



EPWORTH CHURCH NEWSLETTER

May 2023

(334) 298-3186

WWW.EPWORTH-PC.ORG

“Festival of the Christian Home”

Many, if not most, people who read this will know that Sunday, May 14 is Mother’s Day. However, I suspect that many will **not** know that Sunday, May 14 is also the day we celebrate the Festival of the Christian Home. Having said this, I wanted to share a couple of lists of “commandments,” so to speak, regarding home life, family, children and relationships that I picked up *somewhere* along the way from *someone* during my 40 or so years of parish ministry.

The first list is entitled “Rules For A Happy Married Life.” I gleaned it from my friend Brother George Mathison’s church newsletter when he was the senior pastor of Auburn UMC.

1. Never be angry at the same time.
2. Never yell at each other unless the house is on fire.
3. Yield to the wishes of the other as an exercise in self-discipline if you can’t think of a better reason.
4. If you have a choice between making yourself look good or your spouse, choose your spouse.
5. If you have any criticism, make it lovingly.
6. Avoid bringing up mistakes of the past.
7. Neglect the whole world rather than each other.

8. Never let the day end without saying at least one complimentary thing to your spouse.

9. Never meet without an affectionate welcome.

10. Never go to bed mad.

11. When you’ve made a mistake, talk it over and ask for forgiveness.

12. Remember, it takes two to make an argument. Quite often, the one who is wrong is the one who will be doing most of the talking.

The second list is entitled “Ten Commandments For Self-Esteem.” Unfortunately, I don’t have a clue as to the identity of its author. I can only express gratitude to an unknown benefactor.

1. Spend “quality time” each day with your children. This is an opportunity to hear what they did and what is on their minds.

2. Make positive statements to your children as often as possible.

3. When disagreements occur, focus primarily on inaccurate matters or statements. Remember, everyone has opinions. Sometimes we must agree that we disagree.

4. Reach out and touch. An appropriate touch will communicate much more than just words.



by Rev. Grant Parker

5. Smile!

6. Allow children to develop responsibility. Basically, in order to be a responsible family member, one must have responsibility.

7. Be honest with your children. Children will undoubtedly learn their response patterns from their parents.

8. Separate the behavior from the individual. In problem situations, make certain the child knows the behavior, not the child, is unacceptable.

9. Deal with here-and-now issues. Dredging up the past may serve to further block communication within the family.

10. Work on your own positive self-esteem.

Have a wonderful Mother’s Day and Festival of the Christian Home! See you at Epworth Church, where *every* worship service is a family reunion!

Keep the Faith, but Share the Gospel!

Brother Grant

EPWORTH KIDZ CREW

Looking for Kindergarten Graduates!

We will recognize K-5 Graduates at the 11:00 service on Sunday, May 7^h. Please contact the church office: 334-298-3186, or Letha at 205-799-8547 to register your child's name, parent's name, and school name prior to this event.



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

CHERUB CHOIR AND KIDZ CRUISE

Our last practice/meeting until next September will be May 7th.

Cherubs will sing on Mother's Day, May 14th.

THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU!!!! For all the help with the EASTER EGGSTRAVAGANZA! We had a great time with wonderful weather. More than 1,000 eggs were donated, hidden, and found! Once again The Epworth Family made our Kidz Ministry event a success!

Epworth Kidz Preschool & 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.

LAST DAY FOR EPWORTH KIDZ PRESCHOOL - Thursday, May 18th

PRESCHOOL GRADUATION that evening at 6:00 pm in the Sanctuary.

MOM'S DAY OUT - Will be closed the week of May 29th and reopen for the Summer on Tuesday, June 20th.

MDO Summer Program will close the week of July 31st and the Fall program will open Tuesday, August 8th..

Summer Camp at Blue Lake

Coming July 10th—14th

For more information, please contact Letha Parker at Letha.parker@epworth-pc.org
*Age to attend—must be finishing the 3rd grade through 5th.

Because of generous donations to our Camp Scholarship Fund each year, we are able to provide half tuition for our campers as well as full scholarships for those that may need to apply. This year the cost per camper after applying our half scholarship funds will be \$187.

Visitation Volunteers

The following people will accompany Brother Grant when he goes visiting on Monday nights. Please meet Brother Grant at 6:30 pm at the church.

May 1 - Susan Stillwell

May 8 - Bryce Gaunt

May 15 - George Perdue

May 22 - Becky Coreno



National Day of Prayer 2023

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 of the National Day of Prayer 2023 in the U.S. is "Pray Fervently in Righteousness and Avail Much."** This is from [James 5:16b](#), which reads, "The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much". (NKJV)

Please plan to join us and bring your friends. The contact person is Pam Shores, tel. (706) 464-0148.

Birthdays	
May 1	Claudia Hall
May 2	Sandra Rowan Paul Byrd
May 3	Mark Ensley
May 4	Alex Mooneyhan Gene Grantham
May 5	Kaila Lynn Nishimura Donnie Norton Caylin Tate Wanda Griffin
May 6	Jacob Head Raylan Woodham
May 7	Billy Belk
May 11	Joseph Wade Deanna Ludwig Tristan Walrod
May 12	Mike Hamilton Sarah Garney
May 13	George Perdue Tyler Green Amanda Head
May 14	Vickie Taylor Shepherd Clark
May 15	Dison Martin Miles Hamilton
May 16	Neil Reddish Cathy Head
May 17	Jennifer Head
May 18	Jared Martin Carrie Jones
May 20	Sandy Clay Jared Brewer James Hall Tucker Stone Ellis Yohn
May 21	Michele Lake
May 22	Beth Robinson Bailey O'Neill Jaxon Prins
May 23	Gail Hogge
May 24	Judy Grimes Brent Dillard
May 26	Kirkland Ranew
May 29	Meg Clark

Anniversaries

May 1	Rich & Becky Coreno
May 5	Paul & Tina Byrd
May 10	Chris & Cindy Lamb
May 14	Roger & Teresa Cassman Bob & Jodi Wisor
May 17	Shaun & Karen Cameron
May 18	Brandon & Emily Sanford
May 19	Brian & Wendy Sieck Dalton & Caroline Pippins
May 20	Rejean & Shelley Lee
May 22	Rick & Patti Denzik Ralph & Vicky Moss
May 24	George & Kathryn Perdue
May 30	Ross & Shirley Goode



PAINT PARTY - Please Plan to Join Us...

Adults and older teens are invited to join us for a "Beginners Class" watercolor paint night Monday, May 8th at 6:00 pm.

No experience necessary, all supplies and instruction provided. Please call the church office at 334-298-3186 or call/text Amber McCart 706-289-7533 to reserve your spot as space is limited. Cost \$15 per person to reserve your spot.

Happy painting!!





Youth Ministry Youth Ministry

Senior Graduate Recognition

Sunday, May 7, 2023

Recognition Breakfast at 9:15 am in the Fellowship Hall

Sr. High Recognition during the 9:45 am service



Wednesday: EUMC Youth

6:00 pm Doors and game room opens.

6:45 – 7:30 pm Youth Worship Service



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 as soon as possible. You will find the sign-up sheets on the Gathering Room bulletin board or you can register by calling the church office at 334-298-3186. 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!

May 2023

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
	1 12:00 pm— Happy Days Covered Dish Luncheon	2 9:00 am Mom's Day Out & Preschool 9:30 am Bible Study 6:30 pm Revelation Bible Study	3 9:00 am Preschool 6:00 –7:30 pm Youth 6:30 pm Classes, Pastor's Bible Study & Kidz Konnections	4 9:00 am Mom's Day Out & Preschool Noon National Day of Prayer 6:30 pm United Methodist Women 6:30 pm Pickleball	5	6
7 9:45 Service HS Senior Recognition Sunday (9:15 HS Senior breakfast) 11:00 Service Kindergarten Recognition 5:00 pm Kidz Cruise & Cherub Choir—last practice/meeting	8 6:00 pm Paint Party	9 9:00 am Mom's Day Out & Preschool 9:30 am Bible Study 6:30 pm Revelation Bible Study	10 9:00 am Preschool 6:00 –7:30 pm Youth 6:30 pm Classes, Pastor's Bible Study & Kidz Konnections	11 9:00 am Mom's Day Out & Preschool Noon Preschool Mom's Tea 6:00 pm Men's Ministry meeting 6:00 pm Grief Ministry 6:30 pm Pickleball	12 6:30 pm Mother- Daughter Banquet	13
14 Mother's Day 11:00 Service— Kindergarten Recognition and Cherubs sing No Evening Activities	15 Newsletter Deadline	16 9:00 am Mom's Day Out & Preschool 9:30 am Bible Study 6:30 pm Prayer Vigil 6:30 pm Revelation Bible Study	17 9:00 am Preschool 6:00 –7:30 pm Youth 6:30 pm Classes, Pastor's Bible Study & Kidz Konnections	18 9:00 am Mom's Day Out & Preschool—Last Day 6:00 pm Preschool Graduation in the Sanctuary	19	20
21 4:00 pm Council on Ministries meeting	22 10:00 am Mobility Cart Workshop	23 9:00 am Mom's Day Out 6:30 pm Revelation Bible Study	24 6:00 –7:30 pm Youth 6:30 pm Classes, Pastor's Bible Study & Kidz Konnections	25 9:00 am Mom's Day Out	26	27
28 Memorial Day Recognition during all 3 Services	29 Memorial Day Office closed	30 6:30 pm Revelation Bible Study	31	Remember FunFest on Saturday June 3rd 11:00 am - 2:00 pm		



Sound Choices Baby Bottle Boomerang

Every week Sound Choices ministers to women & girls that are facing an unplanned pregnancy. They do this by providing free pregnancy testing, a trusted advocate to talk with, an ultrasound, and referrals for community resources. These women are given the opportunity to hear the gospel, see the value of their life and the life of their unborn baby, and understand how much God loves them.

Starting **Mother's Day**, May 14th, we will distribute baby bottles from Sound Choices Pregnancy Clinic. Please take **one** per family. We are asking that you take the bottles home, fill them with a check, cash or coins, and return them to the church on Father's Day, June 18th.

This year's goal is \$3,500! We can do this! By filling your Baby Bottle, you are introducing expectant moms to their baby via ultrasound, and also introducing them to Jesus Christ & the hope He provides. Women who visit Sound Choices are invited to attend **FREE**:

- Weekly Parenting Classes
- Bible Studies
- Confidential Abortion Recovery Counseling to women who are hurting from a past abortion experience. If you need to talk to someone about a past abortion, please email info@SoundChoicesPC.org or call 706.322.5024.

Keep filling those Baby Bottles throughout this week with your spare change, as we celebrate changed hearts! Whether your bottle is full or empty, Sound Choices asks you to return each bottle, because they re-use these bottles. **By returning each one, we help them to be good and faithful stewards of the funds you donate, and the income which God provides for the crucial ministry they offer.**