



## EPWORTH NEWSLETTER

April/May, 2018

This is the 12<sup>th</sup> Edition of the Bi-monthly Newsletter

### Mission Statement

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

“Christ is Risen!” and spring is here! There are signs of new life all around and what a beautiful and peaceful sight it is! The trees are budding, flowers are popping up their little heads, and baby squirrels and birds are scampering all about. Everything is clean and new. It is a time of cleansing our hearts and souls. Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

Epworth is also looking clean and new! Many thanks to the McCoy’s and Pat Holt and her friend, Lary, for their gifts of providing paint and painting the walls in the lobbies and church hallways. It is amazing what a coat or two of paint can do to brighten the area. The “framing” of the new bulletin boards is also a great improvement. Also thanks to Diane Aleshire and the crew who showed up on Cleaning Day – you are all amazing!

Let’s get caught up on the highlights of what has happened at Epworth over these last two months.

More people took advantage of our “Drive-Thru” Ash Wednesday event this year than last and Pastor Jennifer made the first page of the Dispatch! Thanks again to those who weathered the cold by holding signs inviting those passing by to take part in this second annual event.

Wow - our Nursery is finally completed and the long wait was well worth it. It is beautiful and very child friendly. Thanks to all who took part in the “Nursery Shower”, by replacing many of the small items that were demolished by the fire. Be sure to stop by and take a peek if you haven’t seen it.

A church-wide baby shower was held for Mary Lynn and Elizabeth Bridges, who are foster parenting “Baby Nyomi”. Continue to keep their family in your prayers. All gifts were much appreciated.

“Exciting Tutoring News!” Epworth continues to host a short-term after school tutoring program in connection with Global Community United Methodist Church for 6<sup>th</sup> through 10<sup>th</sup> grade students from the Nepali

community in our neighborhood. The children that have been attending are showing great improvements in their grades, including making the honor roll and being star students.

This year's Spring Flower Sale is considered to be a success, with over 208 items being purchased, with an income of over \$800. The flowers will be delivered in time for Mother's Day. Watch for further notice on delivery dates as the time nears.

Epworth leaders were recognized during the church service a few weeks ago. It was amazing to see how many people are providing leadership in the various areas of ministry within the church. Thanks to all of you who take time out of your personal lives to serve your Epworth family. Over the coming week we will continue to celebrate various volunteer areas to lift up how people use their time and talents in specific ways as we live out our mission. Bear in mind – we can always use additional volunteers. That is what makes Epworth who we are – “Awesome”!

It was a little chilly, but still a beautiful day and over 40 children attended our Easter Egg Hunt on March 24th. The children, ranging from babies to teenagers picked up over 1,000 eggs that were scattered throughout the front lawn. Inside the building, children were doing crafts as well as decorating & eating cookies. The Easter Bunny was very busy and the children loved having their pictures taken with him. Thanks to all that made this happen through your donations of baskets, candy, time and energy.

Special thanks to all involved in the planning and carrying out of our Lenten Season activities, beginning with Ash Wednesday and ending with Easter Sunday.

Unfortunately, we lost two of our members since our last writing. We ask for continued prayers for the families and friends of Joanne Bennett and Kathy Davison who will be sorrowfully missed.

With the arrival of spring, Epworth will once again be hosting Produce Markets in conjunction with the Mid-Ohio Food Bank on the second Tuesday of the month, beginning April 10 and running through October. If you are interested in helping, please contact Wayne Van Houten.

Current Bible Study Classes are held as follow:

Sundays – 9:00 am.	UM Men's Group Bible Study – Room 10
	“Bad Girls” Bible Study – Room 9
Sundays – 6:15 pm	Cultivating Christian Life Bible Study
Wednesday – 7:00 pm	Bible Study w/ Pastor Jennifer Casto

**Reminder: The Annual Rummage sale is April 20 and 21. Sign-up sheets will be in the lobby for help with set up and clean up. Bring your donations now!! See Lea Braskett for more information.**

We will be receiving new members in May. If you are interested in uniting with the Epworth congregation, please see Pastor Jennifer. Classes will be held later in April.

Be sure to check out our website: [www.epworth-on-karl.com](http://www.epworth-on-karl.com) for information on upcoming events, and our Facebook page: Epworth UMC Columbus for pictures from our recent activities, and thoughtful quotes from Pastor Jennifer.

*Christ is Risen Indeed!*