

## COMING UP THIS WEEK...

### Monday, August 6

- 10:00 a.m. Prayer Shawl Ministry Meeting
- 6:30 p.m. Leadership Roundtable Meeting
- 6:30 p.m. Redeem Meeting

### Tuesday, August 7

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

### Wednesday, August 8

- 6:00 p.m. Info Meeting "A Way Forward"
- 6:00 p.m. Worship Team Rehearsal
- 7:00 p.m. Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

### Thursday, August 9

- 12 noon Prayer Team Meeting
- 12 noon Vintage Meeting

### Sunday, August 12

- 9 & 11 a.m. Blessing of the Backpacks
- 9:00 a.m. Contemporary Worship
- 10:00 a.m. Sunday School
- 11:00 a.m. Traditional Worship
- 4:00 p.m. Back-to-School Bash

### Monday, August 13

- 6:30 p.m. New Life UMW Meeting
- 6:30 p.m. UMM Meeting

## PASTORAL COUNSELING

Our church partners with The Pastoral Institute to offer counseling for individuals and families at deep discounts. Call the church for more information or give our church name when scheduling an appointment at 706-649-6500. Hours are Monday-Thursday, 8 a.m. - 9 p.m., Friday, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. The Pastoral Institute is located at 2022 15<sup>th</sup> Ave., Columbus.

## OUR CHURCH STAFF

*Epworth's members are our ministers.*

*The professional staff who assist us are:*

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

## CONTACT US

2400 Devonshire Drive  
Columbus, GA 31904

Pastor's Cell (706) 329-2484  
Church Office (706) 322-6973

[www.epworthumc.com](http://www.epworthumc.com)

staff's first name@epworthumc.com  
(example: tony@epworthumc.com)

Facebook - EpworthUMC.com  
Instagram - EpworthUMC.com  
Twitter - @EpworthColumbus

## CONTACTING YOU

Most of the church's communication now is through e-mail. We send two e-mails each week—a newsletter on Monday and a sermon preview on Friday. We also use e-mail to send important meeting reminders and other information. Help us contact you by making sure we have your current e-mail address.

 epworth  
united methodist church

August 5, 2018

Bread

*Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty."*

John 6:35 (NRSV)

Despite the constant efforts of high protein and low carb diets to tell us otherwise, bread has been an element of human diet for thousands of years. Just this week, I read an article that suggested an artifact of bread was found in a site estimated to be 14,000 years old. So, ketogenic diets aside (and I am sure they have their value), bread is a big deal.

Bread played a major role in the transition of people from nomadic peoples to settled communities. The harvest of wheat and the development of agriculture had a dramatic effect on the development of civilization as we know it. I am no expert on anthropology, but even I can understand how developing a way to make food from the grain that could be grown in the fertile crescent of old changed the way people live.

It is interesting that bread is largely a carbohydrate. For those among us who struggle with our blood sugar, we have learned that carbohydrates (breads and starches) are processed in our bodies much differently than proteins (meats and cheeses). Bread is a short-term fuel and proteins are more like long-term fuels. It would seem almost counterintuitive that God would use a food that provides short-term fuel for the body as a symbol for "never going hungry".

That is where the idea of trusting God's faithfulness to us to provide for our needs requires an ongoing mindset of dependence upon God. The story of the manna in the Old Testament is perhaps a great beginning to this idea. Each day, the manna (basically bread from heaven) fell, but it was only enough for that day.

Jesus's direction that whoever comes to him will never be hungry is not about eating a magic piece of bread that satisfies a lifetime of hunger. It is about a continuing supply of spiritual food that is there for the taking as long as we follow Jesus to receive regularly.

The bread of life is surely Jesus Christ. God's mercy and life-giving grace is new every morning. In the beautiful sacrament of Holy Communion, we are reminded of the need for us to continue to come to Christ's table for the bread of life that feeds and satisfies us for a life of abundant living and an eternity with God forever.

In Christ,



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

*The sanctuary flowers are given to the glory of God and  
in memory of Ben Burns by Sandra Burns.*

## SUNDAY SCHOOL AT 10:00 AM

### **The Children's Class**

Kindergarten - 5<sup>th</sup> Grade: Margaret Gosden  
6<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> Grade: Kristii Daniel

### **The Friendship Class**

Study: God's Justice  
Teacher: Class

### **The Genesis Class**

Study: Have You Ever Seen a Hearse...  
Teacher: Leslie Morris

### **The Joy Class**

Study: O Say Can You See?  
Teacher: Class

### **The Nathan Patterson/Wesley Class**

Study: Genesis 30  
Teacher: Bobby Smith

### **The New Connections Class**

Study: 40 Days of Community  
Teacher: James Johnson

### **The Questors Class**

Study: Class Discussion  
Teacher: Class

### **The Seekers Class**

Study: Wired Word  
Teacher: Lillian Wooldridge

## THOSE WHO SERVE

### AUGUST 5, 2018

#### **9:00 a.m. Worship Service**

Greeter: Janie Nellums  
Usher: Diane Morris  
Acolyte: Ushers  
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: Rev. Tony Crosby

## OUR STEWARDSHIP

July 29, 2018

Tithes & Offerings:	\$4,451.00
Received To Date:	\$151,588.23
Needed To Date:	\$196,722.28
Building Fund:	\$0.00

#### **ATTENDANCE:**

Sunday School	78
Worship: 9 a.m.	41
Worship: 11 a.m.	<u>67</u>
	108

## "A WAY FORWARD" MEETINGS

### **Informational meeting with Tony, -**

Wednesday, August 8, 6:00 p.m., fellowship hall, on the upcoming special General Conference of the United Methodist Church. The special conference has been called to seek a path forward for the church in light of seemingly irreconcilable differences regarding the church's policy on the practice of homosexuality and on same-sex weddings. There will be no meal served.

**Q&A with Bishop Bryan** - Thursday, August 16, St. Luke UMC, 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. Sign up on the information board to attend this meeting.

## CHILDREN & YOUTH

**Youth Group Meetings** - begin on Tuesday, August 14, at 6:30 p.m., in the youth room.

**Blessing of the Backpacks** - Children, youth, teachers, staff - all in our school system are invited to bring your backpacks, totes, etc., that you will carry to school, for a special time of prayer and blessing during worship on Sunday, August 12.

**Back-to-School Bash** - Sunday, August 12, from 4-6 p.m., in the fellowship hall. Everyone is invited for fun, food, fellowship and ice cream. Please sign up to bring homemade ice cream or toppings on the information board.

## MISSIONS

### **August Mission Focus** - Wynnton

Neighborhood Network. Items needed: Canned fruit, Canned vegetables, Canned meat, Canned tomato products, Macaroni and Cheese, Spaghetti sauce and noodles, Jelly, Peanut Butter, Soup, Rice, Toilet paper, Bar soap, Laundry detergent (powdered or pods). Monetary donations are always appreciated. Our goal this month is 300 items. Place your items on the Mission Cart.

**Methodist Children's Home** - needs the following items: body wash, bar soap, shampoo, conditioner, toothpaste, toothbrushes, combs/brushes and socks. We will collect items through Sunday, September 5. Place items in the blue bin beside the mission cart. Thank you!

**Vintage Group Fundraiser** - We are taking orders for T-shirts (short- and long-sleeve) and sweatshirts. See the leader of your UMW, UMM group, Sunday school class or the display in the Whitehurst Welcome Center to place your order. For questions, contact Marjean Waters or Janie Nellums.

**Charity Reimagined** - You are invited to lunch and conversation with Robert Lupton, author of *Toxic Charity* and *Charity Detox*, on Thursday, September 6, from 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m., Columbus Convention & Trade Center. Lunch \$10 per person. More info to follow.

**Out of the Darkness Walk** - Join the team, raise funds, volunteer, participate! The walk is Saturday, September 29, at Lakebottom Park, Columbus. To make donations or join the Epworth team, sign up online at <https://afsp.donordrive.com/Epworth> and/or sign up on the information board. If you would like to get involved, see Suzy Revell or Donna Faircloth.

## EVENING PRAYER SERVICE

Join us Sunday, August 5, at 6:00 p.m., as we come together to seek the Lord and lift our church, community, and one another in a special worship service focused on prayer.

## WHAT'S HAPPENING

**Prayer Shawl Ministry Meeting** - Monday, August 6, at 10 a.m., in the fellowship hall.

**Redeem Ministry Invite** - Monday, August 6, at 6:30 p.m., in the fellowship hall. Visit [takethecity.com/redeem](http://takethecity.com/redeem) for more information on this local ministry.

**HIS UMW Group Meeting** - Tuesday, August 7, at 10:30 a.m., in the fellowship hall. Our hostesses are Becky Britton and Brenda Karastury. Barbara Stubbs will present our program. Our mission for August-October is kitchen items needed at Rose Hill. A list of needed items will be provided at our August meeting. As you are able, please bring a covered dish to share. We always welcome new guests.

**Vintage Meeting** - Thursday, August 9, at noon, at Cook's Hotdogs on Moon Rd., Columbus.

**Wednesday Night Supper & Study** - August 22, begins at 6 p.m. Make reservations by signing up on the information board, emailing or calling the church office. Menu: Lasagna, garlic bread, salad and dessert. The study is a four-part series on the four traditional qualities that have been used to describe the church.

## PATHWAYS 2018

Pathways will be held at Trinity UMC in Warner Robins, Saturday, August 25, from 9:30 a.m. - 4 p.m. The conference cost is \$25 per person; lunch included. To register or for more information, go to [www.sgaumc.org/pathways](http://www.sgaumc.org/pathways). Pre-registration is required for childcare.

## 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	Jackie Chambers	Kernodle Family
Judy Scanling	Barbara Watson	Joe Flynn	Lillian Wooldridge
Elsie & Jim Spanogians	Andrea Carbaugh	Glenn Griffin	Daniel Family
Anne Wilson	Jimmy Bridges	Rabon Family	Annette Taff

### Extended Church Family

Steve & Carol Guilbeault	Michael Taff	David Olson	Doyle Adams
Dotty Baker	Ricky Clark	Robbins Family	Andrew Wade
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	Ellen Pilgreen	Jessica Kelley
Ralph & Sandy McGough	Diane Wiggins	Stephanie Bryan	Robin Grantham
McDaniel Family	Hattie Campbell	Mark Oliver	Charles Holmes
Dana Thurston	Stan Hames	Garnett Shackelford	

### Assisted Living/Nursing Homes/Homebound

Covenant Woods - Linda Coleman	River Place - Betty Cummings, Elizabeth
Magnolia Manor - Doris Halouska, Cammie Van Over	Harbert, Jane Sanders
Phenix City Health Care - Anne Whitehurst	River Towne Center - Jerry Williams
	The Lodge - Lorene Carlisle
	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.*

## Helping Hands Ministry

Sponsored by Epworth UMW

Are you living alone? Do you need someone to help you with replacing light bulbs? AC filters? Batteries in a smoke detector? Have you given up driving? Do you need a ride to the doctor? Grocery store? The local drug store?

Helping Hands Ministry just may be for YOU! Epworth's UMW will connect you with volunteers at Epworth to help you with these tasks. If you have questions, feel free to ask Becky Britton or Barbara Stubbs more about this new ministry for those who live alone.

Complete one of the forms at the bottom of this sheet if you want to be part of this ministry. Put the form in the collection plate, give it to Becky Britton or Barbara Stubbs personally or to Susan Snider in the church office.

### **Those who need HELP:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Home phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell phone: \_\_\_\_\_

### **Those who will VOLUNTEER to help:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Home phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell phone: \_\_\_\_\_