



August – September 2017

CHURCH NEWSLETTER

EBENEZER UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



VBS 2017 – HERO CENTRAL

DO GOOD! SEEK PEACE AND GO AFTER IT!

What a blessing to watch 57 kids come through our doors and go on awesome adventures alongside some of their favorite Bible heroes and discover the qualities that make us truly heroic in God. **VBS Hero Central** used epic music, spectacular science, crafty crafts, heroic recreation and fantastic Bible stories to help kids (and leaders) discover their strength in God!

And what an incredible team we had to make it all happen!

From teaching, to food prep, to decorating, to doing whatever needed to be done, we had it all. And a special shout out to the high schoolers who really worked hard this week.

Whomever said it takes a village was not kidding. But we have that village here at Ebenezer!



SUMMER WORSHIP

From August 6th through September 3rd we will worship at 10:00 AM only.

FALL SCHEDULE

**Begins Sept 10th
Worship 8:30 AM
Sunday School 9:45 AM
Worship 11:00 AM**

CHILDREN'S CHURCH

**We will have Children's Church on August 27th
And September 10th**



Confirmation 2017-2018

"Through confirmation, and through the reaffirmation of our faith, we renew the covenant declared at our baptism, acknowledge what God is doing for us, and affirm our commitment to Christ's holy church." These are words that will be shared on Confirmation Sunday as some of our youth take the vows of membership on their own behalf.

This year we will offer a confirmation class for youth who are in 8th grade or above who have not yet been confirmed. Our class will meet during the Sunday school hour from 9:45 AM until 10:45 AM on Sunday mornings at the church. We will also meet at other specified times throughout the year. The youth will be confirmed on Pentecost Sunday, May 20, 2018 during worship. If your child is interested in participating in the confirmation class this year please complete a registration form and return it by August 15, 2017 with a check for \$50.00 made payable to Ebenezer UMC. This deposit will go toward the cost for the ROCK Event. If this expense creates a hardship for your family, please speak to Rev. Judy.

All youth, parents and mentors will be invited to an informational gathering on Sunday, September 10, 2017 at 9:45 AM in the fellowship hall. During this time, we will discuss the class requirements as our youth begin their journey toward church membership as a Disciple of Jesus Christ.



**Ocean City Convention Center
Ocean City, MD
January 26 - 28, 2018**

*Therefore, encourage one another
and build each other up,
just as in fact you are doing.
1 Thessalonians 5:11*

ROCK is a powerful and fun-filled weekend in Ocean City, MD. The event allows youth and adults to take a step back from their busy lives and learn about the amazing love of Jesus Christ. It is an awesome experience for folks to more

fully connect with God and their friends while listening to great bands and speakers. You will leave ROCK renewed and ready to spread the word about God's great love for us.

ROCK is designed as a retreat with a focus on presenting the Gospel message in an exciting, culturally appropriate way for young people (and now adults, too) to be exposed to and have an opportunity to respond to an invitation to a life-changing relationship with Jesus Christ. All Youth grades 6 and up are encouraged to attend. Please see Rev. Judy if you are interested in participating.



The Shack Bible Study

**Movie at EUMC on Friday,
October 6, 2017 7:00 PM**

**Classroom Discussion and
Study,
October 8th, 15th, 22nd, 29th
during Sunday School 9:45 AM**

It is our hope and prayer that we will find ways to go deeper into the themes of the movie through this powerful study that offers hope for those who have experienced tragedy, are questioning God's love and goodness and for those who want to grow stronger in their faith.



Congratulations to Rosie Klausmeyer who was awarded a scholarship for her sophomore year at Case Western University

From Your Pastor



Rev. Judy Emerson

In the Gospel according to Luke we hear: "But Martha was distracted by her many tasks; so she came to him and asked "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to do all the work by myself? Tell her then to help me." But the Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things; there is need of only one thing." Luke 10:40-42. In Luke we also hear the story of the Good Samaritan who helped a beaten stranger. At the end of the story Jesus commands the Jewish scholar who tested him to "Go and do likewise." Luke 10:37.

When we take a look at these two texts from the Gospel of Luke, it can be very confusing. Do we sit and listen or should we go out and get busy helping others? At first glance we get some mixed signals. Both texts center on responding to the message God brings to us as disciples of Jesus Christ. It is almost as if the story of Mary and Martha picks up where the Good Samaritan leaves off and finishes the story.



One story speaks of loving our neighbor, the other demonstrates how the word of the Lord is an expression of love for God in our busy world. Both stories give us an example for discipleship. They reveal to us that Jesus wants us to love God and our neighbor and to listen to God's word. This means that there will be times when we need to sit and listen as well as times when we need to act. Being a disciple is not one or the other, it involves listening, learning and serving.

As we approach the end of the summer months and the relaxing time it can bring, we are beginning a new school year together once again. As I started my 12th year as the pastor of Ebenezer this July, I began to pray about the many ways we will listen, learn and serve our Lord together during the rest of 2017 and into 2018. I am excited to say we will have many opportunities for all three. In September we will begin a class for youth in 8th grade and up who wish to be confirmed this year. We have an excellent leadership team in place and a wonderful group of youth who are ready to begin exploring what it means to be a disciple of Jesus Christ. Parents, mentors and youth are invited to an informational meeting on Sunday, September 10th during Sunday School. We will meet in the sanctuary.

Our confirmands and other youth are invited to attend the ROCK RETREAT sponsored by the Baltimore Washington Conference of the UMC this year. Together we will travel to Ocean City, Maryland from January 26th – 28th, 2018 and spend the weekend learning about God's love for us. In October we will offer an adult bible study on the popular movie The Shack. On Friday, October 6th at 7:00 PM all participants are invited to meet in the sanctuary to watch the movie together. YES – popcorn and snacks will be available! We will then meet during Sunday School for the next four weeks to discern together what God says to us through this film.

These are just a few of the many things happening at EUMC this fall. Jesus continues to invite us to sit at His feet to listen and to learn, showing us how to love God by loving ourselves and our neighbors. It is very easy for us to become distracted with the busy-ness of serving and overlook the necessity of seeking the Lord's guidance. I pray we will seek a balance between listening and serving in order that we may hear God's word, understand God's ways and respond to God's word!

Blessings,
Rev. Judy

**Ebenezer United
Methodist Church**

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Fall Schedules



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Linda Bange

Music Director

Sandy Wean

Treasurer

Jess Middleton

Olivia Wisner

Bridgett Estes

Nursery Coordinators

FAMILY CHURCH PICNIC

Join us on Sunday, August 27th following the 10:00 AM service at Krimgold Park on Woodbine Rd. Hamburgers and Hot dogs provided. Bring a dish to share, your own beverage and a chair. Fishing (bring your rods), walking trails, playground and games for the children. Fun for all ages. Sign up on the bulletin board.



EBENEZER MEN'S GROUP

The schedule for fall 2017 meetings hosted by the Ebenezer Men's Group is as follows. The spring schedule will come in later this fall. We meet Saturdays for inspiration and fellowship - spouses and friends are invited and welcome. Speakers on various topics of interest are sought - we've covered everything from K9 cops to honeybees to mission to cybersecurity to Pluto. In lieu of a speaker some months, we'll have an inspirational video.

Meeting - Saturday, Sept. 9,
8:30 AM - in Fellowship Hall -
speaker needed.

Meeting - Saturday, Oct. 14,
8:30 AM - in Fellowship Hall -
speaker needed.

Meeting - Saturday, Nov. 4,
8:30 AM - at IHOP in
Westminster.

Meeting - Saturday, Dec. 16,
8:30 AM - in Fellowship Hall -
speaker needed.



COLD WEATHER SHELTER

This year we'll again be providing dinner the one Sunday per month at the Cold Weather Shelter in Westminster, from Nov. 15th through March 31st. In September, there will be a sign-up sheet for both cooks and servers. Typically, we feed ~35 people who REALLY appreciate our help. Preliminary dates are:

CWS dinner - Sunday, Nov. 19
CWS dinner - Sunday, Dec. 17
CWS dinner - Sunday, Jan. 21
CWS dinner - Sunday, Feb. 18
CWS dinner - Sunday, Mar. 18



WoWs

We shared a wonderful dinner in June for our end-of-year gathering. A big thank you to our Men's Group for all their hard work in serving and clean-up. They provided us with a delicious meal. About 23 ladies were in attendance where we shared lots of conversations and fellowship. Hope everyone is enjoying their summertime activities. We will resume our meetings in the fall. Thursday, September 14 @ 7:00 PM will be our first meeting. Hope to see everyone there. All ladies are welcome.





**Our sign at Krimgold Park
compliments of Brenda Baker**



Three teams, three projects,
three completions.....countless
memories, joys and stories. All
priceless!

On August 27th at the
10:00 AM worship service our
volunteers will be sharing brief
moments to highlight what was
accomplished by our teams and
the personal stories of this
experience.

But wait!!!! There's more.....

We begin again to prepare for
next summer's trip. It takes a lot
of time and energy to do the
fundraising needed in order to
help our neighbors in western
Maryland.

If you have a fall yard project you
need help with, think about asking
Camp Hope.

If you have any recyclable items,
aluminum, steel, appliances etc.,
think about donating them to Camp
Hope.

If you need something hauled away
think about contacting Camp Hope.
Simple steps to follow:

- 1) Contact Nancy Thompson -410-241-1509
- 2) You pay for any supplies needed for job.
- 3) Camp Hope provides service through labor or picking up items.
- 4) You give a financial donation to the Camp Hope Fund.

- We can use Carroll County dump passes if you are not going to use yours.

- We continually collect cans and there is a box marked for them in the Sunday school hallway.

We appreciate the support and look forward to another active and successful year!

www.ebenezerumchurch.org



The SPRC is happy to welcome Bridgett Estes as our new nursery coordinator with Jess Middleton. Bridgett will start September 1st. We would also like to thank Olivia Wisner for her years of service in the nursery. Best wishes for her as she completes her degree and moves on. Welcome wishes to Bridgett for stepping into the position.

Blessings to all,
Deb Mathias
SPRC committee chair



Choir Pool Party

Any current, alum, or newly interested children are invited to the choir party on Friday, August 25th at 4:30 at the Jones' house

7251 Lake Hills Ct.
Marriottsville, MD 21104.
Contact Julie Jones for more
info: [410-795-2890](tel:410-795-2890)
juliejones3@comcast.net





Feeding the Community

FOOD PANTRY NEWS

Our food pantry had some “freezer issues” in late June and we lost all our frozen food that was to be given out in July. While I was home recuperating from knee replacement surgery, Tony Sager asked the congregation for donations of frozen chicken and canned chicken and tuna. The response was immediate and we received many donations. What a blessing this church is! Thank you to everyone that donated and please know that you made a difference for the pantry families. Also, thank you to all who helped in any way at the food pantry day in July. I rested easy at home, knowing all was taken care of! We will be giving out shoes to the children that come to the pantry in August, helping get them ready for school. Back to school can be a very exciting time for kids, but it can also be upsetting for those kids whose families don’t have enough money to purchase things like new shoes and clothes. I am so thankful that our church can provide new shoes for these children, helping them feel more confident on their first day of school. Thank you for all the donations to the pantry every month, and also for your prayers.

Sue Bergmann



It’s time to start filling backpacks again! We need to fill about 140 backpacks this year! 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 6th. If you wish, you can instead make a monetary donation to purchase supplies. Please mark your donation “Backpack Ministry” and place in the offering plate. If you would like to donate supplies for backpacks, instead of filling a backpack here 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
Fine tip black or blue dry erase markers
Zippered pencil cases

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.

We will be packing backpacks on Aug. 10th beginning at 9:30 AM, and on Aug. 22nd also beginning at 9:30 AM.



HOLLY MART CRAFTS

Craft Dates:

August 10, 17, 24, and 31st

September 7, 14, 21, 28

9:30 am to around 12 or as much time as you can give.

All help is appreciated, no experience needed. Come join us for fellowship and to help make the Holly Mart craft room a good fundraiser again this year.

Thanks for your help

Linda Bennett

bennettga@aol.com





Treasurer Tidbits

Our 2016 Audit is complete and we received a very positive report from the Auditor with NO recommendations for the next year. YEAH!!! Thanks to all of you for helping me to keep the records and numbers in good shape. I'm thankful for all your support.

Here is some interesting information from Carroll County Food Sunday (CCFS).....They provide support to 58 individuals and families on a daily basis which includes milk vouchers, meat, eggs, tuna, cereal, soup, etc. They provide "veggie vouchers" ranging from \$5 to \$15 each week to be redeemed for fresh produce at participating farmers' markets throughout the county. For 19 years, the children at Runnymede Elementary School have participated in an annual "Food Sunday Walk". This year they presented CCFS with a check for \$10,316. Over the past 19 years, a staggering total of \$166,896 has helped fund the CCFS program. Ebenezer continues to support this very worthwhile effort each month of the year. To date this year we have donated \$1,271 to provide assistance to families in need.

Here are some fun Food Facts from CCFS:

A cluster of bananas is called a HAND.

The most popular spice is PEPPER.

Honeybees must visit TWO MILLION flowers to make a pound of honey.

The average American eats at McDonald's 1,810 times in his/her lifetime.

It takes on average 345 squirts from a cow's udder to yield one gallon of milk.

CHEESE is the oldest of all man-made food.

STRAWBERRIES are the only food bearing seeds on the outside.

MAGEIROCOPHOBIA is the fear of cooking (good thing Ebenezer folks don't have this 🤖!)

Enjoy the rest of your summer and get ready.....a busy fall at Ebenezer is on the way.

God Bless,
Sandy:-)



"Come Christians, Join to Sing!"

The choir will soon begin another year of service providing music for worship. Please consider joining us. Each rehearsal is fun and rewarding as we plan to add to the weekly scripture and message. Our first rehearsal will be September 6th, at 7:30. One of our selections this year will be ***"With a Voice of Singing"***. We invite you to add your voice to this ministry.

Sincerely,

Linda

FAMILY CAMPING AT HARMISON

Labor Day weekend Sept 1st - 4th.
RV \$30.00 per night. Tent \$7.00 per night per person. There is a community kitchen providing all cooking supplies, bathhouse, large recreation field, access to Sleepy Creek and a dump station. Sign up on the bulletin board.

CHURCH BOWLING DAY

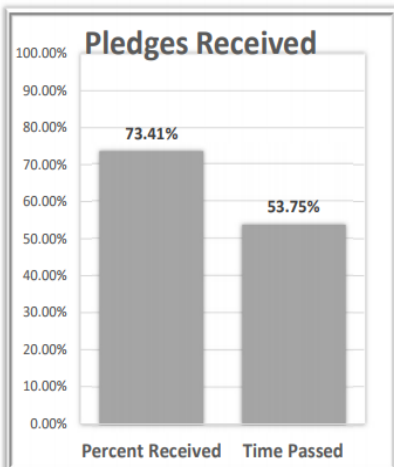
Join us at Mt. Airy Lanes on Sunday, Oct 22, 2017 from 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM for bowling. \$10.00 per person which includes shoes. We can take our own snacks or purchase them there. More info to come!

FINANCIAL PICTURE

Building Fund/Capital Campaign Receipts

From 1/2014 Through 06/30/2017

Total Pledged	\$333,344.00
Pledges Received	\$244,697.87
Unpledged	\$158,837.35
Endowment Pledge	\$500,000.00
Cemetery Pledge	\$29,786.16
Total Funds Rec'd	\$933,321.38
Percent Received	73.41%
Time Passed	53.75%
Pledged Remaining	\$88,646.13



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
Jul	\$4,696.00	\$1,385.00	\$6,081.00
Aug	\$3,161.00	\$580.98	\$3,741.98
Sep	\$3,020.00	\$985.00	\$4,005.00
Oct	\$6,304.00	\$625.00	\$6,929.00
Nov	\$5,667.00	\$718.44	\$6,385.44
Dec	\$45,594.00	\$1,910.00	\$47,504.00
2017			
Jan	\$9,258.00	\$3,230.00	\$12,488.00
Feb	\$5,303.00	\$940.43	\$6,243.43
Mar	\$4,756.00	\$706.00	\$5,462.00
Apr	\$11,600.50	\$1,015.00	\$12,615.50
May	\$4,435.00	\$994.87	\$5,429.87
Jun	\$4,960.00	\$410.00	\$5,370.00
Grand Total	\$244,697.87	\$158,837.35	\$403,535.22

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

AUGUST

Jim & Doris Leary	12th
Billy & Bonnie Zavona	14th
Ron & Linda Bange	29th

SEPTEMBER

Mary & Robin Lamb	21st
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BIRTHDAYS

AUGUST

Laura Holt	4th
Susan Brown	8th
Chris Will	9th
Jim Lutz	10th
Stephanie Wells	10th
Robbie Middleton	11th
Ally Kessinger	14th
Cole Murphy	24th
Sammie Jaharias	25th
Brian Rapids	25th
Linda Bennett	25th
Brenda Seibly	30th
Angie Grim	31st

SEPTEMBER

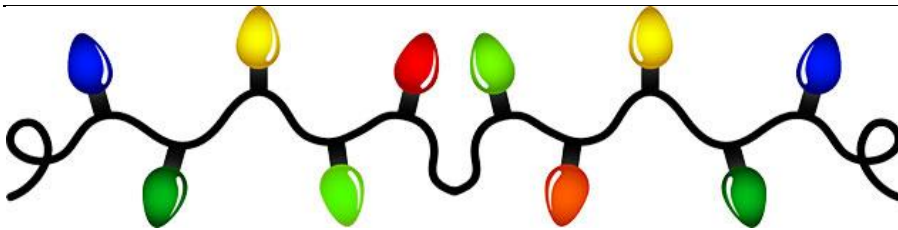
Jim Huff	1st
Xander LeDuc	1st
Brittany Bergmann	2nd
David Rapids	3rd
Lisa Piecewicz	7th
Olivia Piecewicz	10th
Nancy Huff	18th
Ryan Piecewicz	19th
Ruth Bennett	21st
Jess Middleton	21st
Ken Middleton	24th
Heidi Davis	29th



Begins September 10th
Meets Sundays twice a month
12:15 - 1:30
at church
light lunch provided
6th & 7th grade
8th - 12th grade

Groups will meet together for the meal and then have their own activities to explore!

During this time, we will discuss the class requirements as our youth begin their journey toward church membership as a Disciple of Jesus Christ.



HOLLY MART 2017

Our church's largest fundraiser, the Holly Mart is quickly approaching. A big thank you to all who make this a success every year! Haven't volunteered before? Consider lending a hand. The Holly Mart is on November 11th this year. Our Jam and Jelly Sale will be held on Oct. 21st and Oct. 28th after both services. There is a tremendous amount of work done behind the scenes. Consider lending a hand now as well! Our next Holly Mart meeting is coming up soon—watch the bulletins for the time and date. Also mark your calendar so you can come out to volunteer on the big day. You don't need to devote the whole day, even an hour is a big help. This is a great opportunity get to know more church members and for fellowship.



Food Pantry
Donations Needed

August – Liquid dish soap

September – Paper towels

www.ebenezerumchurch.org



Would you be willing to provide a meal for our youth group once in a while?

This energetic group meets on Sundays after the second worship service. The schedule is set to gather twice a month and we begin by providing a light lunch. We are looking for volunteers who would like to help us fill our fall schedule. The estimated group size is between 15 and 20. Light lunch examples include: tacos, pizza, hot dogs, mac and cheese and some type of dessert. Drink mix and paper goods are provided.

If this is something you would like to do, please contact Nancy Thompson - 410-241-1509.

CHURCH CONFERENCE UPDATE

We will not be voting on a proposal on Aug. 6th. However, after the 10:00 AM service on Aug 6th, the congregation will have an opportunity to review the amended proposal and prepare for an upcoming vote later this summer. Please be in prayer for the leaders of our church as they discern where God is calling us to go and how we will get there together as the Body of Christ.