

COMING UP...

MAY 31 - JUNE 7

Sunday, May 31
9:00 a.m. Adult Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Sunday Worship
In-person & Online & Children's Church
Children's & Youth Sunday
Tshirt Sunday
Annual Conference - May 31 thru June 2,
Macon, GA

Monday, June 1
11:30 a.m. Monday Ministry Zumba

Wednesday, June 3
Noon Bible Study will resume after the
Summer Break.
6:30 p.m. Zoom (EPEC) Bible Study

Thursday, June 4
Noon Prayer Team

Sunday, June 7
9:00 a.m. Adult Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Sunday Worship
In-person & Online & Children's Church
Holy Communion



CONTACT US

2400 Devonshire Drive
Columbus, GA 31904

Church Office (706) 322-6973
Pastor's Cell (706) 992-9147
www.epworthumc.com

toni@epworthumc.com
(example: earnestine@epworthumc.com)

Facebook - EpworthUMC.com
Instagram - EpworthUMC.com
Youtube - epworthumccolumbus1430

CONTACTING YOU

Most of the church's communication is through e-mail. We send three e-mails each week—a newsletter on Monday, an email from the pastor and an email reminder of Sunday worship. We also use e-mail to send important meeting reminders and other information. Help us contact you by ensuring the church office has your current e-mail address.

OUR CHURCH STAFF

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

Administrator Assistant.....Toni Thomas
Children's Ministry Director.....Jas'min Vontoure
Children's Ministry AssistantWhitney Mennifee
Custodians.....Martha Conklin
Barbie Webb
Media Tech.....Tristan Campbell
Music Director.....Bob Lee
Nursery WorkerMartha Conklin
PastorRev. Earnestine Campbell
Praise & Worship Director.....Mandi Battle

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



May 31, 2026

SPIRIT IN PARTNERSHIP

GOD POURED OUT

TRINITY SUNDAY

EPWORTH'S CHILDREN & YOUTH SUNDAY

Focus text: Genesis 1:1-2:4a, Matthew 28:16-20

Among the feast days or days of special focus in the liturgical calendar, Trinity Sunday may seem like the most abstract. Easter has a story—or stories—that we can grab onto. The same is true with Christmas, Epiphany, and Pentecost. Even All Saints and Reign of Christ/Christ the King are less ethereal than Trinity Sunday, a day we focus on the most difficult to understand—in fact, the paradoxically true yet illogical—doctrine of our faith. Thus, we may find ourselves orbiting around the how of the Trinity as we plan worship for this day. How do we make sense of God the Three-in-One? How do we explain the Trinity without falling into heresy? How do we make real a doctrine that has no direct reference in scripture? We can get so wrapped up in these “how” questions that we don't stop to consider that maybe those aren't the right questions. Instead of trying to find that one story or teaching or psalm to latch onto, we need to step back and consider that the whole of scripture, the whole story of God's work among us then and now, is the story of the Triune God.

It seems fitting, then, that our focus scriptures for today are the first chapter of Genesis and the last chapter of Matthew—the beginning of all creation and the end of Jesus' in-the-flesh presence among the disciples. Whichever scripture you choose to highlight today, I encourage you to read both in worship. Take your time with Genesis 1:1-2:4. Find ways to make this epic, cosmic tale of creation come alive. Undergird the reading with music, a drone from a deep organ pedal, perhaps, to evoke the sense of the Spirit/wind hovering over the waters. Display pictures on the screens as the scripture is read that depict the events of each day of creation. Have seven different people read the scripture, a different voice for each of the seven days. Let those voices represent different generations in your congregation, from the youngest to the oldest. Then, when you read Matthew 28:16-20, find ways to visually or aurally connect that reading to the creation story. Whether with images, music, or the same set of readers, help the congregation connect our commission to go into the world as bearers of good news with God's acts of creation, because this is how we cooperate with the work of the Triune God.

In Christ,
Pastor Earnie



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

SUNDAY SCHOOL AT 9:00 AM

The Nathan Patterson Class

Study: Psalms 32 - 41
Teacher: Bobby Smith

The New Connections Class

Study: Life Lessons From ACTS
Teacher: Glenn Griffin

The Seekers Class

Study: Wired Word
Teacher: Donny Davis

THOSE WHO SERVE

May 31, 2026

Ushers: Zuri Mennifee, Khloe Simmons, and Skylar Simmons

Financial Secretary: Donny Davis

Acolytes: Junior Lias and Cameron Miles

OUR STEWARDSHIP

May 24, 2026

Tithes & Offerings:	\$1,072.00
Received To Date:	\$106,820.59
Needed To Date:	\$96,182.08

Attendance:	
Sunday School	13
In-person Sunday Worship	46
Online Viewers	141
Total	187

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

3 Regina Bridges	27 Lori Aspinwall
7 James Faircloth	28 Natalie Kernodle
12 MacKenzie Morris	
13 C.S. DiSimone	29 Blount King
14 Susan Yaksh	30 Lauren Campbell
19 Philip Kernodle	Martha Conklin
20 Alyssa Francisco	Stephanie Clack
	Olive Propst
	Amanda Morris
25 Aaron Jackson	

STAY CONNECTED

In-Person & Livestreaming Worship -

Join us each Sunday at 10:30 a.m. Options for worshipping by livestream are: Put the name [epworthumc](https://www.facebook.com/epworthumc) first: [facebook.com/epworthumc](https://www.facebook.com/epworthumc) or [youtube.com/channel/UCZJhDYHDeeE-dnv5a5nQKjA](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCZJhDYHDeeE-dnv5a5nQKjA) as close to 10:30 a.m. as possible or as close to the time of other livestream services.

BIBLE STUDIES

Wednesday, June 3

--- Noon Bible Study: Studies will resume after the Summer Break.

---6:30 p.m. Online Zoom, EPEC, Bible Study class. The book of Exodus, Chapters 32-40.

CONFIRMATION CLASSES

Confirmation classes will begin in July 2026 for youth ages 12 to 17! Confirmation is a journey where young people deepen their understanding of faith, learn about the teachings of UMC, and become professing members of our church through their baptized faith and baptism preparation. Parents are encouraged to bring their children to this spiritually enriching experience, developing their growth and commitment to God and the church. Don't miss this opportunity to support your child's faith journey!

GRIEF/CAREGIVER MEETING

Grief / Caregiver Support Meeting - Our next Support Meeting is Tuesday, June 9th, at 1:00 p.m. All Epworth members are invited and encouraged to invite friends to come out for support and encouragement. For more information, contact Martha Conklin at 706-329-0629 or Vonna Franks at 423-902-6134.

SPECIAL GIFT

A \$50 donation was given to the Children's & Youth Ministry in honor of Van Vontoure & the beautiful artwork she creates in the Welcome Center and Fellowship Hall.

MISSIONS & UPCOMING EVENTS

JUNE MISSION

June Mission Opportunity -

Our June mission is Brown Bag of Columbus. Since July 1987, this nonprofit agency provides a 15 item bag of groceries once a month to low-income seniors. They have asked Epworth for two items: canned corn (15oz) & canned green beans (15oz). Monetary donations to Brown Bag are also appreciated. As always, your support is greatly appreciated!

CHILDREN'S & YOUTH SUNDAY

-Sunday, May 31—during the Worship Service is Children's and Youth Sunday, which will also be held every 5th Sunday. This ministry of young people will participate in various elements of worship, with their talents and gifts and growing in spiritual discipleship and leadership.

- We'll also celebrate their end-of-year grade advancements and achievements. Come support and uplift our future leaders in the faith!

-Reach out to parents, grandparents, and guardians you know to invite their children and youth to be part of the transformative ministry at Epworth! Here, they can participate in the Word and engaging activities, grow in their biblical understanding, and experience the unique culture of the Southeast—faith, fun, and fellowship!

A SPECIAL FUNDRAISER OPPORTUNITY FOR OUR CHURCH

- We are excited to announce a special opportunity to support our church through the book, The Journey of Abraham and Sarah: Faith, Failure, Fulfillment, authored by Pastor Earnestine Campbell. This inspiring book grew out of our Noonday and Zoom Bible study classes and offers a wonderful opportunity for personal growth and spiritual deepening within our faith.

- With a donation of \$20 or more, you can join this transformative journey through the lives of Abraham and Sarah, exploring their struggles and the grace of God.

Thank you for your continued support!

UPCOMING EVENTS & OPPORTUNITIES

SOUTH GEORGIA ANNUAL CONFERENCE

- Our 2026 South Georgia Annual Conference Session is set for May 31 - June 02, 2026, at Vineville UMC, Macon, GA.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL (VBS)

JULY 8TH - JULY 11TH

- Vacation Bible School schedule:
-Wednesday, July 8 – Friday, July 10, from 5:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. at the church.
-Volunteers are needed. The signup sheet is on the church office window.
-You can register online using this VBS registration link: <https://www.jotform.com/build/251553961689067>.

- Annual Outing Adventure on Saturday, July 11th at Launch Trampoline Park from noon - 4 p.m.: 7607 Veterans Pkwy, Columbus, GA 31909

-We will conclude VBS and enter into Back to School ministry with a Back to School Giveaway on Sunday, July 12th, during the worship service.
-Further details to come on school supplies donations.

T-SHIRT SUNDAY

Each last Sunday of the month, you are invited to wear a spiritual T-shirt, your favorite team's T-shirt, etc. – a T-shirt that brings you joy in the Lord! Our next T-shirt Sunday is May 31.

CELEBRATING OUR GRADS

Join us Sunday, June 14, 2026, as we honor and give recognition to our graduating members who submitted their graduation information.

A SPECIAL FUNDRAISER FOR VBS

Please support our children and youth by purchasing a VBS T-shirt for \$25. All proceeds will benefit the Children's & Youth Ministry.
- Contact Jas'Min Vontoure for purchase.

EPWORTH PRAYER LIST

Church Family

Lloyd Britton	Cheryl Jandreau	Annette Taff
Rebecca Britton	Natalie Kernodle	Michael Taff
Deborah Cooper	Bob Lee	Marjean Waters
Buddy Dunn	Linda Lee	Lillian Wooldridge
Susan Dunn	Mildred Rodgers	
John Grandon	Ann Smith	
Jeanne Guilbeault	Susan Stark	
Chester Jakes		

Mary Lee Crews & Family	Ron Sawyer & Family
James and Donna Faircloth & Family	Ann Smith & Family
Frank Karastury & Family	Barre' and Steve Whittington & Family
Earl & Melonie Phillips & Family	Family of Myra Tucker
Family of Harold Morris	

Extended Church Family

Patricia Waldo	Steve Guilbeault	Robbins Family	Kuester Family
Dora Spires	Willie Ryles	Judy Patterson	Cassie Prochaska
Billy Hill	Kim Jordan	Grier Family	Bruce Chapman
Carol Hall	Charles Holmes	Marilyn Buck	Danny Chidester
Beth Goodwin	McDaniel Family	Stephanie Bryan	Adams Family
Hattie Campbell	Robin Grantham	Dana Thurston	Diane Wiggins
Cristina Mattocks	David Garner	Kathy McClintock	Amanda Kinsman Vines
Ann Mitchell	Patricia Jefferson	Susan Land	Aundre Smith
James & Sue Flowers	Robert Wagers	Sarah Browder	Mary Kennedy
Maggie Smith	Hazel Dullin	Family of Neil Gergun	Janna Family
Roger Buterbaugh	Diane Propst	Ralph & Sandy McGough	
George Bowen	Martha Bone	Danny Snider & Family	Davis/Osborne Family
Tammy White	Sam Wilson	Michelle Slappy	Linda Walker
Bertha Robinson	Nona Robinson	Rev. Tim Paulk	

Independent/Assisted Living/Nursing Home

Oaks @ Maple Ridge - Helen Pharris	The Lodge (Bessemer, AL) - Lorene Carlisle
Kings Bridge (Atlanta, GA) - Blount King	Wesley Glen (Byron, GA) - Nancy Hiller
River Place - Anne Wilson	
Oaks @ Grove Park - Ron Sawyer	

*Please continue to pray for our homebound people. They would love a call or text!
If the prayer list needs to be updated, please call, email, or leave a note with updates at the church office. 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

**Sebastian
Williamson**

Jim & Jean
Williamson
& Family

ORDER OF WORSHIP

May 31, 2026 • 10:30 a.m.

Trinity Sunday
Epworth's Children & Youth Sunday
*The * Denotes to please stand if able.*

PRELUDE

Bob Lee, Music Director

ENTER THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

Junior Lias and Cameron Miles
Acolytes

WELCOME & OPENING PRAYER

Jaleah Lias
Worship Leader

*CALL TO WORSHIP

On this Trinity Sunday, we come to praise the Triune God—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit!

We praise God who creates, redeems, and sustains all creation!

We come to wade into the depths of the divine mystery of God, the One-in-Three and Three-in-One.

We seek an ever-deepening faith in God who creates, redeems, and sustains all creation!

We come to witness the interconnectedness of the Triune God, to marvel at the divine dance of partnership and cooperation.

We receive the invitation to join the divine dance of God who creates, redeems, and sustains all creation!

Come, let us worship the Triune God—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit!

Come, let us worship the Triune God who creates, redeems, and sustains all creation!

People: In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

*PRAISE SONG Medley: "Majesty, Worship His Majesty/He Is Lord" UMH 176 - 177
Led by Susan Dunn, Song Leader

OFFERTORY APPEAL/PRAYER

Worship Leader

During the offering, please place your offering in the collection plates as they are passed or text the word "GIVE" to (706) 655-6768. For our Online Worshippers, text or go to epworthumc.com and select "Donate."
On Communion Sunday, please place your Communion Offering in the basket near the altar.

OFFERTORY SELECTION

"Trust in God"

Epworth Children's & Youth Choir
CCLI # 2967303, Song # 7206001

RESPONSE

Doxology

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

SHARING OF CONCERNS & CELEBRATIONS

Rev. Earnestine W. Campbell, Pastor

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

*SCRIPTURE

MATTHEW 28:16-20

Cameron Miles

Leader: This is the Word of God for the People of God.

People: Thanks be to God.

SPECIAL MUSIC

"Less Like Me"

Mandi Battle
Praise & Worship Director
CCLI # 2967303, Song # 7136017

SERMON

"The Power of Now and Go"

Pastor

*INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

Pastor

You can become a member of Epworth by either professing your Christian faith for the first time or by transferring your existing membership from another Christian church.

*CLOSING SONG

"This Little Light of Mine"

UMH 585 vv. 1 - 3
Praise & Worship Director

*LIGHT OF CHRIST BROUGHT OUT INTO THE WORLD

Junior Lias & Cameron Miles
Acolytes

*BENEDICTION

Pastor

Go now in the blessing of the Triune God who draws you into the divine dance, inviting you to partner in God's life-giving work to bring flourishing and abundant life to all creation! Amen.

*POSTLUDE

Music Director

COFFEE BAR ON SUNDAYS

Coffee Bar in the Welcome Center:

Enjoy coffee and refreshments for the Sunday School and Worship Service hours every Sunday.
~Donations are appreciated.

End of Year Awards & Recognition

Brooks Lias - Certificate of Achievement and Hawk of the Year award

Cameron Miles - Honor Roll

Chloe Miles - Certificate of Completion, Honor Roll, iReady Certificate of Completion, Xtra Math Certificate of Achievement

Ja'leah Lias - Perfect Attendance

Khloe Simmons - King Cup Award (Top 5th grade student), IB Participation, Science Olympics Participation, Math Team Participation, Amazing Ambassador, Principal's List, AR Hall of Fame, Outstanding PE Student, Jr. Beta Club President, and the Presidential Gold award.

Ny'Ashja Hudley - 3.5 GPA and National Honor Society

Riley Brantley - K3 completion

Skylar Simmons - IB Participation, Science Olympics Participation, Amazing Ambassador, Principal's List, AR Hall of Fame, and the Outstanding Math Student award.

Zion Sampson - 3.6 GPA and National Honor Society

Zuri Menniffee - AB Honor Roll, iReady Certificate of Achievement, and Lakewood Leader Award



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