

SERVE

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 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.

SEEKING ARTISTS: STATIONS OF THE CROSS

On Good Friday, Epworth's sanctuary will once again host Stations of the Cross. It's an opportunity to reflect on Christ's sacrifice for us all and prepare for the Resurrection. Every year, artwork representing each station has been created by Epworth members and friends from the community. You can be a part of this too! Pastor Beth is seeking creative individuals or groups to make a station inspired by scripture detailing Jesus' final moments. There are examples in Pastor Beth's office from previous years. Scriptures and more info are available by contacting Pastor Beth at beth@epworth.com.

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. Donations can be dropped off outside the Children's Ministry area. Thank you for your support!

GEAR UP '19 LEADERSHIP TEAM NEEDS YOU!

At the Ad-Council retreat, a new pillar was adopted for our church's vision--'**GROW** - *Actively invite and welcome all people into our community to grow in faith together.*' We're also looking for team members to equip our congregation in the work of active evangelism. If you are interested in serving contact Doug at doug.gorsuch@gmail.com by **today**.

VEGETABLE SEED PACKETS NEEDED FOR GOOD WORKS, INC.

Epworth will be 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!

MENTAL WELLNESS PROFESSIONALS WANTED

Epworth's annual health fair returns on Sunday, **March 31** from 8:30am - 12:30pm in the gym. This year's focus is Mental Wellness. Along with local organizations and groups like NAMI, Team Recovery, Good Grief, and others, Epworth's Wellness Team wants to help provide resources for addressing emotional difficulties and erase the stigma around mental illness and are seeking professional participants. If you have a professional background in mental and emotional wellness, life coaching, art or music therapy, or other avenue to mental wellness, we would love to have you participate to help answer basic questions about stress, anxiety, work-life balance, and more. If you are interested, contact Pastor Beth at beth@epworth.com, or the co-chairs of the Wellness Team, Sue (susan.shuman@promedica.org) or Cindy (Cynthia.Richard@utoledo.edu).



SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2019

EPWORTH UMC

419.531.4236 | epworth.com

MISSION

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

WEEKLY REMINDERS



WE'RE GLAD YOU'RE HERE! and we'd love for you to Explore Epworth

When you're ready to learn more about Epworth, join us 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!

March 10 | 5-7pm | Lobby

NEW OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE!

Have spiritual gift of: administration, encouragement, healing, helps, mercy, or shepherding?

If so, then please prayerfully consider how you might support this brand new ministry area! Get in at the beginning to help shape and mold this extremely important and much-needed ministry. Over four weeks, we will train you to provide prayerful and practical support! ***No prior experience necessary!***

WHAT WILL YOU DO?

Assist the pastoral staff with hospital and rehabilitation visits, help coordinate practical care in times of crisis, pray with families impacted by stressful events, and provide phone ministry prayer and cards of support. Four weeks of training is required, so please contact Pastor Beth to sign up and/or for more information at beth@epworth.com for more details.

POST GENERAL CONFERENCE SIMULCAST SET FOR MARCH 2



There are 4 simulcast locations in the Maumee Watershed District: Epworth, Napoleon Christ, Maumee, and Sylvania First.

All interested West Ohioans are welcome to participate. Bishop Gregory V. Palmer will be hosting the simulcast at the conference office on Saturday, **March 2** at 10am in response to the actions of the special session of General Conference which will be held in late February. The General Conference is the highest legislative body in The United Methodist Church. It is the only body that can speak officially for the denomination. The purpose of the Special Session of the General Conference is to act on a report from the Council of Bishops based on the recommendations of the Commission on a Way Forward. The 32-member Commission was appointed to examine paragraphs in The Book of Discipline concerning human sexuality and exploring options to strengthen the unity of the church. Contact Kay Panovec at kpanovec@wocumc.org with any questions.

ANNOUNCING: CONNECTION POINT!

This is a *new* bible study/small group 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. Led by Robin and Chuck Campos, this group is already meeting in room 205 at 9:45am on Sundays! Contact Chuck at chuck@epworth.com with questions.



HEALING & WHOLENESS SERVICE



On **February 19** at 7pm, 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).

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 – you are invited 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 and a pastor 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 this Wednesday, **February 27**. 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.



ALTAR FLOWERS

The flowers on the altar today were given by the family of Barbara Craig in honor of her 80th birthday, tomorrow, February 18.

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 Monday, March 4.

CURRENT SUNDAY BIBLE STUDIES:

- **9:45am | Adult Bible Study | Rm 214**
Today: Discuss contemporary issues challenging our Cristian faith: What if your grandchild is regularly watching pornography? Discussing of biblical responses to porn, secular porn availability, porn as a threat to the person and the culture. Why isn't porn more widely discussed?
- **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.

PARENT CONNECTIONS: EUCHRE NIGHT



It's time again! Are you ready? It's the 6th annual Parent Connections euchre night this Friday, **February 22** at 6pm at the home of Paul Jednak and Tim Kasunic (address will be provided when you RSVP). We'll get started about 6pm with excellent food and move to the games shortly thereafter. Dinner will be provided. This is a laid-back evening - so don't be worried about being a professional euchre player! You don't need a partner - but you do need to know how to play. You will play with lots of different partners and enjoy some fun along the way. No serious players allowed!

This is more of a social event with some cards thrown in for fun - and we take a lot of breaks! Because this night tends to run a little late, NO CHILDCARE will be provided for this event. RSVP on the connection card or to cindyj222@bex.net or 419.215.8029 by tomorrow, Monday, February 18.

LOOK UP!

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

S.W.A.T. - There are no S.W.A.T. gatherings tonight due to their return from the winter retreat earlier today.