

COMING UP...

Sunday, February 3

12:15 p.m. Home Communion Team Meeting

Monday, February 4

10:00 a.m. Prayer Shawl Ministry Meeting

Tuesday, February 5

10:30 a.m. HIS UMW Group Meeting

6:30 p.m. AA Group Meeting

Wednesday, February 6

6:00 p.m. Praise Team Rehearsal

6:00 p.m. Wednesday Supper

6:30 p.m. "Come to the Table" Study

6:30 p.m. Wacky Wednesday

7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, February 7

12:00 noon Prayer Team Meeting

Sunday, February 10

9:00 a.m. Contemporary Worship

10:00 a.m. Sunday School

11:00 a.m. Traditional Worship

5:30 p.m. Youth Group Meeting

PASTORAL COUNSELING

Our church partners with The Pastoral Institute 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. The Pastoral Institute is located at 2022 15th Ave., Columbus.

2019 FLOWER CALENDAR

Sign up to purchase flowers for the sanctuary. The calendar is on the office window. Arrangements are \$50 each. To request a date, call or email the church office. Most February - March Sundays are available.

OUR CHURCH STAFF

*Epworth's members are our ministers.
The professional staff who assist us are:*

Choir DirectorLyn 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

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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

February 3, 2019

Obstacles to Obedience: Doubt

"I believe; help my unbelief!"

Mark 9:24b (NRSV)

There are no atheists in foxholes.

Unknown

I doubt it.

Few phrases seem to cast cold water on the fires of hope like this. Expressing out loud the lack of confidence, trust, or faith that something someone is hoping for will happen is such a shock. It demands argument. A defense is needed. It can happen!

Today we are dealing with doubt as an Obstacle to Obedience. How can I continually pursue a relationship with God when I either doubt that God exists at all or, to a lesser degree, doubt that deity has any interest in me?

Doubt in our faith journey is ultimately a relationship problem. When we are on the baseball team and dad doesn't show up for the game time and time again, then we eventually doubt his words when he says he'll be there. When someone says to us they will never betray us again, but they soon fall into their old pattern, we doubt them when they tell us next time.

It is easy in religious circles to say doubt is the opposite of belief or faith. Today, we will look at a number of things that are related to doubt. Doubt doesn't have to be an obstacle to discipleship. In fact, it can be the very thing to drive you to the deepest faith you have ever had.

When we get pressed against the wall, there is something in us that wants to call on the divine. We are made with this instinct within us. Let us believe even as we cry out to God to help our unbelief. Let us embrace and use the doubts we have to drive us toward a depth of discipleship we haven't yet known. This is an obstacle that truly becomes an opportunity if we will embrace it.

In Christ,



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

*The mission of the United Methodist Church is to make disciples of
Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.*

SUNDAY SCHOOL AT 10:00 AM

The Children's Class (K-5)

Teacher: Margaret Gosden, Terresa Salter

The Youth Class

Teacher: Jason or Rosemary DiSimone

The Friendship Class

Study: Renounce Everything for Christ

Teacher: Class

The Genesis Class

Study: The Wired Word

Teacher: Leslie Morris

The Joy Class

Study: Class Discussion

Teacher: Class

The Nathan Patterson/Wesley Class

Study: Exodus 5

Teacher: Bobby Smith

The New Connections Class

Study: Class Discussion

Teacher: Class

The Questors Class

Study: Renounce Everything for Christ

Teacher: Glenn Griffin

The Seekers Class

Study: Class Discussion

Teacher: Class

The Young Adult Class

Study: Jesus & the Beanstalk

Teacher: Becky Britton

THOSE WHO SERVE

February 3, 2019

9:00 a.m. Worship Service

Greeter: Becky Britton, Janie Nellums

Usher: Diane Morris

Acolyte: Usher

Children's Church: Janie Nellums,
Whitney Weyeneth

11:00 a.m. Worship Service

Greeter: Susan Davis, Chuck Salter

Ushers: Donny Davis, Doug Revell

Acolytes: Eva Cherai, Jake DiSimone

Children's Church: Debra Johnson

Nursery Volunteer: Lisa Crosby

Financial Secretary: Steve Sawyer

Turn Key: Rev. Tony Crosby

OUR STEWARDSHIP

January 27, 2019

Tithes & Offerings:	\$3,830.00
Received To Date:	\$20,749.04
Needed To Date:	\$23,777.76

Attendance:	
Sunday School	70
Worship: 9 a.m.	36
Worship: 11 a.m.	70
Total	106

CHILDREN

Wacky Wednesdays - each week 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.

Hearts of Love - can be purchased now through Sunday, February 10. Hearts are available for \$2 each to be displayed in the Whitehurst Welcome Center in February with personal messages to loved ones. Funds raised benefit the upcoming children's ministries summer and fall programs.

VBS Workshop - To Mars & Beyond - We will travel to Tucker, GA, on Saturday, March 2, to attend a workshop which will offer hands-on experience for this year's VBS. This will be a great tool for teachers and volunteers. See the sign-up sheet on the information board if you plan to attend or for more information. We are planning to car pool.

Epworth VBS T-shirts for Donations - See the table in the foyer to select past year's VBS T-shirts for a donation to the Children's Ministry while supplies last.

MISSIONS

February Mission Focus - Open Door Classic, Saturday, March 2. Registration; 7:30 a.m. for the run and 8:30 a.m. for the walk. Donations will go to support ODCH programs of ministry, including community, homelessness, and poverty. If you would like to join the Epworth team, sign up at opendoorcommunityhouse.org or see Becky Britton. To donate, mark your offering envelope with "Open Door Walk."

Join the Home Communion Team - One of the most important ministries in our church is keeping homebound members connected to worship and the sacraments. Our Home Communion team ensures communion is served at least quarterly to members of our church and others who desire it. We will have a meeting after the 11 a.m. worship service today. You can be trained and placed on the schedule.

Volunteers Needed for Annual Conference in June 2019 - The Northwest District is hosting this year's conference. We need your help in serving at Annual Conference, June 2-4. Let us know how and when you can volunteer. Contact the church office or fill in your connection card in worship. Thank you!

Feeding the Golden Agers at Open Door Monday, February 18, at 2:00 p.m. The menu will be soup, corn bread, crackers, sandwiches, desserts, and tea. Please bring your items to the church by noon on Monday if you cannot attend. Contact Sandra Burns with questions or with the items you are bringing.

Save Your Yogurt Cups - The children are collecting empty, clean cups for an upcoming project. Place them in the marked container in the Children's Wing.

WHAT'S HAPPENING

Wearing Red for Super Bowl Sunday- UMW members are wearing RED today for Human Trafficking Awareness.

Home Communion Servers Meeting - Today, February 3, immediately following the 11 a.m. worship service in the fellowship hall. A light lunch will be provided.

Youth Group - Will not meet this Sunday, February 3, because of the Super Bowl. Join us on Sunday, February 10, as we continue our series called, "Resolved."

HIS UMW Group - Tuesday, February 5, at 10:30 a.m., in the fellowship hall. Brenda Karastury is the hostess and Becky Britton will present the program. Bring mission items for the Open Door Showering program and the covered-dish for which you signed up.

Wednesday Supper & Study - February 6, at 6 p.m. Sign up on the information board or contact the church office to make reservations. Menu: tilapia, rice pilaf, steamed veggies, salad and dessert. Join us as we continue the study series, *Come to the Table*, which begins at 6:30 p.m. each week.

New Life UMW - Monday, February 11, at 6:30 p.m. Located to be determined.

United Methodist Men - Monday, February 11, at 6:30 p.m., in the fellowship hall.

Vintage Group - Thursday, February 14, at noon, at Ed's Southern Cooking, Woodruff Farm Road, next to Publix. Sign up on the Information board.

Easter Egg Hunt - A planning meeting for the community Easter Egg Hunt will be Saturday, February 16, at 5 p.m., in the fellowship hall.

