

COMING UP...

Sunday, January 13

Social Second Sunday

5:30 p.m. Youth Group Meeting

Monday, January 14

6:30 p.m. New Life UMW Group Meeting

Tuesday, January 15

6:30 p.m. Growing Christians UMW Group Meeting

6:30 p.m. AA Group Meeting

Wednesday, January 16

6:00 p.m. Praise Team Rehearsal

6:00 p.m. Wednesday Supper

6:30 p.m. Bible Study

6:30 p.m. Wacky Wednesday

7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, January 17

12:00 noon Prayer Team Meeting

Sunday, January 20

9:00 a.m. Contemporary Worship Service

10:00 a.m. Sunday School

11:00 a.m. Traditional Worship Service

Tuesday, January 22

6:30 p.m. Church Council Meeting

PASTORAL COUNSELING

Our church will again partner with The Pastoral Institute in 2019 to offer counseling for individuals and families at deep discounts. Call the church for more information or give our church name when scheduling an appointment at 706-649-6500.

2019 FLOWER CALENDAR

Sign up to purchase flowers for the sanctuary in 2019. The calendar is on the office window. Arrangements are \$50 each. For questions or to request a date, call or email the church office.

OUR CHURCH STAFF

Epworth's members are our ministers.

The professional staff who assist us are:

Choir Director Lyn Pharris

Church Administrator..... Susan Snider

Contemporary Music Director..... Kayla Moss

Custodians..... Martha Conklin & Barbie Webb

Music Director..... Bob Lee

Nursery Worker Martha Conklin

Pastor Tony G. Crosby

CONTACT US

2400 Devonshire Drive

Columbus, GA 31904

Pastor's Cell (706) 329-2484

Church Office (706) 322-6973

www.epworthumc.com

staff's first name@epworthumc.com

(example: tony@epworthumc.com)

Facebook - EpworthUMC.com

Instagram - EpworthUMC.com

Twitter - @EpworthColumbus

CONTACTING YOU

Most of the church's communication is through e-mail and texting. We send two e-mails each week—a newsletter on Monday and a sermon preview on Friday and texts during the week. We also use e-mail to send important meeting reminders and other information. Epworth has a free text messaging solution hosted by Remind. Sign up now by texting '@epworth1' to 81010. Help us contact you by ensuring the church office has your current e-mail address.

 epworth
united methodist church

January 13, 2019

Hearing Voices

And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

Luke 3:22b (NRSV)

A few months ago, one of the women of "The View" got in hot water with the American public. Now, it is no secret what Ms. Behar's political views are. She has little regard for conservatives or of the current administration. But her contempt for Vice President Pence spilled over a little too far when she suggested that he was mentally ill if he heard God speaking to him.

Well, many people who are normally supportive of Ms. Behar and her views turned on her—and quickly. It didn't take long for her to realize she had messed up. She made a personal phone call to the Vice President to apologize to him and then apologized on the air. She managed to do something that many people don't these days. She offended enough Christians (and many others) that a public apology became necessary.

These days, it seems very little offends enough Christians that such a thing happens. We disagree on so many things. We fight over abortion, homosexuality, and all of the other hot-button issues that fall on either side (or even along the spectrum) of our left/right political and theological divides. She could have said just about anything about most of those things and would have gotten away with it. But to say that we are crazy for hearing from God or hearing Jesus speak to us—well that was more than America was able to bear.

Jesus's baptism is a critical moment in his life. I believe it was at his baptism that he became fully aware of his mission and purpose as the divine, incarnate Son of God and as the Messiah who would die for the sins of the world. If he had experienced this revelation without a word of confidence and assurance from God the Father, well it might have just been more than his humanity could bear.

Even though people value church attendance less than in the past, it remains that people still come to church seeking an encounter with God. People want a word from the Lord. We need God to speak. The utopian ideal from the garden of Eden was people created in God's image walking and talking with God in the garden. The great Christian hope is to return to this reality of close communion with God.

God is not silent. God is speaking. Keep listening. Keep searching. For all who have been born to new life in Christ are children of God. Hear that good news today!

In Christ,



Epworth connects and equips all kinds of people to SEEK, SERVE, and SHARE Christ.

Happy New Year!

SUNDAY SCHOOL AT 10:00 AM

The Children's Class (K-5)

Teacher: Margaret Gosden, Terresa Salter

The Youth Class

Teacher: Class

The Friendship Class

Study: Submit to God's Love

Teacher: Class

The Genesis Class

Study: If You Are Going the Wrong Way...

Teacher: Leslie Morris

The Joy Class

Study: Class Discussion

Teacher: Class

The Nathan Patterson/Wesley Class

Study: Genesis 2

Teacher: Bobby Smith

The New Connections Class

Study: Class Discussion

Teacher: Class

The Questors Class

Study: Submit to God's Love

Teacher: Rev. Tim Paulk

The Seekers Class

Study: Class Discussion

Teacher: Suzy Revell

The Young Adult Class

Study: Jesus & the Beanstalk

Teacher: Becky Britton

SERVANTS NEEDED IN 2019

9 a.m. Ushers: 1st-3rd Sundays

11 a.m. Ushers: 2nd Sundays

Children's Sunday School Helper: 2nd-5th Sundays

Children's Church: 9 a.m.: 2nd-5th Sundays
11 a.m.: 4th Sundays

Greeter 9 a.m.: 2nd Sundays

Turn Key: 1st and 5th Sundays

To volunteer or for more information, contact the church office. Other ministries within and outside the church are in need of willing hearts and hand. For more info on these ministries, contact someone from the Missions Committee.

THOSE WHO SERVE

January 13, 2019

9:00 a.m. Worship Service

Greeter: Jeanne Guilbeault

Usher: Randy Morris

Acolyte: Usher

Children's Church: Whitney Weyeneth

11:00 a.m. Worship Service

Greeter: Brenda Karastury, Lillian Wooldridge

Ushers: Steve Whittington

Acolyte: Ema Cheraisi

Children's Church: Gary & Janice Tomlin

Nursery Volunteer: Allison Jandreau

Financial Secretary: Shawn Jandreau

Turn Key: John Daniel

OUR STEWARDSHIP

January 6, 2019

Tithes & Offerings: \$9,641.00

Received To Date: \$9,641.00

Needed To Date: Waiting on Budget Approval

Attendance:

Sunday School 69

Worship: 9 a.m. 33

Worship: 11 a.m. 77

Total 110

YOUTH & CHILDREN

Youth Group Meeting on Sundays - The youth begin today meeting on Sundays. We will begin at 5:30 p.m.

Wacky Wednesdays - January 16 at 6:30 p.m. The children's program includes lessons, crafts, and songs and is for children Pre-K to 5th grade. Join us for supper at 6 p.m.

Recycle Your Christmas Cards - The children are collecting the fronts of used Christmas cards to use for a project. Donate yours by placing them in the box on the mission cart.

MISSIONS

January Mission Focus - Southwest Georgia Storm Relief - We are continuing to reach out to our neighbors to the south as they recover from the recent hurricane. We will receive offerings throughout the month of January. We are also looking for opportunities to take volunteers to join mission teams as they actively work in the area. Watch your e-mail and bulletin for more information.

Feeding Our Neighbors at Rose Hill

Tuesday, January 29. Preparations begin at 5:15 p.m.; serving at 5:45 p.m. Contact Debra Johnson or Becky Britton to volunteer to serve or help with meal preparation.

Wynnton Neighborhood Network Nov. & Dec. 2018 Report

The Network served 3,508 bags of food to 876 families which included 1,036 children during both months. We helped 95 families with utilities spending \$6,467.37. Epworth provided approximately 63 bags of food that were distributed for Thanksgiving.

Vintage Shirt Sale

Hurry and get your shirts! A few are still available and sweatshirts can be ordered individually. See the sign-up sheet on the information board or any Vintage member to order.

Can Recycling - Leave aluminum cans outside the back kitchen door.

SOCIAL SECOND SUNDAY

People of all ages are on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and more. To share something from church, a ministry you participate in, any church activity today or an upcoming event. Let your friends and family know we are excited about what God is doing at Epworth. We are making a difference!

WHAT'S HAPPENING

Upper Room Devotional Sale - January/February issue is available in the welcome center.

New Life UMW Meeting - Monday, January 14, at 6:30 p.m. at the church.

Growing Christians UMW Group Meeting

Tuesday, January 15, at 6:30 p.m. in the fellowship hall.

Wednesday Night Supper & Study

begins January 16 at 6 p.m. Make reservations by signing up on the information board, emailing or calling the church office. Menu: baked spaghetti, garlic toast, salad and dessert. A Bible study/devotion begins at 6:30 p.m. each week.

Ladies Bible Study - Every Thursday beginning January 17 at 9:30 a.m. in the Questors classroom. Contact Debra Johnson if interested.

Prayer Team Meeting - Thursdays at 12 noon at Margaret Gosden's home.

Church Council Meeting - Tuesday, January 22, at 6:30 p.m. in the fellowship hall.

Reachers UMW Group Meeting - Tuesday, January 29, at 3 p.m. in the Questors classroom.

Epworth Text Messaging Service - Epworth has a free text messaging solution hosted by Remind. Sign up now by texting '@epworth1' to 81010. After that, enter your name and disregard other questions about parent/teacher/student/etc. Contact Tony with questions.

"Like" Our Church on Facebook - Our church maintains an active Facebook presence. You can follow the latest news updates from our church at www.facebook.com/epworthcolumbus. Use your social network to share events to family and friends.

EPWORTH PRAYER LIST

Church Family

Fred & Emilie Carswell	Jimmy Bridges	Gladys Plant	Trudy Harris
Vanessa Desoto	Ron & Betty Sawyer	Thrower Family	Sibyl Wells
Keri McElvey	Barbara Stubbs	Kernodle Family	Barbara Watson
Helen Batastini	Lillian Wooldridge	Annette Taff	Daniel Family
Elsie & Jim Spanogians	Andrea Carbaugh		

Extended Church Family

Steve & Carol Guilbeault	Michael Taff	David Olson	Doyle Adams
Dotty Baker	Ricky Clark	Robbins Family	Andrew Wade
Laurie Osteen	Preston Silvernail	Dora Spires	Willie Ryles
Judy Patterson	Cassie Prochaska	Billy Hill	Kim Jordan
Dorothy Ogg	Bruce Chapman	Charles Holmes	Marilyn Buck
Danny Chidester	Beth Goodwin	Luby Family	Garnett Shackelford
Adams Family	Ellen Pilgreen	David Garner	Dana Thurston
Ralph & Sandy McGough	Diane Wiggins	Stephanie Bryan	Robin Grantham
McDaniel Family	Hattie Campbell	Mark Oliver	

Assisted Living/Nursing Home

Covenant Woods - Linda Coleman, Carol Osteen	River Place - Betty Cummings, Elizabeth
Kings Bridge (Atlanta, GA) - Blount King	Harbert, Jane Sanders
Magnolia Manor - Art Halouska, Doris Halouska	River Towne Center - Jerry Williams
Cammie Van Over	The Lodge (Bessemer, AL) - Lorene Carlisle
Phenix City Health Care - Anne Whitehurst	Wesley Glen (Byron, GA) - Nancy Hiller

Please continue to pray for our homebound people. They would love a visit!

If the prayer list needs to be updated, please call, email the church office, or leave a note with updates. Thank you for your help.

Tree of Life Memorial
for Epworth UMC and Hamp Stevens UMC

**Given by The Friendship Class in memory of Jean F. Morris
whose generosity and caring spirit made this world a better place.**

You may remember a family member or friend, now deceased, on the lasting Tree of Life Memorial that graces the entrance of our Sanctuary. Consider commemorating their life with a leaf placed on this handcrafted piece of art.

Memorials can be made for members of the Epworth United Methodist or Hamp Stevens United Methodist churches. Initiated by the Friendship Sunday School to honor Jean’s life, it is carried forward by Epworth’s Board of Trustees.

Complete the section below and return it with your gift made out to Epworth UMC. With limited space, we will only be able to include names on the leaf-no other messages. The minimum donation for an engraved leaf is \$50.

Name of Donor: _____
 Address: _____
 Phone Number: _____
 Email Address: _____
 Donation Amount: _____

Names to be Engraved: *5 rows of up to approximately 12 characters on each row*

SAMPLE


