

SERVE & GROW

HELP OUT ON MAUNDY THURSDAY!

We are looking for several men to be in the Maundy Thursday drama this year. There are no speaking parts, so it's just a small amount of acting. We need men to play the roles of the 12 disciples. The time commitment is small we will meet only 3 times, on: **April 9, 15 and 18**. If you are interested please contact Jeff Boze at 419.340.8282 or jboze1@bex.net.

FREE LOADERS NEEDED

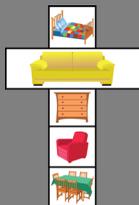
The Furniture Ministry needs 6-8 additional volunteers to staff our Saturday and special pickup crews. The free loaders provide the critical first step in gathering donated furniture to be re-gifted to those in need. Please help us attract new free loaders by asking your friends, relatives, neighbors, and co-workers to volunteer to pick up furniture.

The Free Loader qualifications are simple:

- A desire to help those who need,
- Available one Saturday per month (8a-12p),
- Capable of lifting furniture with the help of 2-3 other volunteers
- Age is not a limitation (we have many who are in their 70's)

The free loaders receive many benefits from knowing what they do is helping someone who is in need. In addition, the volunteers have a great deal of fun being God's helping hands. Potential free loaders may call Ed Bardi at ejb5538@gmail.com.

FURNITURE MINISTRY



BLESSINGS ITEMS NEEDED:
toasters, crock pots, twin, full and queen comforters

STATISTICS	MARCH:	YTD:
# Furniture:	139	390
# Families:	13	32
Adults:	15	38
Children:	21	51

SPRING CLEANUP

The annual spring cleanup is scheduled for **April 27** from 9am-12 noon with a rain date of May 4. Everyone is invited to pitch in to help beautify the Epworth grounds. Bring your gloves and extra rakes and shovels are appreciated.

FEED YOUR NEIGHBOR

For the month of April, our partners at Feed Your Neighbor are asking for donations of: canned potatoes, canned carrots, canned sweet peas, brown paper bags, shampoo and deodorant. Thank you Epworth for all you do!

LEARN TO SERVE

For the months of April and May the Elementary Kids will be collecting coins in their very own rice bowls! We are partnering with the not-for-profit rice bowls to help purchase food for children in 55 faith-based children's homes in eight different countries. The rice bowls will be distributed during Sunday School and we are asking children to return their filled bowls at the end of May.

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. **April 8:** Lunch at 11:45am - Lourdes University, 6832 Convent Blvd., Sylvania). All-you-can-eat lunch at The Grill for \$7.50. Then, **April 13:** Toledo Sister Cities 10th International Festival Seagate Convention Centre, (410 Jefferson Ave., Toledo). Admission \$8, Seniors \$6. Enjoy entertainment, food, crafts, and vendors.

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



SUNDAY, APRIL 7, 2019
EPWORTH CHURCH
419.531.4236
epworth.com

HOLY WEEK & EASTER

ONE BODY, ONE SPIRIT: A SERVICE OF HEALING
TUES., APRIL 16
Service at 7pm

Upheaval and uncertainty facing the Church has left many suffering...some in silence. Come as you are and give your hurt, fears, and worries to Jesus. Let love win. Epworth's doors are open to all. Invite your friends and neighbors who seek healing and peace.

MAUNDY THURSDAY
THURS., APRIL 18
Service at 7pm

Join the Chancel Choir, orchestra and members of the drama team in the Sanctuary as they present this powerful offering from Mark Hayes, *The Power Of The Cross*.

We will journey with Christ through Holy Week, experiencing momentous events that changed history for all of humankind. All are welcome, invite a friend to join you!

GOOD FRIDAY
FRI., APRIL 19
Stations of the Cross
from 12 noon - 6pm

Walk, reflect, and pray. This is a self-directed worship experience, in our sanctuary. Each of the stations focuses on moments leading to Jesus' death on the cross. They're portrayed in artwork created by members and friends, and inspired by scripture. A guidebook will be available. The Stations of the Cross are open to the public. Invite a friend.

EASTER SUNDAY SERVICES APRIL 21: 8:30, 9:45 & 11am

Children are encouraged to worship with their family on Easter Sunday. There will even be a special Children's message in each worship service. Infant and Toddler care will be available throughout the morning in the children's wing. Between services, families are invited to participate in an Easter Egg scavenger hunt in the children's wing. The Easter Bunny will also be in the Children's Church throughout the morning for you and your family to take photos!

THE EPWORTH TOWER THIS APRIL

This month, *The Epworth Tower* is being distributed differently than we are used to. Unfortunately, in preparation for *The Tower* to be mailed out, the office staff ran into technological issues relating to bulk mailing and the printing of labels. Because we still want you and your family to be informed and up-to-date on all Epworth matters, for the month of April we sent *The Tower* electronically. On Wednesday, March 27, an email was sent to the most recent email address we've been given for all members and guests. For those members without an email address, we have plenty of hard copies available in the lobby at the welcome desk. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause and thank you for your understanding.

Over the past few years, we have had many members request to stop receiving the printed *Tower* in order to be better stewards of our resources. If you also would rather not receive the printed version in the future, email Marla@epworth.com to be removed from the mailing list and added to our Thursday E-newsletter.

GRACE BEFORE THE RACE

April 28 is the Glass City Marathon. In the past, worshippers have had some difficulty getting to the 8:30am service due to local road closure. So, on the weekend of April 27-28 we are changing up our worship service times (for this one weekend).

Saturday, April 27: Worship service held at 5pm

We will offer a blessing to anyone in our community running, volunteering or attending the Marathon. You are also welcome to support a friend or family

member! Holy Communion will be shared, a children's moment will be included and the attire is casual. Please invite your friends and loved ones who are participating in the Sunday races, ALL are welcome.

Sunday, April 28

8:30am: NO service
9:45am: usual service
11am: usual service

HOLY WEEK & EASTER SUNDAY INVITATIONS

A few years ago, LifeWay Research conducted a survey to determine which approach is best-received when a church wants to see new people walk into their building. The result was no huge surprise, a personal invitation is best.

- 67% of Americans say a personal invitation from a family member would be effective in getting them to visit a church
- 63% of Americans say a personal invitation from a friend or neighbor would be effective in getting them to visit a church

What does this tell us? Many of our un-churched friends ARE open to an invite, particularly from someone they know. A personal invitation is an effective way to break down any real or perceived barriers one might have to walking into a new church. All members and guests: please consider picking up 4 or 5 Holy Week and Easter invitations as you exit the Sanctuary and invite some friends or family to join you here at Epworth! We embrace people exactly where they are to empower all to know, love, and serve God through Jesus Christ. Who knows, you might just change someone's life!

**SUNDAY BIBLE STUDIES:**

- **9:45am | Adult Bible Study | Rm 214**
Simon Peter by Adam Hamilton: 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 | Coffee & Conversation | Rm 213**
What Makes a Hero? By Matt Rawle: What does it look like to be victorious over trials and temptations? Jesus turned the concept of heroism on its head. Heroes help us discern the good, fight for what's right, define identity, execute justice, spark revolution, and save lives.
- **9:45am | Connection Point | Rm 205**
Post high school through mid-twenties: provide a faith based place to connect with peers and discuss issues relevant to this stage of life.
- **9:45am | Donuts & The Bible | Rm 216/Deep End**
Come enjoy some donuts and time with others as we look deeper into what it means to follow Jesus. Junior High meet in the Upper Gym Classroom (216) and Senior High in the Deep End.
- **11 am | Sermon Notes | Rm 214**
Discussion around individuals understanding of the scriptures' relevance to their journey.
- **6:15pm | Lenten Study | Lobby**
Made For a Miracle: discover your unique gifts and how they may be used by God to make miracles happen.
- **6pm | The Mysterious Holy Spirit | Lobby**
April 28-May 19, June 2: The Holy Spirit is not just mystical, uncontainable, and unpredictable, It is the essence of God. God's Spirit desires to live in each of us, and work through us. We study the Holy Spirit to come to a deeper sense of awe, respect, and even worship of the Holy Spirit.

WEEKDAY BIBLE STUDIES:

- **9:15am | Tuesday Women's Study | Rm 214**
The Bad Boys of Easter by Andy Stanley: three men found their way into the Easter story, refusing to abandon their quest for control and surrender to the Savior of the world.
- **12 noon | Thursday Lenten Study | Deep End**
Made For a Miracle: discover your unique gifts and how they may be used by God to make miracles happen.
- **6:30pm | Men's Bible Study | Rm 214**
Shaken by Tim Tebow: we all experience ups and downs, but don't have to ride the roller coaster of life. Learn how to be grounded in who you are. Led by Paul Schroeder.

WESLEY GROUP TEST DRIVE

Are you looking for authentic fellowship, accountability, and trusting relationships? Groups consist of 12 members who meet at least once a month to share in true spiritual community regardless of where you are in your faith journey. Plan to join this Wednesday, **April 10** from 6:30-8:30pm for dinner at Karen's house. You don't need to bring a thing, just contact Karen to get directions at karenjeanneknowles@gmail.com or 419.290.4844.

FRIENDS IN FAITH BUNCO

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.

***April 11:** Christina Nishiki's house, (2514 Secor Road, Toledo). RSVP to Christina at cnnishiki@sbcglobal.net.

EMMAUS AND CHRYSALIS

If you have been on Emmaus or Chrysalis, there will be a community gathering at Epworth this Saturday, **April 13**. Join us at 5:30pm for a reunion of the men's and women's walk and boy's flight. Potluck dinner begins at 6pm, then praise & worship at 7pm.

GOLF LEAGUE

The Epworth CO-ED Golf League is getting ready for play this summer at Spuyten Duyval on Thursdays beginning **May 9** for 16 weeks. To sign up, contact Adam at adam.schoesler@bex.net. Send your check made out to Epworth to Adam Schoesler 14531 Olde Trail Dr. Perrysburg, OH 43551. **Pay by April 30 to get a free cart for the 1st and 2nd weeks of play.**