

COMING UP...

Sunday, March 3

5:30 p.m. Youth Group Meeting

Monday, March 4

10:00 a.m. Prayer Shawl Ministry Meeting

Tuesday, March 5

10:30 a.m. HIS UMW Group Meeting

6:30 p.m. AA Group Meeting

Wednesday, March 6

6:30 p.m. Ash Wednesday Service

7:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, March 7

12:00 noon Prayer Team Meeting

Saturday, March 9

7:30 a.m. Open Door Walk/Run begins

Sunday, March 10

Daylight Saving Time Begins

Social Second Sunday

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 attached to the office window. Arrangements are \$50 each. To request a date, contact the church office. Most March-April 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 WorkerMartha 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

March 3, 2019

Obstacles to Obedience: Laziness

...you do not even know what tomorrow will bring. What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes. ...Anyone, then, who knows the right thing to do and fails to do it, commits sin.

From James 4 (NRSV)

I like the word "indolence." It makes my laziness seem classy.

-Bernard Williams

I'll do it tomorrow.

-Everybody

Perhaps the most difficult *Obstacle to Obedience* that we will deal with in our entire series is this one. In some ways, I am surprised that someone shared it because it is probably the one we least often fight with. In fact, very often we live with it.

We have become conditioned to a great deception. Every day of our lives we have been alive. Every day. Including today! That has happened so consistently that we rarely consider that it won't happen. It is only when the unpredictable comes that we give it a second thought. When we receive that grave news from the doctor or wind up in a pile of twisted metal in a car crash struggling for each breath or reeling in pain from the heart attack that is fighting for another heartbeat--only then do we consider the reality there is no guarantee of tomorrow.

The problem is that tomorrow comes most of the time. And because there is usually a tomorrow, it can easily seem that there always will be a chance to do what is needed. But in the midst of going through that process day after day, we realize that we have wasted a lot of a resource that we cannot get any more of in this life--time. We can make more money, but we cannot make more time.

The greatest problem with laziness is that it leaves the work of God undone. It is disobedience. It is sin. It is self-centeredness. It is the prioritization of personal comfort or ease over the work of growing in grace and serving God. And the problem is because we are often consumed with our intentions to do good eventually, we lose sight of the fact that it never was done.

Just do it. We are missing out on the blessings of a close walk with God because we are waiting for a better time, another day, or someone else to do it for us. We cannot reap the rewards if we don't put in the work.

So let's get to 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, Chuck & Terresa Salter

The Youth Class (6-12)

Teacher: Jason or Rosemary DiSimone

The Friendship Class

Study: Called to Humility and Hospitality

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 10

Teacher: Bobby Smith

The New Connections Class

Study: Class Discussion

Teacher: Class

The Questors Class

Study: Called to Humility and Hospitality

Teacher: Glenn Griffin

The Seekers Class

Study: Wired Word

Teacher: Class

The Young Adult Class

Study: Jesus & the Beanstalk

Teacher: Becky Britton

LENTEN STUDY GROUP OPTIONS

We are encouraging everyone to gather in small groups as we journey through our Lenten study of the Gospel of Mark. Sign up on the information board to join a small group that will meet from Ash Wednesday to Easter. 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. The study book, *40 Days with the Gospel of Mark*, is available for purchase for \$5 from the Whitehurst Welcome Center.

THOSE WHO SERVE

March 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

Usher: Donny Davis, Doug Revell

Acolyte: Eva Cherai, Jake DiSimone

Children's Church: Becky Britton

Nursery Volunteer: Lisa Crosby

Financial Secretary: Steve Sawyer

Turn Key: Rev. Tony Crosby

OUR STEWARDSHIP

February 24, 2019

Tithes & Offerings:	\$6,775.00
Received To Date:	\$46,625.50
Needed To Date:	\$47,555.52

Attendance:	
Sunday School	63
Worship: 9 a.m.	43
Worship: 11 a.m.	75
Total	118

CHILDREN & YOUTH

Youth Group - We will meet Sunday evenings at 5:30 p.m. in the youth room.

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.

Wacky Wednesday - We will continue next week, March 13. 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.

MISSIONS

Donate to Open Door Classic by this Sunday

To donate through the church, mark your offering envelope "Open Door Walk" by this Sunday. Donations will support ODCH programs of ministry. See Becky Britton or go to opendoorcommunityhouse.org to participate in the walk on Saturday, March 9.

Wynnton Neighborhood Network Dire Need of Food Items - WNN is in immediate need of any canned or dry goods and cereal. They have had a surge of clients needing food. Place items on the mission cart.

Donations Needed for Easter Egg Hunt - The Children's Ministry is asking for donations of plastic eggs, individually wrapped candy (no chocolate) and small toys that will fit into plastic eggs.

March Mission Focus - Casseroles for a Cause for Rose Hill Ministry. Look for more info to follow in next week's bulletin.

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

Volunteers Needed for Annual Conference in June 2019 - Contact the church office or fill in your connection card in worship.

MEMORIAM

Given to the Choir Fund in memory of *Michael W. Friend* by Buddy & Susan Dunn and Doug & Suzy Revell.

THANK YOU

We would like to thank the congregation for the love, prayers and cards sent during our time of loss. Thank you so much from the bottom of our hearts, the Friend family.

WHAT'S HAPPENING

Prayer Shawl Ministry Meeting - Monday, March 4, at 10 a.m., in the fellowship hall.

HIS UMW Group Meeting - Tuesday, March 5, at 10:30 a.m., in the fellowship hall. Hostesses are Jan Shackelford, Sue Vining and Carole Zimmerman. Jan will present the program. This is the last month to bring items for the Open Door's Showering Program. Bring the food item you signed up to bring for lunch.

Ash Wednesday Worship - We will have a special 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 nursery will be available.

New Life UMW Meeting - Monday, March 11, at 6:30 p.m., in the Questor's classroom.

United Methodist Men's Meeting - Monday, March 11, at 6:30 p.m., in the fellowship hall.

Upper Room Devotional Sale - March/April issue is available in the welcome center. Price as noted.

Safe Driving Course - The Vintage Group and AAA is offering a safe driving course on Thursday, March 14, from 9:00 a.m.-3:30 p.m., in the fellowship hall. The minimum age to participate is 25. The cost is \$20 and payable on the day of the class. Bring your lunch; sodas and tea will be provided. Register on the sign-up sheet on the information board. The course is open to everyone.



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

