UGH! A SURVEY!

Let's admit that's a typical reaction when I tell you that we will be distributing a survey to get a snapshot of our worshiping community on Sunday, February 5. Here's why I think this will be relatively painless AND very helpful to the interim process.

- You can take it in twenty minutes or less in your seats at the beginning of worship. Worship—including the sermon—will be shortened to allow you to complete the survey, worship, and leave in about the same time as worship takes on a given Sunday.

- You can quickly provide valuable information about yourself, including your theological perspectives, leadership style preferences, and your needs for growth in discipleship. Other helpful data about your living situation and engagement with the congregation will really help planners and call committee get a handle on who we are. Note that the survey is completely anonymous; you don't sign your name.

- The surveys are collected and sent to “U.S. Congregations” in Louisville, a Presbyterian-related outfit that is highly regarded among mainline denominations. They will collate the surveys, analyze the data, and compare them to the 5,000 other churches who have taken the survey. Within six weeks or so we'll get the results in the form of lots of fun Powerpoint charts and graphs along with recommendations for growth suggested by the data and the experience of other congregations. Plans are to share the results with the congregation in a Sunday afternoon forum in mid-March. You'll hear more about that later.

Some other things to note. This survey provides a picture of the worshiping community on a specific date, so only folks there on February 5 will be able to complete the form. Children younger than high school need not take the survey. Parents might bring some reading or other activity to entertain them as the survey is completed. The nursery is also available. Members, long-time visitors, and first-timers are all invited to take part.

I consistently hear concern that we (that is, Epiphany) don’t know who we are. That was a central theme in Beth Kennett’s report as well. That’s another way of saying we are unsure of the unique charge God has given us to be “church” in this place and unsure of the gifts God gives us to share.

Frankly, that’s a good place to be, because it is an open door to rewarding and meaningful conversation with God and with each other about God’s plan for us. This survey is one piece of that conversation.
During the month of January we focused on realignment, renewal and re-invigoration. We have assigned liaison positions for the key ministry teams, and Cory Phillips will serve as the point person to help fill the open positions within those teams. On January 21st, we had a mini-retreat at the church led by Pastor Doug. We looked at programs and objectives for 2017 and reinforced our esprit de corps through sharing and team-building activities. Concurrently, many hands helped with logistics and document preparation for the January 29th annual meeting, which is so important as we all begin a new year together.

Looking forward to February and early spring, we are so thankful for the work of the Transition Team members, who have dedicated their time and talents to assist Epiphany through the healing and renewal process. The survey event on Sunday, February 5th, will surely provide additional insight into the life of our faith community. We encourage all to attend and participate. Those results will help the council and the congregation fine-tune our collective vision for our church and God's will for us.

Peace be with you all,
Your Congregation Council Representatives

Great News! Leadership School for Mission and Renewal will be streamed to Epiphany, Thursday evenings, Feb. 9 - April 6, 6:30 to 8:00 in the Youth Room. Cost is $90 with scholarships available. Sign-up sheet and brochure are on the glass table between the sanctuary doors. Contact Pastor Doug or Kay Conrad for more information.

For the next snow event, please check WXII for closings. Look for “Epiphany Lutheran Church”. We apologize to those who could not find it this last time. It was listed under “The Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Epiphany”. It has now been changed.

Also, if you are on Facebook, it will be posted on our page, “Lutheran Church of the Epiphany”.

We will try to have the message on the church answering machine changed, but please do not rely on just one source.

The safety of Pennington Lane is our utmost concern. As usual, please use your best judgement when making the decision to come or not come.

Finance Team needs your help! The Epiphany Finance Team needs volunteers to help guide us through the transition to a new pastor and into the new and exciting ministry opportunities ahead. We face new challenges as we move into our second 50 years. If you have any interest in developing plans and programs for these opportunities and ways to fund them, or even if you just have an interest in reviewing how Epiphany manages its financial contributions, please join us on the second Thursday of each month at 7:00pm in the conference room across from the church offices. We welcome new ideas!
Transition Team Update
At January 22nd’s "Day to Remember" forum, we filled in a timeline in the fellowship hall, listing events and stories important to the life of the congregation. We'll leave it up a few weeks, so feel free to add an event or story you think we missed.

Join us next Sunday, Feb. 5, at 10am in the sanctuary to take the US Congregational Life Survey, part of our intentional interim process to help us understand our identity and focus. The survey will take about twenty minutes and the service will be shortened to accommodate the time. All worshipers fifteen and over, including visitors, will take the survey to provide a "snapshot" of our worshiping community. Results will be collated by the USCLS organization and compared with 5,000 other congregations' results. We'll have a forum about helpful learnings when results are available. (See front page article.)

Revised plan for 2017, same format for both second and fourth Tuesdays.

• 6:30 Host Welcome and One Song
• 6:35 House Band 15 Minutes - Bruce, Wayne, Pasquale, Don, Gay and Eric
• 7:00 Open Mic 5 Performers of 7 Minutes Each or 3 Performers of 10 minutes each
• 7:45 Featured Group 30 Minutes
• 8:15 Sing Along Jam Led by Featured Group and Performers

Tuesday Music Nights will jam on the second Tuesday of the month and perform on the fourth Tuesday of the month. February jam session will be the 14th and performance will be the 21st at 6:30pm.

Adult Encounter Faith
Winter, 2017
Want to deepen your faith by learning new stuff and by being in conversation with other seekers? Two adult classes that provide that opportunity continue in February.

The Conference Room class continues its study of the Lutheran Reformation. Ardel Meisinger will lead classes in February.

The Library Class continues with Clinton Moyer (WFU Divinity School professor of Hebrew Bible).

Please join us Sunday, February 5 at 8:45 in the fellowship hall for Encounter: Faith Together. We are going to try the breakfast potluck again. No need to sign up, just come and bring something yummy to share.

The Epiphany Readers will meet at 7:00pm on Thursday, February 16th. The book will be The Nightingale by Kristen Hannah. Discussion will be led by Kay Conrad.
Loving One Another in the EECC

Epiphany Early Childhood Center is focusing this month on love – and the love of learning. Valentine’s Day is the perfect opportunity to share what it means to “love one another” as God loves us. Children are often the ones who exhibit “true love” in the most open and basic ways. The EECC teachers have opportunities each day to model loving behavior and to lead their students through play activities that teach children how to share and get along with others.

The weather offers plenty of opportunities to create art projects, to explore the science of snow and ice, and to understand the basics of temperature. Our recent snowfall put all of this into practice.

The four year old students are preparing for their kindergarten registration/screening “tests,” which will measure their physical agility, their pre-reading skills, and overall readiness to attend kindergarten.

EECC parents were recently treated to a School Choice Panel discussion comprised of a variety of professionals representing traditional public schools, charter and magnet schools, and alternative and private school choices in the area.

All parents will be asked to conference with their child’s teachers this month to discuss their child’s progress and acquired skills gained in preschool. EECC students always do well when they move on to “big school.”

Donations this month: Ritz Crackers, 3 oz. and 5 oz. paper cups, and baby wipes.

Update on Ibrahim Food Pantry and Backpack Ministry

- Epiphany picks up “free” food—meats, fresh produce, and bakery items from Food Lion in Kernersville twice a week…averages about a ton of food a month!
- Epiphany assists about 15 families a week (about 85 people)
- The Ibrahim Food Pantry is open every week either on a Thursday afternoon or a Saturday morning
- Our neighbor, Burkhead Methodist Church, is helping us deliver backpack boxes one week each month. You may have met Jean Moore who comes on the third Sunday of each month to help pack backpack boxes and load up her car with that week’s delivery.
- Burkhead Methodist is also starting monthly collections of some of the non-food items that our Ibrahim families appreciate—shampoo, detergent, soap, and toilet paper.
- You can donate items to the Food Pantry anytime by placing items in the collection box in the Narthex under the coat rack.
- This ministry at Epiphany has inspired folks at Burkhead Methodist to start a seed fund to possibly start their own backpack ministry.

THANKS to the “guys” who pick up food at Food Lion and shop at Second Harvest Food Bank—Larry Grush, Jim Pierson, Carl Schlager…to those who volunteer at Ibrahim to distribute food—led by Jackie Pierson—and to those who deliver backpack boxes—and to the countless volunteers who pack backpack boxes on Sunday mornings at 9:30-9:45.

Still needed: Volunteers with trucks and about two hours of time on Wednesday and Thursday mornings to pick up food from Food Lion and deliver it to Ibrahim (“free” training available) and more volunteers to work at the food pantry at Ibrahim when it is open.

PLEASE consider signing up on the volunteer schedules on the Pantry doors in the Fellowship Hall.

If you want more information, contact Jackie or Jim Pierson or Larry Grush.

This ministry MAKES A DIFFERENCE in combating hunger for people in our community AND gives us an opportunity to show GOD’S LOVE IN ACTION!
We received notes of thanks from:

Crisis Control Ministry
ELCA World Hunger
Habitat for Humanity

To Everyone at Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Epiphany:
Thank you all so very much for your generous contribution from your Advent offering. Your gift will surely help us glorify God and advance our mission in Southside Winston-Salem. We are grateful to partner with you.

In Christ,
Pastor Chantal McKinney
& Everyone at Christ’s Beloved Community

GIFT OF THE MONTH ITEMS FOR FEBRUARY

EECC - Ritz crackers, 3 & 5 oz. cups, Baby Wipes
CRISIS CONTROL MINISTRY - Saltine crackers, beef stew
SAMARITAN MINISTRIES - Ground coffee (regular), peanut butter, toothbrushes, toothpaste (sample size)
RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE - Single serve meals, snacks, fresh fruit, and breakfast items; milk, creamer; sugar; paper towels; disposable hot and cold cups; Preemie clothes and diapers.
TRINITY GLEN - Kleenex, Puffs, etc.
IBRAHIM FOOD PANTRY - Shampoo, laundry soap, dish soap (all available at Dollar Tree)

General Operating Fund – November 2016

Income $ 40,179
Expense $ 44,982
Net for Month $(4,803)
Net for Year $(7,575)

General Operating Fund – December 2016

Income $65,596
Expense $43,545
Net for Month $22,411
Net for Year $14,836

One of these pictures is not like the other.
Can you tell which?
February Servers

Altar Guild
Kathy Pressley and Laura Spain

Congregational Care
Donna Bridger and Schuyler Darstein (meals)
Diana & Emily Nicholson (cards)

Head Usher
Phil Golden and Terry Wiley

Assisting Ministers
2/5 Susan Bowers
2/12 Karl Florian
2/19 Jim Henricks
2/26 Arnold Herbison

Acolytes
2/5 Luke Sherman
2/12 Emily Toborg
2/19 Tyler Toborg
2/26 Emily Nicholson

Lector
2/5 Lew Saphar
2/12 Dan Meckley
2/19 Lee Ann Meckley
2/26 Joe Middleton

Communion Assistants
2/5 Shelley Hood / Elizabeth Horton
2/12 Al Baker / Zach Baker / Chuck Kraft
2/19 Catherine & Jane Lyerly
2/26 Gay Lande / Kelly Lichtenhan

Greeters
2/5 John & Shelley Hood
2/12 Elizabeth Horton and Catherine Lyerly
2/19 Bert & Dot Joines
2/26 Norm & Kathy Knecht

Open/Close Church
2/5 Karl Florian
2/12 Schuyler Darstein
2/19 Phil Golden
2/26 Mike Spain

Flowers
2/5 Al & Pat Baker
2/12 Open
2/19 Open
2/26 Carol Middleton

Sanctuary Light
2/5 John & Judy Mountjoy
2/12 Marty Wylie
2/19 Joe & Brenda Middleton
2/26 Bruce & Gay Lande
February Birthdays

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>John Hood</td>
<td>2/1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jonathan Sloop</td>
<td>2/1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Zach Baker</td>
<td>2/2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sawyer Walters</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sloan Walters</td>
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<tr>
<td>Michelle Toborg</td>
<td>2/4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lois Steichen</td>
<td>2/5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jim Pierson</td>
<td>2/6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Denise White</td>
<td>2/8</td>
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<tr>
<td>Paul Halvorson</td>
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<td>Chad Kraft</td>
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<tr>
<td>Megan McLaughlin</td>
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<tr>
<td>Luke Sherman</td>
<td>2/14</td>
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<td>Susan Schmitt</td>
<td>2/17</td>
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<td>Shirley Halvorson</td>
<td>2/18</td>
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<td>Anna Wellborn</td>
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<tr>
<td>June Moore</td>
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<tr>
<td>Brad Alson</td>
<td>2/22</td>
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<td>Kaitlyn Mullan</td>
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<td>Nicole Kaluzne</td>
<td>2/23</td>
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<td>Lauren Walsh</td>
<td>2/23</td>
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<tr>
<td>Travis Gerdes</td>
<td>2/28</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kathleen Malone</td>
<td>2/28</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jeremy Sloop</td>
<td>2/29</td>
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February Baptisms

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>John Beeg</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kevin Forrest</td>
<td>2/1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Linda Konkler</td>
<td>2/1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Evan Munday</td>
<td>2/1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Judy Mountjoy</td>
<td>2/2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mitzi McLean</td>
<td>2/3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hayden Sloop</td>
<td>2/12</td>
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<tr>
<td>Karly Bronk</td>
<td>2/14</td>
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<tr>
<td>Joe Cannon</td>
<td>2/21</td>
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<tr>
<td>David Thrasher</td>
<td>2/21</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chris Schultz</td>
<td>2/22</td>
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Leaders of church & state, especially

Our Congregation Council: President Obama
Bishops Elizabeth Eaton: President-Elect Trump
Bishop Timothy Smith: Governor McCrory
Pastor Doug Kearney: Mayor Joines

Our sister congregation and our missionary in Mexico

The people of Mupini Parish, Namibia and Pastor David Brondos

Active duty military personnel

Jay Collette: Duncan Miller
Tim Hawkins: Nick Puzzoli
Randal Middleton: David Schultz

For those who rejoice

Ardel & Judy Meisinger at the birth of their granddaughter, Collins Marie Meisinger on January 9. Grandma is doing fine.

June Moore at the birth of her great-granddaughter, Ila Joyce.

Chris Schultz at the birth of his grandson, Levi Reese. Proud parents are David & Annie Schultz.

The family and friends of Brian Fenstemaker at his safe return from deployment.

Family & friends of the congregation in need

Alyssa M. Darstein: New Address & Phone
Joyce Kohfeldt: No Email
Martha Stahl: New Phone
Becky Yarbarough: New Address

Please call the church office for information.

Our Christian love and sympathy to the family and friends of

Leora Lynn
Dwight Crump
The Rev. William T. Parson
Dona Kelker
Maxie Dessaints

Barbara Coley, Forest Heights Senior Living Community
Mary Helen Fisher, Trinity Elms
William Garris, Oak Forest Health & Rehab
Marge Leister, Homestead Hills
Helen Preston, Homestead Hills
Verdell Thomas, Forsyth Court
Martee Umberger, Trinity Elms

“LIFE IS NOT MEASURED BY HOW MUCH YOU OWN.”
LUKE 12:15, NLT

Dottie Bush
Cole Lippard
Robert Walker
Congratulations to June Moore on the birth of her great-granddaughter, Ila June.

We also congratulate Ardel & Judy Meisinger on the birth of their granddaughter, Collins Marie Meisinger who was born on January 9th. Grandpa is doing fine.....

And this just in...Chris Schultz’s third grandchild, Levi Reece Schultz was born on January 27th in Guam, where he resides with his parents, David & Annie Schultz and his brother and sister. Here is something to think about...Chris called me at 10:40am on the 27th and Levi was born just before noon on the 27th. Is Chris psychic?

Michael Rothkopf recently received an award for Teaching Excellence at the UNC School of the Arts. He is a professor in the School of Music. Congrats, Michael!

Chris Schultz is in her second year on council. She is the Liaison for the Endowment Committee. Chris is the co-owner of Triad Electronics, a consumer electronics repair shop. She has one son, one daughter-in-law, and one daughter along with three grandchildren. Chris enjoys reading, gardening, mosaics, and has started taking a basket weaving class.

Leann Pace has been a member of Epiphany since 2011. She is in her second year on church council and she is the liaison to the Outreach committee. She also leads the Senior High class during Encounter Faith. Leann is a professor Wake Forest in the Department for the Study of Religions. She spends every summer working on archaeological digs in Israel or Turkey. She has one daughter and one son. In her spare time Leann enjoys gardening, adding native plants with bees and butterflies in mind. She also enjoys running and taking classes at the Y. Leann is thankful for her church family and is looking forward to seeing what we do together in the next few years.

We’re excited to share that in 2016 over 335,000 Thrivent members chose to direct Choice Dollars® to more than 32,000 churches, schools and other nonprofits, including Epiphany Early Childhood Center, through Thrivent Choice®. Based on member recommendations, Epiphany Early Childhood Center received $1,203 in charitable outreach funding in 2016 and Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Epiphany received $683. The Thrivent Choice program helps members of Thrivent Financial make a positive impact in their communities.

If you are a Thrivent member and would like to designate Choice Dollars® to either EECC or Epiphany, contact your Thrivent agent. 2016 Choice Dollars® expire on March 31st.
Okay, so what does a bishop do anyway?
Or for that matter, what does a synod do? I've noticed that several of my colleagues regularly post their weekly schedule on Facebook or in a newsletter. I won't bore you each week with that just yet, but it might be helpful for you to have this snapshot into my month of January.

January 1: Worship with my wife, Wendy, at my home congregation of St. John's, Salisbury (a rare opportunity—about four times a year), then take communion to Pastor Dan Phillips who is hospitalized in Winston-Salem with stage 4 pancreatic cancer.

January 2: Home for the official New Year’s holiday, work on sermon outlines for the January/February Synod Partners, Phase Two worship services and for this coming Sunday’s preaching at Our Saviour, Southern Pines.

January 3: Office day, catch up on snail mail from holidays, all-team staff meeting, evening meeting with a congregation council in response to allegations of clergy misconduct (these sometimes take 400 hours or more of total synod staff time in investigation, support, consultation, and guidance).

January 4-7: At the annual ELCA Academy of Bishops, this year in Charleston, SC, as part of our 65 bishops’ commitment to continuing education, even as the ELCA Church Council is now requiring 40 hrs./year for all rostered ministers.

January 8: Preach at Our Saviour, Southern Pines.

January 9-11: Office days, including four supervisory meetings with staff, weekly chapel service on Tuesday, Call Process meeting (usually every Wednesday), begin reading and responding to the expected 300+ “Annual Rostered Ministers’ Reports to the Bishop,” possible interviews for assistant to the bishop.

January 12: Help lead Boundary Training at Our Father, Greensboro. (Boundary Training is required of all rostered ministers every three years).

January 13: Scheduled day off, which usually means preparing sermon for the coming Sunday, as this week.

January 14: Ordination of Carolyn Remaklus at Good Shepherd, Raleigh. Drive to Fayetteville for overnight.

January 15: Preach at St. James, Fayetteville, then to Wilmington for Emily Clamser’s consecration as deacon.

January 16-18: Morning in the office, then attend my old (29 years) Confirmation Cluster retreat at Lutheridge followed by an ILCO (Costa Rica Companion Synod) meeting and dinner at Lenoir-Rhyne University (LRU).

January 19: In the office. The third Thursday is a regularly-scheduled appointment day—every hour on the hour all day.

January 20: My regular Friday off (sermonizing for Sunday), Inauguration Day, and my birthday (I’ll be 57!)


January 22: In the morning, preach at Holy Trinity, Raleigh; afternoon installation of Pastor Wolfgang Herz-Lane, at Christ the King, Cary.

January 23: In the office for a supervisory meeting and correspondence day.

January 24: Help lead Boundary Workshop Basics event at the synod office.

January 25: Dr. Mindy Makant’s Consecration as deacon during morning worship at Grace Chapel, LRU.

January 26: Office day to catch up on correspondence, sign call & transfer paperwork, appointments.

January 27: To Asheville to help with twin grandsons and prepare for next day’s Consecration.

January 28: Consecration of Katie Rivers at St. Mark’s, Asheville.
January 29: Synod Partners, Phase Two event at Grace, Hendersonville.

January 30-31: In the office to prepare for upcoming Bold Like Jesus weekend, with several supervisory and other appointments.

AND...as with all of us, more than half my time will be spent opening mail, responding to phone calls, Facebook messages, and emails not yet on the calendar, including probably half a dozen or more evening call process, conflict-addressing, or strategizing/planning meetings in congregations!

New Year’s blessings and hope to all!

Walking with you,

Timothy M. Smith

Bishop Timothy Smith

North Carolina Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God’s work. Our hands.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sun</th>
<th>Mon</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Every Sunday</td>
<td>8:45 am</td>
<td>Encounter: Faith</td>
<td>10 am</td>
<td>EECC Chapel</td>
<td>6 pm</td>
<td>Girl Scouts (FH)</td>
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<td>9:45 am</td>
<td>Backpack Assembly</td>
<td>7 pm</td>
<td>Choir</td>
<td>7 pm</td>
<td>OWLs at Trinity Glen</td>
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<td></td>
<td>10 am</td>
<td>Worship</td>
<td>8:45 am</td>
<td>Encounter: Faith Together</td>
<td>11:30 am</td>
<td>Threads of Love</td>
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<td>12:30 pm</td>
<td>Staff Lunch</td>
<td>11 am</td>
<td>Bible Study</td>
<td>10 am</td>
<td>EECC Chapel</td>
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<td>3 pm</td>
<td>Staff Meeting</td>
<td>6:15 pm</td>
<td>LSM</td>
<td>7 pm</td>
<td>Choir</td>
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<td></td>
<td>6 pm</td>
<td>Handbells</td>
<td>6:30 pm</td>
<td>Tuesday Night Music Jam</td>
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<td>Dorothy Circle</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>10 am</td>
<td>Mary-Martha Cir.</td>
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<td>Bible Study</td>
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<td>EECC Chapel</td>
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<td>6:15 pm</td>
<td>LSM</td>
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<td>Worship Comm.</td>
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<td>Choir</td>
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<td>7 pm</td>
<td>Executive Comm.</td>
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<td>Choir</td>
<td>9 pm</td>
<td>Epiphany Readers (AL)</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>11 pm</td>
<td>Valentine's Day</td>
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<td>10 am</td>
<td>6 pm</td>
<td>Girl Scouts (FH)</td>
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<td>Mary-Martha Cir.</td>
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<td>Bible Study</td>
<td>6:30 pm</td>
<td>Leadership School for Mission &amp; Renewal (CM)</td>
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<td>LSM</td>
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<td>Worship Comm.</td>
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<td>Leadership School for Mission &amp; Renewal (CM)</td>
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<td>11 am</td>
<td>Bible Study</td>
<td>9:30-11:30 am</td>
<td>EECC Kids in Motion (FH)</td>
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<td>Choir</td>
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<td>6:15 pm</td>
<td>LSM</td>
<td>9:30-11:30 am</td>
<td>EECC Kids in Motion (FH)</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>3 pm</td>
<td>Staff Meeting</td>
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<td>Girl Scouts (FH)</td>
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<td>Congregation Council</td>
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<td>Epiphany Readers (AL)</td>
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<td>Bible Study</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>6:30 pm</td>
<td>Girl Scouts (FH)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6:15 pm</td>
<td>LSM</td>
<td>9:30-11:30 am</td>
<td>EECC Kids in Motion (FH)</td>
<td>6:30 pm</td>
<td>Leadership School for Mission &amp; Renewal (CM)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10 pm</td>
<td>Executive Comm.</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>3 pm</td>
<td>Staff Meeting</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>11 am</td>
<td>Bible Study</td>
<td>6:30 pm</td>
<td>Leadership School for Mission &amp; Renewal (CM)</td>
<td>6 pm</td>
<td>Handbells</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6:15 pm</td>
<td>LSM</td>
<td>7 pm</td>
<td>Choir</td>
<td>7 pm</td>
<td>Choir</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>10 pm</td>
<td>Preside</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3 pm</td>
<td>Staff Meeting</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>11 am</td>
<td>10 am</td>
<td>EECC Chapel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6 pm</td>
<td>EECC Comm.</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>10 am</td>
<td>EECC Chapel</td>
<td>6 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6 pm</td>
<td>Handbells</td>
<td>11 am</td>
<td>EECC Chapel</td>
<td>7 pm</td>
<td>Choir</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7 pm</td>
<td>Congregation Council</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>6:15 pm</td>
<td>Evening Threads of Love</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>23</td>
<td>6:30 pm</td>
<td></td>
<td>9:30-11:30 am</td>
<td>EECC Kids in Motion (FH)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>24</td>
<td>3:30-8:30 pm</td>
<td></td>
<td>9:30-11:30 am</td>
<td>EECC Kids in Motion (FH)</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>3:30-8:30 pm</td>
<td>Girl Scouts (FH &amp; Kitchen)</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>Bold Women's Sunday</td>
<td>12:30 pm</td>
<td>Staff Meeting</td>
<td>6 pm</td>
<td>Handbells</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6 pm</td>
<td>Handbells</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>11 am</td>
<td>Bible Study</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6:15 pm</td>
<td>LSM</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>6:15 pm</td>
<td>Evening Threads of Love</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6:30 pm</td>
<td>Tuesday Night Music</td>
<td></td>
<td>6:30 pm</td>
<td>Leadership School for Mission &amp; Renewal (CM)</td>
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</table>
For the past two years the theme for Women of the ELCA has been **I Am Created – Called – Empowered**, words taken from our Purpose Statement. The theme for the next two years (2017-2018) logically follows being created, called and empowered and it is **Commissioned to Go**.

In Matthew 28:16-20 are the words sometimes referred to as the “great commission.” Following the resurrection, Jesus appeared to the eleven disciples and sent them to “make disciples of all nations” with the assurance that he would always be with them. In a similar fashion, we are also commissioned.

So what is our commission in this day and age? If we are **Commissioned to Go**, where should we go and what should we do? Let me list for you a few events scheduled where we might be **Commissioned to Go**.

- February 4, 2017 Epiphany’s Executive WELCA Board Meeting
- February 7 & 9, 2017 Epiphany’s Circle meetings
- February 11, 2017 One day Retreat at Trinity Elms
- February 26, 2017 Bold Women’s Sunday
- March 10-12, 2017 Spring Retreat at Kure Beach
- April 1, 2017 Salem Conference Gathering Emmanuel, High Point
- July 13-16 Triennial Gathering, Minneapolis, MN

These events are where we can go, and we can learn from one another by sharing our experiences, sharing and deepening our faith, and studying as well as playing together. For 2017 join us as we are **Commissioned to Go**.

Sisters in Christ,
Kathy Knecht, President
Epiphany Expression, WELCA