



919/489-6557

www.epworth-umc.org

November 17, 2016

This Sunday, November 20, we are having two worship services (join us at 8:45am or 11:00am) where we will place our 2017 pledge cards on the altar. And what a celebration it will be! The Epworth music ministry will be helping us rejoice in this special occasion with music from the instrumental ensemble, praise team and children's choir at the 8:45am service and the chancel choir, instrumental ensemble, children's choir, and handbells at the 11:00am service. A sample pledge card will be attached in this week's Etchings for you to review in your inbox and then the actual pledge cards will be inserted in your bulletin on Sunday morning.

Rev. Bruce Stanley, CEO/President of the Methodist Home for Children, will be bringing us the message as our guest preacher. Before coming to MHC, Rev. Stanley was a pastor at six North Carolina churches, and served as Field Education Director for Duke Divinity School. Rev. Stanley is a native of West Virginia, and attended West Virginia University before graduating from Harvard with a Masters of Divinity. You won't want to miss his special message.

After the worship service, I encourage each of you to stay and serve. We will pack 500 backpacks (a new record!!) for the students of Hope Valley Elementary school. There will be another station where we pack health kits for hurricane Matthew victims. With a good turnout this should only take about 30 minutes of your time. Many hands make light work!

Please be in prayer for your 2017 pledge amount. Let me encourage you to consider increasing your gifts for 2017. The needs both within the walls and beyond the walls of Epworth are many. May we join God with God's transformation of the world.

Also: GOOD NEWS...THE CEILING IS ALMOST FIXED! We will return worship to the sanctuary on November 27. See you on Sunday!

Karen

Do I Give/Tithe to My Church or to God?

What goes through your thoughts when you place your offering in the collection plate each week? Do you think you're giving to your church or to God? I think since we write Epworth United Methodist Church on the check it becomes very easy to think we are giving to the church and in a sense we are, and that is not bad. I don't think it is unbiblical or wrong to think that way. I am writing a check to the church. I am giving a gift to the ministry of the church. I want the gospel to advance through the church. I want the staff to be paid in the church. I want the children to be cared for in the church. I want air-conditioning on a hot and humid Sunday in July in the church. So, yes it is to the church in that sense.

These gifts are also gifts to God in the very same act if your heart is right. One of the most important teachings in the Bible, I think, is that, in one sense, we can't give God anything. We can't give God anything that is not already his. And, therefore, our giving to him never enriches him. It never improves him. It never puts him in our debt. In fact, God is so completely self-sufficient that even our act of giving, not just the gift, but the act of giving, is God's gift to us. Jesus tells us to give. Giving is necessary to create in us the right attitude. Money and possessions should never be a primary focus, which they can be if you hold too fast to them. It is freeing to let go of the tight hold on money because you are putting your trust in God. It is scary to give sometimes when you don't know if you "have enough" for yourself and family. When those worries creep in I think of the scriptures in Luke 12:22-24 he said to the disciples, *"Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat, or about your body, what you will wear. For life is more than food, and the body is more than clothing. Consider the ravens, they neither sow nor reap, they have neither storehouse nor barn, and yet God feeds them. Of how much more value are you than the birds."* So, God will take care of you, you do not have to worry. **You see, stewardship is all about giving to God. It is all about faith!** Stewardship is about a prayerful and thoughtful attitude of sharing with others. It is about sharing time, talents and financial resources. It is about turning total control of our lives over to God. God has so richly blessed us, how could we not give in return? We have found that the more we give, the more God continues to bless us.

Epworth has been our church since moving to North Carolina in 1998. Epworth has gone through many changes since 1998, I'm glad we have been part of the evolution of Epworth as the church has grown and transformed so has our faith and conviction.

Brent Engel

Sunday, November 20, 2016

8:45 and 11:00 Worship

Sermon: “Turning the World Right Side Up” Rev. Bruce Stanley

Scripture: 2 Corinthians 9: 6-10, Acts 17: 1-15

Songs: 8:45 “Amazing Grace My Chains Are Gone” “The Well” “Here I Am”

Hymns: “Many Gifts, One Spirit” “Take My Life and Let It Be” “Here I Am, Lord”

Altar Guild Martha and J. Ray Kirby, Mary Gyurki-Kiss

Nursery Marcey Harp, Theresa Shebalin, Sarah Gurley, Lisa Byrd

Ushers Al West, Mike Mumford, Don Gamble Counters Marvin Carver, Bill Matteson,

Acolyte Henri Nadworny

Crucifer Erin Engel

Youth Reader Peter Walker

Sunday School Coordinators

Mike Shiflett, John Lott

Bus Driver Todd Benware

ALTAR FLOWERS are given to the glory of God and in celebration of the life of Nelson Fletcher by Joan Fletcher and their girls.

MEMORIAL GIFTS RECEIVED

In memory of Trish Robertson from Clay and Kay Swenson, Rick and Emily Dike, Scott and Jack Hughes, Elaine Herndon and Bob Hodgins. In memory of Lanny Lambert, Sr. from Harold V. Pickrel, III, Graybill, Lansche, and Vinzani, Johnie Joyce, Jr., Bill and Nancy Roberts, Rick and Emily Dike, Sam and Elaine Fowler, Clay and Kay Swenson, and Lanny Lambert, Jr. and Martha Baker and their families.

TICKET EXTRAVAGANZA

Our annual Outreach Auction has been delayed until February, 2017, because of the ceiling repair in the sanctuary. One big part of it is tickets to college basketball games, Hurricanes games, DPAC performances, and other live theater. Since many of these events take place over the holidays, we want to give you an opportunity to bid on your favorites. If you have tickets to donate, please use the form available in the farthex. If you have questions, please speak to Bill Matteson.

CONGREGATIONAL ADVENT STUDY AND POTLUCK

All are invited to our special Advent events on Sunday evenings! On December 4th and 18th (5:30 p.m.-7:00 p.m.), the Rev. Dr. Ross Wagner, Associate Professor of New Testament at Duke Divinity School, will teach us about the biblical images in our beloved Advent hymn, “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

The plaintive melody of “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” accompanies us through the Advent season like a trusted old friend. Yet despite its familiarity, the dense biblical symbolism of this ancient hymn remains impenetrable to many of us. Join us for two evenings of dinner and discussion as we unpack the seven stanzas of this hymn and come to a greater appreciation for the deep roots of our Christian faith in the hopes and prayers of Israel. Please contact Sangwoo Kim for further information, or Amada Wilson if you need childcare.



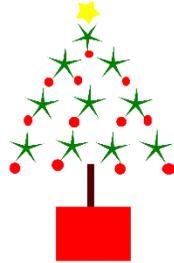
ADVENT DEVOTION SERIES

We invite all of you to an Advent Devotion series with Sangwoo Kim. We will meet on Wednesdays at noon (Nov. 30 and Dec. 7, 14, and 21) during the Advent. Feel free to bring your own lunch.”

GROWING THROUGH GRIEF offers to help with our journey through the grieving process. Each week a presentation is followed by small group discussion. On November 29, Duke Home Care and Hospice will offer help on “Coping with the Holidays,” and on December 13, Nell Noonan will discuss “From Caregiving to Grief.” Growing thru Grief meets every Tuesday, gathering at 4 pm for coffee and cookies. The meeting runs from 4:30-6 at St. Paul’s Lutheran Church, 1200 West Cornwallis, Durham. Growing thru Grief is a coalition of area religious and civic organizations to offer support and education for those who mourn, centered on small group discussion.

RUTH CIRCLE

All are invited to join the Ruth Circle Monday Nov. 21st in Rm. 2/3 at 1:30pm for an opportunity to hear about Susan Armour's trip to the Holy Lands.



CHRISMON TREES Advent is quickly approaching and it's almost time to think about all of those meaningful symbols of Christmas. For us, one of the most important is the Chrismon tree, a symbol of God's permanence and a reminder that he lives and carries on throughout our darkest times. We are seeking donations for the purchase of our Chrismon trees. If interested in helping, please call the church office, 919-489-6557,

www.epworth-umc.org

**EPWORTH UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, 3002 Hope Valley Rd.,
Durham, NC 27707 919-489-6557**

Rev. Karen H. Whitaker, Senior Pastor 919-210-6839 (cell) kwhitaker@epworth-umc.org

Dr. Sangwoo Kim, Associate Pastor 919-627-1357 sangwoo@epworth-umc.org

Kim Philpott, Director of Music kphilpott@epworth-umc.org

Meg Bass, Financial Manager mbass@epworth-umc.org

Dona Gamble, Administrative Secretary dgamble@epworth-umc.org

Joyce Dalgleish, Interim Youth Director 919-489-6557

Rev. Amanda Wilson, Coordinator of Children's Ministries awilson@epworth-umc.org

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

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



U.M.Y.F.

Date

November 20th

November 27th

December 3rd-4th

December 5th

Program Topic

Almost the season of waiting!

No U.M.Y.F.

Lock-in

No U.M.Y.F. due to the Lock-in

Parent "Chef(s)"

Libby & Brent Engel

SUNDAY SCHOOL

REMINDER: don't forget your Sunday School offering!! Our offerings for

the next several weeks will go to UMCOR for disaster relief. Please give careful and prayerful consideration to your offering that goes to support those recovering from the devastation caused by Hurricane Mattew. NOTE: To date the Youth Sunday School class has donated over \$100 to storm and disaster relief!! One of the many ways our youth do the good things that God asks of us! Thanks be to God!

Lesson topic this week: We continue our discussion of "Love Does"! This week's discussion will be on Chapters 7 & 8. Love just keeps on doing! Questions to think about:

1. Have you experienced God convincing you to love Him back? How does He do this?
2. What makes you stop and stare in amazement? How might that be God pursuing you?
3. What is the difference from "believing the right stuff" and "doing the right stuff"?
4. What are some examples, past of present, of God using the least likely people to achieve something great?

SAINTS FOR THE WEEK:

Jerush Christopher, Julia Bolts and Jerryl Christopher for serving as crucifer/acolyte/reader during the 11:00 worship service; Elise Benware, Ethan Benware, Ben Engel, Caleb Engel, Kaitlyn Montgomery, Dalton McCurdy, Henri Nadworny, Virginia Nadworny, Ryan Vandevander and Peter Walker for wonderful pilgrimage to Pilgrimage 2016, and a special thanks to one of the "older youth", Brennan Mange for being a servant as a chaperone with this group; Katherine Lantzy for "manning" the poinsettia table before and after each service last Sunday!

ACOLYTE/CRUCIFER/READER SCHEDULE for the month of November:

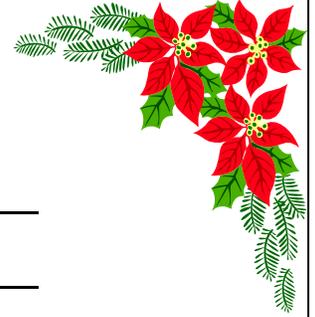
<u>Date</u>	<u>Acolyte</u>	<u>Crucifer</u>	<u>Reader</u>
November 20th	Henri Nadworny	Erin Engel	Peter Walker
November 27th	Caleb Engel	Ben Engel	Anna Darr

IMPORTANT: If you are not able to acolyte/crucifer/read on an assigned week, please find a substitute and contact Joyce and the church office so we will know of the change.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

LAST DAY TO ORDER POINSETTIAS: THIS Sunday, November 20th: Don't miss out on the opportunity to buy these gorgeous poinsettias! This is our biggest fundraiser of the year!! If you would like, you can put one or more in the church to honor or remember those special people who have touched our lives. Youth will be "manning the table" in the Farthex following each service to take your orders. **ATTENTION YOUTH:** There will be prizes for the youth who sell the most...especially if you out sell Joyce! All order forms must be turned in this Sunday!!

May the Lord bless each of you...and give you peace!



Epworth United Methodist Youth Ministries
POINSETTIA SALE 2016

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Gorgeous, florist quality poinsettias available in three colors: red, white and marbled. Two sizes to choose.

Deadline to Order: Sunday, November 20, 2016

Delivery date: to Epworth approximately December 8, 2016

Please indicate the number of each color and size you wish to order:

	Large	Small
	(6")	(4")
Red		
White		
Marbled (mix of red & pink)		
TOTAL ORDERED		
X cost per plant	\$10.00	\$5.00
Total amount due per size		
TOTAL AMOUNT DUE		



PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO:

Epworth U.M.Y.F.

PAYMENT MUST BE RECEIVED IN ADVANCE

AMOUNT PAID: _____ Method of payment: cash _____ check # _____

TO PLACE POINSETTIAS IN THE CHURCH IN HONOR OR MEMORY OF SOMEONE, PLEASE COMPLETE
THE FOLLOWING:

I would like to place _____ in the church.

Please indicate number, size and color-(ex: 2 large red, 1 small marbled)

I do not wish to place a poinsettia in the church, but would like to honor/remember the following:

In **HONOR** of: _____

(name or names as you would like listed in the bulletin)

BY: _____

In **MEMORY** of: _____

(name or names as you would like listed in the bulletin)

BY: _____



THANK YOU for your support of the Epworth United Methodist Youth min

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2016

<p>20 Stewardship Sunday - 7:30 Praise Team Svcs.8:45 and 11:00 9:50 Sun. School/Children's Music - Back Pack Event after each Service 5:30 UMYF 5:30 Sun. Night Live</p>	<p>21 11:30 LC's 1:30 Ruth Cir 3:45 Tutoring 7:00 Finance 7:30 Instrumentals</p>	<p>22 10:30 Staff Meeting</p>	<p>23 Church Office Closed at Noon</p>	<p>24 Thanksgivi ng Church Office Closed 7:00 AA</p>	<p>25 Church Office Closed</p>	<p>26</p>
<p>27 1st Sunday in Advent 7:30 PraiseTeam 8:30 & 11:00 Worship Back in the Sanctuary! 9:00 Worship in the Fellowship Hall 9:50SundaySchool/ Children's Music</p>	<p>28 12:30 Susanna Circ. 3:45 Tutoring 7:00 Visioning 7:30 Instrumentals</p>	<p>29 10:30 Staff Meeting 1:30 Care Group 6:00 Yoga 6:30 Preschool Bd. 7:00 Boy Scouts</p>	<p>30 12:00 Advent Devotions 3:30 Tutoring 4:00 Prayer Group 6:00 Handbells 7:00 Chancel Choir</p>	<p>Dec. 1 5:15 Voices Together 7:00 AA</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p>
<p>4 2nd Sunday in Advent 7:30 PraiseTeam 8:30, 9:00 and 11:00 Worship - 9:50SundaySchool/ Children's Music 12:30 Journeying Toward Justice 5:30 UMYF5:30 Potluck Dinner and Advent Study</p>	<p>5 3:45 Tutoring 7:30 Instrumentals</p>	<p>6 10:30 Staff Meeting 1:30 Care Group 6:00 Yoga. 7:00 Boy Scouts</p>	<p>7 8:30 Candlewrapping for the Love Feast 12:00 Advent Devotions 3:30 Tutoring 4:00 Prayer Group 6:00 Handbells 7:00 Chancel Choir</p>	<p>8 5:15 Voices Together 7:00 AA</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10</p>



Epworth UMC 2017 Annual Operating Budget Pledge Card

Overflowing with God's Generosity, I/we will endeavor to give to the 2017 Annual Operating Budget as follows:

\$ _____ per week for 52 weeks, totaling: \$ _____, or

\$ _____ per month for 12 months, totaling: \$ _____, or

Other: \$ _____ totaling: \$ _____.

Please Print:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Signature: _____

(This is a statement of intent and may be altered as circumstances warrant.)
