



EBENEZER

United Methodist Church

www.ebenezerum-church.org

January '15

Volume 11 Issue 1

“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*

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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



Pastor's Corner — Rev. Eric Lane



Ecclesiastes 3:1 reminds us that “There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens...”

When you receive this newsletter, we will have begun a New Year. As we begin this New Year, we begin to set our sights on all the things that we hope to accomplish in the coming year. This is an exciting time. Some of us are hoping that we can lose weight; perhaps some are hoping to find employment or maybe a new job, maybe a new addition in the family; or perhaps a graduation or marriage is in the future.

Whatever lies ahead for us in the New Year, never lose sight that God goes before us to prepare the way; God walks with us to help us along the way; and God walks behind us to protect us along the way.

The year will bring joy and happiness, but it will also bring difficulties and sadness, though it will not be without God. And when we face times of difficulties and sadness, God says; “...remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.” *Matthew 28:20b.*

God's promise to us is that he will always be with us, but too often we act as if we don't want God around; or the only time we want God in our lives is when our lives are not going the way we would like them to go.

When I stop to think about it, if I keep my car tuned up, the oil changed and checked, and make sure that there is gas and water in it; then I don't hesitate to get in and drive it down the road worry free.

Sure there are those times when something goes wrong—a flat tire, a sensor goes out, or maybe even something more goes wrong. Those are the times that I have to trust a mechanic, who with his knowledge and skills, can fix what has gone wrong.

The Bible says that our bodies are a temple of God. If we maintain that temple through worship, Bible study, prayer, and communion with God; then we can survive

(Continued on page 2)

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 Women

The UMW will meet on **Sunday, January 25th at 7:00 p.m.** Nancy Sears will present the program. Judy McCrary and Bleaka Hollar will provide refreshments. All women of the church are invited to attend.

Church Office Closings

The church office will be closed **January 1 and 19** for holiday observances.

February Newsletter Items

Please have information and articles for the February 2015 newsletter in by **January 25** Thank you. —Editor

“Prayer is not a ‘spare wheel’ that you pull out when in trouble, but it is a ‘steering wheel’ that directs the right path throughout the journey.”
—Anonymous

Pastor’s Corner , con’t

many of the things that life throws at us. But there are those times, when like my car, things break down, and we need a mechanic.

Well when I choose a mechanic, I look for someone who is familiar with my type of car. I don’t take my motorcycle to a diesel mechanic, and I don’t take my car to a motorcycle mechanic. I also look for someone who has a proven record of their work, and has the skills to accomplish the work, because I want the best.

We should do the same with our lives. Who else but the one who created us would know what is best for our lives? Who else but the one who says just trust me, know that I know what you need and I’m willing to give it to you? Who else but the one who has proven over and over again that he will keep his promises?

Yes, God is the one and the only one. So let me invite you to come to worship on Sunday morning, either at 8:30 or 11:00, for an “oil change” or a “tune up,” so that your lives might run a little better. Get involved in being the Body of Christ.

And let me encourage you to wake up each morning and put your life and the lives of your loved ones in God’s hands. We may not know what 2015 holds for us, but I do know that God holds and knows the future, and God says, “Fear not...”

Happy New Year!

Eric Lane



Basketball Tourney

January 3rd, 2015 3 on 3 Basketball Tournament

We are hosting another basketball tournament! Each team will pay a fee to participate, and the contest will be held in the Christian Life Center gym.



Burgers and hot dogs will be available for purchase during the games. Come and watch the contests and have a good hot meal, too.

Call Wayne or Kim Ellis at 396-1320 to register your team. If we get enough teams, there will be games on Friday, January 2nd, also.

Come join the excitement! Proceeds go towards the upcoming Belize Mission Trip.

January Events & Fundraisers

Red Cross Blood Drive

IN MEMORY OF LEO MCRARY

Our annual winter blood drive will be on

**Monday
January 5
2:30—7:00 PM**

We will be serving soup and sandwiches, along with sweets, to our donors. We ask that our members help us by providing soups of all kinds, sandwiches, and cookies, brownies, and other sweets.



Our goal is 35 pints.

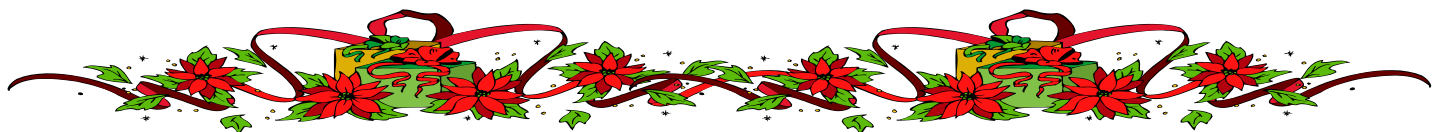
Please call Gwen Teague at 396-5543 to volunteer or to schedule an appointment. You may also schedule an appointment online by accessing www.redcrossblood.org and enter the Sponsor Code: **Ebenezer UMC.**



Please tell all your friends and co-workers about this drive. We thank you for your help in insuring there is enough blood to give to people when they need it.



Only a Southerner can show or point out to you the general direction of “yonder.”



In Memory of

Tom Harrison by Jo Nell Harrison

Eula & Burgess Looper by Jo Nell Harrison

Frank & Carrie Harrison by Jo Nell Harrison

Bob Sears by Nancy Sears

Keith Bradford by Lindsay Bradford

Zetta Mae Frye by Gerald Frye

Corrine DeVries by Gerald Frye

Margaret Mooney by Maddie, Kaleigh & Mastin Seagle

Greg Hill (son) by Alice & Larry Hill

Wade & Virginia McRary by Alice & Larry Hill

John & Wilda Cole by Randy & Marsha McRary

Leo & Polly McRary by Randy & Marsha McRary

Steve McRary by Cinda McRary

Boyd & Allie McRary & Mindie McRary by Cinda McRary

George Thomas Hutchinson by Celeste Creaseman

Ralph Collins by Jason & Candace Collins

Phyllis Collins by Jason & Candace Collins

Leo McRary by Jason & Candace Collins

Steve McRary by Jason & Candace Collins

Polly McRary by Jason & Candace Collins

J. C. & Lois Ellis by Wayne, Kim, Jordan, & Tyler Ellis

In Honor of

Missy Mullinax by Nancy Sears

Heavenly Sonlighters Class by Alice & Larry Hill

Rainbow Class by Alice & Larry Hill

Clemontine Hutchinson by Celeste Creaseman



Special Giving

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

In Memory of Lawrence “June” Holman by:

Sheila Burns
Women’s Bible Class

In Memory of Wade Austin by:

Ezma Austin

In Memory of Keith Bradford by:

Grace Bradford

In Memory of Bob Sears by:

Nancy Sears

In Honor of Missy Mullinax by:

Judy McCrary

In Honor of Heavenly Sonlighters’ Class by:

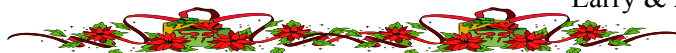
Delores & Gary Paul Campbell

In Honor of Cindy Sears by:

Larry & Alice Hill

Top Ten Predictions for 2015

1. The Bible will still have all the answers.
2. Prayer will still work.
3. The Holy Spirit will still move.
4. God will still inhabit the praises of His people.
5. There will still be God-anointed preaching.
6. There will still be singing of praises to God.
7. God will still pour out blessings upon His people.
8. There will still be room at the Cross.
9. Jesus will still love you.
10. Jesus will still save the lost.





January Celebrations



Happy Birthday!



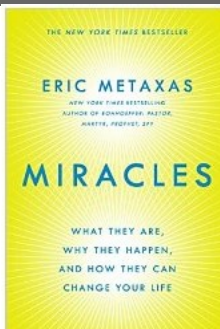
- 1st—Mary Teague
- 4th—Kyle Settlemyre, Rhyan Stone
- 6th—Lindsay Teague
- 10th—Cole McCrary
- 14th—Makayla Settlemyre
- 15th—Emily Johnson
- 16th—Rosalind Kelley, Anna Miller
- 18th—Chuck Adams, Kasey Smith
- 19th—Lindsay Bradford
- 21st—Kennedy Behmer
- 23rd—Tyler Ellis
- 25th—Dawn Yount
- 26th—Steve Miller
- 27th—Eric Lane, Stephanie Shook
- 28th—Blanche Kohnle, Dwight Kelley
- 29th—Weston Triplette
- 30th—Kevin Sears, Glennie Sims
- 31st—Rachel Poe

Happy Anniversary!



- 4th—Eric & Beth Lane
- 27th—Anthony & Sherry Austin
- 27th—David & Sonya Crouse

Reading Suggestion



Eric Metaxas, author of the recent biographies of Bonhoeffer and Wilberforce, has written another informative and thought provoking book on *Miracles*. First, Metaxas explores the evidence and intellectual reasoning for the possibility of the miraculous in our world. In the second half of this book, Metaxas writes from his own personal experience and the experiences of people he personally knows. He presents stories of the miraculous that he has

researched and determined do not fit the category of “normal” or “coincidence.” Does God still reach into our world supernaturally? Does God still give us “signs” to point us toward Him? Read and be amazed at what God is still doing to lead people to His Son.

—Cindy Sears



Acolyte Schedule - JANUARY

4th Makayla Settlemyre

11th Cole McCrary

18th Bethany Huss

25th Savanna Creaseman

Nursery Schedule - JANUARY

4th 8:30 Keith & Susan Keener

11:00 Nancy Sears

11th 8:30 Bleaka Hollar & Loretta Helton

11:00 Kay Gilbert

18th 8:30 Jessica Haas & Nancy Sears

11:00 Joann Knepp

25th 8:30 Sonya Crouse & Becky Yount

11:00 Beth Lane

10:30

Our Military

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

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



Trey Hefner
Chris Kaisenski
Shane McCrary
William E. McCrary
Travis Miller
Joey Moore
Jamie Mullinax
Michael Potts
Hunter Tolbert
Josh Yount

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

“The world and all that is in it belong to the LORD; the earth and all who live on it are his.”

—Psalm 24:1 GNT



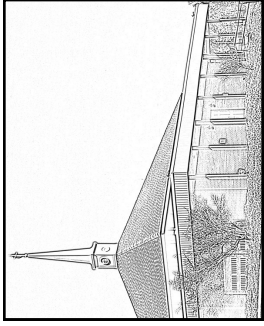
EBENEZER UMC

Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors.

January 2015



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Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors.



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>Every Sunday: 8:30 a.m. Worship 9:50 a.m. Sunday school 11:00 a.m. Worship</p>	<p>See p. 4 for Nursery and Acolyte Lists</p>		<p>Every Wed.: 6 pm: Praise Band 7 pm: Children and Adult Bible studies</p>	<p>1 Church Office Closed</p> <p>2 happy new year my 1-800-235-2269</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3 3 on 3 Basketball Tournament—All Day see p. 2</p>
<p>4 Epiphany Sunday</p>	<p>5 Blood Drive—2:30—7:00 PM, see p. 2</p>	<p>6 Epiphany of the Lord Prayer Group—10AM</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10</p>
<p>11 Church Council—4:30 PM</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13 Prayer Group—10AM</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>15</p>	<p>17</p>	
<p>18</p>	<p>19 Church Office Closed Celebrating Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.</p>	<p>20 Prayer Group—10AM</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>24</p>	
<p>25 UMW—7 PM, see p. 2 Feb. Newsletter items due today</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27 Prayer Group—10AM</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31</p>