

COMING UP...

NOVEMBER 16 - NOVEMBER 23

Sunday, November 16

9:00 a.m. Adult Sunday School

9:15 a.m. New Members' Class

10:30 a.m. Worship In-person & Online & Children's Church

Monday, November 17

11:30 a.m. Monday Ministry Zumba

Tuesday, November 18

9:00 a.m. Fellowship Hall Reserved

7:00 p.m. EPEC Zoom Bible Study

Wednesday, November 19

Noon Bible Study

Thursday, November 20

Noon Prayer Team

Sunday, November 23

9:00 a.m. Adult Sunday School

9:15 a.m. New Members' Class

10:30 a.m. Worship In-person & Online & Children's Church

T-shirt Sunday



The flowers are given to the Glory of God and in honor and memory of Willie Mae Howe by Marguerite Oliver Hay.

CONTACT US

2400 Devonshire Drive

Columbus, GA 31904

Church Office (706) 322-6973

Pastor's Cell (706) 992-9147

www.epworthumc.com

staffsfirstname@epworthumc.com

(example: earnestine@epworthumc.com)

Facebook - EpworthUMC.com

Instagram - EpworthUMC.com

Youtube - epworthumccolumbus1430

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.....Vacant

Children's Ministry DirectorJas'min Vontoure

Children's Ministry Assistant.....Whitney Mennifee

Custodians.....Martha Conklin

Barbie Webb

Media TechTristan Campbell

Music DirectorBob Lee

Nursery Worker.....Martha Conklin

Pastor.....Rev. Earnestine Campbell

Praise & Worship DirectorMandi Battle

epworth
united methodist church

November 16, 2025

REJOICE FOREVER IN CREATION

THE DAYS ARE SURELY COMING

There are so many directions the worship team could take the theme for this week. “Rejoice Forever in Creation” elicits a host of natural images and creation-based words and invitations, so this Sunday could be a mini “Earth Day” at the end of the year. Stewardship of our natural resources needs attention more than once a year. It might be worth spending time on these issues. Perhaps your Creation Care Team could be featured in worship today. Perhaps have a bulletin insert with tips on how to rejoice in creation by caring for our carbon footprints or the environment around the church building. The text from Isaiah ends with some beautiful images of creation living in harmony and upending the predator and prey hierarchy so prevalent in our world.

Yet, in the middle of the text, the images are not so much the wilderness or grandeur of the environment, but rather the human habitation that is now claimed as a part of creation. The city of Jerusalem as a joy, houses and vineyards, sustainable farming, or farm-to-table partnerships feature in our text. There is something about health care, infant mortality, and elder care. Through it all, there is a sense of community about the grief we face and the struggles we live through as we care for one another in deep and profound ways.

Rejoicing in creation could include how we care and are cared for. We might give thanks for those in the medical community, honoring those who made a career out of health care. Or we might feature caregivers on many levels, from those tending to aging parents to those raising children or providing childcare in their homes or businesses. If your church has a preschool or childcare facility, name the workers, bring them forward, or send them a note of gratitude. Have the congregation sign a card of thanks to be delivered on Monday when they return to work.

Rejoicing is the key word. There will always be struggles and issues to resolve. There will always be a need for confession and repentance, for reconciliation and forgiveness. This week, we can focus on gratitude and hope. We can lift up the possibilities in both the natural world and the human-created environment of caring and community. Let's focus on the vision of what could be, or even what is promised, and then do our best to live into that reality as we worship and then as we leave the worship moment to live out this hope in our lives every day. Send folks out with a call to live a life rejoicing in creation.

<https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/worship-planning/the-days-are-surely-coming/twenty-third-sunday-after-pentecost-year-c-lectionary-planning-notes>

We hope to see you at church on Sunday, and invite someone to attend.

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: Job 4, 5
Teacher: Bobby Smith

The New Connections Class
Study: Life Lessons From ACTS
Teacher: Glenn Griffin

The Seekers Class
Study: Wired Word
Teacher: Donny Davis

THOSE WHO SERVE

November 16, 2025

Usher: Becky Britton & Diona Bronson
Financial Secretary: Patricia Bronson
Acolytes: Children/Youth Ministry/Ushers

OUR STEWARDSHIP

November 09, 2025

Tithes & Offerings:	\$3,811.00
Received To Date:	\$148,986.63
Needed To Date:	\$213,108.00

Attendance:	
Sunday School	14
In-person Sunday Worship	41
Online Viewers (N/A/Technical issues)	
Total	41

2025 STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN PLEDGE

Ephesians 6:17-18: “Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.” And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests.” Commitment to Tithing- As we embark on our stewardship journey, we recognize the importance of our giving and how it connects us to God and our church community. Here are three essential points to consider: 1. The Word of God: Our giving is rooted in Scripture. By honoring God with our wealth, we align ourselves with His purpose and provision. 2. The Power of Prayer: Every pledge begins with prayer. Seeking God’s guidance allows us to make informed and faithful decisions about our contributions. 3. A Step of Faith: Pledging requires us to trust in God’s provision. When we step out in faith, we open ourselves to His blessings and the work He can accomplish through us. Amen.

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.

Likes, Shares & Reviews Matter - Take time to like the Epworth Facebook and Youtube pages to become a follower of these social media platforms, like the posts and/or videos, share, or comment.

NEW MEMBERS CLASS

Attention all new members! You are asked to join the New Members' Class on next Sunday, November 16, at 9:15 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. If you became a member of Epworth in 2024 or 2025, this class is specifically for you and for all other interested persons. It's a great opportunity to deepen your understanding of our Christian faith through Biblical principles and the United Methodist Church's practice and application of the interpretation of the Biblical texts and spiritual disciplines. This class will help you continue developing and maturing in your faith journey. Also, if you have not returned your new member’s packet, please do so as soon as possible. If you haven’t received one, please notify the church office. We look forward to seeing you there!

FAREWELL TO DANIELLE LAMB

We wish Danielle Lamb all the best as she is called to a new journey. Danielle has resigned from her role as Adminstrator Assistant for personal reasons. We appreciate her contributions during her time with us and will miss her presence and contribution as a part of the staff and our church community.

CAKE SALE COMING

Cake Sale Coming for the Holidays! Everyone needs a cake sometime over the holidays. We are asking for homemade cake donations for a very worthy cause (our church budget!). Cakes will be sold every Sunday after service starting November 23 and continuing through Christmas. If you can donate a homemade cake, please choose a Sunday that works best for you and call Becky Britton at (706)326-2436 to get on the schedule. Thanks in advance for your contributions. All proceeds will go directly to the Epworth UMC operating budget.

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 provides 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 Whitehurst Welcome Center and need to be returned no later than Sunday, November 16! Monetary donations are also appreciated; mark your pew envelopes "Thanksgiving". Thank you for your support of this worthy cause!

DECEMBER MISSION- ADVENT -CHRISTMAS OPPORTUNITIES

December Mission Opportunity- We have three-pronged set of activities for December. Funds from our Love lights, the Christmas post office, and the December Christmas offering will be divided between Open Door Community House, Brown Bag of Columbus, Dasmascus, and the Fellowship at Rose Hill. As always, thanks for your gifts!

Poinsettias for Christmas - To purchase a red poinsettia for \$20 each in memory or honor of a loved one, see the sign-up sheet on the church office window or contact the church office. The plants will be placed in the Sanctuary through Christmas Eve. You are encouraged to pick up your poinsettias after one of the services. The deadline to order is Wednesday, December 10. Quantity limited.

Sock/Glove/Hat Drive and More - We are sponsoring a drive to collect ONLY women’s and children's socks, mittens/gloves, scarves, and hats/toboggans for Damascus Way. The deadline is Sunday, December 21.

Wrapping Paper and Tape Drive - We are sponsoring a drive to collect wrapping paper and tape for gift wrapping for children in need at Open Door. The deadline is Friday, December 12.

Love lights - We will celebrate Love Light Sunday, December 14, in our worship service. For a \$5 donation, your loved one will be remembered or honored in the December 14 bulletin. You may list a couple, such as a set of parents. Complete the form in the bulletin and submit it with a \$5 gift for each name to be listed, in the offering plate, or deliver them to the church office no later than Tuesday, December 9.

UPCOMING EVENTS & OPPORTUNITIES

Christmas Decoratings - Friday, November 28, 11:00 a.m - Decorating the Fellowship Hall and Sanctuary for Christmas. Coordinator, Seeker’s Sunday School class.

Christmas Post Office Available - Christmas Post Office Raises Funds for Missions and is open in the foyer to mail your Christmas cards to fellow members for 25¢ each. Money collected will go to the Helping Our Neighbors at Christmas offering. This is a great way to connect and save money! Remember to check to see if you have any Christmas cards! Donations will be accepted through Sunday, December 21.

Christmas Eve/Candlight Service/Children's Pageant - Wednesday, December 24 at 4 p.m. Parents/Guardians: Children’s Pageant Rehearsal will begin on Sunday, November 16, during Children's Church hour. Please bring the children to participate.

"Still Thankful" Meal Preparation - Tuesday, December 2, from 2 p.m. - 5 p.m. at the Epworth Fellowship Hall for the Rosehill Fellowship.

GRIEF/CAREGIVER SUPPORT MEETING

Grief / Caregiver Support Meeting - Our next Support Meeting is Tuesday, November 25, 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.

WORLD THANK OFFERING

Please join us for food and fellowship today, November 16, directly following the 10:30 a.m. worship service. Come on out for a soup, cornbread/crackers, dessert, & tea luncheon sponsored by United Women in Faith.

NATHAN PATTERSON SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS

Why do bad things happen to good people? Why is there so much calamity in the world? What do we know about Satan? For the answers to these questions and more, join us as we study the Bible and explore the book of Job in the Nathan Patterson Sunday School class at 9:15 a.m. on Sundays.

FELLOWSHIP HALL RESERVED

Saturday, November 29, from 8 a.m. - 6 p.m.

EPWORTH PRAYER LIST

Church Family

Annette Taff	Lillian Wooldridge	Jeanne Guilbeault	Cheryl Jandreau
Mildred Rodgers	Betty Paulk	Susan Stark	Michael Taff
John Grandon	Linda Lee	Lloyd Britton	Susan Dunn
Bob Lee	Marjean Waters	Deborah Cooper	Buddy Dunn
Ann Smith	Natalie Kernodle	Chester Jakes	

James and Donna Faircloth & Family	Family of Myra Tucker
Mary Lee Crews & Family	Earl & Melonie Phillips & Family
Ann Smith & Family	Frank Karastury & Family
Ron Sawyer & Family	Barre' and Steve Whittington and Family

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	Ralph & Sandy McGough
Diane Wiggins	Cristina Mattocks	David Garner	Kathy McClintock
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	Amanda Kinsman Vines	
George Bowen	Martha Bone	Danny Snider & Family	Davis/Osborne Family
Tammy White	Sam Wilson	Michelle Slappy	Linda Walker
Bertha Robinson	Nona Robinson		

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

November 16, 2025 • 10:30 a.m.

Twenty-Eighth Sunday After Pentecost

The * Denotes to please stand if able.

PRELUDE	Bob Lee, Music Director
ENTER THE LIGHT OF CHRIST	Children/Youth Ministry
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	"Holy, Holy, Holy"	CH 3 vv. 1, 3, 4 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	Pastor
------------------------------------	--------

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

*SCRIPTURE	LUKE 19:1-10	Patricia Bronson
------------	--------------	------------------

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

People: Thanks be to God.

SPECIAL MUSIC	Mandi Battle Praise & Worship Director CCLI # 2967303, Song #7135918
---------------	--

SERMON	"Beyond the Crowd!"	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	"How Great Thou Art"	CH 147 vv. 1, 4 Led by Praise & Worship Director
---------------	----------------------	---

*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.