



EPWORTH UNITED METHODIST

April 2023

TELEPHONE (334) 298-3186
WWW.EPWORTH-PC.ORG



“For God So Loved the World, That He Gave...”

by Rev. Grant Parker

John 3:16 says, "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life." "For God so loved the world, that He gave..."

That well-known and often quoted verse is in essence the central message of the Christian faith: God’s giving of Himself, to save a world of lost sinners. It amazes me though, that God gave His precious, priceless, only begotten Son for me—especially when I consider the unlimited assets that God has at His disposal. At some point in history (approximately 2,000 years ago), God looked out over all the world—indeed, over this universe and perhaps beyond—and considered all the assets available to Him, and still, He deemed those things inadequate for the task at hand. He surveyed the vast universe, and all that His all-seeing eyes could see was at His disposal, for it all belonged to Him! In fact, the

combined wealth of the million most wealthy people in the world are but a pittance in His sight. And still, He considered the universe and all that it held was insufficient for the task of saving you and me! And then, He beheld His most precious possession, His only Son Jesus Christ, and chose by His amazing grace to give Him as the price of our salvation by faith. God could have given anything to ransom the world, but He didn't. Instead, He gave, not what was left over, but the very best, the most costly, priceless and precious Gift of all—Jesus!

On the other hand, do we ever give much thought to what we offer in return, of ourselves and to His church, as a sign—a symbol—of our gratitude to Him? Obviously, He desires in response to His effort our repentance, the salvation of our souls and the offering of our lives to serve Him as the Lord of

our lives. But it’s also helpful at times to think in more “concrete” terms by asking ourselves, “What am I offering of myself to Christ and His church in regards to my prayers, presence, gifts, service, witness—in terms of time, effort, expertise, financial support, and so forth in support of the ongoing ministry of His church?” At times, a question like that has caused me to ask still another: “Am I giving of my very best—or of my leftovers—in service to Him who gave His all, His best for me?”

Keep the Faith, but Share the Gospel!
Brother Grant

FUNFEST IS COMING!

Saturday, June 3rd, 11:00- 2:00 ET
Volunteers needed. Please contact the office by phone at 334-298-3186 or email at info@epworth-pc.org

Bring your family, friends, neighbors and anyone else you meet!



EASTER **EGGSTRAVAGANZA**

Join us for our Easter Eggstravaganza on Sunday, April 2ND, 4:00 p.m. Eastern Time, for some snacks, games and an age-level Egg Hunt! Invite your friends and neighbors to this family event.

DONATIONS: PLASTIC EGGS ARE NEEDED! Candy-filled eggs and Unfilled-eggs are needed in abundance this year! There will be a collection bin in the Gathering Room at church for all donations.

ALSO:

Bags of candy that can be put in plastic eggs.

Prepackaged snacks - Cup cakes, sweets, salty snacks, fruit snacks, juice boxes, and small bottled waters.

VOLUNTEERS needed for games, hiding eggs, marking off the "hunting grounds," set up and clean up.

**Sixth grade students may help hide eggs if not hunting the eggs!*

Contact Letha at letha.parker@epworth-pc.org **OR** Laura Johnson at laurakeijohnson@gmail.com



Stellar **VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL**

Your help is always needed and appreciated! Please sign up to help with DECORATIONS, TEACHING, CLEAN UP, KITCHEN, REGISTRATION, MUSIC, SOUND & VIDEO, NURSERY, PRESCHOOL. Check the website for online registration of Volunteers and Students.

*Background checks submitted by the church are required for all volunteers.

VBS VOLUNTEER WORKSHOP

Will be held Sunday, April 30th at 4:00 and Sunday, June 4th at 4:00 pm.

All volunteers are encouraged to attend!

Dates for Vacation Bible School

Sunday, June 11th through Thursday, June 15th 6:00—8:30 pm

EPWORTH KIDZ PRESCHOOL AND EPWORTH MOM'S DAY OUT REGISTRATION

Please contact Letha at letha.parker@epworth-pc.org or 334-298-3186 to register your child for the Summer MDO or Preschool, ages 3 and 4, beginning in August.

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LOOKING FOR 2022 KINDERGARTEN GRADUATES (K-5)

The Epworth Kidz Crew would like to recognize all of our Kindergarten (K-5) Graduates by presenting them an Adventure Bible on Sunday, May 10th, at the 11:00 Worship Service. Please send information to the church office or to Letha by email or phone regarding any K-5 graduates this year. We don't want to leave anyone out, so please pass along the child's name, parents' names, and the school which the graduate attends.

Thank you for your help!

letha.parker@epworth-pc.org

BLUE LAKE SUMMER CAMP REGISTRATION

AGES: Completed 3rd - 5th grades

DATES: Monday-Friday, July 10-14

REGISTRATION: Online - bluelakecamp.com > **summer camps > elementary camps > registration.** We will be attending **CAMP X.** Make a \$50 deposit. Partial and full Scholarships are made available through the Fletcher Findlater Camp Scholarships.

CONTACT LETHA OR THE CHURCH OFFICE IF YOUR CHILD IS PLANNING TO ATTEND. (334)298-3186 or email at: info@epworth-pc.org

*****Donations for camp scholarships** may be made through the church office or **online giving** .

The Prayer Ministry is encouraging and challenging our members to a **Day of Prayer for our Epworth Church.** The day will be Monday, April 3, 2023 starting at 6:00 AM and ending Tuesday, April 4, at 6:00 AM. Everyone is invited to sign-up on the poster placed in the Gathering Room for any time period desired. A list of prayer topics will be identified on the poster. You may pray at any place you feel most comfortable. The sign-up poster will be located in the Gathering Room starting Sunday, March 19, 2023 through Sunday, April 2, 2023.

SAVE THE DATE!!

National Day of Prayer will be held at Epworth on **Thursday, May 4, 2023.** Please save that day to join us in celebrating this special service. It will begin at 12:00 noon with special music, speakers, and many prayers for our country. The theme this year will be from James 5:16, **“The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much.”**

WANT TO JOIN OTHERS IN PRAYER AT EPWORTH?

Matthew 7:7-8 "Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives; he who seeks finds; and to him who knocks, the door will be opened." NIV
 Come every month to the Prayer Vigil held on the third Tuesday of each month. The next meeting will be on April 18th at 6:00 pm in the chapel at Epworth.

Anniversaries

April 1	Wayne & Wanda Griffin
April 3	Seth & Becky Snedigar
April 5	Roy & Gail Hogge
April 16	Gene & Katherine Grantham
April 18	Doug & Cindy Cameron
April 21	Shane & Libby Clay George & Jennifer Gatewood



Looking for 2023 Graduating Seniors

We will honor our 2023 High School Seniors on May 7, 2023. We don't want to leave anyone out as we celebrate this special time in their lives. Please help us in making our list of graduates complete by taking a look at the list below. If you know of other Graduating Seniors who are members of or attend Epworth regularly, we need to make sure they get on our list. Please call the church office at 334-298-3186 with any names or contact Diane Glass @ 706-681-2107 or dianeglass99@gmail.com

Thank you!

- | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| Dustin Brassell | Chloe Cameron |
| Emma Head | Emily Hogge |
| Katie Jones | Esther Kohn |
| Timothy Lee | Emily Ludwig |
| Emmett Meacham | Jenna Neal |
| Kaden Walrod | Wyatt Wilkerson |

The following people will accompany Brother Grant when he goes visiting on Monday nights. If you are listed here, please meet Brother Grant at 5:30 pm at the church to go with him to visit members, shut-ins and prospective new members.

- April 3 - Ross Goode
- April 10 - Jaime Singer
- April 17 - Tony Deal
- April 24 - Teri Medina

Birthdays

April 1	Pat Vance
April 2	Kenny Smith Lance Brooks
April 3	Maggie Yeilding
April 4	Diane Velazquez Chase Morris
April 5	April Edwards AnnaLee Watson
April 6	Jay Coulter Ann Marie Rollo
April 7	Jerry Obert Brad Word Becky Gaunt Scott Hebert Garrett Burts
April 9	Emily Hogge Sumner Singer Ella Yeilding
April 10	Kathryne Baker Christina Yeilding Christie Collins James Word, Jr.
April 11	Bradley Durrance
April 12	Kathryn Perdue
April 14	Robin Hebert Fisher Clark
April 18	Trivius Caldwell Crystal Barnette Aaron Gil
April 19	Shirley Goode Scott Dillard
April 20	Mary Ensley Wes Shields Brynleigh Berklite Adalynn Hess
April 22	Brian Sieck Mason Redmond White Annabelle Johnson
April 23	Colton Lurker
April 24	Caden Barnette
April 25	Skip Myles Patti Denzik
April 26	Gentry Lee
April 27	Kay Hall Gracie Atchinson
April 28	Mary R Pittman
April 29	Sara Nicholson Linda Findlater
April 30	Ashley Bloodworth



Epworth Mother Daughter Banquet is BACK!!!!!!

Please join us for another great annual Epworth **Mother-Daughter Banquet on Friday, May 12th, 6:30 P.M. EDT, in the Church Fellowship Hall.** Tickets are Adults - \$15.00 and Children (under 12) - \$10.00. A tremendous bargain for good food, great fellowship, great entertainment, door prizes and lots of love and laughter! This is a very special annual event in our church with daughters and mothers ranging in age from 2 years to 90+ years attending!

If you plan to attend, please sign up on the sheet on the Gathering Room Bulletin Board. Also, we need the wonderful men in our church to sign up to be waiters for the Mother-Daughter Banquet. What a nice way to honor the most important women in your lives. Door Prize donations are also welcomed! Hanging baskets, flowering plants, and gift cards are just a few suggestions for great door prizes.

Don't miss out on the fun of this great annual tradition at Epworth. It's a wonderful way to begin your Mother's Day celebration with your personal family and your church family. Invite your Mother, Sisters, Daughters, Granddaughters and Friends for an entertaining evening of Christian sisterhood and fellowship! It's A Time for Love & Laughter!

Additional information coming soon.



Sunday Night Life

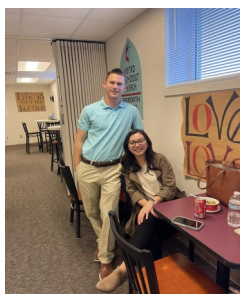
Life is Better Together

5:00—6:30 pm Every Sunday

Wednesday Night Youth

6:00—7:30 pm 6:00—6:30 pm

Hangout time (snack bar open)



April 2023

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
						1
2 11 am Cherubs sing 4:00 pm Eggstravaganza	3 12:00 Happy Days Covered Dish Luncheon 6:00 Paint Party	4 9:00 am Mom's Day Out & Preschool 9:30 am Bible Study	5 9:00 am Preschool 6:30 pm— Wednesday Night Classes & Kids Konnections	6 9:00 am—Mom's Day Out & Preschool 12:00 pm Maundy Thursday— Communion 6:30 pm— Maundy Thursday Service	7	8
9 EASTER 7:00—Sunrise Service 3 regular Sunday morning services No Children or Youth activities	10	11 9:00 am— Mom's Day Out & Preschool 9:30 am—Bible Study 6:30 pm— Finance Committee Meeting	12 9:00 am - Preschool 6:30 pm— Wednesday Night Classes & Kids Konnections	13 9:00 am—Mom's Day Out & Preschool 6:00 pm—Men's Ministry 6:00 pm—Grief Ministry 6:30 pm PickleBall	14	15
16 4:00 pm Administrative Board Meeting	17 Newsletter Deadline	18 9:00 am— Mom's Day Out & Preschool 9:30 am—Bible Study 6:00 Prayer Vigil	19 9:00 am— Preschool 6:30 pm— Wednesday Night Classes & Kids Konnections	20 9:00 am - Mom's Day Out & Preschool 6:30 pm Classes & Kids Konnections 6:30 pm PickleBall	21	22
23 4:00 pm Council on Ministries Meeting	24	25 9:00 am - Mom's Day Out & Preschool 9:30 am Bible Study	26 9:00 am - Preschool 6:30 pm— Wednesday Night Classes & Kids Konnections	27 9:00 am - Mom's Day Out & Preschool 6:30 pm PickleBall	28	29
30 VBS Meeting 4:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall						

HELP EPWORTH OBSERVE MEMORIAL DAY 2023



- Memorial Day, the national holiday on which we honor all our fallen veterans, those men and women who died while serving in our Armed Forces, will be on 29 May this year.
- At Epworth, on 28 May, the Sunday before Memorial Day, we'd like to honor any fallen veterans our church or families have, and we'd also like to honor all our members or relatives of our members or attendees who served in our armed forces and have since passed away – our deceased veterans.
- We request your help: if you have a fallen or deceased veteran in your family or know of any in our Epworth community families and are not sure we are aware of that veteran, or if you have questions, please let us know. Please identify your fallen or deceased veterans and provide photographs, if possible, to Pastor Grant (334-298-3186 or grant.parker@epworth-pc.org) or Ross Goode (706-464-5089 or camovet@ctvea.net).

JOIN EPWORTH'S SECURITY MINISTRY TEAM

- Members of our Security Ministry Team volunteer during every service to help ensure the safety of our worshippers and the sanctity of our services.
- The more Security Ministry Team members Epworth has, the less often any one of them needs to volunteer. We can certainly use your help. We will train you before you serve.
- 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 contact the church office at (334) 298-3186 or Pastor Grant at grant.parker@epworth-pc.org