

## COMING UP THIS WEEK...

### Monday, August 13

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

### Tuesday, August 14

10:00 a.m. GSRA Meeting  
6:30 p.m. AA Support Group Meeting  
6:30 p.m. Youth Group Meeting

### Wednesday, August 15

6:00 p.m. Worship Team Rehearsal  
7:00 p.m. Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

### Thursday, August 16

12 noon Prayer Team Meeting  
6:30 p.m. Q & A with Bishop Bryan

### Sunday, August 19

9:00 a.m. Contemporary Worship  
10:00 a.m. Sunday School  
11:00 a.m. Traditional Worship

### Tuesday, August 21

6:30 p.m. AA Support Group Meeting  
6:30 p.m. Growing Christians UMW Meeting  
6:30 p.m. Youth Group Meeting

### Wednesday, August 22

6:00 p.m. Supper & Study  
6:00 p.m. Worship Team Rehearsal  
7:00 p.m. Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

## 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.

*The sanctuary flowers are given to the glory of God and in honor of Helen Pharris' birthday by Steve & Lyn Pharris.*

## 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 12, 2018

Neighbors

*So then, putting away falsehood, let all of us speak the truth to our neighbors, for we are members of one another.*  
Ephesians 4:25 (NRSV)

The parable of the Good Samaritan is one of the most profound stories of Jesus's teachings. It has inspired thousands of years of preaching and teaching and a prophetic call upon the church. Jesus told the parable as an answer to a likely Pharisee's question of how to inherit eternal life. Jesus asks the Pharisee what he thinks and he responds with Jesus's well-known affirmation that the greatest commandment is to love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, mind, and strength and to love your neighbor as yourself.

But, like a good Pharisee, he wanted to justify his answer. So he asked Jesus a question: "Who is my neighbor?"

Now, I have read the story of the Good Samaritan many times, but it took many years for me to discover that Jesus never answered the Pharisee's question. Jesus, as he often does, answered a question the man hadn't asked because he made the whole discussion of "neighbor" all about the Pharisee himself.

The Pharisee was looking for an answer from Jesus about who he needed to see as his neighbor. But by the time the well-known story is told, Jesus is asking this Pharisee which of the three men was a neighbor to the man in need. In one sentence, Jesus turned the whole conversation about neighbors back on the one who was asking. The Pharisee was trying to find out who his neighbor was and Jesus was trying to show him how to BE a neighbor.

Although I haven't seen it yet as I write this article (I hope to squeeze in a viewing before Sunday), a movie is out now about one of the most well-known cultural figures who taught America's children about being a neighbor. Mister Rogers was passionate about helping children develop into mature and loving adult people. He wanted them to grapple with the challenges of childhood with an eye toward seeing the world in a better way. He wanted us to be his neighbor and asked each week "won't you be my neighbor." In this way, Fred Rogers was asking of us the same thing Jesus was asking of the Pharisee. He didn't want us just looking around for neighbors; he wanted us to be a neighbor.

Somehow, I believe if we were more focused on BEING neighbors that we would find all the neighbors we need. Being a neighbor is about building a relationship with others and caring about them and their well-being. It is time the church not only loved our neighbor, but figured out that actually BECOMING neighbors is the real key to all of it.

In Christ,



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

## **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: Global Economic Justice  
Teacher: Becky Britton

### **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 31  
Teacher: Bobby Smith

### **The New Connections Class**

Study: 40 Days of Community  
Teacher: Class

### **The Questors Class**

Study: Class Discussion  
Teacher: Glenn Griffin

### **The Seekers Class**

Study: Wired Word  
Teacher: Lillian Wooldridge

## **THOSE WHO SERVE** **AUGUST 12, 2018**

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

Greeter: Barbara Stubbs  
Usher: Randy Morris  
Acolyte: Usher  
Children's Church: Lindsey Fossa

### **11:00 a.m. Worship Service**

Greeter: Lillian Wooldridge  
Ushers: Steve Whittington  
Acolyte: Ema Cherai  
Children's Church: Janet Cherai  
Nursery Volunteer: Lindsey Fossa  
Financial Secretary: Shawn Jandreau  
Turn Key: John Daniel

## **OUR STEWARDSHIP**

August 5, 2018

Tithes & Offerings:	\$17,432.00
Received To Date:	\$169,020.23
Needed To Date:	\$203,068.16
Building Fund:	\$0.00

### **ATTENDANCE:**

Sunday School	78
Worship: 9 a.m.	47
Worship: 11 a.m.	<u>72</u>
	119

## **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.

## **WHAT'S HAPPENING**

**New Life UMW Group Meeting** - Monday, August 13, at 6:30 p.m., in The Woods.

**United Methodist Men Meeting** - Monday, August 13, at 6:30 p.m., in the fellowship hall.

**Fellowship Hall Reserved** - Tuesday, August 14, from 10 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

**AA Support Group Meeting** - every Tuesday, at 6:30 p.m., in the Questors classroom

**Prayer Team Meeting** - Thursdays at noon, at Margaret Gosden's home.

**"A Way Forward" Q&A with Bishop Bryan** - Thursday, August 16, St. Luke UMC, 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. This will be a time to receive guidance and to ask questions concerning the upcoming special General Conference in February 2019 and the proposals coming from The Commission on A Way Forward. If attending, please sign up on the sheet on the information board or call the church office.

**Growing Christians UMW Meeting** - Tuesday, August 21, at 6:30 p.m., in the fellowship hall.

**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.

**Reachers UMW Meeting** - Tuesday, August 28, at 7 p.m., in the fellowship hall.

**Epworth Volunteers Needed** - If you feel led to volunteer, please contact the church office for more information. We will help you find your talent and add you to the schedule.

## **PATHWAYS 2018**

Registration is now open for Pathways 2018, to 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. A boxed lunch from Chick-fil-A is included in the registration fee. To register or for more information, go to [www.sgaumc.org/pathways](http://www.sgaumc.org/pathways). Also, you can find brochures in the information center. Safe Sanctuaries compliant childcare is available for newborn to fifth-grade children at a cost of \$10 per child which covers the cost of their lunch. Pre-registration is required for childcare.

## **CHILDREN & YOUTH**

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

**Back-to-School Bash** - today, 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.

**Volunteers Needed in the Children's Ministry**  
Children's Church 9 a.m. - 2<sup>nd</sup> Sundays  
Children's Church 11 a.m. - 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays  
Nursery 11 a.m. - 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays  
*Contact Lindsey Fossa if interested.*

## EPWORTH PRAYER LIST

### Church Family

Fred & Emilie Carswell	Blount King	Gladys Plant	Trudy Harris
Vanessa Desoto	Ron & Betty Sawyer	Thrower Family	Kittye 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: \_\_\_\_\_