



919/489-6557

www.epworth-umc.org

June 2, 2016



HAVE YOU SIGNED UP FOR SUMMER PRAYER TRIPLETS?

The visioning group is seeking information from the congregation of Epworth to help formulate our future direction. What do we envision? More importantly, what does God envision for Epworth?

To discern God's will, we need to be in a state of prayer. The visioning committee is establishing "Prayer Triplets". In groups of three, our congregants will be asked to pray for God's direction and word. In Matthew 18:20, Jesus said, "For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them."

The "Prayer Triplets" will meet at a time and place of their choosing (home, church, retirement community, favorite coffee shop or restaurant) once a week for six weeks during an eight week period of time (June 12--August 6). The prayer session will include scripture review, discussion of where God is leading and speaking, and a time of prayer over a specific topic provided by the visioning group.

The "Prayer Triplets" are a discernment process to build relationships with one another, to discern God's vision for the church, to answer opportunities, and to prepare and develop our future story.

We hope everyone will help with this process. An insert will be in Sunday's bulletin for you to indicate your desire and willingness to participate. Just add your name, check the box I want to be in a "Prayer Triplet", and place in the offering plate.

An orientation session and establishment of the "Prayer Triplets" will be Sunday, June 12 at 12:30 PM in the Fellowship Hall. A catered lunch for \$8.00 will be available. See you there.

May God's blessing be upon us as we discern God's vision for us.

IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT THE PRAYER TRIPLETS, please ask a member of the Vision Team: Zoila Airall, Beth Armbruster, Craig Brown, Gee Castillo, Kathy Dutton, Thad Gurley, Brennan Mange, Bill Matteson, Jane Clark Moorman, Elizabeth Parry, Kenneth Roberts, Sue Stutz, Morgan West, Karen H. Whitaker.

SUNDAY, June 5, 2016

Worship and Communion at 8:45 and 11:00

Youth/Senior Sunday

Youth Speakers: Peter Walker, Jerush Christopher, Justin Whitaker, Erin Engel

Scripture: Psalm 119: 105, Matthew 5: 16, John 8: 12, 1 John 1: 7, Romans 13:12

Songs (8:45) "Our God" "Here I Am, Lord" "Ancient Words" "Greater" "Pass It On"

Hymns (11:00) "Lord of the Dance" "Here I Am, Lord" "Pass It On"

Ushers Morgan West, Ethan Benware, Ryan Vandevander, Ben Engel

Altar Guild Pat McIndoo, Nalda Brown

Altar Flowers are given to the glory of God and in memory of Barbara Mowry from Fred and Nell Mowry.

Nursery Marcey Harp, Theresa Shebalin, Jennifer Browning

Counter Kenneth Roberts

Bus Driver Todd Benware **Greeters** Gail and Jeff Rankin

CELEBRATION OF SERVICE

Reverend Laura Wittman will be moving this summer to become pastor of St. Paul UMC in Rocky Mount. In celebration of all the many ways Laura has served, expanded, and enriched the ministries of Epworth, we will have a potluck lunch in the fellowship hall following the 11:00 service on June 26. (There will be one combined service at 11:00 o'clock). Mark your calendars now! See you there. Staff Pastor/Parish Relations Committee

2016 OFFERING OF LETTERS

Thanks to the 32 members of the Epworth congregation who wrote 99 letters for our 2016 Offering of Letters, May 1-8, as a Covenant Church with Bread for the World. These letters urge our U. S Representatives and Senators to increase funding for nutrition programs helping expectant mothers and their young children. They provide the grass-roots support needed by Bread for the World staff members advocating for such an increase.

Please be mindful that all members of the Epworth congregation are invited to participate in monthly letter-writing about U. S. legislative issues related to domestic and world hunger at an ecumenical meeting each second Thursday evening, 6:30-7:30 p.m. at Epworth. Lloyd Schmeidler of Immaculata Roman Catholic Church leads this group in one of our Sunday School classrooms. Join this group whenever you can.

Norma Mitchell and Elaine Herndon

LC'S LUNCH Everyone is invited to join us for lunch at Bennett Pointe Grill, 11:30 on Monday, June 20. Hope to see you there.

MEMORIAL To the Music Fund in memory of Alice Rankin from Alan and Nancy Payne.

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**EPWORTH UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, 3002 Hope Valley Rd.,
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Dr. Fred Ibberson, Organist fred.ibberson@gmail.com

Gail Heath, Preschool Director 919-489-6098 director@epworth-preschool.org

Marcey Harp, Nursery Director nursery@epworth-umc.org

Marlin Lennon, Sexton

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL During the month of August we will have Vacation Bible School on Sunday mornings during Sunday School as well as Sunday evenings as Sunday Night Live from 5-7pm. This year's theme is 'Surf Shack: Catch the Wave of God's Amazing Love'. On Sunday mornings, the children will have VBS music during their regular music time, and go off to class to hear the Bible story. Then on Sunday evenings, we will begin with a meal and break into groups for our VBS activities. Our children will hear the Bible story again, and will have music, crafts, and recreation as well. Mark your calendars, plan to be here for Sundays in August, and sign up now!

There is no requirement for our children in the church or in the community to attend both morning and evening although it certainly enhances the experience.

Registration for volunteers AND participants is available online at <http://2016.cokesburyvbs.com/epworthdurham>

EPWORTH PRESCHOOL has openings for 3 and 4 year olds in the fall.

Please call the Preschool Director at 919-489-6098 for more information.

The Epworth Endowments have two funds to aid the Pastor's Discretionary fund. At the end of the first quarter of 2016, the Fairey Pastor's Discretionary fund was valued at \$44,993.91 and the David Crichton Memorial Fund was valued at \$35,035.23. These funds were established to honor Franklin Fairey and David Crichton and to help subsidize the Pastor's Discretionary fund. In 2015, the Fairey fund distributed \$645.74 to the Discretionary Fund and The Crichton Fund distributed \$2,047.33. We thank the congregation for its continued support. The Endowment Committee.

Epworth United Methodist Church declares itself a Reconciling Congregation, seeking to welcome all persons, regardless of age, race, ethnicities, disabilities, gender or sexual orientation, into the discipleship of Christian living and proclaim our commitment to seek the reconciliation of all persons to God and to each other through Jesus Christ.



YOUTH NEWS & NOTES



Bible Verses of the week: Psalms 119:105; Matthew 5:16; John 8:12; 1 John 1:7; Romans 13:12

Our big week is here!! This Sunday, June 5th is Youth-Senior Sunday. A BIG SHINY day, as we will lead worship at the 8:45 and 11:00 services. We will shine His Light...and share His Love!! What a glorious day to be had by everyone!! I know the congregation is excited to hear from our youth on the many places they see God in their lives and in our world.

Saturday, June 4th: Rehearse for Youth-Senior Sunday. All youth should plan to attend the rehearsal from 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

U.M.Y.F.: The annual Year End Celebration begins at 5:30. Weather permitting we will gather in God's Pavilion---otherwise known as the picnic shelter! The main dish and dessert will be provided and everyone is asked to bring a side dish or two to share.

SUNDAY SCHOOL: We will have a break between services and food will be provided!! If anyone would like to volunteer to bring a breakfast food item, please let Joyce know.

Acolyte/Crucifer/Reader Schedule for this week:

<u>Acolyte:</u>	<u>Crucifer:</u>	<u>Reader:</u>
Ben Engel	Peter Walker	Elise Benware

Acolyte/Crucifer/Youth Reader schedule: as we wind down the year, we are almost to the end of the schedule for this quarter. Please begin checking your calendars for the next few months so we can complete the next quarter sign-up, which will be sent out after the retreat, and hopefully will be electronic!! In the meantime, I will put a hard copy on the bulletin board outside my office. Thanks to those of you who have sent me your summer schedules so we will know when you are not available.



June 2016

<p>5 <u>YOUTH/SENIOR</u> <u>SUNDAY</u> 7:30 Praise Team 8:45 and 11:00 Worship 9:50 Sun. School &Children's Music 10:00Summer Choir 5:30 Youth Banquet</p>	<p>6 1:30 Sarah Cir 6:00 Line Dancing 7:30 Brass Ensemble</p>	<p>7 10:30 Staff Mtg 1:30 Care Group 6:00 Yoga 7:00Visioning</p>	<p>8 4:00 Prayer Group 6:30 UMMen</p>	<p>9 5:00 Voices Together 6:30 Bread For the World 7:00 AA</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11</p>
<p>12 7:30 Praise Team 8:30, 9:00 and 11:00 Worship 9:50Sunday School/Children's Music 10:00 Summer Choir 12:15 Prayer Triplets Lunch 5:30 UMYF (Loving Hands Meal served)</p>	<p>13 1:00 Book Group 6:00 SPPRC 6:00 Line Dancing 7:30 Brass Ensemble <u>IHN HOST</u> <u>WEEK</u></p>	<p>14 10:30 Staff Mtg 1:30 Care Group 6:00 Yoga 7:00 Outreach</p>	<p>15 4:00 Prayer Group N.C. Annual Conferenc e</p>	<p>16 5:00 Voices Together 7:00 Eve Circle 7:00 AA</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18 9:30 Sewing Sisters</p>
<p>19 Father's Day 7:30 Praise Team 8:30, 9:00 and 11:00 Worship 9:50Sunday School/Children's Music 10:00 Summer Choir</p>	<p>20 11:30 LC's 1:30 Ruth Circle 7:00 Finance Circle</p>	<p>21 10:30 Staff Mtg 1:30 Care Group 6:00 Yoga</p>	<p>22 4:00 Prayer Group</p>	<p>23 5:00 Voices Together 7:00 AA</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p>

