30 a.m. Bible Class (Zoom)

### SUNDAY NOVEMBER 5

23RD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST (GREEN)

12:00 noon Service of the Word

Pastor Peter Lisinski (In-person & Zoom)

### THURSDAY NOVEMBER 9

7:15 p.m. Council Meeting

(In-person & Zoom)

### SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 12

ALL SAINTS SUNDAY (WHITE)

12:00 noon Service of the Word

Pastor Jordan Smith (In-person & Zoom)

### FRIDAY NOVEMBER 17

10:00-11:30 a.m. Bible Class (Zoom)

### SUNDAY NOVEMBER 19

25TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST (GREEN)

12:00 noon Service of the Word

Pastor Jordan Smith (In-person & Zoom)

### SUNDAY NOVEMBER 26

CHRIST THE KING SUNDAY (GREEN)

12:00 noon Holy Communion Service

Pastor Jordan Smith (In-person & Zoom)

Followed by Congregational Visioning  
Update/Information Meeting

### Zoom Link to EPIPHANY LUTHERAN

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9890800583?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9890800583?pwd=R05md05jWjZBTnNwc202SWJpSG5kZz09)

[pwd=R05md05jWjZBTnNwc202SWJpSG5kZz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9890800583?pwd=R05md05jWjZBTnNwc202SWJpSG5kZz09)

Meeting ID: 989 080 0583 Passcode: 095565

Or by phone following the prompts:

+1 647 374 4685 Canada

Meeting ID: 989 080 0583 Passcode: 095565



Thanksgiving Sunday 2023 — Photo by Ute Wentzel

## Lilliane Margit Kilian

**JANUARY 9, 1955 - SEPTEMBER 28, 2023.**

Extraordinary Wife, Mother, Sister, Aunt, Oma and friend. Lilli passed away peacefully, on Thursday, September 28th, 2023 at Providence Villa Regional Health Centre, Scarborough, with her family by her side.

Survived by her devoted husband Fred, her legacy lives on through her children Karina (Jamie), Larissa (Charlie), Sonja and Martina (Colin) and her grand-children Jacob, Jessica, Kayden, Parker, Owen and Kasia. Dear sister of Anita, Eric, Rudy, Robert and Tony. Lilli will be missed by all her extended family and friends.

Lilli's lived her entire life in Scarborough where she met Fred and they started a family together. She was a dedicated wife and mother. Family was so important to Lilli, and who she spent most of her time making memories with.

Lilli was an active member of the Epiphany Lutheran Church as the President of the Evangelical Lutheran Women's group and serving in her ministry for over 25 years. When not with her family, you could find her at book club, curling, gardening or volunteering for school, club or church events, Lilli was always the first one to step forward and help out.

Lilli warmly welcomed friends and family into her home. There was always time for a cup of tea or room for one more at the dinner table. She was a dependable and forthright friend to many. She was a principled woman ahead of her time, with forward-looking ideas about sustainability, feminism and much more. These she gladly passed on to her friends and family.

**A Celebration of Lilli's Life will be held at Qssis Banquet Hall on Sunday November 19 from 2-4 pm.**

For more details, please visit <https://www.arbormemorial.ca/mcdbrown-scarborough/obituaries/lilliane-kilian/110186>

## Visioning Update/Information Meeting on November 26

There will be a simultaneous in-person and Zoom meeting of the congregation on **Sunday November 26**, following the worship service.

The purpose of the meeting, which will be chaired by Gordon Vollmer, is to provide an update on the church property redevelopment project and entertain questions from members.

As this is strictly an informational meeting, there will be no new decisions made and no voting. Accordingly, official notice of this meeting is not required.

Geoff Crewe

## Two Volunteers please?

Do we have 2 volunteers who would like to audit Epiphany's 2023 accounting? We have had 2 congregation members audit in the past but I wonder if there might be anyone else interested in this very easy and rewarding volunteer task.

The completed records will be ready for audit around January 15, 2024. I can meet with you at the church while you audit to answer any questions you might have.

Thanks for your support.

Nalini Badley

## German Worship Connections

We are happy to share opportunities for our German speaking members to worship and hear occasional sermons in your native tongue.

Pastor Katharina from St. George's in downtown Toronto will hold an occasional prayer and social gathering in Scarborough at the Schwabenclub. The next dates are scheduled for November 2 and December 14. Please speak to Ute Wentzel for more information.

Pastor Annika from Martin Luther Church has a weekly devotion that airs on Sunday at 9:30 a.m. on CHLO Radio AM530 and which is also posted on their website.

Please follow these links if you wish to hear her devotion.

**AM530 Website:** <https://am530.ca>

**Martin Luther Church Website:** <https://martinluther.ca/worship-services/radio-devotions-podcasts/>

## Calling all Epiphany leaf-rakers!

The fall outdoor property cleanup is scheduled for **Saturday November 18 from 9 am–12 noon**, followed by a light lunch.

Participants don't have to commit to the full 3 hours of work ... we'll be grateful for whatever time you can offer. Those attending should bring their own tools, such as rakes, leaf blowers, brooms, dustpans (yard waste bags have already been purchased).

To ensure an adequate amount of food is made available, please email Geoff Crewe at [geoff.crewe54@gmail.com](mailto:geoff.crewe54@gmail.com) or phone him at 416-992-5412 if you plan to (1) work and/or (2) partake of lunch.

If the weather is very unfavourable on November 18 (e.g. snowstorm), then November 25 will be the alternate cleanup day.

Geoff Crewe



CHALK SIDEWALK ART BY DAVID ZINN

## COUNCIL/COMMITTEE REPS

CHAIRPERSONS	(C) COUNCIL MEMBER
Council Chair	Geoff Crewe (C)
Council Vice-Chair	Denise Dennis (C)
Councillor-at-Large	Greg Furan (C)
Councillor-at-Large	Gord Munro (C)
Education Committee	Open
Finance Committee	Geoff Crewe (C)
Property Committee	Open
Seniors Group	Ute Wentzel
Stewardship Committee	Denise Dennis (C)
Worship & Music	Marg Crewe
Visioning Chair	Gordon Vollmer (C)

## COMMITTEE REPS/LIAISON

Advertising Coordinator	Nalini Badley
AMMS Liaison	Ron Heino
Council Secretary	Margaret Fler (C)
ELW	Sigrid Engler
Envelope Secretary	Sigrid Engler
Mutual Ministry	Geoff Crewe (C)
Spiritual Society Liaison	Ron Heino
Treasurer	Nalini Badley

## TREASURER'S REPORT

SEPTEMBER 2023	RECEIVED	SPENT	SURPLUS(DEFICIT)
OFFERINGS	\$3,120.00		
AMMS PARSONAGE RENT	4,075.00		
AMMS PARSONAGE UTILITIES	578.18		
AMMS PARSONAGE PROPERTY TAX	2,390.00		
GST/PST RECEIVABLE	424.74		
TORNADO PLUMBING INVOICES		4,407.00	
CURRENT MONTH TOTALS	<b>\$10,587.92</b>	<b>\$12,857.45</b>	<b>(\$2,269.53)</b>
YEAR TO DATE TOTALS	<b>\$94,300.87</b>	<b>\$98,712.76</b>	<b>(\$4,411.89)</b>
CIBC BANK BALANCE AT SEPTEMBER 30, 2023			18,627.29
CIBC INVESTOR'S EDGE ACCOUNT BALANCE AT SEPTEMBER 30, 2023			126,264.00
CIBC GIC 1 YEAR INVESTMENT TO MARCH 2024			30,000.00

*Yours in Christ, Nalini Badley, Treasurer*

**CALL TO BOOK A TOUR TODAY!**

647-931-1514 or EMAIL [info.parkway@livinglivita.com](mailto:info.parkway@livinglivita.com)



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## Photo of the year

It was considered the best photo of this century. A lioness and her cub were crossing the Savannah but the heat was excessive and the cub was in great difficulty walking.

An elephant realized that the cub would die and carried him in his trunk to a pool of water walking beside his mother.

And we call them wild animals.

It's a great lesson for mankind who are fighting and dying for no reason.

FROM THE INTERNET

**Have courage for the great sorrows  
and patience for the small ones; and  
when you have completed your daily task,  
go to sleep in peace. God is awake.**

VÍCTOR HUGO

**Be careful how you live. You may be the only Bible some people will ever read. — ANONYMOUS**