

# the STAR



**“We have seen his star in the East, and have come to worship Him.”**  
Matthew 2:2

APRIL-MAY, 2017

## VISION

*“We are one family of growing followers of Jesus seeking the good of our church and community by channeling service to the students, families, and staff of Woerner Elementary School”*

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### Epiphany Lutheran Church

4045 Holly Hills Blvd.  
St. Louis, MO 63116  
Office: (314) 752-7065  
Fax: (314) 752-7066  
Rev. Dr. Michael W. Zeigler  
pastorzeigler@sbcglobal.net  
epiphanylutheran@sbcglobal.net  
epiphany-stl.org

Sunday Worship: 9:30 am  
Fellowship: 10:45 am  
Growth in the Word: 11:00 am  
Sunday School: 11:00 am  
Fourth Sunday Fellowship  
Potluck: 11:00 am

## MEET BRENDA, OUR NEW OPS MANAGER

In early February, we put out a call for resumes and assembled an interview committee (Lynn Goetz, Judy Marvin, Britney Hawk, Rod Horton, and Pastor Z, with Derek Perry organizing us). The Board of Elders received ten resumes and recommended the top five to the committee. The committee interviewed the top three candidates. In early March, we offered the job to Mrs. Brenda Wilson, who accepted our offer shortly after. Brenda has 15 years of experience planning and coordinating daily operations at an executive level. She's an active member at Timothy Lutheran Church, where her husband Bill serves as Associate Pastor. Brenda and Bill live in South City near Tilles Park. To help us get to know Brenda better, we asked her some questions, which she has answered below:



### ***What are some of your favorite places in St Louis?***

Saint Louis has so many unique spots, I love the Botanical Gardens, walking around the Hill and stopping for a gelato, or going to the Farmers Market in Tower Grove or Soulard. Also there are many music and theater opportunities.

### ***What are some important lessons you've learned from your prior work experience?***

Start with prayer. I've learned it's important to take your time in the beginning, evaluate along the way and make sure you keep everyone on the team up to date and informed. Communication, Communication, Communication . . . and pray.

### ***When you have a day off with no responsibilities, what do you like to do?***

I love to work in my garden, I have all kinds of flowers, herbs and a vegetable garden. I love to be outside in the sunshine. If it's not a nice day, I like to curl up with a book and read all day.

### ***Thinking about your childhood church, what are some memories that stand out?***

My childhood church was in a small town (500 people) in Hawkeye, Iowa. When I think back on Trinity, I think of it as family. We lived in the same community, everyone went to the same church, everyone depended on farming for a living in some way or other. Everyone knew everybody. This gave me a perspective to value church as community.

### ***Looking back, how has God tested and refined your faith in Him?***

I know God has a plan for me and I have learned to trust him, it is hard for me since I am a planner, but it gives me His peace when life changes.

### ***What interested you about serving as Epiphany's Operations Manager?***

What interested me is the diverse job description, not only administrative, but also social ministry outreach. The desire of Epiphany to consciously reach out to serve the community in ways the congregation is passionate about captured my attention and the focus of working on the various ministries together. And I look forward to the spiritual support the pastor, congregation and I will share.

### ***As a congregation, how can we help you thrive in this new job?***

Get to know me. Don't hold back with ideas or suggestions, tell me what you are thinking, what you are passionate about, where your heart is.

I look forward to sharing the love of Christ with you in the ministry at Epiphany.

Brenda

## FROM THE PASTOR

### LIKE RIDING A BIKE

*“As we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers.” – The Apostle Paul, Galatians 6:10*

“But I haven’t been water skiing for a while,” I told Uncle Walter. He sat at the helm of his boat, smiled with that big Texas smile, and said, “C’mon son, it’s just like riding a bike!”

You’ve probably heard that expression. It refers to a skill that, once learned, is easily remembered. To someone who’s never ridden a bike before, it sounds impossible. “I’m supposed to do what? Steer and peddle at the same time?!” But, when you get the hang of it—when you’ve gone through a few spills and falls—it feels natural; once learned, difficult to forget.

The followers of Jesus living in Galatia were new Christians. They tried to be church, but lost their balance and fell. Paul wrote them about this. He encouraged them to keep going. I bet he smiled with that big, apostolic smile when he said, “Don’t give up!” (Galatians 6:9). They were, after all, a new creation in Christ (6:15)—not by their effort, only by grace. The old was gone. The new had come.

Paul knew that the crucified and risen Jesus created the Church in the power of the Holy Spirit to do two things at the same time: (1) do good to all people as we have opportunity; (2) especially do good to the household of faith. Like steering and peddling, these are two different activities. One looks inward to the family; one looks outward to those not yet in the family.

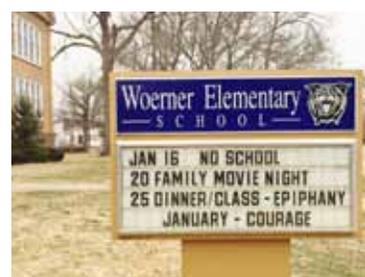
Some congregations have only a few opportunities to do good. Other congregations, like ours, have been blessed with many resources, which means many opportunities.

Our new full-time Operations Manager (see the interview with Brenda in this issue) starts work this month. We have hired her to organize and empower us to take hold of these opportunities. According to her job description, she will devote 60% of her time focusing internally on organizing those good-to-the-church tasks and 40% of her time focusing externally on coordinating those good-to-all tasks, especially through our neighborhood service partner, Woerner Elementary School.

Maybe you’re wondering, “We’re not a big church . . . why do we need a full-time secretary?” Well, we agreed that we didn’t need a secretary to devote 40 hours per week to Epiphany’s internal tasks. Instead, to harness our resources and focus our volunteers inside and outside of the congregation, we voted to hire an Operations Manager who would wear two hats—Office Manager (good to the church); and Social Ministry Outreach Coordinator (good to all).

Now, you might say, “Two hats? That sounds complicated.” Well, yes—that’s why we’ve invited Brenda to partner with us in ministry. She won’t be a soloist, but, much like a choir director, she will be empowered to build teams of volunteers to do good to all and good to the church as much as we have opportunity. Doing two things at once is difficult. But, led as we are by the Spirit of God’s Son, it’s not much different than riding a bike.

In Him,  
Pastor Zeigler



*“Good to Church: Epiphany members work to prepare frozen meals for other church members going through a tough time”*

*“Good to All: Woerner School used their sign to promote Epiphany’s Foundations classes to their families”*

## BUILDING TOGETHER

**Knock... Knock....** “Here are the potatoes Mrs. Schenone.” And boy were there a lot of potatoes.... two whole bins worth for my oven alone. Baked potatoes and salad was that night’s dinner for our church’s Foundations event. And make no mistake, it’s an event! An event where church families and our members, the families of Woerner Elementary School and community comes together the last Wednesday of each month to commune, laugh, play, and learn together and from each other.

It takes a lot of wonderful helping hands to plan and provide dinner, provide childcare, put on and oversee the activities such as the cup stacking competition, ceramics and dance for the kids, and finding and booking the talented guest speaker (who, on the Wednesday I attended, spoke about how to build stronger relationships within your own family and community). And these wonderful helping hands come from our church members and staff alongside the support of the teachers and administrators of Woerner Elementary School.

Foundations is truly the Lord’s work in action. There is a quote from Mahatma Gandhi, “You must be the change that you wish to see in the world.” And Foundations is a prime example of that change. All of us in the community—no matter what our background, life experience or where we come from—want to see strong, happy and faithful family units and community. In order to accomplish and sustain that effort it takes the collaborated efforts of churches, the community, with its members and schools. I never realized until I had my own child how important community support is for the family. We have our own nuclear family that we learn from, which is important but it’s also so important to be able to learn best practices from other families. And for our kids to interact and learn from other kids improves and strengthens their social well-being. The more positive interactions our children have and see us as parents have with different people increases their confidence, their ability to solve problems, work together and thrive, which ultimately pays the Lord’s work forward.

The Wednesday night that I attended, I saw so many different kinds of families smiling and interacting. From the guest speaker, I personally walked away with a new commitment on how to allocate more time and effort to important relationships in my own life. If you haven’t been to our Foundations event I encourage you to come participate. You will have a great time and will walk away with something to implement for yourself or for your family in order to keep and build and pay forward a stronger foundation. And I encourage you to let others know about our Foundations event. Better yet, bring a family with you. Thanks be to God for a community that is taking the time and effort to help support stronger family foundations together for those it serves!

Written By,  
Tiffanie Schenone

*“Several key volunteers worked tirelessly to lay the groundwork for Foundations”*



*“Professor Angie Walston, on-line faculty with Concordia University, spoke about cultivating and calibrating compassion in relationships in February”*



*“Over 100 people from Epiphany, sister churches, and the local community participated in our first Foundations night in January.”*

## ETERNAL IMPACT

The other night we happened to finish dinner by singing a hymn and reading a poem from the book *Icky Sticky Hairy Scary* by Jonathan Schkade (Concordia Publishing). We finished up and I began my nightly dish duty when I heard our girls begin to sing. I peeked around the corner from the kitchen to the dining room and saw them gathered together on one chair, flipping through the hymnal and singing. They would search the index to find one they knew, cry out “Amazing grace!”—flip to the hymn and begin to sing. It was great! I grabbed my phone to capture the moment and my initial thought was, “thank you, Jesus.”

But there is more to the story. As a Christian educator I learned that true education happens in a variety of ways. We are prone to one particular type of education in this country for some reason . . . classroom lecture and memorization, but in reality people learn best in a variety of ways, from a variety of people, and in varying environments. So, when I saw my daughters praising God with that big old hymnal in their lap I thought about this principle and I thought about Pastor Z, Greg Gastler, Amy Zeigler and her Sunday School helpers. I thought about the people who shake my daughters hands or give my son old fishing magazines. These people involved themselves in the lives and Christian education of my children and I am so very thankful. Whether they know it or not, they are instilling in my children a sense of community, of participation in the life of that community, and a desire to read and learn about their Lord in the Bible.

And it is not just my children but all of those who come to Sunday School, and confirmation, and youth nights, and Wednesday evening gatherings and potlucks and worship on Sunday morning. Our church is not teaching children how to sing and what the Bible says so that they can get into the next grade, or have a good resume for college applications. What Pastor and Greg and Amy have done with my kids and yours is to point them to Jesus, who will make an eternal impact on their lives—eternal.

Thank you Epiphany! Thank you for helping grow our children in life and faith.

Paul Terral  
Youth-and-Family Ministry Director



## EASTER AT EPIPHANY

### Easter Breakfast –

Sunday, April 16 | Served from 8:00 -9:00 a.m.

*Pancakes, Sausage, Ham and Egg Casserole, Egg Florentine casserole, Seasonal Fresh Fruit, Juice, milk and coffee (Scrambled eggs prepared on request for people with food allergies.)*

To assist in our preparations, we request that you please RSVP to the church office with the number of family members expected.

Phone: 314.752.7065 or email [epiphanylutheran@sbcglobal.net](mailto:epiphanylutheran@sbcglobal.net)

Free will offering.

Sponsored by Thrivent for Lutherans

### Children’s Easter Egg Hunt After Easter Service –

We’re planning on around 45 children ages infant –15 years old. Each child will hunt for eggs coordinating with a special designed card, then receive a bag of goodies once they have completed the challenge. We would greatly appreciate donations of the following items by Wednesday, April 12: Stickers, coloring books, balloons, candy, bouncy balls, small stuffed animals, jacks, gum, fruit, teeters, hair bows, or anything that fits in a small paper bag. \*\*As we have a variety of ages, we don’t need 45 of each item! Each bag will have a little something different. Thank you for your help.





# EVENT DETAILS

## Holy Week Worship –

April 9 Palm Sunday (Communion)

April 13 Maundy Thursday 6:45 p.m. (Communion)

April 14 Good Friday 6:45 p.m.

April 16 Easter 9:30 a.m. (Communion)

Breakfast – 8-9 a.m.



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<b>April</b>						1
2	3	4 <b>Men's Bible Study</b> 6:30 a.m. Panera Loughborough <b>Elder's Meeting</b> 6:30 p.m.	5 <b>ESL Class</b> 10:00 a.m. <b>Lent Service</b> 5:30 p.m. Dinner 6:45 p.m. Service	6 <b>Bible Study</b> 10:00 a.m.	7	8
9 <b>Palm Sunday</b> 9:30 a.m.	10 <b>Church Council</b> 7 p.m.	11 <b>Men's Bible Study</b> 6:30 a.m. Panera Loughborough	12 <b>ESL Class</b> 10:00 a.m.	13 <b>Bible Study</b> 10:00 a.m. <b>Silver Saints</b> 11:00 a.m. <b>Maundy Thursday</b> 6:45 p.m.	14 <b>Good Friday</b> 6:45 p.m.	15
16 <b>Easter Breakfast</b> 8:00-9:00 a.m. <b>Easter Service</b> 9:30 a.m. <b>Easter Egg Hunt</b> 11:00 a.m.	17	18 <b>Men's Bible Study</b> 6:30 a.m. Panera Loughborough <b>Neighborhood Safety Group</b> 7p.m.	19 <b>ESL Class</b> 10:00 a.m.	20 <b>Man Cave Fellowship</b> 7 p.m	21	22
23 <b>Potluck</b> 11:00 a.m.	24	25 <b>Men's Bible Study</b> 6:30 a.m. Panera Loughborough	26 <b>ESL Class</b> 10:00 a.m. <b>Foundations Dinner and Classes</b> 5:45 p.m.	27	28	29
30	1	2 <b>Men's Bible Study</b> 6:30 a.m. Panera Loughborough <b>Elder's Meeting</b> 6:30 p.m.	3	4 <b>Bible Study</b> 10:00 a.m.	5	6
7	8 <b>Church Council</b> 7 p.m.	9 <b>Men's Bible Study</b> 6:30 a.m. Panera Loughborough	10 <b>ESL Class</b> 10:00 a.m.	11 <b>Bible Study</b> 10:00 a.m. <b>Silver Saints</b> 11:00 a.m.	12	13
14 <b>Mother's Day</b>	15	16 <b>Men's Bible Study</b> 6:30 a.m. Panera Loughborough	17 <b>ESL Class</b> 10:00 a.m. <b>Confirmation</b> 4:30 p.m.	18 <b>Bible Study</b> 10:00 a.m. <b>LWML</b> 11 a.m. <b>Man Cave Fellowship</b> 7 p.m.	19	20
21	22	23 <b>Men's Bible Study</b> 6:30 a.m. Panera Loughborough	24 <b>ESL Class</b> 10:00 a.m. <b>Confirmation</b> 4:30 p.m.	25 <b>Bible Study</b> 10:00 a.m.	26 <b>Youth Night</b> 6:30 p.m.	27
28 <b>Potluck</b> 11:00 a.m.	29	30 <b>Men's Bible Study</b> 6:30 a.m. Panera Loughborough	31 <b>ESL Class</b> 10:00 a.m. <b>Foundations Dinner and Classes</b> 5:45 p.m.	<b>May</b>		

## SCHEDULES

DATE	ACOLYTE	GREETERS	ELDERS	ALTAR GUILD
4/2	Alex Pfeuffer	John Bernthal	Chris Pfeuffer	Lynn Goetz and Carol Neimeier
4/9	Susie Boeyink	Bonny & Jim Lang	Rod Horton	
4/16	Brianna Meyer	Carol Niemeier	Chris Hartley	
4/23	Tori Riley	Shirley Frederich	Rod Horton	
4/30	Greyson Barnett	Ambrosia Ave-Lallemant	Rich Berg	
5/7	Elijah Hawk	Rhonda & Doug Jones	Derek Perry	Judy Marvin and Andrea Barnett
5/14	Alex Pfeuffer	Hawk Family	Doug Jones	
5/21	Elise Zeigler	Bill Dorsam	Chris Hartley	
5/28	Susie Boeyink	Judy Marvin	Chris Pfeuffer	



## GROWING TOGETHER IN THE WORD

### Tuesdays, 6:30 a.m.

Men's Bible Study at Panera on Loughborough & I-55

### Wednesdays, 6:30 p.m.

Women's Bible Study at Epiphany, restarts after Easter

### Thursdays, 10:00 a.m.

Bible Study on the Gospel of John

### Third Thursdays, 7 p.m.

Man Cave: darts, washers, food, brotherhood

### Sundays, 11 a.m.

#### Sun. Morning Bible Classes

#### Pointing to Jesus—Glorifying God Day-to-Day:

Pastor-in-training Travis Ferguson will lead the conversation, drawing on the main Scripture reading for the day. Meets in the lower level hall.

#### Getting to Know Jesus through Six Core Teachings of the Bible:

Join us as we discuss how we can get to know our Creator—His story and values, and His desire for conversation and closeness with us. Led by Pastor Zeigler.

#### Youth Bible Fellowship:

Designed for young adults in middle and high school. Come learn about God's Amazing Grace. Meets in the Lower Level "Grey Room."

## OUR STEWARDSHIP

### Offerings

Average weekly offerings, Jan – Feb 2017: \$2,062

Average weekly offerings needed to support the budget: \$2,466

### Attendance

Average weekly worship attendance, Jan – Feb 2017: 90

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Easter Lilies!

We will beautify the chancel area with lilies on Easter. The cost is \$8.00, cash or check. Use the envelopes in the narthex and be sure to include your name. Flowers can be taken home on Easter Sunday. –Altar Guild

### Live Performance of the Gospel of Mark –

April 11th at 6:30 p.m. at St Paul Lutheran Church of Des Peres, 12345 Manchester Rd, 63131. Pastor Zeigler and five other local pastors and seminary professors will dramatically re-tell Mark's story of Jesus from memory. Free to the public. Refreshments served afterward. See more info at [stpauldesperes.org](http://stpauldesperes.org).

### 2016 Thrivent Update –

In 2016 over 335,000 Thrivent members chose to direct Choice Dollars to more than 32,000 churches, schools, and other non-profits. Epiphany Lutheran received \$769.00. Thank you.

### Foundations –

Apr 26th and May 31st for Epiphany members and members of the local community; includes a free dinner at 5:45 p.m., classes for children (chess, sport stacking, dance, and ceramics), and a short seminar to help parents and guardians equip their students for success (dealing with digital media, study skills, holistic health, etc.).

### Silver Saints –

Free Health Clinic for Seniors (10 a.m., 2nd Thursdays)

### Identity Youth Week –

June 5-8th | 9 am – 4 pm @ Epiphany

Students Entering 7th grade thru Exiting 12th

\$10/student includes swag, food and all activities

Engaging Speakers, Small Groups, Contests, Local Mission Events, Mentors, Live Band, Serious Fun.

Register or Know More at <http://epiphany-stl.org>



# HAPPY BIRTHDAY

to you

Zackery Atkinson.....April 2  
 Jennifer Womack .....April 7  
 Christine Poss .....April 9  
 Donna Reek .....April 9  
 Jessica Koch .....April 11  
 Mariela Mara .....April 13  
 Damien Blake, Jr .....April 16  
 Jack Hawk .....April 20  
 Pamela Clark .....April 21  
 Lori Hodge .....April 22  
 Hannah Tongay .....April 23  
 Sam Lluka.....April 24  
 Caylie Slama .....April 25  
 Gavin Langdon .....April 26  
 Bonny Lang .....April 27  
 Brayden Driskell.....April 28  
 Laura Stovall .....April 28  
 Jude Zeigler .....April 29  
 Bill Dorsam..... May 1  
 Zachary Boeyink..... May 4  
 Marsel Cuka..... May 4  
 Janet Smart..... May 4  
 Timothy Walters..... May 4  
 Amanda Lee ..... May 7  
 Fred Wachter..... May 7  
 Elijah Hawk ..... May 9  
 Carolyn Gluesenkamp..... May 11  
 Kristina Yaeger ..... May 15  
 Thomas Poss II..... May 16  
 Evelyn Hawk..... May 19  
 Alex Pfeuffer..... May 21  
 Greyson Barnett ..... May 24  
 Samuel Hawk..... May 25  
 Justin Kirkpatrick ..... May 25  
 Riley Voss ..... May 25  
 Paula Lamb ..... May 27  
 Michael Weihl..... May 27  
 Ronald Littrell..... May 30  
 Lisa Birkman ..... May 31  
 Kevin Stovall..... May 31



CONGRATULATIONS

## HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

Doug & Rhonda Jones .....April 19  
 Michael & Pam Reilly.....April 19  
 Kevin & Laura Driskell .....April 23  
 Rich & Diane Berg .....April 29  
 Jesse & Susan Driscoll ..... May 1  
 Derek & Jill Perry.....May 15  
 Don & Andrea Reynolds .....May 21  
 Thomas & Christine Poss .....May 22  
 Michael & Amy Weihl .....May 24  
 Billy & Andrea Barnett.....May 25  
 Robert & Carol Trautman.....May 25  
 Ronald & Hazel Littrell.....May 28  
 Jeffrey & Sharon Kirkpatrick.....May 29

## PRAYER REQUESTS

**To be a part of the Prayer Chain**  
 contact Karen Slama at (314) 353.2396.

### Homebound

Bonnie Crites  
 Donna Reek  
 Emilee Sutherland  
 Dorothy Zickler  
 Kurt & Kathy Zickler

### For God's grace, health & healing

Vince Birkman  
 Ken Braniecki (Lisa Birkman's father)  
 Carolyn Gluesenkamp  
 Kirk Johnson  
 Vickie Matta  
 Dorothy Zickler  
 Kathy Zickler  
 The Miyazaki Family (expecting a baby)

### Serving as Police Officers

Jonathan Baublitz (Desiree Stout's brother)  
 Andrew Kleffner  
 Mark McMurry  
 Don Reynolds



**I OFFER THIS PRAYER  
 IN THE NAME OF  
 JESUS CHRIST OUR LORD  
 AMEN**

### Serving in Military

Patrick Coil  
 (Mary Kay Sansone's son)  
 Paul Frederick  
 (Shirley Frederick's grandson)  
 Aaron Schenone  
 David Wheeler  
 (Judy Langdon's son-in-law)  
 Adam Welch  
 James Welch  
 (Michele's husband)



4045 Holly Hills Blvd.  
St. Louis, MO 63116

## APRIL-MAY NEWSLETTER

### TOGETHER IN MISSION

The following are excerpts from “Lutherans Engage the World – Winter 2017,” a publication of our wider church body, the LCMS (story by Megan Mertz, photo by Erik Lunsford)

“Hello, Pastor!” people call out cheerfully, as the Rev. Duane Meissner walks down the sandy streets of Seine Bight, a coastal village in Belize.

Since arriving there in June, Meissner has become a common sight in the village, where he eats in the restaurants and stops to chat with residents on their porches. But this isn't a tropical vacation for Meissner; he is a man on a mission. As The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod's first missionary to the Central American country, he has been tasked with planting the first Lutheran churches in Belize.

“At first, everyone just assumed that I was a tourist,” he said. “But very few tourists come back to Seine Bight a second time. So by the second week, they realized I was someone a little different.”

Meissner said there is a dearth of solid Christian teaching in the area, since most local pastors have very little, if any, formal education. Sometimes what other groups have taught has actually been harmful. That's why his work is so vital.

“It's important for there to be a pure light in their midst and the proclamation of the Word of God – a ministry that's there to stay, a holistic ministry that ministers to the people's souls and also to their bodies,” he said.

Meissner hopes to bridge the gap and create a church that welcomes people from the various demographic groups in the village.

To read the full story, go to [engage.lcms.org](http://engage.lcms.org).

Pastor Duane, and his wife Elizabeth, are one of three missionary families Epiphany sponsors through the Together in Mission (TIM) program. Along with the Meissner's, we partner with Rev. Craig and Paula Donofrio, based in the Czech Republic, plus Rev. Gary and Stephanie Schulte in Togo, West Africa. Please support our overseas missionaries with an extra donation, marked “TIM.”



*“Rev. Meissner presenting his plan to Epiphany back on Dec. 6, 2015”*



*“Rev. Meissner prays with Lovina in Belize, after sharing God's Word with her.”*