

ANNOUNCEMENTS

September 7, 2025

YOUTH GROUP - Join us **TODAY** in the youth room from 6 - 8 PM. We will be cooking out and playing games. Bring your appetite and a towel (just in case!). Any youth in 6th grade or higher is welcome

BIBLE STUDY – Rev. Rick Gray will be offering a bible study on the Corinthian Letters on Tuesdays starting **September 9th** from 9:30-11:00 AM in Room #4. Please come and join us for a wonderful time of fellowship and learning.

HOLLY MART CRAFTS – Our September dates are **Thursdays, Sept. 11th and 25th**. No experience necessary. We appreciate any time you can give. We meet on the top floor of the Food Pantry building at 9:30 AM until around 12:00 Noon.

HOLLY MART MEETING – Our next meeting will be on **Tuesday, September 23rd** at 6:30 PM.

VACCINE CLINIC – Giant Pharmacy will be here on **Sunday, September 28th** from 9:30 – 1:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall! Sign up on the bulletin board in the Narthex and let us know what vaccinations you need. Please fill out the form available in the narthex or office before you come and bring it with you.

MEN'S MINI-RETREAT - Ebenezer Men's Mini-Retreat, **Saturday, October 4**, 8:30 AM-3:00 PM. Rev. Rick Gray will be leading the retreat. The topic will be Embracing the Sermon on the Mount. Sign up at the link address below. If you have questions about the retreat experience, ask Rick; for questions on logistics, talk to Scott Murchie or call him at 240-394-2363 <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0C4BABA92BA2FB6-ebenezer#/>

COMMUNITY TABLE – We are looking for a volunteer to take over coordinating this outreach program for the new year. If anyone is interested, please let Rev. Judy know.

CHURCH CONFERENCE – **Saturday, October 18th** at 4:30 PM. We will be meeting in person this year at Wesley Freedom UMC. Everyone is encouraged to attend.

HANDBELLS – The Pachelbells handbell choir will be starting rehearsals this week and would be thrilled to welcome additional ringers! If you have experience or are brand new to handbells, we want you! Let Jennifer Wise or the office know if you are interested. Thank you so much!

BISHOP EASTERLING – Our Bishop will be gathering with the Lakes District on **Monday, September 15th** at 6:00 PM at Deer Park United Methodist Church in Westminster, Maryland. As our new structure takes effect and we begin new relationships in the Lakes District and across the area, this will be an important time of connection. This is an in-person meeting and will not be live-streamed or recorded. There is no registration for this event so please just come join us!

NURSERY ASSISTANCE - If you are age 16 or above and able to volunteer in the nursery during worship once a month, please let the church office know. We have a staff member there each week. However, in accordance with our Safe Sanctuary Policy it would be helpful to have another person present in the room. Assistance is needed from 8:20 AM to 9:30 AM and again from 10:45 AM to 12:00 Noon.

PARENTS: Is your child in college, either away from home or commuting, serving in the military, or working or volunteering somewhere far away? Ebenezer wants to stay connected with them! Parents can send the following information to either Lori in the church office or directly to Ellie Baublitz, Higher Education/Campus Ministry Chair, at elliebaublitz@netscape.net:

Student's/child's name, college/military/other address, what year they are in, birthday, and any other information you would like to share about the student's life and activities.

ROAD TRIP MUSIC - Are your kids still singing the VBS songs? We have CDs available for \$5. See Cindi Arnold.



Ebenezer United Methodist Church

Church Office: 410-795-6136

Website: ebenezerumchurch.org

Email: eumcwinfield@gmail.com

Pastor's Email: revjae@aol.com



Office Hours

Tues - Thurs 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM

Sunday 9:30 AM to Noon

Worship

8:30 AM Service in Sanctuary

9:45 – 10:45 AM Sunday School for all ages

11:00 AM Service in Sanctuary

	OFFERING	ATTENDANCE
Last Week: 08/31/25	\$3,839	91
WORSHIP LEADERS	10:00 AM	
Liturgist	Barb Conaway	Bill Jones
Ushers	Brian Connelly & Dan Newcomer	Kathy McGehrin & Bob Stevens
Acolyte	Kyle Flater	Derek Jones
DATE	EVENT	TIME
TODAY	Confirmation Class Info Mtg. Children's Choir Swim Party Youth Group	9:45 AM 1:00 PM 6:00 – 8:00 PM
Monday, Sept 8 th	Community Table	12:00 Noon
Tuesday, Sept 9 th	Bible Study – w/ Rev. Rick Gray	9:30 – 11:00 AM
Wednesday, Sept 10 th	Children's Choir Chancel Choir	6:30 – 7:15 PM 7:30 PM
Thursday, Sept 11 th	Holly Mart Crafters Pachelbells	9:30 AM – Noon 6:45-7:30 PM
Monday, Sept 15 th	Bishop Easterling Visit at Deer Park UMC	6:00 PM
Saturday, Sept 20 th	Food Pantry	9:00 – 11:00 AM
Sunday, Sept 21 st	Youth Group Adventure Park	5:00 – 8:30 PM

EBENEZER UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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

Rev. Judith A. Emerson, Pastor
Linda Bange, Music Director/Organist

September 7, 2025
8:30 AM and 11:00 AM

Order of Worship
13th Sunday after Pentecost

WELCOME

Welcome to Ebenezer United Methodist Church. We are blessed by your presence. May this time of worship be a blessing to you today and in the week ahead. Please use this time to be in silent prayer. Our lesson from Luke today addresses our natural tendency to change our minds and rethink our decisions. We want to retain every possibility and travel every path. But this characteristic seems at odds with Jesus' call to count the cost before following him.

PRELUDE

LIGHTING THE CANDLES

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Come and worship,
those who woke early and those who slept late;
 those who come often and those who don't.
Whether we are first or last or somewhere in between,
 there is room for all of us in God's kingdom
and more than enough grace to go around.
 Let's worship God together!

*HYMN “Come, Share the Lord” TFWS No. 2269

OPENING PRAYER

God of grace and mercy, thank you for the blessings of life and the many ways you remind us of your love. Whether we are lifelong laborers, or new arrivals in your

vineyard, we know you value us just as we are. God of the last, God of the first, God of all those in between, speak to us your word of justice and love as we seek your presence in our lives and in a world in need. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

PSALTER Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18 UMH No. 854

In this text we hear that God knows us intimately. God's knowledge of us is not merely intellectual; it is relational.

GOSPEL READING Luke 14:25-33

In this passage, Jesus talks about what it means to be His disciple. Jesus was addressing large crowds, and He used strong language to emphasize the seriousness of following Him. He spoke about the need to prioritize faith above all earthly relationships and personal comforts.

This is the Word of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God.

HYMN *“Where He Leads Me”* UMH No. 338

SERMON ***“Look Forward!”*** Rev. Judy Emerson

HYMN *“Have Thine Own Way, Lord”* UMH No. 382

PRAVERS OF THE PEOPLE

Joys and Concerns Pastoral Prayer

THE GIFTS OF THE PEOPLE

Announcements		
Offertory (11:00 AM)	<i>"We Are A Church"</i>	<i>Chancel Choir</i>
*Presentation of Gifts		

*Doxology UMH No. 94

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow.
Praise God, all creatures here below.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God, the source of all our gifts.
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts.**

**Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

*Prayer of Dedication

**God of abundance, receive these gifts as we offer them with thankful hearts.
May we and the gifts we bring help your love and grace be made known to those
in need. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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.**

Breaking the Bread

Sharing the Cup

Communion Offering: Carroll County Food Sunday

Hymns During Communion: #2224, #2203, #2161

Prayer After Communion

**Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have
given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your
Spirit, to give ourselves for others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*HYMN

"I Have Decided to Follow Jesus"

TFWS No. 2129

*DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

*POSTLUDE