

EBENEZER UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

***4901 Woodbine Road
Sykesville, Maryland 21784
(410)795-6136***

*Rev. Judith A. Emerson, Pastor
Linda Bange, Director of Music & Organist
8:30 AM and 11:00 AM*

***Order of Worship
March 24, 2019
3rd Sunday in Lent***

WELCOME

*Welcome to Ebenezer United Methodist Church. We are blessed by your presence.
Please be sure to sign the roster at the end of the pew and pass it to others near you. We
pray that this time of worship will be a blessing to you. Welcome!*

PRELUDE (8:30 AM) *“Just as I am Without One Plea”* arr. By Broughton
(11:00 AM) *“The Blood Will Never Lose It’s Power”*
Sandy Biddinger, Brenda Sebly, Jen Klausmeyer

LIGHTING THE CANDLES

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

We gather today, O Lord of Life, seeking fullness.

Not the fullness our world offers, but fullness that comes from you.

We spend so much of our lives on things that do not count.

Things that promise much and give little.

Help us now today, to find fulfillment in your love.

May we discover all that you have to give.

May we seek you while we yet have the gift of days.

Lift us O God, to a higher plane of living.

Lift our hearts and minds and souls into your holy presence. Amen.

***OPENING HYMN** *“Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah”* UMH No. 127

OPENING PRAYER

**Gracious and merciful God, we praise you for taking the initiative to replenish
and renew our lives. You established a new and everlasting covenant of grace in the
person of Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. Through him we seek you and find
you. Through him, the distance between your thoughts and our thoughts, your ways
and our ways, is spanned by your divine love. Speak to us once again through this
time of worship. We praise and adore you, O God, as we offer this prayer through
Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

CALL TO CONFESSION

God has promised to provide us with more than mere survival. In seeking to satisfy our
deepest hungers, we find an even more profound sustenance than we can envision.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**In your holy love, O God, you have given us so much; talents and treasure in
unlimited supply. But often, we spend these on superficial needs. We follow the urges
to momentary importance. We chase after happiness while neglecting joy; we chase
after romance while neglecting love; we skim the surface while fearing the depths.**

**Forgive us, we pray, for our fearfulness, as we rely more upon our own human
illusions of control and satisfaction, even though we know that these illusions separate
us from you. Forgive us for not trusting in your grace, in your abundance, in the
covenant promises that you have renewed with every generation. In Christ, may we
learn to love you more than we love ourselves. Amen.**

MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

If you take the first step, if you are willing to plunge once again into the waters and to
emerge into new life, you will receive a love beyond all you can envision. We turn our
hearts to God and by grace we are forgiven. Through Christ we are made whole; by the
Spirit we are led forth as God's people. Amen.

SUNG RESPONSE *“Change My Heart, O God”* TFWS No. 2152

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Isaiah 55:1-9 OT pg. 644

*In this text we hear an invitation to receive freely the blessings of the Savior. We hear
of gracious offers of pardon and peace.*

GOSPEL LESSON Luke 13:1-9 NT pg. 71

*This lesson tells us that we must not equate tragedy with divine punishment. Sin does
not make atrocities come. They just come.*

The Word of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God.

SERMON *“God’s Way or Our Way?”* Rev. Judy Emerson

HYMN *“To Know You More”* TFWS No. 2161

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Prayer Requests/Pastoral Prayer
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.

THE GIFTS OF THE PEOPLE

Announcements
Offertory (11:00 AM) *“Lenten Meditation”* Chancel Choir

*Presentation of Gifts
*Doxology *“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”*
 Tune: Soon and Very Soon UMC No. 706

**Praise the Lord, our God,
from whom all blessings flow;
praise the Lord, our God,
all creatures here below;
praise God from above,
all ye heavenly host;
praise the Father,
praise the Son and
praise the Holy Ghost.**

*Prayer of Dedication
God of love and forgiveness, we offer our gifts this morning knowing that we have chased after things that we thought would bring joy and then found them to be empty and unfulfilling. Lord, we long to return to you and invest ourselves in things that last and that bring lasting joy as we seek you in every moment, with all that we have and all that we are. We pray this in Christ’s holy name. Amen.

*HYMN *“Just a Closer Walk with Thee”* TFWS No. 2158

*DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

*POSTLUDE
 *Congregation standing when able
TFWS – The Faith We Sing Hymnal
UMH – United Methodist Hymnal



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 & 11:00 AM

Sunday School 9:45 AM

March 24, 2019

Church Office: (410) 795-6136

Pastor's Office: (410) 795-1237

Church Email: eumcwinfield@gmail.com

Pastor's Email: revjae@aol.com

Pastor: Rev. Judy Emerson

Music Director: Linda Bange

Treasurer: Sandy Wean

Secretary: Cindi Arnold

Nursery Coordinator: Jess Middleton

Nursery Coordinator: Lisa Humphries

Notes

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.

2019 Regular Offering Summary			
	Actual	Budget	Difference
3/17/19	6,514.00	4,098.08	2,415.92
Year to Date	50,437.67	45,078.88	5,358.79

**Attendance Last
Week:
126**

Please see Sandy Wean with any questions on the budget.

Worship Today

Service	8:30 AM	11:00 AM
Greeters	Jim Leary	Dave Biddinger
Ushers	Chuck & Rebecca Wisner	Curt & Cheryl Roelle
Liturgists	Susan Sager	Curt Roelle

This Week's Schedule

Sunday, March 24 th	Lenten Bible Study - Sanctuary	9:45 – 10:45 AM
	Children's Church - FP2	11:00 AM
	UMYF – FP2	Noon
Wednesday, March 27 th	Children's Choir	6:00 PM
	Chancel Choir	7:30 PM
Thursday, March 28 th	Lenten Bible Study – parsonage	10:00 AM



RESTROOMS DURING CONSTRUCTION - During this time of construction, we do not have restrooms available in the same building as our sanctuary. There are restrooms on both floors of the Food Pantry building and on both floors of the Parsonage. For your convenience, we have our very own EUMC SHUTTLE available to take you to the other buildings. On Sundays a designated driver will be available and will be seated in the

last pew during services.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



EASTER CANDY SALE- Order forms are in your bulletin for this year's Easter candy sale. Forms and money are due back by April 7th. Please try to place orders in advance if possible, we will not have as much space for sales on day of pick up (April 14th).

APR-MAY NEWSLETTER – Articles for the next newsletter will need to be turned in to the church office by Monday, March 25th.



DIRECTORY UPDATES – We will include a directory update in the next newsletter. If you have any corrections or additions, please let Cindi know ASAP. eumcwinfield@gmail.com

EASTER EGG HUNT – This year's festivities will be held on Sunday, April 7th. Look for more details soon.

LENTEN BIBLE STUDY - Sunday Mornings in the Sanctuary continue today through April 21st from 9:45 AM to 10:45 AM. *Embracing the Uncertain*, invites us to engage and wrestle with life's uncertainties, not ignore them. We will also offer the same study on Thursday mornings in the parsonage at 10:00 AM.

CAMP MANIDOKAN REGISTRATION - If you signed up your child on the bulletin board, you should have received registration information from Julie Partridge via email. If you did not receive an email, please reach out to Julie at jpartridge623@gmail.com or 410.596.2501.

WOMEN'S RETREAT 2020 - We have booked Skycroft for March 20-22, 2020 so please consider going again (or for the first time)! Registration is open and requires a \$25 non-refundable deposit per person. We booked for a low number, but can add more if there is availability, so please do not wait until the last minute! Now is the time! Any questions, contact Susan Brown, StmpnSusan@AOL.com.

SAVE THE DATE – This year's Men's Retreat will be held the weekend of November 1st – 3rd. Look for more information soon.

GIFT CARD FUNDRAISER – Easiest fundraiser EVER! Order gift cards to places you frequent...grocery stores, gas stations, restaurants, local shopping stores. You'll have 'money' in your pocket AND support our church. Orders are placed at least twice a month. Order forms are available in the back of the sanctuary or go to ShopwithScrip.com and see a more extensive selection! Contact Susan Brown with any questions stmpnsusan@aol.com.

COLD WEATHER SHELTER – We will again be supporting the shelter by providing dinners on the 3rd Sunday November through March. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board to help.

NURSERY HELP – Our Safe Sanctuary Policy mandates that we have no fewer than two adults in a building when children are present. Our Nursery is now in the Food Pantry Building and there will be occasion where we won't have the required adults. Please consider helping as a second adult during our 8:30 and/or 11:00 services. A sign-up sheet is located on the bulletin board.



A LOOK AHEAD:

Palm Sunday -April 14th – 8:30 & 11:00 -with Sunday School and Children's Church

Maundy Thursday – April 18th – 7:30 PM

Good Friday – April 19th – 7:30 PM

Easter Sunday – April 21st – 6:30, 8:30 & 11:00 – with Sunday School –
Sunrise Service at Krimgold Park