

AUGUST 2026

THE LIGHT

A NEWSLETTER OF EPIPHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH, BASTROP, TEXAS



From the Pastor's Desk

The Dawn's Early Light

In my last days as a high school teacher I had a collateral duty on the back end of a busy parking lot each morning as a reflective human pylon with a flashlight. Those first 15-20 minutes alone under the stars were peaceful and serene.

One particular morning back in February 2016, as I watched the dawn creep in from the southeast, I was reminded of another day in February, 15 years earlier. I was stuck in traffic on the way home from a job interview in Dallas. I was at a standstill, so I rolled down my window to watch the last light of the sun disappearing below the horizon. As I sat there, waiting, I kept asking myself *What are you doing?!*

At the end of December 2000 I received my last active duty paycheck from the Navy. That particular evening I was sitting there on the highway in a suit and tie, wife and two elementary-age daughters still a good hour away. I had undergone a second interview with the now-defunct Dallas Semiconductor for a position as a shift supervisor in an industry I knew virtually nothing about. But I was desperate. By mid-summer I would be in a full-blown panic, angry at the very God who promised to take care of me and my family.

Things went from bad to worse as spring turned to summer. In a final act of desperation I arranged a government job interview in Maryland (where we were before I retired from the Navy). After two days of interviews and tests, I was offered a position that would more than adequately provide for our financial needs. But the thought of moving again was depressing. I could not understand God's plan for me—for my family!

As I was packing in the morning for my flight home, my phone rang. It was the principal of a high school in a neighboring town in Texas with an open teaching position (public education was one of the many avenues through which I had hoped to find gainful employment). He agreed to meet me that afternoon.

While on the flight to Texas I tried to get God's take on all of this—the Maryland job offer and this seemingly 11th hour phone call. I prayed. I felt so guilty for being angry at God, but figured I would get another "we'll be in touch" from the principal, then we'd be back in Maryland before summer's end. Instead, I left the meeting with a classroom key and a contract. In August I went to work as an ESL teacher. *CONTINUED ON PAGE 2*

Our Pastor



REV. E.B. HOLSCHUH

pastor@epiphanybastrop.org

Voicemail/Text: 512-798-3682

Services

@124 Three Oak Lane

Sunday School 9:00 am
Fellowship 10:00 am
Divine Service 10:30 am

Church Council

Jeremy Clifton, President

512-309-5133

augustana@gmail.com

Clayton Wolf, Vice President

979-966-9610

clayton_wolf@yahoo.com

Dave Layland, Head Elder

512-332-2144

david@thelaylands.net

Tom Rosser, Treasurer

512-567-1306

rosser.tom@gmail.com

Esther Monroe, Secretary

847-848-5126

monroe.esther@gmail.com

Pastor's Note Continued

It's hard for me to believe that 25 years ago I thought I'd become the target of divine persecution, that I had become a sort of modern-day Job (see Job 3). My pity, despair, and anger nearly choked the life out of my faith, saved, thankfully, by a vigilant, much wiser, and benevolent God who sometimes sees fit to drive us to our knees, to lovingly recalibrate us.

As I looked at the dawn's early light in the parking lot, I remembered.

I remembered that God has never once abandoned me or my family, that the God revealed to us in Christ has a perfect record of keeping His promises. I remembered that my face-off with God, while exhausting, left me with a stronger faith and deeper resolve to never doubt Him again—that He would provide for me and my family, giving us daily what we need (not what we want).

And so, a decade later, as I look around my world, I frequently remind myself to be grateful—that all would be lost, if not for God's grace!

Pastor E.B.

Birthdays and Anniversaries

Jeremy & Margie Clifton July 1			
Ryan Robb	July 9	Margie Clifton	July 20
Jack Monroe	July 15	Sandy Giro	July 21
Anastasia Shoemate	July 15	Lisa Clontz	July 22
Madeline Robb	July 16	Joe Davis	August 4
Carole Holschuh	July 18	Linda Hanson	August 5
Lindsay Robb	July 18	Norma Kunze	August 11

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EPIPHANY LUTHERAN BASTROP
AT-A-GLANCE

Epiphany At-A-Glance

Know someone who wants to know more about our church or Lutheranism? Share this QR Code to the “What We Believe” section of our website.

EPIPHANY
LUTHERAN CHURCH LCMS

Mailing Address:
489 Agnes St. - Ste. 112-117
Bastrop, TX 78602
Secretary: 512-907-0717

GIVE ONLINE BY SCANNING THIS QR CODE OR VISITING OUR WEBSITE

epiphanybastrop.org

church@epiphanybastrop.org

[epiphanybastrop](https://www.facebook.com/epiphanybastrop)

[@epiphanybastrop](https://www.instagram.com/epiphanybastrop)



Yay God!

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEWEST CONFIRMAND, MADELINE!



New Members

Above: Ryleigh

Below Left: The Davis Family

Below Right: The Shoemaker family



Faith Lutheran High School 2026 - 2027 Faculty and Staff



*Two of our members,
Pastor E.B. and Margie
Clifton will be teaching
this year at FLHS.*

- Mrs. Margie Clifton - Part-Time Handbells
- Pastor E.B. Holschuh - Part-Time Religion, English
- Mr. Gary Himmler - Part-time Science, Math
- Mr. Jonathan Kueck - Religion, English, Health, P.E.
- Mrs. Nikki Kueck - Administrator, History, Spanish
- Mrs. Kristin Lehmann - Science, Math, Technology
- Mrs. Laura Phillips - Office Manager and Marketing

COMMUNITY NEWS



Adult Sunday School 9:00AM

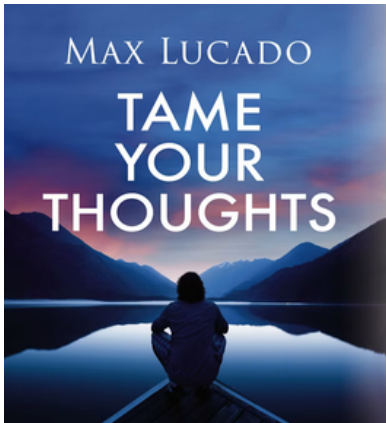
Follow host Dave Stotts as he travels the globe to tell the 2,000-year story of how the Gospel of Jesus Christ reached the Ends of the Earth.

Sustaining Connections: Living Life in Community

Adult Sunday School Beginning September 6

This 6-week study will explore what it means to be a “disciple-able” follower of Jesus. Come discover how God uses His Word, His people, and His mission to shape us into the kind of church described in Acts—a church that lives life together and shares the hope of Christ with the world. We'll step into how God forms

ordinary believers into mature disciples who *connect*, *grow*, and *multiply* (and how we can become a congregation that intentionally develops disciples who make disciples).



Wednesdays 6:30PM Beginning September 9

Have you been feeling weighed down by worry? Or caught up in a web of self-critical thoughts?

Learn to overcome common thought traps like anxiety, guilt, rejection, dissatisfaction, and more. Join us for a 6-session video series from Max Lucado. No matter who you are or where you come from, progress is possible...

Twice monthly devotion and prayer gathering

MEETS 1ST/3RD THURSDAYS | 3PM

JOIN US FOR

MAKE EVERY DAY COUNT



Voter's Meeting

August 23, Immediately following the Service

Plan to attend this important meeting to vote on budget updates and hear updates from our building committee.

COMMUNITY NEWS



FAITH LUTHERAN
HIGH SCHOOL OF CENTRAL TEXAS

*Faith Lutheran High School of Central Texas seeks to engage young adults in a
Christ-centered environment where faith and knowledge grow as one.*
HOME OF THE FALCONS!

Let the Learning Begin

FLHS students & faculty returned to campus this past Wednesday. The first few days are all about reacclimating to school life after a long, schedule-free summer. We're off to a great start, and this week we really dive into learning. Please pray for a successful transition for all!

HALF-PRICE Enrollment Fee

It's not too late to take advantage of our awesome enrollment discount of 50%. That's a savings of \$200! Please have interested families call (979) 242-2889 or visit flhstx.org.

Wait! Is that Faith on the big screen?

Coming soon to a theater near you...we are spreading the news about FLHS farther and wider than ever before. In a few weeks, you'll see us at the movies, both in Bastrop and Brenham. Get to your theater a little early to see our ad playing before every movie in both locations!

Faith-full Listeners

Faith is also on the air! 30-second radio spots run daily on local stations KTIM, 89.1 FM, KBUK, 104.9 FM, and KNRG, 92.3 FM. Our back-to-school message runs through August. Listen for "The Voice of FLHS"!

Thrivent Action Team Grants

Thrivent member? To supplement ongoing projects and activities at Faith, we ask those willing to submit an application for a \$250 grant to contact Mrs. Nikki Kueck at (979) 242-2889 or kueckn@flhstx.org. Thank you for helping us access these additional funds!

The List That Keeps On Giving, Thanks to You

FLHS has an Amazon wish list of needed materials for the upcoming school year. Just click on the Amazon link on either our Facebook page or website. Thank you for your generous support, as we provide the necessary supplies for both students and staff!

Save the Date - Oktoberfest

FLHS's Oktoberfest is set for Saturday, October 24th. We are already planning for our best event yet!

COMMUNITY NEWS



Faith Lutheran High School Camp Lone Star Retreat
FLHS students & faculty are preparing for our annual retreat to Camp Lone Star, 8/27-8/28. Prayers are welcome, as we prepare for this valuable experience for all students. As always, we **greatly appreciate food and monetary donations**. Please reach out, if you can support our retreat.

HOLY CROSS WARDA

CHURCH PICNIC

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 6th

On Shady Grounds Near the Church
BBQ Brisket & Pork - Sold by the Pound
Fryers - Sold Individually
beginning at 9:30 a.m.

Potato Salad, Beans, Cole Slaw
Cooked Noodles, Bake Sale

EVENTS OF THE DAY

- 9:00 am - Worship Service in Sanctuary
- 9:00 am - Ladies Aid Country Store/Bake Sale
- 9:30 am - BBQ Brisket, Pork, & Chickens Available
- 11:00 am - Children's Activities Begin
- 11:00 am - Ladies Aid Silent Auction (till 6pm)
- 4:00 pm - Hamburgers, French Fries & Nachos Available
- 5:30 pm - Live Auction

*50% of the Auction proceeds designated toward Parochial School Tuition Assistance fund

Live Music

Mark Gruetzner - 10:00am - 2:00pm

Lost Cause Band 2:00pm - 5:30pm

KIDS
ACTIVITIES

COLD
REFRESHMENTS

Everyone is Invited to Come Out & Enjoy the Day!



Epiphany has a podcast! It is available on popular podcast apps, or at peacebewithyou.podbean.com



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The Little Light

Children's Sunday School

Elementary (pre-K to 5th Grade)

We typically start together to learn our lesson of day, then split into two groups (pre-K to 2nd and 3rd to 5th) to finish the rest of our activities.

We are finishing our summer *Stories from the Storyteller* series before returning the *Enduring Faith* Curriculum in September.



Join the Evans family as Jonathan leverages the ministry of Jesus to teach life lessons to his five children (ages 3-13) through everyday activities and family adventures.

Seemingly normal activities—such as a fun family cooking competition, camping in the great outdoors, a trip to a theme park, or a hands-on homeschool activity—turn into hysterical adventures and epic teachable moments.

Jonathan and Kanika follow up the day's events with a bedtime Bible lesson that connects their experience to the teachings of Jesus in a way their children will never forget!



The *Enduring Faith* Bible Curriculum, by CPH features a Christ-centered, three-year chronological survey of Bible history with a goal of helping our children grow deeper in their understanding of God's Word. The final unit will continue exploring the New Testament and Jesus sending the church.

Middle School (6th to 8th Grade)



We will be using the same video series the Adult Sunday School is finishing up, and follow host Dave Stotts as he travels the globe to tell the 2,000-year story of how the Gospel of Jesus Christ reached the Ends of the Earth.

Prayers of the People

Have a Prayer Request? Please share any prayer requests on the Prayer Requests sheet as you enter for worship on Sunday. You may also email a prayer request, as well as a request to become a part of Epiphany's prayer chain, to secretary@epiphanybastrop.org.

Please continue to pray for

- Charles
- Clayton
- Fritz
- Rev. Timothy Dinger
- Lauren
- Carl and Sandy Sneck
- Jimmy
- Tom and Marianne
- Deebo and Norma
- Our Argent Court friends - Fay, Francis, Jim, Anita, Elaine, Gert, Ranita, Sally
- Carl Guetersloh

Our Lutheran Confessions: Apostles' Creed

The Apostles' Creed is the first of 10 documents contained in the Book of Concord, the collection of confessions that explains what Lutheran Christians believe, teach, and confess on the basis of Holy Scripture. Fittingly, the Lutheran Confessions begin with the ancient, universal confession of the Christian faith: "I believe in God, the Father Almighty..."

Most Lutherans know the Apostles' Creed by heart. Because its words are so familiar, however, it is easy to say them without considering just how much they contain. In three short articles, the Creed summarizes who God is, what He has done for us, and what He promises us.

Despite its name, the Creed was not written at one meeting of the twelve apostles. Rather, it developed from the ancient Church's baptismal confession and summarizes the apostolic teaching of Scripture. When we confess it today, we join generations of Christians confessing the same Triune God—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

The First Article: Creation

"I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth."

We confess more than simply that a Creator exists. As Luther explains in the Small Catechism, God has made me and all creatures. Our bodies and souls, possessions, families, abilities, and daily bread are gifts from Him. He continues to preserve and protect His creation out of His "fatherly, divine goodness and mercy." Therefore, we receive life with thanksgiving, praise, service, and obedience.

The Second Article: Redemption

"And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord..."

The Second Article stands at the center of the Christian faith. Jesus Christ is true God and true man. He was born, suffered, was crucified, died, was buried, rose bodily from the dead, ascended into heaven, and will come again.

And He did all this for us. Luther puts it personally: Christ "has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person." Jesus did not merely provide a good example or teach us to become better people. He rescued sinners from sin, death, and the devil with His holy, precious blood. Because Christ lives, those who belong to Him will live also.

The Third Article: Sanctification

"I believe in the Holy Spirit..."

How does everything Christ accomplished become ours? Not because we reason our way to God or make a decision strong enough to save ourselves. Luther writes, "I believe that I cannot by my own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to Him."

The Holy Spirit calls us by the Gospel, creates and sustains faith, gathers us into Christ's Church, forgives our sins, and keeps us with Jesus Christ in the one true faith. We therefore confess the Church, the communion of saints, forgiveness, resurrection, and everlasting life.

The Apostles' Creed is more than doctrine to memorize. It is the Christian's confession of God's gracious work from beginning to end:

The Father created me.
The Son redeemed me.
The Holy Spirit calls and keeps me in the faith.

That is why the Creed begins so personally: "I believe." And because of Christ, we can finish with confidence: "Amen."—This is most certainly true!

[This is the 2nd of 11 articles. The Book of Concord is accessible online at bookofconcord.org.]