

Ebenezer United Methodist Church

NEWSLETTER



June/July/August 2025

Worship
Sundays
10:00 AM

Sunday School
(off for the summer)

Worship on Facebook

Ebenezer United Methodist Church
Worship Services

Church Office Hours
Tuesday s Thursday
9:00 AM - 1:00 PM
Sunday 9:00 AM - 12:00 Noon

Website
Ebenezerumchurch.org

Church Phone: 410-795-6136
Pastor's Office: 410-795-1237

Church Email
eumcwinfield@gmail.com

Pastor's Email
REVJAE@aol.com

► Upcoming Events ◀

June 1st - Graduate Recognition

June 8th - Pentecost Sunday

Wear your **RED!**

June 23rd - 27th - C.R.E.W.

July 13th - 18th - Camp Manidokan

July 21st - 25th - Vacation Bible School

August 31st - Church Picnic

**September 2nd - Return to Regular
Office Hours**

September 7th - Fall Schedule Begins

- *Sunday School at 9:45 AM*
- *Worship Services at 8:30 AM and 11:00 AM*

Pastor: Rev. Judith A. Emerson
Music Director: Linda Bange
Secretary: Lori Rapids

Treasurers: Steve s Katie Cave
Nursery Coordinators:
Lisa Humphries s Susan Rodriguez

4901 Woodbine Road. Sykesville, MD 21784



A Message from Your Pastor

**“Lord, you have done so many things!
You made them all so wisely!
The earth is full of your creations!”**

Psalm 104:24

The past few months have been a busy time for our Trustees, Finance and Administrative Council members. You will soon notice a few changes as we add a new electronic sign in front of our church and add acoustic panels in our fellowship hall. The panels will help with the echo that makes hearing difficult in that room. We have also already replaced the playground for our children. For some, change is exciting, for others it can be disturbing. As we all know, change is the only constant in life. Scripture reminds us to view life's changes as a gift and an opportunity.

Summer is almost here and I'm sure some of you are already making plans for your change in schedule. As you look ahead to the next three months, don't forget about some of the amazing new things God does for us during the summer months and see each one as a gift. With the longer days, God blesses us with more time in the evening where we have an opportunity to be with family, friends and neighbors. With warmer weather we can engage one another in outdoor activities, programs and events. With the end of the school year the hope is our stress level will be reduced, and we will have more time to rest, travel and relax.

Summer provides an opportunity to make time to see God's handiwork in other locations. Mountains, lakes, rivers, plains, oceans and even cities reveal the works of God. Many natural get-togethers around a pool or campfire will help build relationships. Summer can also be a time for spiritual renewal as we seek God's fullness and power in new ways. Our summer worship schedule begins on June 1, 2025, with one service only at 10:00 AM in the fellowship hall. This is a great opportunity to bring our two services together and worship as one body of Christ.

We will continue with our summer schedule through August 31, 2025. Immediately following worship, on August 31st, we will have our Annual Church Picnic at Ebenezer. Look for more details about the picnic in the bulletin and plan on staying! On September 7th we will return to our fall worship schedule with two services and Sunday School for all ages. Let's make the most of the gift of summer as we find new ways to praise God and experience God's presence with us each day!

Blessings,

Rev. Judy



BACKPACK MINISTRY

We will again be supporting Winfield Elementary School with backpacks for the students. The need is great. We will be collecting during the summer months and will be packing them at the end of August.

Monetary donations are always greatly appreciated. Just place in the offering plate marked "Backpacks".

Look for the backpack tags coming at the beginning of July. If you don't wish to fill an entire backpack, look below for a list of items we could use most. As always, thank you in advance for your continued support of this ministry.

Glue Sticks * Pencils * 8 Pack of Wide Markers * Highlighters
Blunt Scissors * Packages of Pencil Top Erasers * 12 Pack Colored Pencils
Fine Tip Black Dry Erase Markers * 1" 3 Ring Binders * Backpacks



Another Year of Beautiful Music

WITH MY SINCERE APPRECIATION!

It is my privilege to lead our dedicated and talented Chancel Choir, who sing beautifully each week. Our Advent, Christmas, Holy Week, and Easter services rely on their participation and support.

Bravo!

Linda Bange





Holly Mart Craft Group

Come join us when you are able for crafts and fellowship, no experience necessary! We meet on the top floor of the food pantry from 9:30 AM to 12:00 Noon.

Come for as long as you can. All help is appreciated.

Thursdays, June 12 & 26

Thursdays, July 10 & 31

Thursdays, August 14 & 28

If you are a crafter and have an idea you would like to share and make with us, please let us know. We also have supplies if you would be willing to make things at home.

Questions: Linda Bennett bennettga@aol.com
or leave a message at 1-301-253-3367

Thank you from the Holly Mart Craft Group

Mark Your Calendars Now!

VBS 2025

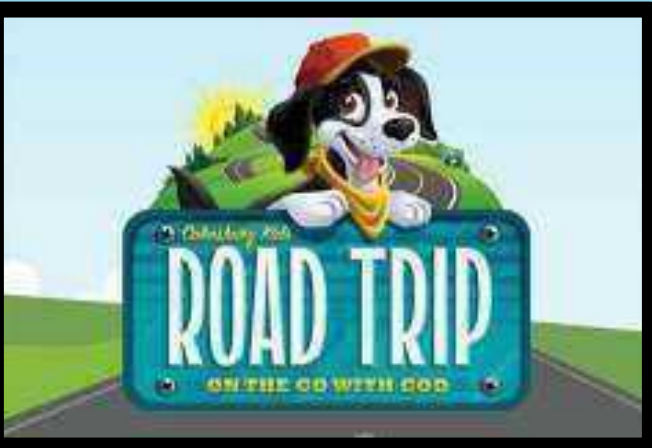
July 21st to 25th

Dinner Served:

5:30-6:00 PM

VBS: 6:00-8:30 PM

Children ages 3 through 5th Grade



We have been working to put our team together. If you still want to be part of the fun, contact Cindi Arnold and we'll put you to work! We are still looking for a creative TEAM to help put together our decorations for the week.



<https://ebenezerunitedmethodistchurch.mycokesburyvbs.com/>

Looking forward to another awesome week!

Join Us!

Please consider joining our chancel choir. We always have room for "one more". You will not be disappointed with our wonderful group of members and hope you will enjoy our choices of music! We meet one hour on Wednesday evening. If you wish, you can choose to just join us for Christmas or Easter services. Bring your voice and come!

Any questions, feel free to contact me at bigbange@comcast.net

Linda

NIGHT BY NIGHT SHELTER

Ebenezer continues to support the *Night-by-Night Shelter* at 127 Stoner Avenue in Westminster with dinner the third Sunday of each month. Signup slots are available for June-December 2025. If you'd like to contribute a dish, sign up at

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0c4baba92ba2fb6-cold>

and Scott Murchie will contact you the beginning of the previous week with a reminder and to arrange drop-off of food in the church kitchen, either ahead of time or at 5:30 PM Sunday for hot dishes. Arrangements can also be made for food to be picked up. Please note, the church will cover take-out catering for July and August.

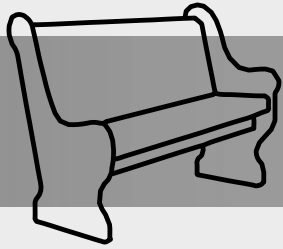
Thank you for you support of this important ministry!

OWLS - Older Wiser Livelier Seniors

Under the dedicated leadership of Diane Biddinger, this group meets for fun, fellowship and of course good food.

They will resume their gatherings in September.





A View from the Pew

By Ellie Baublitz

MEET MIKE NICKEY

Mike Nickey has been a member of Ebenezer since 1994 after he and then- wife Vicki moved from Glen Burnie to Westminster in October 1993 seeking better schools for their young children, Samantha and Max. “My ex-wife was looking for a church and one Sunday came home and said she’d found a church,” Mike recalled. “So we went and liked it here and stayed.” The couple later divorced in 1999.

Being a musician who played guitar, banjo, and mandolin, he got with then- pastor Gayle Annis-Forder and started a youth singing group for middle and high school students in 1998-99. “We did some really challenging music,” Mike said. “We had some really good singers, too - Stephanie Carlock, Heidi and Julie Davis, Tom and Julie Sager.” During the five or so years the group was together, they would participate in an annual concert with youth from several other area churches to raise money, and perform a play for the church Christmas Dinner.

Mike also helped with the recreation part of VBS and at Camp Manidokan. He would play his guitar in church occasionally and at the Ebenezer Palooza events. Mike said though he could sing, he never joined the church choir.. An engineer, Mike worked for a company that manufactured semi-conductors. He developed different processes and kept the production line going among other functions.

In 2017 Mike started having health problems. “I was stiff in my legs, I hurt all the time, I’d freeze where I couldn’t move my legs,” he said. The diagnosis turned out to be Parkinson’s Disease (PD), a neurological disorder that affects its victims in different ways and has no known cure. He was put on the usual PD medication, carbidopa-levodopa, but later he started getting tardive dyskinesia (TD), where the body moves erratically and uncontrollably. He then underwent surgery to implant two electrodes in the top of his brain to control the TD. “The electrodes are deep brain stimulation that fire short pulses of electrical energy very rapidly,” Mike said. “It helps take the place of the medications. I used to take twice the meds I’m taking now.” He currently takes a slow-release form of carbidopa-levodopa called Rytary to control the disease, and the electrodes have helped considerably in reducing TD movement. Despite having Parkinson’s, Mike’s company was supportive of his needs and he was able to keep working until this last December, when he retired at age 72. “The company was flexible about my hours,” he said. “They were very good about that.”

Samantha, who is single and is a web editor at Carroll Community College, lives with her dad. Mike just finished putting on an addition to his house to have a first-floor bedroom and bathroom so he won’t have to go up and down stairs so much. Samantha lives in the rest of the house, where she also has an art studio. Now that the addition is finished, Mike said they’re looking forward to getting two kittens from a friend whose cat had a litter, since they’ve had cats through the years.

His son, Max, a captain for the county’s new career paramedic program, is only a short distance away. His wife, Kellie, is an X-ray technician for LifeBridge. The couple have two children, Jaxon, 10, and Ava, 7.

Before the PD, Mike used to play basketball and enjoyed making and fixing things, as well as making music. Now, with time on his hands since retirement, Mike “reads a lot and plays with the grandkids,” he said. But he is still able to drive, take care of himself, do his shopping, and of course, come to church, where he recently joined Pastor Rick’s Bible study class on Tuesdays.

Pill Bottle Recycling

You Make a Difference!



Several shipments have been mailed to Matthew 25 Ministries and a large one is in the works. The need for clean and safe medication bottles doesn't take a summer vacation and neither does our collection program. As we continue to collect throughout the summer, please remember to completely remove the label and residue (dirt and germs stick to the residue) and wash the bottles out to prevent cross contamination and allergic reactions. Thanks for meeting this need, saving space in landfills, and reducing the demand for single use plastics. As always, donations to defray the shipment cost are always welcome.



Hoffa House

The Hoffa House is a local home where 7-8 men live while recovering from addiction. Our church provides dinner once a month for 10-12 men during their Monday meetings. These meetings help the Hoffa Foundation board members stay connected with the residents and give the men a chance to reflect on their positive and negative experiences each week.

Our church has been incredibly supportive of this nonprofit organization, and we want to extend a heartfelt thank you to everyone who has volunteered this year to prepare meals for the group. We will continue to provide meals for the Hoffa House and, if you're able to help, please sign up on the narthex bulletin board. Meals can be homemade, or you can donate gift cards which can be picked up. Thank you so very much and contact Meghan Estes at Mbrestes@aol.com with any questions.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday School is completing another successful year filled with learning about God and His Word. A thank you to the children and youth for making teaching Sunday School a blessing. Thank you to parents and grandparents making sure children and youth attend. A very special thank you to all of our Sunday School Teachers and substitutes:

Pre-k - Elizabeth Blocher, Sandy Biddinger

k-2 - Joanne Davis, Lynn Baker; Assistant - Hannah Streaker

Grades 3-6 - Julie Jones

Middle School = Travis Saulsbury and Greg Will

High School - Doug and Cyndi Diethrich

Dave and Cindi Arnold & Byron Ricketts

Substitutes - Karl Streaker, Rachel Bidingler, Jen Klausmeyer

Adult - Ken Middleton

Sandy Newsome led the Adult class for a study of the history of the Bible focusing on the translations and early texts. They then visited the Museum of the Bible in Washington D.C.

While Sunday School is off for the summer,
take advantage of VBS in July!



Rock of Help Food Pantry News

Our pantry has been serving 75- 86 families in the last several months. We are giving out quite a bit of food, so we have been looking into other sources to keep our pantry stocked.

A few weeks ago, a tractor trailer filled with food from the Mormon Church in Utah arrived here in Woodbine.. Jim Wise, Rick Byrd and Sue Bergmann were there to have their vehicles loaded full of food. What a blessing! Rick and Sue have also picked up food from the Rescue Mission in Westminster. We partnered with them last year and are very thankful. Sue will also be picking up food from Winfield Elementary in 2 weeks which they will collect from the students in conjunction with their Play Day. We will have a booth set up at the Winfield Carnival (July 7-12) this summer to collect food as people come onto the carnival grounds. We are looking for help manning the booth each evening from 6:00-9:00 PM since many of our pantry volunteers are already committed to helping at the Lions Club booth. There will be a sign up sheet on the bulletin board in the Narthex.

This would be a great opportunity for our high school youth! We appreciate all the support of our pantry, whether through clothing and household donations to our shed or food and non food donations. The families we serve are so thankful!

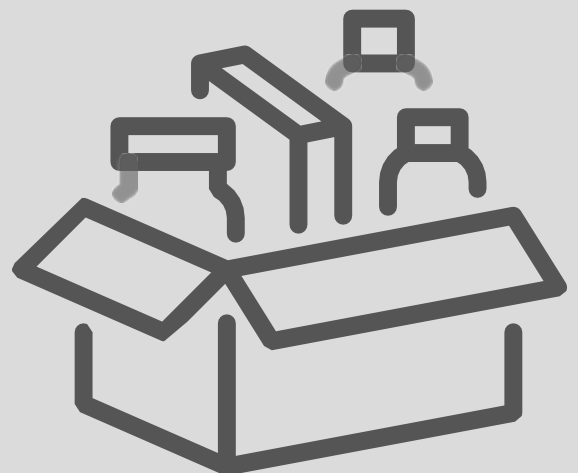
We have changed the name of the "shed" to "**Compassion Closet**". The donations we receive of clothing and household items have really been a blessing. The neighbors that come on food pantry Saturday have shared with us how grateful they are to be able to find clothing for all ages. We recently were able to help someone who was finding clothes for a family who lost everything in a house fire. She had a list of ages and sizes and our volunteers went to work to help find something for everyone. We were able to provide linens and some household items as well. Our new addition of having Bibles available has opened up some wonderful conversations. We were even able to send winter coats to the homeless in D.C, with a church member who has a connection. Our space is limited but we do appreciate the donations of seasonally appropriate clothing. It is also helpful if you contact us with donations before the third Saturday Food Pantry day so we have time to organize everything.

Thank you for your support.

**If you have any questions about our pantry,
please contact Sue Bergmann at sueabergmann@gmail.com**

Food Pantry Monthly Needs

January - Laundry Detergent
February - Shampoo/Conditioner
March - Toilet Paper
April - Household Cleaners (Mr. Clean, etc.)
May - Deodorant
June - Body Wash/Soap
July - Toothpaste/Toothbrushes
August - Liquid Dish Soap
September - Paper Towels
October - Toilet Cleaner
November - Bleach
December - Fabric Softener (liquid/dryer sheets)





YOUTH GROUP

Ebenezer's Youth Group is open to all youth in 6th grade and higher (including our college/young adults no longer in school)

We meet typically every other week on a Sunday evening from 6 -8 PM.
Watch for current month scheduling and come join the fun!

Final Event for the School Year: Paintball - Sunday, June 1st

Youth Group 2024-2025

End of the year?! How did that happen?!

Seems as though we just got started with our pizza night and water games. Add in some awesome Nerf Wars, a corn maze, pumpkin carving, a hike, Christmas fun, Trivia Night, bowling, a progressive dinner, bingo, Shrove Tuesday, Easter Sunrise, The Amazing Race, Noah at Sight s Sound, and some Paintball (Whew!), throw in a couple meetings led by our youth (thank you Kyle and Derek!) and here we are ready for end of school year activities and graduations. It has been a whirlwind of a year. We would like to thank the many hands that donated dinners to our youth this year. Eating together is important to our youth and we leaders appreciate having one less thing to deal with, so - THANK YOU! Also a shout out to those that participated in our progressive dinner and amazing race events. And lastly to Rachel and Brian who helped out when they could. They say it takes a village and we have a wonderful village!

Coming Soon...

The youth group will plan impromptu events during the summer months. We hope to utilize the nine square and fire pit often. Look for emails or texts and join us for some summer fun. This includes all current, incoming, and recently graduated youth members! Also, next year's planning has already started. If you did not fill out a questionnaire, let us know what events you want to see again (and those you'd rather not) AND...we would love for some more of you to step up and run a meeting/lesson.

Let us know if you are interested!

Ms. Cindi, Mr. Doug, Mr. Byron, Mr. Dave, Ms. Julie, Ms. Cyndi



NOAH
Easter Sunrise Service

The Amazing Race



Game Night



Easter
Sunrise Service





Birthdays & Anniversaries

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

1 JoAnn Beck	13 Jared Blocher
5 Diane Biddinger	14 Jeff Alderdice
5 Doug Diethrich	20 Katie s Donnie Roe
6 Jaxon Partridge	23 Buck Scott
6 Rich Holl	23 Debbie Paulsgrove
11 Christopher Rapids	23 Jakob Partridge
11 Brian Connelly	27 Mike Grim
	28 Joyce Davis

JULY BIRTHDAYS

4 Abraya McGehrin	19 Kenny Wean
5 Kathleen Cesar	22 Jason Humphries
7 Mindy Coates	23 Meredith Rodriguez
7 Kim Cooper	23 Judy Ricketts
11 Shannon Murphy	24 Ruth Heslen
12 Scott Baker	25 Becky Paulsgrove
13 Becky Faulkrod	27 Kathy Zamostny
15 Sam LeDuc	27 David Thompson
	30 Jeff Arnold

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

1 Judy Kressig	13 Cyndi Diethrich	24 Cole Murphy
1 Susan Rodriguez	14 Sandy Newsome	25 Brian Rapids
4 Tony Sager	15 Jennifer Wise	25 Linda Bennett
4 Dorothy Tebo	21 Julie Shacochis	30 Brenda Seibly
8 Susan Brown	21 Jan Connelly	31 Angie Grim
8 Kyle Flater	23 Toni Byrd	31 Charles Rosier
11 Robbie Middleton		

June/July/August Anniversaries

JUNE ANNIVERSARIES

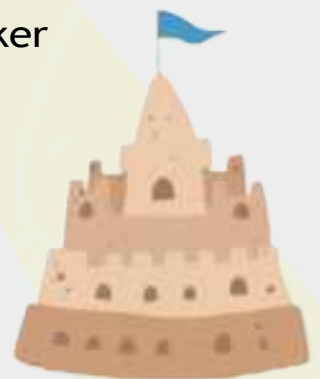
6 Buck s Laura Scott
7 Steve s Kate Lurette
7 Mike s Angie Grim
14 Travis s Katy Saulsbury
20 Byron s Judy Ricketts
23 Karl s Nicole Streaker

JULY ANNIVERSARIES

5 Doug s Becca Flater
8 Dave s Cindi Arnold
15 Kevin s Lisa Pieciewicz
16 Paul s Nancy Thompson
21 Tony s Susan Sager
25 Matt s Jess Middleton
31 Rick s Brenda Baker

AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

2 Jim s Susan Brown
18 Larry s Judy Lovell
23 Jared s Elizabeth Blocher
29 Ron s Linda Bange



ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL MEETING



We will have our next Ad council meeting on **June 2nd** at 7:00 PM. After this, we will not meet again until August.



Camp Manidokan

July 13-18

*Eligibility: Entering 3rd Grade to
Entering 12th grade Fall of 2025*

You should have already registered for camp at www.bwccampsandretreats.com if you are planning on attending. The camper is responsible for the \$100.00 registration fee and the rest will be covered by EUMC if you earned a campership by attending Sunday School as required.

We are always looking for volunteers as well.. If you love the outdoors, please consider giving of yourself by volunteering for camp. Please email Rachel Biddinger at 443-547-0519 or Jen Klausmeyer at 443-760-5968 with any questions.

WOWs

Women of the Word

Summer is approaching and our WOWS group will not be meeting June, July or August. We will resume in September. Please continue your prayers for healing and recovery for all of God's children and their families, for our country and the world. Most of all praise Him for His goodness and answered prayers. His mercies are unending!

Enjoy a wonderful summer .

Sharon Torosky



New Playground

A huge THANK YOU to Eunice Fairchild for purchasing a brand new playground for our children! You can tell from the happy faces in the photos that they are thrilled!!

Jesus said, "Let the little children come unto me, do not hinder them, for the kingdom of Heaven belongs to such as these."

Matthew 19:14





C.R.E.W.

June 23-27, 2025

Many hands make light work!
If you even have a day available, we can use you.
Please consider joining us!



This summer's theme is inspired by the verse from 2 Timothy 1:6, "This is why I remind you to fan into flames the spiritual gifts God gave you when I laid my hands on you". Youth, entering grades 8-12, and adult volunteers will put their faith into action, working together on home projects in our community.

If you have any questions about **C.R.E.W.** please contact Nancy Thompson, 410-241-1509.

Adult Bible Study with Pastor Rick Gray

*That's a wrap or the special
grilled cheese with bacon!*

The Bible study class,
missing a few, went for
lunch after the study
ended for the season.

Pastor Rick will be leading
an adult study during VBS
and the Tuesday morning
study will resume in the fall.

All are welcome!





Children's Church

Children's Church will be on break for the summer
and will resume in September!

We have learned so much in Children's Church this year! Since the last newsletter, we have studied the parables and of course the Easter Story. We read some scriptures about parents - many in the Old and New Testaments. The children enjoyed acting out the Parable of the House Built on the Rock. We had fun making houses to see if the house could withstand a flood and winds. We have some budding engineers and architects! The children discussed many storms a person could experience in their lives and how you should build your house on a rock - God, Jesus and the Bible. After discussing The Mustard Seed at the Women's retreat, the children listened to the parable and planted mustard seeds.

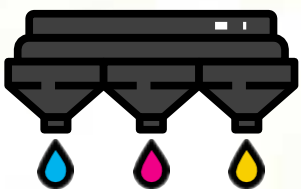
**We look forward to
another fun filled Bible
year beginning in the fall,
Join us for the fun!**

Thank-you,
Meghan Estes
Joanne Davis

THANK
YOU



We would especially like to thank a very dedicated volunteer: Summer Lange. She helps each week leading the children in rhymes and songs. She willingly steps in and helps in many ways. Other youth volunteers we could not do without are Austin Dietrich, Derek Jones, Jakob Partridge, Ryan Pieciewicz, Lukas Rhodes, Hannah Streaker and Aaron Torosky.



**Don't forget to bring in your used ink
cartridges so we can get \$\$\$\$ for our church!
See Debbie Paulsgrove with any questions!**



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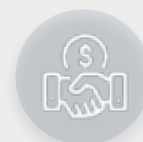
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