

ANNOUNCEMENTS

March 22, 2026

EASTER CANDY – Make sure to get your orders in by **TODAY!** Forms are in the Narthex. Pick-up for candy orders will be on Sunday, March 29th.

EASTER EGG HUNT - Sunday, March 29th at 3:30 PM. Donations are due today!

Please join us for a fun time of crafts, games, snacks and an egg hunt. All children through 5th grade are welcome to attend. Feel free to invite family members, friends and neighbors. Please sign up on the bulletin board so we know how many kids to expect. Any questions, contact Julie Jones 410-404-1275 or juliejones3@comcast.net. Thank you!

MANIDOKAN - Camp this year will be from **July 12th to July 17th, 2026**. Please sign up on the sheet on the bulletin board if you are interested in attending. If you have questions, please get in touch with Rachel Biddinger at 443-547-0519.

MEN'S MINI-RETREAT - Saturday, May 2, 8:30 AM-2:00 PM. Rev. Rick Gray will be leading the retreat. The Theme is *Encountering Jesus Along Our Faith Journey*. The day will start with breakfast at 8:30 AM, followed by morning sessions from 9 AM to 12 noon. Subway lunch will be brought in at noon and then we'll have an early afternoon session and adjourn by 2 PM. The link to sign up and reserve a breakfast order is below. If you have questions about the retreat experience, ask Rick; for questions on logistics or to sign up without using the link, talk to Scott Murchie or call him at 240-381-8137.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0C4BABA92BA2FB6-ebenezer#/>

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

VBS - July 20th - July 24th - 6:00 PM - 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! 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>

ORIOLES FAITH NIGHT - Thursday, July 9th. The game is at 6:35 PM vs. the Chicago Cubs, followed by player testimonials and a performance by a contemporary Christian band. The cost for tickets and parking will be between \$25-\$30 each, depending on the size of the group. Multiple parking passes for lot B/C have been secured so we will be able to park relatively close to the stadium. A group will meet at church at 4:30 PM to carpool to the game. There is a sign-up sheet in the narthex. Please contact Karl Streaker via email at 4streakers@comcast.net. The due date for signing up is **Sunday, May 31st**.

EBENEZER CRUISERS - There's Still Time to Join! Invite your friends and neighbors to join us on this fantastic cruise! Call Linda @ 410-875-2093 for cabin availability and pricing. Information is on the bulletin board in the Narthex.

NEW PICTORIAL DIRECTORY – Universal Church Directories will be here taking pictures on June 29th & 30th from 2:00 – 8:30 PM so mark your calendars NOW! We haven't had a directory since 2022, and we have so many new families to include this time. We will need a few volunteers on both picture days to help sign people in. More information will be coming out soon, so stay tuned!

HOLY WEEK WORSHIP SCHEDULE

March 29th – Palm Sunday 8:30 & 11:00 AM – Sanctuary

April 2nd – Maundy Thursday 7:30 PM – Fellowship Hall

April 3rd – Good Friday 7:30 PM – Sanctuary

April 5th – EASTER – 6:30 AM – Outside by patio

8:30 & 11:00 AM – Fellowship Hall

9:45 AM – Sunday School



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

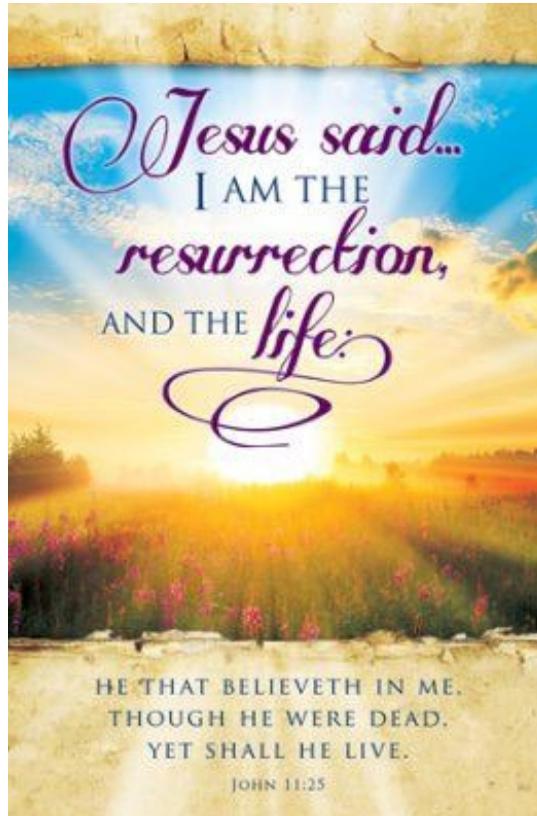
Sunday 9:30 AM to Noon

Worship

8:30 AM Service in Sanctuary

9:45 – 10:45 AM Sunday School for all ages

11:00 AM Service in Sanctuary



DATE	OFFERING	ATTENDANCE
Last Week: 3/15/26	\$4,844.	160
WORSHIP LEADERS	8:30 AM	11:00 AM
Liturgist	Bill Jones	Ryan Pieciewicz
Ushers	Frank Zamostny & Dan Newcomer	Derek Jones & Ryan Pieciewicz
Acolyte	Kyle Flater	Abraya McGehrin
DATE	EVENT	TIME
TODAY	Easter Candy Orders Due Youth Group – Amazing Race	12:00 Noon
Tuesday, March 24 th	Adult Bible Study with Rev. Rick Gray	9:30 – 11:00 AM
Wednesday, March 25 th	Children's Choir Lenten Bible Study with Rev. Judy Chancel Choir	6:30 PM – 7:15 PM 7:00 PM – 8:30 PM 7:30 PM
Thursday, March 26 th	Easter Candy Making	9:30 AM – 12:00 PM
Friday, March 27 th	Easter Candy Making	9:30 AM – 12:00 PM
Sunday, March 29 th	Pick – Up Easter Candy Orders Easter Egg Hunt	Between services 3:30 PM
Thursday, April 2 nd	Maundy Thursday Service Fellowship Hall	7:30 PM
Friday, April 3 rd	Good Friday Service Sanctuary	7:30 PM

EBENEZER UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

4901 Woodbine Road

Sykesville, Maryland 21784

Rev. Judith A. Emerson, Pastor

Linda Bange, Music Director/Organist

March 22, 2026

8:30 AM and 11:00 AM

The Fifth Sunday in Lent

WELCOME

Lent is a time of repentance, fasting and preparation for the coming of Easter. It is a time of self-examination and reflection. Let us prepare our hearts for worship in silent prayer.

THE PRELUDE

LIGHTING THE CANDLES

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Come, people of God, to know again who you are.

We return to the One who gives life.

We come as children of God, longing for a closer walk with our Creator.

The breath of God cleanses, and hope is renewed; life is restored.

We welcome the winds of God among us, the Spirit who offers life!

*HYMN

“O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing”
Stanzas 1-4

UMH No. 57

OPENING PRAYER

Loving God, help us to experience your transcendent power in the midst of our own lives, bringing life out of death, hope out of despair, joy out of sorrow. Help us to find life and peace, even as this season moves us toward Calvary. Speak to us your truth and move us to respond. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.

CALL TO CONFESSION

Let us draw near to God with sincerity of heart and full assurance of faith, our hearts made clean. Let us confess our sins before God and one another.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of the living and the dead, we confess that sometimes we are more dead than alive to the possibilities you place before us. During times of pain, unfairness and destructive forces on all sides, we see little hope. We find it hard to discern a role for ourselves in working for a better world; we seem powerless to change even that little part of the planet where we live. Forgive us and grant us a new vision and vitality. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.

SILENT PRAYER OF CONFESSION

ASSURANCE AND PARDON

We are assured that God is already at work in our lives, accepting us where we are and granting us new life. Accept the gift of God’s forgiveness and empowerment. Take your place among Christ’s disciples. Amen.

SUNG RESPONSE

“Spirit of the Living God”

UMH No. 393

GOSPEL LESSON

John 11:1-45

Selected Verses

The Gospel is the story of Jesus’ raising of Lazarus from the dead. This is the last and greatest of Jesus’ signs and it points beyond itself to the hope of new life after death for all.

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

Thanks be to God.

HYMN

“Breathe on Me, Breath of God”

UMH No. 420

SERMON

“When God Seems Late!”

Rev. Judy Emerson

HYMN

“I Am Thine, O Lord”

UMH No. 419

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.

GIFTS OF THE PEOPLE

Announcements

Offertory (8:30 AM)

"Holy, True and Faithful God"

Chancel Choir

*Presentation of Gifts

*Doxology

UMH No. 95

**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

Bring life, O God, to the mission and ministry of this congregation as we offer our support through our tithes and offerings. Bless us, and all the gifts we bring, in Jesus' name. Amen.

*HYMN

"Standing on the Promises"

UMH No. 374

*BLESSING WITH DISMISSAL

*POSTLUDE

TFWS=*The Faith We Sing Hymnal*
UMH=*The United Methodist Hymnal*
* = *Congregation stands as able*