

TRUNK-OR-TREAT & SWAT GRILLING SUNDAY, OCTOBER 27

Trunk-Or-Treat will go from 5-7pm and is FREE to the entire community! Be sure to wear your costumes and be ready to Trunk-or-Treat for candy. After visiting all our amazing trunks you will be guided inside for more Trunk or Treat fun in our new children and youth spaces featuring the Spooky Deep End (New Youth Space) and decorated Classrooms. Bring your friends!



Teal Pumpkin Project! This year we will have a select number of trunks with non-food “treats” to include children with dietary and medical restrictions.

Bringing A Decorated Trunk? Sign up by emailing us at trunkortreat@epworth.com or call Debby Iott at 419.276.1091 to let us know! We need dozens of trunks to make this event a success. Each year we have several thousand visitors from our neighboring communities join us for this safe trick-or-treating alternative.

Can You Donate Candy? If you can’t attend the event but would still like to lend your support consider donating a few bags of candy. Candy donations of store bought, individually wrapped pieces of candy may be dropped off in the church office during regular business hours.

Swat Youth Grilling will run during this event from 5-7:30pm. Epworth Grill Masters will offer hot dogs and hamburgers for \$1.50 each or meals including chips and a beverage for \$3. Come support our youth!

EPWORTH-HAWKINS PARTNERSHIP

“Tasty treats and thank you’s,” is how Laura Bensman describes her approach to staff appreciation. Laura, who joined the Hawkins Partnership leadership team in September, is planning staff recognitions on the first Tuesday of each month. In October, all Hawkins staff members were treated to bottled ice tea and lattes, along with a note of appreciation from Epworth volunteers. Each month Laura plans to highlight a different group, who will receive home-baked goodies and cards or notes. She’s looking for volunteers who enjoy baking – “This is a great opportunity for someone who is unable to serve at the school. All they need to do is bring their baked goods to church and I’ll deliver them,” she says. Contact Laura at rev.bensman@gmail.com to find out how you can help.




OCTOBER S419: IT’S YOUR SERVE!

And let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds, Hebrews 10:24. Are you willing to accept the **October S4:19** challenge? Here’s how it works. Gather your friends, small group, Sunday school class – any group you want – and go out into the community to serve in any way you want. Just follow these steps:

1. Assemble a group of volunteers and decide upon the kind of good deed you would like to pursue.
2. Find the need in the community. This would be a great time to lend a hand to an Epworth home-bound individual or re-kindle a relationship with some of the agencies we have served through S4:19 in the past. Questions? Call Doug or Ronnie Gorsuch at 419.367.9549 if you need advice on planning your project.
3. Contact the person or agency and arrange the date, time and details of the project. If space at Epworth is needed, be sure to clear it with the church office to reserve your space.
4. Communicate the details to your group so you can all show up as arranged. Take a group picture during the event and text to 419.367.9549. If you wish, post on social media using #ServingThe419.
5. After completion of your project/good deed visit the S4:19 table in the lobby on any Sunday in October to register your good deed, post your picture and put a ping pong ball in the jar for every volunteer who participated. Let’s see if we can fill the bottle! The ball is in your court!



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, October 13, 2019



we believe
we love
we serve

TODAY IS COMMITMENT SUNDAY!

Today we present to God the ways we plan to commit to love Christ's Church more deeply as well as our financial estimate of giving. Commitment cards are available in the pew seat in front of you. Simply fill one out for you and you family before the procession to the altar toward the end of worship today.

“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.” Jesus' 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. Today, we invite all Epworth members and friends to become more fully engaged in the life of our local church.

With your commitment card, we will be able to better anticipate the many ways God will use us next year to serve, bless, teach, baptize, heal, and encourage people in this place, greater Toledo, and God’s people literally around the world.

I LOVE MY CHURCH! RESOURCE TABLE

PICK UP ITEMS:
Small group/family guide, leader guide, commitment cards, bubble testimonials, wristbands, stickers and candy.

SHOW YOUR LOVE FOR YOUR CHURCH:

Fill out a bubble sharing why you love your church, take a photo using a frame to display on social media.

LOOKING AHEAD
to the United Methodist Church's
General Conference (May 5-15,
Minneapolis, Minnesota)

The deadline for submitting legislation for General Conference was September 18. We currently have information on some of the proposed plans the General Conference will receive seeking a way for the denomination to bring to a conclusion the on-going debate around the questions of the ordination of gay and lesbian persons as clergy and the ability for gay and lesbian persons to be married within a local church. Join us for one of two opportunities to learn more on Sunday, **November 3** at 12:15pm in the Children's Church or Wednesday, **November 6** at 6:30pm in the Deep End. If you have questions please see Pastor Doug, Wes Johnson, Gary Wilson or Clyde Kunkel.



THE RED CROSS NEEDS YOU!

Epworth is hosting an American Red Cross Blood Drive on Sunday, **November 3** from 9am to 2pm in the gym. Sign up at redcrossblood.org or contact Pastor Beth at beth@epworth.com. Walk-ins the day of the drive are also welcome.

HEALING & WHOLENESS SERVICE

Join us in the Sanctuary at 7pm on **October 15**. This service will provide an opportunity for prayer, reflection, and meditation. Renew your focus on your connection with God, forgiveness of self and others, and strength for the journey ahead. Bring neighbors or colleagues who you feel could use reassurance and comfort. Email Pastor Beth at Beth@epworth.com.

CAN YOU HELP DRIVE?

Are you available during the day to occasionally assist other Epworth members with a ride to a doctor appointment? It's a simple way to show care within the congregation. If you can help, contact Pastor Beth at beth@epworth.com.

THE EPWORTH TOWER: OCTOBER

This month, *The Epworth Tower* was not able to be mailed out due to staff illness. Because we still want you and your family to be informed and up-to-date on all Epworth matters, for the month of October we sent *The Tower* electronically. On Friday, October 4, 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 and thank you for your understanding!

Are you sick of paper/mail stacks piling up around your house? Do you love to save money? Help Epworth reduce costs and our environmental impact by going paperless with *The Epworth Tower*!

Why go paperless? There are so many reasons!

1. For each household that opts out of receiving the printed *Tower*, Epworth will have a substantial cost reduction on paper, ink, and postage.
2. You will receive current, (up-to-date), information sooner than the post office can get it to you, and more often.
3. If you use a smart phone, you have access to Epworth info at your fingertips, anytime, anywhere.
4. You can easily share Epworth info with family and friends with a click of the "forward" button. (No more waiting to tell them in person!)
5. Less clutter sitting around your house and less to recycle after you've finished reading.

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 and e-tower e-mail lists. ***Please keep in mind, this is not a full paperless transition. You will still receive important letters and announcements from the pastors and Ad Council at Epworth via the U.S. Postal Service.***

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:

Thursday, October 17: 10am - Game Day. (Hope UMC, 4069 W. Sylvania Ave, Toledo --across from Franklin Park Mall.) Use the back entrance and bring a sack lunch for the break. No reservations needed.

BABY BOOMER'S FALL EVENT

Do you consider yourself a baby boomer or wish you were? Then join us at beautiful Maumee Bay State Park, site 92. Join us for a cookout and campfire with friends on **October 19** from 3-5pm. We will provide dot dogs, condiments, water, table service and cups. Please bring a dish to pass and beverage of your choice and your chair. Fun provided by the Gottfrieds, Sanders, and Johnsons! For questions or to RSVP, text or call Ruth Ann at 419.344.7349.

3RD GRADE BIBLE PRESENTATION

The children will be presented with their Bibles on Sunday, **October 20**, at the 9:45am service. The Bible the children will receive is *The Hands On Bible*, which is a new living translation, especially designed for students and contains maps, charts, study aids, and is in an easy-to-read format. Children and parents will then go to a hands-on workshop, 3rd Grade Faith Passage, following the presentation we will learn how to use the Bible. By working together, we can build a strong foundation for our children. Have questions? Please email Mary at mary@epworth.com.

GIRL SCOUTS/VETERANS EVENT

Epworth Community Girl Scout Troop 12168 is looking for Veterans to join the troop for a fun evening on Tuesday, **November 5** at 6pm in the Deep End. Veterans, wear something that represents your branch. Dessert and beverages will be served. If you are a Veteran and would like to join us or if you're a baker and would like to donate a baked good to the event please RSVP to Janice at janicefrenchmmba@gmail.com.

SUNDAY ADULT BIBLE STUDIES:

- **9:45am | Adult Bible Study | Rm 214**
We're studying the book of Matthew, aided by extensive commentary and thought-provoking questions. Get to know Jesus our Lord in fresh new ways. Invite a friend as we grow together.
- **9:45am | Coffee & Conversation | Rm 213**
This class discusses modern day issues & current events, and examines the teachings of Jesus in light of them.
- **9:45am | Connecting Point | Rm 205**
A group for post high school through mid-twenties. This class provides a faith based place to connect with peers and discuss issues relevant to this stage of life.
- **11am | Sermon Notes | Rm 214**
Participating in study, *I Love My Church* study.

WEEKDAY ADULT BIBLE STUDIES

- **6:30-8pm | Men's Bible Study | Rm 213**
Through Oct. 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!
- **9:30-11:30 | Women's AM Bible Study | Rm 214**
Through Oct. 27: Andy Stanley's, "Christian: It's not What You Think." Explore the characteristics Jesus used to define those who follow him and what that implies for us today. 'Christian' was a label used by outsiders. No book, come when you can!
- **7-8:15pm | Study of the Psalms | Rm 213**
Through Nov. 5: The Psalms are at once God's Word to humanity and humanity's word to God. In them, we find glorious praise, deep rage, utter desperation, and quiet reflection. In what seems every situation in life, the psalmists pour out their souls to Almighty God. Come to one session, or come to all. Bring a Bible & a friend. Led by Pastor Jennifer. Please email Shauta'u at Shautau@epworth.com.