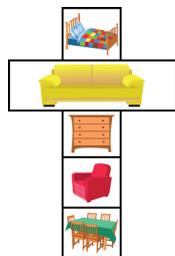


SERVE & CARE

FREE LOADERS NEEDED



The Furniture Ministry needs 6-8 additional volunteers to staff our Saturday and special pickup crews. The free loaders provide the critical first step in gathering donated furniture to be re-gifted to those in need. Please help us attract new free loaders by asking your friends, relatives, neighbors,

and co-workers to volunteer to pick up furniture.

The Free Loader qualifications are simple:

- A desire to help those who need,
- Available one Saturday per month (8a-12p),
- Capable of lifting furniture with the help of 2-3 other volunteers
- Age is not a limitation (we have many who are in their 70's)

The free loaders receive many benefits from knowing what they do is helping someone who is in need. In addition, the volunteers have a great deal of fun being God's helping hands. Sign up on the connection card or email Ed, ejb5538@gmail.com.

SUICIDE: WHAT DO I NEED TO KNOW?

Stephen Ministry is sponsoring a presentation from the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention on Tuesday, **April 16** at 6:30pm. Barbara Muir, a volunteer with AFSP and Epworth member will make the presentation. All are welcome to attend this session to learn more about suicide in America (10th leading cause of death in the US), the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline, the Crisis Text Line, and how everyday people like yourself can help prevent suicides.

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

The group meets each month in the Deep End from 6:30-8pm. A counselor and a pastor are on hand to help you navigate your feelings and take steps toward healing. Participants learn from each other as well. The next meeting is this Wednesday, **April 24**.

GOOD FRIDAY STATIONS OF THE CROSS

It's this Friday, **April 19!** If you have committed to providing artwork for a Station, please bring it to Pastor Beth's office by **Wednesday** and email a brief artist's statement as soon as possible. The artist's statement is a few sentences about how the scripture inspired your art. If you have questions, please contact Pastor Beth at beth@epworth.com.

VBC DECORATING WORKSHOPS

It's time to start making our decorations to transform our church into an African Safari for the best Bible Camp ever! If you can trace, cut cardboard, paint by number, or cut with scissors, we can use your help. Decorating workshops will be held on **April 24** from 6-8pm in room 207. May dates TBD. Call or email Tammy at VBS@epworth.com or 419.214.3779 if you are planning on helping so she can have plenty of supplies ready for you. Don't forget to wear your painting clothes! **This Year's Theme: Roar. VBC 2019: June 10-14 from 9am-12pm.**

SPRING CLEANUP

The annual spring cleanup is scheduled for **April 27** from 9am-12 noon with a rain date of May 4. Everyone is invited to pitch in to help beautify the Epworth grounds. Bring your gloves and extra rakes and shovels are appreciated.

TOUCH-A-TRUCK

May 11 from 10am-2pm. More details, soon!

Looking for a way to serve in an outreach project?

Possible jobs include: helping direct traffic and parking, serving lunch to the truck drivers, giving tours of the church facility, helping with set-up and tear down. Whether you can give an hour or two or stay for the whole event, we would love to have you be a part of the fun! Do you have a cool vehicle you would like to show off? Please contact Adam at adam.schoesler@bex.net or 419.351.0758.

MISSION
To embrace people exactly where they are and empower all to know, love, and serve God through Jesus Christ.



SUNDAY, APRIL 14, 2019
EPWORTH CHURCH
419.531.4236
epworth.com

HOLY WEEK & EASTER

ONE BODY, ONE SPIRIT: A SERVICE OF HEALING
TUES., APRIL 16
Service at 7pm

Upheaval and uncertainty facing the Church has left many suffering...some in silence. Come as you are and give your hurt, fears, and worries to Jesus. Let love win. Epworth's doors are open to all. Invite your friends and neighbors who seek healing and peace.

MAUNDY THURSDAY
THURS., APRIL 18
Service at 7pm

Join the Chancel Choir, orchestra and members of the drama team in the Sanctuary as they present this powerful offering from Mark Hayes, *The Power Of The Cross*.

We will journey with Christ through Holy Week, experiencing momentous events that changed history for all of humankind. All are welcome, invite a friend to join you!

GOOD FRIDAY
FRI., APRIL 19
Stations of the Cross
from 12 noon - 6pm

Walk, reflect, and pray. This is a self-directed worship experience, in our sanctuary. Each of the stations focuses on moments leading to Jesus' death on the cross. They're portrayed in artwork created by members and friends, and inspired by scripture. A guidebook will be available. The Stations of the Cross are open to the public. Invite a friend.

EASTER SUNDAY SERVICES APRIL 21: 8:30, 9:45 & 11am

Children are encouraged to worship with their family on Easter Sunday. There will even be a special Children's message in each worship service. Infant and Toddler care will be available throughout the morning in the children's wing. Between services, families are invited to participate in an Easter Egg scavenger hunt in the children's wing. The Easter Bunny will also be in the Children's Church throughout the morning for you and your family to take photos!

HOLY WEEK & EASTER SUNDAY INVITATIONS



All members and guests: please consider picking up 4 or 5 invitations as you exit the Sanctuary and invite some friends or family to join you here at Epworth!

A few years ago, LifeWay Research conducted a survey to determine which approach is best-received when a church wants to see new people walk into their building. The result was no huge surprise, a personal invitation is best. Americans say a personal invitation from the following people would be an effective way of getting them to visit a church:

- 67% from a family member
- 63% from a friend or neighbor

What does this tell us? Many of our un-churched friends ARE open to an invite, particularly from someone they know. A personal invitation is an effective way to break down any real or perceived barriers one might have to walking into a new church. You can also share a post to your social media from facebook, find us: @EpworthToledo.

GRACE BEFORE THE RACE

April 28 is the Glass City Marathon. In the past, worshippers have had some difficulty getting to the 8:30am service due to local road closure. So, on the weekend of April 27-28 we are changing up our worship service times (for this one weekend).

Saturday, April 27:

Worship held at 5pm

We will offer a blessing to anyone in our community running, volunteering or attending the Marathon. You are also welcome to support a friend or family member! Holy Communion will be shared, a children's moment will be included and the attire is casual. Please invite your friends and loved ones who are participating in the Sunday races, ALL are welcome.

Sunday, April 28

8:30am: NO service

9:45am: usual service

11am: usual service

CAMP SUNDAY

Today, the Widewater staff is here to lead a children's message at 9:45 & 11am and then a program in the children's church titled "The Good, The Bad and the Bugly". Everyone has gifts and a God given purpose - even using the tiniest of things for good.



Thanks to a gift from the legacy fund, Epworth kids are able to go at a reduced rate **June 5-7** at Camp Widewater during their Widewater Explorer Camp. Our kids 6-10 years old will experience archery, swimming, camp fires, mud pits, while exploring their faith and bonding with their friends. Stop at the camp signup table, or email Mary@epworth.com for more information.

THE EPWORTH TOWER THIS APRIL

Due to technological concerns when printing, this month *The April Tower* was sent in an email to the most recent email address we've been given for all members and guests. For those without an email, plenty of hard copies are available in the lobby at the welcome desk. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause and thank you for your understanding. Over the past few years, we have had many members request to stop receiving the printed *Tower* in order to be better stewards of our resources. Email Marla@epworth.com to be removed from the mailing list and added to our Thursday E-newsletter.

YOUTH SUNDAY/GRADUATION SUNDAY

On Sunday, **May 19** we will be celebrating both Youth Sunday, as our students lead all three of our worship services, and we will be recognizing our High School and College Graduates! For ALL those who are graduating, please turn in the following to Pastor Dave at dave@epworth.com by **April 28**:

- A picture of you
- High School/College you are graduating from
- College grads - your degree
- Future plans (more school, job, internship, etc.)

SUNDAY BIBLE STUDIES:

- **9:45am | Adult Bible Study | Rm 214**
Simon Peter by Adam Hamilton: he was not rich or educated, but was familiar with hard work, and left everything to follow his teacher, yet still struggled with doubt.
- **9:45am | Coffee & Conversation | Rm 213**
What Makes a Hero? By Matt Rawle: What does it look like to be victorious over trials and temptations? Jesus turned the concept of heroism on its head. Heroes help us discern the good, fight for what's right, define identity, execute justice, spark revolution, and save lives.
- **9:45am | Connection Point | Rm 205**
Post high school through mid-twenties: provide a faith based place to connect with peers and discuss issues relevant to this stage of life.
- **9:45am | Donuts & The Bible | 216/Deep End**
Come enjoy some donuts and time with others as we look deeper into what it means to follow Jesus. Junior High meet in the Upper Gym Classroom (216) and Senior High in the Deep End.
- **11am | Sermon Notes | Rm 214**
Discussion around individuals understanding of the scriptures' relevance to their journey.
- **6pm | The Mystical Holy Spirit | Lobby**
April 28-May 19: The Holy Spirit is not just mystical, uncontainable, and unpredictable, It is the essence of God. God's Spirit desires to live in each of us, and work through us. We study the Holy Spirit to come to a deeper sense of awe, respect, and even worship of the Holy Spirit.

WEEKDAY BIBLE STUDIES:

- **6:30pm | Men's Bible Study | Rm 214**
Shaken by Tim Tebow: we all experience ups and downs, but don't have to ride the roller coaster of life. Learn how to be grounded in who you are. Led by Paul Schroeder.

YOUTH (GRADES 6TH-12TH)

Sunday Night SWAT

Come hang out in the Deep End, play some games, eat some popcorn, worship with other teens, hear a message that is relevant and important for your life, and discuss the topic with others at your table. Don't forget to bring a friend! 6pm - Junior SWAT, 7:30pm - Senior SWAT.

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.

April 19: Good Friday Stations of the Cross from 12-6pm at Epworth, then dinner at 6pm, Texas Roadhouse (Secor Rd., Toledo).

FRIENDS IN FAITH BOOK CLUB

Everyone is welcome to join us for the Book Club. We meet the 4th Tuesday of every month at 7pm and serve up lively discussion and dessert with every meeting!

April 23: *A Higher Call* by Adam Makos. At June Galvin's house, 3641 Christie Blvd, Toledo. RSVP to jargalvin@yahoo.com.

MULTIFAITH WORSHIP SERVICE

Everyone is invited to Epworth on Monday, **April 29** at 6pm in the sanctuary. Many denominations and friends of the community will be in attendance. Their mission is to provide community leadership and facilitate programs that draw together diverse faiths and foster mutual respect, friendship, and cooperation in service to the region.

GOLF LEAGUE

The Epworth CO-ED Golf League is getting ready for play this summer at Spuyten Duyval on Thursdays beginning **May 9** for 16 weeks. To sign up, contact Adam at adam.schoesler@bex.net. Send your check made out to Epworth to Adam Schoesler 14531 Olde Trail Dr. Perrysburg, OH 43551. **Pay by April 30 to get a free cart for the 1st and 2nd weeks of play.**