



Worship Announcements for Mother's Day Offering

Please invite your Epworth Local Church Representative (or pastor if an LCR is not available) to share the following with your congregation during worship announcements in the weeks leading up to the Mother's Day Offering.

ANNOUNCEMENT #1

Mother's Day is next Sunday, and it's a day that brings up a variety of emotions for all of us. For the children at Epworth Children's Home, these emotions are front and center as they go through this time of year without their mothers. It is our role as Methodists to make sure that on Mother's Day and every day, the children at Epworth have everything they need to be loved and grow up happy and healthy.

Epworth is our ministry. It is a place that we can be proud to support. We, as United Methodists, offer children at Epworth safety and security by surrounding them with loving, Christian adults such as educational tutors, counselors, pastors, and cottage parents. Epworth does not receive apportionments from the United Methodist Conference; this is our opportunity to support this ministry. As you prayerfully consider the gift God is calling you to share with Epworth next Sunday, I ask you to remember the children at Epworth and give generously.

ANNOUNCEMENT #2

Epworth Children's Home has been a ministry of our church for more than 125 years. They are not an apportioned item by the SC Conference, which means they receive no funding from the conference other than our offerings. They rely heavily on the donations received from our Mother's Day offering to provide direct care for the children residing at Epworth, as well as for the children and families receiving care and support in Epworth's variety of ministries, from the babies in the Family Care Center to the young adults in Independent Living.

When a child is connected with Epworth, they have experienced a great deal of loss. For Epworth, it isn't enough to answer God's call to care for the least of these by simply providing room and board. They go above and beyond offering the children tutoring to get them caught up at school; counseling to help them heal emotionally; quality medical care, knowing that many of the children have never seen a doctor or dentist. Epworth also offers spiritual formation and guidance that encourages true healing through Christ. Epworth Children's Home ensures the children are surrounded by loving Christian adults so they can break the cycle of abuse, neglect, and shame and replace it with a life of self-respect, responsibility, and productivity.

We have a large part in making all this possible for the children. These children come from communities in South Carolina just like ours. They are our neighbors, and we are called to provide for them. I ask you to give generously today and stand with Epworth as they work to break the cycle. Be part of something that lasts – a child's future.

Video Introduction

Optional - videos available at <https://vimeo.com/user137536566>.