

COMING UP...

OCTOBER 11 - OCTOBER 18

Sunday, October 11
9:00 a.m. Adult Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Sunday Worship
In-person & Online & Children's Church
Pastor Appreciation Sunday
UMM will meet immediately after worship service.

Monday, October 12
11:30 a.m. Monday Ministry Zumba
1:00 p.m. New Life Meeting

Tuesday, October 13
1:00 p.m. Grief/Caregiver Support Meeting

Wednesday, October 14
Noon Bible Study
6:30 p.m. Zoom (EPEC) Bible Study

Thursday, October 15
Noon Prayer Team

Sunday, October 18
9:00 a.m. Adult Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Sunday Worship
In-person & Online & Children's Church



- In observance of Pastor Appreciation Sunday, the sanctuary flowers are given to the Glory of God and in honor of our beloved Rev. Earnestine W. Campbell by the Epworth UMC family.

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 Director..... Mandi Battle



October 11, 2026

REJOICE IN THE LORD!

PRESSING ON
NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST; WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY
FOCUS TEXT: PHILIPPIANS 4:1-9

I don't know about you, but oftentimes, joy feels like a luxury. An add-on. An I'll-get-to-that-if-I-ever-have-free-time kind of thing. So, when Paul says, "Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice," I'm tempted to respond, "Got that covered on Sundays, but there's too much going on in this world to spend time on joy or rejoicing the other six days of the week." But then, I come across an article or a podcast (like this one with Brené Brown and Karen Walrond) that stops me in my tracks and calls me out on just how wrong I am. What Paul, Brené, and Karen all know that I all too quickly forget is that joy isn't a luxury or a distraction. Joy is vital. We can't do this thing called life without it. And more importantly, we don't have to manufacture it. Joy is a gift, an act of grace in our lives that points us back to God and flows out of us to others. Joy gives us sustenance to maintain life, hope, resilience, and perseverance, even in the most impossible circumstances.

Joy isn't an escape. True joy accompanies us in and through the realness of our lives. So, even as you focus on rejoicing today, don't forget the prayer of confession or the prayers of the people. Speak the truth about how we fall short. Name the places of hurt and suffering in your community. We can rejoice in God because in all of our faults and our pain, we are not alone. God is with us. So, bring out the noisemakers; pull out all the stops on the organ; lift up your voices. Find extra moments of celebration and praise throughout the service. Let the joy come in response to God's never-ending, always-loving presence among us, in response to God's acts of pardon, nurture, and provision. Whatever you do, don't just talk about joy. Practice full, embodied joy together!

As we end this series, consider using the following breath prayer to draw attention to God's acts and our joyful response: (Breathe in) I rejoice in God, (breathe out) because God's love will never let me go. Encourage congregants to use this prayer in the week ahead and beyond to focus attention on God's love at work among us and the joy that sustains us as we press on together.

<https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/worship-planning/pressing-on-worship-series/week-4-twentieth-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: Proverbs 6
Teacher: Bobby Smith

The New Connections Class
Study: *The Seasons of God* by Richard Blackaby
Teacher: Glenn Griffin

The Seekers Class
Study: Wired Word
Teacher: Donny Davis

THOSE WHO SERVE

October 11, 2026

Usher: John Grandon
Financial Secretary: Donny Davis
Acolytes: Children/Youth Ministry/Ushers

OUR STEWARDSHIP

October 4, 2026

Tithes & Offerings:	\$4,155.00
Received To Date:	\$172,686.63
Needed To Date:	\$187,782.08

Attendance:	
Sunday School	14
In-person Sunday Worship	58
Online Viewers	86
Total	134

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Debra Johnson
- Darlene Shirley
- 4 Leslie Morris
- 5 Blaire Willis
- 11 Deborah Cooper
- 12 Alexzandra Mobayyeni Gordon
- 14 Kristii Daniel
- 17 Cora Buchanan
- 19 Ginny Dozier
- Brittni George
- Scott Stokes
- 21 Bob Lee
- 23 Ann Smith
- 26 Steve Sawyer
- 27 Conover Swofford
- 30 Julie Friend

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/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.

PASTOR APPRECIATION SUNDAY

October 11th is set aside as Pastor Appreciation Sunday and we celebrate God's faithfulness in Rev. Earnie's life and thank Him for allowing us to be blessed by her leadership. Let's not limit our appreciation to October. Let's pray for our pastor, encourage our pastor, support our pastor, and show our love throughout the entire year. A simple word of encouragement, a heartfelt prayer, or a thoughtful act of kindness can make a lasting difference.

- Michele Lancaster, SPRC Chair



We ask you, brothers, to respect those who labor among you and are over you in the Lord and admonish you, and to esteem them very highly in love because of their work. Be at peace among yourselves.

1 Thessalonians 5:12-13

MISSIONS & UPCOMING EVENTS

OCTOBER/NOVEMBER MISSION

October/November Mission Opportunity
- Our October/November Mission is the Thanksgiving-themed dinner grocery bag for Wynnton Neighborhood Network. This family-oriented mission gift will provide an entire Thanksgiving meal (minus the turkey) for a food-insecure family. Each paper bag contains a list of needed items, as well as a coloring page. The bags are available in the Welcome Center and need to be returned no later than Sunday, November 15! Monetary donations are also appreciated. Please mark your pew envelopes "Thanksgiving". Thank you for your support of this worthy cause!

UMM MEETING

UMM will meet immediately following worship service on Sunday, October 11. All male members and worshippers of Epworth are invited to attend.

GRIEF/CAREGIVER MEETING

Grief/Caregiver Support Meeting - Our next Support Meeting is Tuesday, October 13, 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.

T-SHIRT SUNDAY

Each last Sunday of the month, you are invited to wear a spiritual T-shirt, your favorite team's T-shirt, etc. – a T-shirt that brings you joy in the Lord! Our next T-shirt Sunday is October 25.

UPCOMING EVENTS & OPPORTUNITIES

ANNUAL FALL FESTIVAL

Kick off the Fall Season with Loads of Fall Fun!
Our Annual Fall Festival will be on Saturday, October 24, 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.

FALL FESTIVAL CANDY DONATIONS NEEDED

Your help is needed to provide families with loads of Fall Fun at our Annual Festival! Candy donations are needed and a green donation bin is in the Welcome Center for your convenience. Monetary donations are also welcome. Please mark your pew envelopes "Fall Festival".

FELLOWSHIP HALL & CLASSROOMS RESERVED

- 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.

- CHRISTIAN EDUCATION WING RESERVED

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

CHILDREN & YOUTH FUNDRAISER

Support the Epworth UMC Children's Ministry by purchasing a raffle ticket for just \$5! Prizes are as follows: The 1st prize will be a \$30 gift card and an EUMC tumbler; the 2nd prize will be a \$30 gift card and an EUMC tumbler; the 3rd prize will be a \$30 gift card and a \$30 voucher toward a custom hand-painted banner from Hand Painted Banners by Jas'Min. Tickets are available from any Children's Ministry child or volunteer through 12:30 p.m. on October 24; winners will be announced at 1:00 p.m. and do not have to be present.

EPWORTH PRAYER LIST

Church Family

Regina Bridges	Cheryl Jandreau	Annette Taff
Lloyd Britton	Natalie Kernodle	Michael Taff
Rebecca Britton	Bob Lee	Sue Vining
Deborah Cooper	Linda Lee	Marjean Waters
Buddy Dunn	Mildred Rodgers	Lillian Wooldridge
Susan Dunn	Ann Smith	
John Grandon	Susan Stark	
Jeanne Guilbeault		

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

October 11, 2026 • 10:30 a.m.

Twentieth 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 "They'll Know We Are Christians" CH 429 vv. 1-4
Led by Bob Lee, 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 PHILIPPIANS 3:4-14 Becky Britton

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

People: Thanks be to God.

SPECIAL MUSIC "Good Good Father" Mandi Battle
Praise & Worship Director
CCLI # 2967303, Song #7036612

SERMON "The Day After Yesterday" Part II 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 "Soon and Very Soon" Praise & Worship Director
CH 757 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.