

COMING UP...
AUGUST 10 - AUGUST 17

Sunday, August 10
9:00 a.m. Adult Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Worship In-person &
Online & Children's Church
UMM Meeting (following service)

Monday, August 11
No Monday Ministry Zumba
(MMZ) (Resumes Monday 8/18)
1:00 p.m. New Life

Tuesday, August 12
1:00 p.m. Grief/Caregiver Meeting

Thursday, August 14
Noon Prayer Team

Sunday, August 17
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 10, 2025

"An Appointment You Can't Afford to Miss!" Part II

The Need for a Specialist Prayer

Sunday's sermon was a Part II to "An Appointment You Can't Afford to Miss!" from the text Luke 11:1-13; the disciples observe Jesus praying and ask Him, "Lord, teach us to pray" (Luke 11:1). Jesus responds with the Lord's Prayer (Luke 11:2-4), showing us how to connect with God on a personal level. Just like we seek specialists for important health issues, our prayer life needs that same urgency, especially when life gets challenging. In verses 5-8, Jesus shares a parable about a friend who knocks on his neighbor's door at midnight, asking for bread to help another friend in need. This story teaches the importance of being persistent in our prayers—the friend's boldness shows the urgency of a request that simply cannot wait, as it was required hospitality in biblical times to take care of visitors.

Persistent Boldness in Prayer

When we come to God in prayer, we need to exercise the same boldness and perseverance as the friend in the parable. The friend who knocked at midnight wasn't just asking for himself; he was reaching out because a friend had a need that couldn't wait. Initially, the homeowner was reluctant to accommodate this late-night request, thinking it was too inconvenient. However, because of the friend's persistence and determination, he eventually gave in and provided the bread needed. The story reminds me of how we sometimes try to reach someone who has their phone set to "Do Not Disturb," "Sleep Mode," or "Focus Mode." Those notifications often indicate that the person isn't readily available, but there's usually an option to "Notify Anyway," which signifies that the urgency of our message matters—and the message goes through instead of being delayed. Just like that option to notify someone despite their settings, Jesus is our "Notify Anyway." He's always available, ready to hear us, and never ignores or denies our calls for help, no matter the urgency.

The Appointment of ASK

Jesus invites us to Ask, Seek, and Knock (Luke 11:9-10). This isn't just a suggestion but an open invitation to come to Jesus actively in prayer. When we ask confidently, we participate in God's work, whether it's a prayer for our own needs or whether we're standing in intercessory prayer for others. Jesus hears and responds according to His will for our lives.

Boldness in Prayer

Scripture encourages us to approach God's throne with boldness (Hebrews 4:16). Our persistent prayers demonstrate our faith that God will respond to our needs. Just as a specialist physician prescribes an advanced treatment plan, God responds to our sincere requests with the direction and purpose we need for our lives.

Jesus: The Key to Our Connection

Ultimately, Jesus is the key that unlocks our relationship with God. He invites us to bring our needs and concerns directly to Him, reminding us that we are never alone in our struggles. By seeking Him first, we can find the guidance, strength, and healing we need. So, don't ever give up on your healing, deliverance, purpose, and prayers! Let's embrace this appointment of prayer, confident that through Jesus, our "Notify Anyway," we can boldly approach the Father and receive His grace. Amen.

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 12
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

August 10, 2025
Usher: Frasier Wooldridge
Financial Secretary: Donny Davis
Acolytes: Children/Youth Ministry/Ushers

OUR STEWARDSHIP

August 03, 2025
Tithes & Offerings: \$6,215.00
Received To Date: \$115,249.38
Needed To Date: \$153,636.00

Attendance:
Sunday School 17
In-person Sunday Worship 55
Online Viewers 116
Total 171

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. 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.

UMM GROUP CHANGES/MEETING

As we navigate through this period during John Grandon's illness, Quenton Brantley has agreed to assist in Leadership for the United Methodist Men's (UMM) Group. Our group will now meet the second Sunday of each month, beginning today, August 10th, immediately following the Worship Service. We will meet in the Nathan Patterson classroom. All men are invited!

WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST MEMBER

Welcome Epworth's newest member, **Jawan Lias**, who joined the church by profession of faith on Sunday, July 27, 2025. Please welcome him into the body of Christ at Epworth. Praise God!

ABRAHAM AND SARAH BIBLE STUDY BOOK GROUP PHOTO

All members/participants of the Noon Day Bible Study and the EPEC Zoom 7:00 p.m. Bible Study Classes are asked to join us for a special group photo! Please plan to stay briefly after the Worship Service on Sunday, August 17, and meet in the Fellowship Hall. This photo will be included in the Abraham and Sarah Bible Study book, so your presence is important! If you have any questions, feel free to reach out to Pastor Earnie. We look forward to seeing you there!

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 encouraged to invite friends to come out for support. 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 will be Friday, August 22, 6:30p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Future scheduling 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

-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 10, 2025 • 10:30 a.m.

Ninth 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 "How Great Thou Art" CH 147 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.

CONGREGATIONAL SONG "Seek Ye First" CH 713 vv. 1, 2
Song Leader

SHARING OF CONCERNS & CELEBRATIONS Pastor
Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

*SCRIPTURE LESSON LUKE 11:14-28 Becky Britton

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

SPECIAL MUSIC "Waymaker" Mandi Battle
Praise & Worship Director
CCLI # 2967303, Song #7115744

SERMON SERIES "When the Dust Settles" Pastor

SERMON "Unmuted and Undefeated" 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 "What a Mighty God We Serve" CH 672
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.