

SERVE & CARE

GIRL SCOUT COOKIE TIME

Epworth's Girl Scouts are in the lobby today with yummy cookies for you to purchase and take with you. Through the funds raised by these sales our troop is able to carry out various service projects in our community during the year. Thank you for your generous support!

CPR/AED CERTIFICATION

Reserve Space Now!

Epworth is hosting CPR and AED certification training on Tuesday, **March 12** from 6-9pm in Rooms 205 and 207. If you are involved with youth or children's leadership, serve as an usher or greeter, work as a sitter, need recertification for your job, or if you would just like to learn the latest life-saving techniques and how to operate the automatic defibrillator in the lobby, this class is for you. Anyone is welcome to participate. The cost is \$65 (payable at the class) and the certification is good for two years. RSVP by March 7 to beth@epworth.com.

THE RED CROSS NEEDS YOU

You're the Type they Need!

Epworth is hosting an American Red Cross Blood Drive on Saturday, **March 16** from 9am-2pm in the gym. Extreme cold, snow, and rain during January and February created an emergency need for blood of all types, and need is always there. Sign up at redcrossblood.org for either whole blood or "Power Red" (double-red cell) donations. You can also ask for a donation time by signing up on the connection card, or email Pastor Beth at beth@epworth.com. Walk-ins the day of the drive are also welcome.

IT'S OKAY TO BE HUMAN....

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. When you're experiencing difficult times, don't struggle alone. Our Stephen Ministers will walk with you, listen, encourage, pray with you, and provide confidential one-to-one care to help you through tough times. They can bring the love of Jesus back into your life. To learn more about Stephen Ministry, talk to one of our Stephen Leaders, contact us at stephenministry@epworth.com. Our Stephen Ministers are ready to care for you!

EMMAUS AND CHRYSALIS

More than a retreat, this spiritual enrichment program is a wonderful opportunity for you to dedicate time to strengthening your relationship with God. The program doesn't replace church but strives to "strengthen the local church through the development of Christian disciples and leaders."

Emmaus @ Widewater (Adults)

- Women's Walk – March 28-31

Chrysalis @ Maumee UMC (High School Youth)

- Boys Flight – March 15-17

VEGETABLE SEED PACKETS NEEDED

To benefit Good Works, Inc.

Epworth is collecting donations of vegetable seed packets for shipment to Good Works in Athens, Ohio. The seeds will provide food for vulnerable Good Works neighbors, seniors and disabled who look to their vegetable garden as their "grocery" for nutritious and healthy food. As you place your seed packets in the Good Works box (located in the Lobby) know that you are empowering people to experience joy, health and dignity which comes from growing their own food. The packets will be mailed in mid-March. Many thanks for helping out!

MISSION

To embrace people exactly where they are and empower all to know, love, and serve God through Jesus Christ.



SUNDAY, MARCH 3, 2019

EPWORTH UMC

419.531.4236

epworth.com

WEEKLY REMINDERS

PREPARING FOR LENT AT EPWORTH

LENT BIBLE/ GROUP STUDY

BEGINNING MARCH 7 & 10

Thursdays 12-1:15pm - Lobby

Sundays 6:15-7:30pm - Children's Church

See full details inside.

SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE SUPPER

TUESDAY, MARCH 6

From 5-7pm in the gym. We will be serving all-you-can-eat pancakes and sausage to support S.W.A.T. Student Ministries. Tickets can be purchased with cash or debit/credit at the door, but group table reservations are available, by emailing Pastor Dave at dave@epworth.com. Bring your family, friends, and neighbors, everyone is welcome! Carry-out is available at no extra charge.

The cost is: \$8/adults, \$4/kids 4-11, Free, kids 3 & under, \$20/household

ASH WEDNESDAY

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 6

Service at 12 noon & 7pm. A powerful day as we openly recognize our sinfulness, our frailty, and stare death in the face as we confess our need of a savior. This service is marked by the imposition of ashes which signifies repentance and points us to the good news yet to come on Easter morning.

BUILDING PROJECT UPDATE

The improvements continue both inside and outside the building. Read more details here. Interior updates include:

- **Complete:** installation of sound quality improvement acoustical panels in the Children's Church and Deep End
- **Upcoming:** new name tag holder (spring)
- **Upcoming:** permanent coat racks across from the new lobby bathrooms (spring)
- **Upcoming:** modify detention pond to reduce standing water (spring)

We became aware of excessive light from both automobile traffic and light fixtures intruding on our southern neighbor's property. We've been working with our neighbor and The Village to further reduce the amount of light intrusion. Outdoor updates include:

- **Upcoming:** plant additional, larger evergreen trees to better block light intrusion
- **Upcoming:** install shields to light fixtures in the South parking lot to eliminate glare
- **Upcoming:** replace 2 light poles with building mounted flood lights

SNOWBIRD MEETING IN FLORIDA

New Location The Florida snowbird gathering has been changed from the Venice RR Station to the Venice, FL home of Ken and Laura Switzer. Join us for fun and friendship on Thursday, **March 28** from 5:30- 8pm, RSVP to Gus at gus.grinstead@gmail.com for directions.

ALTAR FLOWERS

A donation was made to the Epworth Floral fund this Sunday "in loving memory of our daughter, Hayley Lyn Simmons, on her birthday, from her parents Tom and Cheri Kaintz and sister, Laura."

It is with mixed emotions that we announce the retirement of Jane Bueche, our financial secretary.

Jane has faithfully served Epworth in this position for 28 years, and her last day in the office will be Friday, April 26. We will be honoring and expressing our deep gratitude to Jane for all that she has done for Epworth with a Love Offering at our worship services on: Saturday, April 27 at 5pm and Sunday, April 28 at 9:45 and 11am. If you'd like to contribute to her love offering, please send your gifts to the church office, attention: Marla Kelsey by Wednesday, April 24.

WI-FI ACCESS

The communications committee has been working hard to figure out a way to capture and effectively utilize information from guests who are new to the Epworth community. You may have noticed this the first time you attempt to access the Epworth's Wi-Fi on your mobile devices as you are asked to submit your email address. The idea is to send three individual emails from our pastors, one per week for three weeks, to those who sign-up to use our Wi-Fi by submitting their email address. We are doing our best to make sure members do not accidentally receive these emails by cross referencing against our database, but please do let us know if you accidentally receive one or all of these emails so we can correct it! Thank you for your grace and understanding in this transition to more effectively reach our on-property guests.

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME BEGINS!

Don't forget to "Spring Ahead." On Saturday, March 9 before you go to bed, set your clocks ahead one hour.

UPCOMING LENTEN STUDY:

- **Thursdays | 12-1:15pm | Lobby (Cafe)**
Lead by Pastor Doug & Pastor Dave
 - **Sundays | 6:15-7:30pm | Children's Church**
Lead by Pastor Beth & Pastor Jennifer
- Beginning March 7 & March 10:** Use your God-given gifts and talents to become part of God's miracles. This year, we are offering TWO opportunities for small group learning. Over six sessions, we will be examining author Mike Slaughter's book *Made for a Miracle: From Your Ordinary, to God's Extraordinary*. In this exploration you come to discover your unique gifts and how they may be used by God to make miracles happen. RSVP to Marla@epworth.com by tomorrow, Monday, March 4.

CURRENT SUNDAY BIBLE STUDIES:

- **9:45am | Adult Bible Study | Rm 214**
Today: Christian attitudes to a variety of topics based on results of a class survey.
- **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.
- **9:45am | Connection Point | Rm 205**
Geared towards post high school through mid-twenties, the goal is to provide a faith based place to connect with peers and discuss issues relevant to this stage of life. Lead by Chuck & Robin Campos.
- **11 am | Sermon Notes | Rm 214**
Discussion around individuals understanding of the scriptures' relevance to their journey.

CURRENT 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.

ADULT SINGLES

Single, divorced and widowed adults in the Toledo community are invited to join. RSVP to Nancy Hauer at hauer.nancy@yahoo.com or call 419.885.4595. The next opportunity to join us is:
March 8: Fish Dinner at 4pm - Most Blessed Sacrament Church, (4255 Bellevue Rd, Toledo), \$9 for all-you-can-eat baked or fried fish dinner.

WE'D LOVE FOR YOU TO EXPLORE EPWORTH!

When you're ready to learn more about Epworth, join us on **March 10** from 5-7pm for a one-time informal meeting called Explore Epworth in the church lobby. Enjoy dinner & conversation with your pastors, & explore the possibility of membership. Those who choose to join will be received as members the following Sunday, March 17 in worship, but you're never obligated to join. Sign up on the connection card or contact Pastor of Welcome, Jennifer at Jennifer@epworth.com if you'd like to ask questions or find out more information on what to expect!

THE ILLINOIS WESLEYAN COLLEGIATE CHOIR

Our music department presents: The Illinois Wesleyan Collegiate Choir on Friday, **March 15**, 7:30pm in the Sanctuary. The Illinois Wesleyan University Collegiate Choir, approx. 50 students are selected by audition and maintain a rigorous rehearsal schedule throughout the year. The concert is free and open to the public. **Please email cecil@epworth.com if you are able to host 2 or so members of the choir in your home.**

DINNER @ SHORTY'S BBQ

Join us for our next Parent's Night Out Event, Saturday, **March 16** for dinner at Shorty's True American Roadhouse, (5111 Monroe St, Toledo). Drop your kids off at Epworth beginning at 5:30 for an evening of pizza and fun for them. Then meet us at Shorty's for dinner from 6-8 pm. Pick the kids back up by 8:30pm. Sign up on the connection card or RSVP to akall@buckeye-express.com by Monday, March 11 for dinner and childcare if needed. We are looking forward to a relaxing meal with old and new friends.