

Volume MMXXIII Number 6 June 2023

The Monthly Newsletter of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Epiphany An ELCA Congregation

> God calls us to: "Grow our relationship with God, connect with each other, and serve the world."



Dear Epiphany Disciples,

I'd like to share a couple of things: First, this past Sunday was a significant Sunday at Epiphany. In addition to being the important festival of Pentecost, when we celebrate the Spirit giving birth to the church, we also approved

contracting with Pastor Mike Ward and Deacon Mitzie Schafer from GSB Fundraising to help us with our upcoming capital campaign to renew our church home and replace our pipe organ.

While we took an important step on Sunday, that was only the first step of many. Over the next few weeks, Epiphany's campaign manager, Emily Phillips, and I will be talking with Pastor Mike and Deacon Mitzie to set the stage for our campaign. Some of this work will be done behind the scenes and some of the work you'll hear about during the next several months. All the work that will be done is to help us to be successful and, most importantly, to make this a faithfilled experience.

Because there are a lot of parts and pieces that go into a capital campaign, I want to invite you to prayerfully consider how you can use your gifts and skills. There are many jobs, and your help will be needed.

One of my core beliefs is that God gives us everything we need to make ministry happen in this place and I trust that we'll see that happen during this season in our church's life.

Second, it's summertime! I enjoy this time of the year. In the church, summer means there's a different rhythm to our life. Notice what I didn't say. I didn't say that things slow down. We have lots of things happening. The week after school ends, our children will be gathering with our friends at Augsburg for the Lutheroad Day Camp. We're responsible for several things, including providing snacks and having people read stories to children so the counselors can have a chance to have a brief respite after lunch. If you can help, sign up in the Narthex or talk with Lauren Saldaña.

Towards the end of July we'll be saying goodbye to Vicar Christina. She's done an excellent job this past year and I give God thanks for the ways you've helped her learn and grow in her pastoral identity. It is an honor to be an internship congregation. We've helped launch some wonderful pastors and I have no doubt Vicar Christina will serve the Church with distinction. In August, we'll be welcoming a new staff member who will be working as our Director of Youth and Campus Ministries. I'll have more on that next month, but in the meantime, I want you to get excited because she's going to do an outstanding job!

Add in that planning for the fall, staff vacations, and other things, and it's a busy time!

Lastly, I want to give you an update on how we will be distributing Communion at Epiphany starting Sunday, July 2nd. Since the pandemic, we've offered prewrapped Communion elements. We've now reached a point where it's time to return to our pre-pandemic practice and stop offering the prewrapped elements. We have very few people who take advantage of them and because they have shelf life, we have had to throw away several packages.

In addition, starting on July 2nd, we will return to having Communion distributed at the altar rail the first Sunday of the month. The other Sundays in the month we will have Communion at the head of the aisle.

Thanks, Epiphany, for all the ways you live out our call to grow, connect, and serve. I'm glad we're serving in Jesus' name together.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Runell



We have had several requests for a new church directory. In order to make it as up-to-date as possible, please contact Mickey in the church office with any new contact information, such as:

you no longer have a landline, new mobile number, new address, or if you do not want your contact information to be in the directory.

Also, if you have not previously sent in a picture, please do so. The family directory will show the picture of the head of household, so if you would like your whole family in the picture, please send one. This is a great way for new members to get to know people.



Your Congregation Council met on May 15th.

We opened the May meeting with a devotion and discussion of the stresses of summer.

Some practical tips to keep summer stress at bay include:

- Focus on all the good things God has done for us so far this year, instead of the challenges of the summer months.
- Remain calm and pray for God's peace when the demands of life seem overwhelming, and
- Ask God to give us rest and strength when we begin to feel stretched thin and worn out.

The Council met with a candidate for the open Youth and Campus Ministry Coordinator.

Our church finances continue to be very sound. For the first four months of 2023, the Church's net income is \$26,605. Revenue is off budget by approximately 2% but expenses are well below budget. The EECC has received additional grants from the Federal Government this year. The grant funds have been moved to our restricted and trust funds. Even without these funds, revenue from caregiving is good and normal operational expenses are below budget and the net for EECC is a positive income of \$10,777.

Now that we are approaching the halfway point of 2023, Council and the other committees will soon begin to discuss and plan for 2024. More information about these processes will be forthcoming.

> On behalf of the Congregation Council, Terry Wiley

## Lay Eucharistic Ministry Training

After a couple of years of being paused due to the pandemic, we are working to revive our Lay Eucharistic Ministry. This ministry brings communion to our homebound or hospitalized members, bringing an important part of worship to those who are una



important part of worship to those who are unable to be with us in person during worship.

If you are interested in serving in this ministry, please join us for a short training session on June 4th, after worship and the reception for our graduating senior. We will meet in the adult library and talk through this ministry, how to prepare a communion kit, and discuss what these visits can look like.

If you are interested in attending, or if you have any questions, please let Vicar Christina know at Vicar@EpiphanyWS.org.

The Epiphany Readers' next meeting by Zoom will be at 7pm on Thursday, June 22. The book that will be discussed in June is *The Book of Lost Friends* by Lisa Wingate. All are welcome to join in the discussion.



Join Zoom Meeting https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83484040336? pwd=NVBsSUNKaVBPeWJsZzZZQk1sZkVwUT09

Meeting ID: 834 8404 0336 Passcode: 273113 One tap mobile +19292056099,,83484040336#,,,,\*273113# US (New York) +13017158592,,83484040336#,,,,\*273113# US (Washington DC)



Thank you to everyone who donated items to the North Carolina Diaper Bank during the month of May. In June, Women of the ELCA invites the congregation to join us in making donations to the Domestic Violence Shelter in Forsyth County. Domestic violence affects people in every community regardless of age, economic status, sexual orientation, gender, race, religion, or nationality. Please look at their wish list later in the newsletter to see the variety of items that they need.

Dates:

June 8	11:30 am	<i>Nora Deal Circle</i> Picnic at Kathleen Tucker's house
June 13	10:00 am	<i>Mary Martha Circle</i> Fellowship Hall
June 13	7:30 pm	<i>Dorothy Circle</i> Zoom



Next meeting: June 21, 2023, 1:30 pm Fellowship Hall





# Help provide snacks for Lutheroad Day Camp!

Lutheroad Day Camp is coming to Winston-Salem the week of **June 12-16**! Augsburg Lutheran is hosting Lutheroad this year and providing meals for the counselors, so let's show our Epiphany kindness by providing snacks

for the campers. Each day we will have a morning snack and an afternoon snack. Please sign up in the church lobby if you are able to provide a snack, or "sponsor" a snack with a gift card to a grocery store. You may bring the snack to Augsburg the morning of, or to make it easier, drop it off in Epiphany's kitchen by 12:00 on Sunday, June 11th and it will be transported to Augsburg. Please provide enough peanut and egg free snacks for around 40 campers. Examples are graham crackers, goldfish, pretzels, fruit/veggies with ranch, yogurt, and cheese. We are also looking for volunteers to read aloud to the children during their quiet time. Email or call Lauren Saldaña with any questions (<u>lsaldana@epiphanyws.org</u> or 919-218-4784).

# Water and the Word: An Intergenerational VBS

This summer, I invite you to join us for an intergenerational VBS spread over five different sessions. The theme of this year's VBS is "Water and the Word". Have you ever stopped and thought about how many times water is referenced in the bible? Water is a life-giving and sustaining resource for all living things. Because water is so essential for life here on earth, it is a perfect analogy to the love, grace, and eternal life we receive from God. We will explore five different aspects of water in the Bible this summer with activities, crafts, learning experiences, and even a fun water-related celebration at the end of our time. We will also have snacks and refreshments! This VBS is for all ages - there will be enjoyable components for everyone! Our schedule is below, but is subject to change due to weather or other circumstances. Keep an eye on the weekly STAR and emails for times and any changes:

Sunday, June 25th - Remember your Baptism Sunday, July 9th - Come, All You Who Are Thirsty Sunday, July 30th - A Clean Heart Sunday, August 6th - Water in the Wilderness Sunday August 13 - Celebration of Life-Giving Water

For our first session on Baptism, please email Lauren Saldaña at <u>lsaldana@epiphanyws.org</u> with baby pictures of yourself, children, or other family members. If you have pictures of your Baptism or your children's Baptism, please share those as well. They will be featured in a slideshow for a fun guessing game activity!

# WATER AND THE WORD

an intergenerational VBS series over 5 sessions this summer – Come to one or come to all!

SUNDAY JUNE 25 - REMEMBER YOUR BAPTISM SUNDAY JULY 9 - COME, ALL YOU WHO ARE THIRSTY SUNDAY JULY 30 - A CLEAN HEART SUNDAY AUGUST 6 - WATER IN THE WILDERNESS SUNDAY AUGUST 13 - CELEBRATION OF LIFE-GIVING WATER

CHECK WEEKLY STAR FOR TIMES/LOCATIONS

#### For Caregivers

God, our refuge and strength, we thank you for the compassion you infuse in your people, especially those who care for the physical and emotional needs of friends, family, and strangers. Strengthen all caregivers in body and spirit. Refresh them when weary; console them when anxious; comfort them in grief; and hearten them in discouragement. Giver of peace, enlarge our patience and enable us to embrace all those who live with difficulties we may one day share; in Jesus' name. Amen.

> (a prayer from All Creation Sings @sundaysandseasons.com)

#### GIFT OF THE MONTH ITEMS FOR JUNE

**CRISIS CONTROL MINISTRY -** Canned meats (salmon, beef, Spam tuna), saltine crackers

SAMARITAN MINISTRIES - Ketchup, mayonnaise, Tylenol, Ibuprofen

**RONALD McDONALD HOUSE -** Paper towels; 13-gallon trash bags; individual snacks & drinks; <u>https://rmhcpt.org/</u><u>make-a-difference/wish-list/</u>

TRINITY GLEN - Nail files, nail polish

**TRINITY ELMS** - Fronts of greeting cards, baby lotion, body wash, bath items, deodorant, snacks, note cards

**CBC FOOD PANTRY -** Volunteers to take food donations from church to CBC and to work stocking shelves/ distributing food twice a month

**EECC -** Cheerios, raisins, applesauce (individual, plain) **IBRAHAM FOOD PANTRY -** Diapers/pullups sizes 2-6



The EECC is so proud to celebrate the young people we are sending off to kindergarten this fall. In the COVID years we were limited by the restrictions as to how we could honor the children. This year, on Friday, June 2 we have a great

group of 16 young people from Ms. Riley and Ms. Stephanie's classes who will be preforming for their families in the Sanctuary. You are invited to come to the event on June 2, 2023 at 4:40 pm. We will miss the children and the great families leaving us this year. Like our butterflies taking their first flight, we are confident these children will meet the new challenges of kindergarten with confidence, social/emotional finesse, and boundless energy!

The EECC staff is at the heart of what makes the program success. Their skill, talent, and perseverance have made it possible to move forward when other facilities are closing their doors. The growth and guidance for the students' success is based on the planning and dedication of this special staff. The staff and I would like to thank the church staff for supporting the faith development of the children of EECC by sharing Wednesday Chapel. The adults have the opportunity to learn from the children, as much as they share! Pastor Russell, Vicar Christina, and Lauren Saldaña have truly blessed us this past year.

The EECC was proud to have supported several charitable opportunities this year: Crisis Control Cereal Drive and the Second Harvest Food Bank. We have sponsored the LSM of Wake with gingerbread houses to make for the Christmas holiday and donating snacks to Lutheroad this summer.

Special thanks to several of the church family who graciously acted as volunteers for the busy days during my health crisis and hospitalization in January and February. The staff and I count it a pleasure to serve with you for the children. Our EECC Committee has made great strides in helping manage the NC Stabilization Grant and the use of the funds we have been awarded with playground updates and some great new toys. The EECC has been blessed by prayers and support in so many ways. It is truly a gift of ministry that we serve together at Epiphany.

We are planning for an exciting and memorable summer at EECC and look forward to our 28th school year, 2023-2024. Thank you for your prayers and acts of service!

> In His Service, Lisa Nichols, Director



#### Summer Break for Ibraham Support Teams

The month of May was a busy month for the Outreach Committee. Outreach Committee continues to support the food pantry at CBC by picking up shipments of food at Second Harvest Food Bank, unloading the truck, and stocking shelves, refrigerators, and freezers for their food distributions. Thanks to Lew Saphar, Larry Grush, Phil Golden, Ardel Meisinger, Joe Middleton, and Jackie and Jim Pierson for the many hours of physical labor they donate each month to CBC. Epiphany will continue to help out at the CBC Food Pantry all summer long. They are always looking for extra sets of hands and the summer might be a good time to donate your time to experience the joy of serving our community and helping to alleviate hunger in Forsyth county.

Outreach Committee also supplied a Teacher Appreciation Luncheon to the teachers and staff at Ibraham Elementary in May, along with white t-shirts to all the students at Ibraham, which were painted by the children with their class names and colors for Field Day.

The Ibraham Elementary School Support Teams will have a summer break from mid-June through mid-August. The final double batch of weekend bags of food will be delivered the first week in June and the final food pantry at Ibraham for this school year will be on June 8<sup>th</sup>. Thanks to all those who supply plastic bags (Cannons), who place the ziplock bags in those plastic bags on Sunday mornings (Pat Nuss, Diana Stindt, Goldens, Piersons, Ardel Meisinger, etc.), to the Piersons who coordinate deliveries to the school, and to Mike Spain, Pastor Russell, Lew Saphar, and the Piersons who pick up backpacks at Second Harvest and load them into the backpack closet. Thanks to all the folks who stock shelves and distribute food on pantry Thursdays—Janet Hardy, Piersons, Mohrmanns, and Tellefsens! Thanks for your dedication and hard work this school year!

Want to do something special for Ibraham students in Ms. Wall's classroom? She has posted a Donor's Choose idea for Lego sets to use in her classroom. Any donation amount will



help her reach her remaining goal of \$385. Go to <u>Ms. Wall's Lego Donors Choose Project</u>. If you need assistance with Donor's Choose, contact Jackie Pierson at <u>jackieraep@gmail.com</u>.

If you have milestones to celebrate, please contact Mickey Miller.









Congratulations to Glenn & Wanda Rabb who celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on May 6th!



Assistant Lector Oliver Imboden helps his dad, Matt, during worship.

Alexander Stephen Wright, grandson of Marty Wylie, graduated with Honors from The University of Tennessee Law School on May 18, 2023 with a Juris Doctor



degree. After he passes the Bar, he will be practicing at a large law firm in Murfreesboro, Tennessee.

Message from Larry and Nancy Grush:

"I've been overwhelmed and humbled by the response to my medical crisis. Significant challenges remain ahead of me, but you have certainly done your part and the doctors are pleased with my progress.

God Speed to each of you."

#### 2023 Congregation Council

Officers: Chris Schultz, Pres. Betty Benardo, VP Terry Wiley, Treas. Mark Tellefsen, Sec. Non-Council Officers:

Mickey Miller, Fin. Sec. Jackie Pierson, Asst. Tr. Payroll

Members:

Patti Deal Matt Imboden Sarah Lischer

Dan Meckley Diana Stindt Pastor Russell Peek



*Calvin Sherman* is graduating from Atkins High School in June. He (and his clarinet) are heading to the University of St. Andrews in Scotland, where he plans to study International Relations and English. Calvin will offer his baked goods at the Fairgrounds farmers market again this summer--it takes a lot

of muffins to get to Scotland! Join us for a reception honoring Calvin after worship on June 4th, everyone welcome!.

Josh Golden graduated with a D.M.D. degree from the University of New England in Portland, Maine, in May. He plans to pursue a career in oral and maxillofacial surgery. In preparation for a residency, he will intern at the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center in Oklahoma City for the next year beginning



in June. He has really enjoyed his time in the northeast, experiencing all the seasons of New England and working in clinics in rural Vermont, New Hampshire and northern Maine as part of the dental school curriculum. He was especially honored to be chosen as the graduate school student representative for the UNE board of trustees during 2022-2023, and is very excited about experiencing a new part of the country in the upcoming year.

Ministers, All the People of Epiphany Pastor. Pastor Russell Peek Email: pastorrussell@epiphanyws.org Vicar, Christina Nesslage Email: vicar@epiphanyws.org Director of Music, Patryck Nuss E-mail: music@epiphanyws.org Director of Children's Ministries, Lauren Saldaña E-mail: lsaldana@epiphanyws.org Early Childhood Center Director, Lisa Nichols E-mail: lisanichols@epiphanyws.org, 336-768-2140 Office Manager & Financial Secretary, Mickey Miller E-mail: epiphanystaff@epiphanyws.org Monthly STAR Newsletter Editor, E-mail: epiphanystaff@epiphanyws.org Epiphany - Phone: 336-765-6211 Fax: 336-765-1754 Epiphany E-mail: epiphanystaff@epiphanyws.org Web Site: www.epiphanyws.org

# If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it. Tohn 14:14 NRSV

#### LET US PRAY FOR ... Leaders of church & state, especially

**Our Congregation Council** Christ's Beloved Community Bishop Elizabeth Eaton Bishop Timothy Smith

Pastor Russell Peek President Joe Biden Governor Roy Cooper Mayor Allen Joines

All victims of war and any form of violence

Our sister congregations and our missionary in Mexico The people of Mupini Parish, Namibia and Pr. David Brondos. The people of Christ's Beloved Community.

Active duty military personnel, especially

Travis Gerdes Randal Middleton David Schultz

#### For those who rejoice, especially

Joe & Ann Cannon at the birth of their great-granddaughter, Grace on May 21st. Parents are Ashley & Max Morris.

#### Family & friends of the congregation in need, especially

Judy Allison	Robin Hoots	Karen Rose
Thomas & Mary Cannon	Jean Jarvis	Shelly Saldaña
Clark Family	Sebastian Kahabek	Janie Sapen
Rose Debruhl	Greg Kurosko	Jim Schwartz
Sylvia Ann Derrick	Katie Lippard	Nora Schweitzer
AJ Devan	Chad Marion	Liz Shumate
Carl Dubose	Sue Mathis	Sue Slezak
Emily Ferriter	Linda McKenna	Germaine Smith
Howard Flichman	Terry McKinney	Michele Stanfield
Tara-Lynn Flick	Kendra Miller	Earl Taylor
Andrea Francos	Angie Mitchell	Laura Turlington
Pat & Joanne Gill	Allison Morris	Alan Vestal
Jonathan Gomez	Ellen Neidemeyer	Emma Wester
Carolyn Graham	Robert & Mary Peak	Nicole Williams
Linda Grale	Andy Powless	Ruochong Wong
Pam Holcomb	Jane Ritchie	John Wooding

#### Members in need, especially

The Rev. John Beea Sharen Bond Ann Cannon Kay Conrad Larry Grush

Chad Kraft Harold Landis Jim Lippard Wanda Rabb

#### Our Christian love and sympathy to the family and friends of

PJ Lenihan David Lambert Ade Neidemeyer Preston Hinebaugh



Elizabeth Horton, Homestead Hills Bert Joines. Homestead Hills Doris Kent, Forsyth Court Sue Muhler, Brookdale Senior Living Carl Schlager, The Stratford, High Point

HOMEBOUND MEMBERS

Bonnie Bryant Cole Lippard Polly Rector

Virginia Schmitz Robert Walker

# June Birthdays

Kathleen Tucker	6/1
Clinton Moyer	6/2
Bob Moser	6/3
Ann Shideler	6/4
Bert Joines	6/7
Phyllis Cochrane	6/8
Patti Deal	6/8
Michael Schwamb	6/9
Kevin Forrest	6/11
Brenda Middleton	6/11
Justin Siris	6/12
Bob Martin	6/13
Bradley Davis	6/14
Rebekah Spain	6/14
Phil Golden	6/16
Alice Harris	6/16
Russell Peek	6/20
Shelley Hood	6/21
Sharen Bond	6/22
Beth Craft	6/22
Debbie Christensen	6/23
Joe Middleton	6/23
Linda Lee Tonnesen	6/23
Jean Mock	6/24
Stephen P. Kaluzne	6/27

### June Baptisms

Ray Mohrmann	6/1
Erin Mullane	6/1
Janet Wallace	6/1
Eric Tacik	6/4
Jim Pierson	6/6
Susan Tellefsen	6/6
Michael Schwamb	6/7
Nancy Grush	6/11
Lauren Saldaña	6/15
Liz Tacik	6/21
Morgan Tacik	6/21
Brian Oldland	6/23
Haley Oldland	6/27
Bill Flichman	6/28
Kathleen Tucker	6/28
Ava Phillips	6/29
Oliver Imboden	6/30



Carole Robins: Call the church office for information.



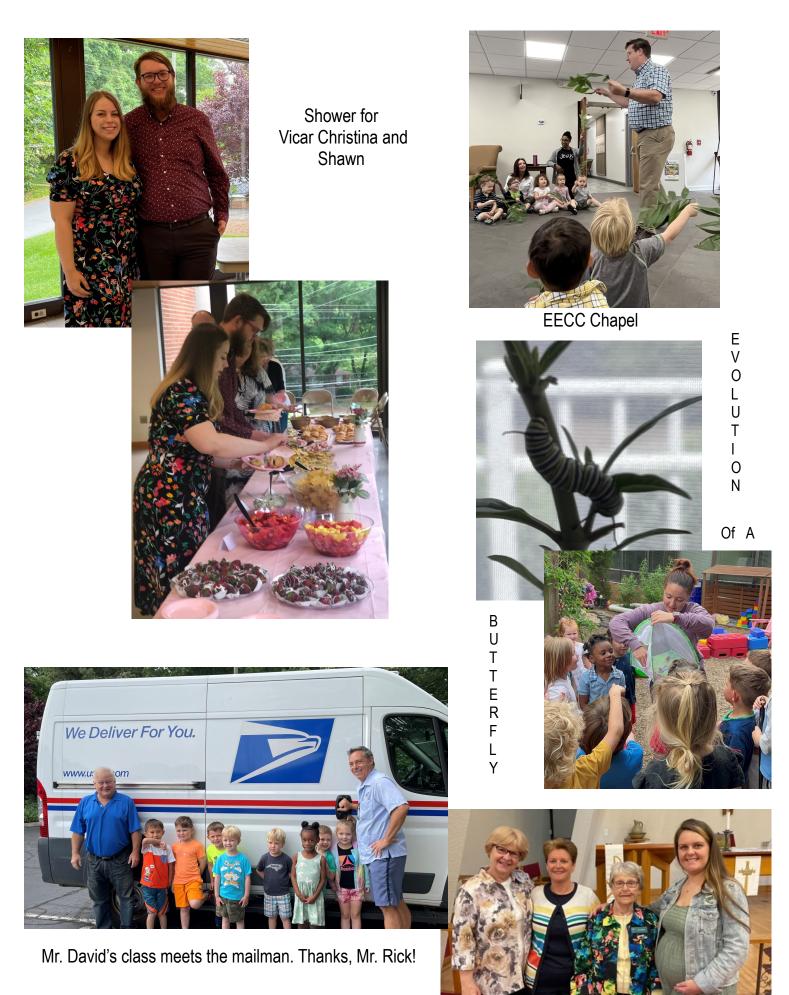
Santiago & Lauren Saldaña	6/6
John & Shelley Hood	6/7
Russell & Caroline Peek	6/12
Terry & Carolyn Wiley	6/21
Luther & Jenny Vann	6/22
Jon & Barbara Nye	6/24
Chuck & Sue Kraft	6/25
Alex & Lauren Saphar	6/26
Andrew & Beth Craft	6/28
Gene & Diane Deal	6/28
Mike & Laura Spain	6/29

We wish you many more years of happiness!



We received thanks from:

**ELCA Global Mission** ELCA World Hunger Lutheran Services Carolinas Ronald McDonald House Samaritan Ministries



**Conrad Ladies** 



Jim Pierson and Mike Spain working on an EECC classroom and the kids watching them work.

# Minute to Win It Fun











# family services **DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SHELTER WISH LIST**

# If you would like to donate NEW ITEMS, our needs are:



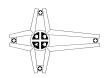
Children

HatsGloves

Scarves

Map pencils

We are NOT ACCEPTING USED ITEMS at this time. For questions or information about drives, call 336-722-8173.





Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Every Sunday <b>10am</b> Worship				-	2 Synod Assembly <b>4:30 pm</b> EECC Celebra- tion (sanctuary)	3 Synod Assembly
<ul> <li>4 Graduation Sunday</li> <li>After Worship Graduate</li> <li>Reception (FH)</li> <li>After Reception Eucharistic Minister training</li> </ul>	5 6 pm Endowment 7 pm Internship Comm.	ω	7 10 am EECC Chapel 3 pm Staff	8 11:30 am Nora Deal Cir. Picnic (Kathleen Tuck- er's house)	9 Last Day of School	10
£	12 7 pm Executive Comm. Lutheroad @ Auasburg	13 <b>10 am</b> Mary-Martha Cir. (FH) <b>7:30 pm</b> Dorothy Circle	14 10 am EECC Chapel 3 pm Staff	15 6 pm Finance	16 Lutheroad	17 10 am Epiphany Quilters
	thru 6/16	Lutheroad	Lutheroad	Lutheroad		
18 Father's Day	19 <b>7 pm</b> Congregation Council	20	21 10 am EECC Chapel 1:30 pm Widows Might (FH) 3 pm Staff	22 <b>7 pm</b> Epiphany Read- ers.	23	24
25 Water & the Word (Remember Your Bap- tism)	26	27	28 <b>10 am</b> EECC Chapel <b>3 pm</b> Staff	29	30	