

# The Morningstar

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF

**EPIPHANY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**

20 Old Kingston Road, Scarborough, Ontario M1E 3J5

416-284-5922 • [www.epiphanylutheranchurch.ca](http://www.epiphanylutheranchurch.ca)

Pastor Rasma Caune • 647-382-5093 • [epiphluth@bellnet.ca](mailto:epiphluth@bellnet.ca)

NO. 574 • MAY 2016

Submissions due 15th of the month

Layout: Sigi Sommer 416-264-9929

[sigisommer@rogers.com](mailto:sigisommer@rogers.com)

“Be glad in the Lord and rejoice,  
O righteous, and shout for  
joy, all you upright  
in heart.”

PSALM 32:11

**N**ow that we have reclaimed our “Alleluia” and Jesus is ascending to the Father (May 5th), it is a time for rejoicing and at the same time, a time for being challenged, which could bring about some fear. The rejoicing comes from the fulfilment of God’s promises, and the challenges come when we ask ourselves, “What now? What do we do now?”

I recently attended a presentation on the topic of hospice care and end of life issues and possibilities. Questions, such as above, might be asked when one has been diagnosed with a terminal illness or when one is confronted with unexpected grief. What could have been a depressing session became a joyous one.

We do not have to walk alone. One thing I learned, or was reminded of, was the fact that “grief support involves a reinterpretation of how life can be meaningful even in the light of loss

by empowering people to re-define life as it is now and to find ways to make the most of it.”

(Bill Webster – Centre of the Grief Journey)

Take responsibility for your life NOW! This is the moment! We all have moments when we reflect on the past because it is the most familiar. However, if we only live in the past we do not understand our present. We all have our ups and downs in life for many different reasons: relational problems, job loss, the birth of a grandchild, reaching a milestone, grieving that which we never had or rejoicing in that which we expect to experience on our next adventure.

LIFE is NOW! Therefore we can rejoice and shout for joy now, if in each moment we see some value. Constructive criticism might lead to a change in how one does things, which may benefit the whole. Being overwhelmed by too

much work might encourage one to ask for help so that we work together to accomplish a task or resolve a problem. Opening one's heart to let God in can improve one's vision of how to perceive life in a positive way, so that you and I can give thanks, can be glad in the Lord and rejoice.

Some of you may still be sceptical, but if you take a moment in your day – perhaps now, while reading this – you may discover an opportunity for a positive change in attitude, in how you act, speak, are. This is YOUR moment! – Rejoice and be glad!

*Pastor Rasma*

### **Pastor on Vacation**

Pastor Rasma will be on vacation from May 16 through 24. In case of emergency, please contact Pastor Richard Kwiatkowski at 416-451-4607. Lay-led German and English services will be held on Sunday May 22.



*You're invited  
to Epiphany's*  
**Strawberry  
Social**  
**SATURDAY JUNE 18, 2016**  
*(on Father's Day weekend)*  
**2 TO 4 PM**

.....  
Enjoy a heavenly helping of  
Strawberry Shortcake with  
Vanilla Ice Cream and  
Coffee, Tea or Juice.  
.....

Your freewill offering is greatly appreciated!  
(suggest \$6 each)

FAITHLIFE FINANCIAL WILL PROVIDE A MATCHING GRANT FOR THIS EVENT.

### **MISSION STATEMENT**

Be it the mission of this Epiphany Evangelical Lutheran Church,

#### **TO SERVE,**

not only as an edifice to worship and glorify God, but also as a living community of believers and followers of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour.

#### **TO BECOME**

a haven for the troubled and lost, as well as home for all those seeking the peace and safety only found through and with Him.

And be it the concern of all those belonging,

#### **TO STRIVE**

in unity, for an expression of Christ's love to one another and the world, with patience, charity and thanksgiving, in ways to make them worthy of His grace.

Möge es Aufgabe dieser Epiphantias Evangelischen Lutherischen Kirche sein,

#### **ZU DIENEN,**

nicht nur als dem Gottesdienst gewidmete Stätte, sondern auch als eine lebende Gemeinschaft von Gläubigen und Zeugen Jesu Christi, unsers Herrn und Heilands.

#### **ZU WERDEN**

zum Hafen für die Mühseligen und Verlorenen, sowie zum Heim für alle, die Frieden und Sicherheit suchen, welche nur durch und mit ihm zu finden sind.

Und sei es weiter die Sorge aller ihrer Mitglieder,

#### **ZU STREBEN**

in Einigkeit, die Liebe Christi einander und der Welt entgegen zu bringen, mit Geduld, Barmherzigkeit und Dankbarkeit, auf dass sie seiner Gnade würdig seien.

CONTRIBUTED BY NORBERT SOMMER;  
FOUND IN HIS ARCHIVES

# Visioning for Epiphany's Future



*Epiphany's members were invited to stay after the joint service held on Sunday April 17, to share their feelings, concerns, thoughts and ideas about the future of Epiphany Lutheran Church. The following is a summary of this first meeting.*

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## What Legacy will we leave?

I may not have put it quite this way at our last AGM, but this was the intent of my wanting to have a discussion amongst congregational members regarding the future of Epiphany, and my proposed "visioning for the future."

We have all witnessed the shrinking of our membership roll, and many of us have wondered (to ourselves and out loud) what is to become of Epiphany Lutheran, and how, (or even, if) we will survive or be remembered.

It appears to me that we have served ourselves much better than we have served the community at large. That is not to say that we have been invisible in the community, but we haven't been "out there" nearly enough, in my opinion. We have welcomed strangers and guests who have come to visit and worship with us, but we have not been an inviting congregation. We have not done nearly enough to encourage others to worship with us and now, it shows in our membership roll.

Our meeting, scheduled after the joint service on Sunday April 17th, drew 20 members, and the discussions ranged from being more active in the community to revisiting ideas of involving ourselves with the possibilities of development of a retirement/worship complex on our present property (an idea championed by Pastor Ederma at our conception).

The discussions were fluid and very informal, which was the intention for this first meeting. I would

like to thank everyone who was able to attend, and for your input and feedback. We cannot stop the discussion now.

**Greg Furan, Council Chair**

**ISSUE:** Shrinking congregation –  
no children/Sunday School  
Church Attendance – sign of times

### **BRAINSTORMING IDEAS:**

- Separate English-speaking Seniors Group
- Who is in our neighbourhood?
- Epiphany Seniors Activity Group/Day - ? insurance coverage
- Make people feel welcome
- Parents drop-in time
- Add a gym fitness class - ? insurance coverage, cost
- Never just the role of one person, "What can I do?"
- Ministry for refugees
- Tutoring centre – high school students, ESL help
- Multiple congregations
- Re-visit future direction every 5 years
- Concerts, venues
- Blood mobile
- Transformative church
- Nursing home next door – do they want partnership to expand? Timing might be right now to explore. Demographics of nursing home changing.
- Create a legacy – memory

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## Summertime Sunday Services

Worship & Music proposed and Council accepted! This summer we'll have a Joint Service every second Sunday from June through August. The joint services will take place June 12 and 26, July 10 and 24, August 7 and 21. These will be held at a new time: 10 am. Hope you'll join us in worship together!

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## Luther's Corner

While teaching at the university in Wittenberg, Luther had wanted to have some discussion about the corruption or fraud being perpetrated by the church. An open discussion about his claims never happened, however, as the story (myth) goes, the Ninety-Five Theses were posted on the Castle Church door. Contained within them were his objections to the sale of indulgences, veneration of relics, paying for status within the church – to name just a few.

Indulgences were pieces of paper, or a certificate proving that one's sins were forgiven upon purchasing one of these. Luther objected on the grounds that God had granted forgiveness of sins as a free gift. The poor were either excluded from forgiveness or exploited. The rich were able to buy as many of these indulgences as they wished. People would come to service where Luther was presiding and would show him these certificates and say that they no longer needed to confess because they had been told that with this certificate all their sins past and present had been forgiven. You can see how this might turn out to be a free-for-all of sinful behaviour.

He also was offended that the indulgences were being sold in order to build St. Peter's Basilica in Rome. Luther questioned why the Pope – the richest man – could not use his own money to build it instead of relying on the poor becoming poorer.

The veneration of relics, which were bones of saints, or the straw from the manger, or even the Virgin Mary's breast milk could raise one out of purgatory for a time if one prayed before it. It is said that some priests bought their "Archbishop" title and position. Could one say that one of the deadly sins – GREED – was at work here?

(On the Trail of Martin Luther will offer more opportunities to explore Wittenberg and all of the goings on of Luther's time and the present.)

Pastor Rasma

## 2016 EPIPHANY COUNCIL

### Pastor Rasma Caune

647-382-5093 • rasmac@sympatico.ca

### Greg Furan, Council Chair

416-284-5622 • gffuran@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



*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

## Our Seniors

The twelve seniors present at the meeting on April 5th were mostly occupied with putting names to faces of a group photo which showed founding members of Epiphany as well as some of the first congregational members. This task took so much time and effort that there was only time left for the obligatory (and well appreciated) coffee time.

May 3rd will be our next meeting. Hope to see you all then!

Wilhelm Wittmeier

## Treasurer's Report

MARCH 2016	RECEIVED	SPENT	SURPLUS(DEFICIT)
CURRENT	\$6,248.90	\$9,798.81	
CHANGE IN INVESTMENT ACCT	0.00		
BENEVOLENCE	1,334.00	1,334.00	
AMMS RENTAL INCOME	3,775.00		
ENVELOPE INITIAL OFFERING	15.00		
LOONIE BIRD	.20		
<b>CURRENT MONTH TOTALS</b>	<b>\$11,373.10</b>	<b>\$11,132.81</b>	<b>\$240.29</b>
<b>YEAR TO DATE TOTALS</b>	<b>\$34,737.99</b>	<b>\$36,985.17</b>	<b>(\$2,247.18)</b>

Yours in Christ, Nalini Badley, Treasurer



Kindly be considerate of those who have allergies to scents.

When you come to church, please refrain from wearing perfumes, colognes and highly scented products.



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**Jaime Prichard**

ADVANCED PLANNING SPECIALIST

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## Sharing with us your Timeless Treasures on Wednesday May 11 at 1 pm

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**SPRING** is in bloom. Time to share with our friends some of your treasures or special mementos, especially those discovered while Spring cleaning. ELW has enjoyed this program theme before with great success and some surprises. Now when clearing old paperwork/files, the stamp sack in the Church cloakroom is empty which means the Seniors have been busy preparing a batch of stamps for BETHEL homes in Germany. Please remember to bring in your cancelled stamps to Church.

ELW has added Campbell Soup labels to our recycling collection; along with egg cartons, 3-4 litre milk bags, pop tin tabs and eye glasses. Please look for the collection containers in the Church Cloakroom.

Do not hesitate to bring to our attention any other recycling items that community groups are collecting.

Epiphany recently received \$150 FaithLife Fellowship Grant because we meet the criteria of having enough people from Epiphany who have insurance products with FaithLife. This is in addition to the three \$500 Matching Grants that we apply for throughout the year.

Which brings to your attention our FIRST 2016 ELW congregational event on Father's Day weekend in June, the Strawberry Social. Cake mixes will be available for bakers to pick up throughout May and we will ask for contributions of *non-sugared* sliced or whole, fresh or frozen



strawberry donations later in June. Most importantly, we ask you to promote this event by distributing flyers to your friends, neighbours and family. **Better still, bring them along, the more the merrier, especially those of the congregation long time absent from Sunday services.**

Thanks go to Doris Schultes who passed along a 55+ year photo of the assembled Epiphany congregation at Galloway Road Public School with Pastor Ederma; which Lilli Kilian had enlarged; that Sigi Sommer then mounted and labeled and that Pastor put on display at the monthly seniors gathering in the hopes they can identify as many people in the photo as possible. Won't you please help us? Take a real good look next time you are at church, you may well recognize yourself or someone else you know or knew!

Those assembled at our April meeting enjoyed recommending local and various restaurants, diners, cafes as well as some interesting stores and shops. Some familiar to most, but also some new places! Help yourself to copies of the listing on the Church bulletin board.


Now is the time to go check out that bottom dresser drawer you have been meaning to sort through and bring what treasures you find to share with ELW in May and bring along a friend to enjoy afternoon treats with us!

Thank you,  
Lilli Kilian, ELW President,  
416-267-5300; kilianlf@gmail.com

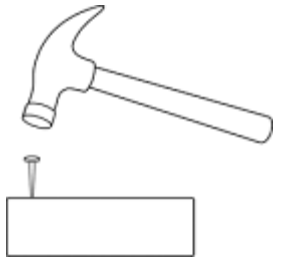
# May 2016



Pastor is on vacation May 16 to 24. In case of emergency, please contact Pastor Richard Kwiatkowski at 416-451-4607.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>1</b> 6th Sunday of Easter WHITE 9 AM German Worship Service 10:30 AM English Communion Service	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> 1:30 PM –German Seniors	<b>4</b> 11 AM -2 PM—Church Office	<b>5</b> 7 PM –German Ascension Day Holy Communion service (Christi Himmelfahrt) followed by Kontaktkreis meeting	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b> 7th Sunday of Easter WHITE 9 AM German Communion Service 10:30 AM English Worship Service	<b>9</b> 1 PM –Craft Circle	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> 11 AM -2 PM—Church Office  1 PM –ELW Meeting Sharing Timeless Treasures	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> 10 -11:30 AM –Bible Class	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b> Day of Pentecost RED 10:30 AM Joint Communion Service (Dress colourfully!)	<b>16</b> Pastor Rasma on vacation from May 16 to 24	<b>17</b> 6 -9 PM YCC Rental	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> 7:15 PM –Council Meeting	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b> The Holy Trinity WHITE 9 AM German Lay-led Service 10:30 AM English Lay-led Service	<b>23</b>       VICTORIA DAY	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> 11 AM -2 PM—Church Office	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> 10 -11:30 AM –Bible Class	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b> 2nd Sunday after Pentecost GREEN 9 AM German Worship Service 10:30 AM English Worship Service	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>				

## LAST CALL!



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.

## Spring Cleaning – Detox 101

Just like we spring clean our homes and gardens, so too can we spring clean our bodies. In continuation of the theme of disease prevention, we will be focusing our May health information sessions on detoxification and its role in health promotion. We will explore what detoxification is, how and when to do it properly and its role as support for the body's natural repair mechanisms. The sessions will be held on Saturday, May 14 and 28, 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](mailto:healthwisewealthwise@rogers.com) by the Friday (May 13 or 27, 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