

COMING UP...

JUNE 14 - JUNE 21

Sunday, June 14

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

Monday, June 15

11:30 a.m. Monday Ministry Zumba

Wednesday, June 17

Bible Studies will resume after the Summer Break.
11:30 a.m. Kiwanis Club

Thursday, June 18

Noon Prayer Team

Sunday, June 21

9:00 a.m. Adult Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Sunday Worship
Graduate Recognition Sunday
Father's Day Observance



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.

 epworth
united methodist church

June 14, 2026

BEYOND REPAIR OR NO LIMITS?

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Matthew 9:9-13, 18-26

In our sermon on Sunday, we explored Matthew 9:9-13, 18-26. The author was once a tax collector—a man living a life of societal rejection by his self-imposed condition of exorbitant taxation of the Jewish people, causing isolation. In pursuit of wealth, he aligned himself with the Roman Empire, sacrificing his place among his own people. His profession made him a target of scorn—a traitor in the eyes of his fellow Jews. However, in the midst of his shame, he encountered Jesus - one of the stories from the text leading us to our Sermon Title, “Beyond Repair or No Limits?”

The text tells us that Matthew was sitting at his tax booth when Jesus approached him with a simple, transformative command: “Follow me.” In that moment, everything changed. Matthew left behind his old life and stepped into a new identity and purpose through radical acceptance. His story is a powerful testament to God's grace, showing that even those who have strayed far from the path can find restoration.

During the sermon, I used Dostoyevsky's relevant story pointing to the final judgment [1]. In it, Jesus welcomes all—the outcasts, the broken, and the sinners. He calls to the drunkards and the weak, reminding us that none are beyond the reach of divine grace. Dostoyevsky uses the story to show that even those considered the vilest among us—including ourselves—can find acceptance and healing in Christ, reflecting Matthew's own story of transformation.

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 57 - 72

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

June 14, 2026

Ushers: Fraser Wooldridge

Financial Secretary: Donny Davis

Acolytes: Children/Youth Ministry/Ushers

OUR STEWARDSHIP

June 7, 2026

Tithes & Offerings: \$5,320.00

Received To Date: \$115,329.59

Needed To Date: \$105,342.08

Attendance:

Sunday School 13

In-person Sunday Worship 52

Online Viewers 122

Total 174

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

Olive Propst

20 Alyssa Francisco
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 first: facebook.com/epworthcolumbus](https://www.facebook.com/epworthcolumbus) 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

Bible Studies will resume after the Summer Break.

CONFIRMATION CLASSES

Confirmation classes will begin in July 2026, during the Children's Church hour, for youth ages 12 - 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!

CELEBRATING OUR GRADS - GRADUATE RECOGNITION SUNDAY

Join us Sunday, June 21, 2026, during the worship service hour, as we honor and give recognition to our graduating members who submitted their graduation information. The following graduate recognitions are:

~ *Diona Janay Bronson, Columbus State University*

Diona graduated from Columbus State University in Columbus, GA, on December 12, 2025, with a Bachelor's degree in Elementary Education. She is currently a 5th grade teacher at Blanchard Elementary. Diona is also working toward her Master's degree in Elementary Education with a Reading Endorsement.

~ *Lauren Gabrielle Campbell, Florida Agricultural & Mechanical University*

Lauren graduated from Florida Agricultural & Mechanical University (FAMU) in Tallahassee, FL, on May 2, 2026, with a Bachelor's of Science degree in Business Administration with a concentration in Marketing. Lauren is currently working during the Summer break and making plans to enroll in a Master of Business Administration program in the Fall.

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). You are also welcome to make monetary donations to Brown Bag. As always, your support is greatly appreciated!

MANY THANKS

- With the help of our matching anonymous donation, Epworth was able to give MANA Nutrition \$2,754.00! That amount will pay for 1 1/2 pallets of Ready to Use Therapeutic Food (RUTF) or 68 boxes, or 10,200 RUTF packets. Way to go, Epworth!

CHILDREN'S & YOUTH MINISTRY

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!

FATHER'S DAY HERSHEY BARS

To honor this Father's Day on Sunday, June 21, Epworth's Worship Committee will be selling specially wrapped Hershey bars in honor and in memory of the fathers, grandfathers, and great-grandfathers in our lives. Please complete the insert form and submit it along with a \$5.00 donation, for each name to be listed, in the offering plate or to the church office by Wednesday, June 17. All proceeds will go to the church's General Fund.

What an amazing opportunity to honor and recognize Dad while rejoicing in God's glory!

UPCOMING EVENTS & OPPORTUNITIES

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL (VBS)

JULY 8 - JULY 11

- 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 11 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 12, during the worship service.
-Further details to come on school supplies donations.

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.

GRIEF/CAREGIVER MEETING

Grief / Caregiver Support Meeting - Our next Support Meeting is Tuesday, June 23, 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.

FELLOWSHIP HALL RESERVED

~ Tuesday, June 16 - All day - The Fellowship Hall is Reserved for General Election Runoff Voting.

~ Every Wednesday, from June 17 thru the month of July - 11:00 a.m. - 1:15 p.m.

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

Continuation...

This theme of restoration continues in Matthew 9, where we see the intertwined stories of Matthew himself, the woman with the issue of blood, and Jairus, the synagogue leader, and his daughter. Each faced rejection, and each found healing—one whom Jesus found and two who, through their faith, sought out Jesus. These are powerful stories we can use in our own times of trouble, weakness, poor decisions, rejection, and trauma. Jairus, a respected synagogue leader, approaches Jesus with a sorrowful heart. His twelve-year-old daughter is dying, and in his desperation, he humbles himself, falling at Jesus' feet and pleading for help. In this moment of vulnerability, his societal status means nothing. He is simply a father seeking restoration for his child.

As Jesus agrees to go with him, neither is concerned with what society thinks about crossing boundaries of ritual purity—the only concern is healing and restoration, regardless of status or circumstance. As they walk toward Jairus' home, something powerful happens. The woman with the issue of blood, who has suffered for twelve years, sees her chance. Despite being deemed unclean and ostracized from society, her faith compels her to reach out and touch the hem of Jesus' garment.

When the woman touches His garment, Jesus immediately feels power leave Him. He turns and asks, "Who touched me?" In that moment, He recognizes her not just for her condition, but for her faith. He acknowledges her with dignity, calling her "Daughter" and affirming her place in the family of God. That alone testifies to the power of faith and the no-limit God we serve! What a powerful act of faith and what it teaches us: sometimes healing and divine encounters happen while we're on the way, in the midst of our journeys. Jesus is never too busy for us; He is always present and attentive to our needs, just as Nehemiah tells us in his prayer to God. (Nehemiah 1:11)

After this encounter, Jesus continues on to Jairus' house. When He arrives, He declares, "The girl is not dead but asleep." This is more a statement of physical restoration and a promise that transcends death itself. Jesus takes Jairus' daughter by the hand and raises her back to life, showing His authority over life and death.

In our own lives, we face similar challenges. When we stand in faith, pursuing what God has promised us, we need to surround ourselves with those who believe with us, not like the crowd in Jairus' daughter's situation, laughing at Jesus' words and power. Just as Jesus removed the doubters and scoffers, we must protect our dreams from those who would mock our hopes and God's plans for our lives. Keep the noise out and the voice of God in!

To summarize, Jesus has the final word! He proved His authority over life and death when He raised Jairus' daughter. This act of restoration is taken to a higher level in redemption through Jesus' crucifixion and resurrection. Through His sacrifice, He conquered death, offering us faith, hope, and salvation. His resurrection is the most profound testament to God's ability to restore what people may deem lost or defeated.

As we reflect on these stories, let us remember that restoration knows no limits. Jesus breaks through social barriers and reaches out to those deemed unworthy, offering hope and healing. No one is beyond repair. God's grace extends to all, inviting us to experience His transformative love and to share that same grace with others. Embrace this message of hope and redemption, and let it inspire you to walk in faith—knowing that with God, the last word always belongs to Him. *Amen.*

1. <https://thepastorsworkshop.com/sermon-illustrations/dostoyevsky-and-the-last-judgment>

ORDER OF WORSHIP

June 14, 2026 • 10:30 a.m.

Third Sunday after Pentecost

*The * Denotes to please stand if able.*

PRELUDE Bob Lee, Music Director

ENTER THE LIGHT OF CHRIST Children/Youth Ministry/Ushers

WELCOME & OPENING PRAYER Worship Leader

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** Apostles' Creed UMH No. 881

I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth;
And in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried;
the third day he rose from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

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

***PRAISE SONG** "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee" UMH 89 vv. 1, 2, & 3
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.

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 9:35-10:8 Becky Britton

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

People: Thanks be to God.

SPECIAL MUSIC "The Goodness of God" Mandi Battle
Praise & Worship Director
CCLI # 2967303, Song # 7117726

SERMON "From the Crowd to Called" 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** "How Great Thou Art" UMH 77 vv. 1 & 2
Praise & Worship Director

***LIGHT OF CHRIST BROUGHT OUT INTO THE WORLD** Acolytes

***BENEDICTION** Pastor

***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.

Father's Day Hershey Bars

This Father's Day, Epworth's Worship Committee will be selling specially wrapped Hershey bars in honor and in memory of the fathers, grandfathers, and great-grandfathers in our lives. Complete the form below to purchase a Father's Day Hershey bar. Submit it, along with a \$5 donation for each name to be listed, in the offering plate or deliver them to the church office by Wednesday, June 17. Proceeds will go to the church's General Budget.

Name of Giver: _____

In Memory of: _____

In Memory of: _____

In Memory of: _____

In Honor of: _____

In Honor of: _____

In Honor of: _____



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In Honor of: _____

In Honor of: _____

