



EBENEZER

United Methodist Church

www.ebenezerum-church.org

April '14

Volume 10 Issue 4

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Sunday Services

- 8:30a Worship Service (Contemporary)
- 9:50a Sunday School
- 11:00a Worship Service (Traditional)
- 6:00p Jr. UMYF & UMYF (Grades 6-12)
- 6:00p Adult Choir Practice
- 7:00p Every FOURTH SUNDAY United Methodist Women

"Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit..." *Matthew 28:19*



Pastor's Corner — Rev. Eric Lane



Someone posted a picture of two deer that were making their way through the snow and the caption read: "Spring is on the way! You can already see the deer in the meadow."



Sometimes, even though the calendar tells us that it is spring, it just doesn't feel like spring. Yet, we know that spring will come just as it always has. The days will grow warm, the flowers will begin to bloom, and the dreary cold days of winter will fade into our memory—not forgotten but filed away.

Life is much like that. Over the past almost twelve years, we have seen those trusted leaders, saints of the church, those who worked tirelessly for the kingdom of God, pass from here to the Church Triumphant where they now are enjoying the joy of the Lord.

The other day someone came up to me and said, "So many of the pillars of the church have passed on. What will we do? There is such a void left behind."

Yes, I have to agree that we have lost some great pillars; but each one of those instilled in others, through their prayers, and through their teaching, and

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TUESDAY ACTIVITIES

- 10:00a Prayer Meeting

WEDNESDAY ACTIVITIES

- 6:00p.—New Life Rehearsal
- 7:00p Bible Study—Adult & Children's.

OFFICE HOURS:

Monday—Friday:
8:30a—1:00p
Fri. 2:30-5:00p (if needed.)

Phone: 828-396-2214

Church's e-mail: ebenezerumc@yahoo.com



Meetings

United Methodist Men

The men are serving a meal on **Sunday, April 13th**, so I am not sure when they will meet this month.

Church Council

Church Council will meet on **Sunday, April 13th at 4:30 p.m.** All members of the church may attend.

Food Ministry

The Lord's Supper Ministry is scheduled to prepare and deliver another meal on **Monday, April 21st at 5:00 p.m.** We need drivers to deliver the meals. See Ricky Baker to volunteer to help prepare the meal and/or clean up. (This date has not been confirmed. — Editor)

United Methodist Women

The UMW will meet on **Sunday, April 27th at 7:00 p.m.** Dawn Yount is in charge of the program. Missy Mullinax and Marsha McRary will provide refreshments.

May Newsletter Items

Please have information and articles for the May newsletter in by **April 23rd**. Thank you. —Editor

Patriarch—*n.* 1. the male head of a family or tribe; *the Patriarchs*, the men named in the book of Genesis as the ancestors of mankind or the tribes of Israel.
3. a venerable old man.

—Oxford American Dictionary

Our society needs men who are willing and able to be responsible men; and we also need them to become patriarchs.

Something to Pray About

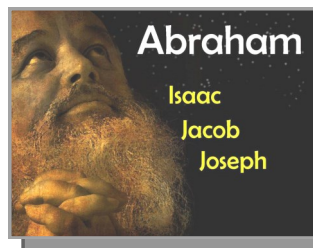
by Cindy Sears

Then he said, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob." At this, Moses hid his face, because he was afraid to look at God.

—Exodus 3:6 NKJV

PATRIARCHS

We need Patriarchs. Now, I am not advocating a return to a fully patriarchal society. Still, what is going on in our world today brings to my mind that old adage, "Don't throw the baby out with the bath water."



According to God's Word and the history of the Israelites, and throughout thousands of years of various cultures, the man has been the leader or authority figure of the family. Like all positions of authority or power, that privilege and honor has often been abused and taken to the extreme. I don't think God ever envisioned a dictatorship in the family. Through the Apostle Paul, we have

been assured that in Christ there is neither male nor female (see Galatians 3:28), and the husband is to love the wife as Christ loved the Church (see Ephesians 5:25). When there are two authority figures – husband and wife – there has to be a way to settle an impasse or disagreement; thus, God set up the man as the ultimate leader. Maybe that statement makes you angry or uncomfortable. What it should do is make a woman realize how important her choice of a husband and father for her children is. And it ought to make a man see how important and necessary his role in the family is.

Christ is the head of the Church. He is also the ultimate head of the family. The husband is under the authority of Christ and the husband is ultimately responsible for the spiritual and physical and emotional well-being of his wife and children. He will be held accountable—more accountable than his wife.

Did you know that psychologists and sociologists are now referring to adolescence as the time between 11 and 30 years of age? It used to be considered as being between 11 and 18 years of age. Our boys are growing up physically, but they are not becoming men. They are not taking on adult responsibilities and behaviors. These "men" are more interested in acquiring the latest electronic gadget or game or what their favorite sports team or figure is doing than they are about their career, marrying and raising a family, or what is happening politically in their community or nation, or attending and supporting their church with their time and money (if they even bother to go to church).

Our society needs men who are willing and able to be responsible men; and we also need them to become patriarchs. A good patriarch is a man who has taken on the responsibility of raising, supporting, and leading a family, and has also contributed to the betterment of his community and its welfare in some way. He is a steady, strong, centering influence for the whole family and even the community he lives and works in. A Christian patriarch's stand

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Church Council — March 9th, 2014

Attendees: Anthony Austin, Ricky Baker, Warren Bumgarner, David & Sonya Crouse, Kim Ellis, Barbara Ferguson, Barbara Frye, Gerald Frye (Chairman), Chris Haas, Jo Nell Harrison, Alice Hill, Bleaka Hollar, Keith Keener, Joann Knepp, Eric Lane, Judy McCrary, Marsha McCrary, Bob Sears, Cindy Sears, Jeff Smith, Jimmy & Rhyann Stone, and Jeanette Teague.

Gerald called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. He read from the “love chapter” in 1 Corinthians. Ricky Baker said the opening prayer.

Minutes of previous meeting stand as written.

Financial Report: Jo Nell reported that the defibrillator was taken out of the office budget. David suggested that we check with our insurance carrier and see if having it will lead to a decrease in our insurance payments.

Our income is still running a little under the budget, though we seem to have caught up in the first week in March.

Eric mentioned that he will be getting with the PPRC and Finance Committee and work up a capital campaign to see if we can get the building paid off before we have to renew the loan in 2016.

Jo Nell said that we are not making any money on our cd. She suggested that we take \$25,000 of that and put it on the principle of the building loan. Jeanette Teague made a motion that we put \$30,000 on the principle. Warren seconded. General discussion was held. Warren did give us a warning about the possibility of roof work and septic/water problems at the parsonage, so we do need some cash available. The motion carried. The remainder of the cd will be marked as savings, and put into the church checking account.

Jo Nell informed us that if we hire someone for special work that we will need a W-9 form filled out on them.

OLD BUSINESS

Jimmy let us know that we can set up a database with cell phone numbers, and we can send out text messages or e-mails to those members who have a phone and/or e-mail. Then we would need to designate people to contact those

people who do not have cell phones or e-mail. Jimmy and Cindy will work on a database for this and get it set-up.

CPR classes will be set up in the near future. David Crouse will take care of that.

Eric has decided against going to the continuing education event he mentioned at the last meeting.

Anthony said that he has taken care of the shirt for the Tractor Power Show. Half a page in the booklet would be \$175. It is \$125 for the quarter page. Bob made a motion that we do a half page. Marsha made a second. There was no further discussion and the motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS

David Crouse brought information from the United Methodist Men that on May 3rd that we will have a housekeeping day, and the men will serve lunch to those who come to work. Time is 8:00 – 12:00 p.m. This will be heavily promoted to get as many people here to help with the work as possible.

April 13th the men’s group will have a chicken and dumpling lunch as a fundraiser for the men’s group. Donations will be accepted.

Gerald mentioned the Layman’s Revival and that we still need speakers. Please contact Gerald or Bleaka Hollar if you want to volunteer.

Kim Ellis requested that if someone has any maps of the world or Middle East, she would like to have them for her class, so that she doesn’t have to buy them.

Evangelism/Witness/Outreach Committee is working on reaching out to the people who are not attending church on a regular basis (members and non-members). Bleaka requested that we pray for these people and this effort. They will also work to contact our visitors and invite them back also. Eric will get a list to us, so that we can pray for those who are not coming. Church council members, we are leaders in the church and need to step up and help with this process.

Eric mentioned the combined service on March 30th will be in the sanctuary and be a traditional type service, because much of the praise band will be gone that week. They will do a song or two, though. Bob Sears gave the closing prayer, and the meeting was adjourned.

Minutes by Cindy Sears ✠

Special Giving

Ebenezer UMC and its members, gratefully acknowledge the following special gifts received in March:

In Memory of Bob Sears by:

Kay Gilbert
Larry & Alice Hill
Antha McCrary
Minnie Belle Starnes Family
Bruce & Selina Gentry
Peggy Duncan
Donald Haigler
Jennie Icard
Thomas & Merle Land
Antha McCrary
Minnie Belle Starnes Family
Leonard & Jeanette Teague

In Memory of Ned Albert Hall by:

Greer-McElveen Funeral Home
Anthony Austin

In Memory of Wade Austin by:

Anthony Austin

In Honor of Gary Paul’s 37th Birthday on March 6 by:

Delores Campbell

How do I hide God’s word in my heart? Memorize it!

“Naked I came from my mother’s womb, and naked shall I return there. The LORD gave, and the LORD has taken away; blessed be the name of the LORD.”

—Job 1:21 NKJV



Something..., con't

for Christ is obvious through his faithful service in and financial support of his church and its ministries. He reaches out to his neighbors who are in need of a helping hand, too.

A true patriarch is honorable and highly honored by all who know him. But that honor comes with a price. It is earned through right actions, faithfulness, and sacrificial giving of himself to his family, his community, and his church. Who is willing, who is able to become the next patriarch in your family?

We have some good, faithful, hardworking men in Ebenezer UMC. I pray that God will lead them to remain faithful to the church, to Christ, and to their families. I also pray that the young men of this church will look to the older men of faith and model their lives on how they have lived and served in their families, the church, and this community. May all our young men be willing to take on the mantle of true adulthood, and become a blessing to our community and our nation.

Dedicated to the memory of PawPaw “Babe” Sears, Gene Sears, and Uncle Bob Sears—and to all the men who have served this church, the other churches in this area, their families, and this community faithfully and honorably for so many years.



No Regrets

Isn't it good at the end of the day
To look up at God and be able to say,
“Dear Lord, I helped someone today.”

But isn't it sad if instead you must say,
“Dear Lord, I hurt someone today.
I drove the nails a little bit deeper
And forgot that I am my brother's
keeper.”

Isn't it better when the day is done to
know that you have injured no one.
From time of your waking,
'Til you lie down to sleep,
Remember the promises that we
should keep:

To love one another as He loves us,
too.
And you'll never regret any good that
you do.

—Barbara Zepp

Pastor's Corner, con't

their presence that the body of Christ is made up of many members; members who are called to step up and to be the hands and feet of Christ.

The church is built on ONE foundation and that is Jesus Christ our Lord. The greatest honor that we can bestow upon those who have finished their race is to follow in their footsteps and to commit ourselves to the will of God.

Every one of those great pillars has touched my life in a different and a unique way. The thread that connects each of them was the love and devotion that they had for God and others. When Jesus was asked which of the commandments is the greatest, he answered that we are “to love the Lord our God with all our heart, all our mind, and with all

our strength.” This was reflected in all those men and women that have served Ebenezer and now rest from their labor. But Jesus did not end there, Jesus continued by saying: “And the second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” What has set each of those pillars apart; that which makes those tears run down our cheeks, is that they truly lived and fulfilled the commandment of loving their neighbors as themselves. Honestly, they often went beyond to where they put the neighbor ahead of their personal needs.

You may be reading this and feeling sad, but try not to take it that way. You see, they showed us through their lives how best to live our lives. They taught us about God, church, being in ministry for the

kingdom, and loving our neighbors. They taught us about life and what was important and what was not. Now it is time for us to step up and step out, and to know that we are never alone. Because what they have taught us will always be with us, and that no matter what happens, God is with us, and Jesus remains the Way the Truth and the life.

Like each of you, I miss those whom we no longer see. But I rejoice in that which they left behind. I know that they would want us to continue that which Christ began in them and in each of us. Look! Spring is almost here!

May the peace of Christ abide with you,

Rev. Eric Lane





April Celebrations



Happy Birthday!



- 1st—Brian Sears
- 5th—Mariah Miller
- 7th—Andrew Scott Miller
- 12th—Tammy Adams, Sonya Crouse, Samantha Stone
- 19th—Nancy Sears
- 21st—Emily Haas
- 23rd—Annette Burson, Lana Beard, Dakota Helton
- 25th—Terri Miller
- 27th—Wyll Baker
- 28th—Cinda McRary
- 29th—Seth McCrary
- 30th—Jeff Smith, Rex Teague

Happy Anniversary!

- 12th—Jerry & Loretta Helton
- 12th—Russ & Joann Knepp
- 17th—Steve & Samantha Kohnle
- 23rd—Buck & Margaret Spencer



Easter Sunday!

Join us Easter Morning
April 20th at 7:00 AM
for a special

Resurrection Celebration

Christ has died,

Christ is risen,

Christ will come again!

Free breakfast will be served in the Christian Life Center after the service.



Acolyte Schedule - APRIL

6th Payton Lyda

13th Kevin Miller

20th Makayla Settlemyre

27th Austin Teague

Nursery Schedule - APRIL

6th 8:30 Beth Hernandez & Linda Moretz
11:00 Wayne Ellis

13th 8:30 Sonya Crouse & Becky Yount
11:00 Rosalind Kelley

20th 8:30 EASTER—One 7 AM Service
11:00

27th 8:30 Boyd & Emily Johnson
11:00 Teresa Herman

10:30

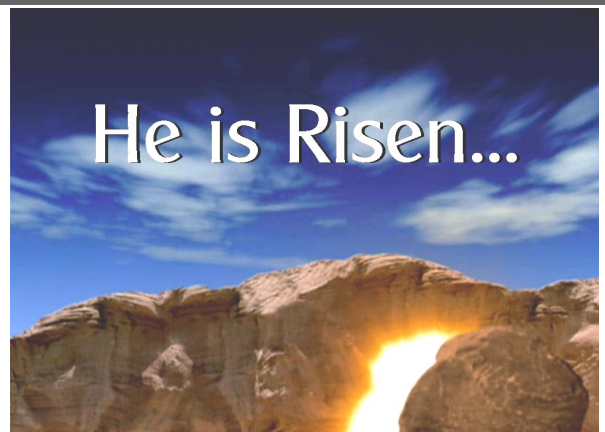
Our Military

Please pray for the men and women who protect our freedoms.

Kyle Blair
Anthony Coffey
Paul Coffey
Joey Deal
Dakota Fox
Ethan Fox
Andy Gaillard
Ricky Garland
Jason Gibson
Trey Hefner



Chris Kaisenski
Shane McRary
Joey Moore
Jamie Mullinax
Jason Nichol
Michael Potts
James Starbuck
Hunter Tolbert





April Fundraisers & Events

Annual Benefit Barbecue

Annual BBQ Fundraiser



**Friday & Saturday
April 4th & 5th**

Place Friday lunch delivery orders by Thursday AM. Plates are \$7 each and include BBQ & sauce, beans, slaw, & a roll (no dessert or drink).

Dine-in or take-out will be available on

**Friday 4-7:00 PM
&
Saturday 11-7:00 p.m.**

Drinks and your choice of a homemade dessert are included. The price is \$8 per plate for adults, \$4 for children 6-12, under 6 eat for free.

Funds raised will benefit a member of our community. We thank you for your support!



Breakfast Biscuits

We will be selling ham, sausage, egg and gravy biscuits AND fried fruit pies on **Thursday, April 17th.**

We start at **6:00 a.m.** and stop when they are all gone. It doesn't take long! So **call early or pre-order on Wednesday by calling: 396-7924, 313-9996, 396-2214** (church office; Mon.-Fri. 8:30-1:00 pm).

We deliver orders of 10 or more. Proceeds support our yearly mission trip to and work in Costa Rica.



**Yum!
Yum!**



Chicken/Dumplings

**Sunday
April 13th
11 & 12 o'clock**

The United Methodist Men will be serving up homemade chicken & dumplings with all the fixin's after Sunday school and the 2nd worship service on April 13th.



The men are asking for donations to help fund their ministries. We thank you for your support and generosity!

(Take out will be available.)

Easter Party/Egg Hunt

Ebenezer's annual Easter egg hunt and party will be on

**Saturday
April 19th
10 Am to 12 PM**

All children are invited. We serve hotdogs for lunch, and have crafts to do, too.

Please place donations of candy for this event in the marked box in the hallway. We also need brownies and cupcakes. Please see Kim Ellis to volunteer to help. Thank you.



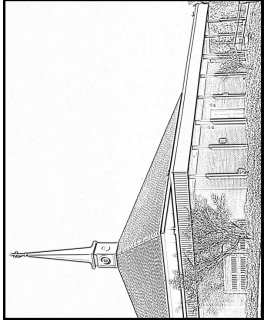
Biscuit Sale Price List



\$2.00	Ham or Sausage
\$2.50	Ham or Sausage with egg
\$2.00	Egg
\$1.50	Jelly
\$2.00	Gravy
\$2.50	Gravy with Sausage
\$2.00	Fried Apple Pie

When GOD solves your problems,
you have faith in HIS abilities; when
GOD doesn't solve your problems
HE has faith in your abilities.

April 2014



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Every Sunday: 8:30 a.m. Worship 9:50 a.m. Sunday school 11:00 a.m. Worship	See p. 5 for Nursery and Acolyte Lists	1 Prayer Group—10AM	2 Every Wed.: 6 pm: Praise Band 7 pm: Children and Adult Bible studies	3	4 BBQ—4-7:00 PM See p. 6 for details	5 BBQ—11-7:00 PM See p. 6 for details
6	7	8 Prayer Group—10AM	9	10	11	12
13 UMM—3 PM? Church Council—4:30 PM	14	15 Prayer Group—10AM	16	17 Breakfast Biscuit Sales—6 AM 'till gone!	18 Easter Party & Egg Hunt—10-12:00 PM	19 See p. 6 for details
20 Easter Sunrise Service—7:00 AM Breakfast after service No Sunday School	21 Food Ministry—5 PM?	22 Prayer Group—10AM	23	24	25	26
27 UMW—7:00 PM	28	29 Prayer Group—10AM	30			

