

**March 27, 2019**

919/489-6557

[www.epworth-umc.org](http://www.epworth-umc.org)

## APRIL CALENDAR

April 7, Sunday CROP Walk

April 13, Saturday 3 – 5 p.m. Easter Eggstravaganza for children

April 14, Palm Sunday - We will have 2 worship services - both in the sanctuary - 8:45 and 11:00. Palms will be provided for everyone. Backpacks will be packed after both services. This is also “Bring a friend to church Sunday.”

Thursday, April 18 Maundy Thursday - At 7:00 p.m. the Chancel Choir will present a cantata “Come Walk with Me”. The service also includes communion and the stripping of the altar.



Easter Sunday, April 21 – services at 8:30, 9:00 and 11:00. We will observe Holy Communion and our Chancel Choir will sing the last selection from the cantata “Come Walk with Me”.

**WORSHIP**  
**March 31, 2019**  
**Fourth Sunday in Lent**

**8:30, 9:00 and 11:00 WORSHIP**

Sermon: Carie Dupree

Scripture: Psalm 32, 2 Corinthians 5: 16-21, Luke 15: 1-3, 11b-32

Music (8:30 and 11:00)

Hymns: *Great Is Thy Faithfulness Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*  
*Amazing Grace*

Response Hymn (8:30) *Softly and Tenderly, Jesus is Calling*

Response (11:00) *The Potter's Hand* Chancel Choir

Offertory: Ring and Rejoice Handbells (8:30 and 11:00)

*He Never said a Mumbalin' Word*

Benediction Response (11:00) *The Lord Bless You and Keep You*

Songs (9:00) *Just a Closer Walk with Thee Amarte Solo A Ti, Senior*

*There Is a Redeemer Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)*

**LITURGISTS** 8:30 Maureen Oakes 11:00

**GREETERS** J. Ray and Martha Kirby

**USHERS** Belo Shelton, Tim Dahlgren, Bobbie Dahlgren, Johnie Joyce

**ACOLYTE** Henri Nadworny **CRUCIFER** Virginia Nadworny

**YOUTH READER** Elise Benware **BUS DRIVER** Brent Engel

**SOUND TECHNICIAN** 9:00 Lewis Bass IV 11:00 Chuck Darr

**ALTAR GUILD** Juliet and Chris Thomas, Susan Armour

**COUNTERS** Bill Matteson and Mike Hanson

**ALTAR FLOWERS** are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Rod Myers from Nancy Myers and family.

**CHURCH STAFF**

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

*Rev. Dr. Sangwoo Kim, Pastor/Spiritual Formation* 919-627-1357 (cell) [sangwoo@epworth-umc.org](mailto:sangwoo@epworth-umc.org)

*Meg Bass, Financial Manager* [mbass@epworth-umc.org](mailto:mbass@epworth-umc.org)

*Dona Gamble, Administrative Secretary* [dgamble@epworth-umc.org](mailto:dgamble@epworth-umc.org)

*David Lewis, Director of Music* [dlewis@epworth-umc.org](mailto:dlewis@epworth-umc.org)

*Rev. Amanda Wilson, Coordinator/Children's Min.* 919-698-5284 (cell) [awilson@epworth-umc.org](mailto:awilson@epworth-umc.org)

*Carie Dupree, Coordinator of Youth Ministries* 318-990-9730 (cell) [cdupree@epworth-umc.org](mailto:cdupree@epworth-umc.org)

*Dr. Fred Ibberson, Organist* [fred.ibberson@gmail.com](mailto:fred.ibberson@gmail.com)

*Leigh Furman, Preschool Director* 919-489-6098 [director@epworth-preschool.org](mailto:director@epworth-preschool.org)

*Theresa Shebalin, Nursery Director*

*Marlin Lennon, Sexton*

## **BACKPACK EVENT**

On Sunday, April 14 after the 8:45 and 11:00 worship services, we will be packing backpacks again. We provide 60 backpacks per week to Hope Valley Elementary School and two to our preschool. We will be packing 550 backpacks. This program is totally supported by the people of Epworth. With your monetary and in-kind contributions, we are able to continue this vital program for children.

If you wish to give in-kind, we ask that you **donate cans of vegetables (14-15 oz)**. Monetary contributions are always needed. Cans of vegetables may be left in the Farthex by Wednesday, April 10 and monetary contributions may be submitted to the church office. Your kind and generous contributions are greatly appreciated. This will prepare the needed backpacks for the remainder of this school year. Thanks from the backpack committee.

## **DIAPER BANK**

A BIG thank you to all who answered the call to bring diapers for the Diaper Bank of North Carolina over the past two weeks. We totally filled my car, trunk and back-seat! On Saturday, March 23rd, 52 United Methodist Women of the Corridor District (includes Epworth) volunteered at the Diaper Bank of North Carolina for 2 hours. During that time we wrapped over 9000 diapers to be distributed to organizations such as Urban Ministries, Families Moving Forward, Truckload of Hope (for military families), Welcome Baby, and others. We brought with us 8765 diapers, 7516 wipes and 1800 feminine products. It was a fun time of hands-on working together for a fantastic cause. United Methodist Women of Epworth also contributed \$500. Thank you for helping with this project.

Elaine Herndon, UMW Social Action Coordinator

## **BRING A FRIEND TO CHURCH**

Sunday, April 14, is our next Bring a Friend to Church Sunday. What better way could there be to celebrate Palm Sunday than to share the excitement with a friend or neighbor? You might even offer to pick them up. With the transportation challenges we are currently facing, having an extra person in the car to help navigate might even make the drive to church more enjoyable. We look forward to seeing you – and your friend(s) – on Sunday, April 14.

**REMINDER – WE HAVE 2 SERVICES ON PALM SUNDAY...8:45 AND 11:00.**

**EASTER EGGSTRAVAGANZA** is Saturday, April 13 from 3-5pm, rain or shine. Invite all the children you know! Children's Council requests your donations of nut-free candy, empty plastic eggs, and empty egg cartons to the labeled box in the "farthex." Thanks .

**CROP WALK** April 7th is the date for the 2019 CROP Walk. Outreach will have a table in the Farthex for information and sign up. Again this year you can both register and donate online. Please go to website below to do so:

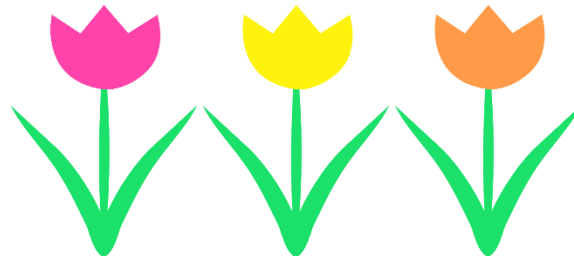
<https://www.crophungerwalk.org/durhamnc/Team/View/95867/EpworthUMC>

If you are looking for someone to sponsor, our current walkers are: Beth Armbruster, Sidney Anderson, Carie Dupree, Bill Matteson, Betty Matteson, Charlie Rose, Laurel Rose, Judy Daymont, Bethany Wilson.....check next week for more walkers. If you have any questions, contact Bill Matteson [whmatteson@gmail.com](mailto:whmatteson@gmail.com)

## **YOUTH**

Have you ordered your tulips for Easter? Youth are available in the farthex on Sunday to take your order. Thanks for supporting our youth.

Youth Group meets this Sunday from 5:30 to 7:15.



**\*\*COORDINATOR FOR ALTAR GUILD NEEDED** The Worship Committee is looking for someone to serve as a coordinator of the Altar Guild. Someone is needed to provide training and instructions to those who volunteer to serve on the Altar Guild. This person will review the duties of the members and relay this information to the others. The coordinator will help secure individuals to help serve. It would be good to have someone with previous altar guild experience (but not necessary) to assume this role.

So what does the altar guild do? The members of the altar guild prepare the sanctuary for the various services and straighten-up afterward. They place the appropriate paraments; make sure the flowers are in place; change the candles when needed; collect and replenish registration sheets after the services; rearrange the hymnals, Bibles, and envelopes after use; dust the altar and narthex furniture including the piano; polish brass plates on the doors; and decorate the sanctuary for special services. The coordinator prepares the monthly schedule of members (2 each month) to serve and notifies the members of any special services such as funerals and weddings.

**\*\*COORDINATOR FOR USHERS NEEDED** The Worship Committee is looking for someone to serve as a coordinator of the ushers. Someone is needed to provide training and instructions to those who volunteer to serve as ushers whether for regular services or special services and programs. This person will review the duties of the ushers and relay this information to the others. The coordinator will help secure individuals to help serve. It would be good to have someone with previous usher experience (but not necessary) to assume this role.

What is the role of the ushers? The ushers provide assistance to the members of the congregation as they arrive for church services and programs. The ushers greet the people as they arrive; provide bulletins; open, close, and lock doors as appropriate; provide a degree of security for our services; collect the offering; assist the pastors as needed; direct the congregation for communion; light the candles or the lighter for the acolyte; control the lights or cut out the lights after the services. The coordinator recruits ushers, gives directions, makes certain all services are covered with the needed ushers.

**\*\*Please let Kenneth Roberts, Worship Chair, or one of the pastors, know if you can help with either of the above requests. As always, thank you for your willingness to serve Epworth United Methodist Church.**

## JOURNEYING TOWARD JUSTICE

The Journeying Toward Justice Committee met on Sunday, March 17 to discuss the outcome of the 2019 General Conference. We are disappointed and sad that the Traditional Plan has been adopted as the official position of the UMC. Our General Conference has reaffirmed a discriminatory policy that identifies some of us as “less than.” As a Reconciling United Methodist Congregation, Epworth members seek to welcome all persons, regardless of age, race, ethnicities, disabilities, gender, gender identity or sexual orientation. Enriched by our diversity, we are all members of the family of God and equal in His eyes.

There is encouraging news. According to Helen Ryde, the Southeastern Regional Organizer for the Reconciling Ministries Network, one thousand individuals have become new Reconciling Methodists since the end of the 2019 General Conference. Many United Methodists are thinking inclusive thoughts!

More good news: A movement to build an inclusive church is forming across the North Carolina Conference of the UMC. You are encouraged to follow the link below and add your signature to this letter, “Sacred Witness NC: A Call to Action for a Fully Inclusive United Methodist Church.”

<https://goo.gl/forms/f0zJeDJUEuCQoBSh1>

You can also help by liking and sharing this Facebook page: [www.facebook.com/sacredwitnessnc/](http://www.facebook.com/sacredwitnessnc/)

Please consider coming out to deliver these signatures to Bishop Hope Morgan Ward on Thursday, March 28 at 7:00 PM at the Conference Office in Garner. We hope Epworth will be well-represented at this public showing of support for the growing movement for an inclusive UMC. Contact Betty Matteson at [ematteso@gmail.com](mailto:ematteso@gmail.com) if you need a ride, or if you can drive and have room for others.

# APRIL 2019

|   |  |   |  |  |                                 |  |
|---|--|---|--|--|---------------------------------|--|
| <b>31</b><br><b>4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent</b><br><b>7:30 Praise Team Rehearsal</b><br><b>Worship Services:</b><br><b>8:30, 9:00, 11:00</b><br><b>9:50 Sunday School</b><br><b>10:15 Chancel Choir</b><br><b>5:30 UMYF</b>   | <b>APRIL 1</b><br><b>3:15 Tutoring</b><br><b>No Orchestra</b>  | <b>2</b><br><b>6:45 a.m. Men's Fellowship</b><br><b>11:00 Staff Meeting</b><br><b>1:30 Care Group</b><br><b>6:00 Yoga</b><br><b>7:00 Boy Scouts</b><br><b>7:00 Witness</b>  | <b>3</b><br><b>12:00 Bible Study</b><br><b>3:00 Prayer Group</b><br><b>3:15 Tutoring</b><br><b>6:00 Handbells</b><br><b>7:00 Chancel Choir</b>                       | <b>4</b><br><b>11:00 Bible Study</b><br><b>7:00 AA</b>   | <b>5</b>                        | <b>6</b>   |
| <b>7</b><br><b>5<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent</b><br><b>7:30 Praise Team Rehearsal</b><br><b>Worship Services:</b><br><b>8:30, 9:00, 11:00</b><br><b>9:50 Sunday School</b><br><b>10:15 Chancel Choir</b><br><b>CROP Walk</b>  | <b>8</b><br><b>1:00 Book Group</b><br><b>3:15 Tutoring</b><br><b>6:00 SPPRC</b><br><b>7:30 Epworth Orchestra</b> | <b>9</b><br><b>6:45 a.m. Men's Fellowship</b><br><b>11:00 Staff Meeting</b><br><b>1:30 Care Group</b><br><b>6:00 Yoga</b><br><b>7:00 Boy Scouts</b><br><b>7:00 Outreach</b> | <b>10</b><br><b>12:00 Bible Study</b><br><b>3:00 Prayer Group</b><br><b>3:15 Tutoring</b><br><b>6:00 Handbells</b><br><b>6:30 UMMen</b><br><b>7:00 Chancel Choir</b> | <b>11</b><br><b>11:00 Bible Study</b><br><b>7:00 AA</b>  | <b>12</b>                       | <b>13</b><br><b>9-12 Cantata Rehearsal</b><br><br><b>3:00 - 5:00 Easter EGGstravaganza</b> |
| <b>14 PALM SUNDAY</b><br><b>7:30 Praise Team Rehearsal</b><br><b>Worship Services:</b><br><b>8:45 AND 11:00</b><br><b>(Back Pack Event After both services)</b><br><b>9:50 Sunday School</b><br><b>10:15 Chancel Choir</b><br><b>12:15 UMW Exec. Comm.</b><br><b>LOVING HANDS MEAL SERVED</b><br><b>5:30 UMYF</b> | <b>15</b><br><b>1:30 Ruth Circle</b><br><b>3:15 Tutoring</b><br><b>7:30 Epworth Orchestra</b>                    | <b>16</b><br><b>6:45 a.m. Men's Fellowship</b><br><b>11:00 Staff Meeting</b><br><b>1:30 Care Group</b><br><b>6:00 Yoga</b><br><b>7:00 Boy Scouts</b>                        | <b>17</b><br><b>12:00 Bible Study</b><br><b>3:00 Prayer Group</b><br><b>3:15 Tutoring</b><br><b>6:00 Handbells</b><br><b>7:00 Chancel Choir</b>                      | <b>18</b><br><b>11:00 Bible Study</b><br><b>7:00 AA</b><br><b>7:00 Maundy Thursday Service</b> | <b>19</b><br><b>GOOD FRIDAY</b> | <b>20</b>  |

*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.*