



# EBENEZER

## United Methodist Church

www.ebenezerum-church.org

# August '18

Volume 14 Issue 8

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August 27th, 2018



### Sunday Services

- 9:00a Worship Service (Combined)
- 10:15a Sunday School
- 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*

## Church Council Minutes for July 15, 2018

Attendees: Pastor Tom Hunter, Ricky Baker, David & Sonya Crouse, Kim Ellis, Barbara Ferguson, Gerald Frye, Roy Hamby, Jo Nell Harrison, Bleaka Hollar, JoAnn Knepp, Marilyn Kohnle, John McCrary, Judy McCrary, Cinda McCrary, Marsha McCrary, Will McCrary, Phyllis Minton, Cindy Sears, Jimmy Stone, Kim Knepp, Patty Coffey, and Arlene McCrary.

David called the meeting to order and Sonya opened with prayer. David then read from Ps. 32:8-10: God gives us all the knowledge we need; we need to look to Him to know how to use that knowledge.

May Council minutes were read, a motion was made to accept them as presented by Tom; second by Sonya. Motion passed.

### Jo Nell: Finance Report

We are able to pay all our bills to keep the church going, but unable to pay the conference apportionments. We remain at least \$10,000 behind at this point. We have cut back about as much as we can.

### Old Business

The work at the parsonage was finished. Peggy Jenkins is the new Communion Steward Assistant. We are grateful for her service. We have some new counters, but we need to have a training meeting. We still need more counters. It was suggested that a list of the counters be put in the bulletin each month.

**Trustees Report by Roy Hamby:** All lights in the sanctuary are now LEDs. Tiles for the CLC ceiling have not been bought or replaced yet. Air filters for the heat pumps have been bought at reasonable rates from a warehouse; though some had to be special made. We now have enough for another change out (next spring). Roy said that we will continue to have maintenance and repair issues for the heat and gas units. The gas units in the kitchen use propane, which is a dirty gas; so those units will have to be cleaned regularly.

Pastor Tom made a motion that we make one payment from the Thank Bank fund on the apportionments. Seconded by Kim Ellis. Motion passed.

### New Business

Ricky Baker SPPRC report: met in June. Everything is going well.

Ricky informed us that he is taking care of the van; keeping it charged up by driving it regularly, and will take care of small maintenance items.

The 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday Supper fundraiser is going well. Bleaka reported that we did quite a few take-outs. The Peach Cobbler went over well. Sonya offered to purchase cobbler supplies if the church wants them for the suppers.

Marsha McCrary said that the Sunday school teachers should fill out the class attendance

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### WEDNESDAY ACTIVITIES

- 6:00p Praise Band Rehearsal
- 6:00p Teens for Christ (Gr. 6-12)
- 7:00p Bible Study—Children & Adults.



### CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:

Mon.—Friday: 8:30—1:00 p.m.

Phone: (828) 396-2214



## Meetings, Etc.

### Church Council

Church Council will meet on **Sunday, August 19th at 4:30 p.m.** Non-council members may attend, but cannot vote; though, they can make comments during the meeting and join in discussions.

### Lord's Supper Meal

**Monday, August 20th at 5:00 p.m.** Cooks and helpers and drivers will be needed. Please see Ricky Baker to volunteer. Thank you.

### Trustees Meeting

The Trustees will meet on **Monday, August 20th at 7:00 p.m.**

### United Methodist Women

The women will have their next meeting on **Sunday, August 26th at 6:00 p.m. at Mrs. Kohnle's old house on Morris Creek road.** Celeste Creaseman has the program. Please bring finger foods to share.

### September NL Items

September newsletter items are due by August 26th.

### New Photo Directory

We will be having photos made of our members and affiliates in September, currently scheduled for **Monday, September 10th, 2:30-8:30 p.m.** Please plan to set aside some time for having your portraits made. Please provide us with updates of your personal data as soon as possible, too. Thank you.

## Special Giving

We gratefully acknowledge the following special gifts in July:

**In Memory of J. B. Coffey by:**  
Patty Coffey

**In Honor of Mary Lynn Pennell by:**  
Bill, Delores, & Gary Paul Campbell

**In Honor of All Who Are Coming to Church by:**  
Bill, Delores, & Gary Paul Campbell ♥

## Something to Pray About by Cindy Sears

### GOD'S HEROES, WARTS & ALL, PART 3

God calls us to be perfect, but he knows we can never be so. Still, he continues to use us to do his will in the world, and to tell people about the one true God. Let's take a look at some more flawed heroes of God:

**Solomon** – *Temple Builder; Polygamist; Idol Worshiper and Enabler; Sex Addict*: Solomon started out well when he asked God for wisdom above all other things; and so God blessed him, not only with wisdom, but with much wealth and honor and power. Unfortunately, he seems to have had a strong eye for the ladies. Though many of his marriages may have been made as alliances with other countries/tribes, he definitely went overboard. Solomon married 700 women, many of them involved in idol worship—a direct violation of the LORD's will. (The LORD had commanded the Israelites not to intermarry with such people. See 1 Kings 11). He fell into the idol worship of some of his wives; therefore the LORD promised to remove the kingdom from him, though He opted to wait until Solomon's son took over the kingdom. So, Solomon's fall from grace resulted in a split kingdom for Israel, with Solomon's heir only keeping one tribe, and 10 others leaving to follow another leader. (See 1 Kings 3-11)

**Joash** – *Temple Repairer; Turncoat; Murderer; Murder Victim*: Joash became king at 7 years of age. The priest, Jehoiada, helped save him from being murdered by the previous king's mother, who assumed the throne when her son was murdered. Although, King Joash ruled well for most of his 40 years on the throne, making sure that repairs to the Temple were being done, for instance; he faltered after the death of his advisor, Jehoiada. He did not destroy the pagan places of worship, and at one point he gave away all of the offerings and gold in the treasuries of the Temple and palace to keep another King from conquering Jerusalem. Soon after that fiasco, his officials plotted against him and killed him.

**Manasseh** – *King of Judah; Idol Worshiper Enabler; Warrior King; Repentant God Worshiper*: As the King of Judah, Manasseh, introduced all kinds of idol worship, and later became a prisoner of the Assyrians. Yet, when he returned to Jerusalem, he turned back to God and changed his ways. (2 Kings 21:1ff; 2 Chronicles 33)

The stories of other kings in the books of 1 & 2 Kings, and 1 & 2 Chronicles are filled with the good, the bad, and the ugly—too many to go through here. I will mention one more, though.

*(Continued on page 4)*



## August Events & Fundraisers

### Back 2 School Bash

**Saturday, August 11  
10:30-2:00 PM**

The Back 2 School Bash returns! Fun and games, live music, free food, and school supplies given out to teachers and students for free.

Fun things to do include: waterslide, inflatables, corn hole toss, and more. You can even get a free Back-to-School picture.

You can find out more on [Facebook.com/B2SB-2018-462475164205626/](https://www.facebook.com/B2SB-2018-462475164205626/)

Event hosted by Grace Chapel UMC, at 4336 Grace Chapel Rd., G. F.



### 3rd Saturday Supper

**Saturday, August 18  
4:00-7 PM**

Our next community supper will be on **Saturday, August 18th, 4-7:00 p.m.** This month's menu includes meatloaf, mashed potatoes, slaw, roll, and dessert. Proceeds will be used to fund our church ministries. Adult plates are \$8, **child's plate \$4**, with drink included. Please consider coming in for a delicious ready made meal once-a-month, and help supplement our church budget, too!

(We are asking our members to help provide homemade cakes, pies, etc. for dessert. Thank you.)



### Breakfast Biscuits

The *Rainbow* Sunday School Class will be selling ham, sausage, egg and gravy biscuits and bologna biscuits on **Thursday, Aug. 16th.**

Kitchen will be open from **6:00 a.m. -9:00 a.m.** You can eat in or we will continue to deliver orders of 10+ to area businesses, etc. Please **call early or pre-order large orders on Wednesday by calling: 396-3935** (Bleaka Hollar).

Proceeds will support local missions. Please make your checks out to ART, which stands for *Area Response Team.*

**Yum!**

**Yum!**



The good die young that they may not degenerate; the wicked live on that they may have a chance to repent, or to produce a virtuous progeny.

— Zohar

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

All things are done according to God's plan and decision; and God chose us to be his own people in union with Christ because of his own purpose based on what he had decided from the very beginning. Let us, then, who were the first to hope in Christ, praise God's glory!

—Ephesians 1:11-12 GNT

## August Celebrations



- 3rd—Ellen Minton Lance
- 6th—Tyler Baker
- 9th—Hoke Clark
- 11th—Anthony Austin
- 11th—Becky Clark
- 11th—Ariel Carlisle
- 18th—Kinley Starbuck
- 19th—Thomas Johnson
- 23rd—Braylen Helton
- 23rd—Monte Hollar
- 24th—Candace Collins
- 24th—Casey Collins
- 24th—Cooper Behmer

### Happy Anniversary!

- 4th—Lyle & Angie Miller
- 16th—Thomas & Lillie Johnson
- 18th—Ricky & Shawn Baker
- 25th—Brian & Kim Knepp

### Our Military

Nick Austin  
Kyle Blair  
Anthony Coffey  
Paul Coffey  
Ricky Garland  
Jason Gibson  
Trey Hefner  
Chris Kaisenski  
Shane McRary  
Travis Miller  
Joey Moore  
Jamie Mullinax  
Michael Potts

Alex Shealy  
Hunter Tolbert  
Josh Yount



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

But there are many who afford Islam protection under the label of "multiculturalism" because Allah is no more real to them than are Zeus or Cupid. In short, they tolerate Islam because they don't think it's true — but they despise Judeo-Christianity because they fear that it is. —Laura H. Hollis



## Something, con't

**Zerubbabel** – *King's Grandson; Governor of Judea after the Exile; Easily Discouraged, Procrastinator*: Zerubbabel, a grandson of King Jehoiadin, led the exiles from Babylon back to Judah in 537 B.C. As Governor of Judea, he worked with the high priest, Joshua, to lay the foundation to rebuild the Temple; but could not continue the work until the prophets Haggai and Zechariah came and encouraged him to spur the people on and finish the task. See Ezra 2:2; 3-5; Haggai; and Zechariah 4.

**Jonah** – *Coward; Run Away; Preacher; Resentful Whiner*: Jonah ran away from God's call to preach to the wicked Ninevites. After being persuaded by God to answer the call, he preached to the people of Nineva; they repented; and Jonah then whined about God accepting their repentance and not destroying them.

Next month we will look at some of the flawed heroes in the New Testament. Meanwhile, I praise God that I am redeemed and he can use me for this kingdom's work despite all my flaws. ☩

## Council, cont'd

*(Continued from page 1)*

report as soon as possible for the counters. The counters would prefer that class members place their offerings in the plates during worship, instead of giving in each classroom.

**UMM Report by John McCrary**: The UMM has established some work days to do some tasks, and will move the new desk into the church office. They will also work on the church signs. They have set aside August 4<sup>th</sup> as a work day at the church, beginning at 8 AM.

**Roy Hamby of the Trustees** said that we need another class set for the van drivers. The 2 hour class is mainly a safety precautions class. He also said that, when the van is used, the driver needs to fill the tank with gas afterwards.

**Kim Ellis** brought us a report from the recent conference: She mentioned the 2019 general conference when a decision will be made about the "Way Forward". There is a Comments page available about this at [wnncumc.org/](http://wnncumc.org/). You can also check [AC2018.org](http://AC2018.org) (annual conference page).

There was a general discussion about what is going to happen and how to respond to it. Pastor Tom reminded us that no one knows for sure what will happen in February 2019. UMC churches all over the world will be there to vote—not just from the U.S.

Kim expressed her thanks for all those who helped make our recent VBS so successful.

Saturday, Nov. 3<sup>rd</sup> has been set for the UMW Country store. October 27<sup>th</sup> is the date for Trunk or Treat. Bleaka Hollar announced that we will have another barbecue fundraiser sometime in the fall.

Tom Hunter said that the All-American Sunday went well. He is also looking at the possibility of a new directory with photos for our church. He will be talking to a company rep in the near future. A motion was made to consider this company or find another one to do a directory this year. Cindy seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Pastor Tom told us about the Christian Education Fellowship's after school program to teach Bible verses and songs to children. It would take 12-14 people to do the

program. The volunteers would need to be at the school an hour before the end of school to set-up. It cost \$2700 to fund to rent the school facilities for this. Grace Chapel and Dudley Shoals want to be involved, but they need more people to run the program. We probably cannot afford to help with this now, but Tom asked that anyone interested in volunteering to contact him.

We currently have 258 members on the roll. We need to remove people from our roll who are not attending or supporting our church. Tom stated that the Council should authorize a group to begin the process by contacting these people to determine if they will ever come back.

Tom mentioned that we had two special services during holy week, but the average attendance was only about 20 people. The Layman's Revival averaged about 40 per night. Our Sunday morning worship average is 75-85. Why are there so few people coming to these special events. The problem is commitment.

Tom thought a name change might be in order for the Layman's Revival—maybe changing it to "My Journey with Jesus" or something of that nature, because people are turned off by the word revival.

Tom still wants to consider selling the van. It has only been used 3 times in the last year. We either need to use the van or sell it.

August 19<sup>th</sup> is the date for the next council meeting. John McCrary will be chairing that meeting.

Will McCrary spoke up and said that we need to get the word out that it takes funding to operate a church and to reach out to people in the community. We should also try to encourage more people to come to these meetings.

Meeting was adjourned.

--minutes by Cindy Sears 📖

## Christmas Shoe Box Program

We will be collecting the shoe boxes for Samaritan's Purse's Operation Christmas Child program this year. Please begin buying items now. See the website for a list of acceptable items. A \$9 donation to offset shipping costs is requested. You can also pack boxes online at:

[www.samaritanspurse.org/occ](http://www.samaritanspurse.org/occ)





**EBENEZER UMC**


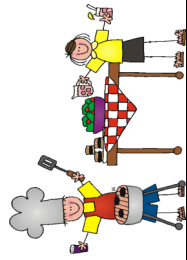
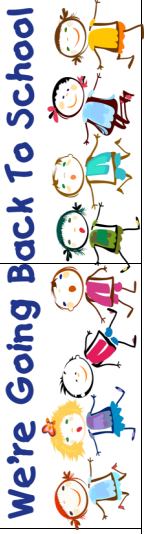
*Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors.*

# August 2018

## End of Summer



**Ebenezer United Methodist Church**  
*Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors.*

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>Every Sunday: 9:00 AM Worship 10:15 AM Sunday school</p>			<p>1 6 PM Praise Band 6 PM <i>Teens for Christ</i> 7 PM Children and Adult Bible studies</p>	<p>2 Volleyball—7 PM</p>	<p>3 CLC, 5-10 PM— <i>Crouse</i></p>	<p>4 CLC, 11-5 PM— <i>Crouse</i></p>
<p>5</p>	<p>6 Basketball—7 PM</p>	<p>7 <i>Senior Adults Go Visiting—9:30 AM</i></p>	<p>8 6 PM Praise Band 6 PM <i>Teens for Christ</i> 7 PM Children and Adult Bible studies</p>	<p>9 Volleyball—7 PM</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11 <i>Back 2 School Bash—10:30-2 PM at Grace Chapel UMC, see p. 3</i></p>
<p>12</p>	<p>13 Basketball—7 PM</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>15 6 PM Praise Band 6 PM <i>Teens for Christ</i> 7 PM Children and Adult Bible studies</p>	<p>16 <i>Biscuit Sales—6 AM—'til gone!</i> Volleyball—7 PM</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18 <i>3rd Saturday Supper—4-7:00 PM, see p. 3</i></p>
<p>19 <i>Church Council—4:30 PM</i></p>	<p>20 <i>Food Ministry—5 PM</i> <i>Trustees Meeting—7 PM</i> Basketball—7 PM</p>	<p>21 <i>Senior Adults Go Visiting—9:30 AM</i></p>	<p>22 6 PM Praise Band 6 PM <i>Teens for Christ</i> 7 PM Children and Adult Bible studies</p>	<p>23 Volleyball—7 PM</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25 </p>
<p>26 <i>UMW—6 PM, see p. 2</i></p>	<p>27 Basketball—7 PM <b>We're Going Back To School</b> </p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29 6 PM Praise Band 6 PM <i>Teens for Christ</i> 7 PM Children and Adult Bible studies</p>	<p>30 Volleyball—7 PM</p>	<p>31</p>	