

COMING UP...

Sunday, February 10

Social Second Sunday

5:30 p.m. Youth Group Meeting

Monday, February 11

6:30 p.m. New Life UMW Meeting

6:30 p.m. UMM Meeting

Tuesday, February 12

6:30 p.m. AA Group Meeting

Wednesday, February 13

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 14

Valentine's Day

12:00 noon Prayer Team Meeting

12:00 noon Vintage Group Meeting

Saturday, February 16

5:00 p.m. Easter Egg Hunt Planning Session

SOCIAL SECOND SUNDAY

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

2019 FLOWER CALENDAR

Sign up to purchase flowers for the sanctuary. The calendar is attached to the office window. Arrangements are \$50 each. To request a date, contact 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 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

February 10, 2019

**Obstacles to Obedience:
Busyness**

...you are worried and distracted by many things; there is need of only one thing.

Luke 10:41b-42a (NRSV)

The main thing is to keep the main thing the main thing.

-Stephen Covey

I looked it up online, but I don't know if it is possible to trace down a quote or an idea that is so widespread. But you've heard it before as well as I have...

You can always make more money, but try as you might, you can never make more time.

As I have been sharing in my messages during this series, the items people have submitted as *Obstacles to Obedience* have come out of your daily lives and struggles. This one is no different, but I suspect it is more widespread than we are willing to admit.

The problem is that we have been brought up in a culture that values work. And while this is not a problem with some of our obstacles to discipleship (laziness is coming up in a couple of weeks and work ethic is certainly helpful against that), it is a problem in other ways. We have also moved into a culture where our digital gadgets have decreased our attention spans and made time for deep reflection more and more scarce unless we go to extreme efforts to make it happen. If we are a family with children or grandchildren, then we are taking them to more activities in the course of a week than any of us can probably remember in our time.

One of the reasons we are so spiritually starved is that we don't take time to "eat." Just like physical hunger pangs begin to diminish after a time of starving, so do the spiritual pangs of hunger. When we are feasting regularly on the word of God, we can tell when we "miss a meal." But if we stay away long enough and fill ourselves with other things, eventually we don't feel the hunger any longer. We have been distracted with our other "many tasks" and find that the faith we once held strong has been starved and is hanging on by a thread. We didn't walk away, but we fell away, moment by moment, day by day, and then year by year.

Stephen Covey, a time management guru and author of the well known best-seller, *The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People*, says that "the main thing is to keep the main thing the main thing." As Christians, our "main thing" must be a disciplined life of following Jesus so closely that we have the dust of the master's feet all over our face. It means we must become life-long learners of how to live and love like Jesus—and that won't happen by accident. It will only happen on purpose and when we make the main thing the main thing!

So let's order some priorities today and this year. "I'm too busy" isn't an excuse. It is always a choice. We all have the same amount of time in the day. You and I both need to focus more carefully on how we spend it. Our faith depends on 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 (6-12)

Teacher: Tony Crosby

The Friendship Class

Study: Pondering God's Steadfast Love

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 7

Teacher: Bobby Smith

The New Connections Class

Study: Class Discussion

Teacher: Class

The Questors Class

Study: Pondering God's Steadfast Love

Teacher: Rev. Tim Paulk

The Seekers Class

Study: The Wired Word

Teacher: Class

The Young Adult Class

Study: Jesus & the Beanstalk

Teacher: Becky Britton

THOSE WHO SERVE

February 10, 2019

9:00 a.m. Worship Service

Greeter: Jeanne Guilbeault, Bobby Smith

Usher: Randy Morris

Acolyte: Usher

Children's Church: Whitney Weyeneth

11:00 a.m. Worship Service

Greeter: Brenda Karastury, Lillian Wooldridge

Usher: 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

February 3, 2019

Tithes & Offerings:	\$10,993.00
Received To Date:	\$31,742.04
Needed To Date:	\$29,722.20

Attendance:	
Sunday School	74
Worship: 9 a.m.	41
Worship: 11 a.m.	82
Total	123

CHILDREN & YOUTH

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 through this 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.

Youth Group - will meet today at 5:30 p.m. Join us as we continue our series called, "Resolved." Bring a friend.

MISSIONS

February Mission Focus - Open Door Classic, Saturday, March 9. Donations will support ODCH programs of ministry. See Becky Britton or sign up at opendoorcommunityhouse.org to join the Epworth team. To donate, mark your offering envelope "Open Door Walk." See the insert in this Sunday's bulletin for more information.

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 item 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.

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

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!

Volunteers Needed for Magnolia Manor Rev. Vickie Scott, the chaplain at Magnolia Manor campus in Columbus, is seeking to increase the presence of United Methodist churches in their senior adult ministries. Contact Rev. Scott at 706-324-0987.

WHAT'S HAPPENING

New Life UMW - Monday, February 11, at 6:30 p.m., at the church.

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

Wednesday Supper & Study - February 13, at 6 p.m. Sign up on the information board or contact the church office to make reservations. Menu: salisbury steak w/gravy, pepper and onions, steamed veggies, rolls, salad and dessert. Join us as we continue the study series, *Come to the Table*, which begins at 6:30 p.m.

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.

Fellowship Hall Reserved - Tuesday, February 19, from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m.

Growing Christians UMW - Tuesday, February 19, at 6:30 p.m., in the fellowship Hall.

Ash Wednesday Worship set for March 6, 6:30 p.m. - Featuring guest preacher, Rev. Paul Coats, and special music from Epworth's talented musicians and a string quartet from the Youth Orchestra of Greater Columbus.

Safe Driving Course offered by The Vintage Group and AAA - Thursday, March 14, 9:00 a.m.-3:30 p.m., fellowship hall. A state-approved course; check with your auto insurance provider for possible discount. Cost: \$20. Bring your lunch. Minimum age: 25. Register on the sheet on the information board.

EPWORTH PRAYER LIST

Church Family

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

Extended Church Family

Steve & Carol Guilbeault	Michael Taff	David Olson	Mark Oliver
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		

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 Landings - Gladys Plant
Phenix City Health Care - Anne Whitehurst	The Lodge (Bessemer, AL) - Lorene Carlisle
	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





Saturday, March 9, 2019

Beginning at Woodruff Park across from Whitewater Express

Time:

**Fun Run and 5K Runner registration: opens at 7:30 a.m.
at Woodruff Park (not Big Dog)**

Walker Registration: 8:00 a.m.

Fun Run starts at 8:30 a.m.

**5K Run starts: 9:00 a.m., Walk starting immediately after
runners leave**

(*See back side for important information*)

Route:

Along Columbus and Phenix City Riverwalk and Uptown Columbus

Activities:

1 Mile Children's Fun Run, Walk, 5K Run, Prizes and Awards

Register online at:

www.odch.org

(scroll down to Open Door Classic logo and click)

For more information call 706-323-5518.

All proceeds benefit the ministries of Open Door Community House.

Programs of Ministry

MISSION STATEMENT

Empower people in our community to realize their full potential as children of God.

COMMUNITY MINISTRIES

Mathews Promise Academy
The Open Door Institute
Senior Adult Program

HOMELESS MINISTRIES

Welcome Home
Showering Program for the
Homeless
Virginia D. Jackson Home
for Women
HOME

CIRCLES

IN
COLUMBUS

Things you need to know the day of the event:

- Choose either the 5K run **OR** the Walk, but **NOT both**
- Runners keep to the right side and walkers to the left on the route
- Packet pick up for Fun Run and 5k Runners will be at Big Dog downtown on Friday, March 8 from 12 - 6 p.m. If you aren't able to pick up your packet on Friday, you will need to come to Woodruff Park Saturday morning to get it.



OPEN DOOR
COMMUNITY HOUSE

2405 Second Avenue, Columbus, GA 31901

(706) 323-5518

www.odch.org

