

COMING UP...

AUGUST 9 - AUGUST 16

Sunday, August 9

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

Monday, August 10

1:00 p.m. New Life Ministry

Tuesday, August 11

1:00 p.m. Grief/Caregiver Support Meeting

Thursday, August 13

Noon Prayer Team

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



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](https://www.facebook.com/EpworthUMC.com)
Instagram - [EpworthUMC.com](https://www.instagram.com/EpworthUMC.com)
Youtube - [epworthumccolumbus1430](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCpworthumccolumbus1430)

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
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.



August 9, 2026

SING PRAISES

PRAISE BREAK

ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
FOCUS TEXT: PSALM 105:1-6, 16-22, 45B

When I was growing up, the first book I associated with church was the hymnal. Now, hear me out. I knew Bible stories. I understood they came from a book called the Bible, and I had a couple of different children's Bibles. But when I came to worship on Sunday mornings with my family, I didn't immediately reach for the Bible. I reached for the hymnal. I used to love flipping through the pages, reading the words I was learning at school, and practicing my newfound skills by reading the notes on the staves. But more than anything, the hymnal was my favorite book at church because the hymnal equaled singing! And boy, did I love to sing! So, imagine my surprise and delight when, one day, I opened the United Methodist Hymnal and found a page titled "Directions for Singing." Now, to tell the truth, as a second or third grader, these instructions from John Wesley didn't make a ton of sense. Who uses the word "lustily," and what does it mean, anyway? But those instructions did reinforce a core message for me in my early faith formation: singing is important for my faith.

In Psalm 105, I daresay the psalmist agrees. Singing is an act of faith and faith formation. But more than that, singing is an important way that we give God praise by remembering. If last week's theme was about cultivating awareness, this week's theme is about remembering, about telling the stories of God's wondrous love and acts in our lives through song. This week, consider how you can use music to remember. Perhaps you begin or end the service with a hymn sing of all your congregation's heart songs. Maybe you select a few key hymns and tell their stories—both the stories of how they were written and how those stories connect to your community.

If you're feeling particularly adventurous, invite your congregation to think of one sentence about something that God has done in their lives. Sing a hymn chorus like "I Love to Tell the Story" or "Blessed Assurance"; then, while the music plays, invite people to call out their sentences, or have some volunteers ready to take microphones around the room so people can share their sentences. After two or three people speak, sing the chorus again. Repeat this pattern three or four times. While it may feel complicated and awkward, it's a wonderful opportunity for congregants to be part of collaborative music-making and storytelling together. If this doesn't work for your congregation, consider how you can help people tell their stories through song during gathered worship. These are not just our individual stories; they are our collective stories that we offer to God in praise of all that God has done, is doing, and will do among us.

<https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/worship-planning/praise-break/week-2-eleventh-sunday-after-pentecost-year-a>

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 120 - 134

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 9, 2026

Usher: Fraser Wooldridge

Financial Secretary: Donny Davis

Acolytes: Children/Youth Ministry/Ushers

OUR STEWARDSHIP

August 2, 2026

Tithes & Offerings:	\$3,551.00
Received To Date:	\$143,686.38
Needed To Date:	\$146,562.08

Attendance:	
Sunday School	15
In-person Sunday Worship	46
Online Viewers	124
Total	170

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 first: facebook.com/epworthcolumbus or 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 will resume Wednesday, August 19.
EPEC Bible study will resume at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, August 19. We will be in the book of Revelation. Further information to come on Book and Chapter reading.

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.

SANCTUARY/ALTAR FLOWER OPTIONS

If you would like to provide flowers for the sanctuary, the following options are offered:

- 1. Florist-provided fresh flower arrangement; \$85
- 2. Seasonal silk flower arrangement; \$40 donation to Epworth's General Fund.
- 3. Seasonal fresh flower bouquet arranged in-house; \$50 donation to Epworth's General Fund.

Please indicate your preference for the arrangement of your choice on the form attached to the flower calendar in the Welcome Center.

(Lilies, Hydrangeas, and Poinsettias will continue to be offered for purchase during Easter and Christmas.)

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 9, 2026 • 10:30 a.m.

Eleventh 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 Marguerite Hay, 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 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.

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 Debra Johnson, SGA UMC, CLM Speaker
Guest Speaker

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

*SCRIPTURE PSALM 105:1-6 Becky Britton

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

People: Thanks be to God.

SPECIAL MUSIC "What a Beautiful Name" Mandi Battle
Praise & Worship Director
CCLI # 2967303, Song #7068424

SERMON "Call On Me" Guest Speaker

*INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP Guest Speaker

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 "Standing on the Promises" UMH 374 vv. 1 & 3
Praise & Worship Director

*LIGHT OF CHRIST BROUGHT OUT INTO THE WORLD Acolytes

*BENEDICTION Guest Speaker

*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.