

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
December 15, 2019**

4th Sunday of Advent

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. It is
our hope that this time of worship will be a blessing to all. Please begin in silent prayer.*

PRELUDE "Hark The Herald Angels Sing" Instrumentalists

LIGHTING THE CANDLES

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.
The light shines in the darkness and the darkness has not overcome it.
Those who dwelt in the land of deep darkness, on them has light shined.
We have witnessed Christ's glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father.
For to us a child is born, to us a Son is given.

***OPENING HYMN** "Good Christian Friends, Rejoice" UMH No. 224

OPENING PRAYER

**God of surprising generosity and unexpected grace, we have come to witness a
miracle; to prepare our hearts for a new invasion of your light. We have come once
again to open our souls and our lives to the divine birth. In this sacred moment we ask
for your gentle presence to captivate and challenge us. Speak to us through scripture
and song, O God, so we will feel your presence with us. In Jesus' name we pray.Amen.**

LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH

Scripture Reading from Isaiah 35:1-10

Last Sunday we lit the candle of Hope, remembering the hope which comes in Christ,
and we lit the candle of Peace, remembering God's dream of a peaceful world.

Lighting Advent Candles I, II & III

Candle Lighting Liturgy

Today we light the third candle of Advent, the candle of Joy. In Advent, we are in a
time of waiting. Like the Israelites who wandered through the Wilderness, waiting to
come into the Promised Land, we wait for the coming of the Joy of Ages. We wait for
the day where we can join our voices with the angels to sing "Joy to the World, the
Lord is come!" We wait for the day when everlasting joy will be on each of us.

We light this candle in Joy.

On this day, we remember the Spirit who breathes joy into our lives.

Sung Response "Emmanuel, Emmanuel" UMH No. 204

**Emmanuel, Emmanuel,
His name is called Emmanuel.
God with us, revealed in us,
His name is called Emmanuel.**

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS (8:30 AM) UMH No. 38

JoAnn Beck	Rocky Mabry	Doug Flater	Ed Mellott
Paul Browne	Ruth Heslen	Becca Flater	Janet Mellott

Justin Flater and Kyle Flater come to Ebenezer as Preparatory Members. Justin is currently
participating in our Confirmation Class.

The Glory of Christmas

*In a panoramic view of Christmas, we see the majesty, the color, the sounds and even the
solemnity of this glorious season! We witness the anguish of God's chosen people as it gives
way to joy in the fulfillment of an eternal promise – that God would send a Messiah to save
them. The entire spectrum of God's love and grace is on full display in the story of Christmas.
But the message of Christmas is not solely for a people who lived long ago. It is a message our
world needs to hear today. It is a message filled with hope, promise, wonder, majesty and
mystery. It is a perpetual reminder that in the darkest moments of life,
the brilliance of the eternal Light of Christ has entered our world
to guide us on the journey of life and faith.*

Come and Worship the Newborn King
The Hope of Christmas
Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning
The Promise of Christmas
Prepare the Way of the Lord!
The Wonder of Christmas
Child of Promise, Child of Love
The Majesty of Christmas

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

*Presentation of Gifts

*Doxology

"Praise God!"

Tune: UMH No. 95

Praise God for gifts of hope and peace.

Praise God for gifts of joy and love.

Praise God for sending Christ to dwell

on earth for us – Emmanuel.

Amen.

*Prayer of Dedication

Rejoicing God, we offer you thanks and praise for this season of anticipation, this season of Advent. As we prepare for the birth of your son, we share our tithes and offerings with the joy and excitement that is common as one anticipates the birth of a new child. Bless these gifts in your Holy Name. Amen.

The Glory of Christmas

Christ is Born This Holy Night

The Brilliance of Christmas

Guide Us to the Perfect Light

The Glory of Christmas

The Glory of Christmas Finale

*DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

*POSTLUDE



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

December 15, 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
12/8/19	4,011.67	4,098.08	(86.41)
Year to Date	224,860.08	200,805.92	24,054.16

Attendance Last Week: 121
--

Worship Today

Service	8:30 AM	11:00 AM
Greeters	Jim Leary	Dave Biddinger
Ushers	Kenny & Sandy Wean	The Rodriguez Family

This Week's Schedule

Sunday, December 15 th	Children's Church Cold Weather Shelter Dinner	11:00 AM
Tuesday, December 17 th	Brinton Woods	10:30 AM
Wednesday, December 18 th	Children's Choir Chancel Choir	6:30 PM 7:30 PM
Thursday, December 19 th	WOWS	6:30 PM
Saturday, December 21 st	FOOD PANTRY	9:00 AM – 11:00 AM

DECEMBER 2019 WORSHIP SCHEDULE

December 22nd
4th Sunday of Advent
Traditional Service at 8:30 AM
Children's Christmas Program
at 11:00 AM

December 24th
Christmas Eve
Traditional Service at 8:00 PM
Candlelight Service at 10:00 PM

December 29th
One service only at 11:00 AM
No Sunday School



ANNOUNCEMENTS

CANTATA – The music for today’s Cantata is presented to The Glory of God and in Memory of Darlene Carlock.

THANK YOU - Thank you all for the cards, calls, food and visits during my recovery! Rev. Judy

CHRISTMAS DINNER HELP – Food donations are due Today. Thank you!

ADVENT WREATH - We are still looking for someone to light the advent wreath on Christmas Eve. You and your family or you and someone from your church family can join together and participate in worship in a meaningful way. There is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex. Please prayerfully consider participating in worship in this special way during the Advent Season.

CHRISTMAS POSTCARDS – in your bulletin is a preprinted postcard announcing the Christmas Worship times. There are more in the narthex. Use them as a reminder or take them and hand them out or mail them. (Postage is not paid, and they will need a first-class stamp.)

ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL PLANNING DAY - is scheduled for January 11th. All are welcome to attend. We will have a covered dish breakfast at 8:30 AM and start our meeting at 9:00 AM.

2020 GOD’S CREATION CALENDARS – Still \$6 each. Only 5 left – get yours today! See Cindi

COLD WEATHER SHELTER – The Men’s Group is supporting the Cold Weather Shelter in Westminster the 3rd Sunday of each month with a hot home-made dinner from November to March. A sign-up sheet is in the narthex. Each week in addition to a couple of people to serve food, we request a coordinator to pick up contributed food items from anyone who is not showing up in person at the shelter. Scott Murchie will organize by email and coordinate with the Cold Weather Shelter staff.

ENGRAVED PAVERS – Our new walkway and office entrance will include a patio designed with pavers. We are providing an opportunity for members and friends of Ebenezer to donate a paver to help pay for the initial installation of the patio and walkway. Pavers can be inscribed with your name or the name of a loved one. They can be donated in memory of someone, in honor of someone or just because! Please see the order forms for more information. They are located on the bulletin board.

LEADERSHIP CHANGES AS OF JANUARY 1, 2020 – A new Church Leadership Roster for 2020 is available in the narthex. Check to see which committees you are serving on for the coming year. Some committees have a group listing with the year stated above. This means you will serve on that committee until the end of the stated year.

