

EBENEZER UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

***4901 Woodbine Road
Sykesville, Maryland 21784
Rev. Judith A. Emerson, Pastor***

***April 2, 2017
8:30 AM and 11:00 AM***

The Fifth Sunday in Lent

WELCOME

Lent is a time of repentance, fasting and preparation for the coming of Easter. It is a time of self-examination and reflection. Let us prepare our hearts for worship in silent prayer.

THE PRELUDE *“Jesus Paid It All”* arr. by Larson

LIGHTING THE CANDLES

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Come, people of God, to know again who you are.

We return to the One who gives life.

We come as children of God, longing for a closer walk with our Creator.

The breath of God cleanses, and hope is renewed; life is restored.

We welcome the winds of God among us, the Spirit who offers life!

*HYMN *“Lord, I Lift Your Name on High”* TFWS No. 2088

OPENING PRAYER

Loving God, help us to experience your transcendent power in the midst of our own lives, bringing life out of death, hope out of despair, joy out of sorrow. Help us to find life and peace, even as this season moves us toward Calvary. Speak to us your truth and move us to respond. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of the living and the dead, we confess that sometimes we are more dead than alive to the possibilities you place before us. In the midst of pain, unfairness and destructive forces on all sides, we see little hope. We find it hard to discern a role for ourselves in working for a better world; we seem powerless to change even that little part of the planet where we live. Forgive us and grant us a new vision and vitality. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.

A time of silence for personal confession

ASSURANCE AND PARDON

We are assured that God is already at work in our lives, accepting us where we are and granting us new life. Know that we are being unbound; free to live, able to share in God’s saving action in our midst. Accept the gift of God’s forgiveness and empowerment. Take your place among Christ’s disciples. Amen.

SUNG RESPONSE *“Spirit of the Living God”* UMH No. 393

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Ezekiel 37:1-14 OT pg. 759
In this text the prophet has a vision of the bones of a dead and hopeless people being restored to a new life in their homeland.

GOSPEL LESSON John 11:1-45 NT pg. 98
The Gospel is the story of Jesus’ raising of Lazarus from the dead. This is the last and greatest of Jesus’ signs and it points beyond itself to the hope of new life after death for all.

This is the word of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God. Amen.

SOLO (11:00 AM) *“Give Me Jesus”* Rev. Chuck Shacochis

SERMON *“Take a Breath!”* Rev. Judy Emerson

HYMN *“Breathe on Me, Breath of God”* UMH No. 420

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Joys and Concerns
Pastoral Prayer

GIFTS OF THE PEOPLE

Announcements

Offertory (11:00 AM)

“Jesu, Son of God”

Chancel Choir

*Presentation of Gifts

*Doxology

UMH No. 95

**Praise God throughout these forty days.
Praise Christ, our Lord, whom God did raise.
And praise the Spirit who imparts
God’s love in Christ into our hearts.
Amen.**

*Prayer of Dedication

Bring life, O God, to the mission and ministry of this congregation as we offer our support through our tithes and offerings. Bless us, and all the gifts we bring, in Jesus’ name. Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

UMH No. 15

The 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.

Breaking the Bread and Giving the Bread and Cup

Communion offering for Carroll County Food Sunday

Hymns during communion: #347, #349, #474

Prayer after communion

Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others. In the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*HYMN

“I Am Thine, O Lord”

UMH No. 419

*BLESSING WITH DISMISSAL

*POSTLUDE

TFWS=*The Faith We Sing Hymnal*
UMH=*The United Methodist Hymnal*
* = *Congregation stands as able*

Welcome to Ebenezer United Methodist Church

Website: ebenezerumchurch.org

Church Office Hours -Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM

Worship: 8:30 AM and 11:00 AM

Sunday School: All Ages 9:45 AM

April 2, 2017

Holy Week Schedule

April 9th – Palm Sunday

Worship - 8:30 AM & 11:00 A

Lenten Bible School – 9:45 AM

April 13th – Maundy Thursday

Covered Dish Dinner – 6:30 PM

Worship/Communion – 7:30 PM

April 14th – Good Friday

Tenebrae Service – 7:30 PM

April 16th – Easter Sunday

Sunrise Service – 6:30 AM

Pancake Breakfast – 7:00 AM

Worship – 8:30 AM & 11:00 AM

Sunday School – 9:45 AM

Last Week

Attendance: 154 Offering: \$4,172.00

Notes

Prayer Requests will remain in the bulletin for 3 weeks at a time.

Nursery for Infants through Kindergarten is every Sunday at 8:30 AM and 11:00 AM.

Children's Church for Pre-K through 5th Grades is the 2nd and 4th Sunday at 11:00 AM.

The Attendance Roster is at the end of each pew. Please sign in and pass it to others.

Worship Today

Service	8:30 AM	11:00 AM
Greeters	Jim Leary	Dave Biddinger
Ushers	Mel & Carol Wroten	Paul Thompson & Jim Brown
Liturgists	Carolene Will	Chuck Shacochis

SCHEDULE THIS WEEK

Today, April 2 nd	Lenten Bible Study	9:45 AM
	LuLaRoe Fundraiser	Noon
Monday, April 3 rd	Ad Council Meeting	7:00 PM
Tuesday, April 4 th	Spring Fling Meeting	6:30 PM
Wednesday, April 5 th	OWLS Luncheon	Noon
	Children's Choir	6:30 PM
	Chancel Choir	7:30 PM

ANNOUNCEMENTS

EASTER EGGS - Orders and payments must be turned in TODAY for pickup on Sunday, April 9th. Limited extras will be available – so get your order in on time! Forms are in the narthex.

BAKED GOODS - Orders for these are due by Sunday, April 9th, with pickup on Saturday, April 15th. Extra forms are in the narthex.

MISSIONS WORK DAY - I am looking for 5-6 people to help a local family with a couple home improvement projects this spring. The date for this project would be Saturday, April 22nd. We will be putting up shelving and rods in a closet, installing sliding closet doors and repairing some warped/rotted flooring. If you would like to help with this, please sign up on the sheet on the Narthex bulletin board. Thank you in advance for your willingness to help those in need. Questions? See Sue Bergmann

EASTER EGG HUNT -Saturday, April 15th at 4:00 PM. Infants- 5th graders please join us for a fun time of games, crafts, story, egg hunt and snacks. Contact Julie Jones [410-795-2890](tel:410-795-2890) or juliejones3@comcast.net if you have any questions. Sign up on the bulletin board in the narthex. If you would like to donate candy or anything else to put inside Easter eggs please bring to church by Sunday, April 9th so the youth group can help stuff the eggs.

WOMEN'S RETREAT – Yes – you heard right! 2018 retreat has been booked. Please join us March 9th to 11th at Skycroft for another awesome weekend. Flyers are in the narthex.

SPRING FLING - The next Spring Fling Planning meeting will be on Tuesday, April 4th, at 6:30 PM. Please browse through the various sign-up sheets on the Spring Fling bulletin board in the Narthex to find out where help is needed – food donations, Silent Auction donations, White Elephant items, bake table items, volunteers for setup/cleanup, kitchen, games, white elephant room, various stations. There is room for everyone that can lend a helping hand. And of course – plan to spend the day on April 29th for our fifth annual Spring Fling – music, food, and fun to be had by all.

TOWN MALL – For the month of April, half of the proceeds from the fountain money at Town Mall in Westminster will be donated to Ebenezer UMC Building Fund in memory of Stephen Leary. There will be a sign posted at the fountain (as is a memorial for Stephen). Please check it out next time you are in the mall – and toss in your change!

E.S.C.A.P.E. MINISTRIES, INC. will hold their 25th Annual Ecumenical Hymn Sing on Sunday, April 30th, 2:00 PM, at St. Paul's United Methodist Church in Sykesville. Many of the member Churches are participating along with the Masterworks Chorale of Carroll County. There will be a free will offering to help support emergency assistance provided by E.S.C.A.P. E. Ministries.

