

*The Order for Worship
Epiphany Sunday
January 1, 2012*

Chiming of the Hour
Prelude Nicky Wilson, Organist
Bringing in the Light Acolytes
**Welcome, Announcements, & Greeting Time* Sarah Edwards, Liturgist
**Hymn of Praise* "We Three Kings" No. 254
**Affirmation of Faith* Sarah Edwards, Liturgist

I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ his only son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

**Gloria Patri* No. 70
 Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

Prayer Time/Prayer Concerns/Pastoral Prayer Rev. Jim Stringfellow

Lord's Prayer
 Our Father, who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy Name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

**Offertory* "Go, Tell It on the Mountain" No. 251

Giving of God's Tithes & Offerings

**Doxology* No. 95
 Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Children's Minute Renee' Rowse
 (After Children's Minute, children ages 3 1/2-5th grade are dismissed for Children's church)

Anthem Chancel Choir

Scripture Lesson Ephesians 3:1-12 Sarah Edwards, Liturgist

Sermon "You Can't Get There by Standing Here" Rev. Jim Stringfellow

**Hymn of Dedication* "Once in Royal David's City" No. 250

**Benediction*
 *Congregation, please stand as you are able.

The Story

- Youth Announcements:**
- 2012 Health Forms are now available on the Youth Communication Table (between the two youth rooms on the 2nd floor)! These forms need to be filled out and returned with a copy of your medical insurance card attached. If you are going to Behold, this form needs to be turned in BEFORE the trip.
 - There are **no youth activities again until Wednesday, January 11th.** So enjoy your Christmas vacation and time with your family!
 - Sunday, January 8th following worship there will be a **MANDATORY ASP parent and youth meeting** in the Sr. High youth room. If you are going to ASP you need to be there along with a parent/guardian! We will have pizza, chips, dessert and drinks for \$3 a person.
 - Wednesday, January 11th from 6:30-8pm we'll have a **Youth Parents Meeting** in the Jr. High youth room. Youth will meet in the gym from 6:30-8pm. This is the time to find out what will be happening in 2012, sign up to provide your time or food for the youth, and get questions answered.

VISITATION TEAM NEEDS YOU! The Visitation team responsibilities are taking up the registration sheets each Sunday after worship, reviewing them for new visitors, completing a card with name and address of new visitor, and then making a brief thank you visit that Sunday afternoon or evening. We will take an Epworth Mug, Epworth Information Card and Upper Room as appreciation for their visit. We will ask if they have questions about our church and anything else they may want to talk about. The cards with any information that is recorded from the visit is returned to Pastor Jim for follow up. Team members usually are scheduled for one Sunday each month. Training is available. If you would like to participate in this important ministry please see John Cole or call 256-536-0212. Thank you

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE will hold its **1st Quarter Meeting** at 1:30 pm on Sunday, January 8 in the Parlor. We will discuss overall business and major projects for 2012 and your presence is needed. Refreshments will be served.

The **UMW** will hold its **1st Quarter UNIT MEETING** at 2:30 pm in the Parlor on Sunday, January 8. This will immediately follow the Exec. Committee meeting. It is very important that all those who are able attend this meeting. We will discuss and vote on business and missions for 2012. If you have any questions, please call Sarah Edwards at 256-859-5312.


SAVE POP TABS, CAMPBELL'S SOUP LABELS, AND BOX TOPS Epworth MDO is continuing to collect these items. Please support our school program by placing your labels and box tops in the bags hanging halfway down the 3rd floor on the left as they are labeled.

TRUSTEES' MEETING Thursday, January 5, 6:30 p.m. in the choir room.

THE ALTAR GUILD needs help taking down the Chrismon tree on Tuesday, January 3, at 6:00. Anyone wishing to serve on the committee is most welcome.

*The flowers on the Altar are to the
Glory of God*

Searchers Sunday School Class



Welcome to Our Guests

We are honored that you have chosen Epworth United Methodist Church as your place of worship this morning. If you are not active in a church or if you are looking for a new place in a caring, serving church, we invite you to become part of this church family.

Children's Bulletins are available in the Narthex.

Sunday School classes are 9:00-10:00
Thank you for worshipping with us today.

In Memory Of

Bill Schrimsher

Given by Nell Rose Brackett *For* Undesignated

My parents, Tommy & Wilbia Lee Howard

Judee Houston *Van Fund*

In Honor of

Glenda Tilson *The Dave Tilson Family* *Undesignated*

Johnice Young *Jim & Susan Lambert* *Water Wells*

Church Directories are still available. \$2.00 for pages only; \$5.00 with a binder.

It may be that the best way to begin a new year is not to make resolutions. Perhaps the right way to start is to challenge popular wisdom, the common knowledge we think everybody knows without question. For example, everybody knows that every fourth year is a leap year. The problem is that it isn't. You can look it up. Everybody knows a brick falls from a height faster than a penny. But Galileo disproved that idea centuries ago.

Everybody knows three wise men arrived in Bethlehem soon after the shepherds to worship the baby Jesus in a manger. But Matthew doesn't say any of that. We don't know how many Magi there were. Matthew said nothing about a stable or a manger. Mary and Joseph were in a house by the time the Magi arrived.

Foolish wise men. They left an easy life to follow a star. They risked everything in an unchartered desert full of thieves who preyed on unprotected travelers. They could have stayed home and been safe. They could have saved money rather than spending it on expensive gifts. Everybody knows they took crazy risks and apparently didn't give a hoot about conventional notions.

All this to say that because everybody believes something doesn't necessarily mean it's true. Sometimes Christianity requires that kind of healthy skepticism and the wise men are good models for us in that sense. Those men were wise enough to doubt what everyone else considered unquestioned truth; they took an I-don't-know-about-that-attitude.

May God grant us grace and courage to doubt what everybody knows and to set our course according to what God knows.

RECYCLE CELL PHONES & EYE GLASSES There is a basket on the table in the Narthex where you can leave your old cell phones & eye glasses to be recycled and help women of domestic violence and also those who need glasses and cannot afford them.

PRAYER CONCERNS We would like to begin the new year with a new prayer list. If you have someone on the list, please fill out the prayer needs in the bulletin and place it in the offering plate, e-mail us at umc@hiwaay.net, or call the church office at 256-536-1559.

Cameron Lee Walton
 210 Darsey Court
 Meridianville, AL 35759



<i>Happy New Year!</i>	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Stewardship</u>
	December 25, 2011	December 25, 2011
	Christmas Eve: 247	General \$2,877.00
	Worship: 104	Building Fund 590.00
		Poinsettias 93.00
		Behold 250.00
		Fulton Family 40.00
		Water Well 824.00
		Other 10.00
		Total \$4,684.00

THOSE WHO SERVE

Month of January

Trustee Patrick Jones
Ushers Jimmy & Pinna Gattis, John & Barbara Cady
Altar Guild Linda Hooper
Counters Jimmy Gattis, Charles Avery
Communion Servers Ben Bierig, John Cole, Randall & Leslie Shepard
Communion Steward Joyce Smith

January 1

Liturgist Sarah Edwards
Greeters Scott & Cathy Seals, Chris & Beth Marshall

Children's Church Volunteers

Nursery Volunteers

Visitation

Sound Scott Jones/Richard Wilson
Prayer Chapel Mary Anne Bott

January 8

Liturgist Boyd Hawkins
Greeters Rock Wilson, Teresa Parker, Jimmy & Pinna Gattis

Children's Church Volunteers

Nursery Volunteers

Visitation

Sound Scott Jones/Richard Wilson
Prayer Chapel Johnice Young



Prayer concerns and praises for the week of December 25, 2011

Jo Ann Berry

Mildred Barnes	Dub Hawkins	James Pyszka
Lindsey Benefield	Mildred Hopper	George Quann
Miles Blackwell	PVT Chris Howser	Pat Reid
Florence Blevins	Clay Huskey	Carla Saint
Betty Boyle	Joe Hyde	Ethel Short
Helen Branum	Darby Jones	Max Shotts
Ann Burlison	Marge Jones	Ann Smith
Jason & Alexis Burge	Mary Ann Kirkland	Jack Smith
Mac Buttram	Carolyn Knight	Frances Slayton
Lois Clark	Donna Kuiper	Nell Stone
Austin Childers	Lakelee Leach	Earl Stringfellow
Hazel Cowley	Bill Lozier, Sr.	Emily Mathis Thornton
Debbie Deerman	Marie Luzinger	Riner Tuck
Fannie Mae Falkenberry	Kim McMillion	Rhonda tucker
Candy Farrier	Dee McPeters	Wanda Walter
Kim Fikes	Vickie Manhart	Angie Watson
Chris Franklin	Zach Martin	Freda Wells
AIC Trey Franklin	Dan Mills	Sherrie Hill Wells
Virginia Franklin	Fred & Mary Moffitt	Renee' White
Elizabeth Harvey	Shelia Moore	Leslie Wilson
Jennifer Harvey	Dounda Olson	Jimmy Zielinski

Prayer Needs:

I am requesting prayer for _____

Situation/relationship: _____

____ Please contact me. _____ Please list this prayer request in the bulletin.

____ I would like to talk with a staff member about joining Epworth UMC.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail _____

Epworth United Methodist Church

2102 Epworth Drive Huntsville, AL 35811

Website address: www.epworthumc.net

Office email: eumc@hiwaay.net Church Office: 256-536-1559

Reverend Jim Stringfellow, Senior Pastor

Renee' Rowse, Children Ministries Director Erin Hicks, Youth Director

Judy Panucci/Valerie Jones, MDO/Pre-K/Kindergarten Directors

Eric Wilson, Music Ministry Director Nicky Wilson, Organist/Pianist

Jimmy Gattis, Treasurer Larry Mathis, Assistant Treasurer Leone Purser, Secretary

Ongoing Weekly Events and Meetings Listed Below

Sunday School	9:00 am - 10:00 am	
Sunday Worship	10:15 am	
	5:00 pm - 7:00 pm	Youth
Monday	9:30 am - 1:30 pm	MDO/Pre-K/Kindergarten
	6:00 pm - 9:00 pm	Cub Scouts/Boy Scouts/Pack 96
Tuesday	9:00 am - 1:30 pm	MDO/Pre-K/Kindergarten
	10:00 am	Lydia Circle-Parlor (every 3rd Tuesday)
	4:00 pm - 5:00 pm	Girl Scouts - Art Room
	6:30 pm	Stitchers, Etc. - Parlor (2nd & last Tuesday of each month)
	6:30pm - 8:00	Chis Marshall's basketball team practice
Wednesday	9:00 am - 1:30 pm	MDO/Pre-K/Kindergarten
	7:00 pm - 8:00 pm	Adult Choir
Thursday	9:30 am - 1:30 pm	MDO/Pre-K/Kindergarten
	9:30 am	Adult Bible Study—Parlor
	6:30 pm	Trustees Meeting—Choir Room - first Thursday of each month
	6:00 pm	Open Basketball
	6:00 pm	Rebecca Circle - Parlor - 3rd Thursday
Friday	9:30 am - 1:30 pm	MDO/Pre-K/Kindergarten

Wish to Join? Questions about Membership?

You may join Epworth United Methodist Church by

- Confession of Faith** - the initial entrance into membership in the church when you confess Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior.
- Reaffirmation of Faith** - renewing your initial confession of faith after a period of inactivity or not being on a church membership roll.
- Transfer of Membership** - from another United Methodist congregation or from a Christian church of another denomination. We recognize baptism from all other Christian churches.

If you have questions about baptism or church membership, please contact the office at 256-536-1559 or eumc@hiwaay.net, and our pastor will be pleased to meet with you.

“Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.” [Matthew 11:28 NIV](#)

