

EPWORTH KIDS IN JANUARY

ELEMENTARY AT 9:30: Happy New Year! It's hard to believe we are not only starting a whole new month, but a new year. When we think about the New Year, we often reflect on areas in our lives we'd to work on. That's why we are taking this month of January to talk about spiritual concept of self-control – so we can update the way we react. We define Self-Control as: choosing to do what you should even when you don't want to. Your kids will work to memorize this month's memory verse found in 2 Peter 1:3a, "God's power has given us everything we need to lead a Godly life."

11:00 WOW: Epworth Kids grades K-3 will embark on a 4 week study titled "Stand Strong: Courage to Overcome Peer Pressure." In this multi-media study, elementary-age kids will learn how to stand up for their faith and doing what is right. They will also discuss making God honoring choices, and what to do when being a Christian is unpopular.

PRESCHOOL & TODDLER: One of the wonderful things about preschoolers is they know they have needs and they are not afraid to let you know. That's a good thing and something we want to use to help preschoolers see another need they have – a need we all have – and that is Jesus. Yes, I need Jesus is the focus this month. Life can be tough. Having a friend like Jesus who knows us, loves us, and has the power to help us can truly change our lives. And there is no better friend than Jesus. This month's Bible Memory Verse: "You are everything I need." (Ephesians 5:20).

KROGER PLUS CARDS

Every year, each card holder must re-register their Kroger Plus Card to continue earning money for our Student Ministries (#81972). Keep in mind that your purchases do NOT create any rewards for our Student Ministries until it has been registered. To register go to: www.kroger.com/communityrewards and select Epworth Student Ministries, organization #81972. This ministry program provides around \$2,000/ year to our Student Ministries! We thank you for your continued support.

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 pick up a registration packet in the children's wing!

CARE BEAR SCHOLARSHIPS

Looking for a way to make a difference in the lives of a family? Consider making a donation to the "Care Bear Scholarship Fund" for Epworth Preschool. Last year a donation was made to the preschool and we were able to provide assistance to 3 families who would not have had the opportunity to send their child to a preschool. The families have been grateful as stated in this testimonial...

Thank you so much. I was in tears a bit driving home just so incredibly thankful for this opportunity for my child. He is thrilled to back there too. I'm beyond grateful especially when the job hunt is still going and things haven't been looking up like I thought they'd be by now. I appreciate this so much.

Checks can be made out to "Epworth Preschool" with a notation for "Care Bear Scholarships."

WEEKLY REMINDERS

CHANGING MISSION FIELDS: INCLUSION WORKSHOP

A conversation about diversity, inclusion, outreach and ministry.

On 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! The cost is \$7 for dinner to be served promptly at 6pm in the church lobby.

Please RSVP to Lauren at Lauren@epworth.com no later than Friday, January 18!



SOUTH PARKING LOT USAGE

In an attempt to care for our neighbors, we are asking that the back (South) parking lot not be used for routine evening gatherings and meetings during the week and on the weekends. Please plan to utilize the Central Ave. parking lot and the parking spaces near the Valleyview doors leading to the lobby and sanctuary. The back parking lot will be open for larger evening gatherings, but for routine evening activities, we ask all members and friends to kindly not park or drive on the south parking lot. Thank you for your understanding.

INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY



The Church building closes if there is a Level 3 Snow Emergency in Lucas county! Activities, Classes & Volunteers: are canceled if Sylvania Schools close. We will re-evaluate again at 3pm regarding evening activities.

The staff in charge of that activity will make the decision and will contact those persons involved. (Body Recall +, canceled if Ottawa Hills schools close.)

DONATE TO EPWORTH 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 at laura@epworth.com.

HEALING & WHOLENESS SERVICE



On **January 15**, join us in the Sanctuary for this monthly service that provides an opportunity for prayer, reflection and meditation. Come and pray for your own needs, for those of

loved ones, or for the community and the world. The service includes music, Scripture reading and anointing with intercessory prayer (if desired).

BODY RECALL+



Body Recall+ has been on holiday but classes start again Monday, **January 7** -- that's tomorrow! Mark your 2019 calendar for every Monday, Tuesday and Thursday morning at 9:15 to come to Epworth's gym and move in safe, thorough ways. Give your body what it needs to keep moving with increased comfort, strength and safety.

WAY FORWARD DISCUSSION



As many are aware, the UMC's Council of Bishops has called a special session of General Conference to convene February 26-29, in St. Louis, with an agenda of finding "a way forward" for our global denomination, deeply divided on the question of how the UMC is to be in ministry to, and with, LGBTQ persons and their families. The

result of General Conference action may open the door to decision-making on these matters at the annual conference level and the level of the local church. Epworth's leadership will be briefed on the major proposals to be considered and all members and friends are invited to learn more. All are welcome to join us at 10:30am on **January 26** for a presentation, and time for questions and answers.

SUNDAY BIBLE STUDIES:

- **9:45am | Adult Bible Study | Rm 214**
Through February 10: Dianne Smolen is facilitating discussions based on Adam Hamilton's book *Christianity's Family Tree*. Discussions will center on the beliefs and practices of some of the different denominations of the Christian family tree. Join in!
- **9:45am | Coffee & Conversation | Rm 213**
This class uses Faithlinks to discuss modern day issues and current events.
- **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**
Beginning January 15: *It's Not Supposed To Be This Way* by author Lysa Terkeurst: This study 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:

JANUARY 8 - Movie & Lunch, time TBA, at Franklin Park Mall, (5001 Monroe St.).

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. We're still

finalizing details for group tickets and other exciting ideas, so stay tuned for more information coming soon.

FAMILY MOVIE DAY W/ PARENT CONNECTIONS



Parent Connections will rent out the Maumee Indoor Theater from 1:30pm to 5:30pm on 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 today or contact Adam at adam.schoesler@bex.net.

DEBORAH CIRCLE

Let's start the new year with a relaxing visit at the Christensen's (4843 Skelly, Toledo), sharing holiday and family news. Wear comfy clothes and bring along a Christmas gift, photo or memory to tell about! Pam and Liz will be providing simple munchies and beverages. Old friends, new friends, this is your invitation to share an enjoyable morning. Hope to see you Saturday, **January 12** at 9:30am. Have questions? Call Pam at 419.882.1908.

FRIENDS IN FAITH BUNCO

Once a month, Friends in Faith hosts a women's Bunco night at one of our homes. All women are welcome, even if you have never played before. Bunco is a simple game, but it is more about the Christian fellowship. Bring a side dish, appetizer or dessert to share. We start at 6:30pm with dinner before we play.

JANUARY 15 at Ronnie Gorsuch's house, (2225 Woods Edge Ct., Toledo). RSVP to Ronnie at gorsuch2@bex.net.