

Ebenezer United Methodist Church

August – September 2016

A Note from Your Pastor

Rev. Judy Emerson



It's hard to believe I have already begun my eleventh year at Ebenezer. How the time has flown by! My ministry officially began here on July 1, 2006 when I was called to be your Pastor. One of our first challenges together was to finalize the purchase of five acres of land and we accomplished that by December of that year.

As I became acquainted with Ebenezer in those early days I learned of the challenges we would face together; paying off the "funds not yet disbursed column" in our annual budget, maintaining an aging building, filling open staff and volunteer positions, updating computers and office equipment, wiring infrastructure, replacing a barely functioning phone system and the list could go on.

Now, ten plus years later the list of issues is different, the finances are in good order, we have a food pantry ministry that serves our community on a regular basis and we are all excited about the future construction plans for a new building. With God's help we've worked hard and accomplished a lot!!!!

Yes, we're healthy and growing, but there is more to being a church. Stability can bring complacency and self-satisfaction. I believe our congregation works hard not to allow this to happen. Each year the leaders of our church use the fall months to begin framing goals for the coming year.

Through much prayer and discussion, we begin a process of discernment for where and how God is calling us to serve and grow as a congregation. I invite all of the members and friends of Ebenezer to enter into this process by giving prayerful consideration to what God is saying to you regarding the programs and ministries of Ebenezer UMC. Please share your insights with me in order that I may bring them to the conversation during our leadership meetings this fall. At our annual planning day in January all will be invited to join in a time of discernment together as we set our goals for 2017.

As we gear up for all of the activities this fall will surely bring, I pray that the summer months have provided a time of rest and renewal for you. If it hasn't, you still have time. Many of us spend a great deal of money on vacations in pursuit of rest. We seek rest and we need rest. The Lord granted humanity a day for rest because He understood this basic need. God also rested after all His works. We even learn from Christ that the "Sabbath was made for humankind" (Mark 2:27). Before we return to the busyness of our fall schedules take time to rest physically and spiritually. Find ways to refresh your body and your soul in order that you may be better prepared to serve in Jesus' name.

Beginning **Sunday, September 11th** we are going back to our normal worship schedule with 8:30 AM and 11:00 AM traditional worship and 9:45 AM Sunday School for all ages. We will continue with Children's Church during the 11:00 AM worship on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month.

May these remaining summer days be a time of rest and renewal.

Northeastern Elects Easterling as Bishop

July 15, 2016



By Beth DiCocco*

LANCASTER, Pa. (UMNS)—With 119 votes, 18 more than she needed, LaTrelle Miller Easterling was elected as bishop by the Northeastern Jurisdiction on July 14.

Easterling, an elder in the New England Conference, most recently served as superintendent of the Metro Boston Hope District, and was named dean of the cabinet in June. Easterling was the second and final bishop election for the Northeastern Jurisdiction. In introducing his newest colleague on the United Methodist Council of Bishops, Bishop Sudarshana Devadhar called Easterling “a prophetess, a pastor who leads the church from her spiritual center, and above all, a beloved sister in Christ who always, always has a passion for the marginalized.” Easterling told the member conferences of the Northeastern Jurisdiction that no matter where it is, “If God sends me there, I will never look back.” “I always, always, always stand on the side of justice,” she said, “but I draw the circle wide enough for all of us to be there – and when I say all, I mean all.”

She became district superintendent in 2012, succeeding the late Martin D. McLee, who was elected bishop that year. She has followed McLee’s path to the episcopacy having served as pastor of Union United Methodist Church in Boston and then as superintendent of the same district he had served.

Guiding hand of Christ An Indianapolis native, Easterling, 51, told those at the jurisdictional meeting about a Friday night when she was 16 and sitting in the back of her hometown church. “All of a sudden something started tingling in me,” she said, and her

peers asked what she was doing as she moved toward the front. “There was a hand that guided me down that aisle and I gave my life to Jesus Christ and I have never looked back.” Easterling admitted that she “tried to run” from the call to ministry, “but God was faithful,” and for five days woke her at 3:33 a.m. to say: “Preach My Word.”

She said the Scripture that has carried her through the election process is [Jeremiah 12:5](#), and displaying her gifts as a preacher, said: “Beloved, we got some horses we got to run with, because we have work to do. We have to come out of the safe places and get into the thickets that means where gonna get bruised, that means we’re going to get pricked, that means we’re going to bleed, but in the name of Jesus ...” Easterling was ordained a deacon in 1995 and an elder two years later. She graduated from the Boston University School of Theology *summa cum laude* in 2004. She was a delegate to General Conference in 2012 and 2016, and served on the NEJ’s Multi-Ethnic Center Board. She also served on the conference board of ordained ministry.

Easterling earned her bachelor’s degree at Indiana University, and her law degree from the university’s School of Law. Before entering full-time ministry, she worked as a mediator and as a Human Resources Manager and Director. She is married to the Rev. Marion Easterling, Jr., the pastor of Parkway United Methodist Church in Milton, Massachusetts. They are the parents of two sons, Garrett Walter and Miles Teronza.

Easterling is the second of two African-American women elected as bishop at this conference. The first was the Rev. Cynthia Moore-Koikoi. When asked during the interviews about inclusivity, Easterling said, “I know what it feels like to be excluded. I know what it feels like to be present but ignored.” But getting to know one another can change that, she said.

“Once we get to know each other, it’s almost impossible to hate, it’s almost impossible to continue excluding, it’s almost impossible to remain where you were. We are changed when we hear one another’s story.”

DiCocco is director of communications for the New England Conference. Media contact: Linda Bloom contact here at (615)742-5470 or newsdesk@umcom.org

WORSHIP SCHEDULE



**All are
Welcome**

*August 7th - September 4th
Worship is at 10:00 AM only.*

*September 11th we will return
to 8:30 AM and 11:00 AM with
Sunday School for all ages at
9:45 AM*

Children's Church

*During 11:00 AM Worship on the
2nd and 4th Sundays of the Month*



We will continue to offer Children's Church on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month. The kids can join Mrs. Hare during worship on these weeks as she has some wonderful stories and activities planned! Older youth are encouraged to provide their usual assistance when possible!!



Communion

Servers

On the 1st Sunday of every month we celebrate the sacrament of the Lord's Supper. Each time we come to the table we need 4 volunteers to help the Pastor serve the congregation. If you would like to help, please put your name next to the date you can help on the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the narthex.

Confirmation Class

Confirmation is an important time in the life of faith for our young people. It is a time to explore questions about their faith and learn what it means to follow Christ as part of a community of faith. When classes are complete each class member kneels at the altar as their pastor and others place hands on them while a blessing is offered. We celebrate this special time in our church as they make a public profession of faith and become full members of the church. Although confirmation is not a sacrament in The United Methodist Church, it is an important marker along our spiritual journeys.

During the confirmation process we balance bookwork with experience and active participation in the life of the church. The larger the group, the greater the experience. Typically, information about the confirmation process would be sent out at this time of year. Since we have a small group of 8th graders this year we will wait until 2017 and offer confirmation for 8th and 9th graders at Ebenezer UMC. Information will be publicized next summer in order to prepare for the confirmation process. If you have questions, please contact Rev. Judy.

Budget Requests-2017

If you are chairing a committee or leading a program or activity, please submit your 2017 budget requests to Tina Bleken, Chairperson of Finance, no later than Sunday, September 25, 2016.

Our Finance Committee is meeting in October to begin preparations for setting the budget. This will be submitted to Charge Conference on October 25, 2016 and approved at our Administrative Council Planning Day in January, 2017.

Charge Conference 2016

Our Annual Charge Conference this year will be held at Ebenezer United Methodist Church on Tuesday, October 25, 2016 at 5:30 PM in the Fellowship Hall. We will begin with dinner at 5:30 PM and eat and meet as we do the work of our annual meeting with our District Superintendent, Rev. J.W. Park. Our meeting will conclude by 7:00 PM.

If you are the Chairperson of a committee, please make every effort to attend. All are invited to participate in this gathering. The purpose of this meeting is to review and evaluate the total mission and ministry of the church, receive reports, set the pastor's salary, nominate leadership and adopt objectives and goals recommended by the administrative council that are in keeping with the objectives of The United Methodist Church. Our annual charge conference provides an open dialogue and point of connection between Ebenezer United Methodist Church and the Baltimore Washington Conference of the United Methodist Church. Please plan on joining us for this gathering.

Ebenezer UMC Scholarship Committee

Congratulations to Jeff Arnold, Kathleen Biddinger, Eric Brown, Rebecca Estes, Rosie Klausmeyer and Olivia Wisner. They have been awarded scholarships for this school year.

Treasurer's Tidbits

Spring Fling

All income and expenses for Spring Fling 2016 have been tallied and the profit for this year is **\$9,580.51**.

A HUGE thank you to all who worked, donated, and supported this event. All profit goes towards the general budget.

Blessings,
Sandy

Student Service Feed My Sheep

Students in 6th grade and higher may volunteer this summer and earn service-learning hours at the FEED MY SHEEP Soup Kitchen, located at Wesley Freedom United Methodist Church. There is a limit of THREE volunteers each day, so you must sign the sheet posted on the narthex bulletin board.

The sign-up sheet is posted in the Narthex. Student volunteer duty time is 10:30AM-1:00PM. Ebenezer hosts the meal on the second Monday of each month and students from Ebenezer will get first priority on these days. Our church is scheduled for August 8th, 2016. Remember to bring your service-learning form to be signed for credit.

Building on Our Rock of Faith Capital Campaign



Approaching Local Businesses for Support

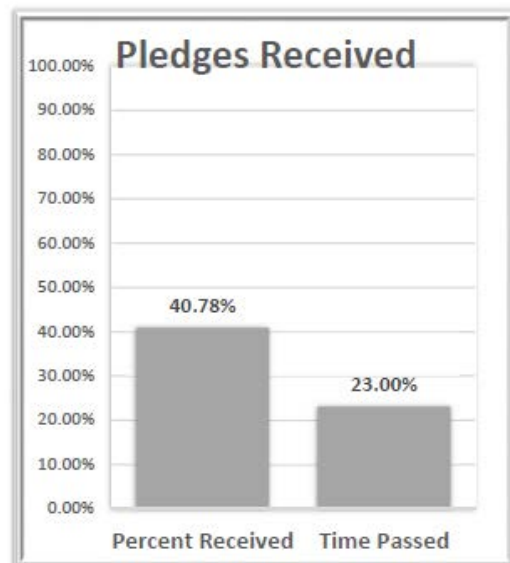
The congregation of Ebenezer UMC very generously responded to our Capital Campaign this year. It is now time to consider asking local businesses to contribute to our efforts. If each of us is willing to approach even ONE local business in the Community, seeking a financial donation, it would make a huge difference! When asking for assistance to do the work of the Lord - never hesitate! Scripture reminds us and empowers us saying that we are to love the Lord our God with all our heart and with all our soul and with all our mind and with all our strength. Scripture also says to love our neighbor as ourselves. There is no commandment greater than these the gospel of Mark tells us. Please prayerfully consider ways you can help us seek the support we now need from our community. Together we can take the ministries we share to a new level of service and share God's love in even greater ways in Jesus' name!

There is a sign-up sheet in the narthex. Please write your name and the name of the business you plan to contact on the chart and we will send you information to utilize when asking for support. Please **DO NOT** approach a business until you have received a packet of information from the church office!

EUMC's Building Project Update Summer 2016

From 1/2014 Through 06/30/2016

Total Pledged	\$333,344.00
Pledges Received	\$135,943.37
Percent Received	40.78%
Time Passed	23.00%
Pledged Remaining	\$197,400.63



Receipts			
	Pledged	Unpledged	Grand Total
<10/01/2015			
<10/01/2015		\$26,425.00	\$26,425.00
2015			
Oct	\$31,847.75	\$2,025.00	\$33,872.75
Nov	\$5,946.00	\$766.00	\$6,712.00
Dec	\$30,860.00	\$425.00	\$31,285.00
2016			
Jan	\$20,180.00	\$2,630.00	\$22,810.00
Feb	\$3,813.87	\$1,210.13	\$5,024.00
Mar	\$4,341.75	\$50,762.50	\$55,104.25
Apr	\$27,962.00	\$51,930.00	\$79,892.00
May	\$6,954.00	\$2,613.00	\$9,567.00
Jun	\$4,038.00	\$6,550.00	\$10,588.00
Grand Total	\$135,943.37	\$145,336.63	\$281,280.00

Church Fellowship

Church Family Picnic

Please join us on Sunday August 28th following the church service for our annual church family picnic. It will be held at Piney Run State Park. We have rented the centrally located large pavilion, which is handicapped accessible, close to the restrooms, and beside the tennis/basketball courts.

Ebenezer will provide hamburgers and hot dogs for lunch and we are asking each family to bring a dish/dessert and beverage to share.

Carroll County residents must pay \$5.00 per car and Seniors 62 and over are free. Out of county residents are \$10.00 per car.

There is plenty to do! The nature center is open noon - 5:00 PM. They offer rentals on canoes/kayaks/rowboats for \$9.00 per hour, pedal boats \$9 per half hour. Bring your fishing gear and kids 15 and under do not need a fishing license. Bring your tennis rackets and basketball. A good time is to be had by all. Please see sign-up sheet.

Church Family Camping

Friday, Sept. 30th - Monday Oct. 3rd, 2016

(No school on Monday)

CAMP HARMISON - Meadow Pavilion
Near Berkley Springs, W VA

There is a Pavilion with a community kitchen with cooking supplies, bathhouse, large recreation field, access to Sleepy Creek and a dump station.

Cost: RV and pop up- \$30.00 per night up to two people, \$5 per additional person per night.

Tent: \$7.00 per night per person

Additional \$2 per night for electric hook up.

A sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board

~A Look Ahead~

Church Christmas Dinner

Saturday, Dec 3rd

Winfield Fire Hall



Holly Mart

Craft Work Days

August 10th, 17th and 31st

September 14th, 21st and 28th

9:30 AM to 12:00 Noon

Any time you can offer would be helpful. We are short on volunteers and November will be here before we know it.

Any crafts or sewing projects you can work on at home to donate would be appreciated as well!

Check with Linda to see if we have donated supplies you may need.

We are also in need of Christmas fabric scraps that we can use for Jar Mix covers. Fabric can be dropped off in the craft closet in the back of the fellowship hall.

Thanks in advance for the help,

Linda Bennett

bennettga@aol.com

[301-253-3367](tel:301-253-3367)

Children's Choir

Swim Party- Friday, August 19th
5:00 PM at the Jones

All children pre-K (4 yr. olds) - 5th grade are welcome to join one of the children's choirs. The extremely flexible choir director understands if you have other commitments and can't make all practices.

You do not need to be in the choir to attend the party. All children, babies-12th graders, and their families are welcome to attend the swim party. Please contact Julie Jones with any questions juliejones3@comcast.net or [410-795-2890](tel:410-795-2890)

A Special Musical Invitation!

Calling all people who love to sing!
Please consider joining the chancel choir in our musical ministry. Wednesday rehearsals are **NEVER** dull. Come praise and rejoice in song.
Our first rehearsal will be September 5th at 7:30 PM. Don't hesitate, we have a place for you.

Musically yours,
Linda



Coming in September

Youth Group Kick off

Youth Group will be meeting on Sunday evenings from 5:00 - 7:00 PM. Our plan is to meet twice a month with an additional outing on a Friday or Saturday. Light meal will be provided for part of the event.

Our first gathering will be on September 18th. Youth from 6th to 12th grade will gather for an evening of fun and fellowship. Middle school grades 6 - 8, and High school grades 9 - 12 will begin the evening together before going to their own age group.

Bring a friend! But please let Ms Nancy know that you can attend!

Please RSVP to Nancy Thompson

410-241-1509, or
threetsmicheast@aol.com

Fall Bible Studies

There will be daytime and evening opportunities to participate in bible studies this October and November. Please look for bulletin announcements soon.

Camp Hope Team



Christian Appalachian Mountain Project
Helping Other People Enthusiastically



The Ebenezer UMC CAMP HOPE team would like to thank the entire congregation for their support in making this year's trip a great success. Our group of youth and adult counselors worked excellently and compassionately to help 3 families in and around the Cumberland, MD area.

From building wheelchair ramps to renovating screen doors, our teams brought God's light to the homes and surrounding neighborhoods.

We were extremely proud and fortunate to have our own Ebenezer family help kick off the week at Camp with the serving of the CAMP HOPE dinner. We were cheered on mid-week from special visitors, Rev. Judy and Susan Brown and finished strong with a sun-soaked

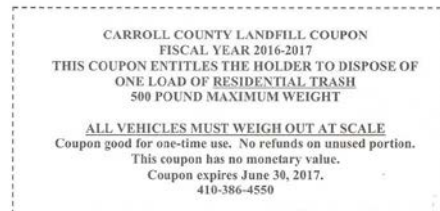
Thursday together as a team at Rocky Gap State Park.

As we return to our everyday lives and the chaotic summer season, we are sure you may hear of some of the stories and adventures our team has to share. We would like to invite the congregation to come see our slideshow presentation showing the work projects we completed this summer and hear from the youth and their experiences at CAMP HOPE Sunday on September 4th, 2016 at 10 AM.

We hope everyone enjoys the rest of their summer and we look forward to seeing everyone at CAMP HOPE Sunday!

God Bless,

Ebenezer UMC CAMP HOPE Team



Camp Hope

Save your Carroll County Landfill Passes, we can use them if you do not plan on using them.

Do you have a small job, or yard work you need done this fall? Consider asking the Camp Hope team.

You supply what is needed, (example - mulch for yard work) we do the job and ask for a donation for our Camp Hope fund. Coordinating of projects and times should be directed to Nancy Thompson.

Backpack Ministry

It's time to start filling backpacks again! Just like last year, you can take one of the cards from the giant backpack in the Narthex. Buy a backpack and the items on the list and put them in the backpack. Please hang the tag on the outside of the backpack and return to church by Sunday August 7. If you wish, you can instead make a donation to purchase supplies, please mark your donation "Backpack Ministry".

If you would like to donate supplies for backpacks, instead of filling a backpack, below is a list of what we need most.

- Glue Sticks
- Pencils
- 24 pk. crayons
- 8 pk. Wide markers
- Highlighters
- Blunt scissors
- 12 pack colored pencils
- Package of pencil top erasers
- Low odor black dry erase markers
- Zippered pencil case

You can also donate an empty backpack. Please no character backpacks, we have plenty of extra backpacks for the lower grades, but need some for older students.

Rock of Help Food Pantry

Non-Food item:

August - Paper Towels

September - Toothbrushes and/or
Toothpaste

Amazon Smile Program

Great News! Note and instructions on how you can help our church - Ebenezer United Methodist Church - feed, clothe, house, and support our neighbors-in-need at no direct cost to you, thanks to the Amazon Smile program.

Here are the instructions IF you ever shop online at Amazon...

1. go to smile.amazon.com instead of the usual Amazon.com site
2. search for and select Ebenezer United Methodist Church as your supported charity.

You will find 4 Ebenezer s in SMILE; ours clearly says Sykesville, Md.

From then on, EUMC automatically receives 1/2 % of all your purchases. The only difference in your shopping experience is having to go to smile.amazon.com

There ya go!

Thanks from the bottom of our Jesus loving hearts. Every dollar we receive is matched by many, many hours of volunteer service from members of the congregation. We have a very big footprint for a small church.

Please SHARE wide and far.



AUGUST & SEPTEMBER CELEBRATIONS



<u>Birthdays</u>	<u>Anniversaries</u>
<u>August</u>	
Laura Holt – 8/4	Jim & Susan Brown – 8/2/91
Susan Brown – 8/8	Jim & Doris Leary – 8/12
Chris Will – 8/9	Billie & Bonnie Zavona – 8/14/91
Jim Lutz – 8/10	Ron & Linda Bange – 8/29
Stephanie Wells – 8/10	Tony & Sharon Torosky – 8/29/64
Ally Kessinger – 8/14	
Sammy Jaharias – 8/25	
Brian Rapids – 8/25/72	
Linda Bennett – 8/25	
<u>September</u>	
Jim Huff – 9/1	
Brittany Bergmann – 9/2/84	
David Rapids – 9/3/02	
Lisa Piecewicz – 9/7/73	
Olivia Piecewicz – 9/10/05	
Nancy Huff – 9/18	
Ryan Piecewicz – 9/19/08	
Ruth Bennett – 9/21	
Ken Middleton – 9/24/57	
Heidi Davis – 9/29	

Remember that
the Lord is great
and awesome!

Nehemiah 4:14B

And so are the many volunteers, adult and youth, who helped to make Vacation Bible School 2016 a great success. While there are way too many to name, I hope they all know how much they are appreciated.



Next year - same time - same place - same fun!





We've made it easy for you to help us reach our fundraising goal!

Schwan's Home Delivery offers over 350 delicious foods, flash-frozen at the peak of freshness & conveniently delivered to your door.

Through Schwans-Cares.com, you can order from Schwan's Home Delivery and help our organization meet its fundraising goals. When you order by **Sep 03 2016**, 20% of product and 40% of eGift Card sales will go back to the organization.

Here are two ways to support us!

ORDER ONLINE:

1. Visit www.schwans-cares.com/c/28051
2. Click "Shop to Give"
3. Select team member, if applicable
4. Start shopping !

ORDER BY PHONE:

Call 1-855-870-7208 and provide Campaign ID: **28051** and Team Member ID, if applicable.



502 Unbreaded Chicken Breast



404 Oven Baked Chicken Breast



496 Fire Grilled Chicken Breast Strips



458 Black Angus Burgers



393 Boneless Pork Loin Chops



450 Chicken Lo Mein Skillet Meal



503 Ancient Grain Encrusted Cod



414 Oven Roasted Chicken Wings with BBQ Dry Rub Seasoning



781 Asparagus Spears



804 Whole Blueberries "All Natural"



811 Fully Cooked Bacon Slices



898 Sausage, Egg & Cheese Breakfast Sandwich



518 Chicken Fries



644 Chocolate Chip Frozen Cookie Dough



603 Pizzeria Pepperoni Pizza



204 Vanilla Ice Cream

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AUGUST 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Worship 10:00 AM ONLY	1	2	3	4	5	6
7 Backpack Supplies Due	8 Feed My Sheep 10:30 AM	9	10 Holly Mart Crafts 9:30 - Noon	11	12	13
14 No Children's Church	15	16 Brinton Woods 10:30 AM	17 Holly Mart Crafts 9:30 - Noon	18	19 Aviation Day Children's Party at the Jones'	20 Food Pantry 9 - 11 AM
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28 Children's Church 10 AM Church Family Picnic	29 Administrative Council Meeting 7:00 PM	30	31 Holly Mart Crafts 9:30 - Noon			

SEPTEMBER 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Fall Schedule Worship 8:30 & 11:00 AM Sunday School 9:45 AM				1	2	3
4 Worship 10:00 AM ONLY	5 Labor Day	6	7 Choir Rehearsal Starts	8	9	10
11 Fall Schedule Starts Children's Church 11 AM	12 Feed My Sheep 10:30 AM	13	14 Holly Mart Crafts 9:30 - Noon	15	16	17 Food Pantry 9 - 11 AM
18 Youth Group Kick Off 5:00 - 7:00 PM	19	20 Brinton Woods 10:30 AM	21 Holly Mart Crafts 9:30 - Noon	22 Autumnal equinox	23	24
25 Children's Church <u>11 AM</u> Budget Reports Due to Tina	26	27	28 Holly Mart Crafts 9:30 - Noon	29	30 Church Family Camping	