

SEPTEMBER 2020

# THE EPWORTH TOWER

Drive  
This Way



**\*DRIVE-THRU\*  
TRUNK-OR-  
TREAT**

**TRUNK-OR-TREAT 2020**  
*Sunday, October 25 | 5-7pm*

4855 W. Central Ave Toledo, Ohio 43615 | 419.531.4236 | [epworth.com](http://epworth.com)

# September 2020

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## Saturday Worship

- **4:30PM 30-MINUTE WORSHIP SERVICE-**  
Hear an inspiring message of faith and hope at this 30 minute service. Perfect for those who are on-the-go who still want to get a lift of Faith each week.

## Sunday Worship

- **8:30AM WORSHIP W/ WEEKLY HOLY COMMUNION** - This classic service includes Holy Communion served every week.
- **9:45AM CLASSIC** - Steeped in the warm-hearted Methodist tradition featuring choral and organ music.
- **11:00AM MODERN** - Fast-paced and featuring our praise band.

## Online Worship

- **WEBSITE OR FACEBOOK** - Participate in our worship services every Sunday at 9:45am via facebook, facebook.com/EpworthToledo. Simply tune in and watch and worship with us. If you can't view live at 9:45am on facebook, the message remains accessible on our facebook page throughout the week, OR you can always access any of our streamed sermons 24/7 at Epworth.com/sermons. Tell family and friends and celebrate Sundays with your Epworth Family.

## Stay Connected

- **WEEKLY E-NEWSLETTER**  
*Sign up for the weekly e-newsletters!*  
Go to: epworth.com/email
- **OBITUARY NOTIFICATIONS**  
*Sign up to receive obituary notifications!*  
Go to: epworth.com/email
- **SOCIAL MEDIA**
  -  /EpworthToledo
  -  /EpworthChurchToledo
  -  /EpworthToledo

## October Tower Deadline:

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 25  
E-mail articles & pictures to  
communications@epworth.com

## Our Promise

Help for today,  
Hope for tomorrow,  
And a place to call Home.

## *Our Pastors:*

**DR. STEPHEN SWISHER**

*Senior Pastor*  
[steve@epworth.com](mailto:steve@epworth.com)

**REV. BETH IRWIN**

*Associate Pastor*  
[beth@epworth.com](mailto:beth@epworth.com)

**REV. DAVE PETTENGILL**

*Associate Pastor*  
[dave@epworth.com](mailto:dave@epworth.com)

**REV. JENNIFER BAILEY**

*Associate Pastor*  
[jennifer@epworth.com](mailto:jennifer@epworth.com)

## THANKS!

Epworth members have again shown their overwhelming generosity by overflowing the collection cart and bins to benefit Nightingales Harvest, St. Paul's Community Center and Grace School Supply Pantry! The bins will be up in the lobby for the last time on Sunday, August 30, and monetary donations are always greatly appreciated. These organizations are extremely grateful for the outpouring and support given by Epworth's members. Thank you! Thank you!

*-Community Outreach Team*

I would like to thank all the wonderful musicians that have used their gifts to bless us since we resumed worship back in May. Kevin Foster, Emma Foster, Connie Alleshouse, Gloria Heacock, Christy McConnell, Alan Baker, Diane Baughman, John Farley, Brad Pfeifer, Liz Lehto, Jeff Boze, Darlene Boze, Sheri Lepard, Brian Lochbihler, Lynne Hayes, Ray Mullins, Isabella Olzak, Sydney Price, Alice Neff Petersen, Barbara Craig, Paul Wannemacher.

In response to the extraordinary times we live in and to be safe and well our music program will continue to bring you beautiful, worship filled music through small groups, soloists, and instrumentalists throughout the fall. If you would like to add your voice or instrument to this, please contact me at the church office.

When it is safe to sing in larger groups our choirs will return in full force. If you would like to become apart of one of our choirs when that happens please contact me so we can talk about that.

Stay safe and well and may God bless you.

*-Cecil Baughman, Director of Music 419 531 4236*

## GENTLE REMINDER

Our community continues the journey through the rise and fall of coronavirus cases in Lucas County. During this time, remember one of the best ways we can love one another and our neighbors is to exercise social distance in worship, wash our hands and use hand sanitizer, and wear a mask or face covering in public.

If you do not feel well or believe you have been near someone who has tested positive for coronavirus, exercise an abundance of love and caution, and stay home. We invite you to worship online Sundays at 9:45am via Facebook at [facebook.com/EpworthToledo](https://facebook.com/EpworthToledo) or 24/7 at [Epworth.com/sermons](https://Epworth.com/sermons).

Please use your best judgment on whether or not to attend our gatherings. If you feel you should stay home, please don't feel guilty, and know that you are loved. We will continue to offer online worship. Our staff and leaders worked diligently to plan for a safe, pleasant, and meaningful return experience for all of our members, guests and staff. Please visit [epworth.com/covid19](https://epworth.com/covid19) to find our worship safety policies and procedures.

## OFFICE HOURS

Our summer office hours are: 9am-3pm, Monday – Friday. We will resume our 9am-5pm hours the Monday after Labor Day, **September 14**. Please practice social distancing to ensure the safety of staff and office guests; hand sanitizing wipes and masks are available as you enter the building.

## *Sympathies* ..... recent deaths

- **THE HOFER FAMILY** on the passing of Correne Hofer.
- **THE BOESEL FAMILY** on the passing of Larry Boesel.
- **THE TURPENING/PRICE FAMILY** on the passing of Marty Turpening, mother of Debbie Price.
- **THE HOHL FAMILY** on the passing of Jean Hohl.
- **THE SHORT FAMILY** on the passing of Susan Short.

*If you'd like a thank you printed in the next Tower, send your note in an e-mail to [communications@epworth.com](mailto:communications@epworth.com).*

## PASTORAL LETTER



Hello friends,

We have an exciting Fall planned at your Epworth United Methodist Church. This includes our brand new Discipleship night called Wednesday Oasis with a number of interesting classes offering opportunities to grow and deepen our faith. We also look forward to our Trunk or Treat event and so many other ministry options that offer hope, faith, fun and fellowship to our Church and larger Community. I am also happy to say that due to a very generous gift we are expanding our presence by soon LIVE streaming our Worship services as well as broadcasting certain services on television. We will get more specific details to you as they become available but I do want to celebrate with you the wonderful goodness of God and the great generosity of our people. Together we are making a significant difference for the Lord throughout our region and beyond. I know we never take this responsibility lightly as together we carry the mantle for positive Faith in offering Help for today, Hope for tomorrow and a Place to call Home.

As we approach daily living it is important to remember this statement from the Bible found in Acts 17:28; "In Him we live (that is have vitality), and move (have dynamic energy), and have our being (attain completeness)." All through the pages of the Bible we read about vitality and spiritual force. The overall theme of the Bible is the Resurrection life that is available to all who believe. Jesus stated it this way, "I have come that they might have life and that they might have it more abundantly" (John 10:10). This doesn't completely rule out the challenges and difficulties of life but the clear implication is that if a person practices the creative and re-creative principles of Christianity they can bounce back from anything and employ the gifts God has for them to make a real difference in the world.

Most of you know I had the rare opportunity of studying with and later working alongside of Dr. Robert H. Schuller at his Crystal Cathedral in Garden Grove, California. One of my favorite memories is preaching from that pulpit on more than one occasion. He came up with a fantastic formula for success in any area of life. Here is the 3 step process:

1. **Prayerize**...by prayerize he meant living a daily system of creative prayer. When a problem arose he talked it over with God very simply and directly in prayer. At Board meetings he would always leave a chair open as an invitation for God to join in the meeting. He took seriously the Biblical injunction to "pray without ceasing." He did not often kneel in prayer but would for example, say to God as a close associate, "What will I do about this, Lord?" or "Give me a fresh insight to this, Lord." He prayerized his mind and so prayerized his activities.
2. **Picturize**...The second point focuses on keeping firmly in your mind the result you hope to have or accomplish. The basic factor of psychology is the realizable wish. This is no different in the realm of faith. When either failure or success is picturized it strongly tends to materialize around us in a self-fulfilling prophecy. I often heard Dr. Schuller say, "The appearance of Success is just as important as Success itself." Of course one very readily follows the other.
3. **Actualize**....To assure something worthwhile happens in your life, first pray about it, then post a picture of the result you hope for in your mind, then do your part. In other words, work hard and intelligently, practice believing and never give up on God's dream in your heart. Do this and you will be astonished at how this dream actualizes and comes true in your daily experience of living.

In the meantime make it a point to be in Worship with us each weekend on Saturdays @ 4:30pm, Sundays @ 8:30, 9:45 and 11:00 or through our broadcasts. Our messages are also available at your convenience 24/7 at [epworth.com/sermons](http://epworth.com/sermons). May God bless you with a Super September full of joy and blessings!

Your friend partner in ministry,

Dr. Stephen Lowell Swisher,  
*Senior Pastor*

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## #WEAREEPWORTH

Help us celebrate our Epworth family! We encourage you to use the hashtag #WeAreEpworth as you post on your social media accounts. After a while, if someone searches for #WeAreEpworth, they will be able to see the love and community we have with each other. Also, look for the new #WeAreEpworth feature where testimonies of various Epworth members are being shared. Are you interested in providing a testimonial? Contact Tami Norris, at [personal info has been removed] or visit [weareepworth.com](http://weareepworth.com) to submit your story online.



***"The care given to our family ... showed us that "care for others" was one of the core foundational principles of Epworth."***

-Wes & Ruth Ann's Story

Epworth has meant many different things to us throughout the years. In the beginning we visited several different churches looking for a place with meaningful worship. We both had a rich history of growing up in the church. We realized that we wanted and needed more than just attending Sunday worship and leaving. Soon after we began attending Epworth, we noticed an offering of a Disciple Bible Study so we decided to join mainly to meet people. Not only did we meet new friends but the study enriched our lives greatly through daily Bible study, weekly discussions and praying for each other. About six months after joining, we found ourselves needing our new family even

more. At the age of 48, Wes suffered a trauma induced stroke while playing basketball in the Epworth Family Life Center (aka gym). Our new church family covered us in prayer, took care of our family needs while we took care of Wes, and the Pastoral staff kept in constant contact with us. God and his prevenient grace knew we were going to need a church family before we knew it and God provided. The care given to our family during this time also showed us that "care for others" was one of the core foundational principles of Epworth.

Through the years we have participated in many areas of the church a few of them being; helping at Vacation Bible School, with local missions, with church dinners, at the church bazaar, teaching Sunday school classes, going on Mission trips, working to make the Epworth grounds beautiful. We've learned through the years that participating in the life of the church not only helps us to meet all ages of our Epworth church family but it moves us closer to Christ through His children. We love our Epworth family and can't imagine being anywhere else!

## STEPHEN MINISTRY

*Sometimes It's Hard to Ask for Help*



We're brought up to be strong, self-sufficient, independent people. We tend to think that if we ask for help, it is a sign of weakness. So we try to keep our struggles hidden, stuffed deep inside. However, that's not God's plan. Galatians 6:2 says, "Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ." God wants us to care for others—and allow others to care for us in our time of need. If you're sad or struggling inside, don't suffer alone. Ask for help. We've got a team of Stephen Ministers who are ready to listen, care, encourage, pray, and help you through a tough time. (It's confidential too!) To find out more about Stephen Ministry for you or someone you know, talk with a Stephen Ministry Leader (Bobbi Sanders or Paul Schroeder), a pastor, or contact us at [stephenministry@epworth.com](mailto:stephenministry@epworth.com). Our Stephen Ministers are there to care!

## SERVICE OF HEALING & WHOLENESS



Epworth's monthly service of healing and wholeness resumes on a new night beginning this month. The service will now take place on the third Monday of each month at 7pm in the Chapel.

If you are looking for a quiet, reflective service to bring peace and stillness in times of turmoil, please join us beginning **September 21** for prayer, scripture, and music.

Because many of our healing service attendees have compromised immune systems, masks will be mandatory at this service. Appropriate socially-distanced seating will be arranged in the chapel. If you have any questions, or would like to join the team, please contact Rev. Irwin at [beth@epworth.com](mailto:beth@epworth.com).

## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION NIGHT

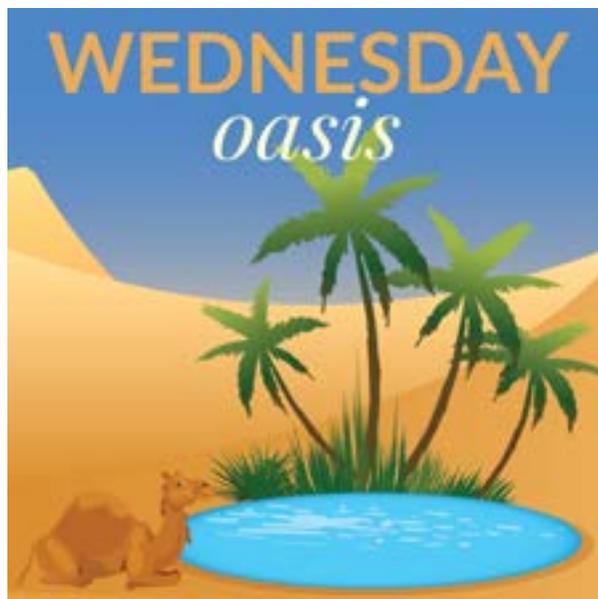
Come and be renewed at Wednesday Oasis, a new, weekly Christian education night at Epworth beginning **September 9** at 6:30pm. A variety of classes will be offered on Wednesday nights throughout the year. Explore the Bible, anchor in your faith, engage with others, and take a break from your weekly routine.

- Class sizes are limited to 12
- Masks are required in accordance with current mandates
- Socially-distanced childcare will be available with advance notice; please let us know one week before you plan to attend. Childcare reservations can be made by emailing [childcare@epworth.com](mailto:childcare@epworth.com) with the number of kids and their ages.
- RSVP to Cindy Franklin at [cindy@epworth.com](mailto:cindy@epworth.com).

### ***The Origin of the Bible***

**Led by Dr. Stephen Lowell Swisher**

Ever wondered where the Bible came from, or why certain books were included and others were not? Or maybe you are simply interested in learning more about what would come to be widely considered the most influential book in history. Join us each Wednesday evening as we embark on this adventure of faith and discovery. *Class duration: 4 weeks.*



### ***The Walk: Five Essential Practices of Christian Life, by Adam Hamilton***

**Led by Rev. Beth Irwin**

In *The Walk*, Adam Hamilton focuses on five essential spiritual practices that are rooted in Jesus' own walk with God and taught throughout the New Testament. Each of these practices is intended as part of our daily walk with Christ while also being an essential part of growing together in the church. Deepen your walk with Christ as we explore the five essential practices of worship, study, serving, giving, and bearing witness to our faith. If you need a copy of the book, please let us know at your RSVP. *Class duration: 6 weeks.*

### ***Acts: Catching Up with the Spirit, by Matthew L. Skinner***

**Led by Rev. Jennifer Bailey**

In the Bible, the Book of Acts illustrates God's grace at work in the world through the lives of the Apostles. In this study, the author explores six key themes that illustrate the ways in which reading Acts is capable of igniting our imagination about the character of the Christian message, the work of God's people (the church), and the challenges of living faithfully in a complex and changing world. *Class duration: 6 weeks.*

\*also offered via Zoom on Thursday evenings at 7pm; please select Wednesday or Thursday option when registering

### ***SWAT Wednesday Night Crews***

**Led by Rev. Dave Pettengill and SWAT Adult Leaders**

What are Crews? These are small groups that will help teens work together as they dive deeper into their faith journey. These groups will seek to help teens take that next step in their faith.

For Wednesday Night Crews our Senior High will meet on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays (September 9 and 23) and the Junior High will meet on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays (September 16 only).

You will notice we are hosting Senior High and Junior High on different nights. In light of the Coronavirus, this will enable us to monitor how many teens we are hosting each evening, allow for adequate cleanup, respect families time so it does not require families to make multiple trips if they have both junior and senior high students, and it will enable us to end sooner in the evening. *Class duration: ongoing*

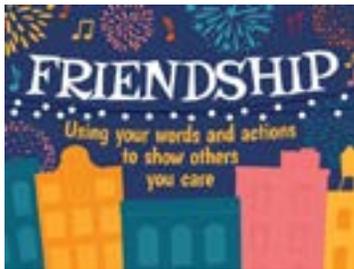
### ***Financial Peace University***

**Led by Brad Pfeifer**

Dave Ramsey began Financial Peace University (FPU) in the 1990s following his own struggles with debt. Today, millions of people have dumped debt, taken control of their finances, and learned new ways of thinking about money with his system. Epworth member Brad Pfeifer is a Ramsey Solutions Master Financial Coach and considers helping others find peace with finances to be a ministry. The newest version of FPU includes viewing curriculum online from home before coming together as a class to work through what you have learned. FPU class kits are \$50; one per household. *Class duration: 9 weeks.*

**EPWORTH KIDS: SEPTEMBER**

**Elementary:**



We kick off a new program year through our weekly virtual Large Group Sundays at 10am at facebook.com/Epworth-kids and digital devotional materials at epworth.com/kidsathome. Epworth’s Elementary kids will explore the connection between friendship and God’s character, as shown through God’s Big Story.

We describe the life app Friendship this way — Using your words and actions to show others you care. We will look at how wise choices, showing love, being encouraging, and choosing to forgive are all part of being a good friend.

To help learn about friendship, the kids will work to memorize this month’s memory verse: A friend loves at all times. They are there to help when trouble comes. Proverbs 17:17 (NirV) Our prayer is that your kids will learn that choosing the right friends and being a good friend is a way to reflect God’s love in the world around them.

**Preschool & Toddler:**



We kick off a new program year through our weekly virtual Large Group Sundays at 11am at facebook.com/Epworth-kids and digital devotional materials at epworth.com/kidsathome. Epworth’s Preschool and Toddler kids will explore the Biblical truth: God has a plan for me.

Each week we will post interactive Bible stories, and follow-up activities to teach your child that even in our ever changing world, God loves us and has a plan for our lives! This hands-on, action packed virtual Bible story time will also help your early childhood kiddos memorize this month’s Bible Memory Verse: “For I know the plans I have for you says the Lord.” (Jeremiah 29:11 - NLT)

Our prayer is that your little one will begin to understand that God loves them, and He has a plan for them—a plan they can trust is always best, no matter what.

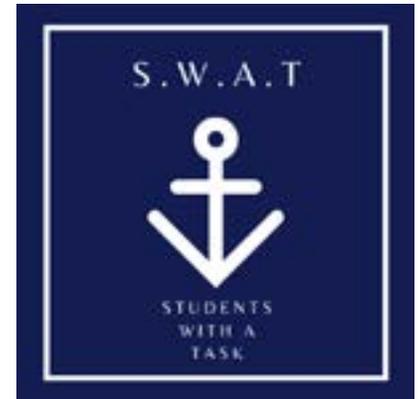
**S.W.A.T.**

**New 6th Graders**

**Welcome to SWAT:**

**Sunday, September 13  
4:30-5:30pm**

New 6th graders are invited to join Pastor Dave down in the Deep End to learn more about the youth ministry, ask any questions they may have, and have some fun hanging out together. This is an incoming 6th grade ONLY event. We are following safety precautions including mandatory masks and social distancing.



**Sunday Night Splash**

**5:30-7pm - Deep End**

**Sr. High-Sept 13t& 27& Jr. High-Sept 20**

These nights will include free time for open gym, pool, foosball, ping pong, and more! They will also include a time of worship, learning, and growing together as teens take a step into the waters of faith. These will be great nights to invite a friend!

**Wednesday Night Crews**

**6:30-7:30pm - Deep End**

**Sr. High-Sept 9 & 23 & Jr.High-Sept 16**

What are Crews? These are small groups (based on grade/gender) that will help teens work together as they dive deeper into their faith journey. These groups will seek to help teens take that next step in their faith.

**Friday Family Flix**

Our youth ministry is partnering with the children’s ministry and parent connections where we will be putting on several outdoor movie nights this fall! The first opportunity is on Friday, **September 18!** Join us around 8pm at Epworth and the movie will be starting around 8:30pm. We are planning on having the movie in the front parking lot off Central Ave. You can sit outside and listen to the movie through the large speakers, or if you prefer you may stay in your car and there will be a specific radio station you can tune to so you can listen.

**Sunday Morning Harbor:**

**September 20 @ 9:45am - Deep End**

**Grades 6-12**

Once a month we will be gathering our teens in grades 6-12 for a special time of worship. We would love to have you join us!

**Friendly Reminder:**

At a level 3 or 4 health advisory we will not be having any in-person events, but will be gathering solely online.

At a level 2 health advisory, we will resume in-person events but teens will be required to wear masks. When the weather cooperates we will be gathering outside for our programs to limit the spread of the Coronavirus.

## GROW: KIDS & YOUTH

### FRIDAY NIGHT FLIX - SAVE THE DATES

#### Drive-In Movie Nights at Epworth



Epworth is excited to offer drive-in movie nights right here on our beautiful campus. With so many family friendly activities being unavailable these days, we wanted to offer a

fun way for our families to enjoy a movie under the stars. Arrive at 8pm in the Central Ave. lot and the movie will begin around 8:30pm. More details will be included in future communications such as movie titles and safety protocols. However, we wanted to get you these dates so you can mark your calendars now and make plans to attend!

- Friday, **September 18**
- Friday, **October 2**
- Friday, **October 16**

### 6<sup>TH</sup> GRADE WELCOME/5<sup>TH</sup> GRADE FAREWELL

#### Sunday, September 13 - 4:30 pm

It is that time of year we begin to shift kids up to the next grade level small group! We know that this year a lot of things look and feel different when it comes to gathering at school and church. However, moving into Junior High youth group is a BIG DEAL and something that certainly should be CELEBRATED! With that in mind, we wanted to ensure that we find a way to safely celebrate this milestone in the life of your child! We're doing our best to come up with a fun and safe way to recognize all that your kids have accomplished through the end of 5th grade as well as welcome them into Junior High Ministry.

- Students and parents will have the opportunity to attend in person or online
- This is an incoming 6th grade ONLY event...meaning we are asking those who come in person not to bring siblings or extended family members to help us with social distancing
- This will be a fun time of recognition, an intro to junior high ministry, and a time for Q&A
- For those attending the in person event: We are following safety precautions including mandatory masks and social distancing.

### TRUNK-OR-TREAT 2020

Will go from 5-7pm and is FREE to the entire community! Be sure to wear your costumes and be ready to Trunk-or-Treat for candy. Bring your friends!



#### Covid Precautions:

This year we have re-imagined Trunk-or-Treat to take into consideration additional safety precautions due to Covid-19. The biggest difference you will notice this year is that all Trick or Treaters are going to remain in their vehicle and DRIVE THROUGH the Epworth Trunk Displays instead of getting out, lining up, and walking from trunk to trunk. Additionally, there will be safety requirements including masks, social distancing, etc. for those attending as well as Epworth volunteers.

#### Decorate a Trunk:

Sign up by emailing [trunkortreat@epworth.com](mailto:trunkortreat@epworth.com) to let us know! We need dozens of trunks to make this event a success. Last year we had over 2500 visitors from our neighboring communities join us for this safe trick-or-treating alternative. With the potential of limited trick-or-treating opportunities this year, we could experience record numbers of participants.

#### Donate Candy:

If you can't attend the event but would still like to lend your support consider donating a few bags of candy. Candy donations of store bought, individually wrapped pieces of candy may be dropped off in the church office during regular business hours beginning October 1.

#### Epworth Ambassadors:

We will need help directing our community through this year's drive-through style event. Ambassadors would be working outside, with masks on, and will help direct vehicle traffic. This will ensure an enjoyable experience for all who attend.

#### Teal Pumpkin Project:

We will once again have trunks with non-food "treats" to include children with dietary and medical restrictions.

### EPWORTH PRESCHOOL & CHILDREN'S DAY OUT

There are so many reasons why we love Epworth Preschool! Our youngest daughter attended CDO here and both of our younger daughters attended ECEC. They have both adored their teachers and as parents we have witnessed their wonderful preparation for kindergarten. In addition to the school-readiness skills of writing letters and developing fine-motor skills, the preschool also instilled such lovely values including listening, sharing, and being thankful. We are truly grateful for our Epworth Preschool experience!

*Sarah Francis and Peter Mezo*

## HOSPITAL DISCHARGE LEVELS OF CARE

As a physical therapist working in an acute care hospital, part of my job is assisting with discharge recommendations. There is often confusion regarding the different levels of rehabilitation care that are available. Rehabilitation disciplines include Physical (PT), Occupational (OT) and Speech Therapy (ST).

Outpatient Therapy occurs in outpatient clinics. Outpatient clinics require a patient to be able to leave the home safely. Frequency and duration of visits are determined by the evaluating therapist but are typically 1-3 times per week for several weeks. One of the benefits of outpatient therapy is the availability of specialized equipment and space utilized by the therapist.

Home Therapy is provided in the individual's home. The patient is required to be "home bound", meaning that they cannot leave the home safely or without excessive burden on a regular basis. Typically, each necessary rehab discipline is able to provide therapy visits 2-3 times per week. Nursing services, wound care management and home health aides may also be provided.

Assisted Living is designed for people who need long term help with daily activities such as personal care, mobility, medication management, meal preparation and household chores. It is not appropriate for people who need daily nursing services.

Skilled Nursing Facilities (SNF) provide 24 hour nursing care. Therapy services are typically provided one or two hours per day. Length of stay varies from less than a week up to 3 months. Patients who qualify for a SNF are often unsafe to stay in their home or require a higher level of rehabilitation care than can be provided in the home. As such, the level of assistance that is able to be provided by caretakers and the home's physical environment both play a large role in determining a safe discharge recommendation.

Inpatient Rehabilitation is a higher level of rehabilitative care with 24 hour nursing also provided. Patients must qualify for at least two therapy disciplines and be able to tolerate a minimum of three hours of skilled therapy per day/ five days per week. Typical diagnoses that are treated at Inpatient Rehab include stroke, amputee, head injury and spinal cord injury. Other medical conditions are also accepted as long as the patient is able to tolerate the more intensive therapy sessions. Length of stay is usually less than 4 weeks.

Long Term Care is designated for people who have a chronic illness or disability and need both medical and non-medical care indefinitely.

One last level of care to be considered is an LTAC or Long Term Acute Care facility. These facilities provide a higher level of medical care than a SNF is able to provide. Skilled therapy services are not a requirement but are often provided.

*-Respectfully submitted by Diane Baughman, PT*

## WEDNESDAY OASIS LEADERS/TEACHERS

Wednesday Oasis is an opportunity to refresh your spirit and renew your connection to God and others each and every Wednesday. Course offerings will change regularly to offer variety.

We are currently looking for individuals who would be interested in leading/teaching a class! If you have something in mind, we would love to hear your ideas, otherwise we can help guide you to find a course that fits your leading style.

This could be an ongoing service opportunity, or a short-term commitment, whatever fits your schedule and abilities. Please contact Rev. Irwin at [beth@epworth.com](mailto:beth@epworth.com) to express your interest or learn more about what leading a class will look like. Thank you!



## JOIN THE PRAISE BAND OR A/V TEAM

Are you looking for a new way to get involved in worship? The Praise Band is looking for volunteers to help with music, vocals, and A/V for the 11am, Modern Service. It takes a village to put the service together and we would love to have some more people join in the fun. Maybe you used to sing or play an instrument, and you've been looking for a way to get back to it – this is your chance!

We could also use help with the A/V part of the service. This is a part-time commitment, so sing/play/help only when you have time.

Rehearsal is Wednesday night for the upcoming Sunday. If you are interested, please contact Cindy at [cindy@epworth.com](mailto:cindy@epworth.com) or 419.214.3777. A simple audition is requested.

**NEW DRAMA MINISTRY TEAM**



Calling all theatrically inclined Epworthians! Pastor Steve is supporting bringing the Drama Ministry back to Epworth. This group would work to occasionally provide short skits during worship. So, if you are a high school youth, college student, or adult who has a talent or passion for theatre we would love for you to join this ministry team! Email Mary at [mary@epworth.com](mailto:mary@epworth.com) for more information.

**CALLING ALL EDUCATORS AND MENTORS**

As you know parents and students are working on plans as Schools reopen virtually and in person. We would like to help connect our families to resources within our Church.



If you are a retired educator or trained tutor and have a heart for kids and feel like your skill set may be helpful to our Epworth families, please message us at [info@epworth.com](mailto:info@epworth.com) or call our office at 419.531.4236. Our Church is comprised of many School Districts and we look forward to being of help as we navigate the upcoming School year, together.

**FEED YOUR NEIGHBOR**

Our needs for Feed Your Neighbor the months of September are the following:

- Canned fruit cocktail
- peas
- carrots
- green beans
- corn
- vegetable and chicken noodle soup
- diced tomatoes
- spaghetti
- ravioli
- peanut butter
- cereal
- raisins
- toilet paper
- bar soap

If you have any questions contact Carol Bardi at [cpb5538@gmail.com](mailto:cpb5538@gmail.com).

**LOOK UP!**  
 Watch the TV screens in the lobby areas for upcoming events and opportunities at Epworth in the coming few weeks!

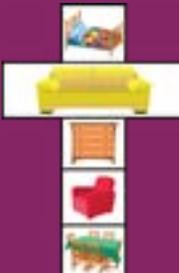
**ARTS & CRAFTS VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

Plans to safely host our annual Bazaar on Saturday, **November 7** continue to progress. Leaders responsible for our pantry, silent auction, coffee bar, etc. have agreed to participate. A large number of volunteers are needed in a variety of positions—about 80 helpers for Friday afternoon and Saturday. We are hoping to welcome back many of our past volunteers, but realize we will need additional individuals to commit to 2-3 hours to provide the necessary support.



Solicitation for volunteers will begin in September and we are looking for volunteers of all ages. Obtaining the required number of volunteers by October 1 is necessary for us to move forward with this year's event. When you see the sign-up opportunities, we hope that you will commit to provide a helping hand. Or call Polly Richardson to sign up and help, [personal info has been removed]. As in the past, 100% of Bazaar proceeds go to support local missions.

**FURNITURE MINISTRY**



*Due to restrictions caused by COVID, we are accepting fewer items. The most needed this month are:*

**towels and flatware**

STATISTICS	AUGUST:	2020:
Families:	16	80
Adults:	22	102
Children:	10	15
Furniture:	162	882

*Saturday, August 29 was the first ever second Selection Saturday in one month! Invitations had been sent to two of the agencies we partner with, which have waiting lists into December! Depending on furniture inventory, we are back to one Selection Saturday per month.*

*One furniture recipient said on her way out, "I love you all! God is Good! I got me a home now!!"*

## VIRTUAL MISSION TRIP



Good Works, Inc. (1981) a community of hope in southern Ohio continues its day to day mission through this time of uncertainty. Good Works brings hope to people struggling with poverty, exclusion and homelessness in rural Ohio. Their many programs go on.

We at Epworth spotlight this mission in September. Our planning team will show and tell all about the mission on **September 13**. We will then ask you for donations to continue their important work. Our trip may be cancelled for this year, but we can take part in this important work with your financial help. Alums of our ten years of trips please wear your tshirts to church on September 13.

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## HELP US CLEAR OUT!

Epworth is offering a variety of classroom and storage items to congregation members and the district. These items include adjustable “artist” stools, a variety of classroom chairs and tables, assorted shelving and cubbies, “welcome” center, large desk, bench, large area rugs, large black metal cabinets, rolling cabinets, assorted mirrors, bulletin boards and more! In an effort to clear out a room for additional meeting/classroom space we are offering these items for free throughout the month of September. Pictures and a description of the items can be found online soon or contact Jennie@epworth.com.

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## DONATE TO EPWORTH EVERY TIME YOU SHOP ON AMAZON!

Now, you can support Epworth every single time you purchase something on Amazon! When you sign up for AmazonSmile and select Epworth as your charitable organization, Amazon donates 0.5% of the purchase price to Epworth. AmazonSmile is exactly the same as regular Amazon, it has the same products, prices & services, only now you’re supporting Epworth at the same time! To sign up, go to: [smile.amazon.com/ch/34-4428652](https://smile.amazon.com/ch/34-4428652) and select Epworth as your charitable organization, then start shopping! If you have any questions, or would like a direct link, contact Laura in the church office at [laura@epworth.com](mailto:laura@epworth.com).

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## SUPPORT THE FLOWER FUND

Contributing flowers for the Sunday altar is a special way to support Epworth and honor loved ones, past or present. Flowers enhance our experience of weekly worship while providing a beautiful tribute to the special people and events in our lives. We have some available dates for Altar Flower donations. If you would like to honor a loved one, or celebrate a special occasion, by donating a flowers for a Sunday worship, please contact Cindy in the office at 419.214.3777 or [cindy@epworth.com](mailto:cindy@epworth.com) to find out what dates are available. Your support is much appreciated!

## ST. PAUL'S UMC SACK LUNCH PROJECT (SERVING 4:19)

With current shelter restrictions due to COVID-19, there is a community of homeless families and individuals that are without shelter and food. St. Paul's United Methodist Church in partnership with the Maumee Watershed District and other area Methodist churches, including Epworth, is working to fill this gap each and every day by offering a well-balanced sack lunch.



Epworth is committed to providing at least 5 volunteers each Wednesday, to prepare and pack lunches and then distribute in St. Paul's UMC parking lot, making them available for this community to pick-up. Along with volunteers needed each Wednesday morning, monetary and bottled water donations are also being requested to help continue serve this community.

All precautions are being taken to keep volunteers and those being served safe and well. Please contact Jennie Vancil, [jennie@epworth.com](mailto:jennie@epworth.com), if you are able to volunteer on any **Wednesday**, 9am-12pm to pack lunches, set out, and clean up. Monetary donations should state “Market Place” or “St. Paul's UMC” in the memo and bottled water donations may be dropped off at Epworth during normal business hours. **MANY THANKS** to those that have volunteered and contributed to this impactful ministry!

stay connected to  
epworth umc:



@epworthtoledo  
epworth.com



4855 W. Central Avenue  
Toledo, Ohio 43615-2337

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*"The care given to our family ... showed us  
that "care for others" was  
one of the core  
foundational principles  
of Epworth."*

-Wes & Ruth Ann's Story

Read their story  
online at  
[wearepworth.com](http://wearepworth.com)

*#wearepworth*

