

PARENTS NIGHT OUT

Could you use a Parents Night Out? Are you looking for a fun way to connect with other members at Epworth? Get out, have some fun, and meet new people. These events are for all parents: single, divorced, married, just trying to survive!

Bowling at Bowlero Lanes

Parent Connections Kickoff Event! Saturday, **September 21**. Even if you don't bowl, come and enjoy the fun! FREE Babysitting will be provided at the church from 5:30-9:30pm, a pizza dinner will be served during childcare. Bowling and dinner from 6-9pm. Pizza, bowling, and bowling shoes will be covered for everyone! RSVP to Cindy at cindyj222@bex.net for details.

SUNDAY BIBLE STUDIES:

- **9:45am | Adult Bible Study | Rm 214**
Currently on Summer break.
- **9:45am | Coffee & Conversation | Rm 213**
This class discusses modern day issues and current events, and examines the teachings of Jesus in light of them.
- **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.
- **11am | Sermon Notes | Rm 214**
Discussion around individuals' understanding of the scriptures' relevance to their journey.

WEEKDAY BIBLE STUDY

- **6:30-8pm | Men's Bible Study | Rm 213**
September 18, 25, October 2, 9, 16, & 23: *Days In the Word* guides participants through what it means to not just be "hearers" of the Word, but also "doers" of the Word! Reignite and strengthen your passion for God's Word. This study will inspire every participant to Love the Word, Learn the Word, and Live the Word. Email Shautau at Shautau@epworth.com to register, cost is \$10. Questions? paul.schroeder@accesstoleado.com.

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.

Wednesday, September 11: at Martha's house, (1560 Saddlebrook Ct., Toledo). RSVP to marthakreuz@aol.com.


GOOD WORKS TEAM PLANNING MEETING

Preparations are being finalized for the adult work team to assist Good Works, Inc., in Athens, Ohio the week of October 8-12. Join us on Tuesday, **September 10** at 6pm in the volunteer office. We hope you will join our team as we come together for a one-hour planning meeting where you will be briefed on Good Works, meet fellow team members, and learn how together our smiles and interactions bring hope to those struggling with issues of poverty and homelessness. A wide variety of skilled and unskilled talents are needed. To sign-up call Bob and Marilyn Town at 419.382.2325.

HAWKINS PARTNERSHIP

Volunteering at Hawkins brings joy and a sense of making a difference to tutors Susan Kanwal and Pat Sheehan. "They lighten my heart," Susan said, describing the 1st graders she tutors as "joyful, happy, and enthusiastic." She enjoys encouraging students and appreciates the guidance provided by their teacher. "What is special about this volunteer opportunity is that you can have a direct and personal impact." For Pat, what is most meaningful is developing a personal connection with the 3rd grade student he tutored. Pat loves being able to provide individual attention that helps his student understand materials. "I feel like I get as much out of tutoring as I give," he said. Come share the joy of volunteering at Hawkins, contact Barbara at bmachin@bex.net.

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

stay connected to **epworth church**
epworth.com    @epworthtoledo

WEEKLY REMINDERS

sunday, september 1, 2019



we believe
we love
we serve

EPWORTH'S 6 WEEK FOCUS

"I give you a new commandment: Love each other. Just as I have loved you, so you also must love each other. This is how everyone will know that you are my disciples, when you love each other."

These words were spoken by Jesus in John 13:34-35 as He and His disciples gathered to share the Passover meal, just hours before his arrest and passion. *His dying wish for his Church was that his followers would deeply love one another with not only words but with their commitments.* Jesus said that love is the identifying marker of being part of his Body called the Church. Our deep love for each other is a living example of how Jesus loves all people. Join us for this important series as we invite all Epworth members and friends to become more fully engaged in the life of our local church.

Week 1 | Next Week - September 1
I LOVE MY CHURCH

Week 2 | September 15
LOVE IN COMMUNITY
All morning Potluck Brunch! Bring brunchy food to share. Chef Les will provide eggs, bacon & drinks.

Week 3 | September 22
LOVE BY SERVING

Week 4 | September 29
LOVE BY GIVING

Week 5 | October 6
LOVE IN SHARING
Invite a friend to church Sunday.

Week 6 | October 13
LOVE BY COMMITTING
Commitment Sunday when we will offer fresh commitments around financial stewardship and expand our love for one another by committing to serve the community God gives us.

#WEAREEPWORTHTOLEDO

Everyone's story is different, and we want the rest of the Toledo area to know that we embrace, everyone exactly as they are! So, we're going to be highlighting testimonials from our members to help spread awareness of our mission and to let people know that they can find friends of all different backgrounds here at Epworth. In a few weeks, we will begin featuring these testimonials, one at a time, across our publications and social media platforms. If you're interested in participating and sharing your personal/family's story, go to epworth.com/mystory and answer the questions on the form (also below). We want to include as many stories as possible across all backgrounds and ages! If your story is chosen, we will ask you to sit down for a photograph.

1. What brought you to Epworth?
2. What are your favorite ways to participate in the life of the church?
3. How has your faith grown or changed since coming to Epworth?

HOPE FOR THE FUTURE

The Future of the United Methodist Church

September 25-27 In light of our denominational challenges heading towards the next GC in May in Minneapolis, Rev. Adam Hamilton, is changing the focus for this year's Leadership Institute. The focus will be on equipping local churches on how to best prepare their congregations for the future. Part of this work will be offering resources for local churches to have productive conversations, concerning questions of different theological understandings, and local church unity.

Limited to two participants per local church this year, please pray for Wes Johnson and Pastor Doug Damron as they plan to attend in September to listen, learn, and bring back potential resources for our Epworth family. Please hold them and the United Methodist Church in your prayers as we look to the future with hope. Learn more at li.cor.org/.

FAMILY WORSHIP SUNDAY

Today is Family Worship Sunday! We encourage children and youth to worship in the Sanctuary with their families as it is an important aspect of their spiritual growth and enriches the worship experience for our entire Epworth congregation.

KIDS & SWAT SCHEDULE

All current children and youth will continue to report to their current rooms at 9:45am until September 8, when we kick-off our new program year. On September 8 Epworth Kids preschool-grade 5 will be welcomed into their new rooms and SWAT welcomes incoming 6th graders. All children report to their grade level small group classrooms for the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year.

EPWORTH KIDS IN SEPTEMBER

Elementary at 9:30: Life app Trust: Putting your confidence in someone you can depend on. Just like a trek through the wilderness, life takes trust! So don't hit the trail alone. Put your confidence in someone you can depend on. Kids will work to memorize this month's memory verse found in Proverbs 3:5: "Trust in the Lord with all your heart. Do not depend on your own understanding."

11:00 WOW: Embark on a 4 week study titled "The Bible: Is it Fact or Fairy Tale?" This hands-on, multi-media series will explore how The Bible is not your average book! They will learn to use their gifts to serve God and others.

Preschool & Toddler: Epworth's Preschool and Toddler kids will learn that God made everything! They will focus on the story of creation with a global view, discovering that God not only made the things we can see in our backyard, but all the plants, animals, and people around the whole world as they discover the basic truth that God made everything. This hands-on, action packed small group time will also help your early childhood children to memorize this month's Bible Memory Verse: "God saw everything he had made. And it was very good." Genesis 1:31.

ALTAR FLOWERS

A donation was made to the Epworth Floral fund this Sunday by Peter and Elizabeth Shawaker in loving memory of Stephen Briggs Shawaker.

ADULT SINGLES

Single, divorced or widowed adults in the Toledo community are invited to join. RSVP to Nancy Hauer at hauer.nancy@yahoo.com or call 419.885.4595.

Monday, September 2: 1pm - Dinner & Ice Cream. (Dinner at Sidelines, 6060 Renaissance Place, Toledo. \$1 ice cream at Handel's.)

SPIRITUAL GIFTS CLASS

Everyone has unique gifts from the same Holy Spirit. Do you know yours? Spiritual gifts are not the same as skills or talents, but they can all work together for the Kingdom of God. Knowing your spiritual gifts can help you find a way to serve that energizes you and fulfills your calling. The next Spiritual Gifts class will take place Sunday evenings, **September 22 & 29 and October 6**, from 6:15-8:30pm in room 214. RSVP to Pastor Beth at beth@epworth.com.

GIRL SCOUTS CELEBRATE VETERANS

All veterans are welcome to join Girl Scout Troop 12168 on **November 5** from 6-8pm! The girls are hosting a special event in the Deep End where they will be making no-sew blankets with veterans, to be donated to Veterans Matter. Veterans (first come, first served) are invited to wear an item from their branch of the military and please bring a pie to share! Sign up to attend on the connection card or email Janice at janicefrenchmba@gmail.com.

EXPLORE EPWORTH



Join us **September 8** from 5pm-7pm in the lobby for an, one-time informal meeting called Explore Epworth!

You can expect to enjoy dinner and conversation with your pastors, & explore the possibility of membership. Those who choose to join will be received as members the following Sunday, September 15 in worship, but there's no obligation to join. Sign up on the connection card or email Marla@epworth.com to attend. Childcare can be provided if requested by today, Sept 1, please email us at childcare@epworth.com.

MUSIC REHEARSAL SCHEDULE 2019/2020

Join one of our many choirs and grow to love God through the power of music. You may find your friendships, emotional and physical health improve along the way. Upcoming rehearsal start dates are listed below. See all dates and learn more at epworth.com/music or email cecil@epworth.com.



CHOIRS:

Chancel Choir
Beginning September 5
Thursdays 7:30-9pm
Choir room
College age and up

Children's Choir
Beginning Sept. 25
Wednesdays 5:15-6pm
Room 207
Ages 3 -grade 5

BELL CHOIRS:
Wesleyan Ringers
Beginning September 5
Thursdays 6:15-7:15pm
Sanctuary
College age and up

Tower Ringers
Beginning September 8
Sundays 7-7:30pm
Sanctuary
Junior & Senior High students