

ANNOUNCEMENTS

March 1, 2026

EASTER FLOWERS & DONATIONS – If you would like to purchase Easter Flowers in memory or in honor of someone, please fill out an order form and leave it on Lori's desk. If you would like to contribute to Ebenezer's Building Fund or the Food Pantry in memory or in honor of someone, please complete the order form and your designation will be listed in our Easter Bulletins. **Orders are due by tomorrow.** Order forms can be found in the Narthex.

ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL – Will meet tomorrow, **March 2nd** at 7:00 PM.

LENTEN BIBLE STUDY – Beginning this week we will have our Lenten Study on **March 4th, 11th, 18th & 25th** from 7:00 – 8:30 PM in the fellowship hall. Come join Rev. Judy and experience Lent through the lens of Jesus' most powerful mealtime parables. Please sign up on the bulletin board in the Narthex if you plan to attend.

WOMEN'S RETREAT – This 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 at 7:00 PM to watch a movie and returning to the church on Saturday morning at 8:30 AM 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 is due **TODAY!**

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.

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/confirmand will be attending, please make a deposit of \$50.00 per person. Deposits are due NOW. Please talk to Rev. Judy if the cost is an issue for you. 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 from February 8th 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.

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.

VBS 2026 - July 20th – July 24th from 6:00 - 8:15 PM

Snowball Mountain Challenge! Come and find your strength in God! Registration is now open for all kids ages 3 years through entering 5th grade. Light dinner served nightly starting at 5:30 PM. Are you willing to be part of our incredible volunteer team? Sign up as well and we will be in touch. And lastly, if you are a parent of a child attending, or just an adult who wants to be part of the fun, Rev. Rick will again be sharing a bible study based on the same stories at the same time. Please sign up! "*I can do all things through him who strengthens me*" (*Philippians 4:13 NRSV*)

See our VBS Website - <https://www.myvbs.org/eumc2026>

NEWSLETTER ARTICLES – Articles for the April/May Newsletter are due into the office by **March 15th**.





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

Hope Rises Above All
 Even when surrounded
 by mist, lift your eyes
 to the Lord, from whom
 all help comes.
 “My help comes from
 the Lord, the Maker of
 heaven and earth.” —
 Psalm 121:2
 Be Strong

DATE	OFFERING	ATTENDANCE
Last Week: 2/22/2026	\$2,002	109
WORSHIP LEADERS	8:30 AM	11:00 AM
Liturgist	Lori Rapids	Ryan Pieciewicz
Ushers	Susan Brown & Lori Rapids	Kathy McGehrin & Bob Stevens
Acolyte	Kyle Flater	Derek Jones
DATE	EVENT	TIME
TODAY	Jesus & Me Class – Room #4	1:00- 3:00 PM
Monday, March 2 nd	Easter Flowers & Donations Due Administrative Council Mtg.	8:00 PM 7:00 PM
Tuesday, March 3 rd	Adult Bible Study with Rev. Rick Gray	9:30 – 11:00 AM
Wednesday, March 4 th	Children's Choir Adult Lenten Bible Study with Rev. Judy	6:30 – 7:30 PM 7:00 – 8:30 PM
Friday, March 6 th	Women's Retreat Movie Time	7:00 PM
Saturday, March 7 th	Women's Retreat	8:30 AM – 6:30 PM
Sunday, March 8 th	Children's Church Youth Group	11:00 AM 6:00 – 8:00 PM
Wednesday, March 11 th	Children's Choir Lenten Bible Study – With Rev. Judy Chancel Choir	6:30 – 7:15 PM 7:00 – 8:30 PM 7:30 PM
Sunday, March 15 th	Newsletter Articles Due	1:00 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

March 1, 2026

The Second Sunday in Lent

8:30 AM & 11:00 AM

WELCOME

In the gospel of John, we hear today that faith that isn't continually renewed and refreshed fades away. And without living faith, there is no motivation to do all the good things we urge people to do. Refueling comes from Christ.

LIGHTING THE CANDLES

THE PRELUDE

INTROIT(11:00 AM)

"Grace"

Chancel Choir

*CALL TO WORSHIP

God calls us to leave what is familiar and follow where grace leads.

We come, trusting the promise we cannot yet see.

God keeps watch over all who walk by faith.

Our help comes from the Lord, maker of heaven and earth.

God offers new life, born of Spirit and truth.

Let us worship God who calls us forward in faith.

*HYMN

"Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above"

UMH No. 126

OPENING PRAYER

God of love, we open ourselves to your call into unknown places and among unfamiliar persons. Help us to trust you enough that we will not shrink from the challenges presented to us each day. May your Word flow through the scriptures, that we may hear what you want us to hear. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

CALL TO CONFESSION

We live fractured lives, and God seeks not to punish us but to reconcile and restore us. Trusting in God's grace and mercy, let us then make our confession to God.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious and loving God, you have blessed us abundantly with material and spiritual resources, but we have wasted them and asked for more from you. We have considered all that we have for our own benefit. Forgive us for our ways. Guide and direct us to follow where Christ is leading that we may use our resources to glorify your holy name. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

We can step into the unknown of this world in faith, trusting that God forgives us, and goes with us providing for all our needs. Praise be to God! Amen.

PSALTER

Psalm 121

UMH No. 844

Without Sung Response

Psalm 121 reminds us of where our help comes from and infuses us with confidence: "My help comes from the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth."

GOSPEL LESSON

John 3:1-17

Chapter 3 contains two of the most popular verses in the entire Bible, John 3:16 & 17, which summarize the significance of Jesus Christ and His purpose for the world.

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

Thanks be to God. Amen.

HYMN

"Freely, Freely"

UMH No. 389

SERMON

"Fill 'Er Up!"

Rev. Judy Emerson

HYMN

"Because He Lives"

UMH No. 364

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

OFFERING

Announcements

Offertory(11:00 AM)

*Presentation of Gifts

"If We Truly Believe"

Chancel Choir

*Doxology

“A Lenten Doxology”

UMH No. 95

Words: G. W. Dub Shepherd, 2006 OLD 100TH

**Praise God throughout these forty days.
Praise Christ, our Lord, whom God did raise.
And praise the Spirit who imparts
God’s love in Christ into our hearts.
Amen.**

*Prayer of Dedication

Creator God, you embrace us with your sanctifying spirit. In sharing these gifts, change our timid acts of faith to joyful proclamations of your holy will. We believe and pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

UMH No. 15

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: #2254, #2203, #2068

Prayer Following Communion

**Lord, you now have set your servants free to go in peace as you have promised. For these eyes of ours have seen the Savior whom you have prepared for all the world to see! Blessing and honor and glory are yours, now and forever.
Amen.**

*HYMN

“Blessed Assurance”

UMH No. 369

*BLESSING WITH DISMISSAL

*POSTLUDE