

# EBENEZER UMC

April/May 2018

## A NOTE FROM YOUR PASTOR

*by Rev. Judy Emerson*

As we are quickly approaching Holy Week, it is amazing to me to think that our 2018 Lenten Journey is almost over and we will soon be shouting Christ is Risen! He is risen indeed! After Easter Services have ended and our celebration of Easter with our families is over, I can't help but think about the song recorded by Clay Walker, *Then What?* In the lyrics we hear "*Then what, what you gonna do when the new wears off and the old shines through?*"

I guess this song kept coming to mind as I thought about Easter. Together we will make our way to Jerusalem on Palm Sunday and listen once again about Jesus' entry and the crowds shouting Hosanna! We will then travel to the Upper Room on Maundy Thursday with Jesus and his disciples. We will walk together to the foot of the cross on Good Friday and hear the final words of Jesus as he is paying in full for our sin that separates us from God. We will then move together to the empty tomb to hear again the experiences of the women who went there early on the first day of the week to find it empty. We will hear once more the words of the angels at the empty tomb "He is not here, but has risen" (Luke 24:6). When the celebration of the Day of Resurrection is over I can't help but ask, then what?

Easter is more than a one day or one-week experience. Easter is an everyday celebration in which we live by placing our trust in God, believing that Jesus is the resurrection and the life. We believe in the resurrection and we celebrate our belief together each year. Even though Easter is on April 1<sup>st</sup> this year, we know it is not a trick and there are no April Fool's Day jokes about it. He is risen! Even though scripture tells us of the resurrection and we profess our belief, sometimes we still get confused about how we are to respond and ultimately we go back to the same question; then what?

I have to begin answering this question by returning to the empty tomb and following the example of those who first discovered the tomb was empty. After the angels reminded Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James and the other women that Jesus had risen, Luke's gospel reminds us that they left that tomb changed by the resurrection. They left and shared what they had seen with others. They left the empty tomb and began witnessing to what God had done.

If you are saying to yourself "after all of the Easter celebrations have ended, then what?" let's go back to the empty tomb, follow the example of the first disciples Jesus appeared to after the resurrection, take all we have seen and heard and let's figure out how we are going to share it with others. The disciples went back to their jobs and families and lives and witnessed to the Risen Christ. They lived in the hope and the joy of the resurrection as they told others about this extraordinary gift of God's love as they were going about their ordinary lives.

We are ordinary people with an extraordinary Easter Story to tell. We have the example of the first disciples to follow, so we don't have to sit and wonder as the song says, *then what, what you gonna do when the new wears off and the old shines through*, because in the Risen Christ all things are made new and that will never get old and it will never wear off!

Through the grace of God, we accept the roles and responsibilities of our calling as disciples of Jesus Christ and trust that God has embraced us with the love, peace, joy and forgiveness of Jesus Christ, our Risen Lord! So let's celebrate the resurrection together and then go out as loved, forgiven and empowered Easter People ready to share all we have seen and heard!

## Scholarship Committee

EUMC undergraduate scholarship applications will be in the narthex April 15, 2018. It is available to active church youth (under age 23) for up to four years of undergraduate studies including trade and vocational school. Applications are due to the church office by June 15, 2018. If you have any questions, contact Brenda Baker.

## Graduates



If someone in your family is graduating from high school, college, or graduate school, please submit their name in writing to the

## AWARD FROM CARROLL COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOL

Joanne Davis, who is an Early Childhood Special Educator at Winfield Elementary School and longtime member of Ebenezer United Methodist Church, was honored to accept an award on behalf of Ebenezer UMC at the 4th Annual Carroll County Public Schools (CCPS) Business/Community Partnership Awards Reception on March 13, 2018. Michelle Hicks, vocal educator at Winfield Elementary (and daughter of Ebenezer member Norman Zepp), the Business/Community Representative for Winfield Elementary, and Brynn Falise, assistant principal, were present to represent Winfield Elementary.

CCPS Business/Community Partnership recognized and presented a plaque to Ebenezer UMC as a community education partner for Winfield Elementary School, 2017-2018, at the

reception held at the Best Western Conference Center in Westminster. For several years now, Ebenezer UMC has assisted community families in need, including providing filled back packs for students each August, providing complete

Holiday meals, including turkeys and hams, and providing snack packs on the fourth Friday of the month. (South Carroll High School Food Pantry provides snack packs on the third Friday of the month). Ebenezer also provides families in the financial based pre-k class with bread from Panera Bread on Mondays. Money for Play Day t-shirts has been provided to support students. Winfield Elementary wanted to thank our congregation for supporting their students by recognizing Ebenezer UMC with a special award. This is yet another example of our loving and giving congregation

## HOLLY MART CRAFTS

We are going to have several craft days in April and May for anyone that is available.

Trying to think ahead of construction to get done what we need to.

April 11<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>. May 8<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>.

9:30 to 12:00 or what ever time you can help

NO experience necessary, come and enjoy the fellowship while we craft.

Thanks in advance for the help,

Linda Bennett [bennettga@aol.com](mailto:bennettga@aol.com)

# UMYF

## United Methodist Youth Fellowship

We have a very active group of young people. Here are just a few things they are involved with outside of Ebenezer.

Drama, Chorus, Band, Orchestra, Soccer, Basketball, football, Guard, Political aspirations, piano, and Junior Fire Department for Winfield and Carroll County & Jr. Miss Carroll County Fire Prevention 2018

This same group of young people is active in Confirmation, Sunday school, Youth Group and Camp Hope.

EUMC is proud of this group and continue to support them in all their efforts.

## Our April/ May calendar for UMYF:

April 8 – “Take a Hike” - literally we are going on a picnic and a hike

April 22 – Earth Day Event – Finding a corner of our community we can help beautify.

May 6 – Celebrate the spring end of UMYF at Adventure Park.

After this the dates that involve the youth are:

May 19 – Spring Fling

May 20 – Confirmation Sunday

June 24 -30 – CAMP HOPE

July 15-20 – Camp Manidokan

July 22-26 – Vacation Bible School

### Dessert Cafe ~ Ebenezer – Palooza

June 8<sup>th</sup> 7:00 – 9:00 PM

An evening of Contemporary Christian & Classic Acoustic Rock featuring local musicians and volunteers (some willing!)

Coffee, Tea, Soft Drinks and Desserts will be offered for purchase.

## Christian Appalachian Mountain Project Helping Other People Enthusiastically

Our mission team will leave on June 24<sup>th</sup> for their week in western Maryland. If you are interested in helping with serving the dinner that Ebenezer provides to the whole Camp, that will be on Tuesday, June 26.

Please see Nicole Streaker the coordinator for this event.



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.



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



# **ROLLING RIVER RAMPAGE!**

**Vacation Bible School  
July 22nd – 26th, 2018**

Sunday through Thursday  
Rolling River Rampage invites children on a white-water rafting adventure to experience the ride of a lifetime with God!

Along the river, children discover that life with God is an adventure full of wonder and surprise, and that they can trust God to be with them through anything.

Relevant music, exciting science, creative crafts, fun recreation, and memorable Bible stories will help kids know that God is always with them as they ride the rapids of amazing grace!

## ***Vacation Bible School Hours***

6:00 PM to 8:15 PM

Parent pick-up in the Sanctuary

Pre-K through 8th grade

## ***Monday through Thursday***

Dinner on Us at 5:45 PM!

Bring the family for dinner before we start.

## **BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES**

### April Birthdays

Lori Rapids	4/4
Angela Flanagan	4/4
Luke Piecewicz	4/4
Greg Will	4/5
Hannah Streaker	4/7
Jim Leary	4/9
Cheryl Roelle	4/9
Dylan Will	4/10
Dawn Stevens	4/10
Chuck Wisner	4/17
Steve Davis	4/21
Dutch Adams	4/21
Nicholas Kessinger	4/22
Bob Stevens	4/28

### Anniversaries

Frank & Kathy Zamostny	4/3
Steve & Sue Bergmann	4/8
Rich & Cheri Holl	4/22
Ken & Kim Middleton	4/26
Chuck & Rebecca Wisner	4/27
Mel & Carol Wroten	4/29

### May Birthdays

Joanne Davis	5/1
Carli Bergmann	5/3
Linda Bange	5/4
Rev. Judy Emerson	5/10
Carol Wroten	5/10
Sandy Biddinger	5/13
Will Holl	5/14
Jim Brown	5/18
Brian Diethrich	5/20
Summer Lange	5/23
Julie Davis	5/29

### Anniversaries

Greg & Christy Kessinger	5/2
Jim & Nancy Huff	5/10
Barbara Robinson & Jerry Stroter	5/27

# 2018 Women's Retreat

Our 2018 Women's Retreat theme was "Heart Sisters". Together, through much laughter and even a few tears, we explored the truths about friendship in Christ. The friendship we share with Heart Sisters helps us to put things in perspective and see the whole picture of who we are as a child of God. Heart Sisters never judge one another, rather, this type of authentic friendship in Christ, is life-giving. Heart Sisters guard confidences, validates experiences, keeps their word, tells the

truth, forgives, doesn't judge and shares your faith. In other words, a Heart Sister is a special gift from God. We hope everyone will return next year and those who were unable to participate this year will plan ahead and join us for next year's Women's Retreat. We have reserved the weekend of March 8<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup>, 2019 once again at Skycroft Retreat Center. Please register now to hold your spot! Questions? Contact Susan Brown at [StmpnSusan@AOL.com](mailto:StmpnSusan@AOL.com).

## WOWS

Thank you all who attended this year's women's retreat. We lifted so many up in prayer and realized how important it is to continue to lift up those in need. We thank Rev. Judy and Susan Brown for leading us in this spiritual journey.

The WOWS will meet on the following

Thursday evenings at

7:00 PM.

April 19<sup>th</sup> and May 17<sup>th</sup>. June dinner TBD

## HEART SISTERS





# April 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>1</b> Sunrise 6:30 AM Breakfast 7:00 AM Worship 8:30 & 11:00 Sunday School 9:45 AM <b>Easter</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>  Ad Council Meeting 7:00 PM	<b>4</b>  OWLS Luncheon - Noon	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b> Children's Church UMYF - Noon	<b>9</b>  Feed My Sheep – 10:30 AM	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>  Crafting 9:30 -Noon	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>  Men's Group – 8:30 AM
<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>  Brinton Woods – 10:30 AM	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>  WOWs 7:00 PM	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>  Food Pantry – 9:00 – 11:00 AM
<b>22</b> Children's Church UMYF - Noon	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>  Crafting 9:30 -Noon	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>					

# May 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 OWLS Luncheon - Noon	3	4	5
6 UMYF – Adventure Park	7 Ad Council Meeting 7:00 PM	8 Crafting 9:30 -Noon	9	10	11	12 Men’s Group – 8:30 AM
13 Children’s Church Confirmation Rehearsal – Noon <b>Mother’s Day</b>	14 Feed My Sheep – 10:30 AM	15 Brinton Woods – 10:30 AM	16	17 WOWs 7:00 PM	18	19 Food Pantry – 9:00 – 11:00 AM
20 Confirmation – 11:00 AM	21	22	23 Crafting 9:30 -Noon	24	25	26
27	28 <b>Memorial Day</b>	29	30 Annual Conference	31 Annual Conference		