

**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  
May 4, 2025  
The 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Easter***

**WELCOME**

*It is a joy to welcome you to Ebenezer United Methodist Church. We pray that you will experience this service as a sacred moment, and it will be a blessing to all who gather.*

*After Jesus' resurrection, he showed himself to the disciples on different occasions. They recognized him as he provided for their physical needs, but even more through his presence as the Bread of Life, which was given to nourish them spiritually and invite their participation in his work of service. Jesus does the same for his disciples today.*

**PRELUDE** "God's Gifts" *Mindy Coates*

**LIGHTING THE CANDLES**

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

Lord, save us from ourselves.

**We continue to do the same things over and over, expecting different results.**

Lord, save us from doing too much.

**We go fishing every day, not noticing you waiting with a meal on the beach.**

Lord, save us from doing too little.

**We say we love you, and yet so often we neglect your sheep.**

Lord, save us from ourselves.

**Help us to hear and respond when you say, "Follow Me."**

**\*OPENING HYMN** "Spirit Song" *UMH No. 347*

**OPENING PRAYER**

**God of love and promise, bless us as we come together this morning. We pray that you will bless the songs that we sing, the reading of your Word, the fellowship that we share and the prayers that we offer. Make your presence known to us once again as we gather in this holy place and share in this time of worship. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

**PSALTER**

Psalm 30

UMH No. 762

*Without the sung response*

*This psalm is a psalm of thanksgiving where the speaker declares or narrates to the congregation what God has done to deliver him/her from crisis.*

**GOSPEL LESSON**

John 21:1-19

*This text speaks of Jesus revealing himself to his disciples by the Sea of Galilee and reinstating Peter after his denial, emphasizing the importance of faith, forgiveness, and the disciples' calling to follow Jesus.*

The Word of God for the people of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

**HYMN**

"Open My Eyes, That I May See"

UMH No. 454

**SERMON**

"Drifting Disciples!"

*Rev. Judy Emerson*

**HYMN**

"Lord, You Have Come to the Lakeshore"

UMH No. 344

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

**OFFERING OUR GIFTS**

Announcements

Offertory (11:00)

"The Everlasting Holy God"

*Chancel Choir*

\*Presentation of Gifts

\*Doxology

"Alleluia, Alleluia"

UMH No. 162

**Alleluia, alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord.**

**Alleluia, alleluia! Give praise to his name.**

**Come, let us praise the living God.**

**Joyfully sing to our Savior.**

**Alleluia, alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord.**

**Alleluia, alleluia! Give praise to his name.**

\*Prayer of Dedication

**Holy One, we have been transformed by your love. Open our hearts so that we may walk with you each day. We lift up this offering in obedience to your will in order that the ministries you have entrusted to us may be fulfilled. In the name of the Risen Christ, we pray. Amen.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**  
Lift up your hearts.  
**We lift them up to the Lord.**  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

And so...  
  
**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

And so...  
  
**Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.**

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 for Carroll County Food Sunday  
Hymns during communion: *(First and Last Stanzas: #374, #377, #378)*

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                                      *“Blessed Assurance”*                                      UMH No. 369

\*DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

\*POSTLUDE

# Announcements

May 4, 2025

**NEWSLETTER** – Articles are due for the June/July/August newsletter by **Tuesday, May 20<sup>th</sup>**. If you have an event or are the head of a committee, please get your articles into the office by the 20<sup>th</sup>. Thank you!

**SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS** - are available in the narthex. They are available to active church youth (under age 23) for up to four years of undergraduate studies, including trade and vocational school. All applications should be placed in Brenda Baker's church mailbox no later than June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025. The earlier, the better!

**GRADUATES** – If there is a church member in your family who is graduating this year, please let us know. Send an email to [eumcwinfield@gmail.com](mailto:eumcwinfield@gmail.com), call the office, or let Lori know. Thank you!

**PAVERS** - We will once again be placing an order for more engraving on our patio pavers. If you would like one in honor or memory of someone, please see the forms in the Narthex for information & pricing.

**FUTURE EUMC CRUISE** - New England and Canada on October 8, 2026. For pricing and availability, please contact Linda Dayhoff at 410-875-2093 or [dayoff@comcast.net](mailto:dayoff@comcast.net). There are flyers and information in the Narthex.

**YOUH GROUP** - Aside from our Noah trip, we have two more big meetings coming up! Today will be our Amazing Race and June 1st will be paintball. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board for the paintball. **PLEASE** sign up to let us know you will be attending so we won't have to cancel! We are closing in on the end of another year. Let's finish strong!

**BULLETIN BOARD** - Each month, the bulletin board will have a new look, highlighting church activities and upcoming events, including birthdays and anniversaries! If you would like to have an event and/or a sign-up sheet posted, please drop it off with Lori in the church office. A big thank you to Ruth Heslen and Nancy Thompson for making the board so nice every month.



## Ebenezer United Methodist Church

**Church Office:** 410-795-6136  
**Website:** [ebenezerumchurch.org](http://ebenezerumchurch.org)  
**Email:** [eumcwinfield@gmail.com](mailto:eumcwinfield@gmail.com) **Pastor's Email:** [revjae@aol.com](mailto:revjae@aol.com)

### Office Hours

Tues - Thurs 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM  
Sunday 8:00 AM - Noon

	OFFERING	ATTENDANCE
Last Week: 04/27/25	\$3,440.50	130
WORSHIP LEADERS	8:30 AM	11:00 AM
Liturgist	Mindy Coates	Mindy Coates
Ushers	Rick & Brenda Baker	Karl & Nicole Streaker
Acolyte	Kyle Flater	Ryan Piecewicz
DATE	EVENT	TIME
TODAY	Youth Group Amazing Race	12:30 PM
Monday, May 5th	Ad Council Meeting	7:00 PM
Tuesday, May 6th	Bible Study – with Rev. Rick Gray	9:30 – 11:00 AM
Wednesday, May 7th	OWLS	12:00 – 2:00 PM
	Children’s Choir	6:30 – 7:15 PM
	Chancel Choir	7:30 PM
Thursday, May 8th	Pachelbells	6:45 – 7:30 PM