

ANNOUNCEMENTS

August 23, 2026

HOLLY MART – There will be a Holly Mart meeting this **Tuesday, August 25th** at 6:30 PM.

HOLLY MART CRAFTERS – **August 27th** from 9:30 AM - Noon in the upper part of the Food Pantry building. Please join us!

CHURCH FAMILY PICNIC – Next Sunday, **August 30th** - 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! There is a sign-up sheet in the back on the bulletin board, so please take a minute to let us know how many to expect. Thank you!

ADULT BIBLE STUDY – will meet Tuesday mornings from 9:30 – 11:00 AM beginning on **September 8th**. Rev. Rick Gray will be leading a study on the book of Acts.

CHANCEL CHOIR - rehearsals will begin on **September 9th at 7:30 PM**. Please consider joining us for music and laughter!

CHILDREN'S CHOIR – will start rehearsals on **September 9th at 6:30 PM**.

DONATIONS - If anyone has tomatoes, peppers or smaller cucumbers for the canning group to process for the pickle, salsa and jelly sale, it would be appreciated. If anyone would like to donate any canned items to our sale, it would also be appreciated. We have jars you can use. Let Linda know - Bennettga@aol.com

UPCOMING MEETINGS: Please check the list to see if a committee you are serving on is meeting soon.

Committee on Lay Leadership - August 26th - 6:30 PM

Administrative Council - August 31st - 7:00 PM

SPRC - September 1st - 6:30 PM

Trustees - September 3rd - 6:30 PM

Finance - September 9th - 6:30 PM

(There will be a 2nd meeting at 7:15 with Michael Meily, our financial advisor)

EUMC CHURCH CONFERENCE –**Saturday, October 24th at 1:00 PM** at Deer Park UMC, 2205 Sykesville Road, Westminster, MD 21157. Please plan to attend if you are able.

FALL FOOD PANTRY NEEDS: The Rock of Help Food Pantry Needs List continues to evolve with our client needs. For September and October, we are collecting peanut butter, hot tea and cocoa, and socks. Peanut butter is useful all year! As the weather turns, our friends will appreciate tea or cocoa and a pair of warm socks! Thanks for your support.



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 through August)

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

Sunday 9:30 AM to Noon

BEGINNING SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2026

Worship 8:30 AM

Sunday School 9:45 AM

Worship 11:00 AM

DATE	OFFERING	ATTENDANCE
Last Week: 8/16/26	\$4,236.00	85
WORSHIP LEADERS	10:00 AM	
Liturgist	Susan Sager	
Ushers	Tony & Susan Sager	
Acolyte	Betsy Pollard	
DATE	EVENT	TIME
Tuesday, Aug 25 th	Holly Mart Meeting	6:30 PM
Wednesday, Aug 26 th	Committee on Lay Leadership Mtg.	6:30 PM
Thursday, Aug 27 th	Holly Mart Crafters	9:00 AM - Noon
Sunday, Aug 30 th	CHURCH PICNIC	After Worship
Monday, Aug 31 st	Administrative Council Meeting	7:00 PM
Tuesday, Sept. 1 st	SPRC Meeting	6:30 PM
Thursday Sept. 3 rd	Trustees Meeting	6:30 PM

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.

NURSERY – Our nursery is always available during all worship services for children, birth through kindergarten.

EBENEZER UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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

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

The 13th Sunday after Pentecost

Order of Worship

August 23, 2026

10:00 AM

WELCOME

Good morning and welcome! To our regular members, it's always a joy to see you. To our visitors and first-time guests, we're so glad you're with us today. Let us begin worship in silent prayer.

PRELUDE

LIGHTING THE CANDLES

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Lord, open our hearts this morning to hear your words of compassion.

Lord, help us to truly listen to you.

Lord, open our spirits this morning to strengthen our faith.

Lord, help us to work for you.

Lord, make us ready to serve and witness to your healing love.

***OPENING HYMN**

"Spirit Song"

UMH No. 347

OPENING PRAYER

Lord of mercy and compassion, be with us this day as we hear of the healing love of Jesus. Remind us that we are also recipients of his compassion, and we are called to bring the same hope and love to others. Prepare us for service in His Name. Amen.

CALL TO CONFESSION

The proof of God's amazing love is this: While we were yet sinners Christ died for us. Because we have faith in him, we dare to approach God with confidence. (Romans 5:8, Hebrews 4:16) In faith and penitence, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Patient God, you know us so well. We do not always understand the compassion of Christ. Please forgive us, Lord, when our questions and fearfulness get in the way of understanding. Forgive us for the times when we think only of ourselves and not of others. Help us to know the power of your love and make us ready to be faithful witnesses to you in all that we say and do. It is in Jesus' name that we pray. Amen.

ASSURANCE AND PARDON

In the name of Jesus Christ, you have been healed. Praise be to God who has given you new life. Amen.

GOSPEL LESSON

Mark 7:24-37

This text foreshadows 1 Corinthians 13, in that we see love, hope and faith in action. We learn that a community of friends and a personal encounter with Jesus is needed to create a movement that tells the world about the Gospel.

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

Thanks be to God.

HYMN

"Open My Eyes, That I May See"

UMH No. 454

SERMON

"That's Just How I Am!"

Rev. Judy Emerson

HYMN

"Here, I Am, Lord"

UMH No. 593

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Joys and Concerns

Blessing of the Backpacks

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 *“All Creatures of Our God and King”* UMH No. 62

**Let all things their Creator bless,
and worship him in humbleness,
O Praise ye! Alleluia!
Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son,
and praise the Spirit, three in one!
O praise ye! O praise ye!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

*Prayer of Dedication

**God of healing, we are surprised by your miracles that we witness each day.
We are so thankful! We pray that you will accept the gifts we offer this week as a
sacred gesture of our gratitude. May all praise and honor be given to you,
Almighty God, in Jesus’ name. Amen.**

*HYMN *“They’ll Know We Are Christians by Our Love”* TFWS No. 2223

We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord;
we are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord;
and we pray that all unity will one day be restored:

~Refrain~

**And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love,
yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.**

We will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand;
we will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand;
and together we'll spread the news that God is in our land:

~Refrain~

We will work with each other, we will work side by side;
we will work with each other, we will work side by side;
and we'll guard human dignity and save human pride:

~Refrain~

All praise to the Father, from whom all things come,
and all praise to Christ Jesus, God’s only Son,
and all praise to the Spirit, who makes us one:

~Refrain~

*DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

*POSTLUDE