

COMING UP...
AUGUST 03 - AUGUST 10

Sunday, August 03
9:00 a.m. Adult Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Worship In-person &
Online & Children's Church
Holy Communion

Monday, August 04
No Monday Ministry Zumba
(MMZ) (Resumes Monday 8/18)

Tuesday, August 05
6:00 p.m. Trustees Meeting

Thursday, August 07
Noon Prayer Team

Sunday, August 10
9:00 a.m. Adult Sunday School
10:30 a.m. 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

staff's first name@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.....Danielle Lamb
Children's Ministry DirectorJas'min Vontoure
Children's Ministry Assistant.....Whitney Mennifee
Custodians.....Martha Conklin
Barbie Webb
Media TechTristan Campbell
Music Director.....Bob Lee
Nursery Worker.....Martha Conklin
Pastor.....Rev. Earnestine Campbell
Praise & Worship DirectorMandi 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

August 03, 2025

"The Appointment You Can't Afford to Miss!" Part I

In last week's sermon, from Luke 11:1-13, we explored the significance of prayer, titled "The Appointment You Can't Afford to Miss!" The passage begins with a disciple approaching Jesus with a heartfelt request: "Lord, teach us to pray" (Luke 11:1 NIV). The context is crucial, reflecting the disciples' realization that their spiritual lives must be prioritized, much like Martha's experience when Jesus gently rebukes her for focusing on work instead of sitting at His feet to listen (Luke 10:41-42). This interaction highlights that our relationship with Jesus and our prayer life are foundational and must take precedence over all else.

Focus 1: The Pattern and Privilege of Prayer:

The Appointment (v. 1): An appointment is a dedicated time set aside for a specific purpose. Jesus demonstrates this by rising early in the morning to pray (Mark 1:35), illustrating that prayer is not merely a ritualistic act but a vital engagement with our Creator. The disciples' plea for Jesus to teach them how to pray reveals their desire to connect with God profoundly. Notably, they did not ask to pray like Jesus did, but, rather as John's disciples, indicating their understanding of their position as learners under God's chosen leaders. This points to a key spiritual revelation: while they recognized the depth and authority of Jesus' prayers, they sought to learn how to pray in a manner that reflected their role as His followers of the Master Leader. They understood that their prayers needed to align with the example set by Jesus, who modeled a relationship with God that was both intimate and powerful.

Provision (v. 2): When Jesus instructs His disciples to pray for "daily bread," He emphasizes not only the need for physical sustenance but also our spiritual dependence on God for all our needs. This call to seek "daily bread" recalls the experience of the Israelites in the Exodus narrative, where God provided manna each day in the wilderness, teaching them to rely on Him for their daily provisions (Exodus 16:4-5). They were instructed to gather only enough for that day, reinforcing their dependence on God. In contrast, our modern culture—unlike the crisis faced by the Israelites in the wilderness—often encourages us to stockpile food for weeks, giving a sense of self-sufficiency that metaphorically reflects our tendency to forget to seek God daily in prayer for our needs. However, the emphasis on praying for daily bread invites us to approach God regularly, acknowledging that He is the source of everything we require, both materially and spiritually. This dependence encourages us to cultivate a consistent prayer life, bringing our needs before God and trusting in His provision and guidance in every aspect of our lives.

The Condition (vv. 3-4): Furthermore, Jesus recognizes the sinful nature of our lives and the importance of forgiveness in our prayers (Matthew 6:14-15). We understand what sin is by studying our Bibles, engaging with the accountability of the Christian community, and seeking God in prayer for exposure, clarity, and correction. He instructs us to seek forgiveness for our sins while also calling us to forgive those who have wronged us. This reciprocal nature of forgiveness is vital for healing our relationships with others and ourselves, reinforcing that our spiritual health is intertwined with how we interact with those around us. Additionally, Jesus warns us to pray for deliverance from evil, acknowledging the constant presence of temptation in our lives. In James 1:13, we are reminded that God does not lead us into temptation, but He will surely come to our aid when we recognize our behavior and vulnerability to sin, confess, and repent—praying and seeking His guidance in overcoming it.

Intentional Preparation: As we engage in prayer, let's approach it with intention, much like preparing for a doctor's appointment where we come with our questions and concerns, ready for the best practice. The practice of prayer that Jesus teaches begins with a pattern of adoration of God, provision, condition, and preparation. This practice of prayer is not just an obligation but a privilege—a divine appointment that we must not miss. By seeking God through prayer, we open ourselves to divine wisdom and strength for our daily challenges. The disciples' request for guidance on prayer reflects their understanding of Jesus' authority and spiritual depth. By following His teachings, we gain a complete approach to prayer that nurtures our connection with God, acknowledges our shortcomings, and encourages us to extend grace to others.

Strengthening the Core: Ultimately, "The Appointment You Can't Afford to Miss" reminds us that prayer should be at the core of our lives. It is through this sacred practice that we deepen our relationship with God, receive His guidance, and face life's challenges with faith and resilience. Let us embrace this appointment with God early in the morning and every day, recognizing its importance in our spiritual journey and the transformative power it holds for our lives.

In Christ,
Earnestine



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: Nehemiah 10
Teacher: Bobby Smith

The New Connections Class
Study: Lessons From Luke
Teacher: Glenn Griffin

The Seekers Class
Study: Wired Word
Teacher: Donny Davis

THOSE WHO SERVE

August 03, 2025

Usher: David Hay
Financial Secretary: Donny Davis
Acolytes: Children/Youth Ministry/Ushers

OUR STEWARDSHIP

July 27, 2025

Tithes & Offerings:	\$1,679.00
Received To Date:	\$109,034.38
Needed To Date:	\$148,680.00

Attendance:	
Sunday School	18
In-person Sunday Worship	63
Online Viewers	140
Total	203

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](https://www.facebook.com/epworthcolumbus) first: [facebook.com/epworthcolumbus](https://www.facebook.com/epworthcolumbus) or [youtube.com/channel/UCZjhDYHDeeE-dnv5a5nQKjA](https://www.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. It only takes a few seconds and only a few minutes to write a review of your experience at Epworth through Facebook, Google, or Yelp. This is a way to let our community know about us.

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS*

- | | |
|----|------------------|
| 2 | Stacey McManus |
| | Bill Watt |
| 3 | Warren Fowler |
| 5 | Jeff Stolpa |
| 6 | Harold Morris |
| 8 | Callie Clark |
| | Vonna Franks |
| 9 | Loyd Johns |
| | Elsie Spanogians |
| 11 | Heather Morris |
| 12 | Helen Pharris |
| 13 | Collette Adamson |
| 14 | Joy Propst |
| 15 | Betty Paulk |
| 18 | Derek Hay |
| 21 | Joseph Ralls |
| 22 | Avery McManus |
| | Arlene Taff |
| 23 | Jan Shackelford |
| 24 | Ann Flynn |
| | Gary Tomlin |
| | Jo Wilkinson |
| 26 | Earl Phillips |
| | Bobby Smith |
| 29 | Randy Morris |

A Birthday Prayer

May God bless you today and each day that follows, May you hear His voice and follow His footsteps, Be comforted by His care and live in His Grace now and forever, Amen.

*All members, please fill out your connection card so we don't miss your special day!

MISSIONS & UPCOMING EVENTS

AUGUST MISSION

August Mission Opportunity - Our August Mission opportunity is Wynnton Neighborhood Network (WNN).

Now in its 41st year, WNN offers food, utility assistance, diapers and pet food to families in need. A list of items needed is available in the Whitehurst Welcome Center. Our goal is 300 total items. Monetary donations are also appreciated. Mark your pew envelopes "Wynnton Neighborhood Network." Thank you for your support of this worthy cause!

GRIEF/CAREGIVER MEETING

Grief / Caregiver Support Meeting - Our next Support Meeting is Tuesday, August 12, 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.

CHILDREN & YOUTH GAME NIGHT AND UPCOMING YOUTH EVENTS

Children & Youth Game Night - Our August Game Night information to be announced.

Annual Fall Festival

Kick off the Fall Season with Loads of Fall Fun! Our Annual Fall Festival will be on Saturday, October 25, 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!

FELLOWSHIP HALL RESERVED

- | |
|---|
| Tuesday, August 19, from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. |
| Tuesday, August 19, from 6:30 p.m. - 8 p.m. |
| Saturday, September 13, from 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. |
| Saturday, September 20, from 8 a.m. - 2 p.m. |
| Tuesday, November 4, from 7 a.m. - 9 p.m. |
| Tuesday, November 18, from 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. |

UPCOMING EVENTS

& OPPORTUNITIES

QUARTERLY COMMITTEE MEETINGS

- Trustees Meeting, Chair, Glenn Griffin - Tuesday, August 5 at 6:00 p.m.
- SPRC Meeting, Chair, Michele Lancaster - Tuesday, September 9 at 6:00 p.m.
- Finance Meeting, Chair, John Grandon - Tuesday, September 9 at 6:45 p.m.
- Church Council Meeting, Chair, Donna Faircloth - Tuesday, September 16 at 6:00 p.m.

*Note: If you are a committee member and you are not able to attend, please notify your committee chair.
*Note: For committee chairs whose committees are not listed above, please schedule your committee meeting for planning and submit your meeting reports prior to the September 12 reporting deadline in preparation for the Church Council meeting. These meetings can occur in person, via the church's Zoom or other ways. We want to make it convenient for all to attend and participate in the great ministry that God is doing through Epworth.

CHARGE CONFERENCE

Charge Conference-Monday, October 27, at 5:30p.m. Presiding, Reverend Jeff Cook, Northwest District Superintendent.

65TH CHURCH HOMECOMING

Epworth's 65th Church Homecoming is on Sunday, September 28, 2025! Join us for a joyful celebration during the worship service at 10:30 a.m. Delicious meal immediately following the service. Instructions are forthcoming for you to bring a dish, etc. Children's church is always available, with fun and games. Come and be a part of this special occasion and invite others! Please RSVP at church@epworthumc.com or (706) 322-6973.

EPWORTH PRAYER LIST

Church Family

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

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	
Roger Buterbaugh	Diane Propst	Amanda Kinsman Vines	
George Bowen	Martha Bone	Danny Snider & Family	Davis/Osborne Family

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

August 03, 2025 • 10:30 a.m.

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

*CONFESSION & PARDON UMH No. 12

People: Merciful God,
We confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart.
We have failed to be an obedient church.
We have not done your will,
we have broken your law,
we have rebelled against your love,
we have not loved our neighbors,
and we have not heard the cry of the needy.
Leader: Forgive us, we pray.
Free us for joyful obedience,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.
Hear the good news:
Christ died for us while we were yet sinners;
that proves God's love toward us.
In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!
People: In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

*PRAISE SONG " I Love to Tell the Story" UMH 156 vv. 1, 2, 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 LESSON LUKE 11:1-13 Patricia Bronson

Leader: This is the Word of God for the People of God.
People: Thanks be to God.

SPECIAL MUSIC "Honest Offering" Mandi Battle
Praise & Worship Director
CCLI # 2967303, Song #7212328

SERMON SERIES "When the Dust Settles" Pastor

SERMON "An Appointment You Can't Afford to Miss!" 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.

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION Pastor & Congregation (see screen)

Invitation
The Great Thanksgiving UMH No. 15-16
The Lord's Prayer
The Giving of the Bread and Cup
The Prayer After the Communion

*CLOSING SONG "The Blood Will Never Lose Its Power" CH 334
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.