



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 • epiphluth@bellnet.ca

NO. 607 • MAY 2019

Submissions due 15th of the month

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What would you consider to be the most important or powerful word, one which transcends any language?

Might I suggest "AMEN." Do we really understand its meaning or significance? We say it at the end of a prayer, the creed, during the sacraments of Baptism and the Lord's Supper. Why? Amen is an affirmation of that which has just been spoken. If in prayer, we say it with certainty so that all we have prayed for may come true. If at the end of the creed, it is a solemn expression of belief and affirmation. When we extend our hands to receive the body and blood of Christ, we say "amen" meaning "so be it" or "may it be so": may what we receive truly be Christ's body and blood.

Amen is a word revealing a truth. It is also one that is common to Christianity, Islam (amin) and Judaism (amen). It can be uttered quietly with reverence or shouted with affirmation and joy. This is the word we use throughout Lent in place of Alleluia so that we might be more reflective, repentant, asking God to forgive us and hoping that it may be so. If God in Christ has forgiven the criminal next to him on the cross promising him a place in paradise, would he not also forgive us? AMEN.

Imagine each petition of the Lord's prayer:

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name! AMEN.

Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. AMEN.

Give us this day our daily bread! AMEN.

And forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those, who trespass against us. AMEN.

Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. AMEN.

For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory forever and ever. AMEN.



We have now moved into the Easter season of celebration, a season bringing joy and fulfillment, new life, and new hope. Now we sing our ALLELUIA! HALLELUIA! When separated, "Halle" comes from the Hebrew meaning a joyous praise in song to boast in God. The "yu Yah" is in God or in the Lord, which we translate as "praise the Lord". Now we are singing as many "Alleluias" as we can muster in our Gospel Acclamation, in our response to being absolved, in our Easter hymns of redemption and promise: "Alleluia, Christ is risen!" "Christ is arisen, Alleluia! Rejoice and praise him, Alleluia!"

We celebrate and give God thanks for the resurrection to new life, which is reflected in nature's reawakening with each new sprout breaking forth from the earth, or each tone the song birds sing. It's almost as if we have come to the realization of what God has done

for us, and it elicits a joyous response, a smile on our faces—possibly even relief that change can take place. Both words, AMEN and ALLELUIA, are powerful WITH affirming certainty of that which God has done and continues to do for us.

With joyous hearts, we give thanks to God! AMEN. ALLELUIA!



KUDOS

I would like to thank Margaret Crewe for her willingness and dedication throughout the Lenten season in accompanying our mid-week services, directing our choir, and cooking up delicious soups.

Thanks to our lay worship leaders: Denise Dennis, Ron Heino and Margaret Crewe for filling in for me, allowing me to attend the Missional Cohort workshop.

Thanks to Council for setting up, preparing, and cleaning up our Easter breakfast. It is always a joyous occasion for enjoying the fellowship of this congregation.



Healing Service Invitation

You are all invited and encouraged to join me and the other GTA EAST churches for a joint Healing Service at Peace Lutheran Church, located at 928 Liverpool Road in Pickering, on Sunday May 26th at 4 p.m. Make an afternoon of it and take yourselves out for dinner afterwards. It is so important that we support one another so that we truly reflect Christ's great commandment to love one another as we work and worship together.

Pastor Rasma



The Property Committee at
Epiphany Evangelical Lutheran Church
invites all willing volunteers to our annual



spring cleanup

WHERE: 20 Old Kingston Road

DATE: Saturday May 11, 2019

TIME: 9 am – 2 pm

**WE NEED HELP WITH
GENERAL YARD CLEANUP,
INTERIOR DUSTING, WASHING,
SWEEPING OF PREMISES,
WINDOW CLEANING**

We will have a supply of cleaning supplies
(yard waste bags, cleaning solutions, etc.)

...

Bring your rake, buckets and sponges
as they may be in short supply.

...

Refreshments will be provided.

COUNCIL/COMMITTEE REPS FOR 2019-2020

CHAIRPERSONS	(C) COUNCIL MEMBER
Council Chair	Ron Heino (C)
Council Vice	Sigrid Engler (C)
Education Committee	Pastor Caune
Finance Committee	Geoff Crewe (C)
Property Committee	Jim Dennis (C)
Refugee Committee	Denise Dennis (C)
Seniors Group	Ute Wentzel
Stewardship Committee	Geoff Crewe
Worship & Music	Margaret Crewe
Outreach/Visioning Chair	open

COMMITTEE REPS/LIAISON

Advertising Coordinator	Nalini Badley
AMMS Liaison	Pastor Caune, Fred Kilian
AMMS Lease Liaison	Gordon Vollmer (C)
Bethel Ministries Liaison	Sigrid Engler
Council Secretary	Pat Bramley (C)
ELW Liaison	Sigrid Engler
Envelope Secretary	Sigrid Engler
Mutual Ministry Liaison	Denise Dennis
Outreach/Visioning Liaison	Gordon Vollmer
Spiritual Society Liaison	Fred Kilian
Treasurer	Nalini Badley
Worship & Music Liaison	Margaret Fler (C)

Visioning Sunday

This was our first attempt at not only looking back at that which we valued but discovering how some of those values might be brought into our present in order to create a new future for our congregation.

The past reflected an immigrant congregation where there was a sense of belonging. It was a place where families could still worship together in German, and at the same time expand their view of church for future generations by providing English services and activities for young people. Sunday school, choir, and support for “Omis” was important then. As children grew up, more families began worshipping in English; and when children moved away some parents returned to the German service, but that sense of church as family never left.

Today we still cling to our Christian values and the worship experience, which has been defined as personal and intimate sharing in fellowship of the sacraments, trying to live out our mandate to love our neighbours. On Visioning Sunday, we talked about the reasons we exist and the necessity for sharing our traditions and our faith stories. We value being trustworthy to the Gospel of Jesus Christ while embracing the neighbours we have: as we are situated between two mosques, a Presbyterian, and a Roman Catholic parish.

What might our future hold? We talked about remaining relevant within this community; how might we use our property for new expressions and experiences; how might we give opportunities to youth or students needing volunteer hours; how to bring us into the 21st century by becoming more visible by using media (Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, YouTube) more effectively; recording and digitizing our archival documents. How might we be engaged in speaking out for justice, and against unjust laws of the land? How might we communicate about this congregation beyond our own walls? Ultimately what do we want to convey to others about who we are as Epiphany Evangelical Lutheran Church?

It is time for transforming, yet not leaving everything behind.

We might look very different in the future: having English services only or limited German services, discovering what the needs of the church “out there” might be in order to be a better church “in here”. A Visioning Committee has been formed and there has been a first meeting. We will keep you updated with our discussions about what might change so that our congregation becomes stronger in our faith in Christ and more relevant to “the millennial” and future generations.

Pastor Rasma

New Epiphany Constitution ~ It's Official!

At Congregational meetings held on February 24 and March 31, 2019, our voters on both occasions unanimously approved adopting a new constitution based on the recommended Synod model. Following the last meeting, the document was sent for final review by the Easter Synod Council. I am pleased to report that Synod Council has notified us of its approval. Our affairs are now governed by this new document.

The new constitution will soon be available to everyone in its entirety on the Epiphany website.

Yours faithfully, Ron Heino

Heads UP!

We will be having a Yard Sale together with our Strawberry Social on June 15th. It's time for spring cleaning! You may just discover things you didn't know you had that you would like to get rid of. Offer it up for sale at our yard sale to benefit our congregation and our outreach programs. Items can be brought to the church the week of June 9th through the 14th.

Vacation

Pastor Rasma will be on vacation from May 27 to June 2. In her absence, please contact Pastor Peter Lisinski at 905-889-0873 or pastor@thornhill-lutheran.org; or Pastor Sue Nevile at 905-728-3283 (church) or 905-441-3283 (cell).



Happy Spring! Just a little reminder that our Spring ELW meeting will be held on May 8th at 10:30 a.m. where we'll be discussing the Strawberry Social and Yard Sale. Also, we'll be asking everyone who can help, to come out for the Spring Cleanup on May 11th, where ELW will be providing refreshments. At this Cleanup, it's planned to also clear out the kitchen, so as to make some more space and to identify items which we could add to the Yard Sale. Looking forward to seeing you! *Sigrid Engler*



Our last meeting was on April 2nd with 13 people attending. We talked about the month of April and its meaning. Since Easter is celebrated in April this year, we remembered old Easter Traditions from Germany. Afterward, we held a joyful sing-along and refreshed ourselves with good cakes and coffee.

Our next meeting is on May 7th at 1:30 p.m. Please note, that we will hold our picnic on June 4th at 12 noon. All german seniors are invited. Please let Ute know if you plan to attend. Thanks! *Ute Wentzel*

TREASURER'S REPORT

MARCH 2019	RECEIVED	SPENT	SURPLUS(DEFICIT)
CURRENT	\$5,510.85	\$12,314.56	
BENEVOLENCE	1,385.00	1,385.00	
AMMS PARSONAGE RENT	2,575.00		
AMMS FELLOWSHIP HALL RENT	1,200.00		
AMMS PARSONAGE UTILITIES	1,632.63		
AMMS PARSONAGE INSURANCE	1,028.16		
AMMS FELLOWSHIP HALL UTILITIES	1,046.05		
AMMS Misc	203.40		
BETHEL RENT	300.00		
INITIAL OFFERING ENVELOPE	5.00		
LOONIE BIRD	4.00		
REFUGEE SPONSORSHIP	2,520.00		
CURRENT MONTH TOTALS	\$17,410.09	\$13,699.56	\$3,710.53
YEAR TO DATE TOTALS	\$41,288.97	\$39,755.02	\$1,533.95
INCLUDES PARSONAGE REIMBURSED EXPENSES			\$6,669.88
REVISED YEAR TO DATE TOTAL EXCL. PARS. EXP.			\$8,203.83

Yours in Christ, Nalini Badley, Treasurer

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Would you like to share some special news, an event ... or your thoughts?

We'd like to hear about it! Share it in the MORNINGSTAR!

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

ALTAR GUILD

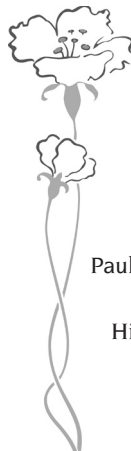
1st Sunday of the Month
Ute Wentzel • 416-439-7996

2nd Sunday of the Month
Josie Tedes • 416-283-0895

3rd Sunday of the Month
Paulette Correia • polly222001@yahoo.ca

4th Sunday of the Month
Hildegard Kinder • 416-283-1836

5th Sunday of the Month
Erika Haebe • 416-266-8660



May 2019

PLEASE NOTE: **Sundays at 1:30 PM**—Bethel Holiness Pentecostal Apostolic Ministries will hold their worship services in Epiphany's Sanctuary.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
 <p>AMEN! ALLELUIA!</p>			1 11AM -2 PM Church Office	2 7 PM —Worship & Music Mtg	3	4
5 3 Easter WHITE 9 AM German Communion Service 10:30 AM English Communion Service	6	7 1:30 PM —German Seniors	8 10:30 AM —ELW Meeting 11AM -2 PM Church Office	9	10 10-11:30 AM —Bible Class	11 9 AM —Spring Cleanup Indoor/Outdoor, with Refreshments
12 4 Easter WHITE 9 AM German Service 10:30 AM English Service MOTHER'S DAY	13 7-11:30 AM AMMS Picture Day Clergy Ministerium	14 7-11:30 AM AMMS Picture Day	15 11AM -2 PM Church Office 6-9 PM —YCC 501 AGM	16 7:15 PM —Council Meeting	17	18
19 5 Easter WHITE 10 AM Joint Communion Service	20 VICTORIA DAY	21	22 11AM -2 PM Church Office	23	24 10-11:30 AM —Bible Class	25
26 6 Easter WHITE 10 AM Joint Service 4 PM GTA EAST Healing Service at Peace Lutheran, Pickering	27	28	29	30	31 Collate Morningstar	
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