

HEALING & WHOLENESS SERVICE



On Tuesday, **November 19**, 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).

PLAN FUN EVENTS FOR EPWORTH!

Want a fun way to serve the church and make a difference in the community of Epworth? This team is for you! They meet on the first Wednesday of each month to plan fun, social events. Previous events include outings to Mud Hens and Walleye games and family skating at Tam O Shanter. We would love to make you a part of this team! To sign up, email Pastor Beth at Beth@epworth.com.

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:

Sunday, November 24: 12-2pm Brunch at Reynolds Garden Cafe (1220 Reynolds Rd., Toledo). 2pm - Tap Dance Variety Show by Manhattan Dance Co. at Maumee Indoor Theatre.

FRIENDS IN FAITH: BOOK CLUB

Everyone is welcome to join us for the Book Club! Join us the 4th Tuesday of every month at 7pm for lively discussion and dessert! Meet at June Galvin's house (3641 Christie Blvd, Toledo.) RSVP to jargalvin@yahoo.com. See future book titles at epworth.com/fif.

Tuesday, November 26: *Educated: A Memoir* by Tara Westover.

FEED YOUR NEIGHBOR

At this time of year, our friends at Feed Your Neighbor need the following items: hats, gloves, socks, canned corn, canned carrots, canned fruit and tuna fish. Thank you for your generosity in helping the less fortunate in our community.

THANKSGIVING TURKEY'S FOR ST. PAUL'S

Thank you for helping St. Paul's Community Center as they provide a special Thanksgiving meal for those in need. Mark your turkey "St. Paul's" and put it in the church freezer. Turkeys will be delivered through Monday, **November 25**.



PICKLEBALL HAS COME TO EPWORTH

If you already know how to play, come join us on **Mondays** from 7-9pm, we have already begun meeting! If you are interested in learning the game through a beginner's clinic, please email Lisa at lisa.baker@bex.net so she can gauge interest and schedule a date! What is pickleball? A fun sport that combines many elements of tennis, badminton and ping-pong.

HAWKINS STEM ACADEMY PARTNERSHIP



A hearty thank you from the Epworth-Hawkins Partnership leadership team to the volunteers who helped with the Teachers' Bake Sale at Hawkins on election day. Due to your efforts, nearly everything was sold; we were down to the last

two cookies. The teachers did the baking as one of many efforts to raise money to send all Hawkins' students to a Mud Hens game next spring. The teachers and Principal Beth Stretavski much appreciated your participation.

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, November 17, 2019

Gingerbread House Workshop



22ND GINGERBREAD HOUSE WORKSHOP

You, your family, friends and neighbors are invited to join us on Sunday, **December 8** from 2-4pm in the Gym! Houses are \$10 each. Keep in mind, they must be reserved and paid for in advance. Bring extra decorations to share, white frosting and a few candies will be provided.

Invite your family, friends, and neighbors- the more the merrier, but, we only have room for 100 houses, so don't delay! Contact Mary at 419.214.3776 or email Mary at Mary@epworth.com.

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

If you would like to help make frosting, please join us in the kitchen on:

- **Tuesday, December 3** at 11:30am
- **Wednesday, December 4** at 6:15pm

We will also need help with setup and tear down of tables/chairs/etc.

- **Sunday, December 8** - before and after event

BAPTISM TODAY

Congratulations to the Hauer family on the baptism of Cole Harvey Hauer at the 9:45am service today.

GEAR-UP GROWTH INITIATIVE UPDATE

Consistent with the Christ's commandment in Mathew 28:16-20 to "Make Disciples of all Nations," Epworth continues an initiative called Gear-Up. The project aims to provide authentic messaging about Epworth Values, Vision, and Mission to help us seek new Disciples for Christ through Epworth. Recently, through a focus group, the Gear-Up group gathered important and useful feedback from Epworth members. More info will be coming out about the Gear-Up project as it proceeds, with an update at the December Ad Council meeting. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Gear-Up leaders, Wes Johnson at wesjohnson1@bex.net or Ken Switzer at krs43623@gmail.com.

WI-FI ACCESS

The communications committee has been working hard to figure out a way to capture and effectively utilize the information from guests who are new to the Epworth community. You may have noticed, the first time you attempt to access Epworth WI-FI on each mobile device, you are asked to submit your email address. We will be sending three individual emails from our pastors, one per week for three weeks, to our on-campus guests who sign-up to use our WI-FI. While we are doing our best to make sure members do not accidentally receive these emails by cross referencing with our member database, we are sure mistakes will be made. Please do not hesitate to let us know if you accidentally receive one or all of these emails so we can correct it! Thank you for your grace and understanding in this transition to more effectively reach our on-campus guests.

FULL TRANSITION TO E-TOWER!

Over the past several years, we have had many members request to stop receiving the printed *Tower* in order to be better stewards of our resources and planet. We've also received inquiries as to why, in this digital age, are we still allocating so much of your generous blessings to Epworth UMC on sending *The Tower* via mail? With this question in mind, the Communications Committee did an in-depth cost analysis and concluded *The Tower* is currently costing Epworth just over \$16,500/year. Heres' the cost breakdown per year:

- Paper cost: \$955
- Ink cost: \$5,469
- Postage cost: \$1,290
- Man hours: \$4,356
- Printer contract (% used on Tower): \$4,447

We feel this considerable amount of money could significantly contribute to other, more impactful, areas of Epworth ministry and have decided beginning **January 2020**, we will move to a full transition to an electronic version of *The Tower*. However, we do understand there are members and friends without e-mail addresses and/or those who would simply prefer to receive a hard copy via mail. If you would rather receive the printed version in the future, call Marla at 419.214.3766 or email Marla@epworth.com to be removed from the e-list and added to our hard copy, mailed list. We will also continue to print a few dozen copies that will be available in the lobby.

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.

ALTAR FLOWERS

A donation was made to the altar flower fund for this Sunday by Ronnie and Doug Gorsuch in honor of their 28th anniversary.

INVITES TO ADVENT!

Stop for a moment and think back to what first brought you to Epworth. For many of you it may be that you had family here or knew someone who invited you to come. A personal invitation is one of the most effective ways of bringing someone to church. Therefore, beginning **today**, we have made available business-sized cards you can use when inviting people to join us for worship during advent. You will find them as you leave the sanctuary today. In a few weeks we will add cards you may use for inviting people to Christmas Eve worship. Take some time today to think of family and friends in your life looking for a loving Christian community or who are looking to further their discipleship path.



CHILDREN'S MUSICAL 2019

This is a heartfelt, fun and moving Christmas musical. The animals in the Bethlehem stable have been informed of the coming Messiah, but they aren't quite sure who it will be. The lamb naturally thinks it's a lamb, the dove thinks it's a dove who will come and bring peace, and the other animals have their own thoughts as to who this mysterious visitor will be. Through songs and rhyming dialog, this adorable musical tells the Christmas story in a fresh and creative way. Come join us as our Children's Choir present this wonderful musical at the 9:45 and 11am services on Sunday, **December 8**.

S.W.A.T. LUNCH & A MOVIE

On **December 1**, following our 11am worship, all teens are welcome to meet us at the Franklin Park Mall Food Court for lunch (bring \$), and then to watch the new Mr. Rogers movie, *A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood*. Sign up for tickets will be on the SWAT bulletin board by the Deep End. Cost is \$8, and is due on December 1. Questions? Dave@epworth.com.

LUNCH W/ OTTAWA HILLS CHORALIERS!

What are you doing for lunch on Wednesday, **December 4**? Join us for a casual Christmas concert at 12 noon in the lobby! It's a fun, energetic way to sing in the Christmas season while enjoying a delicious meal cooked by Chef Les. The Ottawa Hills High School Choraliers (the Ottawa Hills audition chamber choir) will return to our lobby for an annual Christmas program! Bring friends and family for a break from your busy day. The cost of lunch is \$7. Please RSVP to shautau@epworth.com by Monday, December 2.

CHRISTMAS CONCERT!

Join us on **December 4** at 7pm in the sanctuary for our annual Christmas concert featuring the Epworth Chancel Choir and the Academy Brass Quintet. Hear your favorite carols performed by the choir and Academy Brass, and join in an audience sing-along. This is a free community event so bring your friends, neighbors, and coworkers and ring in the beginning of the Christmas season. A freewill offering will be taken. The tea ladies will be providing a reception in the lobby following the concert.



ARTS & CRAFTS BAZAAR PURCHASES

If you purchased an item from Suzanne Haley (located on a corner across from the west wall) at the Bazaar and processed a payment through her Square, please check to see if the transaction was billed. She had a malfunction and none of her transactions were actually processed. Please contact Suzanne at suzannehaley459@gmail.com. She was selling holiday and miscellaneous items.