

COMING UP...

Sunday, February 17

5:30 p.m. Youth Group Meeting

Tuesday, February 19

11:00 a.m. GRSA Meeting

6:30 p.m. AA Group Meeting

6:30 p.m. Growing Christians UMW Meeting

Wednesday, February 20

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 21

12:00 noon Prayer Team Meeting

Saturday, February 23

11:00 p.m. Fellowship Hall Reserved

Sunday, February 24

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

ASH WEDNESDAY WORSHIP SET FOR MARCH 6, 6:30 P.M.

Epworth will observe Ash Wednesday and the beginning of the season of Lent with a special worship service on March 6, at 6:30 p.m. The worship will feature guest preacher, Rev. Paul Coats, and special music from Epworth's talented musicians as well as a string quartet from the Youth Orchestra of Greater Columbus. The service will be a beautiful opportunity to enter into a holy Lent together as we prepare our hearts for the glorious feast of Easter.

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

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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 17, 2019

Obstacles to Obedience: Fear

"...the only thing we have to fear is...fear itself..."

—Franklin D. Roosevelt (1933)

Some things that come across as great oratory seem to fall flat when you try to apply them to daily life.

If the only thing we have to fear is fear itself, then we are a very lost people. Behavioral scientists have documented hundreds of phobias-or fears-of various things. Some are quite irrational while others seem to make a lot of sense. The fear of snakes, heights, or spiders always find their way near the top of the list. Other fears such as those of closed-in spaces, social anxiety, or germs are also common. One of my favorite ones is the fear of long words—the scientific name of which is *hippopotomonstrosesquippedaliophobia*. That has to be one of the science world's favorite little inside jokes.

These fears are easily named and even though they cause us difficulty, sometimes the greatest fears we have are the ones that we are not willing to name out loud. We fear that we will not be accepted. We fear we are not good enough. We fear failure. These are the more day to day fears that are not on the top of the "phobia" lists, but often make it difficult for us to achieve our greatest hopes and dreams. These are quite often our biggest *Obstacles to Obedience*.

Many of the great leaders of God's people throughout the years have fought against these very fears of inadequacy. They felt unworthy to answer the call and fill the roles they were given. In many cases, they knew their lives were on the line. Ours may be, too. But they are the heroes of the faith because they somehow found the courage, most empowered by God's very Spirit, to take the steps forward that were needed. You can do that, too.

I don't know if my sermon will be the pep talk you need this morning to find some courage to move forward in spite of some of your fears, but I know the closer we lean on and look toward God, the more strength we will find as we follow his lead.

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: David Hay

The Friendship Class

Study: Praising God's Mighty Works

Teacher: Rev. Tim Paulk

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 8

Teacher: Bobby Smith

The New Connections Class

Study: Class Discussion

Teacher: Class

The Questors Class

Study: Praising God's Mighty Works

Teacher: Glenn Griffin

The Seekers Class

Study: The Wired Word

Teacher: Lillian Wooldridge

The Young Adult Class

Study: Jesus & the Beanstalk

Teacher: Becky Britton

THOSE WHO SERVE

February 17, 2019

9:00 a.m. Worship Service

Greeter: Debra Johnson, Anne Wilson

Usher: Volunteer

Acolyte: Usher

Children's Church: Whitney Weyeneth

11:00 a.m. Worship Service

Greeter: Bobby & Carolyn Knox, Maxine Willis

Usher: David Hay, Fraser Wooldridge

Acolyte: Eva Cherai, C. S. DiSimone

Children's Church: Becky Britton

Nursery Volunteer: Lillian Wooldridge

Financial Secretary: Lillian Wooldridge

Turn Key: James Johnson

OUR STEWARDSHIP

February 10, 2019

Tithes & Offerings: \$4,078.00

Received To Date: \$36,541.04

Needed To Date: \$35,666.64

Attendance:

Sunday School 62

Worship: 9 a.m. 44

Worship: 11 a.m. 65

Total 109

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.

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 - We will be going to a meeting today. Watch your text messages for details about where and when to meet.

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.

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 today'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. Bring your items to the church by noon on Monday if you cannot attend. Contact Sandra Burns with questions, to volunteer or food item you are bringing.

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!

Special Called General Conference to Meet in St. Louis February 23-26

- As many of you are aware, The United Methodist Church will be having a special called session of our denomination's top policy-making body, the General Conference. Our bishops called the meeting to deal with the escalating tensions in our church over the issues surrounding same-sex marriage and the ordination of LGBTIQI individuals as clergy. The South Georgia conference has an information page, www.sgaumc.org/wayforward, that will be helpful to you to seek good information about what is happening and how that may affect us. All are invited to be in intense prayer for our General Conference and the wisdom of our elected leaders to forge a path forward for us as a denomination.

WHAT'S HAPPENING

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.

Wednesday Supper & Study - February 20, at 6 p.m. Sign up on the information board or contact the church office to make reservations. Menu: scrambled dog, salad and dessert. Join us as we continue the study series, *Come to the Table*, which begins at 6:30 p.m.

Lenten Bible Study - Join us as we welcome the author of our church Lenten Bible study, Rev. Chris Barbieri, on Wednesday, February 27, program beginning at 6:15 p.m. Sign up to make supper reservations on the information board. The meal is free and begins at 5:45 p.m. Wacky Wednesday will be available at 6:15 p.m.

Epworth Facebook Group an Option for Lenten Study Group - We will use the Epworth UMC Facebook group for those who would like to interact with each other about the daily scripture readings during Lent. We are encouraging everyone to gather in small groups as we journey through our Lenten study of the Gospel of Mark. For those who cannot participate in a small group, we will be making online discussion via Facebook an option. Contact Tony if you have any questions about joining the church's Facebook group.

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. Open to congregation and friends.