



Epworth United Methodist Church

Epworth United Methodist

January 2023

WWW.EPWORDH-PC.ORG

“Looking Back and Looking Forward”

“...the former things are passed away. And He that sat upon the throne said, *I make all things new!*” (Revelation 21:4-5)

New Year’s Day is a great day to face the future with hopeful anticipation! It’s a time to “wipe the slate clean,’ ‘turn over a new leaf,’ ‘get a do-over,’”--or whatever adage you prefer to use---and to look forward to a brand-new year, brimming with promise and potential and possibility, wondering what the next 365 days will bring!

If you’re reading this after January 1, A.D. 2023, and if you’re anything like me, by now you’ve eaten black-eyed peas and hog jowls (because that’s what we do on New Year’s Day in my family) and you may already be several days into the new year. Like me, you may have made (and maybe already *broken*) some well-meant New Year’s Resolutions! Nonetheless, I’d like to encourage you to do something a little different as this new year begins. Rather than looking forward, I’d like to challenge you to look

backward over your shoulder at the year just past, for genuine resolutions are born of such an effort. And now let us ask ourselves a question: “How will I live differently for the Lord Jesus Christ in 2023 than I did in 2022?”

1. Did I win a soul to Jesus Christ in 2022?
2. Did I attend Sunday School faithfully in 2022?
3. Did I attend worship services faithfully in 2022?
4. Did I witness (share my faith in Jesus Christ) to another person in 2022?
5. Did I attend week day and week night activities faithfully in 2022?
6. Did I visit the sick and shut-ins in 2022?
7. Did I tithe (give 10% of my income) to the church in 2022?
8. Did I have personal and family devotions daily in 2022?
9. Did I live for Jesus---live like a Christian---in 2022?
10. Did I pray faithfully in 2022?
11. Did I invite others to share in the ministry of the “body of Christ,” to attend



by Rev. Grant Parker

worship services, prayer meetings, Bible studies, Sunday School, etc. with me in 2022?

12. Did I labor tirelessly for the Lord in 2022?

My prayer is that all of us in the Epworth family will be consumed with a passion for fruitful and faithful labor in the Lord’s vineyard this new year! Or, as the Bible puts it in reference to Jesus, “These were his instructions to them: “The harvest is great, but the workers are few. So pray to the Lord who is in charge of the harvest; ask Him to send more workers into His fields.”

(Luke 10:2, NLT)

Keep your hand in Jesus’ hand and your eyes on the Cross!

Brother Grant



Youth Ministry Youth Ministry

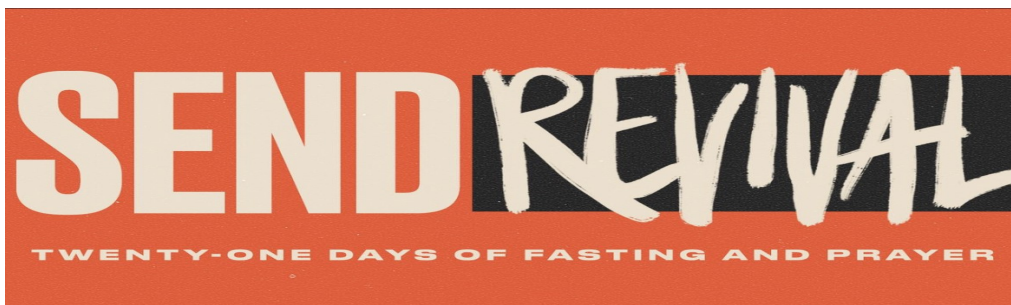
Sunday Night Life

Life is Better Together

4:30—6:00 pm Every
Sunday

Wednesday Night Youth

6:00—7:30 pm 6:00—6:30 pm
Hangout time (snack bar open)



21 Days of Prayer

Jan 8th—28th

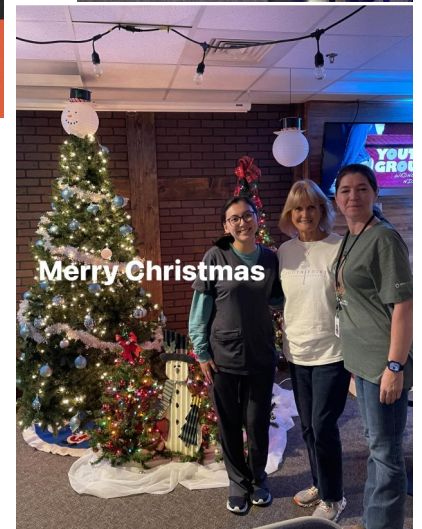
Monday—Friday— 6:30 pm (In the Youth Room)

Saturday—10:00 am (In the Youth Room)

Sunday—NO 21 Days of Prayer meeting. Everyone is encouraged to attend worship in "Big Church" at 8:30 am, 9:45 am or 11:00 am instead.

EVERYONE (all ages) is invited to join us. During this time we will rediscover a passion for God and the Bible.

Hope you can join us!





Birthdays	
Jan. 1	Matt Smith Danny Curtiss
Jan. 2	Matt Bell
Jan 3	Ann Mann Ariel Pritchett
Jan. 4	Chris Lamb Amanda Wilkerson
Jan 5	Reid Thomas
Jan. 6	Alana Watson
Jan 7	Abigail Brewer Alisa Meacham
Jan. 8	Doug Cameron Bonnie Lenoir Amy Wilkerson
Jan. 9	Tiny Fulone Margaret Moss Richard Berklite
Jan. 10	Mallory Druash Anna Lake
Jan. 11	Draven Johnson
Jan 13	Claire Garney Kaylee Shields
Jan. 14	Emily Ludwig
Jan. 15	Presley Wilkerson
Jan. 16	Nancy Pool Ron Garney Mark Waldrop Cindy Hart Brooks Barbaree
Jan. 18	Joan Patrick Kabot Lake
Jan 19	Julianne Griggs Landon Ketchum Ellen Simmons
Jan. 20	Chase Sigmon Jim Ricks Don Leonard
Jan. 23	Bryce Gaunt
Jan 24	Grey Norton Wyatt Bridges
Jan. 26	Garrett Glass
Jan. 27	Brandon Caulder Diane Glass
Jan. 28	Matthew Robinson Will Herbert
Jan. 29	Mackenzie Ensley
Jan. 31	Brian Garney Rachel Parker

Visitation Volunteers

The following people will accompany Brother Grant when he goes visiting on Monday nights. If you are listed here, please meet Brother Grant at 6:30 pm at the church to go with him to visit prospective new members.

Jan 2 – Jaime Singer

Jan 9—Tony Deal

Jan 16—Belle Lee

Jan 24—Steve Ward

Jan 30 — Sandra Arnold

Blessings,

Kathryn Perdue

Flower Calendar

The 2023 Flower Calendar is posted on the Gathering Room board. Please sign up if you wish to put flowers in the church either in honor of or in memory of someone or on a special Sunday.



Anniversaries	
Jan. 3	Gary & Pixie Dillard
Jan. 4	Keith & Christi Badowski
Jan 5	Mason & Susan Riepe
Jan. 6	Mark & Carla Waldrop
Jan. 10	Grant & Letha Parker
Jan. 12	Mark & Teresa Sanders
Jan 20	Rusty & Gayle Floyd
Jan. 28	Bubba & Pat Roberts Wayne & Sherri Sheffield
Jan 29	Sam & Jaime Singer



A sincere thank you to all who sponsored wreaths through Wreaths Across America (WAA) to honor our Veterans in 2022.

YOU DID A MAGNIFICENT JOB !!

Your generosity, selflessness and love of our Veterans led Epworth to reach another record high in supporting Veterans through WAA this year. You sponsored 462 wreaths in memory of and to honor our Veterans. Your efforts resulted in Fort Mitchell National Cemetery (FMNC) receiving 776 wreaths in 2022, a 44% increase over what you accomplished in 2021.

Thank you very much for a job done even better than the great jobs you have done every year since 2018. You've grown every year, ensuring FMNC received 145 wreaths in 2018, 302 wreaths in 2019, 410 wreaths in 2020, 537 wreaths in 2021, and 776 wreaths in 2022. Well Done!

WAA Day was Saturday, December 17, this year. Epworth UMC persons sponsored 68 wreaths for specific Veterans interred at Fort Mitchell, and those sponsors and our team were scheduled to place all of those wreaths plus hundreds more wreaths on other grave sites there. Additionally, we were scheduled to bring back 42 wreaths you sponsored for Veterans interred locally. Further, both Epworth buses were scheduled to support WAA Day by shuttling those honoring our Veterans into and around FMNC on WAA Day. What a great way to recognize and honor our Veterans. Since WAA Day occurred after submission of January 2023 NL input, we'll give you a report on WAA Day later.

EPWORTH KIDZ CREW

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland. Isaiah 43:19

KIDZ CONNECTIONS....

Will resume on Wednesday, Jan. 11, 6:30 p.m.

CHERUB CHOIR & KIDZ CRUISE SUNDAY EVENING CLASSES.... will resume on January 15th at 5:30 p.m. Ages 3 years through 1st grade will meet for Cherub Choir and 2nd through 5th grade will meet with our Kidz Cruise group.



[This Photo](#) by Un-

BABY'S FIRST CHRISTMAS: We introduced our babies who celebrated their first Christmas on December 11th at the 11:00 Worship Service. We are so thankful to have been able to recognize these "Little Lambs" of the Epworth family.

Peyton Ryder Brock, daughter of Trey & Brooke Brock. Big Sister, Remi

Noah James Tate, son of James & Caylin Tate, grandson of Dana & Rusty Townsend.

EPWORTH MOM'S DAY OUT AND PRESCHOOL WILL RESUME ON JANUARY 10TH.

CONFIRMATION CLASSES!!

4th Graders and up are invited to join us for confirmation classes beginning Sunday, Jan. 15th, at 4:00 p.m. Please contact Letha or the church office to register your attendance for this class of 10 sessions.



PRETEEN (4TH - 6TH grades) BIBLE APP AVAILABLE FROM YOUVERSION:

https://ministrytoyouth.com/bible-app-for-preteens/?ck_subscriber_id=647727709
Download the [YouVersion Bible App](#).

KIDS BIBLE EXPERIENCE is also available on the YouVersion Bible App. A great video devotion for younger kids.



THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT OF OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD SHOEBOXES!! The Kidz Crew packed 69 boxes, and when added to those packed by the youth and by all of you, we were able to send 182 shoeboxes around the world! Thank you for your support of this special ministry in every way. Your donations were able to support the mailing of all of our Kidz Crew boxes. You are a blessing!

January 2023

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
1 New Year's Day	2	3	4 6:30 pm Pastor's Bible Study No Kidz or Youth Activities	5 6:30 pm UMW	6	7
8 4:30 pm YOUTH 21 Days of Prayer Kick-off	9 12:00 pm Happy Days Covered Dish Luncheon	10 9:00 am Mom's Day Out & Preschool 6:30 pm Revelation Bible Study	11 9:00 am Preschool 6:00 pm Youth 6:30 pm Pastor's Bible Study, Classes & Kids Konnections	12 Newsletter Deadline 9:00 am Mom's Day Out & Preschool 7:00 pm Men's Ministry	13	14
15 4:30 pm YOUTH KIDZ CREW starts back	16 MLK Jr Day Office Closed	17 9:00 am Mom's Day Out & Preschool 6:30 pm Prayer Vigil 6:30 pm Revelation Bible Study	18 9:00 am Preschool 6:00 pm Youth 6:30 pm Pastor's Bible Study, Classes & Kids Konnections	19 9:00 am Mom's Day Out & Preschool	20 10:00 am Pickle Ball	21
22 4:00 pm Council on Ministries 4:30 pm YOUTH	23	24 9:00 am Mom's Day Out & Preschool 6:30 pm Revelation Bible Study	25 9:00 am— Preschool 6:00 pm Youth 6:30 pm Pastor's Bible Study, Classes & Kids Konnections	26 9:00 am Mom's Day Out & Preschool	27	28 Last Day of 21 Days of Prayer
29 4:30 pm YOUTH	30	31 9:00 am Mom's Day Out & Preschool 6:30 pm NO Revelation Bible Study				

Happy
New
Year

21 Days of Prayer

Jan 8th—28th

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JOIN EPWORTH'S SECURITY MINISTRY TEAM

- You may not see them, but members of your Epworth security ministry team volunteer during every service and special church-wide event to help ensure the safety of our worshippers and the sanctity of our services.
- Your security ministry team plays an important role in helping keep Epworth safe.
- The more security ministry team members Epworth has, the less frequently any one of them needs to volunteer. We can certainly use your help. We will train you before you serve.
- Many positions on our team do not require much physical activity – you can walk, drive the golf cart, or just sit.
- Join us! If you are interested or know someone who is, please get with Pastor Grant Parker at grant.parker@epworth-pc.org or 334-298-3186

Safe House Ministries of Columbus has an ongoing need for coffee, sugar, & creamer. They also have a need for mustard, ketchup, and barbecue sauce, all of which can be purchased at the Dollar Tree.

Please help if you can and place your donations in the blue container in the gathering room.

Thank you,
Marilyne Williamson