



EPWORTH NEWSLETTER

October-November, 2017

This is the 9th Edition of the Bi-monthly Newsletter

Mission Statement

“To build and nurture relationships with God and our neighbors”

Just when we think Epworth can't be any busier, something new “pops-up”! When we say “pops-up”, we mean it literally! Some weeks back, Epworth was struck by lightning early on a Saturday morning, causing minimal damage to the church. Damage was contained primarily to the Nursery area which was a blessing; however, it definitely caused some commotion. We are still in the process of renovating the area, but all is well!

During this time of renovation, the carpet in Daycare, church office and south lobby has also been replaced, along with some new furniture in the Daycare and church offices. Epworth, indeed, has been blessed.

In the meantime, the north & west parking lots have finally been repaved, with the south parking lot having its potholes filled and resurfaced. God is good!

During all of this renovation, Epworth has continued to serve the community in various ways.

On Sunday, August 27, in witness of God's and the Church's love, care and concern for creation, many of our neighbors joined members of Epworth in bringing their beloved pets to be blessed by Pastor Jennifer and Pastor Meredith. It was well attended with various breeds of dogs, cats, a hedge hog, and fish being blessed. The Ohio Department of Wildlife added excitement to the event by bringing an owl, a bat and a turtle. All in attendance had fun in sharing their pets with others and getting to know each other.

The monthly Produce Markets will continue to serve the community through October 10 of this year. Two hundred thirty-six households were served during September. During July and August the food pantry served 84 households.

Epworth held its Worship Service on the north lawn on Sunday, September 10. It was a beautiful and memorable day as we worshiped God out in the open, filling us with a feeling of wholeness and reminding us of the beauty of this world He has created for us.

Copies of the Epworth 2017 Pictorial Directory, featuring a few of the church's stained glass windows, designed by Dick Smith, on its cover were distributed to those members who chose to participate. Hopefully, an updated directory of all our members will be available by year end.

Our Annual Spaghetti Dinner & Silent Auction Fundraiser was held on September 16 and it was a great success, bringing in over \$4,400. It was a night of good food, fun, joy and excitement over the abundance of really nice

items donated for the Silent Auction. It takes many hands to have a successful event, and we want to thank everyone who made this happen.

Sincere condolences to the family of long-time member, Dick Smith. The stained glass windows in the Worship Center will always serve as a reminder of his legacy to Epworth.

The Epworth United Methodist Women hosted the Annual Meeting of the United Methodist Women of the Columbus North District of the West Ohio Division of United Methodist Women on Saturday, September 23. Karen Cook, Assistant District Superintendent, was the guest speaker.

It's that time again! The last time Epworth T-Shirts were offered was our 50th Anniversary and that has been a while. They are beginning to wear out or somehow they just don't fit right anymore! ☺ So, we are in the process of working with a new company that is offering us not only short sleeve T-Shirts, but also long sleeve T-Shirts, Sweat Shirts, as well as "Hoodies". We will begin taking orders for these "new" shirts within the next few weeks. They are reasonably priced and will be available in all sizes. Samples will be available so that you will be able to try them on to be sure you have the size that fits "you" best. What a great way to promote our church within the community!

We are excited about a short-term after school program in partnership with Global Community United Methodist Church. The ministry will take place on Thursdays, 4-6 p.m. from October 5 to November 9. Volunteers from both churches will work together to provide healthy snacks, math tutoring, ESL conversation, and recreation time with about a dozen 6th through 10th graders from the Nepali community in our neighborhood. See Pastor Jennifer if you would like to volunteer!

There is a new program sponsored by OSU Medical Center OB/GYN Dept. called Moms2B coming to Epworth! It is for pregnant moms, who can participate until their child is 1 year old. The program provides support, education, case management, and lots of love for moms and their kids. They will have an Open House on Tuesday, November 14th, 1-3 p.m., and begin the program on November 21st, 1-3 p.m. We are excited to welcome them!!

The excitement within and outside these walls does not stop here! Get your calendars out and put the following dates on your calendar:

Sunday, October 15 – Annual Church Conference immediately following the Worship Service. Please plan to stay for this important meeting, which should not last much longer than a half-hour. Karen Cook, our Asst. DS, will officiate. **Saturday, October 21** – the Free Community Fall Fun Festival Carnival. 11 am – 1:30 pm., **Saturday, November 4** – Annual Craft Show 9:00 am – 3:00 pm. **Sunday, December 10** – Annual Christmas Dinner with entertainment. And guess what – Epworth will once again be offering the "Nativity Scene Drive-Thru" on two nights, **Saturday, December 16 and Sunday, December 17.** You will be hearing more about all of this later.

In the meantime, be thinking about when, where, what and how you can serve your church and community during this amazing time of excitement. **Remember our Mission:** "To build and nurture relationships with God and our neighbors." Again, many hands are needed to make all of this happen. Your hands are needed!

Important Notice: Please note that it has become necessary to cancel the Sunday Family Fun Days for the balance of the year due to important church-related meetings and functions falling on those dates. Watch for more information in the next Newsletter.

AND DON'T FORGET TO VOTE - Tuesday, November 7, 2017

“Let us be grateful for those who
give us happiness.

They are the gardeners who
who make our souls bloom!”

-- Marcel Proust