

COMING UP THIS WEEK...

Monday, September 10

- 6:30 p.m. New Life UMW Meeting
- 6:30 p.m. United Methodist Men Meeting

Tuesday, September 11

- 6:30 p.m. AA Support Group Meeting
- 6:30 p.m. Youth Group Meeting

Wednesday, September 12

- 6:00 p.m. Supper
- 6:00 p.m. Worship Team Rehearsal
- 6:30 p.m. Adult Bible Study
- 6:30 p.m. Wacky Wednesday
- 7:00 p.m. Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, September 13

- 12 noon Prayer Team Meeting
- 12 noon Vintage Group Meeting

Sunday, September 16

Homecoming Sunday

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

Tuesday, September 18

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

GPS GROUPS FORMING FOR FALL SERMONS ON DISCIPLESHIP

We will be forming GPS Groups (Grow, Pray, Study) that will meet weekly as a part of our fall sermon series on the foundations of Christian discipleship. The groups will have anywhere from 2-5 people each and will meet once a week (at a time and place of their choosing) to delve deeper into how we can apply the teaching from the sermon to our own faith journey.

OUR CHURCH STAFF

*Epworth's members are our ministers.
The professional staff who assist us are:*

Children's Ministry DirectorLindsey Fossa
Choir Director.....Lyn Pharris
Church Administrator Susan Snider
Contemporary Music Director Kayla Moss
CustodiansMartha Conklin & Barbie Webb
Interim Youth Minister.....Kristii Daniel
Media & CommunicationsDawn Wilson
Music DirectorBob 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
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

September 9, 2018

Hope

Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the Lord their God...

Psalm 146:5 (NRSV)

Someone much more famous than my dad originally said it, but my dad used to say, "If you wait long enough, all of your idols will turn to dust." My dad was a big believer in the old, "the president puts his pants on every morning just like you do" kind of thinking. This was just an extension of that idea. He knew that, given enough time, almost anyone we look up to, will eventually let us down in some way. Nobody is perfect.

Growing up, two of the people in my life whom I have held at unhealthy levels of idolatry were my junior high and senior high school choir directors. These people were giants to me in my formative middle and high school years. I looked up to them as if they were larger than life. They seemed that way to me. Both were teachers who taught more than music. Some days in class we might have rehearsed very little music and would be lectured on working hard and on setting high standards and doing our best. Both offered me opportunities to help me grow and that would challenge me in my own journey. I can't say enough positive about them both and the experience I had as a high school musician in their classes and ensembles.

As I got older, I began to learn of conflicts behind the scenes, some even during my years in school. I learned of mistakes that had been made both in public and in private. When I first learned of a couple of mistakes, I talked myself out of their reality. I couldn't believe there was a crack in the image I had built up in my mind. But eventually, I had to acknowledge that these people, however gifted they are or were at teaching school music, they were human beings and had not always been perfect. I love them both tremendously still and think no less of them as people than I ever have. But I know they are not perfect and have made mistakes.

This Psalm offers us striking words, "Put not your trust in princes, in mortals, in whom there is no help." We all have people who have been the best of friends, confidants, and mentors to us, but as we put great trust in people we also take a great risk. Most will eventually fail us in some way. Those who are trusting in us will also find we will fail them eventually, no matter how hard we try otherwise. This Psalm is a reminder that God's goodness and His watch over us will never fail. God "keeps faith forever...from generation to generation."

We are tempted to put our faith and hope in politics and princely powers. We are so deceived that if we just had the right person as the "king" that somehow everything would be better. The only throne we need to be intensely concerned with is the one in our own heart. Who is the ruler of our life? In whom do we trust?

Happy are those whose hope is in the Lord.

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 Hank Guilbeault by Jeanne Guilbeault.*

SUNDAY SCHOOL AT 10:00 AM

The Children's Class

Kindergarten - 5th Grade: Margaret Gosden
6th - 12th Grade: Kristii Daniel

The Friendship Class

Study: God Created Plants and Animals
Teacher: Class

The Genesis Class

Study: If You Are Going the Wrong Way...
Teacher: Leslie Morris

The Joy Class

Study: O Say Can You See?
Teacher: Class

The Nathan Patterson/Wesley Class

Study: Class Discussion
Teacher: Class

The New Connections Class

Study: 40 Days of Community
Teacher: Doug Franks

The Questors Class

Study: God's World and God's People
Teacher: Rev. Tim Paulk

The Seekers Class

Study: Wired Word
Teacher: Lillian Wooldridge

UMW NEWS

The Northwest District Annual Meeting for United Methodist Women will be held on Saturday, September 22, at Pierce Chapel UMC (5122 Pierce Chapel Road, Midland, GA). Registration at 9:30 a.m. and the meeting at 10:00 a.m. Following the meeting, lunch will be served. The key note speaker is Allison Lindsey from Connectional Ministries of the United Methodist Church. There is no cost for this event, but there will be an offering to Mission Giving. If you are interested, please contact Becky Britton or Lillian Wooldridge, for seating and lunch count.

THOSE WHO SERVE **SEPTEMBER 2, 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: Brenda Karastury, 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

September 9, 2018

Tithes & Offerings:	\$9,098.00
Received To Date:	\$188,456.23
Needed To Date:	\$228,451.68
Building Fund:	\$0.00

ATTENDANCE:

Sunday School	85
Worship: 9 a.m.	44
Worship: 11 a.m.	68
	112

CHILDREN & YOUTH

Youth Group Meeting - Tuesday, September 11, at 6:30 p.m., in the youth room.

Wacky Wednesday - New children's program has begun on Wednesday nights, at 6:30 p.m. This will include lessons, crafts, and songs. Come and invite your friends. For children Pre-K to 5th grade.

Youth Parent Meeting - Sunday, September 9, at 12:15 p.m., in the fellowship hall. There are some important changes coming to our youth group. Please notify Kristii Daniel if you are able to attend or not.

MISSIONS

September Mission Focus - Out of the Darkness Walk - 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> or on the information board. If giving through the church, mark your offering envelope, "Walk". If you would like to get involved, see Suzy Revell or Donna Faircloth.

The Methodist Home's Work Day Offering

- we will collect donations on September 9, at both services for children and youth. This offering is a major funding source for the ministry. Mark your offering envelope "Work Day." See the enclosed insert in this week's bulletin for more information.

Feeding Our Neighbors at Rose Hill UMC

- on Tuesday, September 25. Preparations will begin at 5:00 p.m.; serving at 5:45 p.m. If you want more information about serving or helping to prepare the meal, contact Debra Johnson or Becky Britton.

Can Recycling - Leave aluminum cans outside the back kitchen door. Funds go toward missions.

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. Place your order by Sunday, September 30.

A Taste of Epworth Cookbooks - Pick up your copy(s) from the welcome center for \$5 each. Proceeds support missions. They make great gifts for any occasion!

WHAT'S HAPPENING

Social Second Sundays - People of all ages are on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and more. We encourage everyone to share something from church, a ministry you participate in or any church activity today. Let's let our friends and family know that we are excited about what God is doing at Epworth in us and through us.

New Life UMW Meeting - join us on Monday, September 10, at 6:30 p.m., at the church. Hosted by Debra Johnson and Chris Cartagena.

United Methodist Men's Meeting - Monday, September 10, at 6:30 p.m., in the fellowship hall. All men are invited to attend. If you have questions, contact Doug Franks.

Wednesday Night Supper & Study - September 12, at 6 p.m. Make reservations by signing up on the information board, emailing or calling the church office. Menu: beef tips, rice, roasted veggies, rolls, salad and dessert. Our study, *The Gathering*, continues at 6:30 p.m. Join us!

Vintage Group Meeting - Thursday, September 13, at noon, in the fellowship hall. Sign up to bring your covered dish on the sheet on the information board.

Lay Leadership Committee Meeting - Thursday, September 13, at 6:30 p.m., in the Questors classroom. We will begin the leadership nomination process for 2019.

Homecoming - Remembering Hamp Stevens Sunday, September 16, at both services. The Rev. Mark Sasser will be the guest preacher. Make your plans to attend now! Please bring a covered dish to share. We will share a meal at noon. See the sign-up sheet on the information board if you are able to volunteer with set-up, decorating or tear-down.

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 Harbert, Jane Sanders
Magnolia Manor - Doris Halouska, Cammie Van Over	River Towne Center - Jerry Williams
Phenix City Health Care - Anne Whitehurst	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.

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


