

Epworth Center news

Issue 5:4

"Sharing Our Witness Enriching Relationships"

Fall 2007

SOWER client referrals needed

It's that time of year again! Are you "local" to the Epworth Center? Do you know someone who could use a building repair? To qualify for assistance there must be financial need, the person should own the home, the working environment must be safe, and there needs to be restroom facilities for the SOWERS. You need to personally visit the applicant and receive their permission to submit an application. We give preference to mothers with children and families who are trying to help themselves. Do not pick the worst looking houses in your community, as most of these are beyond repair and exceed our budget and skill level. Visit our website to download our referral form (with complete details) or contact us. Deadline to receive referrals is March 15.

From the director...

Greetings friends, we wish to thank each of you for your prayers, encouragement, and financial support. 2007 was a great year for the Epworth Center, as we were able to feed the hungry, help the sick, and to provide guidance and encouragement to youth and adults. Also, we reached out to inmates, were able to distribute new furniture to families in need, and worked cooperatively with Real Life Community of Faith UMC, a new church start. We also developed an outreach ministry for girls from the halfway house, providing them a safe place for community service and spiritual growth. The SOWER VBS program encouraged two communities of faith. Rentals and retreats met the needs of the community as well. We wish each of you a wonderful Thanksgiving and a Merry Christmas! Jesus is the light of the world!

-Rev. Lester Wilson



Cabin Renovation Update

We wish to thank everyone who has been assisting us with our cabin renovation project, whether by volunteering or through prayer. We are getting closer and closer to having it finished! The outside is almost completely sided, the porch nearly finished being constructed, and the inside is slowly coming together. This is an exciting endeavor for the Epworth Center! We look forward to having cabin #2 completed very soon. You can still get involved — your prayers and donations for furnishings are appreciated. Volunteers are also needed for the "final" steps of bringing this project to completion. We are also looking ahead to the next cabin renovation project at Epworth Center. Contact us today to find out how you can help as an individual or a group!



Friday, November 02— 7:30—10:00 am, Flu shots and free health screenings

Saturday, November 03— 9:00 am, Board Meeting

Saturday, November 10— "Community Day" hunger ministry fundraiser

Fall Events @ Epworth



Thursday, November 22— Happy Thanksgiving! Office closed.

Looking ahead to December — Christmas basket distribution, luncheon for local girl's home, luncheon for inmates and staff from Belmont Correctional Institution

December 24—January 1— Have a blessed Christmas! Office closed.

January 07—18— Office closed. Holy Land Biblical Discovery with Bishop Hopkins.

Hunger ministry fundraiser

The Epworth Center is once again participating in Community Day at Elder Beerman at the Ohio Valley Mall. Here's how it works: purchase a \$5.00 coupon booklet from the Epworth Center and get great values and support our hunger outreach ministry! Community Day is Nov. 10. Coupons are also good at Bergner's, Boston Store, Carson Pirie Scott, Herberger's, Younkers, and Bon-Ton. Epworth Center keeps all coupon booklet proceeds and will also receive a portion of coupon booklet sales from the day of the event. Visit our website or contact us for more details about this event or to purchase coupon booklets.

Help needed!!

Christmastime is fast approaching and we are once again providing baskets this year. With the help of many of you, we helped 40 families last year. **THANK YOU!** What a wonderful blessing it was to help others. We are hoping to help at least 50 families this year and we are in need of any assistance you may provide. We would love it if your church, organization, or your family would pledge to provide even one item for these baskets. If you'd like to pledge a ham, turkey or even 10 cans of green beans, please contact us! We would be grateful if you would assist us in crossing needed items off our list. The complete list will be posted online soon. We would also like to include a craft or card in each basket. This is a great project for youth groups to take part in and feel like they are giving the true gift of the season. Contact us for more information!

Mission opportunities are knocking... Will you answer and make a difference?



Are you looking for ways to get involved in mission? Each edition we will highlight a new idea or ideas about how you or your church can support the Epworth Center. Visit our website for a complete list or contact us for more details!

Sponsor a "Mission Sunday" at your church. Set aside a special Sunday to inspire and inform your congregation. Ideas include: Invite Rev. Lester Wilson to speak about Epworth Center ministries; Take a special mission offering; Hold a dinner after the service

Parish nurse partnership. Pastors and laity, consider working with the Epworth Center to establish a parish nurse program in your church and community! Reach out to others in a practical way.

Mission Statement:

Making disciples for Jesus Christ by working with local churches to make building repairs for individuals, families, churches, and nonprofit organizations who cannot afford them.

Epworth Center Prayer Requests ...

hunger ministry, prison ministry, SOWERS and clients, volunteers, staff, medical ministry, cabin renovation

Contact Us

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SOWER

Are you looking for a work mission? We have room available for our 2008 SOWER season.

SOWER groups are also needed to assist with VBS. Is your group interested in helping with a local Vacation Bible School? Last summer we had a group from South Carolina conduct two separate VBS programs and we wish to develop this important ministry. Contact us for more information or to find out how your group can get involved! Pictures and information from SOWER and VBS are posted online.

Go into all the world and preach the good news to all the nations.

-Mark 16:15



The Epworth Center is listed as both an East Ohio Conference Advance Special and a General Advance of the UMC.

Advance Special 9140- SOWER; 9191- Outreach
General Advance 180758 - Cabin project
General Advance 180759 - Extension ministries

SOWER Work Mission

A ministry of the East Ohio Conference of
The United Methodist Church,
working within
the Southern Hills and
Ohio Valley Districts.

SOWER has an
ecumenical focus,
welcoming groups from
many denominations.