

COMING UP...

SEPTEMBER 20 - SEPTEMBER 27

Sunday, September 20
9:00 a.m. Adult Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Sunday Worship
In-person & Online & Children's Church

Monday, September 21
11:30 a.m. Monday Ministry Zumba

Tuesday, September 22
1:00 p.m. Grief/Caregiver Support Meeting

Wednesday, September 23
Noon Bible Study
6:30 p.m. Zoom (EPEC) Bible Study

Thursday, September 24
Noon Prayer Team

Sunday, September 27
9:00 a.m. Adult Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Sunday Worship
In-person & Online & Children's Church
66th Homecoming Celebration



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 - <https://www.facebook.com/epworthcolumbus>
Instagram - <https://www.instagram.com/epworthumchurchepworthumccolumbus1430>

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 DirectorMandi Battle

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



September 20, 2026

"ALMIGHTY, LOVING GOD" PRAYER
(TAKEN FROM REV. HELEN BERENITHIEN'S "A BOOK OF PRAYERS")*
SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Almighty and Loving God,
Again, we gather together in this sanctuary to worship you - as we do week after week - to sing hymns of praise - to hear your written and spoken word - to open our hearts in confession and prayer. Lord, we ask that you would take away the sense of sameness - take away the ordinariness of habit from our worship today. Touch us with the flame of your presence. Sharpen our hearing. Deepen our spir-itual vision. Fill us to overflowing with a sense of your nearness and power!
We need your stability, Lord, in a world that is constantly changing. The touch of fall in the air and the new month on our calendar mark how quickly seasons change. The birthdays we celebrate are just reminders of how fast the years are go-ing. And the loss of loved ones and friends forces us to face our mortality and to realize how fleeting are our days. But, Lord, we also know you are the one who does not change. In a world where nothing is certain, you are the same yesterday, today, and forever. You sit enthroned above both time and eternity and you have promised never to leave us nor forsake us.

Our times are in your powerful, yet loving, hands. Thank you, Lord, for this assis-tance. Teach us how to make the most of the time you have given us – teach us to listen to you and to follow – show us how to reach out in love – to forgive, even as you through Christ have forgiven us. Show us how to live lives that are pleasing to you, thankful, joyful lives that glorify you as our creator and Lord – lives that testi-fy to your power as well as your love. For we pray in the name of Jesus Christ.

*(Berenithien, Rev. Helen. Into God's Presence: A Book of Prayers. Quill Publications, Columbus, Georgia, 2001.)

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: Proverbs 4
Teacher: Bobby Smith

The New Connections Class
Study:
Teacher: Glenn Griffin

The Seekers Class
Study: Wired Word
Teacher: Donny Davis

THOSE WHO SERVE

September 20, 2026
Ushers: Becky Britton & Diona Bronson
Financial Secretary: Patricia Bronson
Acolytes: Children/Youth Ministry/Ushers

OUR STEWARDSHIP

September 13, 2026
Tithes & Offerings: \$1,592.00
Received To Date: \$163,731.63
Needed To Date: \$174,042.08

Attendance:
Sunday School 11
In-person Sunday Worship 44
Online Viewers 114
Total 158

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- | | |
|--------------------|----------------------|
| 1 Breandon Kane | 22 Michele Lancaster |
| 8 Evans Cheraisi | Steve Whittington |
| 9 Belinda Lias | 23 Kelly Conkle |
| 11 Earlene Gresham | 25 Sandra Burns |
| Tristan Campbell | Gracie Conkle |
| 13 Joe Macon | 27 Jeanne Guilbeault |
| 15 Janice Tomlin | Matthew Ralls |
| 16 Jackie Weese | 28 Stacey Pruett |
| 18 Glenn Griffin | 29 Audrey Kernodle |
| 19 Jason Conklin | |
| Jerry Williams | |
| 20 Natalie Morris | |

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/epworthumc) first: [facebook.com/epworthumc](https://www.facebook.com/epworthumc) 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

Join us on 1st, 3rd, & 5th Wednesdays for Bible Study at 1:15 p.m. and on 2nd & 4th Wednesdays at noon. 6:30 p.m. EPEC Bible study classes will still take place every Wednesday. We are studying from 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.

NATHAN PATTERSON SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS

Ever wondered why someone hasn't written a practical guide for effective living? The good news is someone did - his name was Solomon and the book of the Bible is Proverbs! We will be taking a deep dive into it, chapter by chapter, on Sundays at 9:15 a.m. in the Nathan Patterson Sunday School class. Please join us!

GRIEF/CAREGIVER MEETING

Grief/Caregiver Support Meeting - Our next Support Meeting is Tuesday, September 22, 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.

MISSIONS & UPCOMING EVENTS

SEPTEMBER MISSION

September Mission Opportunity - Our September mission is Casseroles for a Cause. We will need the following items: 50 cans of Cream of Chicken soup (pull-tab cans, please), 1 lb bags of white rice, and Ritz style crackers. Monetary donations will help purchase the perishable items for our casseroles. As always, your support is greatly appreciated!

ROSE HILL FEEDING OUR NEIGHBORS

On Tuesday, September 22 at 3:30 p.m., we will prepare meals to take to our neighbors in the Rose Hill community. We'll be serving chicken casserole with a vegetable and bread. Please come if you are able to help! Feel free to invite a friend to join us! - *Epworth Mission Team Committee*

T-SHIRT SUNDAYS

We will not observe T-shirt Sunday in September. T-shirt Sunday will resume in October.

CHILDREN & YOUTH GAME NIGHT

Children & Youth Game Night - Our Game Night will restart in September. All Epworth children/youth are encouraged to invite friends to come out for the Word, snacks, fun, and fellowship!

QUESTORS CLASSROOM RESERVED

Tuesday, October 27, 6:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

FELLOWSHIP HALL RESERVED

Tuesday, November 17, 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

BACK CLASSROOM SUITE RESERVED

Wednesdays, 9:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

UPCOMING EVENTS & OPPORTUNITIES

66TH CHURCH HOMECOMING

Sunday, September 27, 2026 at 10:30 a.m.
2026 Theme: "Let's Celebrate Who We Are Now!"
Scripture: John 15:1-4 NIV

We are excited to announce that Bishop James R. King, Jr., a retired bishop of The United Methodist Church, will be the guest preacher for our 66th homecoming service. After serving the Louisville and South Georgia Episcopal Areas, he has been a Bishop in Residence at Gammon Theological Seminary and St. Luke United Methodist Church (2017 - 2023), during his retirement. He is also the CEO of Christlike World Ministries and has authored several impactful works, including the "CLU Christlike Love Unit" and "Disciple - Line A Way to a Christlike World." He also hosts the "Hello Beautiful People" podcast. Join us as we welcome Bishop King to share a relevant message, wisdom, and faith with our church community.

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 are 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!

ANNUAL FALL FESTIVAL

Kick off the Fall Season with Loads of Fall Fun! Our Annual Fall Festival will be on Saturday, October 31, from 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. We'll have fun, food, and Trunk or Treating! Volunteers are needed. Inflatables, games, face painting, popcorn/cotton candy and more! Further information upcoming. Contact person is Jas'Min Vontoure.

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

September 20, 2026 • 10:30 a.m.

Seventeenth 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 "I Need Thee Every Hour" UMH 397 vv. 1, 4, & 5
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 18:1-9 DeKara Berry

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 SERIES "Word and Wisdom" Pastor

SERMON "When Wisdom Doesn't Make Sense" 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 "Spirit of the Living God" Praise & Worship Director
UMH 389 vv. 1 - 3

*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.