

The Morningstar

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF

EPIPHANY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

20 Old Kingston Road, Scarborough, Ontario M1E 3J5

416-284-5922 • www.epiphanylutheranchurch.ca

Pastor Rasma Caune • 647-382-5093 • epiphyluth@bellnet.ca

NO. 573 • APRIL 2016

Submissions due 15th of the month

Layout: Sigi Sommer 416-264-9929

sigisommer@rogers.com

*“Blessed are those
who have not seen,
yet have come
to believe.”*

JOHN 20:29

We walked with Jesus to the cross and the disciples saw him after the resurrection – all except Thomas. Because he wasn't present he did not believe what the others said to him. He needed to see Jesus with his own eyes. He needed proof of the resurrection.

What about you? Which disciple do you most readily identify with? Is it Peter – the one who promised to die with Jesus and ended up forsaking him? Or Thomas, who had been faithful while Jesus was among them, yet now doubted what Jesus had predicted?

Many struggle to understand the resurrection and many struggle to believe it. Though thousands of years have passed since that first Easter morning and none of us were present then, do we not believe? Can we say, “I have not seen the Lord, therefore I do not believe”?

When you come up for communion, have you ever experienced Christ's presence? When

you have been ill and needed someone to attend to your needs, has your mother or doctor or nurse not looked at you with the eyes of Christ, wiped your brow, expressed hope of your recovery?

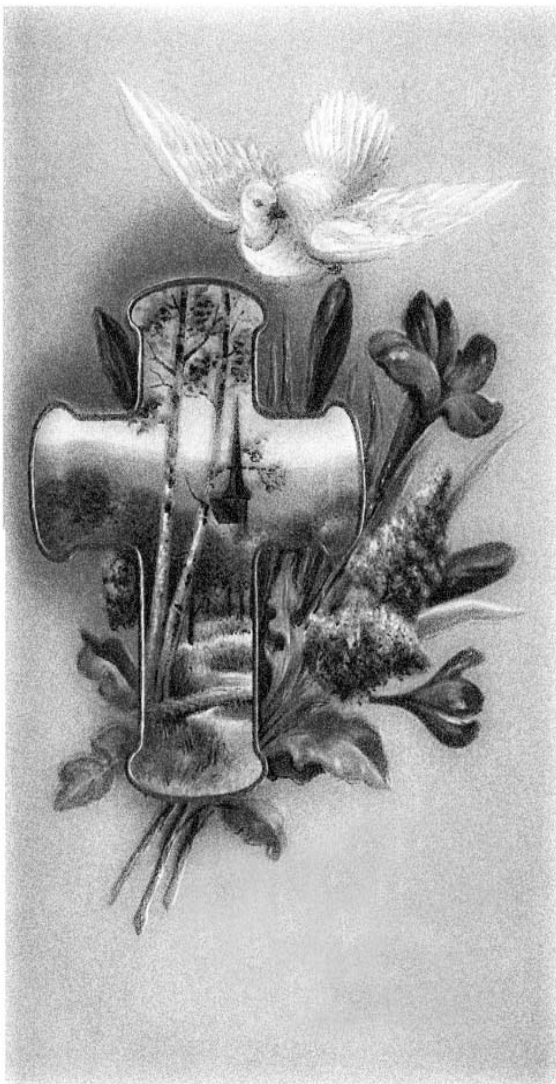
What does it really mean when at baptism we are told that we have been tied to Christ and sealed with the cross forever? Even now, without seeing, parents bring their children to the font to receive the gift of faith – the ability to believe without seeing.

I know that for me, I would not be able to stand at the altar saying the words of Jesus, “Do this in remembrance of me,” if I did not believe that Jesus had existed, that Jesus' promises would be fulfilled, that there is hope for eternal life. I would not be able to raise my hands in absolution saying, “As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority I declare the entire forgiveness of all your sins,” if I had no faith. I have seen the

face of Christ in sorrowful faces at the bedside of the dying. I have seen the face of Christ in each of you who have lowered your eyes in prayer, or in the eyes of those receiving communion looking up and saying the Amen – the so be it – it is true.

So if there had not been a resurrection, how is it that I still see Jesus?

Pastor Rasma



KUDOS

Many thanks to all who prepared our soup suppers to strengthen our bodies. The meal was always accompanied by friendly banter and fellowship. I hope that all who participated in the midweek Lenten services were strengthened in Spirit as we gathered around the cross to pray and sing as candles were lit, as bread was shared, and as we anointed each other in an act of healing. The liturgy was based on Holden *Prayer around the Cross* with the themes: Our Light and Our Salvation; Be Still and Know; Hunger for God; Healer of Our Every Ill.



Thanks to all who participated throughout our Holy Week services: readers, altar guild, communion assistants and ushers and all those who bought a potted flower to enrich our worship space for Easter and for your memorial and good wishes cards which decorated our bulletin board in their own basket of flowers. Thanks to Ute Wentzel for making the flower cards.



Thanks to Wolfgang Scheu and Martin Wittemeier for preparing our Easter fire outside where we began our Sunrise Service and for keeping us safe; and to council members who decorated our fellowship hall for Easter breakfast and who provided us with our first meal of the morning.



We thank God for the gifts of all, who willingly serve to build up this Body of Christ. Special thanks to Marg Crewe who enlightens us with her Bible Studies and her music as she directs our choristers. Thanks to all who enriched our Holy Week services with song and to all counters and communion assistants.

Pastor Rasma

Epiphany's Future

For all of you who would like to discuss the future of Epiphany as I alluded to at the AGM in February, I invite anyone interested to join in a discussion of where we are now, and where are we going: "What is our legacy?" We'll meet on Sunday April 17 after the Joint Communion Service. I'll make the coffee.

Greg Furan

Refugee Sponsorship Committee

But if anyone has the world's goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God's love abide in him? 1 JOHN 3:17

To further the joint project of Refugee Sponsorship, the GTA East Leadership Group is seeking a subcommittee of interested people from each congregation (Epiphany, Faith [Oshawa], Peace [Pickering], and Christ the King [Whitby]). The purpose of this new committee will be to establish the steps and organize the procedure that will bring a refugee family to Ontario.

If you are interested in joining this special and timely outreach effort, please contact me.

Denise Dennis • denise.dennis@outlook.com • 416-264-4091

2017: A Celebration of 500 (years of Reformation)

We know the Reformation as the religious movement that established Protestant churches, a process begun in 1517 by Martin Luther. Luther challenged religious practices that were not Christ-centred while removing barriers to understanding God's love by translating the Bible into the language of the people. These (and other changes) encourage a re-formed relationship with God through grace and faith.

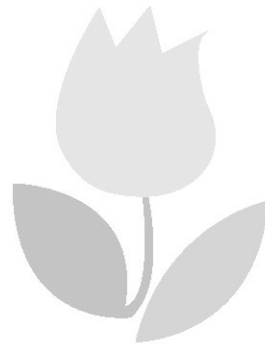
In 2017 there will be celebrations around the world to mark the 500th Anniversary of this Reformation. The GTA East Leadership Group would like to encourage joint activities between

the five sister churches to celebrate this special occasion. For example, each congregation could plant a special commemorative tree while jointly working toward planting 500 new trees.

To help coordinate efforts for 2017 celebrations, a subcommittee needs to be formed from members of the 5 congregations. If you are interested in helping promote this unique anniversary locally, please contact me.

Denise Dennis • denise.dennis@outlook.com • 416-264-4091

HOPE
A
FAITH
I
LOVE
N
CARE
E



Luther's Corner

We all grow in faith in a variety of ways and have an assortment of influences and experiences. In some ways it is hard to believe that Luther – this well-spoken and often outspoken man, reformer, theologian, was once a choirboy at St. George's Church in Eisenach.

He spent much of his life challenging his faith and the faith of the Church as well as its polity. He spent the years 1505-1512 as a monk in the Augustinian monastery in Erfurt living strictly according to monastic rule. Already here he had begun to challenge the Church's move to secularization – according to his interpretation.

Having received his Doctor of Theology degree in 1512, he was invited to lecture on the Bible at the University in Wittenberg. It was not an easy decision to make since this would take him out of his cloistered life. He accepted his appointment as professor where he lectured on the Psalms and the Pauline Epistles.

Luther's interpretation of the Psalms reflected the thought of the day – that these were prayers of Christ and therefore what his message might be. It is during these years that Luther began to concentrate on people's personal relationship to God. If God is a righteous God, then how might people be justified? If the cross of Christ is at the centre, then how might one interpret the meaning of trust, grace, judgement, humility etc.?

These are some of the questions you might ponder as you travel with me to the Augustinian Monastery in Erfurt, where you will be able to pray where Luther prayed and then travel to Wittenberg to experience his life as professor and reformer.

***April 13 is the deadline for taking advantage of the \$200 discount for the **ON THE TRAIL OF MARTIN LUTHER TOUR — OCTOBER 12-22**, by putting down your deposit. Who knows, this trip may give you some ideas of how we might celebrate the 500th anniversary of the Reformation.

Pastor Rasma



If you would like to provide flowers for the altar, please let the Altar Guild member for that Sunday know.

ALTAR GUILD

1st Sunday of the Month

Ute Wentzel • 416-439-7996

2nd Sunday of the Month

Josie Tedes • 416-283-0895

3rd Sunday of the Month

Paulette Correia • 416-414-4497

4th Sunday of the Month

Hildegard Kinder • 416-283-1836

5th Sunday of the Month

Erika Haebe • 416-266-8660

2016 EPIPHANY COUNCIL

Pastor Rasma Caune

647-382-5093 • rasmac@sympatico.ca

Greg Furan, Council Chair

416-284-5622 • gfulan@sympatico.ca

Nancy Kostroman, Vice-Chair

416-283-0318 • jnkostroman@rogers.com

Paulette Correia

416-414-4497 • polly222001@yahoo.ca

Geoff Crewe

416-267-3383 • geoff.crewe@gcrewe.com

Denise Dennis

416-264-4091 • dadennis@rogers.com

Sigrid Engler

416-283-8536 • sigengler@gmail.com

Fred Kilian

416-267-5300 • kilianlf@gmail.com

Sigi Sommer

416-264-9929 • sigisommer@rogers.com

Our Seniors

At their last meeting the 12 German seniors were quite busy not only cutting stamps for Bethel but at the same time listening to Wilhelm reading to them about 'Boehmische Doerfer' and how this expression came to be. This expression (it is a Bohemian Village to me) is used in the daily life to mean that you do not have a clue of the subject in question. There are of course many more of those sayings which are not meant to be taken literally so it led to a lively discussion. After such an exhausting hour, the coffee (and of course cake) break was very much welcome.

Hope to see you all April 5th at the usual time.

Wilhelm Wittemeier

Treasurer's Report

FEBRUARY 2016	RECEIVED	SPENT	SURPLUS(DEFICIT)
CURRENT	\$4,071.09	\$10,601.80	
CHANGE IN INVESTMENT ACCT	0.00		
BENEVOLENCE	1,334.00	1,334.00	
AMMS RENTAL INCOME	3,775.00		
AMMS UTILITIES & INS.	617.72		
AMMS FELLOWSHIP HALL UTILITIES	634.93		
ENVELOPE INITIAL OFFERING	10.00		
ADVERTISING FOR GIFFEN MACK	100.00		
MEMORIAL FOR LYDIA KUKASCH	100.00		
MEMORIAL FOR SALLY FILOSA	50.00		
CURRENT MONTH TOTALS	\$10,692.74	\$11,935.80	(\$1,243.06)
YEAR TO DATE TOTALS	\$23,364.89	\$25,852.36	(\$2,487.47)

Yours in Christ, Nalini Badley, Treasurer

PLEASE SUPPORT THE ADVERTISERS WHO HELP SUPPORT THE MORNINGSTAR.

Kelly's TREE CARE LTD.

We are passionate about tree care.

Kelly's Tree Care Limited is a full service tree care company.

We guarantee that our work is done to the highest standards of arboriculture.

12 Old Kingston Road, Scarborough, ON M1E 3J5
416-462-0007  www.kellytree.com



FOR ALL YOUR FLOORING NEEDS

4593 Kingston Road, West Hill

416-284-0552

FAMILY OWNED & OPERATED SINCE 1965



HAVE THE LAST WORD! PRE-PLAN YOUR FINAL ARRANGEMENTS

Contact me today for a complimentary copy of our Personal Planning Guide, a valuable book that will allow you to record all of your essential information in one place.

Jaime Prichard

ADVANCED PLANNING SPECIALIST

Tel: 416-281-6800

GIFFEN-MACK FUNERAL HOME

4115 LAWRENCE AVE EAST, WEST HILL, ONTARIO M1E 2S2

Hometown Chem-Dry Superior Carpet & Upholstery Cleaning

- Dries in 1 to 2 Hours
- No Dirt-Attracting Residue
- Spot Dyeing
- Safe & Non-Toxic
- Specialty Stain Removal
- Deep Carbonated Cleaning
- Pet Friendly Solutions
- Guaranteed Results



Call Eric or Karen

905-987-3983

800-970-3983

613-962-1974

You've just got to eat here You've also got to shop at this great place!

WEDNESDAY APRIL 13 • 1 PM

Perhaps you recognize the title of this Canadian TV show where the affable host reviews great Canadian restaurants that diners have recommended. **Where do you go** to enjoy fish 'n' chips or how about schnitzels? Do you have other dining establishments that you really enjoy ... good food, good service and good prices? It could be located in your neighbourhood, elsewhere in the city or even out of town.

Let us also include your favourite and special shopping haunts. Where can you find great household bargains or which stores have great selection of merchandise also at good prices? **Please jot down your ideas, save them for the ELW meeting, but if you are unable to attend, please email or telephone Lilli Kilian (kilianlf@gmail.com /416-267-5300) with your contributions.** There might just be a prize for the top contributor! ELW is planning to prepare and distribute a directory of these recommendations for all to enjoy!

For those of you considering a Springtime Daytrip, ELW suggests the upcoming **2016 Lilac Festival in the town of Warkworth (Cobourg area)**. This outing starts with a stroll along a trail following Cold Creek, one of Warkworth's most lovely features. This 2.6 km wheelchair accessible trail offers a panoramic picture of the surrounding tree-covered drumlins, forests, uplands and valleys. **Volunteers from**



the annual Warkworth Lilac Festival held at the end of May have planted over 300 lilacs in 65 different varieties. Accessible from the bridge on Main Street in Warkworth just off County Road 29. Consider shopping the main street artisan community just steps away (a shortbread cookie factory, a chocolate outlet and a cheese house).

ELW is still collecting/recycling the following: **egg cartons, aluminum pop can tabs, eye glasses and 4 litre plastic milk bags** (a Cambridge school still makes these into floor mats for Haiti). Please bring these items to the church cloakroom.

SPRING CLEANING on your mind? Why not consider the following tips from the "Red Coats" newsletter to avoid the "storage trap."

1. Allow yourself time to appreciate the emotional connection you have to things, then let go – this is the hardest part of downsizing. (e.g., Children's report cards/artwork).
2. Make an inventory list as you tackle some areas and allocate a destination (family, selling or donation, recycling, garbage, etc)
3. Keep the word 'ruthless' top of mind. If you haven't used it, worn it or read it for the last two years, chances are you don't really need it in your life. (e.g., China soup tureen)
4. Think to yourself, "I am turning over a new chapter in my life, and I don't want the burden of carrying around things I have had for many years." Start fresh!

Lilli Kilian

April 2016

"Is the spring coming?" he said. "What is it like?"...
 "It is the sun shining on the rain and the rain falling on the sunshine..." FRANCES HODGSON BURNETT, THE SECRET GARDEN

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 10 -11:30 AM -Bible Class	2
					3 2nd Sunday of Easter WHITE 9 AM German Worship Service 10:30 AM English Communion Service	4 7:30 PM -Worship & Music Meeting
10 3rd Sunday of Easter WHITE 9 AM German Communion Service 10:30 AM English Worship Service	11 1 PM -Craft Circle	12	13 11 AM -2 PM--Church Office 1 PM -Epiphany Lutheran Women's Meeting	14	15 10 -11:30 AM -Bible Class	16
17 4th Sunday of Easter WHITE 10:30 AM Joint Communion Service followed by an open meeting to discuss Epiphany's Future	18	19	20 11 AM -2 PM--Church Office	21 7:15 PM -Council Meeting	22	23
24 5th Sunday of Easter WHITE 9 AM German Communion Service 10:30 AM English Worship Service	25 1 PM -Craft Circle	26	27 11 AM -2 PM--Church Office	28 11 AM -GTA East clergy ministerium at Epiphany	29 10 -11:30 AM -Bible Class	30

Health and Wellness

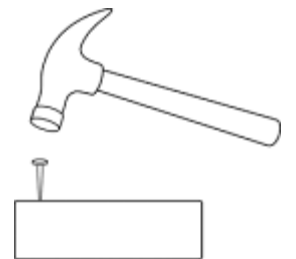
"An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure."

In keeping with this quote, we will be focusing our April information sessions on degenerative health issues. We will focus on health risk factors and how to mitigate or avoid them in the first place, as well as explore various strategies to support the body's natural repair mechanisms, etc. The sessions will be held on Saturday, April 9 and 30 from 2 to 4 pm and 7 to 9 pm. If you and/or someone you care about would like to participate, please let us know by telephone at 647-345-8972 or email us at healthwisewealthwise@rogers.com by the Friday (April 8 or 29, respectively) before your choice of session so that we can properly prepare for you. Light refreshments will be served and seating is limited to the first 10 people to RSVP for each session.

*In good health,
 Bettina and Martin Wittemeier,
 Certified Nutritional Practitioner &
 Health and Wellness Consultants*

SPRINGTIME WORK PARTY

Here is your opportunity to learn how to put up a Garden Shed – and help install two new sheds at Church! We'll build a frame for the floor, lay the floor and erect the sheds.



Date to be announced. Please contact one of the Property Committee Guys if you'd like to participate: Frank Fuerst 416-266-6875, Fred Kilian 416-267-5300 or Werner Kinder 416-283-1836.