

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Youth Leadership Collierville Assists Epiphany Lutheran Church
with Community Garden**

Collierville, Tennessee, USA – On Tuesday, March 8, 2017, Youth Leadership Collierville held a work day at the Epiphany Lutheran Church Community Garden, located at the corner of Wolf River Boulevard and Bray Station Road in Collierville.

Wendell Kruse says “Even with the sea of mud following the recent rains, our garden volunteers had a fantastic time with this group of young leaders. Most of our wish list was accomplished, as the group enthusiastically pitched in to do whatever we asked of them. Their collective efforts, hard work and great attitude provided about 40 work hours, and enabled us to implement some much-needed upgrades to our garden.”

Pastor Monica Weber of Epiphany, a member of the current Leadership Collierville session, which provides participants insights into how Collierville functions by hosting educational training sessions, facilitated the event. “Our Community Garden continues to grow, and with these improvements we hope to provide a record amount of food and produce to the Collierville Food Pantry and the Page-Robbins Adult Day Center in 2017,” said Pastor Weber.

Following the work day, John Wasilik, one of the lead volunteers of Collierville Food Pantry, gave a talk about the activities of the pantry and how it helps those in need of assistance in the Collierville area. “It gives me so much hope for our future as a country to see these kids work so hard today and at the food pantry.”

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Emily Pilkinton, Director of Leadership Collierville, hopes to work together with Epiphany Lutheran Church on more projects in the future. “I cannot thank Epiphany enough for the planning that went behind the scenes and the opportunity provided for this group of students.”

About Epiphany Lutheran Church: Epiphany Lutheran Church, an Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) congregation, worships every Sunday at 10:00 am in the Agape Chapel, 1880 Wolf River Blvd., in Collierville, TN. The mission of Epiphany Lutheran Church is to show forth Christ by proclaiming the Gospel to form lives through scripture, the promises of Baptism, the sharing of the Lord’s Supper and service to neighbor. Epiphany’s Community Garden, tended by volunteers, provided over 1,400 pounds of produce in 2016 to the Collierville Food Pantry and the Page Robbins Adult Day Center. For more information, contact Pastor Monica Weber, (901) 861-6227, or visit www.epiphanylu.org.

About Youth Leadership Collierville: Established in 1994, Leadership Collierville is an outgrowth of the State of Tennessee Three-Star Community Economic Preparedness Program. This non-profit, non-partisan community-based organization offers a youth program – Youth Leadership Collierville – which is a seven-month program for sophomore and junior high school students living in Collierville, who attend public or private schools, or are home-schooled. For more information, visit <http://leadershipcollierville.org>.

Photo Information:

Photo 1: Members of Youth Leadership Collierville work with Wendell Kruse, Epiphany congregation member and Property Team Leader, to upgrade the Epiphany Community Garden.

Photo Credit: Rick Barnard

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