

EPWORTH METHODIST CHURCH



March 2024

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

Good News Travels Fast!

I'm sure you've heard the old saying, "bad news travels fast!" Well, that same adage can be applied to *good* news, as well. That explains the excitement concerning the empty tomb on Easter morning! When Mary Magdalene discovered that the body of Jesus was missing on the morning of the third day, she ran to Simon Peter and John to share the news with them. They, in turn, raced to the empty tomb to see for themselves! Later, when the risen Savior appeared to Mary at the tomb, the scripture in John's gospel (chapter 20) tells us that "she went to the disciples with her news: 'I have seen the Lord!'"

Hopefully, the good news of our Lord and Savior's resurrection still causes the same excited response from the church,

even today! We've planned several events for all ages to enhance the celebration of this high and holy time in the life of the Christian church. Please, play the role of an evangelist in your church and community. Tell the Good News!!! Check your church bulletin, newsletter, website, text messages and email announcements, then invite other people, especially those who are unchurched or marginally churched, to share special events with us as we commemorate and celebrate the passion and resurrection of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ!

I'm glad to be your pastor, serving a church where Good News Travels Fast! Keep your hand in Jesus' hand and your eyes on the Cross!

Brother Grant



by Rev. Grant Parker

Lenten Lunches

Everyone is invited to Epworth's Lenten Lunches beginning on March 4th until March 18th.

The lunches will be held on Mondays at 12:00 pm until 1:00 pm EST in the church fellowship hall and will not last over one hour. It is planned so you can come during your lunch time. We will have a covered dish lunch for the 1st luncheon and there will be a simple lunch on the 11th and 18th at no cost to you, with a devotional given by guest speakers. What a great time for food, fun and fellowship. Dates are March 4th (Covered Dish Luncheon), March 11th, and March 18th.

Please come and invite a friend.

EPWORTH KIDZ CREW

EASTER EGGSTRAVAGANZA

Palm Sunday, March 24th, 4:00 -5:30 p.m.

Volunteers needed and donations: Prepackaged chips, snacks, cupcakes, cookies, juice boxes, small bottled water, etc. Filled eggs are needed, and candy for empty eggs.

Please contact Laura Johnson or Letha if you can fill eggs, decorate, clean up, help with the snack table, work with games, etc. 6th–12th GRADE STUDENTS may volunteer and receive community service hours.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL MEETING COMING IN MARCH

April 21, 4:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. We will be discussing the theme and signing up for work areas.

If you know the area in which you would like to volunteer, please email

letha.parker@epworth-pc.org

REGISTRATION FOR EPWORTH KIDZ PRESCHOOL & SUMMER MDO

PRESCHOOL REGISTRATION:

We are now enrolling for the 2024-2025 school year for our Preschool program for 3 (by September 1) and 4 year old students. Classes meet Tuesday through Thursday, 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. There is a \$100 registration fee, and a monthly tuition fee, August through May.

Contact Letha: letha.parker@epworth-pc.org or 205-799-8547

If you have friends that may be interested in our program, please encourage them to contact us for a day to visit the Preschool. Thank you so very much for all your cooperation and support. You are a blessing!

SUMMER MOM'S DAY OUT:

WHEN: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9:00 - 12:45 ET

DATES: June 18 - July 25

FALL MOM'S DAY OUT BEGINS: August 6th

Register now to secure your place for Fall, 2024. (letha.parker@epworth-pc.org)

LOOKING FOR 2024 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 12th, 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



Birthdays	
March 1	Teresa Cassman
March 3	Wayne Griffin Carly Addison Estin Martin
March 4	Carly Addison Samuel Bridges
March 5	Alex Baker
March 7	Becky Snedigar
March 8	Curt Curtiss Bill Badowski Cason Page
March 10	Crystal Berklite Tate Ranew
March 11	Shelley Lee
March 13	Brenda Kirkland Tony Lawhon
March 14	Joe Barnette
March 15	Roxanna Hamilton Georgia Denzik
March 16	Kathy Bradley
March 18	Tammy Garrison Emma Hess
March 19	Jeanette Clay Jake Robinson
March 21	Hilda Bozzelli Brenda Belk Amanda Pruet Michael Berklite
March 23	Jennifer Gatewood GW Glass
March 25	Alice Baxley
March 26	Sara Nauck Rusty Courson
March 27	June Willis
March 28	Gary Dillard Tony Ward
March 30	Chris Garrison Katie Jones Thaddeus Nishimura
March 31	Jo Slappey Jeffery Head Jacob Lake



Anniversaries	
March 2	Don & Penny Verner
March 3	Jeremiah & Margaret Moss
March 5	Skip & Marcia Myles
March 12	Scott & Christina Yeilding
March 19	Buddy & Edith Gentry Brian & Marietta O'Neill Juan & Andrea Gil
March 20	Cody & Kim Burtt
March 23	Shane & Leigh Ann Barbaree



Looking for 2024 Graduating Seniors

We will honor our 2024 High School Seniors on May 5, 2024. 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 or email the church office with any names.
info@epworth-pc.org / 334-298-3186 or contact
 Diane Glass @ 706-681-2107 /
dianeglass99@gmail.com

Thank you!

Landon Beaver
 Mia Bel
 Micah Cook
 Cason Page
 Emma Wilson

Central High School
 Central High School
 Central High School
 Central High School
 Central High School

A message from our Youth Minister Daniel Cook

Can you believe it...we are already preparing for the summer! To some it may seem early, but in the world of youth ministry, if you do not begin planning now, then there is a good chance you will miss out on things happening during the summer. As you may have heard, sign ups for Summer Camp have begun. I know it may be hard to commit to something 3 months away, but I encourage you to make this a priority for your child.

A lot happens during the week of camp! Here are a few of the top reasons your child needs to attend the summer camp...

An opportunity to connect with God - Camp gives students 4 days to forget about everything going on at home and purposely connect with God. Not only will your student attend worship services, but they will also have a structured daily quiet time, be a part of a small group to dive deeper into the theme of the week, and will be surrounded by 200 students who are seeking God just as they are.

An opportunity to connect with others - What better way to get to know people than spend 4 days/24 hours a day with someone? To some that may sound scary, but getting out of our comfort zone from time to time is a good thing. One reason students say why they do not attend Wednesday night or go on trips is because they do not know anyone. This is a great time to get to know other students and leaders.

An opportunity to have fun - Camp is a week of fun you do not want to miss. Along with all the God moments, students will participate in camp recreation, have an opportunity to swim in the pool and participate in lake activities. Those may include the Aqua Park, where you swim out to inflatables in the lake, the blob, and the Wet Willie! At night, students will have time to hang out around the snack bar, participate in camp competitions, and meet people from other churches.

If you have ever attended any type of summer camp or church camp, you know that memories will be made that you will carry with you for a lifetime. This week is often the best week of summer for students.

Encourage your child to come, so they do not miss out on a week of fun, building friendships with students who are seeking Jesus like they are, and an opportunity for their life to be changed by God? If you cannot make this trip, keep these in mind to encourage your student to attend the next one.



Events in March:



Youth Summer Camp Sign Ups

This summer the youth will be attending Merge Youth Camp at Shocco Springs Conference Center, in Talladega, Alabama. The camp will consist of 5 churches totaling 200 students from across the state of Alabama. This is an event you do not want to miss! There will be worship, morning services, evening services, small groups, recreation, pool, lake activities, quiet times, and much more. The dates are June 12 - 15 and the cost is \$250. If you would like your student to attend please see Daniel for that information.

Current Wednesday Night Series - Last Steps

Last Steps is 4-weeks inspiring the Church to follow Jesus' last week on earth and try to make sense of God's plan by understanding the identity, the calling, the heart, and the cross of Christ. Last Steps will challenge the Church to increase curiosity of the Savior, amplify worship to God, and draw attention and glory to the Cross and Jesus' greatest victory.

Join us on Wednesday night from 6:00 - 6:30 as we hang out in the gym, game room, and snack bar. From 6:30 - 7:30 we have our service that includes a time of games, teaching, and worship. Once a month we split off into small groups to discuss the topic of the night and talk about how we can apply it to our lives.

Sunday Mornings Worship

We invite all families and teenagers to attend a Sunday morning worship service. As you know there are three to choose from, with most teenagers attending the 9:45 service. We would love to see your family worship with us!

Small Group - Sunday Mornings at 11:00

Following the 9:45 service there is a class offered for all teenagers. Some may call it Sunday School and others call it a Small Group, no matter what you call it, it is important. This is a place for teenagers to talk through the Bible and life with other teenagers to grow together as they navigate what it means to follow Christ.

Things to come in 2024:

- Senior Recognition - May 5th
- Fun Fest - June 1st
- VBS - June 9th - 13th
- Youth Camp - June 12th - 15th
- Six Flags - June (Date TBD)
- White Water - July (Date TBD)
- Braves Game - June or July (Date TBD)
- Dnow (Youth weekend) - August (Date TBD)
- Fall Trip - October (Date TBD)
- Ski Trip - December 27th - 30th



New Men's and Women's Bible Study

We're kicking-off 2 new Monday Night Bible Studies on Monday, March 4th at 6:30 pm. Both the Men's and Women's studies are video-based with free study guides. (Nursery will be available.)

Men's Study - Unashamed

Join Grammy and Dove Award-winning artist Lecrae in this 6-session series as he equips, empowers, and encourages us to live unashamed of our faith and of who God created us to be.

Women's Study - The Cost of Control

In this 6-session series, Bible teacher and author Sharon Hodde Miller discusses the way control can cost us a lot more than we could ever imagine—and how we can walk in faith knowing God is in complete control.

Men's Ministry News

Memorial bricks are \$100 each which includes engraving. The bricks will be installed in front of the Bell Tower. Order forms are placed on the Gathering Room counter. If you have questions, please contact Ron Hart, John Henderson, or Roy Hogge.

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.

March 4 - Josh McCart

March 11 - Pam Shores

March 18 - Steve Ward

March 25 - Maria Chedrick

Blessings,

Kathryn Perdue

A Time To Pray In Chapel For Morning Worship Services

March 3, 2024

8:30 am—Vicky Moss

9:45 am—Shirley Goode

11:00 am—Marcia Myles

March 10, 2024

8:30 am—Michelle Word

9:45 am—Donna Zeigler

11:00 am—Sandra Arnold

March 17, 2024

8:30 am—Rendi Hall

9:45 am—Belle Lee

11:00 am—Pam Shores

March 24, 2024

8:30 am—Gary Dillard

9:45 am—Becky Coreno

11:00 am—Carol Cain

March 31, 2024

8:30 am—Sandra Rowan

9:45 am—Diane Cowart

11:00 am—Steve/Ellen Ward

March 3rd Communion Servers
8:30 Service Gloria Griggs, Sandra Rowan Adam Norden
9:45 Service Kalen/Wade Seick Mary Francis Head
11:00 Service Pam Shores, Diane Glass, Sherry Martin

March 2024

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3 4:00 pm Confirmation Class 5:30 pm Cherub Choir and Kidz Cruise	4 12:00 pm Lent Luncheon 6:30 pm—Men's Bible Study and Women's Bible Study—Kick-off Class	5 9:00 am Mom's Day Out & Preschool 9:30 am Bible Study 6:00 pm—Trustees Meeting 6:30 pm—Bible Study	6 9:00 am Preschool 10:00 am Cart workshop 6:00 pm Youth 6:30 pm Classes & Kids Konnections	7 9:00 am Mom's Day Out & Preschool 6:30 pm Methodist Women's group will meet in the Fellowship Hall	8	9
10 Daylight Savings Time Begins 4:00 Council on Ministries meeting 4:00 pm Confirmation Class 5:00 pm Youth 5:30 pm Cherub Choir and Kidz Cruise	11 12:00 pm Lent Luncheon 6:30 pm—Men's Bible Study and Women's Bible Study	12 9:00 am Mom's Day Out & Preschool 9:30 am Bible Study 6:00 pm Prayer Vigil 6:30 pm—Bible Study	13 9:00 am Preschool 6:00 pm Youth 6:30 pm Classes & Kids Konnections	14 9:00 am Mom's Day Out & Preschool 6:00 pm—Men's Ministry meeting 6:00 pm—Grief Ministry meeting	15	16
17 4:00 pm Confirmation Class 5:30 pm Cherub Choir and Kidz Cruise	18 12:00 pm Lent Luncheon 6:30 pm—Men's Bible Study and Women's Bible Study	19 9:00 am Mom's Day Out & Preschool 9:30 am Bible Study 6:00 pm Prayer Vigil 6:30 pm—Bible Study	20 9:00 am Preschool 6:00 pm Youth 6:30 pm Classes & Kids Konnections	21 9:00 am Mom's Day Out & Preschool	22	23
24 Palm Sunday 9:45 & 11:00 Service—Cherub Choir will sing 4:00 pm Easter Eggstravaganza	25 6:30 pm—Men's Bible Study and Women's Bible Study	26 9:00 am Mom's Day Out & Preschool 9:30 am Bible Study 6:00 pm Prayer Vigil 6:30 pm—Bible Study	27 9:00 am Preschool 6:00 pm Youth 6:30 pm Classes & Kids Konnections	28 9:00 am Mom's Day Out & Preschool 11:-00 am—12:00 pm Maundy Thursday Communion 6:30 pm— Maundy Thursday Service	29	30
31 EASTER 7:00—Sunrise Service 3 regular Sunday morning services No Children or Youth activities						

Valentine's gift from Epworth Methodist Women Group to Ridgecrest Elementary School



Tuesday Morning Bible Study Group

