

FAITH MATTERS

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF EPWORTH UMC

So often in life we want a map to guide us,
but instead of a map Jesus gives us
a compass and invites us saying,
"Follow Me."



Navigating Uncharted Territory

Greetings Epworth!

I wish I could tell you when this will be all over. I wish I could take away your grief and your anxiety. I wish I could give you a clear map with directions for getting through all of this. I wish. The truth is each and everyone of us is navigating this time of life without the existing of any map. Just because we are without a map does not mean we are lost and without guidance. Like those pioneers of old, we have a vision and a compass. We know where we are and we have a dream of where we might go or at least what we might become!

Our vision hasn't changed. Epworth is place where our faith in God guides us to love, grow, and serve and so that we don't lose our way we have a compass - Jesus - who invites us to Follow Him!

Join us on Sunday mornings for worship online as we anticipate together the day when we can gather again for worship in the Sanctuary. During our time together we will be encouraged in our faith, we will worship together in prayer and song, and we will learn together how to navigate our future.

In the interm, we are still in a holding pattern for Live Worship in the Sanctuary. We will be sharing good news related to a targeted date for worship in the coming weeks — so stay tuned. With the exception of the sanctuary Epworth is active. Preschool is on track to begin their new school year on Tuesday September 8th and many of our Small Groups have begun to meet in person or in a blend of online and in person here in the church building.

Tune in on Sundays this month as we set our course into the Uncharted Territory. I cannot tell you how much I am encouraged in our journey by your presence.

With deep gratitude,

Pastor Rodney Frieden

rodney.frieden@inumc.org

EVENTS

BOX LUNCH BINGO

Sunday, August 30th
Noon
Rain or Shine
Social Distancing and
Mask Wearin Fellowship!!!
Register by calling or
emailing the church!

*Lots of
fun!*

PRIZES!!!

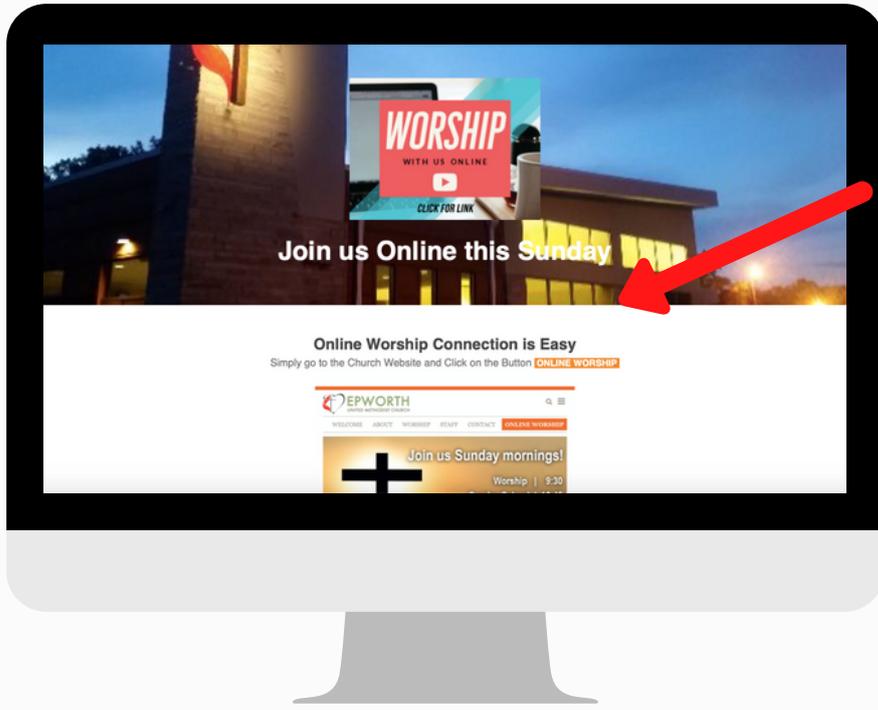
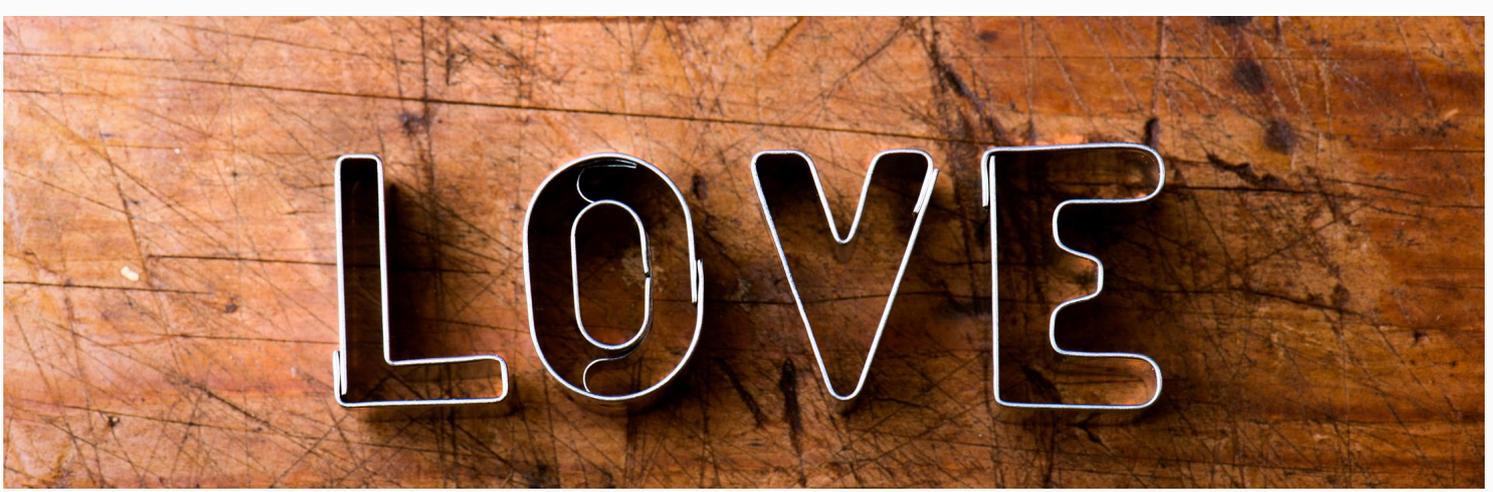
**PARTY!!
PARTY!!
PARTY!!**

HOW TO BE AN ANTIRACIST

Join Others from the Central District
Online Book Study & Discussion via Zoom
Every Monday, Sept. 13th - Nov. 23rd

6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

For more info, email Pat at engelp@epworthindy.org



Online Worship Connection is easy. Simply go to the Church Website and Click on the Button ONLINE WORSHIP or Click on the button on your Worship Email.

There is an opportunity to chat live with those that gather for worship. This feature remains open before after worship for 20 minutes - think of it has your fellowship time with one another.



Prayer REQUESTS

To request prayer...

Click the Prayer Request link on the worship page and wait for a staff member to receive you.

OR

Email Pat Engel at engelp@epworthindy.org



Stephen Ministry

The world is tough right now...
Need someone to listen?
Request a Stephen Minister.
Email Pastor Rodney
at
rodney.frieden@inumc.org





Adult Groups and Bible Studies

Join one of our groups meeting online!!!

(H = Hybrid O = Online Only T = Text)

Sunday

10:15 a.m. - Tippy's Friends/Sams Club (O)
Contact Randy at randy.siebert@att.net

10:30 a.m. - Seekers (O)
Contact Dennis at dennisashock@gmail.com

4:30 p.m. - Women's Study (T)
Contact Pat at engelp@epworthindy.org

Monday

7:00 p.m. - Stitchers (H)
Contact Cathy lpchn3@aol.com

Tuesday

6:30 p.m.
Women's Study (H)
Contact Pat at engelp@epworthindy.org

New Testament Study (H)
Contact Pastor Rodeny at
rodney.frieden@inumc.org

Jesus & The Nerds Men's Group (O)
Contact Chris at
christhornsberry@epworthindy.org

7:00 p.m.
Men's Group Discussion (O)
Contact Steve at stun0846@gmail.com

Wednesday

9:00 a.m. - Men's Coffee Group (O)
Contact Joe at Joeybhatcher@gmail.com

10:00 a.m. - New Testament Study (O)
Contact Pastor Rodney at
rodney.frieden@inumc.org

7:00 p.m. - Friends of Thomas (O)
Contact Joe at Joeybhatcher@gmail.com

8:15 p.m. - Young Adults/Young Families (O)
Contact Melissa at melissawzabel@gmail.com

Thursday

6:30 p.m. - Thursday Night Bible Study (H)
Contact Dennis at
dennislwood2000@yahoo.com

Saturday

11:00 a.m. - Gleaners (O)
Contact Cathy cathyhinkle29@gmail.com

Note: Some groups meet every week, some every other, and some only once a month. Please contact the leader to obtain the group schedule.

**EPWORTH
KIDS
CORNER**

KIDS WORSHIP

Every Sunday On Demand!!!

Check your worship email for directions on how to access!

Preschool Update

The preschool will open on 9/8/20 instead of the original date of 8/24/20. Our delay in starting gives us an opportunity to finish up our re-entry to school plans with the most updated recommendations from the CDC, the state and local health departments. Also, it gives our staff the opportunity to have a better plan with their own children - as many schools are starting virtually. We decided to shift the calendar by two weeks and eliminate our fall break and part of our Thanksgiving break to accommodate this change. We are excited to have children and staff back in the building after Labor Day!

6450

STUDENT
MINISTRIES

YOUTH NIGHT

Live

Coming
Soon!!!

ZOOM

Live Hangouts

**TWEENS (4TH-8TH)
EVERY SUNDAY @ 3 P.M.
GAMES, FUN, PRIZES!!!**

Parents, email Chris at christhornsberry@epworthindy.org
for more info!

When We Face an Unknown Future

A Hymn by
Carolyn Winfrey Gillette

When we face an unknown future that we can't imagine yet, when the closeness we have treasured turns from blessing into threat — As we miss our friends and loved ones, as we crave community, may we look, God, in this season, for a whole new way to be.

Jesus faced the lonely desert as a time to look within. There he met such trial and conflict; there he knew you were with him. In this time of separation when we miss the life we've known, may we hear your voice proclaiming: "I am here! You're not alone."

May we cherish those around us as we never have before.

May we think much less of profit; may we learn what matters more. May we hear our neighbors' suffering; may we see our neighbors' pain. May we learn new ways of offering life and health and hope again.

God, when illness comes to threaten, and when so much here goes wrong, may we know this thing for certain — that your love is sure and strong. You're beside us in our suffering — and when times are surely tough, we may face an unknown future, but it's filled, Lord, with your love.