

EBENEZER UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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

www.ebenezerumchurch.org

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

***10th Sunday after Pentecost
August 17, 2025
10:00 AM***

Order of Worship

WELCOME

Welcome to Ebenezer UMC! We are blessed to worship together this morning. In our lesson from Luke, Jesus is heading toward Jerusalem, where he knows he will be arrested, humiliated and finally nailed to a cross. On his way, he talks with his followers about the hardships ahead for them as well. He wants them to face the harsh realities of being Christian.

PRELUDE

LIGHTING THE CANDLES

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Come, let us worship the Lord together!

God sees our hearts and minds.

God knows the causes to which we are committed.

We must speak up in God's name.

God's Word is like a burning fire in our bones.

God hears the desires of the meek.

Let us sing to God, praise God all day long!

*HYMN

*"The Church's One Foundation"
(Stanzas 1, 2, and 5)*

UMH No. 545

OPENING PRAYER

God of all creation, speak to us your truth as we listen for your guidance and direction. Lord, there are times when we feel far from you. We suspect that others are out to get us; they seem to have no regard for your truth. The convictions by which we seek unity seem to divide us instead. Come, O God, to interpret our times to us and give us the strength to live in them. In the name of Jesus, we pray. Amen.

CALL TO CONFESSION

The sins of others are apparent to us. Our own are somewhat hidden. Let us now seek the forgiveness that opens communication with our Lord. Let us pray.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Loving God, so often our pride is hurt, and we want to lash out at those who oppose us. We want vengeance for all who have hurt us or others. Forgive us, O God. Help us to let go of anger and pain so we can begin to know your peace. Heal us so we have something to offer those whom we seek to help. In the name of Jesus, we pray. Amen.

SILENT PRAYER OF CONFESSION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

God is forgiving us and equipping us to live among the divisions of this world and bring unity through Christ Jesus our Lord. In Christ, we are forgiven.

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Psalm 80:1-2, 8-19

The psalmist compares the nation of Israel to a vine. The vine once flourished in the care of God, but God had turned His back on the vine, leaving it to be burned, because of the sins of the people. The psalmist, sensing that Israel was ready to repent, asked God to restore the vine and to make His face shine on His people once again.

Luke 12:49-56

In this reading Jesus speaks about division and the signs of the times. He starts by saying, "I have come to bring fire on the earth, and how I wish it were already kindled!" This fire symbolizes the passion and intensity of Jesus' mission to bring salvation, truth, and judgment to the world.

The Word of God, for the people of God.

Thanks be to God!

HYMN

“Have Thine Own Way, Lord”

UMH No. 382

SERMON

“Christian Boot Camp!”

Rev. Judy Emerson

HYMN

“Make Us One”

TFWS No. 2224

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

- Joys and Concerns
- 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, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

UMH No. 95

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

*Prayer of Dedication

Generous God, you have come to bring peace, yet you warn us that following you will often bring division. As we offer our gifts, may they be a sign of our willingness to stand with you and be compassionate toward all. Use these offerings to spread your message of love and truth. Glory be to You, Lord, now and forever. Amen.

*HYMN

“They’ll Know We Are Christians by Our Love”

TFWS No. 2223

- *DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING
- *POSTLUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

August 17, 2025

ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL - We will meet on **Monday, August 25, 2025** at 7:00 PM in the Sanctuary.

SYKESVILLE/ELDERSBURG HUB GATHERING – There will be another HUB gathering on **August 27, 2025** at 4:00 PM. Clergy and one or two church members from each congregation in our district are invited to attend. Please let Rev. Judy know if you are interested in participating. This group meets monthly.

CHURCH FAMILY PICNIC – August 31, 2025 - immediately following worship! Plan on staying for our annual picnic at Ebenezer! Bring a lawn chair, games you wish to play, and a dessert or side dish to share. We will provide hot dogs, hamburgers, condiments, paper products, lemonade and ice water! Looking forward to wrapping up the summer together!

FALL SCHEDULE – On Sunday, **September 7, 2025** we will return to our normal schedule of worship at 8:30 AM and 11:00 AM in the sanctuary and Sunday School for all ages at 9:45 AM.

BIBLE STUDY – Reverend Rick Gray will be offering another 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.

HANDBELLS – The Pachelbells handbell choir will be starting rehearsals in the fall 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!

HOLLY MART CRAFTS – Our next day in August will be Thursday, August 28th. No experience necessary. We would 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.

CONFIRMATION CLASS – An organizational meeting will take place on **Sunday, September 7, 2025** at 9:45 AM in the fellowship hall. All participants, parents and mentors are encouraged to attend.

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.

NEWSLETTER – Articles for the September/October edition are due **tomorrow**. If you are in charge of a committee or event, please get your articles in as soon as possible. Thank you!

BISHOP EASTERLING – Our Bishop will be visiting each of the Districts in the Baltimore-Washington Conference in September. She will be gathering with the Lakes District on **Monday, September 15th** at 6:00 PM at Deer Park United Methodist Church in Westminster, Maryland. This will be a time of sharing and interaction. 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. We will not have a registration for this event, please just come join us!

CARE OF MEMBERS – In accordance with the discipline of the United Methodist Church, we review our membership records each year. After making every attempt to contact those who have not actively participated in the life of the church through their prayers, presence, witness, gifts and service, we are required to list their names at our annual church conference. The following members will be named this year: **YEAR TWO:** Kelly Pocansangre, JoAnne Weatherholz, Billy, Bonnie & Brittney Zavona, AnneMarie & Mary Williams. **YEAR THREE:** Josh Jesse, Tim Jesse, Julius Neveker Jr, Desiree Rivera, Kim Trost, Shae Wilkenson, Amy McConville, Dan & Julie Lubman, Greg, Christy & Ally Kessinger. Those listed as year three will be removed from our membership records this year unless we hear of their desire to remain a member before **October 18, 2025**. If you have information about those listed, please contact the church office.

PARENTS: Is your child in college, either away from home or commuting, in the military, or working or volunteering somewhere far away? Ebenezer would like to keep in touch 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.**



Ebenezer United Methodist Church

Church Office: 410-795-6136

Website: ebenezerumchurch.org

Email: eumcwinfield@gmail.com

Pastor's Email: revjae@aol.com

Summer Office Hours

June 1st – Sept 2nd

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

Sunday 9:30 AM to Noon

Summer Worship

June 1st – Aug 31st

10:00 AM in the Fellowship Hall

No Sunday School

	OFFERING	ATTENDANCE
Last Week: 08/10/25	\$6,557.	107
WORSHIP LEADERS	10:00 AM	
Liturgist	Janet Davis	
Ushers	Doug & Cyndi Diethrich	
Acolyte	Derek Jones	
DATE	EVENT	TIME
TODAY	Finance Mtg.	11:00 AM
Monday, August 25 th	Ad Council Mtg.	7:00 PM
Wednesday, August 27 th	HUB gathering	4:00 PM
Thursday, August 28 th	Holly Mart Crafters	9:30 – 12:00 Noon
Sunday, August 31 st	Church Picnic	11:00 AM
Wednesday, Sept 3 rd	OWLS	12:00 – 2:00 PM
Sunday, Sept 7 th	Confirmation Class Info Mtg.	9:45 AM
Monday, Sept 8 th	Community Table	12:00 Noon
Tuesday, Sept 9 th	Bible Study – w/ Rev. Rick Gray	9:30 – 11:00 AM
Saturday, Sept 20 th	Food Pantry	9:00 – 11:00 AM