

ANNOUNCEMENTS

February 8, 2026

CHILDREN'S CHURCH CHANGE – We will be having Children's Church today, but we will **not** meet on Feb. 22nd. In March, we will resume our normal second and fourth weeks for Children's Church. We look forward to seeing you.

SHROVE TUESDAY – February 17th, 5:00 – 7:30 PM, the Youth Group will sponsor our Pancake Supper in the Fellowship Hall. Enjoy pancakes, sausage and Mountain Man. Free will donations will be accepted and all proceeds will go to fund our Youth Spring Trip. Join us in fellowship for the start of the Lenten season!

ASH WEDNESDAY – On February 18th, the Sanctuary will be open for the Imposition of Ashes and Communion from **11:00 AM to 1:00 PM and 5:00 PM to 7:30 PM**. Come begin the Season of Lent by receiving ashes and communion and spending time in prayer. If you are unavailable for the above times, please contact Rev. Judy to make other arrangements.

LENTEN BIBLE STUDY - Wednesday Evenings, **March 4th, 11th, 18th & 25th** from 7:00 – 8:30 PM in Classroom #1. This Lenten season, gather at the table with Jesus and his disciples to experience the journey from Palm Sunday to the cross through the stories that prepared the way. Experience Lent through the lens of Jesus' most powerful mealtime parables. Rev. Judy will be leading this study. Please sign up on the Bulletin Board in the Narthex if you plan to attend.

WOMEN'S RETREAT - On Friday, **March 6th and Saturday, March 7th, 2026**, the women of the church (*18 and older*) are invited to join us for our Annual Women's Retreat, "**Dare to Imagine**". We will be at Ebenezer UMC beginning on Friday evening to watch a movie and returning to the church on Saturday morning for a full day. The cost of the retreat is \$75.00. Snacks are included for Friday evening and meals and activities are included on Saturday. Registration Forms are available in the narthex.



YOUTH SPRING RETREAT - On **April 17th through 19th** our youth group and confirmation class will go to West River United Methodist Church Retreat Center for a weekend retreat. The cost per person is \$150.00, which includes meals, lodging and activities. If your youth/confirmant will be attending, please make a deposit of \$50.00 per person as soon as possible. Checks can be made payable to EUMC with a notation on your check saying: Youth Spring Retreat 2026. Brochures are in the Narthex.

MANIDOKAN - Camp this year will be from **July 12th to July 17th, 2026**. Registration opened on February 4th. You can qualify for a camp scholarship by attending Sunday School regularly, only missing 2 Sundays beginning **TODAY** through the end of May. Please sign up on the sheet on the bulletin board if you are interested in attending, so we can get an idea of possible attendees. If you have questions, please get in touch with Rachel Biddinger at 443-547-0519.

SUMMER C.R.E.W. PROJECTS – If you have a small project around your house that you would like some help with this summer, please let us know. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the Narthex.

SAFE SANCTUARY POLICY - In accordance with Ebenezer's Safe Sanctuary Policy, we are asking that all children, 3rd grade and under, be accompanied by an adult in the church building and on the church property at all times. If your child needs to leave the sanctuary for any reason, an adult needs to go with him/her.

YOUTH GROUP DINNERS - We have posted a sign-up sheet for the remaining youth group meetings. If you would be interested in supplying a meal for a meeting, please sign up! As always, we thank you for your help. Contact a youth leader with any questions.

YOUTH GROUP - Deposits are due **NOW** for the Spring Retreat to West River. Remember that your trip will be discounted as long as you participate in the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper. Please see a youth leader or Rev Judy if the cost is an issue for you.





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

Matthew 5:16
*In the same way, let
your light shine
before others so that
they may see your
good works and give
glory to your Father
who is in Heaven.*

DATE	OFFERING	ATTENDANCE
Last Week: 2/1/2026	\$10,989.	121
WORSHIP LEADERS	8:30 AM	11:00 AM
Liturgist	Susan Sager	Deb Mathias
Ushers	Tony & Susan Sager	Derek Jones & Ryan Piecewicz
Acolyte	Kyle Flater	Ryan Piecewicz
DATE	EVENT	TIME
TODAY	Children's Church	11:00 AM
Tuesday, February 10th	Adult Bible Study with Rev. Rick Gray	9:30 - 11:00 AM
Wednesday, February 11th	Children's Choir Chancel Choir	6:30 - 7:15 PM 7:30 PM
Thursday, February 12th	Pachelbells	6:45 - 7:30 PM
Tuesday, February 17 th	Adult Bible Study - with Rev. Rick Gray Shrove Tuesday - Pancake Supper	9:30 – 11:00 AM 5:00 – 7:30 PM
Wednesday, February 18 th <i>Ash Wednesday</i>	Imposition of Ashes	11:00 AM – 1:00 PM & 5:00 – 7:30 PM
Saturday, February 21 st	Food Pantry Ebenezer Palooza!	9:00 – 11:00 AM 6:00 PM
Sunday, February 22 nd	Adult Lenten Bible Study Youth Group – Game night	9:45 – 10:45 AM 6:00 – 8:00 PM

EBENEZER UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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

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

Order of Worship

February 8, 2026

The 5th Sunday after the Epiphany

8:30 AM & 11:00 AM

WELCOME

Welcome to Ebenezer United Methodist Church. We are certainly blessed by your presence with us this morning. We pray this time of worship will be a blessing to you. Let us begin worship in a time of silent prayer.

THE PRELUDE

"Fairest Lord Jesus"

Pachelbells

LIGHTING THE CANDLES

*CALL TO WORSHIP

O Holy God, open unto me light for my darkness,
courage for my fear, hope for my despair.

**O loving God, open unto me wisdom for my confusion,
forgiveness for my sins, love for my hate.**

O God of peace, open unto me peace for my turmoil,
joy for my sorrow, strength for my weakness.

O generous God, open my heart to receive all your gifts!

*HYMN

"Here I Am, Lord"

UMH No. 593

OPENING PRAYER

O Lord, open my eyes that I may see the needs of others; open my ears that I may hear their cries; open my heart so that they need not be without succor; let me not be afraid to defend the weak because of the anger of the strong, nor afraid to defend the poor because of the anger of the rich. Show me where love and hope and faith are needed and use me to bring them to those places. And so, open my eyes and my ears that I may be able to do some work of peace for thee. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 58:1-12

This lesson is about the call for genuine and sacrificial acts of righteousness, emphasizing the importance of not only outward displays of religious observance but also caring for others as a true reflection of God's heart.

GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 5:13-16

In this text Christians are called to be the salt and light in this world. Salt brings flavor and preservation, making things better and enhancing their taste. Light illuminates and guides the way. Christians are called to shine God's truth and love, helping others find their way in a world that can be confusing and dark at times.

This is the Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

HYMN

"I Love You, Lord"

TFWS No. 2068

SERMON

"Me? Useful?"

Rev. Judy Emerson

ANTHEM(11:00 AM)

"This Little Light of Mine"

Chancel Choir

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.

OFFERING

Announcements
Offertory
*Presentation of Gifts

"Canon of Grace"

Pachelbells

*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

O God, our offerings are not meant to maintain an institution, but to enhance a ministry. May the well-being of your children around the world be at the forefront of our generous giving. Our gifts today are symbols of our hope in all you will accomplish through the ministry we share. Receive them and transform them by the mysterious power of your love. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

*HYMN

"We've a Story to Tell to the Nations"

UMH No. 569

*BLESSING WITH DISMISSAL

*POSTLUDE