

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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

I Forgive You

For today's bulletin cover, I simply want to offer some text from Dr. Byock's book, *The Four Things That Matter Most* (p. 69-70).

Sometimes extending forgiveness can be incredibly hard. What can we do when someone we once trusted wounds us so deeply that forgiveness seems inconceivable?

This is not a theoretical question. In my years practicing in hospital emergency departments, I saw many things that would have been unthinkable if they hadn't actually occurred. I've seen the results of physical abuse of infants and young children, including beating and scalding, that have left painful, permanent physical scars. I've seen children, even babies, who have been sexually molested by relatives or family friends. Treating these children, I was doubly grieved by knowing that in the future these victims typically find it hard to form intimate, loving and lasting relationships.

On the other hand, in my work in hospice and palliative care, I've met people who, as adults, have been forced to confront these difficult issues and have discovered in themselves courage and resilience that is awe inspiring. When a mother or father is becoming increasingly frail and approaching the end of her or his life, the quest for the adult child who was abused becomes, "How can I reach some satisfactory sense of completion?"

Sometimes, the abused person asks, "Why should I bother?"

It's a good question. Distance and disdain are legitimate options, but completing the relationship—including being willing to extend forgiveness—is the surest way to dissolve old scars. This forgiveness is not about accepting or excusing the abuse. It is not altruism. You may be entirely justified in hating the person who abused you, but hate keeps you chained to the person you despise.

Some of the abuse I've seen and the stories I have heard in the course of my practice have made forgiveness seem unattainable. Yet...forgiveness is always possible—and necessary if people want to break free of the past and become healthy and whole.

Join me today as we take a look at this book, the scripture, and the practical realities in truly being able to say and mean, "I forgive you."

In Christ,



The church will be closed Monday, March 5.

Georgia Power will be replacing the power poles on the west side of the church. For your safety, we ask that you do not enter the church. There will not be any power to the church.

OUR CHURCH STAFF

Children's Ministry DirectorLindsey Fossa
 Choir Director.....Lyn Pharris
 Church Administrator Susan Snider
 Contemporary Music Director..... Kayla Moss
 CustodiansMartha Conklin & Barbie Webb
 Interim Youth Minister.....Kristii Daniel
 Media & CommunicationsDawn Wilson
 Music DirectorBob Lee
 Nursery Worker..... Martha Conklin
 Pastor..... Tony G. Crosby

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THIS COMING WEEK

Sunday, March 4

12:00 p.m. Children's Volunteer Meeting
 4:00 p.m. Lenten Study - *He Chose the Nails*

Monday, March 5

10:00 a.m. Prayer Shawl Ministry Meeting

Tuesday, March 6

10:30 a.m. HIS Group UMW Meeting
 6:30 p.m. AA Group Meeting
 6:30 p.m. Youth Meeting

Wednesday, March 7

6:00 p.m. Epworth Praise Team Rehearsal
 6:00 p.m. Supper
 6:30 p.m. Lenten Study - *He Chose the Nails*
 7:00 p.m. Epworth Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, March 8

9:30 a.m. Adult Bible Study
 12:00 noon Prayer Team Meeting
 12:00 noon Vintage Meeting

Saturday, March, 10

5:00 p.m. AA Group Meeting

Sunday, March 11

Daylight Saving Time begins - Spring Forward
 UMCOR Sunday
 9:00 a.m. Contemporary Worship Service
 10:00 a.m. Sunday School
 11:00 a.m. Traditional Worship Service
 4:00 p.m. Lenten Study - *He Chose the Nails*

SUNDAY SCHOOL AT 10:00 AM

The Children's Classes

Kindergarten - 5th Grade: Margaret Gosden

The Youth Class

6th - 12th Grade: Kristii Daniel

The Friendship Class

Study: The Lord Will Provide

Teacher: Class

The Genesis 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: Genesis 9

Teacher: Bobby Smith

The New Connections Class

Study: Being Honest with Each Other

Teacher: Doug Franks

The Pathfinders Class

Study: Wired Word

Teacher: Suzy Revell

The Questors Class

Study: Grace in a Tree Stump - Ch. 11

Teacher: Glenn Griffin

The Seekers Class

Study: Wired Word

Teacher: Lillian Wooldridge

SERVANTS NEEDED

If you feel led to volunteer or would like more information, please contact the church office.

9 a.m. Acolytes: All Sundays

9 a.m. Ushers: 1st, 2nd, 3rd Sundays

Children's Sunday School: 4th Sundays

Children's Church: 9 a.m. - 2nd Sundays

Children's Church: 11 a.m. - 4th Sundays

Nursery 11 a.m.: 4th Sundays

Turn Key: 1st and 5th Sundays

There are other ministries within and outside the church where you may feel led to volunteer. For more info on these ministries, contact someone from the Missions Committee.

THOSE WHO SERVE

MARCH 4, 2018

9:00 a.m. Worship Service

Greeter: Janie Nellums

Usher: Diane Morris

Acolyte: Usher

Children's Church: Janie Nellums

11:00 a.m. Worship Service

Greeter: Susan Davis

Ushers: Donny Davis, Doug Revell

Acolyte: Eva Cherai, Jake DiSimone

Children's Church: Debra Johnson

Nursery Volunteer: Lisa Crosby

Financial Secretary: Steve Sawyer

Turn Key: Needed

OUR STEWARDSHIP

February 25, 2018

Tithes & Offerings: \$2,990.00

Received To Date: \$33,333.55

Needed To Date: \$44,421.16

Building Fund: \$0

ATTENDANCE:

Sunday School 64

Worship: 9 a.m. 36

Worship: 11 a.m. 71

107

YOUTH

Youth Meeting - Tuesday, March 7, at 6:30 p.m. Join us and bring a friend!

Youth Fundraiser - SaveAround coupon books with over \$5,000 in savings in the Columbus/Phenix City area and coupons that can be used nationally when travelling. The books are \$25 and a portion of the sales will go directly to support the 2018 youth summer mission trip to Indianapolis, IN. To see what the book has to offer, contact Kristii Daniel or go to www.savearound.com/collections/georgia-coupon-books/products/savearound-columbus-phenix-city-ga-2018-coupon-book

MISSIONS

UMCOR Sunday - March 11. United Methodist Committee on Relief shares God's love with communities whenever relief is needed. Epworth will collect donations to help cover UMCOR's annual operational costs. Your gift allows UMCOR to apply 100% of other donations directly to relief efforts.

Mission Focus for March - Casseroles for a Cause for Rose Hill Ministry. Pick up the provided chicken tetrazzini recipe and pan from the narthex. Deadline to return casserole is Easter Sunday, April 1. Place them in the freezer in the kitchen.

Health Kits for Rose Hill Ministry - the HIS UMW group is collecting items during March and April: gallon-size zip-closure bags, men's and women's socks, combs and brushes, washcloths. Full-size: lip balm, hand sanitizers, toothbrush, toothpaste, deodorant, razor, shaving cream. Travel-size: lotions, shampoos, body wash. The congregation is welcome to participate. Place your items in the marked container in the fellowship hall.

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 our senior adult ministries. Contact Theresa Mullican if you are interested.

Ongoing Missions within Epworth - Communion homebound servers, Helping Hands Ministry, aluminum can recycling, Epworth cookbooks, Feeding Our Neighbors at Rose Hill, Open Door Showering Program, Prayer Shawl Ministry, collection of aluminum can tabs for Ronald McDonald House, Box Tops for Education, medical equipment and plastic caps and lids. Direct questions to Becky Britton, Barbara Stubbs or the church office.

WHAT'S HAPPENING

Children's Ministry Volunteer Luncheon - Sunday, March 4, at noon, in the Fellowship Hall. All children ministry volunteers and anyone who is interested in becoming a volunteer are invited to attend. Come meet Lindsey Fossa, our new Children's Director.

Lenten Study - *He Chose the Nails*, by Max Lucado, is offered on Sundays at 4 p.m or Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. The next study dates are Sunday, March 4 and Wednesday, March 7.

HIS UMW Meeting - Tuesday, March 6, in the Fellowship Hall. Our hostesses will be Jan Shackelford, Sue Vining and Carole Zimmerman. Jan will present our Program. Our Mission for March and April is items for the Rose Hill Ministry Health Kits (see Missions for needed items). As you are able, please bring the covered dish for which you signed up.

Wednesday Night Supper - March 7, at 6:00 p.m. Sign up to make supper reservations on the information board. Menu: Three-ingredient chicken, mashed potatoes, gravy, sauteed mushrooms, onions and peppers, veggies, rolls, salad bar and dessert.

Vintage Meeting - Thursday, March 8, at noon, in the fellowship hall. Covered dish lunch. Remember to bring three \$1 bills to play "Left, Center, Right" for the winner's charity of choice. Sign up on the sheet on the information board. Anyone 55+ is invited to join us.

UMM Meeting Date Change - Monday, March 19, at 6:30 p.m., in the Questors classroom.

Family Egg Hunt & Lunch - Sunday, March 25, following the 11 a.m. service. Hot dog lunch and lots of fun. More info to follow.

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	Shackelford Family	Kernodle Family
Judy Scanling	Barbara Watson	Joe Flynn	Lillian Wooldridge
Elsie & Jim Spanogians	Andrea Carbaugh	Glenn Griffin	Daniel Family
Anne Wilson	Jane Grandon	Jimmy Bridges	Henry 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	Al Fohan	Ellen Pilgreen

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, Elizabeth Harbert	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.*

Sunday, March 11



UMCOR SUNDAY

(FORMERLY ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING)

**SHARE THE GOODNESS OF LIFE WITH
THOSE WHO HURT.**



Courtesy Photo: Laurie Felder

Cyclone Dineo roared through Mozambique in early 2017
and left destruction in its wake.

UMCOR
United Methodist Committee on Relief

**"Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law
of Christ." — Galatians 6:2, NIV**

March Birthdays

Say a prayer and write a note...

Epworth United Methodist Church

March 2018

Calendar of Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 9:30a-Adult Bible Study 12:00p-Prayer Team	2	3 7:30a-Open Door Classic 3K Run 8:30a-Open Door Classic 3K Walk 5:00p-AA Support Group Meeting
4 9:00a-Contemporary Worship Service 10:00a-Sunday School 11:00a-Traditional Worship Service 12:00p-Children's Volunteer Luncheon 4:00p-Lenten Study	5 10:00a-Prayer Shawl Ministry Meeting	6 10:30a-HIS Group UMW Meeting 6:30p-Youth Bible Study 6:30p-AA Support Group Meeting	7 6:00p-Wednesday Night Supper 6:00p-Praise Team 6:30p-Lenten Study 7:00p-Choir Practice	8 9:30a-Adult Bible Study 12:00p-Prayer Team 12:00p-Vintage Group Meeting	9	10 5:00p-AA Support Group Meeting
11 Daylight Saving Time begins UMCOR Sunday 9:00a-Contemporary Worship Service 10:00a-Sunday School 11:00a-Traditional Worship Service 4:00p-Lenten Study	12 6:30p-New Life UMW Meeting	13 6:30p-Youth Bible Study 6:30p-AA Support Group Meeting	14 6:00p-Wednesday Night Supper 6:00p-Praise Team 6:30p-Lenten Study 7:00p-Choir Practice	15 9:30a-Adult Bible Study 12:00p-Prayer Team	16	17 2:00p-Fellowship Hall Reserved 5:00p-AA Support Group Meeting
18 9:00a-Contemporary Worship Service 10:00a-Sunday School 11:00a-Traditional Worship Service 4:00p-Lenten Study	19 6:30p-Growing Christians 6:30p-UMM Meeting	20 6:30p-Youth Bible Study 6:30p-AA Support Group Meeting	21 6:00p-Wednesday Night Supper 6:00p-Praise Team 6:30p-Lenten Study 7:00p-Choir Practice	22 9:30a-Adult Bible Study 12:00p-Prayer Team	23	24 5:00p-AA Support Group Meeting
25 Palm Sunday 9:00a-Contemporary Worship Service 10:00a-Sunday School 11:00a-Traditional Worship Service 4:00p-Lenten Study	26	27 5:00p-Feeding Our Neighbors @ Rose Hill 6:30p-Youth Bible Study 6:30p-AA Support Group Meeting 7:00p-Reachers UMW Meeting	28 6:00p-Praise Team 7:00p-Choir Practice	29 Maundy Thursday 9:30a-Adult Bible Study 12:00p-Prayer Team	30 Good Friday Office Closed	31 5:00p-AA Support Group Meeting

- 1 Ellen Hutchinson
- Sue Vining
- 3 Carrie Borum
- Joseph Hutchinson
- 4 Bobby Clark
- Matthew Ledbetter
- 5 Tim Paulk
- Taylor Walsh
- 8 Marjean Waters
- 9 Becky Britton
- Sara Rice
- 11 Bill Dozier
- 12 Betty Sawyer
- 13 Kristi Coroi
- 14 Joshua Brown
- Joy Shellnut
- 15 Trevor Whittington
- 16 Shawn Jandreau
- 18 Jackson Phillips
- Shane Morris
- 22 Nicole Farrar
- Kaysen Wilson
- 31 T. J. Daniel

A Birthday Prayer

May God bless you today and each day that follows,
May you hear His voice and follow His footsteps,
Be comforted by His care and live in His grace now and forever, Amen.