

MARCH 2021

THE
EPWORTH TOWER

CHRIST
IS RISEN!

March 2021

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Our Promise
Help for today,
Hope for tomorrow,
And a place to call Home.

Saturday Worship

- **4:30pm 30-minute Worship Service:** Hear an inspiring message of faith and hope at this 30 minute service. Perfect for those who are on-the-go who still want to get a lift of Faith each week.

Sunday Worship

- **8:30am Worship w/ Weekly Holy Communion:** This classic service includes Holy Communion served every week.
- **9:45am Classic:** Steeped in the warm-hearted Methodist tradition featuring choral and organ music.
- **11:00am Modern:** Fast-paced and featuring our praise band.

Other Ways to Worship

- **Website or Facebook:** Participate in our worship service live every Sunday at 8:30am via facebook, facebook.com/EpworthToledo or livestream the service at epworth.com/live.
- **Worship on TV:** Tune in to WTOL, CBS local Channel 11 at 11:30am for a televised broadcast of our weekly worship following CBS's top-rated Sunday morning show, Face the Nation.
- **Podcasts:** We stream our worship services on apple podcasts, spotify, and google podcasts.
- **Archived:** If you missed the message live, each message remains accessible on our facebook page throughout the week. You can always access any of our previously streamed sermons 24/7 at Epworth.com/sermons.

Stay Connected

- **Weekly E-Newsletter** - Sign up for the weekly e-newsletters! Go to: epworth.com/email
- **Obituary Notifications**
Sign up to receive obituary notifications!
Go to: epworth.com/email
- **Social Media**

 /EpworthToledo

 /EpworthChurchToledo

 /EpworthToledo

April Tower Deadline:

FRIDAY, MARCH 26

E-mail articles & pictures to
communications@epworth.com

Our Pastors:

DR. STEPHEN SWISHER
Senior Pastor
steve@epworth.com

REV. BETH IRWIN
Associate Pastor
beth@epworth.com

REV. DAVE PETTENGILL
Associate Pastor
dave@epworth.com

THANKS!

On behalf of my family, thank you for your very kind condolences on the passing of my brother Allen, and father Bill. COVID-19 complications were the issue for them both. I appreciate the love and support from our Epworth family during this very difficult time we are going through. Thank you for your continued prayers as we navigate this journey we are on. With much gratitude and many blessings,
-Dee Isaac

Thank You For Your Generous Advent Giving!

We are so happy to report that our Epworth members and extended family proved once again to show an abundance of generosity by providing for others in our community and beyond this Advent 2020 season.

Designated contributions totaling over \$6600 were given to our community partners : Feed Your Neighbor, Hawkins STEMM Academy, St. Paul's Community Center, and Heifer International.

Fifteen hams were donated to St. Paul's Community Center so the residents could enjoy a delicious Christmas dinner. 158 hats, mittens, and scarves were donated that were delivered to the St. Paul's Marketplace and the students at Hawkins STEMM Academy. 68 of the hats were donated by a woman that knitted the hats herself!

So good to know some local Toledo friends were provided warmth due to your generosity.

Thank you again for making a difference in our church, in our community, nationally and globally. Though our methods of giving were different this Christmas, Epworth stepped up to help our neighbors during this season of hope and love.

-Outreach/Mission Committee

WOULD YOU LIKE A FACEMASK WITH THE EPWORTH LOGO?



Now that masks are a permanent accessory, we're starting to have standards about the types of reusable

masks we're wearing! We will be offering a 2-ply face mask which features behind the ear straps and a super soft cotton layer underneath the top printed layer to keep germs out. Our custom design will feature Epworth blue material and a white Epworth UMC logo on the left hand side. Quantities are limited, so don't delay! They are \$10 each. Call the office at 419.531.4236 or email marla@epworth.com to secure yours today. Orders will be first come, first served!

Thanks!

If you'd like a thank you printed in the next Tower, send your note in an e-mail to communications@epworth.com.

INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY

The Church building closes if there is a Level 3 Snow Emergency in Lucas county!

Activities, Classes & Volunteers:

- Canceled if Sylvania Schools close -- Will re-evaluate again at 3pm regarding evening activities.
- The staff person in charge of that activity will make the decision and will contact those persons involved.

Congratulations 2020 births

- **THE OEHLERS & SCHWARZKOPF FAMILIES** on the birth of Jackson on March 14, 2020 to Griffin and Meredith Oehlers. The proud grandparents are Jim and Jan Schwarzkopf.
- **THE NORRIS FAMILY** on the birth of Dean Norris on September 27, 2020 to Garrett Norris and Nicolle Dooley. The proud grandparents are Garry and Tami Norris.
- **THE SEAMAN & WHITE FAMILIES** on the birth of Zander Seaman on October 31, 2020 to Laura and Scott Seaman. The proud grandparents are Dave and Betsy White.

Sympathies recent deaths

- **THE WEBB FAMILY** on the passing of Keith Webb's mother.

PASTORAL LETTER



Dear friends,

For the past few weeks we have been engaging in the Season of Lent and counting down to the holiest Sunday of the year, Easter. Lent is a 40 day process that leads us in a time of reflection and meaningful investigation of how our lives intersect with the Divine and the Holy. Since the beginning of the Christian faith, this Season of Lent has been linked to a wilderness experience, much like Jesus witnessed after his baptism and trek through the desert of drought and temptation. The Old Testament has much to say about the wilderness too, such as in this verse from Deuteronomy 2:7, “For the Lord your God has blessed you in all the work of your hands. He knows your trudging through this great wilderness.

The dictionary defines “wilderness” as a wild and uncultivated region, one that is either uninhabited or inhabited only by wild animals. Life can feel that way sometimes, can’t it? The key thing about going through any wilderness either perceived or real is to make the right decisions and to have the right guide.

I read the other day of a renewed interest in our Nation for wilderness training and survival skills as people plan for the contingency of rough terrain and traveling to or through remote regions. Here are a few tips to remember as we navigate the occasional wilderness in our lives:

1. Take a 30 minute walk every day and when you walk, smile! It is the ultimate antidepressant.
2. Sit in silence for 10 minutes each day.
3. Pray each morning asking God for guidance and purpose for the day.
4. Try to make at least 3 people smile each day... including yourself.
5. Don’t waste energy on gossip, negativity or things you can’t control.
6. You don’t have to win every argument. Agree to disagree.
7. Make peace with your past, so it won’t spoil the present.
8. No one is in charge of your happiness except you.

When we apply these simple principles to our daily lives, depend on God and take positive steps forward each day, we will see the confusing wilderness clear and a beautiful future unfold. Plan to join us for all of our exciting Holy Week and Easter Worship offerings. We are entering a life altering, spirit enriching, faith equipping Season. Join us!!

Dr. Stephen Lowell Swisher
Senior Pastor

HOLY WEEK: MARCH 29-APRIL 3

This Holy Week, we are blessed to offer our community the opportunity to join us and listen to prominent leaders within the United Methodist Church. Visit epworth.com/holyweek2021 or see the Holy Week speakers brochure located in the lobby for more info about each speaker. Pick up a few copies and use it to invite your friends, neighbors, and co-workers to join you. And don’t forget to share our current safety protocols, they’re located at epworth.com/safetyprotocols. We strive to make our church a safe environment for you and your loved ones.

- **Palm Sunday - 8:30, 9:45 & 11am**
Bishop Will Willimon
- **Monday, March 29 at 7pm**
Dr. Robert Schuller
- **Tuesday, March 30 at 7pm**
Bishop Ruben Saenz, Jr.
- **Wednesday, March 31 at 7pm**
*Bishop Sudarshana Devadhar
- **Maundy Thursday, April 1 at 7pm**
Bishop Al Gwinn
Maundy Thursday commemorates Jesus’ last supper with his disciples and the institution of the Lord’s Supper. The night of Maundy Thursday is the night on which Jesus was betrayed by Judas in the Garden of Gethsemane. Join us for a special service with guest preacher, Bishop Al Gwinn.
- **Good Friday, April 2**
Stations of the Cross, 12-4pm &
Dr. Lawrence L. Welborn, 7pm
From Gethsemane to the Tomb, come walk with Jesus on Good Friday through the Stations of the Cross. This self-directed worship experience in our sanctuary. Each of the fourteen stations features artwork which focuses on moments leading to Jesus’ death on the cross. Open to the public.
- **Saturday, April 3 at 4:30pm**
Dr. Stephen Lowell Swisher

EASTER SUNDAY: APRIL 4**6:30am Sunrise Service at The Toledo Zoo**

Join us at 6:30am at the Toledo Zoo amphitheater for a Easter morning special message from Dr. Swisher. Parking and admission to worship is FREE! Please use the Broadway entrance to attend worship. During worship, you can expect to enjoy complimentary hot chocolate, coffee, pastries, and popcorn.



As a special treat and thank you, discounted tickets to The Toledo Zoo and Aquarium (for that day only) are available to those attending the sunrise service. If you are planning to attend, discounted tickets must be requested and purchased in the church office M-F, 9am-4pm in advance of the Sunrise service. Please call 419.531.4236 or stop in during those times to purchase and pickup tickets.

8:30am, 9:45am & 11:00am in the Epworth Sanctuary

Join us for Dr. Swisher's message is entitled, "Let Easter Happen To You". *8:30am service will be streamed online.*

Easter Morning for Families

Children are encouraged to worship with their families during all of our worship services. There will even be a special Children's message during our 9:45 and 11:00 worship services.

- **In-Person:** Plan to come a little early or stay after worship for fun family events including: Between services, families are invited to participate in an Easter Egg scavenger hunt in the children's wing. The Easter Bunny will be available in the Children's Church throughout the morning for you to take family photos.
- **Online or TV broadcast:** Email mary@epworth.com to request an Easter At-Home family kit. The deadline to reserve your kit is March 28.

SUNDAY PM WORSHIP**In Person Worship: 6pm**

We are excited to announce that beginning Sunday, **April 11** (the Sunday after Easter) we will be launching the 5th worship service of the weekend here at Epworth! This 6pm, 30-minute service will be very similar to our Saturday evening worship. It will cater to parents whose kids are attending SWAT Sunday Night Splash, individuals who work Sunday mornings, or anyone else who may not be able to attend any of our other services. We strive to have meaningful worship opportunities available to anyone and everyone who calls Epworth home! Tell your friends and family and we will see you on Sunday evenings beginning in April.

Increasing Our Media Ministry: 8:30pm

We have another exciting development in our quest to spread the Good Word of Jesus Christ! We are increasing our broadcast area by offering an additional opportunity for Northwest Ohio and Southeastern Michigan to Worship at home or on the go. Beginning Easter Sunday, **April 4** our worship will be broadcast to an additional audience of 3.5 million on WLMB, Toledo's Religious Independent TV station at 8:30pm. [WLMB - channel 40 on Dish, or local Channel 6.] This additional broadcast is made possible by the gifts of generous donors outside our Church budget. We look forward to reaching an ever increasing group of new friends with Help for today, Hope for tomorrow, and A Place to Call Home.

CURRENT SAFETY PROTOCOLS

Now that we're all getting our COVID-19 vaccinations, we wanted to remind you that our safety protocols are still going strong! We strive to make our church a safe environment for you and your loved ones. A few items to keep in mind:

- The Sanctuary is sanitized before and after each worship service
- We strongly suggest that masks are worn covering the nose and mouth inside the building
 - We sit in every third pew to allow for social distancing
 - Offering plates are not passed during the worship service
 - No coffee or snacks are available in the lobby
 - Our Pastors are not shaking hands
- For Holy Communion we use a pre-packaged sealed cup & wafer, each person opens their own cup & wafer

LENTEN WEDNESDAY OASIS - WEDNESDAYS AT 6:30PM

Join us for our Lent series of Wednesday Oasis Bible studies which began Wednesday, February 24. Email Cindy@epworth.com to sign up for a class! Current classes:

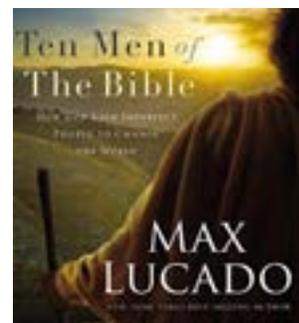
- **He Set His Face to Jerusalem by Richard B. Wilke**
February 24- March 31 (6 weeks) Join Dr. Swisher in this study which explores Jesus' commitment to go to Jerusalem. The Gospel of Luke records, "When the days drew near for him to be taken up, he set his face to Jerusalem" (Luke 9:51).
- **The Grace of Les Miserables by Matt Rawle**
February 24 - March 31 (6 weeks) - Join Pastor Beth and dive into six ideals found in the story—grace, justice, poverty, revolution, love, and hope—each represented by a character in Victor Hugo's novel. As these imperfect and relatable characters interact, we can see how these ideals work together (perhaps even in spite of each other) out in the world. A zoom version of this Bible study takes place Thursdays at 6:30pm.
- **Jesus and the Cross: The Beautiful Gospel**
February 24-March 24 (5 weeks) - Join Pastor Dave to take a deeper look at who Jesus is and how this is connected to what he accomplished on the cross. Reflecting on the beauty of Jesus and the cross not only revolutionizes our lives but also the world. We will be hosting this class in the Deep End for both adults and youth.
- **Family Lenten Study: Reflections of the Heart**
Beginning Ash Wednesday - We journey through this season of Lent together, families are invited to focus intentionally on the spiritual discipline of evaluating what the heart treasures. Some are physical treasures we can touch, hold, store, and give. Some treasures are invisible, yet still greatly matter and guide our lives. Families will reflect on what kind of treasure matters to us, why we store treasures, and the power these treasures have in our lives. To sign up to receive your digital kit, Email mary@epworth.com.



NEW MENS' BIBLE STUDY

Led by: Ed Bardi and Stephen Swisher

Because of the great demand in participation we are updating our Mens' Bible Study time to 4:30pm to accommodate more people! Beginning the Thursday after Easter, **April 8** at 4:30pm in room 214. Dr. Bardi and Dr. Swisher will co-lead this weekly class based on Max Lucado's "Ten Men of the Bible: How God Used Imperfect People to Change the World." Join us for this interesting and meaningful look at being men of faith regardless of the circumstances through the lives of people like Noah, Jacob, Moses, Lazarus and Paul. To register for the class email cindy@epworth.com or call the church office at 419.531.4236.



THURSDAY NIGHT SUMMER GOLF LEAGUE



The Epworth CO-ED Golf League is getting ready for play this summer at Whiteford Valley Golf Club each Thursday beginning **May 6**. We will play 9 holes every Thursday night for 16 weeks – tee times between 4:45 and 5:30pm. Any skill level is invited for this co-ed league. If you wish to join us and need a partner, we will find one for you.

Greens fees are \$224 and must be paid prior to first tee time on May 6. You can walk or rent a cart. Golf carts are available at \$6/person if all 16 weeks are paid in full by May 7; or \$8/person if purchased per week. For sign up or more information, contact Adam Schoesler at [personal

information has been removed].

[adult Singles]

Single, divorced and widowed adults in the Toledo community are invited to join. RSVP to Nancy Hauer at [personal information has been removed]. The next opportunities to join us are:

Sunday, March 28: 11am - Bishop Will Willimon to preach in Epworth Sanctuary. Lunch location TBD.

EPWORTH KIDS: MARCH



Elementary:

This month, we continue gathering through our weekly virtual Large Group Sundays at 10am on the children's facebook page, facebook.com/Epworthkids and digital devotional materials at

epworth.com/kidsathome. Epworth's Elementary kids will explore the life app Patience. We define the Life App Patience as: Waiting until later for what you want now.

We want your kids to know that despite how tough waiting can be, learning to be patient is so important. Waiting for the cookies to come out of the oven... waiting for your birthday to come... waiting for summer break... waiting is just a part of life. To help learn about Patience, the kids will work to memorize this month's memory verse: "Wait for the Lord. Be strong and don't lose hope. Wait for the Lord." (Psalm 27:14 NIV) Our prayer is that your kids will learn that waiting is part of life, learning patience will help us in our relationship with Jesus.



Preschool & Toddler:

This month, we will continue gathering through our weekly virtual Large Group Sundays at 11am on the children's facebook page, facebook.com/Epworthkids and digital devotional materials at

epworth.com/kidsathome. Epworth's Preschool and Toddler kids will explore the Biblical truth: I can love like Jesus.

Each week we will post interactive Bible stories, and follow-up activities to help teach your child that Jesus called us to love one another! This hands-on, action packed virtual Bible story time will also help your early childhood kiddos memorize this month's Bible Memory Verse: "Love each other as I have loved you." (John 15:12 NIV) It is our prayer that your little one will discover to love others like Jesus!

STUDENTS WITH A TASK

The Youth Ministry for Students in Grades 6-12

SUNDAY NIGHT SPLASH

"Lost and Found"

5:30-7pm for Jr & Sr High **March 7, 14, 21 & 28** in the Deep End. Have you ever been lost? Maybe you wandered away from your parents, took a wrong turn, or lost track of your friends in a crowd? It can be scary to realize you're not sure where you are or how to get home again, and the same thing is true when it comes to our faith. See, you and I were created to be close to the God who made and loves us. In this 4-week series, we'll explore a series of stories Jesus once told about things that were lost and then got found again. Through those stories, we'll discover that Jesus notices you, values you, welcomes you back when you've strayed, and invites you to the party when others come home. Come join us!

BIBLE CAMP VIRTUAL PREVIEW PARTY

All aboard! This summer Vacation Bible Camp is taking your kid on an epic adventure! Preview all that's in-store for your child virtually on Sunday, **April 18** from 2-4pm. RSVP by April 11 to Mary Roesti at Mary@epworth.com to reserve your FREE Rocky Railway preview party packet which includes the zoom invite, a CD loaded with all the great camp songs, a special themed treat, games, and most importantly registration information. Packets can be picked up at the church prior to the preview party. Rocky Railway Vacation Bible Camp focuses on how 'Jesus' power pulls us through' and is scheduled for June 2021.



As you can imagine, the pandemic has made planning large scale in-person activities such as Bible Camp quite a challenge. The good news is that we are committed to offering something for the kids this summer, we just need to discern if that will be in-person or virtual. Stay tuned to [Epworth.com](https://epworth.com) for the most up-to-date information regarding Bible Camp and all other children and family offerings at Epworth UMC.

WE LOVE OUR PRESCHOOL



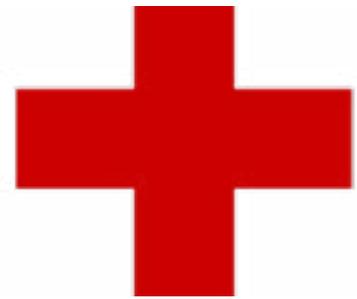
Epworth Preschool has impacted our family so much. Our lives have been enriched by the intentional thought, care and love poured into our children by all the Epworth teachers. The sense of community, the support, and the opportunities we have had is because of the dedicated preschool team. We are so thankful for Epworth Preschool and having a place where we could bring Ellie to receive so much care, love, and enriching learning experiences. With Love, The Welzbacher Family

GIVE BLOOD ON MARCH 6

New Protocols, Same Needs

The American Red Cross needs you now more than ever. Epworth is hosting a blood drive on Saturday, **March 6** from 9am to 2pm in the gym. The Red Cross has established guidelines and protocols for blood donation in keeping with the guidelines from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) for social distancing. This includes:

- Donor areas and waiting areas set up to allow for 6 feet of social distancing. Only donors will be permitted at the blood drive. No guests will be permitted.
- Hand sanitizer will be available at check-in, health history, and refreshment areas.
- The temperatures of staff, volunteers, and donors will be checked before entering the drive. Anyone with a temperature greater than 99.5°F will not be able to donate or volunteer.
- Everyone – staff, volunteers, and donors – will be required to wear masks or face coverings. Disposable coverings will be available at the drive, or you may bring your own.
- Donor beds will be disinfected between donors; common areas at the blood drive will also be disinfected.
- For the wellness and safety of all involved, at this time, walk-in donors will not be permitted. A time to donate must be scheduled.
- Donor education materials have been expanded to include information on COVID-19. All donors will be required to read them.



The American Red Cross will do everything possible to keep staff, volunteers, and donors well so that they can continue giving the gift of life to those who need it. To register to donate at Epworth, visit redcrossblood.org/donate and type in zip code 43615. You can also sign up on the connection card or email Gordy Krueger at [personal information has been removed] to register.

FDA Covid-19 Vaccine Deferral Period Info:

- **Non-replicating, inactivated, or RNA based COVID-19 vaccine manufactured by AstraZeneca, Janssen/J&J, Moderna, Novavax, or Pfizer:** Donor is eligible with no waiting period if they have no symptoms, Donor is temporarily deferred if they have symptoms.
- **Live Attenuated COVID-19 Vaccine:** Donor is eligible if it has been greater than 2 weeks since receiving the vaccine and they have no symptoms. Donor is deferred if 2 weeks or less. Donor is temporarily deferred if it has been greater than 2 weeks and they have symptoms.
- **Unknown type:** Donor is eligible if it has been greater than 2 weeks since receiving the vaccine and they have no symptoms. Donor is deferred if 2 weeks or less. Donor is temporarily deferred if it has been greater than 2 weeks and they have symptoms.

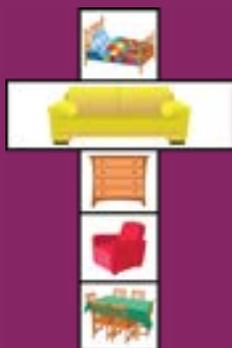
HAWKINS STEMM ACADEMY PARTNERSHIP



Volunteers from the Epworth-Hawkins Partnership recently completed a second round of phone calls to families of all Hawkins STEMM Academy students on behalf of the Hawkins Student Support Team. 14 volunteers contacted more than 230 families to ask about any difficulties they are experiencing with online learning. Any concerns were relayed to the Student Support Team, which identified appropriate school and community resources and responded to families in need of assistance.

The volunteers also mailed postcards, with information on how to request assistance from the school, to families they were unable to reach by phone. "I had some great conversations," volunteer Susan Kanwal observed, "most said they were doing okay, and everyone was friendly and appreciative of the calls." A big THANK YOU to these volunteers who reached out to Hawkins families: Luann Alleman, Lindsey Burmeister, Jan Devaney, Susan Kanwal, Kristine Martin, Carla McConnell, Bob Sanders, Elaine Sheehan, Pat Holmberg, Lynn Bachelor, Barb Machin, Kay Bennett, Cindi Bishop, and Kyle Grefe.

FURNITURE MINISTRY



Items needed for blessings area:

Toasters, queen comforters, and towels of all sizes

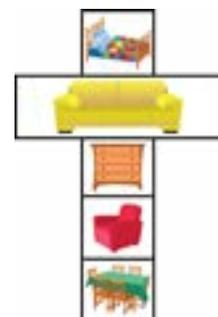
STATISTICS

	FEBRUARY:	2021:
Families:	11	26
Adults:	16	32
Children:	18	31
Furniture:	103	236

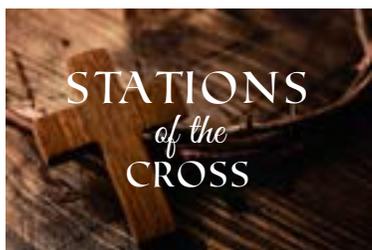
Thank you for your continuing support of Epworth Furniture Ministry!

EFM VOLUNTEER POSITION

EFM is in need of volunteers to answer phone calls from individuals calling in to schedule a pickup for a furniture donation. All incoming calls go to an electronic voicemail (email) and the volunteer answers the call when convenient for the volunteer. The estimated time required is 6-8 hours a week and the individual will work two-week shifts. The qualifications for the position are an individual who enjoys talking to people and can use the computer to enter pickup information on a roster. If you're interested, please email us at volunteer@furnitureministry.



ARTISTS NEEDED!



The Good Friday Stations of the Cross experience will be here before we know it! Are you interested in being one of the local artists displayed? You don't need to be a professional to participate, only a desire to create. We will provide a scripture verse and you do the rest. The deadline to submit your work of art is March 12. Please contact Pastor Beth at beth@epworth.com for more information!

"TAKING ON" FOR LENT AND BEYOND

Our Ash Wednesday message was to take on something that draws you to a closer relationship with God. One of many opportunities offered to consider was giving of self through serving others. Our outreach ministry is far reaching, and many of our members are already committed and actively participate through their giving of gifts, talents, and advocacy.

Our Furniture Ministry, Hawkins STEMM Academy partnership, Feed Your Neighbor, St. Paul's Community Center, St. Paul's UMC Sack Lunch Project, Good Works and so many more are an examples of the ministries that Epworth has either successfully initiated and sustained or partnered with – creating impact not just in our community but far beyond.

Serving within Epworth is just as crucial – choir members, prayer warriors, ushers, communion stewards, Scripture readers, Sunday School leaders (children, youth and adult), action teams and so many other volunteers help to solidify our faith, our devotion to God, and be the Body of Christ in the world. If you are already participating and contributing, thank you for impacting our ministries! If you are interested in "taking on" and not sure where you fit in, contact info@epworth.com or Jennie@epworth.com.



SERVE

EASTER FLOWER ORDER/ DONATION FORM



If you would like to honor or memorialize a loved one for Easter this year, we have two options available:

1. You can order a tulips to take home, or
2. You can make a donation to the Easter Flower Fund

Commemorations will be listed in the Easter weekend bulletin. Please return this form with your payment to the church office or place it in the offering plate. Purchased plants may be picked up AFTER the 11am Easter Service. Thank you for supporting this ministry!

ORDER DEADLINE IS MONDAY, MARCH 22

Donor Name(s):

(Please print clearly, as you wish to be listed)

Phone: (_____) _____ - _____

In Memory of and/or In Honor of: *(Please circle one)*

6^{1/2}" pot of Tulips # _____ x \$10 = \$ _____

General Easter Flower Fund Donation: \$ _____

TOTAL ORDER: \$ _____

Please make checks payable to Epworth United Methodist Church, memo line: Easter Flowers

FEED YOUR NEIGHBOR

Thank you Epworth for your generosity to this worthwhile and much needed program. For the months of February and March they need:

- Soda crackers
- chicken noodle soup
- kidney beans
- pinto beans
- canned carrots
- canned peas
- bar soap
- toilet paper

If you have any questions contact Carol Bardi at [personal info has been removed].

GOODWORKS INTERNSHIP



GoodWorks in southern Ohio is offering a paid internship this summer from **June 13-August 14**. It is an internship that focuses on discipleship and leadership development in the context of service in a Christian community. GoodWorks invests in the people of rural Appalachia Ohio. Interns lead youth and adults in relational service with: people

experiencing homelessness, older adults who need physical assistance at their homes and children and teens who are experiencing risks and challenges of poverty. Go to good-works.net to get more info and an application, which must be submitted by March 31.

DONATE TO EPWORTH EVERY TIME YOU SHOP ON AMAZON!

Now, you can support Epworth every single time you purchase something on Amazon! When you sign up for AmazonSmile and select Epworth as your charitable organization, Amazon donates 0.5% of the purchase price to Epworth. AmazonSmile is exactly the same as regular Amazon, it has the same products, prices & services, only now you're supporting Epworth at the same time! To sign up, go to: smile.amazon.com/ch/34-4428652 and select Epworth as your charitable organization, then start shopping! If you have any questions, or would like a direct link, contact Laura in the church office at laura@epworth.com.

LOOK UP

Watch the TV screens in the lobby areas for upcoming events and opportunities at Epworth in the coming few weeks!

   @epworthtoledo

SERVICE OF HEALING & WHOLENESS



Epworth's next service of healing and wholeness takes place on **March 8** at 7pm in the Chapel. If you are looking for a quiet, reflective service to bring peace and stillness in times of turmoil, please join us for prayer, scripture, and music.

Because many of our healing service attendees have compromised immune systems, masks will be mandatory at this service. Appropriate socially-distanced seating will be arranged in the chapel. If you have any questions, or would like to join the team, please contact Pastor Beth at

beth@epworth.com.

MARCH IS EYE SAFETY AWARENESS MONTH

With warmer weather approaching, many of us will be starting a few DIY home projects. "Prevent Blindness, the nation's oldest volunteer eye health and safety group, has declared March as Workplace Eye Wellness Month to provide employers and employees with free information on the best ways to keep vision healthy on the job" (source: <https://weeklysafety.com/blog/workplace-eye-wellness-month>). Although many of our homes have turned into our workplace, we might not think about eye safety when we are working at home on DIY projects. Before you start any DIY projects, please think about what PPE (personal protection equipment) you will need and as you work on the projects, stay focused and do not be distracted when many injuries occur. A few simple tips for eye protection (source: <https://yoursightmatters.com/tips-protecting-eyes-diy-projects/>)

1. Invest in quality safety goggles. Polycarbonate lenses are best because they are lightweight but resist scratches and breakage on impact. Goggles or glasses should fit snugly to your face and not have gaps where dust and debris can get into your eyes.
2. Replace scratched or chipped glasses or goggles immediately. Scratches and chips can weaken the lenses and put your eyes at risk.
3. Prescription glasses or sunglasses are not an adequate substitute for safety glasses and goggles. Talk to your eye care specialist about safety glasses that can fit over your prescription glasses. If you need safety glasses for your job, you can also get prescription safety glasses made with side shields.
4. Read all directions fully before beginning a project. Make sure you have all necessary supplies and do not try to substitute tools.
5. If you are using chemicals, pay attention to the wind direction. Even when protecting your eyes with safety glasses or goggles, it is important that you keep your face upwind and away from the sprayer.
6. Do not touch your face during a project or you could transfer dust or chemicals to your eyes. Wash your hands carefully before touching your face.
7. Store safety goggles and glasses in the same place. It will save time so you will know exactly where to find them for your next project!
8. Do not work alone. It is always a good practice to make sure that someone else is at home and available if you need help or if there is an accident. Keep a first aid kit and a phone handy as well.

STEPHEN MINISTRY

It's OK to be Human



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An important theme of the Lenten season is the humanity of Christ. In Jesus, God became human and fully experienced the wide range of emotions we all encounter in life. Jesus experienced times of loneliness, sadness, hurt, anger, disappointment, grief, and abandonment. That is part of being human. Another part of being human is needing help from each other. God never intended us to be completely self-sufficient. Part of God's plan is for each of us to turn to others for help when

we need it. So when you are experiencing difficult times, don't struggle alone. Stephen Ministers will walk with you, listen to you, encourage you, pray with you, and provide confidential one-to-one care to help you through tough times. Stephen Ministers can bring the love of Jesus back into your life. To

learn more about Stephen Ministry, contact us at stephenministry@epworth.com.



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Join us for Lent!