February – March 2018

Ebenezer United Methodist Church



Schedule

Sunday, March 25, 2018 Palm Sunday

Worship at 8:30 AM and 11:00 AM

Thursday, March 29, 2018 Maundy Thursday

Worship at 7:30 PM in Sanctuary

Friday, March 30, 2018 Good Friday

Worship at 7:30 PM in the Sanctuary

Sunday, April 1, 2018 Easter Sunday

Sunrise Service at 6:30 AM Pancake Breakfast 7:00 AM Worship at 8:30 AM and 11:00 AM Sunday School at 9:45 AM

4901 Woodbine Road Sykesville, MD 21784 (410) 795-6136 www.ebenezerumchurch.org

A Note from Your Pastor

Rev. Judy Emerson

At our Administrative Council Planning Day on January 13, 2018, the following 2018 goals were set for the ministries of Ebenezer United Methodist Church. Let us all be in prayer that we will continue to grow in faith and make disciples of Jesus Christ through prayer, study, worship and Christian conversation.

* Missions and Outreach

- Continue supporting the community through our Rock of Help Food Pantry.
- Adopt 2 Compassion Children, support Camp Hope, Feed My Sheep, Cold Weather Shelter, Escape Ministry, Brinton Woods Ministry, Shepherd's Staff Ministry, Winfield Elementary School and Board of Child Care.

✤ <u>Building Project</u>

- Seek final approval/permit from Carroll County.
- Provide clear communication throughout process.
- o Begin construction of Food Pantry Building.
- Transition out of current facility.
- Begin construction of main building.
- * Facility Transition
 - Plan and Implement moving out of the current building.
 - Plan for and create storage for all areas of the building.
 - Create a facility plan to maintain programs and ministries during construction.
 - Establish a plan for moving into the new building.
 - Provide clear communication to the congregation throughout the transition.
- * Finance
 - Maintain a balanced budget.
 - Keep the congregation informed of how we are meeting our budget needs.
 - Encourage all chairpersons of committees to stay within their budgeted line items.
- Fundraising Events for 2018
 - Holly Mart, Spring Fling, Easter Candy Sale, Script Gift Card Program, Amazon Smile Program, Soup and Salad.
- Fellowship Events for 2018
 - Christmas Dinner, Church Family Picnic, Empty Bowls Ministry Event, Frederick Keys Game, Tubing Event, Movie Night at Church.

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

Featuring the Boy Scout's Mountain Man

February 13, 2018

5:00 PM to 7:30 PM

On Tuesday, February 13, 2018 from 5:00 PM until 7:30 PM, all are invited to stop by the church for our Annual Pancake Supper. Please come and join us for a time of fellowship and good food as we prepare to begin the Lenten Season together. **All** donations for this meal will go toward our Building Project.





Ash Wednesday

Stop in at Ebenezer

February 14, 2018

12:00 Noon to 7:30 PM

Lent, the period of 40 days before Easter (excluding Sundays), begins on <u>Ash Wednesday</u> and ends at sundown 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.

On Ash Wednesday, February 14, 2018, Ebenezer United Methodist Church will be open from **12:00 Noon until 7:30 PM.** During this time, you may stop in the sanctuary for the imposition of ashes, communion and for a time of personal prayer. All are welcome to begin this Lenten Journey through a time of prayerful reflection.

LENTEN BIBLE STUDY

Sunday Mornings 9:45 AM to 10:45 AM

In the Fellowship Hall February 18th through April 1, 2018

During Lent we will offer a DVD led study, "Final Words from the Cross," by Adam Hamilton. Hamilton examines Christ's dying hours and his final words as seen and heard through the eyes and ears of those who stood near the cross.

Moving through each chapter we will begin to understand and respond to Jesus' final words at the cross while learning about those who were eye witnesses to the crucifixion. In the final chapter, Hamilton moves beyond the cross to Jesus' words to the disciples on the road to Emmaus and to those who were witnesses to the Resurrection. Together we will explore the meaning of Jesus' final dying words for our lives today.

The Bible study will begin Sunday, February 18th at 9:45 AM in the fellowship hall. We will conclude our study on April 1st, Easter Sunday. Purchasing a book for this study is not necessary, however, if you would like to purchase one, the cost is \$12.00. There is a sign up on the bulletin board in the narthex.



Holly Mart Wrap Up

Thanks to many many hands, long hours, and much dedication, our Holly Mart and Pickle/Jam/Jelly sales for 2017 was a HUGE success. I'm very happy to report that our profit for this year is \$14,219.73. These profits will be used to support our General Fund, our Scholarship Fund, our Kitchen Fund and our Christmas Dinner. What a fun day of outreach to our family, friends, and community sharing God's love and blessings. Thanks to everyone who contributed, helped, and/or supported this event.

What is Scrip Fundraising?

Scrip is fundraising while you shop[®]! You buy gift cards for over 780 retailer brands you already shop at and earn a rebate on every gift card you purchase at face value. That rebate goes right to our Building Fund.

How it Works

We run our scrip program through <u>ShopWithScrip.com</u>, who has worked with over 30,000 nonprofit organizations over the course of 23 years. You can sign up and create an account to order online (Enrollment Code: 5297142A57829) or you can just contact Susan Brown (<u>Stmpnsusan@aol.com</u>) and give her a list of cards you want to order. Orders are placed weekly or bi-weekly depending upon how many orders are received. We have already made over \$800 for the Building Fund in just 8 weeks! More information is available in the narthex.

The **KITCHEN COMMITTEE** would like to ask the following:

If you use the stoves/ovens – please make sure any spills are cleaned up.

Please leave the kitchen the same way (or better!) than you find it.

Please mark all items in the refrigerator and freezer. If it is not something you want back, please mark for anyone to use/take.

If you bring an item to a dinner or luncheon, please mark your dish and/or make sure to take it with you.

PLEASE HELP US TO KEEP OUR KITCHEN NEAT AND CLEAN



EASTER EGGS AND CANDY

The Easter fundraiser is just around the corner and it will soon be time to think of the Easter Candy you will need for family and friends. Orders and payment need to be turned in by March 18th. Limited extras will be available for last minute needs. Thanks in advance for making this fundraiser a success again this year. See sign-up sheet in March for help needed to make the eggs and pack the orders on March 22nd and March 23rd from 9:30 AM until we are finished. Come when you can and leave when you must! It is always a fun time and the smell of chocolate is incredible!



SOUP & SALAD LUNCHEON

wows

Please join us on Sunday, February 25th for our annual Soup & Salad Luncheon. There will be **one worship service only** on this day at 11:00 AM. There will still be Sunday School, and Children's Church.

Lunch will start directly after the service. Sign-up sheets are on the bulletin board for both donations and attendance.

WOWS

What an exciting time at Ebenezer for the ladies of our church. We experience so many blessings of answered prayer, hope of our future and spiritual growth. We look forward to our "Heart Sisters" Retreat on March 9-11 at Skycroft. Our fund raiser Soup and Salad will be held on Sunday, February 25th after worship service. Come join us for good food and fellowship. Signups are posted for attendance and donations of soup, salad and desserts. We look forward to a good turn out to warm our hearts and tummy's during these cold winter months. Our next scheduled meetings will be February 15th, March 15th and April 19th. We always look forward to new faces to join our group. God has wonderful plans for the women of our church. Come witness and share His love.

Women's Retreat

Our 27th Annual Retreat! March 9th to 11th, 2018 Register Now!

"Heart Sisters"



Jesus said, "'Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul and with all your mind.' This is the greatest and the most important commandment. The second most important commandment is like it: 'Love your neighbor as you love yourself'. The whole Law of Moses and the teachings of the prophets depend on these two commandments."

Matthew 22:37-40

On Friday, March 9, 2018 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. Friendships with other women are as important to our mental, physical and spiritual health as rest, exercise and prayer. We don't just want friends, we need them. God created us for relationship, yet, sometimes they can be difficult and painful. This retreat will offer spiritual and practical ways for navigating friendships as we dig into the timeless truths of scripture and sharing. Our retreat is designed to guide us through the process of nurturing healthy, authentic friendships that enrich our lives, honor God and build up the body of Christ. Brochures and Registration Forms are in the narthex. Questions? Contact Susan Brown at StmpnSusan@aol.com.





Food Pantry **Donations Needed**

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)

VBS 2018 JULY 22ND – 26TH

Medical Urgency Security Team

MUST Ministry

I am thankful to say that medical emergencies and active intrusions in places of worship are rare. However, in today's world we are seeing incidents of violence and emergency situations play out much more often in society and the church is no exception.

As the Pastor of this church I am doing what I can to assure the safety of all who come to Ebenezer to worship and to participate in our programs and ministries. It is not my desire to frighten people, rather it is my hope to continue offering a safe place for all. I have already met with a Detective from the Carroll County Sheriff's Office who willingly toured our facility and offered security tips and suggestions. It is now time to take what has been learned one step further by implementing some of these suggestions and making our place of worship as welcoming and safe as possible.

This year I would like to begin a new ministry at EUMC by forming a Medical Urgency Security Team (MUST **MINISTRY**). This group will provide for the safety and security of our church building as well as the well-being of Ebenezer's members and visitors.

If you have medical or security training, military experience or just a desire to do what you can to support this important team ministry, please let me know. We already have two members of our church with law enforcement experience who are willing to assist us in our efforts. If we have others who are willing to be part of this team, I will set a time to meet in order that we may plan together for the best way forward. It is my opinion that this is not something to be considered at another time, rather, it is a ministry that is a MUST!

Blessings, *Rev. Judy* revjae@aol.com 410-795-6136

MEN'S GROUP

The Spring 2018 schedule for the Men's Group is:

Meeting – Saturday Feb. 10, 8:30 AM – Take out your Spouse Breakfast for Valentine's Day, at IHOP (<u>490 Meadow</u> <u>Creek Dr, Westminster</u>)

Meeting – Saturday Mar. 10, 8:30 AM speaker Ed Leister of Carroll County Food Sunday will tell us about their operation. We'll meet at Baugher's (<u>289</u> <u>W Main St, Westminster</u>) and after breakfast head to the central warehouse at <u>10 Distillery Drive</u> for a behind the scenes tour.

Meeting – Saturday Apr. 14, 8:30 AM - in Fellowship Hall – speaker Rick Gray will discuss with us options for a Fall 2018 Men's Group retreat at Camp Manidokan

Meeting – Saturday May 12, 8:30 AM – Take out your Spouse Breakfast for Mother's Day, at IHOP (<u>490 Meadow</u> <u>Creek Dr, Westminster</u>)

This year we're again providing dinner one Sunday per month at the Cold Weather Shelter in Westminster, which is open to guests from Nov. 15 through March. 31. Typically we feed ~35 people. The guests REALLY appreciate our help. Future dates are: CWS dinner - Sunday, Feb. 18 CWS dinner - Sunday, Mar. 18

OWLS

Older Wiser Livelier Seniors meet in the social hall at 11:45 AM the first Wednesday of every month from September through June. Those who attend see a reduced level of anxiety and an increase in brain function. This is brought about by hearty laughter. Those who are not there run the risk of being the topic of conversation. If Ruth and Edwin miss a meeting, everyone talks about them. Each January, Brenda Baker leads a rousing exercise class. In February, Dan Brewer of Carroll County's States Attorney's Office will speak about scams targeted at seniors. March is always Bingo, but April may be a surprise. This writer is a female and can, therefore, complain that the men get first pick at the food. This has been a point of some contention, but each time a vote is called to change the situation, the men stuff the ballot box.

For a nice time and good company, join the OWLS Diane Biddinger, Chairwoman

ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTER

If you would prefer to receive our newsletter by email or by reading it on our website, please contact Cindi Arnold in the church office. We have noticed many newsletters are not being picked up and copies are being wasted. Printed copies will still be made available for those who prefer a hardcopy. However, if you do not have a preference, emailing the newsletter to you will save the church the cost of paper and printing.

Ebenezer United Methodist Krimgold Cleanup Crew

Many Hands Make Quick Work

A big thank you to Ebenezer United Methodist parishioners who have provided the helping hands to keep Krimgold Park litter free. On the second Sunday of each spring, summer and fall month an energetic group meet at the Krimgold parking lot. There we distribute work supplies and walk the trails and pathways for a quick hour of collecting litter.

Join the Stewardship

Starting in April we will meet at the front parking lot. Bring a friend, your walking shoes, work gloves, trash bag or get some supplies from Chuck. Shortly after noon we split up and walk the many pathways collecting litter. After about an hour we return to bag everything into the normal park trash collection. Join us for the next afternoon of Krimgold Cleanup Crew! Chuck Wisner 410 852-4356



by Ellie Baublitz

MEET KATHLEEN MCGEHRIN AND ABRAYA

Kathleen McGehrin joined several members of her family at Ebenezer in November 2016, the same day that she had granddaughter Abraya baptized by Pastor Judy.

"I lived in Carroll County for 30 years and went to St. Joseph's Catholic Church," Kathy said. "In the last four or five years I moved to Catonsville to live with my brother, Bob Stevens."

Besides Bob and wife Dawn, Sandy Wean is Kathy's cousin. All the family are very close.

Kathy had obtained legal custody of Abraya, now 18 months old, and wanted her to be baptized.

Ebenezer was the natural choice with so many other relatives here.

"I did come here sometimes to hear the kids sing," she said, so was familiar with the church and knew quite a few of the members.

Kathy has two sons – Bryan, Abraya's dad, and Gregory, both of whom have addiction problems, she said. Unfortunately, Abraya's mother also has addiction problems.

When Abraya was born, she had a hole in her cleft palate in the back of her mouth, which was corrected by surgery last summer. "Now she's a happy, normal little girl," Kathy said proudly.

For the past 38 years Kathy has worked for BGE, where she is a design cost analyst. While she works, Abraya stays with the same daycare provider that cared for Bryan.

"It's the mother and now her daughter with her, who used to come in when she was in middle and high school and help," Kathy explained.

Called Nanny by Abraya, Kathy also has a couple of other nicknames. "All the cousins call me Super Nanny because I watched them when I lived in Carroll and I didn't have any grandkids then," she said.

A girlfriend's husband also gave her another name – Red Lips – "because I was wearing red lipstick when I met him. So, in Carroll County I'm Red Lips."

Kathy enjoys watching football and reading a variety of genres. In the summer, the family enjoys the backyard pool. The family has two dogs – Cooper and Tucker – Shihtzu-Bichons.

She likes Ebenezer because "it's a nice church where everybody knows everybody else," Kathy said. "It's nice that the younger people come with their kids."

As for Pastor Judy, "She makes her sermons worth listening to," Kathy said.

CHURCH AND SOCIETY

By Janet Davis

Easter Project with Board of Child Care: We are going to have another TEE Shirt drive for the students and residents at the Board of Child Care. They loved their TEE Shirts last year. It was a BIG hit. Look for details once I get the requests for colors and sizes.

Thanks to all for your continued support to these children.

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.

EASTER FLOWERS



March Fellowship Event: Empty Bowls of Carroll County

Sunday, March 18th 11:30 AM - 2:00 PM Ticket sales will begin January 22, 2018. For tickets or more information you may call The Shepherd's Staff at 410-857-5944 or contact Chuck Wisner.

Please join other Ebenezer members for fellowship at the second annual Empty Bowls fundraiser. Empty Bowls was created to bring awareness to hunger of all types, foster community, and raise funds to support those in need.

At Empty Bowls of Carroll County, you will experience a delicious sampling of soups provided and served by the area's best restaurants.

Ticket price includes soup, bread, water and a take-home, ceramic bowl. Bowls are provided by local schools, groups, and volunteers. Desserts and beverages will be available for an additional donation.

This family-friendly event will also include musical entertainment.

\$15 per person

Children 5 and under are free Ticket sales will begin January 22, 2018. Event will be held at Portico, St. John Westminster, 45 Monroe Street, Westminster, 21157.

Proceeds benefit The Shepherd's Staff's Emergency and Crisis Assistance Programs. In the case of event cancellation due to inclement weather, your ticket payment will be considered a donation.

Birthdays

February

- Jake Zamostny
- Rachel Holl

6

7

3

- 10 Gary Paulsgrove
- 10 Sharon Torosky
- 12 Bonnie Zavona
- 14 Eric Brown
- 15 Tim Baker
- 17 Bridgett Estes
- 23 Gene Will
- 23 Cheri Holl
- 26 Maddie Jones
- 28 Sharon Grim

March

- Ellie Klausmeyer
- 6 Doris Leary
- 8 Steve Bergmann
- 8 Dave Biddinger
- 14 Olivia Wisner
- 14 Andrea Murchie
- 17 Bill Jones
- 21 Edwin Bennett
- 23 Tyler Arnold
- 25 Mel Wroten
- 27 Kim Middleton
- 27 Karl Streaker



March

- 2 Chuck & Julie Shacochis
- 21 Brian & Lori Rapids
- 23 Edwin & Ruth Bennett

TREASURER TIDBITS

HAPPY NEW YEAR EVERYONE!!!

Our 2017 budget year ended very well. As reported at Planning Day, our income was more than anticipated and our expenses came in under budget. How blessed we are!!! The attached charts were discussed at Planning Day and show our status at the end of 2017 and our approved budget for 2018. Your generous giving supported many underprivileged families and those in need through our Additional Outreach, Cold Weather Shelter, Food Pantry, ESCAPE lunches, and on and on. If you have any questions about our finances, please do not hesitate to contact me or Tina our Finance Chair. Thanks to everyone for your financial dedication to so many of God's mission here at Ebenezer. Looking forward to another positive year in 2018.

Some interesting information from Carroll County Food Sunday:

EUMC donated \$2,205 to Carroll County Food Sunday in 2017. Here are some tidbits from CCFS of how they use the money:

They serviced 19,094 requests for assistance; they purchased 174,264 pounds of food in addition to the 104,279 pounds of food that was donated and 72,032 pounds of food from the Fed Government. Their volunteers put in over 7,685 hours of service and they service 374 families per week. In 2016 they spent \$78,069 providing milk and eggs. Thanks for your continued support of this wonderful organization. And here is a funny for the new year.....Why can't you take a turkey to church???? Because they use fowl language......hehehe

Blessings,

Sandy:-)

Activity Through 12/31/2017					
Donations Received			Capital Campaign Breakdown		
01-Beg. Bal 9/30/2015	\$	38,045	Capital Campaign-Original Pledge	\$	333,34
02-Building Fund Donations	\$	2,845	Capital Campaign Donations		
03-Capital Campaign Donation	\$	430,790	Capital Campaign-Pledges Paid	\$	297,24
04-Memorial Bldg. Donations	\$	10,212	Capital Campaign-Non Pledged Paid	\$	133,548
Total Donations Received	\$	481,892	Total Capital Campaign Donations	\$	430,79
Other Items			Where's The Money?		
05-Amazon Smile	\$	492	Building Expenses Paid to Date	\$	80,30
05a-SCRIP Gift Card Profit	\$	690	Building Fund Balance(all accounts)	\$	406,43
06-Investment Income	\$	3,667			
Total Donations + Other Items	\$	486,740	Total Use of Funds	\$	486,740
Pledges Outstanding			Capital Campaign Status		
10-Capital Campaign-Remaining	\$	36,101	Pecent of Pledges Paid		89.2
11-Cemetery Pledge	\$	30,000	Percent of Campaign Time Passed		69.3
12-Endowment Pledge	\$	500,000			
Total Pledges Outstanding	\$	566,101			



(Grades 6 - 7)

After a long break from youth group for the holidays, it was wonderful to get back together on January 14th for our after-Christmas party.

We have more fun coming up...

January 28th will be a movie at the Kessinger's house. Look for an email with additional info.

February 11th will be some creative Valentine fun with Ms. Nicole leading. Cyndi will be fixing lunch!!

February 25th, we will have fellowship at the WOW's luncheon, then head into the youth group room for a short lesson time. Do your actions speak louder than your words?? Come and see.

(Grades 8 – 12) **UMYF is growing strong!!**

Check out the U.M.Y.F. bulletin board for activities and updates.

😡 Get to Know Panakorn



Whoever is kind to the needy honors God. - Proverbs 14:51, NDV

Piyawat Saensukudomkaew

Birthday NOVEMBER 16, 2011

Country THAILAND

Child Number: TH097900485

Your Child's Life

Panakorn lives with his father and mother. His father is sometimes employed as a farmer. His mother is sometimes employed as a farmer. Panakorn helps his family by caring for the animals, buying or selling in the market, cleaning around the home and running errands

Panakom's favorite activities are art or drawing, bicycling, group games, jump rope, playing marbles, playing house, reading, running, singing, playing soccer (futhal), playing sports, story telling and . In kindergarten, his performance is average and his favorite subject is language.

His Christian activities include only project activities. His favorite activity at the Compassion project is spending time with friends.

Please remember Panakom in your prayers. Your love and support will help him to receive the assistance he needs to grow and develop.

CAMP HOPE

Trip dates are June 24 – June 30

Christian Appalachian Mountain Project

Helping Other People Enthusiastically

This team of youth and adults have been busy and have begun the count down to their trip in June. We are excited to share our gifts and talents with others. If you would like to support us with our meetings or financially please talk to Nancy Thompson 410-241-1509.

SCOUT DAY FEBRUARY 11TH

Ebenezer will be celebrating scouting on Sunday, February 11th at the 11:00 AM service. We ask that all scouts and scouters, boy and girl, wear their uniform to church. The scouts will be participating in service as ushers and readers. If your scout is interested in participating, please contact Cindi ASAP so we can find everyone parts. You do not need to participate, just wear your uniform and show your pride!

Children's Church

During 11:00 AM Worship on the 2^{nd} and 4^{th} 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 our volunteers during worship on these weeks as they have some wonderful stories and activities planned! Older youth are encouraged to provide their usual assistance when possible!!

As discussed at the Planning Meeting, our Compassion Child Tania Aguilar Martinez has dropped out of the program and we were approved to adopt a new and recommended child as seen here. Please read about Panakorn and his life in Thailand. We will provide financial support to Panakorn and our other child, Gustavo Rosales, annually along with additional support for birthdays and Christmas gifts. Please keep these children in your prayers.