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 STEPHEN richly and you're at a place MINISTRY 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!

BOOKS! BOOKS! BOOKS!

Do you have old children's books collecting dust? Have your kids outgrown the books they read last year? If yes, please consider donating new or gently used books during the months of February and March to support the Elementary Kids Learn to Serve project. Two of our ministries, Furniture Ministry and Hawkins Ministry, will benefit from the collection. The Furniture Ministry provides books for all ages while the Hawkins Ministry is looking for books that target first graders (books that are at a kindergarten or first grade reading level and can fit in a gallon size Ziploc). Donations can be dropped off outside the Children's Ministry area. Thank you for your support!

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. S:419 t-shirts will be available for volunteers!

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.

VBC FUNSHOP: ROAR!



Epworth is hosting a Group Publishing VBC Funshop on Saturday, March 2. Teams of VBS leaders from regional churches offering Roar VBC will gather here to network and receive hands-on training for the African Safari themed Bible Camp. They will learn how to create amazing decorations with step-by-step instructions, experience "A Day at VBS", learn how to plan, coordinate, and pull off an amazing VBC event! Please pray for the Group ambassador, the attendees and all the Epworth staff and members planning and participating in this great event! Any Epworth Bible Camp volunteer is

welcome to register for this event by emailing vbs@epworth.com no later than February 12.



SERVE & GROW

NEW CLASSROOM CROSSES



Thanks to a generous gift from the Adult Bible Study class which provided the materials, the children of Epworth have created one-of-a-kind wall crosses for each of the new classes in the children's wing. The Kids have done a beautiful job decorating each cross as a gift to future generations. The

crosses were dedicated during worship on **January 27** and will be hung in the rooms the beginning of February. You are encouraged to tour the children's wing and take a peek at these beautiful intergenerational blessings hanging in each room.

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!

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.

Contact Jane at jlyon@epworth.com to schedule a visit. Go to epworth.com/preschool to learn more or to print a registration packet.

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 Feb. 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..."

ANTHEMS DURING THE HER STORY 2 SERIES

The anthems during the Her Story2 Sermon Series are written and/or arranged by women. Today's anthem is composed by Kathleen Armstrong Thomerson, a native of Jackson, Tennessee. Thomerson spent portions of her childhood in Mississippi, California, and Texas. She attended the University of Texas, receiving a bachelor's degree in music in 1956 and a master's degree in 1958; she also studied at Syracuse University, with Flor Peeters at the Royal Conservatoire of Antwerp, and with Jean Langlais in Paris. She worked as the music director of University UMC, and taught organ at the Saint Louis Conservatory and at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville; she has also worked as organist and music director at Mt. Olive Lutheran Church in Austin, Texas. She is a Fellow of the American Guild of Organists. As a writer of hymns, Thomerson is best known for the text "I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light", written in the summer of 1966 after a visit to the Church of the Redeemer in Houston and set to her own tune, Houston. She has composed other hymn tunes as well, including several for publication in the 2005 collection A Taste of Heaven's Joys: A Collection of Original Hymns, written with Patricia B. Clark. She published a bio-bibliography of her teacher Langlais in 1989, and a biography of Marie-Claire Alain in 2002.

SUNDAY BIBLE STUDIES:

- 9:45am | Adult Bible Study | Rm 214 Christianity's Family Tree by Adam Hamilton.
- 9:45am | Coffee & Conversation | Rm 213 Simon Peter by Adam Hamilton.
- 11 am | Sermon Notes | Rm 214
 Discussion around 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 Lysa Terkeurst.

DEBORAH CIRCLE

Let's celebrate the month of love by making a glass heart paperweight. The artist who will teach us is our own Garrett Wheeler! We will meet at Toledo Botanical Gardens on Saturday morning, **February 16** promptly at 9:30am. The cost is \$35 per person. Additional details will be emailed to you when you RSVP to Janet at janet@further.com. Invite a friend and come explore your creativity!

2019 TOUCH A TRUCK PLANNING TEAM

The snow may be flying, but Epworth's 9th Annual Touch-a-Truck Event is just around the corner and we need your help! An estimated 3,000 adults and children visit our campus each year for Touch

UT WOMEN'S BASKETBALL GAME

This Saturday, **February 2**, the University of Toledo women's basketball team takes on Bowling Green State University at 2pm at Savage Arena. To those



who have already purchased tickets, they are available for pickup TODAY 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.

EMMAUS AND CHRYSALIS

Have you been looking for a way to deepen your relationship with God? Ready to take a weekend and step away from the hustle and bustle and devote some deep time in faith? Emmaus and Chrysalis are a great way to do that. Emmaus walks are for adults, Chrysalis flights are for high school youth. For more info on Emmaus contact tanorris2001@yahoo.com or on Chrysalis contact figs3@bex.net.

EMMAUS @ WIDEWATER

- Men's Walk February 21-24
- Women's Walk March 28-31 CHRYSALIS @ MAUMEE UNITED METHODIST
- Boys Flight March 15-17
- Girls Flight June 21-23

a Truck, making this one of the biggest outreach events of the year. We are in need of individuals willing to give their time and talents by joining the planning team. This is a short 10-12 week commitment that starts in February and will end at our event on May 11. If you are interested in serving on the team for the 9th Annual Touch-A-Truck Event please contact Adam Schoesler at 419.351.0758 or adam.schoesler@bex.net.

TAM-O-SHANTER SKATING PARTY

A favorite family tradition returns on Sunday, **February 17** from 3-5:30pm – it's the annual Family Skating Party at Tam-O-Shanter skating rink in Sylvania. For \$7 per individual or \$25 per family the afternoon includes private rink time, skate rental, and pizza. RSVP to Karen Hinkson at kgsla79@aol.com or call the church office at



419.531.4236 so we have a head count for pizza! Tam-O-Shanter is located at 7060 West Central Avenue near Olander Park.