

THE STAR

EPIPHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH
ELMHURST, IL

ROOTED IN CHRIST • GROWING IN FAITH • REACHING TO INVITE AND SERVE



**April
2024**



EASTER SUNDAY SERVICES

- 8:00 a.m. Traditional Worship with Holy Communion
- 9:30 a.m. Children and Family Worship with Holy Communion*
- 11:15 a.m. Traditional Worship with Holy Communion*

** Indicates services that will be streamed live on YouTube and Facebook.*



A FEW WORDS FROM PASTOR JULIE

You might not share this oddity with me, but I seem to always have an “earworm.” Now I’m not talking about a creepy crawly that lives in my head. But a section of a song or a tune running through my head, occupying my mind. According to the Kennedy Center, research shows that nine out of ten people have experienced earworms that have lasted for an hour or longer.

Since being here with you dear Epiphany Community, I’ve had a consistent earworm, occupying my mind. Perhaps you know it, “Will You Let Me Be Your Servant.” If so, sing with me as you read.

**Will you let me be your servant,
let me be as Christ to you?
Pray that I may have the grace to
let you be my servant, too.**

ELW 659

At the heart of our ministry at Epiphany Lutheran Church is the care of our own members within our church family and reaching out to support the community at large. Epiphany strives to be a caring community where we can listen and pray with and for each other as we share each other's burdens and joys. Engaged in compassionate service, Epiphany is a place where members feel a sense of belonging and connection. And together we continually look for ways we can bring God's love into our community by sharing our time and gifts.

In my short time here, it’s been revealed that there are many ways people find ways to serve as part of Epiphany's Caring Community. Epiphany is blessed to have people who love to bake, prepare meals, organize fellowship events, pray for one another, and maintain connections through help with transportation to church and needed appointments and by reaching out with a visit, telephone call or sending a card. These are gifts that we offer to one another. A way of being the hands and feet of Christ. And we are continuing to look for ways to strengthen these gifts within our congregation. That is one of the areas that Epiphany’s Leadership Team has asked me to focus on. What a joy!

One thing I have found to be true, is that so many of us find it easier to be on the giving end of these ministries and indeed God has called us to be servants. But the Epiphany community is also here to help you carry your burdens when you are in need. When you are in need of prayer, the Epiphany community is here for you. Let the office or pastors know of your prayer request. When your life has become chaotic and you find your refrigerator empty or are without energy or ability to cook following a hospital stay or surgery or some other circumstance – our delicious Epiphany cooks are here for you.

Many needs go unnoticed and left to chance, often hurting individuals who may not ask for assistance. We ask that as a caring community we each be diligent in noticing the needs of our siblings in Christ. If you or someone you know would like to be contacted or if you would like to use your gift of encouragement, compassion and support, contact the Church office, Pastor Julie, or Pastor Ron.

Pastor Julie

CONFIRMATION

Our Epiphany Confirmation students have been enjoying attending the Wednesday night services during Lent as a group. After every service, the students have continued participating in service projects including sorting the ICDI snack packs and writing care cards. After spring break, we will be finishing our studies of the New Testament!



Additionally, the Youth Committee extends a heartfelt invitation to all Confirmation parents to prayerfully consider joining us. Your involvement would be invaluable as we embark on the search for a Youth Director for our Confirmation and LYO students for the upcoming school year. Parents who are interested in joining the Youth Committee or simply participating in the candidate interviews can reach out to a Youth Committee member for further details. Your support and engagement are greatly appreciated.

LYO/GROUP WORK CAMP (GWC) 2024



Attention all LYO families! We have only a few remaining spots for Group Work Camp in Midland, Michigan (July 21-27th). Here is a message from GWC regarding the trip:

“Almost everyone has heard about the decline of the auto industry. What many people don’t realize is that when car and truck manufacturing slows down, everyone is affected. Hundreds of smaller companies provide parts and services to the big auto plants. Restaurants, groceries, and all kinds of shops rely on auto workers and their families. Pretty much the entire state of Michigan is hurting from the decline in manufacturing.



Over 170 needy residents have already applied for your help. And the work needed will be a true challenge for your kids. Many homes need entire roofs replaced—and there are lots of requests for porches and wheelchair ramps. To help you meet the challenge, a small army of local construction-skilled volunteers will be available to guide your work.”

- Group Mission Trips

LYO extends gratitude to everyone who supported our Butter Braids fundraiser this year! Your contribution further aids our high schoolers in their mission to serve in Midland, MI.



NEXT LYO MEETING

Sunday, April 14 – LYO, 9:30 a.m., LYO Room

Please stay tuned to LYO e-news/texts for the most current updates!

SUNDAY MORNING ADULT BIBLE STUDY



The Sunday Morning Bible Study group will meet on Sundays, April 14 and 28 from 10:45 a.m.-noon. All sessions will convene in the room directly across from the church library. For more information contact Phil Darling at (630) 291-0721 or John Swasko at (708) 650-1047.

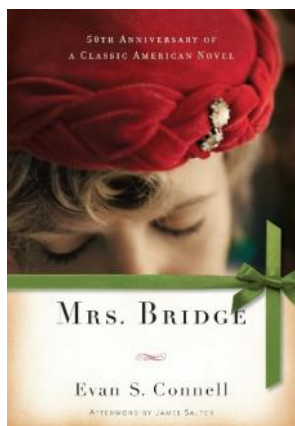
READING WITH THE REV

April 23, 2024

7:00 p.m.

Mrs. Bridge

By Evan S. Connell



In *Mrs. Bridge*, Evan S. Connell, a consummate storyteller, artfully crafts a portrait using the finest of details in everyday events and confrontations. The novel is comprised of vignettes, images, fragments of conversations, events—all building powerfully toward the completed group portrait of a family, closely knit on the surface but deeply divided by loneliness, boredom, misunderstandings, isolation, sexual longing, and terminal isolation. In this special fiftieth anniversary edition, we are reminded once again why *Mrs. Bridge* has been hailed by readers and critics alike as one of the greatest novels in American literature.

Join us on WHEREBY at <https://whereby.com/epiphanymeetings>

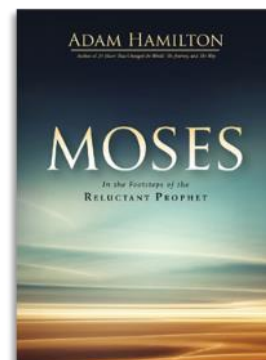
WEDNESDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY

April 3, 10, 17, 24, May 1, 8

7:00 p.m.

(Meets via WHEREBY)

We'll resume our Wednesday evening Bible study on April 3, 7:00 p.m., with a 6-week look at the biblical character Moses. Through video, reading, and discussion, we will walk in the footsteps of Moses guided by award-winning author Adam Hamilton as he travels from Egypt to Mt. Sinai, the Nile, the Red Sea, and the wilderness exploring the sites of Moses' life.



The book will soon be available for purchase at the church office for \$16. **PLEASE NOTE THAT READING FOR THE BIBLE STUDY SESSIONS IS NOT REQUIRED.** Please feel free to join us for the class sessions only if you prefer.

We meet on the online meeting format, WHEREBY. You may join us at <https://whereby.com/>

BECOMING A FOREVER STEWARD

How to Continue to Give after Your Death



DATE/TIME: April 21 11:00-12:30 p.m.

SPONSOR: The Epiphany Stewardship Committee

WHERE: Elmhurst Community Bank Community Room
(corner of Spring Road and Butterfield Road)

SPONSOR: The Epiphany Stewardship Committee

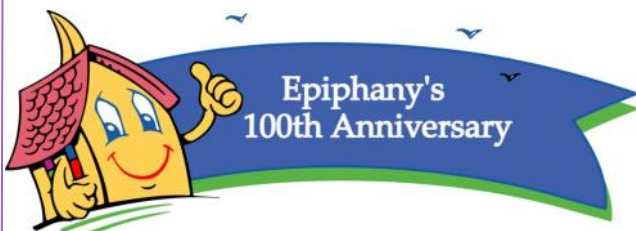
All are invited to attend a meal event where we will explore ways to continue to support your church (and other causes you care about) after your death. **All are invited, but reservations are required.** Brunch from Fresh Start Café will be provided, followed by a short seminar which will include the following:

- Pastor Ron will discuss why we might consider gifts upon our death.
- Members of Epiphany who have made Epiphany a part of their estate plans will share why they have chosen to do so.
- A financial professional will share the basics of the instruments you may use to give upon your death. (No financial products will be sold or solicited.)

To reserve your spot for this event, please call the church office at (630) 832-8457.

JOIN THE ROMEOs—WEDNESDAY, APRIL 17

Are you retired or working from home and would like to get out? The ROMEOs usually meet the third Wednesday of the month at 9:00 a.m. at Fresh Start Café. They will meet next **Wednesday, April 17**. Contact David Norquist (630) 310-0934 or Wes Odean (630) 605-1147 for more information.



at jillam519@gmail.com or 630-209-8508.

Did you know that Epiphany is getting ready to celebrate its 100th anniversary in January of 2025? That sounds like a reason to celebrate! We are seeking members willing to lead, co-lead, or join the 100th anniversary committee. If you are interested in helping us mark this momentous occasion don't hesitate to get in touch with Jill Mueller

A donation in memorial of James Feltman was received from Judy Samuelian.



OUTREACH OPPORUNITIES



The Outreach Committee will be meeting at 10:30 a.m. on April 7 in the Epiphany Center Conference Room. We hope you'll join us! All are welcome!

UPDATE FROM THE ILLINOIS COMMUNITY FOR DISPLACED IMMIGRANTS

From the ICDI:

"This month, approximately 5,000 more people arrived in the city, bringing the total number of migrants to 35,275. Among them, 13,353 people are currently living in shelters, while 12,121 people have been resettled."

That is why, Epiphany, we will continue to do our small part to help. We will continue to gather items for snack packs which will be distributed to hungry migrants as they arrive in Chicago. **We still have plenty of granola bars but need individual sized packages of nuts, dried fruits or gummy snacks, chips or pretzels, apple sauce, and cookies.** Confirmation class will assemble these items into ICDI snack packs.



We are also collecting \$10-\$15 dollar Subway or McDonald's gift certificates. These gift certificates will be distributed to migrants as well. Please place these donations in the bin on the Table of Sharing in Epiphany Center.

You can utilize the ICDI Amazon wish list to order items like underwear and coats. These items are sent directly to an ICDI sorting center, one of which is at Elmhurst Presbyterian church.

For more information about ICDI check out their website at ICDIchicago.org.

Any other questions, please reach out to Karen Norquist, at knorquist@comcast.net.

Thank you, Epiphany, for your continued generosity!

VOLUNTEER AT "FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN"



Save the date! We have reserved 15 spaces on April 27th to pack meals at the Schaumburg office of "Feed My Starving Children" from 9:00-11:00 a.m. Come help make meal packs which are used all over the world for children at risk. Volunteers can be as young as kindergarteners, but one adult is required for each child volunteer. If you think you might be interested in volunteering or have questions, email

knorquist@comcast.net.

LEARN ABOUT WELCOMING REFUGEES!



Join Us to Learn About Welcoming Refugees!



Monday, April 15
Redeemer Lutheran Church of Hinsdale
6:30 pm–9:30 pm

You are invited to a *Cross-Cultural Training* from Exodus World Service to find out how you can serve refugees. In this interactive training you'll learn:

- Who refugees are and how they get to the U.S.
- How to navigate cross-cultural friendship.
- How you can connect with a refugee in our community as a volunteer.



Scan the QR code to register or visit exodusworldservice.org/register/

Questions? Contact Jody May at jody.may@exodusworldservice.org or 847.514.9924.

MEN IN MISSION SPRING DINNER AND FUNDRAISER

6:15 – 9:15 p.m.

Tuesday, May 14

Fellowship Hall

Door Prizes, Raffles, Live Auction items, Games, Silent Auction items, Split the Pot

Through this event we provide families in need with food, clothing, and help with medical, utility, and housing expenses

How you can help

- **Buy a ticket** - \$22.00 per person (adults only). Tickets will be on sale after services on April 20/21, April 27/28, and May 4/5, and through the church office starting April 18 – watch for a Constant Contact Email that day.
- **Donate items** - We will gratefully accept donations of prizes. Please be sure donated prizes are new & unused and if possible, in the original packaging. Items may be brought to the church office. Please let Tom Connolly know (630-290-4025) if you are donating an item.
- **Donate money** - We gratefully accept donations if you are unable to attend, either cash, or checks made out to Men In Mission. We honor requests for anonymity, if desired.

Questions? Please contact Tom Connolly at 630-290-4025, or speak to any of the Men In Mission Board Members: Phil Darling, Rodney Durham, Greg Lippert, Steve Martich, David Norquist, Wes Odean, Gary Sanders, Roy Schroeder, Scott Sutherland and John Swasko.



*Spring Dinner and
Fundraiser*

EARTH DAY IS APRIL 22!

Earth Day is coming soon, April 22! How will you care for God's creation? Here are some simple steps you can take to...



Protect Air Quality:

- Don't idle your car.
- Avoid scented products such as Plug-Ins, air fresheners, Pine-Sol.
- Use a battery powered lawnmower.
- Indoor plants are beneficial for removing toxins from the air.

Protect Water Quality:

- Properly dispose of medications. Do not flush down the toilet or pour down the sink. (*The Elmhurst Police Department has a collection box for medications.*)
- Dispose of household hazardous waste responsibly.
- Remove litter from your neighborhood.

Protect Soil:

- Compost food scraps.
- Don't use chemicals on your lawn.
- Plant native trees and plants.

Protect Resources:

- Refuse (*plastic bags, plastic utensils, plastic water bottles*)
- Reduce
- Repair (*try to fix something before buying something new*)
- Reuse
- Rot (*Compost*)
- Recycle

Protect Wildlife:

- Use natural alternatives to chemicals (*cleaning products, herbicides, pesticides, fertilizer, etc.*)
- Be mindful of light pollution
- Don't pour or rake anything into storm drains

Participate in local environmental events:

- There are eight recycling events throughout DuPage County in April, including Elmhurst on April 27. See the full line up at <https://www.scarce.org/recycling-events/>
- Also on April 27 at 9:00 a.m. is the Illinois Prairie Path and Great Western Trails Cleanup . Find out more information at <https://ipp.org/cleanup/>

Feeling overwhelmed? Just pick a couple of these actions and commit to them long term. Little things add up to benefit our earth.

Contact Andrea Redfearn at andrearedfearn@yahoo.com for additional information.

AUGUSTANA COLLEGE'S JENNY LIND VOCAL ENSEMBLE 2024 SPRING TOUR COMES TO EPIPHANY!

Mark your calendars, you don't want to miss this concert!



The Jenny Lind ensemble is named after Swedish opera singer Jenny Lind (1820-1887), known as the "Swedish Nightingale." She was considered the finest coloratura of her day and is well regarded for her philanthropic concerns, offering financial support to the Augustana Lutheran Church, which ultimately formed the college bearing its name.

We are excited to be hosting the first of their three concerts. We hope you will come and bring your friends and family. What a great way to share the church, Epiphany's love of music and great hospitality with the community.

A special thank you to Ingrid Durham, Judy Samuelian, and the Hannah's Circle for generously providing and serving the dinner meal for the singers. What an incredible gift!

Augustana
COLLEGE



JENNY LIND VOCAL ENSEMBLE

2024 SPRING TOUR

Dr. Michael Zemek, conductor

<p>FRIDAY, APRIL 12 7 p.m. Epiphany Lutheran Church 314 W. Vallette Street Elmhurst, Illinois</p>	<p>SATURDAY, APRIL 13 7 p.m. First Congregational Church 900 South Eighth Street West Dundee, Illinois</p>	<p>SUNDAY, APRIL 14 2 p.m. Gloria Dei Lutheran Church 1133 Pflugsten Road Northbrook, Illinois</p>
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PRESCHOOL DROP-OFF AND PICK-UP SCHEDULE CLASSES RESUME APRIL 1

We are blessed to have many children present in our building throughout the week. Listed below are weekday time periods that our parking lot will be busiest due to drop-off and pick-up times for the children.

Monday—Friday

8:15 - 9:00 a.m.

11:00 - 11:30 a.m.

11:45 a.m.- 12:15 p.m.

2:30 - 3:00 p.m.



Epiphany members and guests are still welcome to access the building during these times but are advised that parking and main parking lot entrance will be busy.

Please note that the preschool will be on Spring Break from March 25-29. Classes will resume Monday, April 1.



OUR HEALTHY CHURCH POLICY

Worshippers and guests to the church building are no longer required to wear a mask. We know that some feel more comfortable and safe continuing to wear a mask, and you are welcome to do so. We ask for respect for whatever choice is made regarding mask-wearing.

We have resumed offering Holy Communion at the altar. The pastors and worship assistants will offer a wafer and an individual cup of wine. Intinction (dipping the wafer into the common cup of wine) is no longer an option. Again, we know that some will be more comfortable continuing to receive the elements in their seats. Those who wish to commune in their seats should let an usher know and the elements will be brought to you in your seat.

We ask that those who are ill or showing signs of COVID-19 please worship using our live streaming option.



BIRTHDAYS

- | | | | |
|----|--|----|---|
| 1 | Chip Johnson, Emily Vierow,
Lindsey Vierow | 18 | Ethan Hanyzewski |
| 2 | Hudson Kabel, Alexander Wilcox | 19 | Brian Adams, Maryn Banta,
Karin Boullion, Kim French |
| 3 | Edward Martin | 20 | Shane Korzen, Piper Michalski,
TJ Ptak |
| 4 | Hannah Hinrichs | 22 | Blake Becker, Mia Calderisi,
Amanda Leibrock |
| 6 | Vince Hradil | 23 | Erin Dunn, Laura Fries, Peggy Magnesen |
| 7 | Lauren Kriz | 25 | Clara Fitzer, Megan Foster, Liam Rees,
Amy Roy, Lynn Sutton |
| 9 | Greg Taylor | 26 | Sabrina Gibbs, Betsy Markwald |
| 10 | Lois Hodgson, Allison Wick,
Karly Witzel | 27 | Sophia Allen, Robin Banasek, Mike Lewis,
Bart Lupa, Carol Rees, Joan Wincentzen |
| 11 | Heather Feltman, Claire Pfaff,
Kelsey Raia | 28 | Kristin Hall, Irmgard Olson |
| 13 | James Thomas | 29 | Emily Dustin, Alex Gibbs,
Dave Hanebuth, Hadley Hedworth,
Leia Rose Samuelian |
| 14 | Kris Hanley, Maureen McPherson,
Nathan Russo, Grace Safien,
Allison Wilson | 30 | Bill Bringman |
| 15 | Katie Connolly, Michael Dudley | | |
| 16 | Beth Kunesh, Kristin Thomas,
Luke Winkler | | |

ANNIVERSARIES

- | | | | |
|----|---------------------------------|----|---------------------------------|
| 10 | Jim and Jill Mueller | 24 | Michael and Natalie Stufflebeam |
| 12 | Shawn and Debbie Biery | 26 | Doug and Virginia Johnson |
| 16 | John and Brigette Hoaglund | 27 | Michael and Susan Kriz |
| 17 | Ted Mandigo and Shirley Swanson | 30 | Mike and Lisa Hartley |
| 18 | Jason and Amy VanDenBrook | | |



IN OUR PRAYERS

**(Please contact Joan Halvey if we missed anyone.)*

OUR CURRENT PRAYER LIST*

IN OUR PRAYERS

Our members: Dolores Barney, Gwen Becker, Ruth Blair, Barbara Brunk, Curt Clifford, Phil Darling, Marjorie DeSombre, Sheila Durbin, Bill Edwards, Wilbur Lippert, Molly Loeser, Joan Lux, Wes Odean, Mark Redfearn, Donna Swasko, Joy Wieska

We extend our sympathies to the family of James Feltman (father of Pastor Ron Feltman), who died March 11, at the age of 95.

FAMILY AND FRIENDS OF MEMBERS*

Our friends: Jolene Allen (friend of Scott and Debbie Hawkins), John Austin (friend of the Witzel family), Tyler Bailey (Arlene Taylor’s nephew), Donna Blair (friend of Jill Setterlun), George Bringman (father of Bill Bringman), Greg and Sue Bukowski (friends of Sandra Vaughn), Casey (friend of Stacy Hildy), Kone Chansey (friend of Jill Setterlun), Dettman family (friends of the Redfearns), Jenny Dias Da Costa (friend of the Schleich family), Amy Dill (sister-in-law of Rhonda Berg), Donna and Gary Diven (sister and brother-in-law of Gary Sanders, Sr.), Kathleen Duda (daughter of Joan Lux and Gerard Duda), Laura Dybas (friend of Bill Bringman and Jill Setterlun), Eleanor Feld (aunt to Lisa Budris), Vern, Donna, and Kara Field (son, daughter-in-law, and granddaughter of Phyllis Field), Jeffrey Fuka (friend of Dolores Barney), Robert Groh (brother-in-law of Joan Lux and Gerard Duda), Lorna Hansen (Amy Rimington's mother), Jan Harms (Jen Mann's mother), Jan Henderson (friend of Deb and Scott Hawkins), Marilyn Hirtle (friend of Phyllis Field), Hannah Hodgson (Lois Hodgson’s daughter-in-law), Lindsay Larson (Andrea Redfearn's niece), Nadine Mandigo (sister-in-law of Shirley Swanson and Ted Mandigo), Marianna Levy (Gerard Duda’s sister), Karen McCaa (Amy Pilny’s sister), Barbara McKay (Lila Peters’ niece), Carolyn McLaughlin (friend of Dolores Barney), Michael McPeters (Aimee McPeters’ brother), Evan Thomas Mevis (Ruth Blair's grandson), Donna Mueller (sister of Jim Mueller), the Mueller family (friends of the Allens), Gail Nerison, O'Brien family (friends of Amy VanDenBrook), Jim Pacini (friend of many Epiphany members), Joseph Paumier (Ben Paumier’s father), Nancy Peterson (friend of the Tengroths), the Pickering family (friends of Chris Wilbur), Emily and Christopher Pierce (friends of Lila Peters), Eileen Pietraszek (long-time, former member of Epiphany/member of Hannah’s), Carol Raimondi (friend of Kerrie Samuelian), Amber and James Randall (friends of Gwen Becker), Kim Redlich (friend of Rod Durham), Lisa Reichardt (friend of Bill Bringman and Jill Setterlun), Rosemary (friend of Sandy Vaughn), the Rowley family (friends of Nancy Innocentini), John Ross, Colleen Schramm (friend of Nancy Innocentini), Katie Schroeder (daughter of Roy Schroeder, Jr.), Karen Scott (friend of Curt Clifford), the Specht family (friends of Andrea Redfearn), Carole Streetz (friend of Lisa Budris), Pat Swanson (Shirley Swanson’s sister-in-law), Jenna and Bryce Taft (extended family of Phyllis Field), Irma Tena (friend of the Johnson family), Lena Troye (relative of the McGonigles, McPhersons, and Tengroths), Marjorie Tuider (mother to a friend of the Halveys), Kurt Walters (relative of Bill Bringman and Jill Setterlun), Mary Witzel (Joe Witzel’s mother), David Livingstone Zijjan (Pastor of Father’s Divine Love Ministry)

STAFF DIRECTORY

Ronald W. Feltman	Pastor	Ron.Feltman@EpiphanyElmhurst.org
Julie Grafe	Pastor	Julie.Grafe@EpiphanyElmhurst.org
Joan Halvey	Office Administrator	Joan.Halvey@EpiphanyElmhurst.org
Clay Corso	Director of Music	Clay.Corso@EpiphanyElmhurst.org
Paul Halvey	Custodian	Paul.Halvey@EpiphanyElmhurst.org

In the event of a pastoral need or emergency, please contact Pastor Feltman at (339) 203-7214 or Pastor Julie Grafe at (847) 921-7036.

Thank you to everyone who submits articles to *The Star*. Articles submitted are subject to review by the editor. Any significant revisions will be discussed with the author of the article. You may email contributions to: Joan.Halvey@EpiphanyElmhurst.org Deadline for submissions for the May, 2024 edition is Friday, April 26.