

COMING UP THIS WEEK...

Sunday, December 16

- 9:00 a.m. Christmas Music Program
- 11:00 a.m. Christmas Music Program
- 4:00 p.m. Children's Christmas Program

Tuesday, December 18

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

Wednesday, December 19

- 6:00 p.m. Worship Team Rehearsal
- 7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, December 20

- 12:00 noon Prayer Team Meeting

Sunday, December 23

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

Monday, December 24

- Office Closed
- 4:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Service
- 6:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Service

Tuesday, December 25

- Christmas Day
- Office Closed

Thursday, December 27

- 12:00 noon Prayer Team Meeting

PASTORAL COUNSELING

Our church partners with The Pastoral Institute to offer counseling for individuals and families at deep discounts. Call the church for more information or give our church name when scheduling an appointment at 706-649-6500. Hours are Monday-Thursday, 8 a.m. - 9 p.m., Friday, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. The Pastoral Institute is located at 2022 15th Ave., Columbus.

OUR CHURCH STAFF

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

Children's Ministry Director Lindsey Fossa
Choir Director Lyn Pharris
Church Administrator Susan Snider
Contemporary Music Director Kayla Moss
Custodians Martha Conklin & Barbie Webb
Media & Communications Dawn Wilson
Music Director Bob 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

December 16, 2018

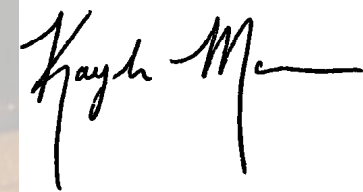
Repeat the Sounding Joy

Far too often we mistake the waiting periods in our lives as empty seasons when in reality, they are actually the times when change and growth are underway...whether we see it or not.

The Lord is using this time to teach, test our character, and ultimately mold us into who we are meant to become.

So whether you're in a season of waiting or not, know that you are always in a season of becoming. Extend yourself some grace and embrace where you are. And remember when nothing is certain, anything is possible.

Trust the wait, embrace the uncertainty, and enjoy the beauty of becoming.



Poinsettias given in honor and memory of loved ones.



Epworth connects and equips all kinds of people to **SEEK**, **SERVE**, and **SHARE** Christ.

SUNDAY SCHOOL AT 10:00 AM

The Children's Class (K-5)

Teacher: Margaret Gosden

The Friendship Class

Study: Love and Worship God

Teacher: Tim Paulk

The Genesis Class

Study: If You Are Going the Wrong Way...

Teacher: Leslie Morris

The Joy Class

Study: Class Discussion

Teacher: Class

The Nathan Patterson/Wesley Class

Study: Genesis 50

Teacher: Bobby Smith

The New Connections Class

Study: The Messenger

Teacher: Doug Franks

The Questors Class

Study: Love and Worship God

Teacher: Glenn Griffin

The Seekers Class

Study: Class Discussion

Teacher: Class

The Young Adult Class

Study: Jesus & the Beanstalk

Teacher: Becky Britton

SERVANTS NEEDED

9 a.m. Ushers: 1st, 2nd, 3rd Sundays

11 a.m. Ushers: 2nd, 4th Sundays

Children's Sunday School Helper: 2nd - 5th Sundays

Children's Church: 9 a.m. - 2nd - 5th Sundays
11 a.m. - 4th Sundays

Greeter 9 a.m.: 2nd Sundays

Turn Key: 1st and 5th Sundays

If you feel led to volunteer or would like more information, please contact the church office.

There are other ministries within and outside the church where you may feel led to volunteer. For more info on these ministries, contact someone from the Missions Committee.

THOSE WHO SERVE

December 16, 2018

9:00 a.m. Worship Service

Greeter: Debra Johnson, Anne Wilson

Usher:

Acolyte: Usher

Children's Church: Whitney Weyeneth

11:00 a.m. Worship Service

Greeter: Bobby & Carolyn Knox, Maxine Willis

Ushers: David Hay, Fraser Wooldridge

Acolyte: Eva Cherai, C. S. DiSimone

Children's Church: Becky Britton

Nursery Volunteer: Lillian Wooldridge

Financial Secretary: Lillian Wooldridge

Turn Key: James Johnson

OUR STEWARDSHIP

December 9, 2018

Tithes & Offerings: \$4,810.00

Received To Date: \$274,681.00

Needed To Date: \$317,294.00

Building Fund: \$0.00

ATTENDANCE:

Sunday School 58

Worship: 9 a.m. 42

Worship: 11 a.m. 59

101

2019 FLOWER CALENDAR

Sign up to purchase flowers for the sanctuary in 2019. The 2019 flower calendar is located on the office window. The flower arrangements are \$50 each. Questions or to request a date, call the church office.

YOUTH & CHILDREN

Children's Christmas Program Today - The children's Christmas program will be today at 4 p.m. The children will be joined by some of our youth to help them with their production. A cookie reception will follow in the fellowship hall. Come and support our kids!

MISSIONS

December Mission Focus - Helping Our

Neighbors at Christmas Offering - Our

Missions Committee has set goals to support Open Door (\$1,000), Rose Hill UMC (\$1,000) and Brown Bag of Columbus (\$1,000). The total received will be shared among them. If you feel led to give beyond your regular contribution to Epworth, consider supporting this opportunity. Donations can be made in honor or memory of loved ones or you can receive a certificate through the church office to give as a gift now until December 31.

Epworth to Receive Donations from

AmazonSmile - This Christmas, we know you are doing some shopping online and we know Amazon is one of your favorites. You can donate a portion of your purchases by going to smile.amazon.com to make your purchases and by choosing "Epworth United Methodist Church of Columbus, GA" as your charity to support. Especially remember us when making large purchases. 0.5% of the purchase price of most items will be donated. Every dollar counts!

Gift Cards for Our House - If you would like to donate gift cards to the children of Carpenter's Way and Arabella Home, bring any denomination of \$25 or under and place them in the designated box on the mission cart by December 19. Suggested cards: Walmart, Amazon, Bath & Body Works, any fast food restaurants.

Vintage Shirt Sale - Some shirts are still available and sweatshirts can be ordered individually. See the sign-up sheet on the information board.

A Taste of Epworth Cookbooks - make great Christmas gifts!

WHAT'S HAPPENING

Christmas Eve Worship - Monday, December 24, we will have candlelight communion services at 4 p.m. and 6 p.m.

Poinsettias for Christmas - You are encouraged to pick up your poinsettias after one of the Christmas eve services.

Blue Christmas for Advent - Devotional book of light in a season of darkness. Available in the Whitehurst Welcome Center for \$10 each.

Christmas Post Office - is open in the foyer, to mail your Christmas cards to your 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!

Church Office Closed - Monday and Tuesday, December 24 and 25 and Tuesday, January 1. Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!

AA Support Group Meeting - every Tuesday, at 6:30 p.m., in the Questors classroom.

Prayer Team Meeting - Thursdays at noon, at Margaret Gosden's home.

One Worship Service - on Sunday, December 30, at 11 a.m.

Epworth Text Messaging Service - Epworth has a free text messaging solution hosted by Remind. Sign up now by texting '@epworth1' to 81010. After that, enter your name and disregard other questions about parent/teacher/student/etc. If you have any questions, contact Tony.

Wireless Internet - Log on to the server Epworthchurch; Password - jesusyall.

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
Fred Scanling	Barbara Watson	Helen Batastini	Lillian Wooldridge
Elsie & Jim Spanogians	Andrea Carbaugh	Glenn Griffin	Daniel Family
Anne Wilson	Jimmy Bridges	Annette Taff	Barbara Stubbs

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
Dorothy Ogg	Bruce Chapman	Charles Holmes	Marilyn Buck
Danny Chidester	Beth Goodwin	Luby Family	Garnett Shackelford
Adams Family	Ellen Pilgreen	Jessica Kelley	Dana Thurston
Ralph & Sandy McGough	Diane Wiggins	Stephanie Bryan	Robin Grantham
McDaniel Family	Hattie Campbell	Mark Oliver	

Assisted Living/Nursing Homes/Homebound

Covenant Woods - Linda Coleman, Carol Osteen	River Place - Betty Cummings, Elizabeth
Magnolia Manor - Doris Halouska,	Harbert, Jane Sanders
Cammie Van Over	River Towne Center - Jerry Williams
Phenix City Health Care - Anne Whitehurst	The Lodge (Besse, AL) - 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.

Poinsettias for Loved Ones

In Memory Of:

Mr. & Mrs. England & Mr. & Mrs. E. Patten
Cara Vola & Edd Paulk
Thomas Lamar Rodgers
Linda Phillips
James & Judy May
Buddy, Nana & Papa Wilson
Mr. & Mrs. W. D. Jacobs
Katie Naegele
The Shackelford and Session Families
and Carolyn Shackelford
Bruce Zimmerman
Annelle Oliver Parker
Hugh & Mary Nell Oliver
Earl Marchbanks

In Honor Of:

The Earl Phillips Family
Will, Alice, Wright, John & Henley

Given By:

Louise & Judson Patten
Rev. Tim & Betty Paulk
Rev. Tim & Betty Paulk
Jack & Pat Phillips
The May Family
Anne Wilson
Darlene Shirley
Andrea & Ted Naegele

Jan Shackelford
The Zimmerman Family
Marguerite, David & Amanda Hay
Marguerite, David & Amanda Hay
Vonna & Doug Franks

Given By:

Jack & Pat Phillips
Becky Britton

*The plants will be placed in the sanctuary through Christmas Eve.
You are encouraged to pick up your poinsettias
after one of the Christmas Eve services. Thank you!*