

Epworth Vision: To be a church of the community that invites, connects, disciples, and sends out people for Christ; passionately partnering with the Holy Spirit in the transformation of hearts, lives, and communities.

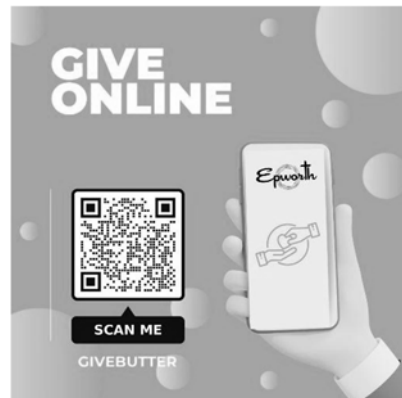
I have come to invite people to change their hearts and lives

Luke 5:32



BE TRANSFORMED | SEA TRANSFORMADO

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www.epworthunited.org



Eblast Signup

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SIGNED UP FOR OUR
WEEKLY EBlast
NEWSLETTER



Podcast



SCAN ME



ARISE SERVICE

Sunday, June 15, 2025







Tuesday | Martes

12 p.m.: English Life Group Online, led by Pastor Jen Fenner

7 p.m.: English Life Group Online, with rotating leadership.

Contact person: Judy Fenner

8:30 p.m.: Spanish Life Group Online, led by Marcela Uberhuaga

Thursday | Jueves

7 p.m.: English Young Adults Life Group In Person offsite, led by Christina Castillo and Julie Malone

7:40 p.m.: Spanish Life Group Online, led by Marcela Uberhuaga

Saturday | Sabado

6 p.m.: English Life Group Online and at homes, led by Lilly Otolu and Ruth Gwashavanhu

Sunday | Domingo

11:45am (After 10:30 service) English Life Group with Childcare led by Julie Malone and Elisa Parsons Facetti

5:00pm (every other week in Epworth lounge with dinner) College Age Young Adult Life Group Contact: Keiry Lizama

June 15, 2025

9:00 am Service

Nursery/Preschool Sunday School is available during all services in the infant and toddler rooms. Please walk up the few stairs to the right when you enter the building through the main wooden doors. Children Sunday school is held in the Children's Ministry Room which is located to the right of the pulpit.

Let Us Prepare for Worship

Welcome

Introit

Bless This House

Words by Helen Taylor, Music by May Brahe
Chancel Choir

Call to Worship

(L- Leader | **C-Congregation**)

L: Let us praise our God, for He is good and His mercy is everlasting.

C: We praise the Lord our God, for His goodness is everlasting, and His love for us and all His people is faithful and permanent.

L: Let us worship the Lord our God, for He alone is worthy of all praise, all honor, and all glory. He is our everything, our protection and strength.

C: In Him we live and have our being. He gave us life, and through His Holy Spirit, we are filled with His holy presence.

L: The warmth of His Spirit poured out upon those who seek and love Him forgives and renews the desolate heart. It renews the soul with His sweet peace.

All: We praise and adore You, our beloved Lord. Do not let us go. Speak to us, guide us, use us! We are Yours, You are our God!

Opening Hymn

The Church's One Foundation | UMH #545

The church's one foundation
is Jesus Christ her Lord;

she is his new creation
by water and the Word.
From heaven he came and sought her
to be his holy bride;
with his own blood he bought her,
and for her life he died.

Elect from every nation,
yet one o'er all the earth;
her charter of salvation,
one Lord, one faith, one birth;
one holy name she blesses,
partakes one holy food,
and to one hope she presses,
with every grace endued.

Though with a scornful wonder
we see her sore oppressed,
by schisms rent asunder,
by heresies distressed,
yet saints their watch are keeping;
their cry goes up, "How long?"
And soon the night of weeping
shall be the morn of song.

Mid toil and tribulation,
and tumult of her war,
she waits the consummation
of peace forevermore;
till, with the vision glorious,
her longing eyes are blest,
and the great church victorious
shall be the church at rest.

Yet she on earth hath union
with God the Three in One,

Coffee Hour Fellowship & Greeters Support our worship services by signing up to help our connect team greet persons before service or help set up coffee for fellowship after service. Plan on coming 15 minutes early for service and staying 30 minutes after service to help clean up. For additional questions, please contact Judy Fenner at jadrfenner@verizon.net	
	
Altar Flowers Flowers are a wonderful way to brighten our altar for worship. Sunday arrangements are \$50 each and may be taken home after the 12:30 service. Your dedication will be printed in the bulletins on Sunday. If you would like to order flowers, please scan the QR Code. Please place your flower order by the Wednesday, prior to the Sunday you would like them dedicated.	
	
Serve Our Community Food Distribution Every other Sunday, Epworth distributes food to families who are food insecure. These families are selected through our community partners. Help is needed in delivering food and packing food. Scan the QR code to get more information.	
See Calendar for Next Distribution Day,	
Volunteer To Pack Food	
Deliver Food	contact Becky Beeler at sendout@eumc-md.org if you want to deliver

Our Core Values | Nuestros Valores Fundamentales

1. Jesus at the Center | *Jesús en el centro*
2. Purposefully Multicultural and Multilingual | *Deliberadamente multicultural y multilingüe*
3. Growing Daily in Faith | *Creer diariamente en la fe*
4. Standing for Justice | *Defender la justicia*
5. Intentionally Apprenticing and Passionately Making Disciples | *Aprender intencionalmente y hacer discípulos apasionadamente*
6. Living to Serve God and Others | *Vivir para servir a Dios y a los demás*
7. Committed to Excellence | *Comprometidos con la excelencia*
8. Glorifying God in the Way We Relate to Each Other | *Glorificar a Dios en la forma en que nos relacionamos unos con otros*
9. Existing for Something Greater than this Church or Ourselves | *Existir para algo más grande que esta Iglesia o nosotros mismos*
10. Daily in Need of God's Grace, Forgiveness, and Love | *Diariamente necesitamos de la gracia, el perdón y el amor de Dios*

Soccer Clinic Volunteers Needed



Volunteer as a coach or assistant coach or help with snacks and devotionals.



SCAN THE QR CODE TO SIGN UP
NOW OR VISIT
[TINYURL.COM/EPWORTHCLINIC](https://tinyurl.com/epworthclinic)



and mystic sweet communion
with those whose rest is won.
O happy ones and holy!
Lord, give us grace that we
like them, the meek and lowly,
on high may dwell with thee.

Opening Prayer

Celebration of Pride Month with a Personal Testimony

A Pride Blessing

Written by Sam Lundquist, queer pastor, for LGBTQ Pride Month 2021 worship at St. John's Presbyterian Church in San Francisco, CA.

Beloved, there is only love.

In you, only love.

Around you, only love.

Not a touchy-feely, pop song kind of love.

**But a love that knows every secret corner
of your fragile, fabulous being and says, "Yes!"**

"Yes!" to your difference.

"Yes!" to your diversity.

"Yes!" to your desire.

Whoever you are,

whatever beautiful spirit

God created you to be,

shine fearlessly and courageously.

We need you

and the divine light within you

to sparkle through the prism of your body

and brighten the world

END OF THE YEAR *Party*

SATURDAY JUNE 21 1-3 PM

LAKE NEEDWOOD BOATS PAVILION
15700 NEEDWOOD LAKE CIRCLE,
ROCKVILLE, MD 20853



with a glorious rainbow.
Never forget you are loved.
Fiercely and forever. Amen

Scripture Reading

Acts 2:36-47

36 “Therefore let all Israel be assured of this: God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Messiah.” 37 When the people heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the other apostles, “Brothers, what shall we do?” 38 Peter replied, “Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. 39 The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off—for all whom the Lord our God will call.” 40 With many other words he warned them; and he pleaded with them, “Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.” 41 Those who accepted his message were baptized, and about three thousand were added to their number that day. 42 They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. 43 Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles. 44 All the believers were together and had everything in common. 45 They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need. 46 Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, 47 praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.

Song of Preparation

On Eagles Wings

Words adapted from Psalm 91 by Michael Joncas
Music by Michael Joncas arranged by Mark Hares
Chancel Choir

BACK TO SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE

We're preparing for another amazing year of giving — and we need your help!

JUN–JUL — FUNDRAISING & PREPARATION

From **mid-June through mid-July**, we're **collecting donations** to purchase 500 backpacks filled with school supplies. Each backpack costs about \$15 when purchased in bulk.

That's 500 backpacks for just \$5,000 — and you can help make it happen!

These backpacks will go to:

- ❤️ 200 children from partner families
- 📚 150 elementary school students
- ✍️ 150 middle and high school students

SUN, AUG 10 — BACKPACK GIVEAWAY EVENT

We'll welcome 200 partner families and members of the general public to Epworth for a joyful day of giving and community!

Help us bless students with a strong start to the school year.

LEARN MORE AT [EPWORTHUNITED.ORG](https://epworthunited.org)



SCAN THE QR
CODE TO DONATE



Click here for Soccer Clinic registration

<https://www.epworthunited.org/event-details/community-soccer-clinic>

Sign up here to help at soccer clinic as an assistant coach or help with snacks
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B0F4AA5A822A1F85-49997170-soccer#/>

SAVETHE DATE:



Epworth United Methodist Church

Starting 2025 POINT

Save the date

SUN, JULY 20 | 1:30-4:30PM

MEETING IN ROOM 201

This is an opportunity to learn about Epworth, share with Pastor Jen, learn about Methodism, hear about places to serve, consider joining a lifegroup, and consider joining Epworth as a member. Attending starting point is focused on providing information, connecting to pastors and leaders, and understanding of Epworth vision, structure, and ministry.

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Esta es una oportunidad para aprender sobre Epworth, compartir con el Pastora Jen, aprender sobre el metodismo, escuchar sobre lugares para servir, considerar unirse a un grupo de vida, considerar unirse a Epworth como miembro. El punto de partida de asistencia se centra proporcionar información, conectarse con pastores y líderes, y comprender la visión, la estructura y el ministerio de Epworth.

**INTERESTED PERSONS SHOULD
CONTACT JUDY FENNER @
JADRFENNER@VERIZON.NET**

Epworth

Scripture Reading

Romans 8:22-39

22 We know that the whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time. 23 Not only so, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for our adoption to sonship, the redemption of our bodies. 24 For in this hope we were saved. But hope that is seen is no hope at all. Who hopes for what they already have? 25 But if we hope for what we do not yet have, we wait for it patiently.

26 In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us through wordless groans. 27 And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for God's people in accordance with the will of God.

28 And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose. 29 For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters. 30 And those he predestined, he also called; those he called, he also justified; those he justified, he also glorified.

31 What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? 32 He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things? 33 Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? It is God who justifies. 34 Who then is the one who condemns? No one. Christ Jesus who died—more than that, who was raised to life—is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us. 35 Who shall separate us

from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? 36 As it is written: "For your sake we face death all day long; we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered."

37 No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. 38 For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, 39 neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Scripture

Matthew 22:36-40

³⁶ "Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?"

³⁷ Jesus replied: "'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' ³⁸ This is the first and greatest commandment. ³⁹ And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' ⁴⁰ All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments."

Prayer of Preparation

Sermon

The Gift of God's Spirit and the Greatest Command
Rev. Jennifer Fenner

Hymn of Response

Spirit of God Descend Upon My Heart | UMH #500

1. Spirit of God, descend upon my heart;
wean it from earth; through all its pulses move;
stoop to my weakness, mighty as thou art,
and make me love thee as I ought to love.

2. I ask no dream, no prophet ecstasies,
no sudden rending of the veil of clay,

Sunday June 22 - Celebration of Juneteenth in all Services
Launch of New Sermon Series - Live it Out



Monday June 23- Friday June 27 Vacation Bible School

Saturday June 28 Family Fun Night

- Viewing of City of Gaithersburg Fireworks from Epworth lawn. Cookout and Kickball

CURRENT SIGN UPS:

SIGN UP FOR VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL and the SOCCER CLINIC on the website. Click here for VBS registration

<https://www.epworthunited.org/event-details/live-it-out-vbs-2025-1>

(Refrain)

4. When he shall come with trumpet sound,
O may I then in him be found!
Dressed in his righteousness alone,
faultless to stand before the throne!
(Refrain)

Closing Prayer and Dismissal with Blessing

*Following the service please join us for coffee & conversation in the lounge. (Upstairs, turn left and down the hallway).
Join us and meet some new friends & familiar faces.*

Calendar of Upcoming Events

Friday June 13 –Friday Night Hang Out Mill Creek Parish 6:30pm

Saturday June 14 Epworth Women's Gathering 6-8pm

Sunday June 15 9am, 10:30am, 12:30 am
Celebration of Father's Day and Pride Month
Launch Back to School Supplies Campaign

Wednesday June 18 7pm Coach and Assistant Coach meeting for Soccer Clinic zoom and at Epworth

Thursday June 19 – Epworth Holiday honoring Juneteeth

Saturday June 21 – End of School Year Celebration for GGYM at Lake Needwood 1-3pm (See Pastor Tammi for details)

no angel visitant, no opening skies;
but take the dimness of my soul away.

3. Hast thou not bid me love thee, God and King?
All, all thine own, soul, heart and strength and mind.
I see thy cross; there teach my heart to cling.
O let me seek thee, and O let me find!

4. Teach me to feel that thou art always nigh;
teach me the struggles of the soul to bear.
To check the rising doubt, the rebel sigh,
teach me the patience of unanswered prayer.

5. Teach me to love thee as thine angels love,
one holy passion filling all my frame;
the kindling of the heaven-descended Dove,
my heart an altar, and thy love the flame.

Celebration of Father's Day and A Blessing for Father Figures

Adapted from the words of Tony Rossi (Xavier University)

Heavenly Father,
Today we ask You to bless our earthly fathers
**for the many times they reflected the love, strength, generosity,
wisdom and mercy that You exemplify in Your relationship with
us, Your children.**

We honor our fathers for putting our needs above their own
convenience and comfort;
**for teaching us to show courage and determination in the face of
adversity; for challenging us to move beyond self-limiting**

boundaries; for modeling the qualities that would turn us into responsible, principled, caring adults.

Not all our fathers lived up to these ideals. Give them the grace to acknowledge and learn from their mistakes.

Give us the grace to extend to them the same forgiveness that you offer us all. Help us to resist the urge to stay stuck in bitterness, instead, moving forward with humility and peace of heart.

We ask your blessing on those men who served as father figures in our lives when our biological fathers weren't able to do so.

May the love and selflessness they showed us be returned to them in all their relationships, and help them to know that their influence has changed us for the better.

Give new and future fathers the guidance they need to raise happy and holy children, grounded in a love for God and other people -

and remind these fathers that treating their partners with dignity, compassion and respect is one of the greatest gifts they can give their children.

We pray that our fathers who have passed into the next life have been welcomed into Your loving embrace, and that our family will one day be reunited in your heavenly kingdom.

**We are grateful that you are Our Father
Who has entrusted with Your Son,
we ask Your generous blessings today and every day.**

Amen.

Pastoral Prayer

Invitation to Receive the Offering

Offering Song

Presentation of the Offering with Doxology

Welcoming Visitors and Invitation to Review Announcements

Please sign the friendship pad as it is passed down the row, if your mailing address has changed, please add your new address.

Closing Hymn

My Hope Is Built

1. My hope is built on nothing less
than Jesus' blood and righteousness.
I dare not trust the sweetest frame,
but wholly lean on Jesus' name.

Refrain:

On Christ the solid rock I stand,
all other ground is sinking sand;
all other ground is sinking sand.

2. When darkness veils his lovely face,
I rest on his unchanging grace.
In every high and stormy gale,
my anchor holds within the veil.
(Refrain)

3. His oath, his covenant, his blood
supports me in the whelming flood.
When all around my soul gives way,
he then is all my hope and stay.