

Ebenezer United Methodist Church

MISSION STATEMENT:

TO PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

TO SHARE GOD'S LOVE

TO MAKE DISCIPLES OF JESUS CHRIST

FEBRUARY - MARCH 2017

4901 Woodbine Road
Sykesville, MD 21784

www.ebenezerumchurch.org
eumcwinfield@gmail.com

Church office hours
Tuesday - Wednesday -
Thursday
9:00 AM - 2:00 PM
410-795-6136



Sunday mornings at
8:30 AM
&
11:00 AM



For ALL Ages
Sunday
9:45 AM - 10:45 AM

Church Leadership

Administrative Council Leaders

Chairperson	Kate Luetze
Vice-Chairperson	Carolene Will
Lay Leader	Ken Middleton
Lay Members to Annual Conf	Lori Rapids
	Susan Brown

Staff Members

Pastor	Rev. Judy Emerson
Church Secretary	Cindi Arnold
Music Director/ Organist	Linda Bange
Church Treasurer	Sandy Wean
Nursery	Jess Middleton
Coordinators	Olivia Wisner

Ad Council Members

Trustees Chairperson	Mel Wroten
Finance Chairperson	Tina Bleken
Endowment Chairperson	Steve Bergmann
Staff Parish Relations	Deb Mathias
Worship Chairperson	Susan Brown
Evangelism Chairperson	Rebecca Wisner
Missions Chairperson	Sue Bergmann
Communications	Ellie Baublitz
Capital Campaign Chair	Rev Chuck Shacochis
Cemetery Chairperson	Kenny Wean
Sunday School	Kim Middleton
Youth Ministry	Nancy Thompson
Men's Ministry	Scott Murchie
Women's Ministry	Sharon Torosky
Members	Chuck Wisner, Bob Biddinger, Dave Biddinger, Paul Thompson

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.



A Note From Your Pastor by Rev. Judy Emerson

At our annual Administrative Council Planning Meeting on January 7, 2017, the following goals were set for the ministries of Ebenezer United Methodist Church for 2017. Let us all be in prayer that God will continue to guide and direct our ministry as we strive to meet all of these goals and more.

Building Project

Establish a timeline for this project with MP Construction.

Seek final approval from the Baltimore Washington Conference of the UMC.

Seek final approval from EUMC Church Conference for construction to begin.

Provide clear communication throughout process.

Finance

Update current policies and procedures for handling income and expenses.

Place offering envelopes in the pews for the building project.

Facility Transition

Establish a transition team to create and implement a plan.

Moving out of building.

Storage

Maintaining programs and ministries during construction.

Moving into new building.

Missions and Outreach

Expand ministry to the Board of Child Care at Easter and other times.

Increase ways to support Christmas families acknowledging birthdays of children...

Explore ways to provide food assistance to children during the summer.

Heighten awareness for supporting global ministries through UMCOR bulletin inserts.

Create greater awareness of local disaster needs encouraging ways to respond.

Other

Continue to grow in faith as we make disciples of Jesus Christ through prayer, study, worship and Christian conversation.

Update church email list for congregational programs, meetings and prayer list.

Introduce new members to the congregation using various forms of communication.

Fundraising Events for 2017

Holly Mart, Pickles, Jams and Jellies sale, Easter Candy, Spring Fling, Schwann's, Amazon Smile, Rada Knives, LuLaRoe Sale.

Fellowship Events for 2017

Family Camping, Church Picnic, Game Night, Mystery Dinner, Christmas Dinner, Trunk-or-Treat, Easter Egg Hunt.

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

**February 28, 2017
5:00 PM to 7:30 PM**

On Tuesday, February 28, 2017 from 5:00 PM until 7:30 PM, all are invited to stop by the church for our Annual Pancake Supper. This year Shaun Arnold will coordinate the dinner with his Scout Troop in order to raise funds for his Eagle Scout Project. Shaun's project includes building picnic tables and benches for our playground behind the church parsonage. He will also work with our Board of Trustees to put in a foundation around the playground in order to make it a safe place for the kids to play. Shaun hopes to complete his project this spring or early summer. Please come and join us for a time of fellowship and good food as we prepare to begin the Lenten Season together. There is no charge for the meal, however, a free will donation toward Shaun's Eagle Scout Project would be greatly appreciated!



Holy Week Schedule

Sunday, April 9, 2017 Palm Sunday

Worship at 8:30 AM and 11:00 AM

Lenten Bible Study 9:45 AM

Friday, April 14, 2017 Good Friday

In the Sanctuary

Worship at 7:30 PM

Thursday, April 13, 2017 Maundy Thursday

In the Fellowship Hall

Covered Dish Dinner at 6:30 PM

Communion Service at 7:30 PM

Sunday, April 16, 2017 Easter Sunday

Sunrise Service at 6:30 AM

Pancake Breakfast at 7:00 AM

Worship at 8:30 AM and 11:00 AM

Sunday School at 9:45 AM

Ash Wednesday

March 1, 2017

At Ebenezer UMC

7:00 AM to 10:00 AM

3:00 PM to 9:00 PM

Lent, the period of 40 days before Easter (excluding Sundays), begins on Ash Wednesday and ends on Holy Saturday, the evening before Easter. During Lent, we enter into a season of preparation, self-reflection and repentance when we seek to literally "turn around" and realign our lives and focus toward God. It is a time to give up things as well as take on new life-giving practices, helping us rid ourselves of distractions and our own selfish desires. By doing so, we seek to live and love as more faithful disciples of Jesus Christ.

The first day of Lent marks the beginning of a period of reflection and penance. In the Bible, sprinkling oneself with ashes was traditionally a sign of one's sorrow for having committed sins. In the Christian tradition, Ash Wednesday also marked the beginning of preparation for the understanding of the death and resurrection of Christ. The particular symbolism of ashes for this day comes from a practice in the Roman Catholic churches in which the ashes from the palms used in the preceding year's Palm Sunday celebration are blessed. With these ashes, the marks of a cross are placed on the forehead of each worshiper. This practice has become a part of Ash Wednesday in many United Methodist churches.

On Ash Wednesday, March 1, 2017, Ebenezer United Methodist Church will be open from 7:00 AM until 10:00 AM and again from 3:00 PM until 9:00 PM. During this time, you may stop in the sanctuary for the imposition of ashes, communion and to be in prayer. Lenten devotional materials will be available as well. Please join in this time of prayer as we begin the Lenten Season at Ebenezer United Methodist Church.

Lenten Bible Study

Sunday Morning 9:45 AM

In the Fellowship Hall

March 26th, April 2nd, April 9th

Give Up Something Bad for Lent!

The practice of Lent can easily become routine and mechanical. We can go through the motions without letting them touch our hearts or change our lives. This Bible study will help you take time to make sure that as you give up something, you will gain much more.

During Lent each year, Christians give up something as an act of sacrifice and spiritual discipline. Often it is something like chocolate, knowing that after Easter Sunday they can once again enjoy what they have given up.

Theologian, James Moore, challenges us to take it further—to give up something spiritually that we would be better off not doing. He invites all to seek God's help to focus on eliminating one

habit or attitude that is destructive. Imagine giving up envy, jealousy, self-pity, apathy, procrastination, gossip, resentment, or negative thinking, how much better life would be.

All are invited to use the forty days of Lent as a time to give up something bad for Lent as a way of preparing to fully embrace the Good News of Easter. The Lenten Season begins on March 1, 2017. Take this time to prayerfully consider what Lent means to you, why it is important and why you think people often give up something for Lent. Then give up something bad for Lent. On March 26th, April 2nd and April 9th, we will gather during the Sunday School hour and explore together what the scriptures have to say to us about Lent and the Good News of Easter.

Easter Flowers

We will again be selling Easter Flowers to be displayed in our Sanctuary on Easter morning. Orders are due by March 7th. Order forms are attached and will be available in the narthex.



February 28th



March 1st



April 9th



April 13th



April 14th



April 16th



Women's Retreat - "God's Miracles"

On Friday, March 17, 2017 we will gather at Skycroft Conference and Retreat Center in Middletown, Maryland. Skycroft is located on almost 300 acres atop beautiful South Mountain in Frederick County, Maryland. We will all be housed in motel type rooms. Each room has a private bath and two double beds allowing for two women to a room. Linens are provided for all.

Our retreat schedule will allow time for participants to take advantage of the opportunity to enjoy the beautiful surroundings, indoor and outdoor recreational activities, local outlet shopping and historic sites in the area.

Our retreat theme is based on the movie *Miracles from Heaven*. We will watch this movie together on Friday evening in our own private movie theater. The characters in this movie

will take us on a journey from hardship to healing, helping us to see that God is always with us. Through scripture, prayer, discussion and song we will discover the power of persevering in the face of suffering, the importance of faith and the beauty of everyday miracles.

Everything about our 2017 Women's Retreat will be new this year. We have a new location, new accommodations and a new meal plan. May we discover a new perspective on God's presence in our lives as we travel this path together.

Brochures are in the Narthex. Contact our Retreat Coordinator, Susan Brown [\(410\) 442-2884](tel:4104422884) or by emailing stmpnsusan@aol.com with any questions.

Easter Candy & Desserts

Easter Eggs will be available for purchase again this year. Orders and payments must be turned in by Sunday, April 2nd for pickup on Sunday, April 9th. Limited extras will be available – so get your order in on time!

Not to be outdone, pies and cakes will also be available! Orders for these are due by Sunday, April 9th, with pickup on Saturday, April 15th.

Both order forms are attached.

Spring Fling 2017

Save the date! Spring Fling has been scheduled for Saturday, May 20th. Because of possible construction, we have moved this event to the Winfield Fire Hall. Our first planning meeting will be on Thursday, February 2nd at 6:30 PM. Please come join us!



OWLS

If you are retired or are old enough to be retired, you are eligible for OWLS. It is one of the perks, just like receiving a sweet monthly deposit in your checking account, or finally being on medicare, or getting a discount at McDonalds. Denial of your age will get you nowhere with this group; we celebrate the Golden Years. Our Vanity Plates read,

"60+ & Proud of It"

Membership fees are \$1.00 per month and a covered dish, which may be coleslaw from the deli or a pie from the bakery. Some talented cooks may create delicious casseroles and confections, but a bag

of chips will get you in the door. OWLS meets the first Wednesday of each month from September through June in the social hall. Lunch is at noon, but we gather as early as 11 AM to help setup and to catch up on the latest gossip. There is always a lively program and you don't want to miss the fight at the Christmas Party. Dress is casual, sometimes even ridiculous.

You need not be a member of Ebenezer, all bald heads and gray heads are welcome. Looking forward to seeing you at OWLS,
Diane Biddinger

WoWs

Our 26th Women's Retreat is fast approaching. Dates are March 17-19. We will be in a new retreat location, Skycroft Conference Center in Middletown, Md. We are excited to learn more about "GOD'S MIRACLES". Contact Susan Brown

with any questions. Our Soup & Salad fundraiser for the retreat will be held on Sunday, March 26 after the 11:00 service. Our next meeting will be Thursday, February 16 at 7:00. Hope to see everyone there!

Men's Group

Saturday February 11 - Valentine's Breakfast, IHOP in Westminster
Saturday March 11 - speaker needed
Saturday April 8 - speaker needed
Saturday May 13 - Mother's Day Breakfast, IHOP in Westminster

consider volunteering yourself for a speaking slot on a topic of interest. We've recently had presentations on travel, nature, technology, mission, charitable organizations, and estate planning.

Please if you'd be comfortable,

Thanks, Scott



Brian & Lori Rapids 3/21
Edwin & Ruth Bennett 3/23



February:

Jake Zamostny	2/6
Gary Paulsgrove	2/10
Sharon Torosky	2/10
Bonnie Zavona	2/12
Eric Brown	2/14
Tim Baker	2/15
Bridgett Estes	2/17
Robert & Jennifer Holt	2/18
Gene Will	2/23
Maddie Jones	2/26

March:

Ellie Klausmeyer	3/3
Doris Leary	3/6
Steve Bergmann	3/8
Olivia Wisner	3/14
Andrea Murchie	3/14
Bob Davis	3/16
Edwin Bennett	3/21
Tyler Arnold	3/23
Mel Wroten	3/25



Soup & Salad Fundraiser

Our Soup & Salad fundraiser for the Women's Retreat will be held on Sunday, March 26th after the 11:00 AM service. Please keep this date open and help support our retreat. Delicious soups, salads, desserts and even hot dogs (for the kids) will be available. Costs will be \$8 for adults, \$4 for 4-12 yrs. & free under three. Donation list will be posted on the bulletin board for salads & deserts. We appreciate all your support and hope to see you there.



CAMP HOPE

**Christian Appalachian Mountain
Project Helping Other People
Enthusiastically**

Date Night

In February, we will be having a fundraiser on the 11th. It is a "Date Night". We will provide babysitting at the church from 5:00 to 9:00 PM. One group for toddlers up to age three in the nursery and another group for children up to age 12. There is a signup sheet posted on the CAMP HOPE bulletin board in the hallway. Please help spread the word, share with your friends and enjoy an evening out while we care for your children. It is \$25.00 for the first child, \$5.00 for each additional child in a family. A light meal and snacks will be served. You can make your reservation by signing up on the board or by contacting Nancy Thompson at 410-541-1509.

(Bad weather makeup date is Feb 18, if needed)

Get Ready for Spring!

Keep the Camp Hope team in mind for your spring yard cleanup projects. Many hands make light work and we just ask for a donation to help our fundraising efforts. Contact Nancy Thompson to talk about your needs and to schedule a date for the project.

Youth Group goes Skating



Youth Group

This energetic and enthusiastic group of young people meets two times a month! Between service projects and just having fun together, this group has developed a positive Christian fellowship!

For February and March, we have

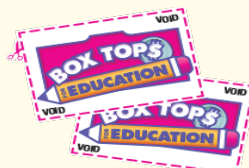
moved our meeting time so it follows the late worship service.

February 12th and 26th and
March 12th and 26th

The Group welcomes all youth, 6th grade and up!

Board of Child Care

Please save your Campbell soup labels and Box Tops for Education tabs for this organization. It is used for many things they need. There is a box in the narthex for collection.





February -
Shampoo/Conditioner

March - Toilet Paper

April - Household Cleaners
(Mr. Clean, etc.)

May - Deodorant

June - Body Wash/Soap

July -
Toothpaste/Toothbrushes

August - Liquid Dish Soap

September - Paper Towels

October - Toilet Cleaner

November - Bleach

December - Fabric Softener
(liquid/dryer sheets)

Please note that there is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board for those wishing to help with the food pantry. Our pantry is available on the 3rd Saturday of each month from 9-11 AM.

Treasurer's Tidbits

by Sandy Wean

Greetings and Happy New Year to Everyone!!!

I am happy to report that our budget ended 2016 on a positive note. We came in under budget and spent less than we collected. Also, our Capital Campaign pledges were very generous in 2016. A HUGE thank you to everyone for your dedication and financial support of God's mission here at Ebenezer. Our little church is totally amazing with what we accomplish.

Our W2 process for the year has been completed, our 2017 budget has

been established and approved and our Statistics Report was submitted to the Baltimore Washington Conference ahead of schedule.

Also, I wanted to say thank you for those who provided the Safeway stamps. I was able to get 6 very nice pieces of cookware for our kitchen at no cost. YEAH!!!! Thank you again for supporting this effort.

I wish all of you a very Happy 2017 and, with your help, I look forward to another very positive year.

Blessings to all,
Sandy:-)

Holly Mart Crafts

We will start Holly Mart Crafts after Spring Fling has been held. This year we will start on Thursday June 8th at 9:30 AM until 12 or 12:30 PM. No experience needed. There is a lot of prep work that can be done.

If we have enough interest in an evening session once a month we will consider doing that. Please let Linda Bennett know if you are interested.

If you can sew and would consider making some things to donate to the craft room it would be appreciated. Also, let me know if you can work on crafts at home. We may have supplies you can pick up that have been donated.

I will also need helpers to make the Easter Candy on Thursday April 6th and Friday, April 7th. If you are able to help it would be appreciated. Again, no experience needed.

Come for fellowship as we fill the candy orders.

Thanks for your prayerful consideration in helping,
Linda Bennett

bennettga@aol.com
[301-253-3367](tel:301-253-3367)

Church Family Camping

Rescheduled - Labor Day 2017 - September 1-4 (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.

MEET MATT AND JESS MIDDLETON

On Sundays, Matt and Jess Middleton can usually be found in the Sunday School nursery, where Jess is one of two nursery coordinators. The couple will be watching their own five-month-old son, Robbie, as well as any other babies and toddlers whose parents are attending worship and/or Sunday School.

The son of Ken and Kim Middleton, Matt is serving a three-year term on the Committee on Lay Leadership. Like his dad, he sings, though the new baby leaves him little time for it, but he can be heard playing trumpet with Ebenezer's instrumental group on occasion.

Matt, of course, grew up at Ebenezer, and Rev. Judy married him and Jess 18 months ago and baptized Robbie this past fall. The couple live in Westminster and the family includes Jess's two sons by her first marriage, Xander LeDuc, 10, and Sammy LeDuc, 8.

Matt and Jess, who also sings, met through chorus at Westminster High School. After high school, they went their own ways and lost track of each other. Jess was married for seven years and had her first two sons, but then divorced. She and Matt bumped into each other one day while out shopping, and re-connected, and the rest is history. She's been attending Ebenezer with Matt for the past three years.

Outside of church, Jess is a stay-at-home mom for baby Robbie,

but is also involved in school and other activities for the older boys, such as being Den Leader for Xander's Cub Pack. Xander is in fifth grade at Friendship Valley Elementary, in Cub Scouts, in school chorus and plays the trumpet. Sammy is in third grade and plays soccer. Matt also helps with soccer and Cub Scouts, but hopes to do more with Xander when he moves up to Boy Scouts in February. On most Sundays, Xander and Sammy go with their father in Littlestown, Pa.

Matt works two jobs, which leaves him with less time than he would like to have with the older boys. He's a scale operator at Waste Connections, a transfer station in Finksburg; and a welder for Hidden Hills Hauling. Much of his free time is taken up with Robbie. "We play with the baby," he said. "That takes up a lot of our time. He's very active."

At five months, Robbie "is starting to scootch across the floor," Jess said. "He can turn himself really well," Matt added.

Robbie also keeps the older boys occupied, especially Sammy. "Sammy has never been an older brother, but now he loves being the older brother to Robbie," Jess said. "He wants to help with him and change his diaper, so long as it's just pee!"

Together, the family enjoys camping and bowling, and Matt likes to hunt. Jess also likes to read mysteries and science fiction, "when Robbie lets me," she said. "And we chase binkies," they said.

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!

ONE SERVICE ONLY! - Sunday, March 26, 2017

**NO 8:30 Service
Sunday School 9:45
Lenten Bible Study 9:45
Children's Church 11 AM
Youth Group 12 Noon
Soup & Salad Luncheon 12 Noon**

Ebenezer United Methodist Church
4901 Woodbine Road
Sykesville, MD 21784
(410) 795-6136

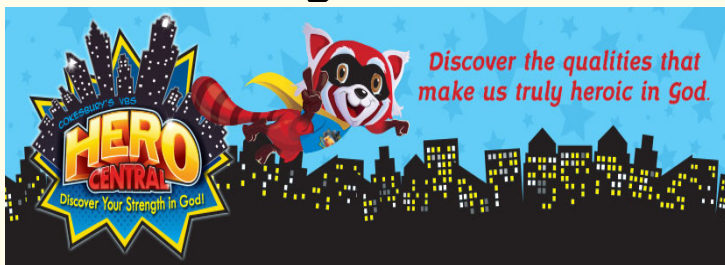


Communication

We have created a new EUMC PrayerChain email list in order to simplify maintenance. If you have been added to the new list from an old one, you should have received a welcome email. If you were on an older list but did not receive that email, or If you would just like to be added to the list, please send a note to the church office.

If you would like to send a prayer request, you may do so by emailing Cindi Arnold at eumcwinfield@gmail.com or Rev. Judy at revjae@aol.com or by calling the church office.

VBS Coming This Summer!



February 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 OWLS luncheon 12 Noon	2 Spring Fling meeting 6:30PM	3	4
5	6 Ad Council meeting 7:00PM	7	8	9	10	11 Men's Breakfast CAMP HOPE Date Night
12 Children's Church 11 AM Youth Group 12 Noon	13 Feed My Sheep 10:30 AM	14 Valentine's Day	15	16 WoWs meeting 7:00 PM	17	18 Food Pantry 9-11 AM
19	20 Presidents' Day	21 Brinton Woods 10:30 AM	22 Trustees meeting 6:30PM	23	24	25
26 Children's Church 11 AM Youth Group 12 Noon	27	28 Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper 5:00-7:30 PM				

March 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Ash Wednesday 7:00-10:00 AM 3:00-9:00 PM	2	3	4
5 Flower orders due	6 Ad Council meeting 7:00PM	7	8	9	10	11 Men's Breakfast
12 Children's Church 11 AM Youth Group 12 Noon	13 Feed My Sheep 10:30 AM	14	15	16	17 Women's Retreat	18 Food Pantry 9-11 AM
19	20	21 Brinton Woods 10:30 AM	22	23	24	25
26 See below	27	28	29	30	31	

NO 8:30 Service

Lenten Bible Study 9:45

Children's Church 11 AM

Youth Group 12 Noon

Soup & Salad Luncheon 12 Noon