

COMING UP...

AUGUST 16 - AUGUST 23

- Sunday, August 16
9:00 a.m. Adult Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Sunday Worship
In-person & Online & Children's Church
Baptism & Reaffirmation of Faith
- Monday, August 17
11:30 a.m. Monday Ministry Zumba
- Wednesday, August 19
Noon Bible Study
6:30 p.m. Zoom (EPEC) Bible Study
- Thursday, August 20
Noon Prayer Team
- Sunday, August 23
9:00 a.m. Adult Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Sunday Worship
In-person & Online & Children's Church
Trustees' Quarterly Meeting immediately following worship service



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

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 DirectorJas'Min Vontoure
- Children's Ministry AssistantWhitney Mennifee
- Custodians.....Martha Conklin
Barbie Webb
- Media TechTristan Campbell
- Music Director..... Bob Lee
- Nursery WorkerMartha Conklin
- Pastor Rev. Earnestine Campbell
- Praise & Worship Director Mandi Battle

epworth
united methodist church

August 16, 2026

UNITY OF PRAISE

PRAISE BREAK
TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
FOCUS TEXT: PSALM 133

In just a few short verses, the writer of Psalm 133 transports me to that moment on Christmas morning when wrapping paper is all over the floor, kids are playing with new toys (or the boxes they came in), and the adults are sitting around drinking coffee and chatting. Or it reminds me of that moment when my spouse and I went to a Chicago Cubs baseball game at Wrigley Field and joined thousands of fans in cheering every time they scored. It's like that moment when you finally get to be with your best friend after months apart, and your heart feels seen and known. How very good and pleasant it is when kindred live together in unity!

At the heart of this psalm is belonging. It is a psalm in praise of God, who saves us into a family, who, by grace, shows us that we belong to God and to one another. When we live into this belonging, the natural outflow is praise.

Consider, then, what practices in weekly worship build belonging and emphasize those this Sunday. Encourage people to check in with one another during the passing of the peace. Remind those gathered that the creed or statement of faith joins us together as a family in Christ. Take a moment to breathe together and to sing! Recent studies have explored the cognitive and emotional benefits of singing, but what hasn't been explored as much is that if an individual singing helps regulate emotions, then group singing is an act of co-regulation—of helping one another ease the anxieties we bring to a space and find our center and balance in community. So, when we sing in church, we are participating in an act that builds our sense of safety and belonging with one another. Taking this a step further, when we sing praise, we give God glory and participate in an act that draws us closer to God and to one another. Singing does a lot! But so does praying. When we pray in unison or take time to slow down together and rest in a posture of prayer within worship, praying as a community can also build our sense of belonging as we share burdens and joys. Thus, as we conclude this series, explore how you can help the gathered body recognize that our praise and our sense of belonging are deeply joined as we grow in our Christian journey together.

<https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/worship-planning/praise-break/week-3-twelfth-sunday-after-pentecost>

We hope to see you in church on Sunday and you are welcome to invite someone to come with you.

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 135 - 150
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

August 16, 2026

Ushers: Becky Britton & Diona Bronson
Financial Secretary: Patricia Bronson
Acolytes: Children/Youth Ministry/Ushers

OUR STEWARDSHIP

August 9, 2026

Tithes & Offerings:	\$2,138.00
Received To Date:	\$145,824.38
Needed To Date:	\$151,142.08

Attendance:	
Sunday School	10
In-person Sunday Worship	45
Online Viewers	146
Total	191

2026 STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN PLEDGE

Ephesians 6:17-18: "Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God." And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests." Commitment to Tithing- As we embark on our stewardship journey, we recognize the importance of our giving and how it connects us to God and our church community. Here are three essential points to consider: 1. The Word of God: Our giving is rooted in Scripture. By honoring God with our wealth, we align ourselves with His purpose and provision. 2. The Power of Prayer: Every pledge begins with prayer. Seeking God's guidance allows us to make informed and faithful decisions about our contributions. 3. A Step of Faith: Pledging requires us to trust in God's provision. When we step out in faith, we open ourselves to His blessings and the work He can accomplish through us. Amen.

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/epworthcolumbus) first: [facebook.com/epworthcolumbus](https://www.facebook.com/epworthcolumbus) or [youtube.com/channel/UCZJhDYHDDeE-dnv5a5nQKjA](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCZJhDYHDDeE-dnv5a5nQKjA) as close to 10:30 a.m. as possible or as close to the time of other livestream services.

SANCTUARY & FELLOWSHIP HALL RESERVED

Saturday, August 15, 8:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

QUESTORS CLASSROOM RESERVED

Tuesday, August 18, 6:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

- 2 Stacey McManus
- Bill Watt
- 3 Warren Fowler
- 4 Patricia Bronson
- 5 Jeff Stolpa
- 8 Callie Clark
- Vonna Franks
- 9 Loyd Johns
- Elsie Spanogians
- 11 Heather Morris
- 12 Helen Pharris
- 13 Collette Adamson
- 14 Joy Propst
- 18 Derek Hay
- 21 Joseph Ralls
- 22 Avery McManus
- Arlene Taff
- 23 Deaconess Sandi Hortman
- Jan Shackelford
- 24 Ann Flynn
- Gary Tomlin
- Jo Wilkinson
- 26 Earl Phillips
- Bobby Smith
- 29 Randy Morris

MISSIONS & UPCOMING EVENTS

AUGUST MISSION

August Mission Opportunity - Our August mission is Wynnton Neighborhood Network (WNN). You may give canned goods, diapers, pet food, or contribute a monetary donation. Our goal is 300 items. As always, your support is greatly appreciated!

Did you know ... WNN supported 5,950 families in 2025?

BAPTISM & REAFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Our next baptism and reaffirmation will take place during the Sunday, August 16 worship service. If you are interested in being baptized or reaffirmed in your faith, contact the pastor at earnestine@epworthumc.com, 706-992-9147 or come forth during the designated time during worship.

GRIEF/CAREGIVER MEETING

Grief/Caregiver Support Meeting - Our next Support Meeting is Tuesday, August 25, 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.

BIBLE STUDIES

Noon Bible Study and the 6:30 p.m. EPEC Bible study classes will resume on Wednesday, August 19.

We will utilize the book "Revelation (Life Change)." Visit the church office to purchase a copy for \$15, or include it in your offertory envelope. Be sure to mark Bible study book on the envelope.

UPCOMING EVENTS & OPPORTUNITIES

QUARTERLY COMMITTEE MEETINGS

- Trustees Meeting, Chair, Glenn Griffin - Sunday, August 23, immediately following worship service.
- Church Council Meeting, Chair, Debra Johnson, Vice-Chair, Marguerite Hay - Tuesday, August 25, 6:00 p.m.

*Note: If you are a committee member and you are not able to attend, please notify your committee chair.

*Note: For committee chairs whose committees are not listed above, please schedule your committee meeting for planning and submit your meeting reports prior to the August 18 reporting deadline in preparation for the Church Council meeting. These meetings can occur in person, via the church's Zoom or other ways. We want to make it convenient for all to attend and participate in the great ministry that God is doing through Epworth.

66TH CHURCH HOMECOMING

2026 Theme: "Let's Celebrate Who We Are Now!"
Scripture: John 15:1-4 NIV

Epworth's 66th Church Homecoming is on Sunday, September 27, 2026! Join us for a joyful celebration during the worship service at 10:30 a.m. A delicious meal will be provided immediately after service with the Congregation to provide favorite dishes, drinks, and desserts; church to supply meat.

Food, setup, and cleanup volunteer sheets will be posted on the office window. Please sign up so we know what you're bringing and what help will be given.

Children's church is always available, with fun and games. Come and be a part of this special occasion and invite others!

EPWORTH PRAYER LIST

Church Family

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

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	Chester Jakes

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	

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

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!

ORDER OF WORSHIP

August 16, 2026 • 10:30 a.m.

Twelfth 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.

*PRAISE SONG "Standing on His Promises" UMH 374 vv. 1 - 4
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 14:13-21 Quenton Brantley

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

People: Thanks be to God.

SPECIAL MUSIC "Holy Forever" Mandi Battle
Praise & Worship Director
CCLI # 2967303, Song #7201044

SERMON "When Not Enough Is More Than Enough", Part II 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.

BAPTISMS Pastor & Marguerite Hay, Lay Leader

Children: Brooks Lias (Parents: Jawan Lias, Brittany Lias)
Youth: JaLeah Lias (Parents: Jawan Lias, Brittany Lias)
Youth: Jawan Lias, Jr. (Parents: Jawan Lias, Brittany Lias)

REAFFIRMATION Adult: Frank Karastury

*CLOSING SONG "What a Friend We Have in Jesus" UMH 526 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.