

SERVING 4:19 - LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR



You're invited to be the hands and feet of Christ at our next Serving 4:19 Event! It will be cold outside but we will be creating a warm atmosphere here at Epworth with food, fellowship and fun for the entire community on **February 9** from 11am-2pm. We need you to make this a successful event! We will be serving a chili dinner w/ a baked potato bar. We need YOU to donate a dessert, perform a talent, to be hands and feet and serve at various stations, and/or to attend the event to be in fellowship with our guests. Look for the sign-ups in the lobby TODAY and January 27. S:419 t-shirts will be available for volunteers!

SCOUT SUNDAY

Scout Sunday is **February 10**. We are looking for current Cub, Boy & Girl Scouts and alumni to take part in worship services that day. Email Tami at tanorris2001@yahoo.com by February 3 to volunteer. Did you know that both organizations recognize the importance of God in their Promise/Oath? Boy/Cub Scouts: "On my honor, I will do my best to do my duty to God and my country..." Girl Scouts: "On my honor, I will do my duty to God and my country..."

An Invitation!

To: All members and Friends
For: Volunteers for the Funeral Luncheon Committee
When: As needed
Time: 2-2.5 hours
Duties: Setting tables, preparing and serving food, cleanup
If you're interested, please contact Jo Champion at 419.724.1230.

SITTER TRAINING

Epworth Children's Ministry is holding a sitter training on Sunday, **February 3** from 12noon-1pm in the nursery for any youth junior high or older. Sitters will be trained on safe sanctuary protocol, basic infant and childcare practices, emergency procedures, as well as how to use the church's phone system. Once trained, these youth would join our paid childcare team to help provide a nurturing Christian environment where parents can feel safe leaving their children so they can fully participate in the life of the church. For more information, or to register to attend the training, email childcare@epworth.com.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO BECOME A STEPHEN MINSTER OR STEPHEN LEADER?

Our congregation's Stephen Ministry is one way we accomplish God's caring work by loving others in His name. Perhaps God has blessed you richly and you're at a place where you can give something back by serving and blessing others. Roll up your sleeves and explore your role in Stephen Ministry by contacting: Donna Humbert, Bobbi Sanders, Paul Schroeder, Pastor Beth Irwin, or e-mail us at stephenministry@epworth.com. Sign up on the connection card, be a working Christian!

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

For anyone who has experienced the death of a parent, spouse, child, or any beloved family member – whether recently or years ago – Epworth's Stephen Ministry invites you to come to a new Grief Support Group. The group meets on the fourth Wednesday of each month in the Deep End from 6:30-8pm. A counselor, pastor, and Stephen Ministers will be on hand to help you navigate your feelings and take steps toward healing. Participants learn from each other as well. The next meeting is **January 23**. It is open to the public, so if you have a friend or neighbor, who is struggling, please bring them along. We are here for everyone. For more information, contact Pastor Beth at beth@epworth.com.

WEEKLY REMINDERS

CHANGING MISSION FIELDS: INCLUSION WORKSHOP

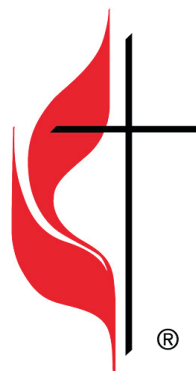
For Adults & Youth: A conversation about diversity, inclusion, outreach and ministry.

This Wednesday, **January 23** at 6pm we will be hosting Rev. April Casperson, Director of Diversity and Inclusion of the WOC. Rev. Casperson will be leading a conversation centered on how we may become a more diverse church, and how best we can serve neighbors who are different than us. This seminar is designed for church leaders and those who serve in ministries which require bridging cultural bridges such as the Hawkins partnership, Furniture Ministry, ministry to children and youth, etc. All are invited to attend, email Lauren @epworth.com to sign up. The cost is \$7 for dinner to be served promptly at 6pm in the church lobby. *If you need childcare, please email childcare@epworth.com with the # of children, their ages, and names by tomorrow, Monday, January 21.*



WAY FORWARD PRESENTATION

As many are aware, our Council of Bishops has called for a Special Session of General Conference to take place in St. Louis (February 26-29). The hope is that denomination may find a way forward on the question of "how is God calling the United Methodist Church to be in ministry to and with LGBTQ persons and their families." Some of the proposals will create space for decision-making at the annual conference and local church. Any interested member or friend may attend a conversation here at Epworth this Saturday, **January 26** from 10:30am - 12noon. If you would like to stay and share lunch with our lay leaders and staff, the optional lunch is \$7 (no cost for those attending the conversation). To reserve your lunch, email Lauren at Lauren@epworth.com.



ALTAR FLOWERS

A donation was made to the Epworth Floral Fund this week by Nick, Jonathan & Rachel Loch in loving memory of Janis Beaver Loch.

A donation was also made to the Epworth Floral Fund this week by Lee Davison in loving memory of Dan Davison.

UPCOMING OFFICE HOURS

Please note, the office will be closed tomorrow, Monday, **January 21** in recognition of Marking Luther King Jr. Day. Thank you for your understanding!

GIRL SCOUT SOLDIER BOX

Epworth Community Girl Scout Troop 12168 is in need of your assistance. Every November the troop places a box filled with plastic soldiers in the lobby of the church. Unfortunately this year the box has been misplaced and the troop is unable to locate the box. If you have seen the box with the soldiers in it please let our troop leader Janice French know. She can be reached at 419.490.4818. Troop 12168 appreciates your help and look forward to doing this project again next year. Thank you!

ANTHEMS DURING THE HER STORY2 SERIES

The anthems during the Her Story2 Sermon Series are written and/or arranged by women. Today's anthem is composed by Jane Marshall, a composer of choral music, a hymnist, poet and teacher. She's a longtime member of the Meadows School of the Arts theory faculty and the Sacred Music graduate faculty at Perkins School of Theology at SMU. She is now teaching in the summer continuing education program there and is active as a clinician for choral organizations around the country. A distinguished alumna of SMU, Jane has been honored twice by the Southern Baptist Musicians Conference and recently by the Fellowship of United Methodist Musicians for her contributions to church music. She is the author of *Grace, Noted*, a collection of homilies, essays and hymns published by Hope Publishing Company. She and clergyman/poet John Thornburg have collaborated in two newly released hymn collections titled *Can God Be Seen in Other Ways*, published by Abingdon Music Press, and *What Gift Can We Bring*, published by Wayne Leupold Editions.

ADVENT 2018, THANK YOU!

Thank you, Epworth United Methodist Church, for your generous donations throughout our Advent 2018 season! Find the table in the lobby to see all the winter items, money, and time you donated. Thank you to the Community Outreach committee for all their coordination and hard work, and also to our community partners for the opportunity to help others in the Toledo area: Salvation Army of NW Ohio, Leading Families Home, Heifer International, YWCA of NW Ohio, St. Paul's Community Center, LifeLine Toledo, and the Hawkins School Partnership.

PRESCHOOL REGISTRATION

Epworth members have an opportunity to sign up for ECEC or CDO on **February 4**, before registration opens to the public during the Open House on **February 10**.

ECEC: Early Childhood Education Center is a half day preschool program for children 3-5 years old. Classes offered 2, 3 or 4 half days am or pm.

CDO: Children's Day Out is a one day early preschool program for children who are 2 or 3. Children cannot turn 4 during the school year nor do they have to be potty trained.

To schedule a visit, please contact the Preschool Director, Jane at jlyon@epworth.com or visit us at epworth.com/preschool to learn more or to print a registration packet.

SUNDAY BIBLE STUDIES:

- **9:45am | Adult Bible Study | Rm 214**
Through February 10: Dianne Smolen is facilitating discussions on Adam Hamilton's book *Christianity's Family Tree*. Centered on the beliefs and practices of some of the different denominations of the Christian family tree. Join in!
- **9:45am | Coffee & Conversation | Rm 213**
Currently studying Adam Hamilton's book, *Simon Peter*: He was not rich or educated, but was familiar with hard work, and left everything to follow his teacher, yet still struggled with doubt.
- **11 am | Sermon Notes | Rm 214**
Discussion around individuals understanding of the scriptures' relevance to their journey.

WEEKDAY STUDIES:

- **9:15am | Tuesday Women's Study | Rm 214**
It's Not Supposed To Be This Way by author Lysa Terkeurst: Offers a safe place to share your disappointments and gives fresh biblical insight along with life-giving perspectives to get you through painful situations. Facilitated by Kris Martin and Dolli Darah.

SNOWBIRD MEETING

We will be meeting in Venice, Florida on Thursday, **March 28** from 5:30-8pm for fun and fellowship at the The Historic Venice Train Depot (303 E. Venice Ave., Venice FL 34285). Pastor Doug will be in attendance while we take a short tour of the train station and stay for fellowship and food. Cost is \$10 per person, food will be provided. BYOB.

ADULT SINGLES

Single, divorced and widowed adults in the Toledo community are invited to join. RSVP to hauer.nancy@yahoo.com. Join us on **January 20** - Sunday Dinner at 12:30pm at Eddie Lee's, (4700 Nantucket, Toledo.)

FAMILY SKATING AT TAM-O-SHANTER

SAVE-THE-DATE: Sunday, **February 17**, and join us for our annual winter tradition, family skating at Tam-O-Shanter! Mark your calendar for from 3-5:30pm. There will be skating and pizza! More details coming soon.

FAMILY MOVIE DAY W/PARENT CONNECTIONS

Parent Connections will rent out the Maumee Indoor Theater from 1:30pm

to 5:30pm this Saturday, **January 26**. The movie, "Smallfoot" will start about 2pm and we will have a short intermission to enjoy some pizza. This is a totally FREE event and everyone is welcome! We will provide the movie, popcorn, water, pizza and even a few door prizes. Come and enjoy the fun with the entire family! Please RSVP on the connection card or contact Adam at adam.schoesler@bex.net.

UT WOMEN'S BASKETBALL GAME

On Saturday, **February 2**, the University of Toledo women's basketball team takes on Bowling Green State University at 2pm at Savage Arena. Tickets are \$7 each. Sign up at the table in the lobby on Sundays. Tickets must be paid for in full by January 23, and tickets will be available for pickup on January 27 in the lobby or in the church office through Friday, February 1. After that, they will be at Will Call at Savage Arena. Questions? Email Gary Hinkson at Hinkson.gary@gmail.com.

**FRIENDS IN FAITH BOOK CLUB**

Everyone is welcome to join us for the Book Club. We meet the 4th Tuesday of every month at 7pm and serve dessert with every meeting! **January 22:** *Before We Were Yours* by Lisa Wingate at Pam's house, (4843 Skelly Road, Toledo). RSVP to pamjchristensen@gmail.com.