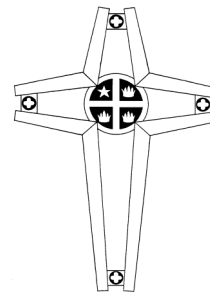


The Star

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



Volume MMXXIII
Number 5
May 2023

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



Dear Epiphany Disciples,

Alleluia! Christ is Risen!

As we enter May, I want to share two things:

-First, some exciting news!

I need you to mark your calendars for Sunday, May 28. We will be having a called congregational meeting immediately following worship, around 11:05. The only item of business on the agenda will be the congregation approving a contract for a capital campaign consultant.

I realize it's Memorial Day Weekend, but because we had to coordinate several schedules, this was the best Sunday to have the meeting.

We'll have more information about the details coming soon, but in the meantime, I'll simply ask you to mark your calendars and plan to attend the meeting in person or online.

-Now for some difficult news.

For the last three years, Epiphany has been an internship site to be a part of the formation of the next generation of pastors. I'm thankful for the ongoing ministry of Pastors Jennifer and Heather, and I look forward to seeing the leadership Vicar Christina will offer to God's people once she is ordained. It has been a great joy to host these interns and to see them in ministry.

There is, as you can imagine, a lot of work that goes into assigning interns to congregations. Interns and sites like Epiphany fill out lengthy applications. Those submitted applications get sent to someone at one of our Lutheran seminaries (in our case, it goes to a professor at our seminary in Columbia). Not every intern and site are a match and the seminaries work very hard at trying to match interns with sites like ours so that the intern and congregation have a good experience.

We had been assigned an intern for next year earlier in the spring. Unfortunately, I found out in late April that our assigned intern is not going to do his internship at this time. I can't go into why that happened, but I want to assure you all that this wasn't because of anything we did or didn't do. Epiphany continues to be a desirable site to host interns.

I've spoken with our seminary in Columbia, and it looks like all the interns and internship sites are on solid ground for this coming fall. That means that the odds of us being a site for August 2023-2024 are very slim. If I were a gambling man (which I'm not), I'd bet that we won't have an intern for the next school year. With that said, our Council will make sure that we submit our application to be an internship site for August 2024.

I realize this is disappointing news. I was sorry to hear this, too. I've heard from so many people at Epiphany how much it's meant to be an internship site. I know we've all enjoyed having interns here and want this to continue to be one of our congregation's priorities.

Thanks, Epiphany, for all you do to grow, connect, and serve. I'm honored to be on this journey of faith with you.

Yours in the Resurrected Christ,

Pastor Ruell

A Bridal Shower for Vicar Christina

Saturday, May 20, 2023, 1:30 pm

Epiphany Fellowship Hall

Vicar Christina has touched so many of our lives. She has served us, taught us, and loved us for almost 10 months. We would love to celebrate her and Shawn's future marriage in September.



Please join us in the church Fellowship Hall on **Saturday, May 20th at 1:30** to celebrate her and Shawn's upcoming marriage. In lieu of purchasing physical items which she will have to move in July, please consider gift cards where she can purchase items after they are married and settle into their new home together. Contact the church office for a list of ideas.

To allow us to get an idea of how many folks are going to attend, there is a sign-up sheet in the entryway. Deadline for signing up is May 7th.



We have had a busy Easter season. The Lenten suppers had an average attendance of 40 people. The Easter breakfast and service were well-attended. Our fellowship hall windows were washed in preparation for this event – thank you to our new cleaning service for

their efforts. We will soon be having a Fifth Sunday Brunch, something we have not been able to enjoy due to the pandemic. Praise God that we have been able to return to a more normal state.

We are continuing to work towards organizing a Capital Campaign for 2023-2024. Strong consideration is being given to engaging the services of GSB Consulting. As this will require a congregational vote of approval, a congregational meeting will be held on May 28th. A list of proposed projects to be funded will be developed.

Council has approved that Epiphany be designated as a place for temporary housing for Trinity Glen residents in the event of a disaster.

Time and Talent sign up are available. We encourage everyone to consider how they can best utilize their skills in serving the congregation.

The financial picture for the church and EECC remained strong for March. Revenue is good and expenses have remained low, resulting in a positive position for the first quarter.

Blessings and thanks to all who worship at Epiphany for their commitment, talents and support that help to make the church a welcoming place of worship.



SUNDAY BRUNCH at Sanders Ridge Vineyard

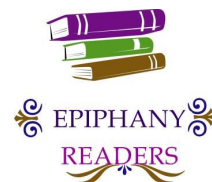
Join us for good fellowship and good food at Sanders Ridge Vineyard and Winery on Sunday, May 28 at 11:30ish or immediately following church service.

*Sanders Ridge Vineyard & Winery
3200 Round Hill Rd
Boonville, NC 27011*

They will have a special brunch menu as well as their usual menu. Go to their website at <https://www.sandersridge.com/market-menu> for more details. Mimosas as well as beer, wine or wine tasting are also available.

Please contact Jeanie Saphar at (336)414-2856 if you are interested in going so we will have the correct number for the reservations. It takes about 30 minutes to get there so please let her know if you are interested in carpooling too.

The Epiphany Readers' next meeting by Zoom will be at 7pm on Thursday, May 25. The book that will be discussed in May is *The Light We Carry* by Michelle Obama. All are welcome to join in the discussion.



Join Zoom Meeting

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83484040336?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83484040336?pwd=NVBsSUNKaVBPeWJsZzZZZQk1sZkVwUT09)

[pwd=NVBsSUNKaVBPeWJsZzZZZQk1sZkVwUT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83484040336?pwd=NVBsSUNKaVBPeWJsZzZZZQk1sZkVwUT09)

Meeting ID: 834 8404 0336

Passcode: 273113

One tap mobile

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+13017158592,,83484040336#,,,,*273113# US (Washington DC)



During the month of May, WELCA will be collecting items for the Diaper Bank of North Carolina in honor of Mother's Day. They will accept all sizes of diapers including opened packages. The most urgently needed items are diaper sizes premie, 1 and 5, baby ointment/cream, wipes, and infant formula. Also urgently needed are tampons and adult women's underwear and leggings. There will be a box for collecting these items in the narthex.

Dates:

May 9	Mary Martha Circle (FH)	10:00am
May 9	Dorothy Circle (CM)	6:00pm
May 11	Nora Deal Circle (FH)	11:30am



**Next meeting: May 17, 2023, 1:30 pm
Fellowship Hall**



Mother's Day Muffins and Play

Moms, grandmas, and mother figures! Come out and enjoy some yummy muffins and fruit as we have some social time

while our children play on the playground. Instead of our "normal" Encounter: Faith, we will meet on the big playground at **9:00 on Mother's Day, Sunday, May 14th**. Both kids and adults can enjoy this time for fellowship as we give God thanks for all the mothers and mother figures in our lives. If mom is not available to come (maybe she's enjoying breakfast in bed), anyone can come and bring the kids!

Our last day of Encounter: Faith is Sunday, May 21st at 9:00.

We'll gather and have some time to remember all the fun we've had this year and how much we have grown. A special thanks goes out to the parents who helped out this year!



Encounter: Faith End of Year Party

Join us for a splash-tastic time at the Hathaway Park Splash Pad (301 Anita Dr. W-S 27104) on **Sunday, May 21st from 2:00-4:00**. We'll celebrate the end

of the school year with some cool treats and water fun! Bring portable/camp chairs so kids can sit in a shady spot. Drop in or stay for the whole time!



REGISTER TODAY! JUNE 12-16, 2023



There's still time to register and join us this summer!
See Lauren Saldana for more details.



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 at their location 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 Saldana with any questions (lsaldana@epiphanyws.org or 919-218-4784).



While you are looking into camps for the summer, please also check out our other Lutheran outdoor ministry camps including Camp Agape Kure Beach (agapekurebeach.org) and Lutheridge or Lutherock (novusway.org). We are blessed to have such wonderful programs within such a short distance of our area. If your child is interested please let Lauren Saldana (lsaldana@epiphanyws.org) know! There are scholarships available for Epiphany kids who attend!





The staff of Epiphany Early Childhood Center are a wonderful group of dedicated people who care about children and the ministry of EECC.



Epiphany's Hands have been doing God's Work out in our community!

Here is a list of their names for you to lift up in prayer during Teacher Appreciation Week May 8-May 12.

- Lisa Nichols-
Director/Admin. Team
- Cynthia Jeffries
Assistant Director/Admin. Team
- Betsy Snow
Younger 2's Lead Teacher/Admin. Team
- Deborah Truell
Floater/Staff Support
- Sharonda Oates
Older 2's Lead Teacher
- Jennifer May
Older 2's Teacher Assistant
- Rebekah Cofer
Younger 3's Lead Teacher
- Meg Wester
Older 3's Lead Teacher/Admin. Team
- Amanda Lane
Older 3's Teacher Assistant
- Stephanie Clohessy
Pre K 4's Lead Teacher
- Debra "Renee" Hicks
Floater/Staff Support
- Riley Hauser
Pre K 4/5's Lead Teacher
- Shirley "Sue" Mathis
Nutrition Support
- Melena Valencia
Spanish Immersion

We are grateful to all the members of Epiphany for all the love and support we receive! Happy Mother's Day! Happy Memorial Day! Congratulations to the rising Kindergarteners!

In His Service,
Lisa Nichols, Director

The food pantry at Abraham Elementary School has been serving 12-15 families twice a month this school year. "Extra" food including canned hams, spicy sauces, coffee, and protein bars were distributed before spring break. Several families need diapers and pull-ups and Epiphany members have continued to donate a small supply of diapers each month. Before summer break, boxes of food staples and canned hams will be given in addition to the "regular" food bags. Abraham Food Pantry will be closed mid-June through Labor Day.

Thanks to the regular volunteers who serve at CBC's food pantry! Check CBC's website for upcoming food pantry distribution dates and a link to a SignUp genius for opportunities to volunteer. Open all summer! Epiphany's working hard to address hunger needs of our community!

A special opportunity to do God's work will be held May 8th at Abraham Elementary School as Epiphany provides box lunches and restaurant gift cards to the staff as part of their Educator Appreciation Week. Abraham does not have a PTA group which would normally plan teacher appreciation activities. What a special way to make the staff at Abraham Elementary School realize that the members of Epiphany Lutheran Church appreciate the hard work they do to make our community a better place in which to live and to learn!

Epiphany Builders were hard at work this past month at Lutherock Camp in Newland, NC. They did some minor repairs to the Stone Lodge, added deck extensions on two platform tents and donated the Epiphany Builders trailer with some tools to the camp. So if you do not see the trailer in the Epiphany parking lot, do not worry that it has been stolen.

Remember to check the monthly budget documents to see how Epiphany congregation supports other groups in our community such as Crisis Control, Lutheran Services Carolinas, Habitat for Humanity Forsyth County, and Samaritan Ministries with regular monetary contributions.

Want to do something special for Abraham 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 goal of \$385.



[Ms. Wall's Lego Donors Choose Project](#) if you need assistance with Donor's Choose, contact Jackie Pierson at jackieraep@gmail.com.



THANK YOU TEACHERS! The Outreach Committee is sponsoring a Teacher Appreciation Lunch for the staff at Abraham Elementary School on May 8th. Please sign up on the Sign Up Genius to bring items or to help serve. Call Jackie Pierson if you have questions.

[Lutheran Church of the Epiphany: Teacher Appreciation Luncheon for Abraham Elem. School staff \(signupgenius.com\)](#)

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



Our Epiphany Family

Help us keep our prayer list current by letting us know if there are those who need to be included.



Hailey Duggins will graduate on May 19th from Salem Baptist Christian School, 4th in her class, and with a 4.53 GPA. She plans to attend Appalachian State University in the Fall.

Hailey is a former member and was baptized at Epiphany. Her family are currently members of St. Johns Lutheran Church. Proud parents are Robert and Andrea Duggins, grandparents are Gene and Diane Deal, and great-grandmother is Bobbie Martin.

We are very proud of her accomplishments throughout her school years. In addition to her school work, she has completed 18 college credit hours from Forsyth Tech. She played volleyball for six years, dances competitively, and competes in horse shows. She is a busy young lady, but is very dedicated to everything she does. Hailey has participated in the Praise Band at school and sings in Chapel services each week. She has been a member of the National Honor Society and Beta Club since her Freshman Year.

Best of luck in her future endeavors!!

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



"The Debora D. and Victor F. Harlee Volunteer of the Year Award was given to Jackie Pierson for 2022 service to Bookmarks. Jackie is in her 5th year on the Board of Directors and has dedicated countless hours to Bookmarks over the last year. Throughout the busy festival season, Jackie helped the Bookmarks staff enormously with her calm, steady presence and her eagerness to help wherever needed. She always shows up for Bookmarks, and we're all so grateful for her support."

-Jamie Rogers Southern, Executive Director

GIFT OF THE MONTH ITEMS FOR MAY

CRISIS CONTROL MINISTRY - Toilet tissue, saltine crackers

SAMARITAN MINISTRIES - Salad dressing (any type), canned tuna, disposable razors, hand lotion (sample size), high efficiency laundry detergent packs/pods

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

TRINITY GLEN - Baby lotion, body wash, bath items

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

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

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

LET US PRAY FOR...

Leaders of church & state, especially

Our Congregation Council	Pastor Russell Peek
Christ's Beloved Community	President Joe Biden
Bishop Elizabeth Eaton	Governor Roy Cooper
Bishop Timothy Smith	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

Family & friends of the congregation in need, especially

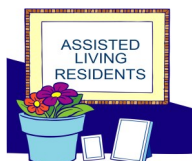
Judy Allison	Pam Holcomb	Karen Rose
Thomas & Mary Cannon	Jean Jarvis	Janie Sopen
Clark Family	Sebastian Kahabek	Jim Schwartz
Rose Debruhl	Greg Kurosko	Nora Schweitzer
Sylvia Ann Derrick	PJ Lenihan	Liz Shumate
Carl Dubose	Katie Lippard	Sue Slezak
Emily Ferriter	Chad Marion	Germaine Smith
Howard Flichman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

Members in need, especially

The Rev. John Beeg	Larry Grush
Sharen Bond	Chad Kraft
Ann Cannon	Jim Lippard
Kay Conrad	Wanda Rabb

Our Christian love and sympathy to the family and friends of

Peter Funch
Joyce Kohfeldt
The Rev. Matthew Ernst



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



Bonnie Bryant
Cole Lippard
Polly Rector
Virginia Schmitz
Robert Walker

May Birthdays

Clementine Pace	5/1
Emily Toborg	5/4
Corey Wilcut	5/4
Emma Peek	5/5
Annie Mueller	5/8
Barbara Nye	5/9
Eric Tacik	5/10
Cashlynn Wilcut	5/11
Ryan Hunter	5/13
Janet Hardy	5/16
Wilbur Bond	5/19
Scott Pressley	5/19
David Wellborn	5/19
Jennifer Henricks	5/21
Brian Oldland	5/23
Erin Mullane	5/24
Vince Hunter	5/29
Erin Wellborn	5/31

May Baptisms

Margaret Lanier	5/1
David Matthews	5/1
Dana Walters	5/5
Jim Henricks	5/9
Madison Blair	5/12
Ada Craft	5/13
Anderson Craft	5/13
Barbara Nye	5/14
Laura Spain	5/14
Solomon Pace	5/19
Carla Youngquist	5/21
Wilbur Bond	5/23
An Bunjang	5/25
Lil Flichman	5/30
Janet Hardy	5/30
Luke Sherman	5/30
Clementine Pace	5/30
Terry Lane	5/31



Paul & Martha Oldland 5/6
Brad Hively & Janet Wallace 5/13
Denise Henry & Sam Bickley 5/20

We wish you many more years of happiness!



We received thanks from:
Crisis Control Ministry
Lutheran Disaster Response



36th Annual Shepherd's Center Used Book Sale

May 4-6, 2023

The Shepherd's Center of Greater Winston-Salem will hold its **36th Annual Used Book Sale** on **Thursday, May 4** and **Friday, May 5** from **9 am to 9 pm**, and on **Saturday, May 6** from **8 am to 2 pm**. **On Saturday all items are 1/2 price. Parking and Admission are FREE!**

The sale will be held in the **Education Building** at the **Winston-Salem Fairgrounds**. Entrance for parking is through **Gate 5 from Deacon Blvd**. There is no admission or parking fee. There will be thousands of used books and other items on hand at exceptional prices.

This is truly a **book sale with a purpose!** All proceeds of the sale benefit the agency's programs and services for older adults in our community.

Lutherans in the 118th Congress

The 118th U.S. Congress convened on Jan. 3, 2023. Following finalization of House speakership, the official swearing in took place January 7, 2023. The following are some of the legislators with Lutheran affiliation who will serve the country in this new session.

ELCA Members continuing service in the U.S. Senate:

Sen. Sherrod Brown (D), Ohio
Sen. Joni Ernst (R), Iowa
Sen. Martin Heinrich (D), New Mexico
Sen. Jeff Merkley (D), Oregon

ELCA Members continuing service in the U.S. House of Representatives:

Rep. John Carter (R), Texas
Rep. Zoe Lofgren (D), California
Rep. Scott Peters (D), California
Rep. Chellie Pingree (D), Maine
Rep. Stacey Plaskett (D), U.S. Virgin Islands
Rep. Lloyd Smucker (R), Pennsylvania.

Additional Lutheran leaders in the Senate:

Sen. Cynthia Lummis (R), Wyoming
Sen. Ron Johnson (R), Wisconsin.

Additional Lutheran leaders in the House of Representatives:

Rep. Kelly Armstrong (R), North Dakota
Rep. Jack Bergman (R), Michigan
Rep. Larry Bucshon (R), Indiana
Rep. Angie Craig (D), Minnesota
Rep. Ron Estes (R), Kansas
Glenn Grothman (R), Wisconsin
Rep. Tracey Mann (R), Kansas
Rep. Donald Norcross (D), New Jersey
Rep. David Trone (D), Maryland.

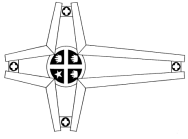
Rep. Sydney Kamlager (D), California, will be joining the House, and Rep. Ryan Zinke (R), Montana, will be returning to the House after leaving his seat to serve as Secretary of the Interior in the Trump administration from 2017-2019.

Prior to conclusion of his term, Rep. Jim Hagedorn (R), Minnesota, died in office in February 2022. Retiring from Congress are Lutherans Rep. Ron Kind (D), Wisconsin; Rep. Ed Perlmutter (D), Colorado, and Sen. Ben Sasse (R), Nebraska.



A Medical Update from Bishop Tim

Thanks to those too numerous to name for cards, calls, and inclusion in your prayer lists! It means so much to Wendy and me. I started hormone treatment (injections) in early April, and on June 5 and 20 I will have my two High Density Radiation (HDR) procedures in Charlotte. Presumably in early July, I will then begin daily External Beam Therapy (EBT) Radiation daily for about 5 weeks every weekday. The only times I know I'll definitely have to take it easy will be the few days immediately after each HDR and then I'll be dealing with fatigue and a few other minor challenges during the latter part of the EBT. The plan is to be well on the upswing by Labor Day.



May

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Every Sunday 9 am Adult Encounter: Faith 9 am Encounter: Faith 9:40 am Backpack Prep 10am Worship	1 7 pm Internship Comm. (AL)	2 11 am Bible Study (AL)	3 10 am EECC Chapel 3 pm Staff 6 pm Choir	4	5 11 am Joyce Kohfeldt funeral & reception	6
7	8 7 pm Executive Comm. EECC Teacher Appreciation Week	9 10 am Mary-Martha Cir. (FH) 11 am Bible Study (AL) 6 pm Dorothy Circle (CM) EECC Teacher Appreciation Week	10 10 am EECC Chapel 3 pm Staff 6 pm Choir EECC Teacher Appreciation Week	11 11:30 am Nora Deal Cir. (FH) EECC Teacher Appreciation Week	12 EECC Teacher Appreciation Week Mickey Out	13
14 Mother's Day 9 am Mother's Day Muffins & Play (Large playground)	15 6 pm EECC Committee 7 pm Congregation Council Mickey Out	16	17 10 am EECC Chapel Noon Widows Might (FH) 3 pm Staff 6 pm Choir	18 6 pm Management	19	20 10 am Epiphany Quilters 1:30 pm Wedding Shower for Vicar Christina (FH)
21 Last Encounter: Faith 2-4 pm Encounter: Faith celebration (Hathaway Park Splash Pad)	22 Mickey Out	23	24 10 am EECC Chapel 3 pm Staff 6 pm Choir	25 7 pm Epiphany Readers	26	27
28 After Worship Congregational Meeting After Meeting Sunday Brunch (Sanders Ridge Vineyard)	29 Memorial Day Office & EECC Closed No School	30	31 10 am EECC Chapel 3 pm Staff 6 pm Choir			