

Epworth Center news

Issue 5:1

"Sharing Our Witness Enriching Relationships"

Spring 2007

Greetings Friends...

The Epworth Center is encouraged by the number of groups that will be participating in the SOWER Work Mission this summer. Additionally, we have a large group from South Carolina coming to the Epworth Center to conduct two Vacation Bible Schools for area churches. They have their own praise band and workers who will go house-to-house inviting children to the VBS program. They will also provide a block party for each community and a barbecue free of charge for all who attend. Their goal is to work with children and to bring families into the local church. They are gifted individuals who are filled with energy and the love of Jesus Christ.

Your church may want to consider forming a VBS team and coming to the Epworth Center to assist a small church. You may either conduct the entire VBS program or help the church with theirs. Please remember us in your prayers.

-Rev. Lester Wilson

Christmas baskets and luncheon

Thanks to the generosity of many churches and individuals, we were able to help 40 families at Christmas. Along with the gifts of food, Max Lucado's "Everyday Blessings" devotionals were given to feed the spirit.

Twenty-five inmates and 20 correctional officers, including Warden Michele Eberlin, attended the Inmates Christmas Luncheon. Prior to lunch, the inmates decorated the Christmas tree and set out poinsettias that were grown at the Institution. Rev. Wanda Wilson, Southern Hills District Superintendent, read the Christmas Story from Luke and Joyful Noise shared musical gifts. Everyone joined in singing favorite carols, such as "Joy to the World" and "Silent Night." Devotionals were available for inmates and officers to take with them.

We are looking forward to expanding both ministries throughout the year and next Christmas. God has blessed our hunger and inmates outreach! Contact the Epworth Center to find out how you can get involved!



Pictured Left: Confirmation Class who helped pack food baskets; Top: Inmates join in singing Christmas carols. Visit our website for more pictures from these events.



A few words of appreciation for Christmas generosity...

“My girls and I thank you for everything you have done for us.”
“Thank you for all the special things you do, your thoughtful words and generous ways.”

Epworth Friends



The Epworth Center wishes to thank all who donated to the Epworth Center in 2006. The following were Epworth Friends:

Harry & Carol Askin
Betty Beight
Cambridge First UMC
Bruce Duncan
James & Georgette Gaston
Bishop John & Elaine Hopkins
Rev. Dave & Mary Kofroth
Rev. Helen Lewis
Lewisville UMC
Neffs Thurs Night Bible Study
Ronald & Carol Preston
Viola Reed
Drs. Tom & Ruth Tarleton
UMW of East Fairfield UMC
Max & Mary VanBuren
Rev. Lou & Judy Verdi
Revs. Lester & Wanda Wilson

Epworth Friends are individuals, families and churches who have given \$100 or more to the ministry of the Epworth Center. Contact us or visit our website for more information.

SOWER 2007

Are you looking for a work mission trip for the summer? Looking for a place to volunteer or support? Consider making the SOWER Work Mission your project for the summer! **There is still room available in our schedule.** Currently we have approximately 180 SOWER registered from Ohio, New York, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Pennsylvania and West Virginia.

We are also in need of volunteers, prayers and donations. Contact the Epworth Center or visit our website for more information!



YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!!

Mission Statement:

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

Epworth Center Prayer Requests ...

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|-------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Hunger ministry | 5. Prison ministry |
| 2. Parish nurse program | 6. Volunteers |
| 3. SOWERS | 7. Staff |
| 4. SOWER Clients | |



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

Advance Special #9140	SOWER
Advance Special #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.