

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Epworth connects and equips  
 all kinds of people to  
 seek, serve, and share Christ.

**How Far Are We Willing To Go?**

Have you ever been at a place in your life where you didn't know why you were where you were, but you knew you were right where you were supposed to be? It's because you acted in obedience to the direction of God. He led you there for that special encounter. We must learn to sense God, hear God, follow God.

When Jesus told Peter to come to Him, Peter did not hesitate, he jumped out of the boat. He could have waited for Jesus to get to him, but he was eager to get to that special encounter. I believe we need that same "out of the boat" experience with the Lord that Peter craved. We will develop His heart, His passion, His Great love for all of humanity. And out of this great passion will come a heartbreak for the hurt of humanity.

As we look at our text passage, we are going to see, acted out before our very eyes, what it means to be moved with great compassion for one of our neighbors. We will see how far a few men were willing to go just to get a man in their home town in front of Jesus.

I ask you to clear your minds of what the world may be throwing at you, and for just a few minutes, let's think about how far these few men went because of the love and the compassion they had for a neighbor.

And just maybe, we can take home with us a few ideas on how to better show compassion to our friends and have a new burning desire to get to Jesus just as Peter had done jumping out of the boat.

In Christ,  
*Doug Franks*

The sanctuary flowers are given to the Glory of God and in memory of Curtis Combs by Lee Rogers.

**OUR CHURCH STAFF**

Choir Director	Lyn Pharris
Church Administrator	Susan Snider
Custodians	Martha Conklin Barbie Webb
Media & Communications	Dawn Wilson
Music Director	Bob Lee
Nursery Worker	Martha Conklin
Pastor	Tony G. Crosby
Interim Worship Leader	Kayla Moss
Interim Youth Minister	Kristii Daniel

**THIS COMING WEEK**

Sunday, January 21, 2018  
 9:00 a.m. Contemporary Worship Service  
 10:00 a.m. Sunday School  
 11:00 a.m. Traditional Worship Service  
Monday, January 22, 2018  
 6:30 p.m. SPRC Meeting  
Tuesday, January 23, 2018  
 6:30 p.m. AA Group Meeting  
 6:30 p.m. Youth Meeting  
Wednesday, January 24, 2018  
 6:00 p.m. Praise Practice  
 6:00 p.m. Wednesday Night Supper  
 6:30 p.m. Bible Study

**CONTACT US**

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 Pastor's Home (706) 327-2927  
 Pastor's Cell (706) 329-2484  
 Church Website: www.epworthumc.com  
 Church (706) 322-6973

7:00 p.m. Choir Practice  
Thursday, January 25, 2018  
 9:30 a.m. Adult Bible Study  
 12 noon Prayer Team Meeting  
Saturday, January 27, 2018  
 9:00 a.m. Church Council Retreat  
 5:00 p.m. AA Group Meeting  
Sunday, January 28, 2018  
 9:00 a.m. Contemporary Worship Service  
 10:00 a.m. Sunday School  
 11:00 a.m. Traditional Worship Service  
 12:15 p.m. Trustee Meeting



## SUNDAY SCHOOL AT 10:00 AM

### THE CHILDREN'S CLASSES

Kindergarten - 5th Grd.: Margaret Gosden

### THE FRIENDSHIP CLASS

Study: A Prayer for an Obedient Faith

Teacher: Rev. Tim Paulk

### THE GENESIS SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS

Study: Have You Ever Seen a Hearse...

Teacher: Leslie Morris

### THE JOY CLASS

Study: I Love Growing Older, but...

Teacher: Class

### THE NATHAN PATTERSON/WESLEY CLASS

Study: Class Discussion

Teacher: Class

### THE NEW CONNECTIONS CLASS

Study: 40 Days Community

Teacher: Debra Johnson

### THE PATHFINDERS CLASS

Study: Wired Word

Teacher: Class

### THE QUESTORS CLASS

Study: Grace in a Tree Stump

Teacher: Glenn Griffin

### THE SEEKERS CLASS

Study: Wired Word

Teacher: Lillian Wooldridge

## PASTORAL COUNSELING

### PASTORAL INSTITUTE

Our church is partnered with the Pastoral Institute to offer our people counseling at deep discounts and priority scheduling. This service is such a help to families and individuals. Call the church for more information or give our church name when scheduling an appointment at (706-649-6500). Hours are Monday-Thursday, 8 AM-9 PM, Friday, 8 AM-5 PM. The Pastoral Institute is located at 2022-15th Ave., Columbus.

## THOSE WHO SERVE

### SUNDAY, JANUARY 21, 2018

9:00 a.m. Worship Service:

Greeter: Anne Wilson

Usher: Jimmy Bridges

Acolyte: Usher

Children's Church: Becky Britton

11:00 a.m. Worship Service:

Greeter: Maxine Willis

Ushers: David Hay, Fraser Wooldridge

Acolyte: Ema Cheraisi, C. S. DiSimone

Children's Church: Suzy Revell

Nursery Volunteer: Lillian Wooldridge

Financial Secretary: Lillian Wooldridge

Turn Key: James Johnson

## OUR STEWARDSHIP

January 14, 2018

Tithes & Offering:	\$4,392.84
Received To Date:	\$12,183.34
Needed To Date:	\$
Building Fund:	\$40

### ATTENDANCE:

Sunday School	66
Worship: 9 a.m.	41
Worship: 11 a.m.	65
	106

## CHILDREN & YOUTH

**Youth Meeting** - Tuesday, January 23, at 6:30 p.m. You are welcome to bring a friend. See you then!

**Youth & Children Sunday School Classes** - For a great lesson, wonderful fellowship in a Safe Sanctuaries approved environment, classes are by age/grade beginning at 10 a.m.

**Volunteers Needed in the Children's Ministry**  
Children's Sunday School: 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays,  
Children's Church: 9 a.m.-2<sup>nd</sup> Sundays,  
Children's Church: 11 a.m.-3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays,  
Nursery 11 a.m.: 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays.

## MISSIONS

**Mission Focus for January** - is our partner church, the Sugutek Church near Eldoret, Kenya. This is the childhood church of our own Janet Cheraisi. Mark your offering envelope "Kenya church" with your donation.

**Can Recycling** - Leave aluminum cans outside the back kitchen door. They will be picked up and recycled by the HIS Group. Money collected will go toward various missions.

**Epworth Volunteers Needed** - Positions available: Turn Key, Usher, Nursery helper, Children's Sunday School teacher, Children's Church teacher, Wednesday Night Children's teacher and Wednesday Night clean-up helper. If you feel led to volunteer, please contact the church office for more info. We will help you find your talent and add you to the schedule.

**Feeding Our Neighbors at Rose Hill UMC** - We will provide supper on Tuesday, January 30. Preparations will begin at 5 p.m.; serving at 5:45 p.m. If you want more information about serving or helping to prepare the meal, contact Debra Johnson or Becky Britton.

**Wynnton Neighborhood 2017 Report** - the Network served 4,322 families with food which included 4,881 children. More than two-thirds of those families visited once during the year. About 20% visited twice and 10% visited us three to four times. This shows that most folks just need a little help and are not habitual users. In 2016, we served nearly 4.5% more families with 6% more children. We spent \$58,098.89 providing approximately a week's worth of groceries to each of our clients. We also spent \$38,752.18 helping 556 families with utility assistance, an increase due to our increase in the amount we donate per family. Please be proud of all you've helped us to accomplish!

## WHAT'S HAPPENING

**Wednesday Night Supper** - January 24, at 6 p.m. Sign up to make supper reservations on the information board. Menu: lasagna, garlic bread, salad bar and dessert.

**Wednesday Night Study** - Wednesday, January 24, at 6:30 p.m., our pastor will begin the study on Bishop Reuben Job's book, *Three Simple Questions: Knowing the God of Love, Hope, and Purpose*. Books are available for purchase for \$5 each in the Whitehurst Welcome Center.

**Adult Bible Study** - every Thursday, at 9:30 a.m., in the Questors classroom. Contact Debra Johnson if you are interested.

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

**Church Council Retreat** - Make your plans now to attend the retreat on Saturday, January 27, from 9 a.m. - 2 p.m., at the church. RSVP to the church office by January 22.

**UMM Cake Auction** - on Sunday, February 11, at 5 p.m. UMM (and their secret assistants) are asked to bake cakes, pies, cookies and more to sell at the auction to raise funds. In the past, UMM has supported many projects within the church and community with your generous donations.

**Ash Wednesday for Sunday Morning** - We are anticipating a powerful worship experience on Sunday morning, February 18. Since Valentine's Day and Ash Wednesday fall on the same day, we are encouraging everyone to spend Valentine's Day with your sweetheart and come out on Sunday morning for a special worship service. We will have "Ash Wednesday on Sunday Morning" to begin our Lent season, special music at both services and we will welcome Bishop James King to preach. Then a special time of Holy Communion and Ashes that will invite us to observe a holy Lent together. Don't miss it!

## EPWORTH PRAYER LIST

### **Church Family**

Fred & Emilie Carswell	Blount King	Gladys Plant	Trudy Harris
Vanessa Desoto	Ron & Betty Sawyer	Thrower Family	Kitty Crockett
Sibyl Wells	Keri McElvey	Jan Shackelford	Kernodle Family
Judy Scanling	Barbara Watson	Joe Flynn	Lillian Wooldridge
Elsie & Jim Spanogians	Andrea Carbaugh	Glenn Griffin	Daniel Family

### **Extended Church Family**

Steve & Carol Guilbeault	Michael Taff	David Olson	Doyle Adams
Dotty Baker	Ricky Clark	Robbins Family	Andrew Wade
Miranda "Randy" Jones	Laurie Osteen	Preston Silvernail	Dora Spires
Willie Ryles	Judy Patterson	Cassie Prochaska	Billy Hill
Kim Jordan	Kristy Stier	Dorothy Ogg	Bruce Chapman
Amanda Hay	Marilyn Buck	Danny Chidester	Beth Goodwin
Luby Family	Henry Dunn	Adams Family	Ginger Jarvis
Ralph & Sandy McGough	Diane Wiggins	Stephanie Bryan	Robin Grantham
McDaniel Family	Katherine Naegele		

### **Assisted Living/Nursing Homes/Homebound**

Calvary Community - Lou Williams	River Towne Center - Jerry Williams
Magnolia Manor - Doris Halouska, Cammie Van Over	Savannah Grand - Linda Coleman
Phenix City Health Care - Anne Whitehurst	The Lodge - Lorene Carlisle
River Place - Betty Cummings	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. Help us minister effectively by  
calling the church office about yourself or a family member. Thank you for your help.*

## **Helping Hands Ministry**

**Sponsored by Epworth UMW**

Are you living alone? Do you need someone to help you with replacing light bulbs? AC filters? Batteries in a smoke detector? Have you given up driving? Do you need a ride to the doctor? Grocery store? The local drug store?

Helping Hands Ministry just may be for YOU! Epworth's UMW will connect you with volunteers at Epworth to help you with these tasks. If you have questions, feel free to ask Becky Britton or Barbara Stubbs more about this new ministry for those who live alone.

Complete one of the forms at the bottom of this sheet if you want to be part of this ministry. Put the form in the collection plate, give it to Becky Britton or Barbara Stubbs personally or to Susan Snider in the church office.

### **Those who need HELP:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Home phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell phone: \_\_\_\_\_

### **Those who will VOLUNTEER to help:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Home phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell phone: \_\_\_\_\_