COMING UP...
NOVEMBER 22 - NOVEMBER 29

Sunday, November 22
9:00 a.m. Adult Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Sunday Worship
T-Shirt & Hat Sunday
Fall Festival Debriefing & Christmas Planning following worship service.

Monday, November 23
11:30 a.m. Monday Ministry Zumba

Tuesday, November 24
1:00 p.m. Grief/Caregiver Support Meeting

Wednesday, November 25
Bible study classes will resume after the holidays.
The church office will be closed.

Thursday, November 26
Happy Thanksgiving
The church office will be closed.

Friday, November 27
The church office will be closed.
10:00 a.m. Christmas decorating

Sunday, November 29
9:00 a.m. Adult Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Sunday Worship
In-person & Online & Children's Church



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 Director.....Jas'Min Vontoure
Children's Ministry Assistant .....Whitney Mennifee
Custodians.....Martha Conklin
Barbie Webb
Media Tech .....Tristan Campbell
Music Director.....Bob Lee
Nursery Worker .....Martha Conklin
Pastor .....Rev. Earnestine Campbell
Praise & Worship Director..... ..... Mandi Battle

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

epworth
united methodist church

November 22, 2026

COME, YOU BLESSED

IT WILL BE LIKE THIS
26th Sunday after Pentecost - Thanksgiving Sunday
FOCUS TEXT: MATTHEW 25:31-46

Last week, we read the parable of the talents and wondered if perhaps Jesus was telling a story not about the kingdom of heaven, but about the kingdom of this world and its penchant for privileging wealth and productivity. This week, Jesus looks into the future, when the judgment of all nations will take place, and talks about…rewarding people for their good works. Really Jesus? You sure this is the direction you want to go? At least, that's how some Christians have read this passage for centuries, including today. But that's not the only interpretation of this teaching! In his Explanatory Notes upon the New Testament, John Wesley says of Matthew 25:35, "All these works of outward mercy suppose faith and love, and must needs be accompanied with works of spiritual mercy." In other words, these works are not the admission price to God's kingdom; they are the fruit of our salvation, the result of the work of God's grace and love upon our hearts.

This Sunday is also when we observe Reign of Christ Sunday, the end of the liturgical year, and the celebration of the kingdom Christ establishes that is simultaneously here and not yet. Next week, we begin Advent, a season of living into the "not yet," the waiting for the fulfillment of God's dream for all creation. So, I wonder if today is a moment to celebrate how God's kingdom or kin-dom (a neologism emphasizing Christ's reign as bringing us into family relationship with God, neighbor, and all creation) is already here among us. How do we experience the fruit of Christ's reign right now? How are we experiencing the transforming power of God's love among us? How do we look to Christ to guide us through the good and the bad of the whims, wiles, and woes of our earthly leaders?

Perhaps we find the answers to these questions and more in Matthew 25. And perhaps we find more questions! This is a day that includes praise and celebration, yes, but also opportunities to wrestle with our calls to be disciples who feed the poor, tend the sick, and visit the prisoner in a world intent on pushing aside, hiding, and neglecting human suffering and the structures that cause it. So, sing the hymns in praise of God's reign among us. Let your hearts soar with the choir as they sing "My Eternal King" (Marshall) or one of the many glorious arrangements of "Crown Him with Many Crowns." And pray for wisdom and courage to recognize and follow the way of Christ when living as a disciple means living in conflict with the kingdom of this world. Name the griefs and challenges of living in a world where Christian nationalism falsely teaches people that particular political affiliations and God's kingdom are the same thing. Encourage one another to persevere in following Christ when other leaders seek to lead us astray or pretend to represent Christ on earth. More than anything, embrace the complexity of this day, because, by grace, we have been blessed to choose to live under Christ's reign, to wrestle with the difficult questions, and to persist in loving our neighbors as the fruit of our salvation in Christ.

https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/worship-planning/it-will-be-like-this/week-3-twenty-sixth-sunday-after-pentecost-year-a

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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 13
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

November 22, 2026

Usher: Donny Davis
Financial Secretary: Steve Sawyer
Acolytes: Children/Youth Ministry/Ushers

OUR STEWARDSHIP

November 15, 2026

Tithes & Offerings:	$3,460.00
Received To Date:	$167,615.51
Needed To Date:	$187,782.08

Attendance:	
Sunday School	14
In-person Sunday Worship	55
Online Viewers	125
Total	**180**

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

6 John Grandon
7 Diona Bronson
9 Evans Cheriasi
13 Buddy Dunn
15 Lillian Wooldridge
17 Jas'Min Vontoure
21 Alison Jandreau
22 Margaret Gosden
25 Janie Nellums
Annette Taff
Maxine Willis



STAY CONNECTED

In-Person & Livestreaming Worship - Join us each Sunday at 10:30 a.m. Options for worshiping 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.

CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY

Christian sympathy is extended to DeKara Berry whose father, Antonio Bernard Berry, passed away on Saturday, November 14, 2026. Mr. Berry's funeral will be held Saturday, November 28.

Please be in contact and prayer with DeKara and her family.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST MEMBERS

We are excited to introduce our newest members, Kenedi Gadsden and Donovan Stone. They joined Epworth on Sunday, November 15, by way of transfer from another denomination and we are blessed to have them as a part of our church family. Let's extend a warm welcome to Kenedi and to Donovan and invite them to join our small groups!

FALL FESTIVAL DEBRIEFING & CHRISTMAS PLANNING MEETING

There will be a meeting to debrief from the Fall Festival and to discuss Christmas activity planning on Sunday, November 22, immediately after worship service.

HOLIDAY BAKE SALE

Sale Dates:
Sunday, November 22, Sunday, December 13, & Sunday, December 20

If you would like to donate a cake, pie, or cookies, please contact
Becky Britton at 706-326-2436.
Our sale table will be at the front door, before and after services.
Get ready for some really special treats!

MISSIONS & UPCOMING EVENTS

DECEMBER MISSION - ADVENT - CHRISTMAS OPPORTUNITIES

December Mission Opportunity- We have a three-pronged set of activities for December. Funds from our Love lights, the Christmas post office, and the December Christmas offering will be divided among Open Door Community House, Brown Bag of Columbus, Dasmascus Way, 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 20. Quantity is limited.

--**Sock/Glove/Hat Drive and More** - We are partnerying 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 20.

--**Open Door Community House** - We have two ways to bless our neighbors through Open Door Community House this Christmas:

Village Toy Store (Amazon Wish List): Shop directly from the Amazon Toy List to pick out toys and gifts. You can either bring your gifts to the church or have them shipped directly to the church address when you order. The deadline to drop items at the church is Wednesday, December 16. The Amazon toy list link: https://a.co/06Uu3f9G

Virginia D. Jackson Home for Women: Bring in items to support the 10 residents, including:

Regular-sized bottles of shampoo, conditioner, lotion, and deodorant; Bars of soap; Stocking stuffers and/or meaningful gifts (for 10 residents); Twin-sized sheets and pillowcases

--**Love lights** - We will celebrate Love Light Sunday, December 20, in our worship service. For a $5 donation, your loved one will be remembered or honored in the December 20 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 15.

UPCOMING EVENTS & OPPORTUNITIES

Christmas Decorating - Friday, November 27, 10:00 a.m - Decorating the Fellowship Hall and Sanctuary for Christmas. Coordinator, Seeker's Sunday School class.

"Still Thankful" Meal Preparation - Tuesday, December 1, from 2:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. in the Epworth Fellowship Hall.

Children/Youth Christmas Pageant - Sunday, December 20, during Sunday School hour, at 9:30 a.m. with refreshments. (Sunday School classes will not meet). The children and youth will practice during the children's church hour.

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service - Our Christmas Eve Candlelight service will be held Thursday, December 24, at 4:30 p.m.

Come out and be part of this Christmas event and worship service as we prepare for the coming of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

ADVENT SUNDAY OBSERVANCE 2026

Advent Sunday Obeservance - November 29, December 6, 13, and 20. Encouraging all to come out for the special season and invite others.

KIWANIS JOYFUL NOISE HOLIDAY PECAN SALE 2026

The Kiwanis Club of Greater Columbus is hosting a pecan fundraiser.
--1 lb. Halves are $12 and a 1/2 lb. is $7. 1 lb.
--Pieces (S, M, or L) are $12.
--Chocolate (Dark, Milk, or White) 1/2 lbs. are $9.
See sign-up sheet on the church office window. The deadline to order is Sunday, November 29.

SEEKERS CLASSROOM RESERVED

- Monday, November 30, 11:00 a.m.

FELLOWSHIP HALL RESERVED

- Tuesday, December 1, 2:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION WING RESERVED

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

WNN HOLIDAY GIVEAWAY

It's almost time for the Wynnton Neighborhood Network (WNN) Holiday Food Giveaway! Epworth's Missions Committee conducted an inventory of previously donationed items and compiled a list of the "MOST needed" items as follows:

Evaporated Milk

Mac and Cheese

Peanut Butter (regular size jars as they are easier to pack)
Cans of Pumpkin

Cans of Yams

Jelly (any flavor)

Chicken broth (boxes or cans)

As always, your help is greatly appreciated!

EPWORTH PRAYER LIST

Church Family

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

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

Extended Church Family

Patricia Waldo
Dora Spires
Billy Hill
Carol Hall
Beth Goodwin
Hattie Campbell
Cristina Mattocks
Ann Mitchell
James & Sue Flowers
Maggie Smith
Roger Buterbaugh
George Bowen
Tammy White
Bertha Robinson
Steve Guilbeault
Willie Ryles
Kim Jordan
Charles Holmes
McDaniel Family
Robin Grantham
David Garner
Patricia Jefferson
Robert Wagers
Hazel Dullin
Diane Propst
Martha Bone
Sam Wilson
Nona Robinson
Robbins Family
Judy Patterson
Grier Family
Marilyn Buck
Stephanie Bryan
Dana Thurston
Kathy McClintock
Susan Land
Sarah Browder
Family of Neil Gergun
Ralph & Sandy McGough
Danny Snider & Family
Michelle Slappy
Rev. Tim Paulk
Kuester Family
Cassie Prochaska
Bruce Chapman
Danny Chidester
Adams Family
Diane Wiggins
Amanda Kinsman Vines
Aundre Smith
Mary Kennedy
Janna Family
Davis/Osborne Family
Linda Walker
Marjean Waters

Independent/Assisted Living/Nursing Home

Oaks @ Maple Ridge - Helen Pharris
Kings Bridge (Atlanta, GA) - Blount King
River Place - Anne Wilson
Oaks @ Grove Park - Ron Sawyer
The Lodge (Bessemer, AL) - Lorene Carlisle
Wesley Glen (Byron, GA) - Nancy Hiller

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!

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

_____
_____
_____
_____
_____

ORDER OF WORSHIP

November 22, 2026 • 10:30 a.m.

Reign of Christ Sunday - Thanksgiving Sunday

*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** "Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart" UMH 160 vv. 1, 3, & 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 25:31-46 Quenton Brantley

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

People: Thanks be to God.

SPECIAL MUSIC "God Is" Mandi Battle
Praise & Worship Director
CCLI # 2967303, Song #5894275

SERMON "The Day of Reckoning" 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** "Great Is Thy Faithfulness" UMH 140 vv. 1&3
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.