



EBENEZER

United Methodist Church

www.ebenezerum-church.org

July '16

Volume 12 Issue 07

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

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One nation under God,
indivisible, with liberty and
justice for all.

Sunday Services

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



Pastor's Corner — Rev. Jay Bissett



“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*

Our new pastor, Rev. Jay Bissett, will arrive on July 5th. His first Sunday here on July 10th will be a Commissioning Service and a one worship day, so he will not preach until July 17th. On July 31st, we will have a covered-dish meal after a combined worship service to officially welcome Jay to our church family. We hope that you will make a special effort to attend all our services, but especially these two special ones. See p. 6 for more details. Jay will take over the Pastor's Corner in August.

Jay was involve in working on a church merger where he recently served, he wrote a grant request to Duke Endowment for building a *Crisis Ministry Center*. His two churches were involved in *Congregations for Children* community outreach. He also organized a mission trip each year, and has served on a task force to advocate for stronger support of public education in North Carolina. Eric said that he is very interested in continuing the Habitat Home project here, too. Below are a few quotes from his résumé online:

Theological philosophy: “I am guided by the possibilities that are offered for liberation through Jesus Christ from our sins, both personal and societal, and the invitation God offers us to work for the establishment of the Kingdom of God.”

“I believe that there is a growing awareness of the need to establish and embody community through love to a world that increasingly isolates and divides. The congregations are searching for ways to meet the spiritual and social and physical needs of those in the community. I have worked with the District Superintendent to offer encouragement and sacramental life to a nearby struggling congregation.”

Leadership style: “I try to establish a model of servant leadership through hospitality, and to try to work for consensus in decision-making after theological reflection.”



Catch the wave of God's
Amazing Love! See p. 6.

Be prepared for God to do more
great things here at EUMC. —C. S.

WEDNESDAY ACTIVITIES

- 6:00p Praise Band Rehearsal
- 7:00p Bible Study—Children & Adults.



CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:

Mon.—Friday: 8:30—1:00 p.m.

Phone: (828) 396-2214



Meetings

Church Council Meeting

The next Council Meeting will be on **Sunday, July 17th at 4:30 p.m.** This will be Pastor Jay's first meeting with the Council.

ONE WORSHIP SUNDAYS

See p. 6 for information on the commissioning service for Rev. Bissett.

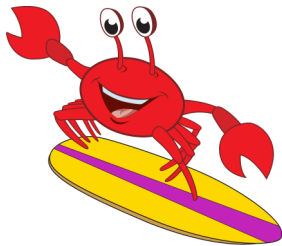
We will have a **combined worship service on Sunday, July 31st** followed by a covered-dish lunch to welcome Pastor Jay Bissett to our church. Beverages will be provided by the church. Worship will be at 10:30 a.m. Sunday school moves to 9:00 a.m.

United Methodist Women

The UMW will meet on **July 24th at 7:00 p.m.** Marsha McRary will present the program. All women of the church are invited to participate.

August Newsletter Items

Please have information and articles for the July newsletter in by **July 25th**. Thank you. —Editor



Surf with me to p. 6 .

I have great news to tell!

Church Office Closed

The Office will be **closed on Monday and Tuesday, July 4-5** for the holiday.

Food Ministry News

The Lord's Supper Ministry will not be serving the monthly meal in July and August, but will resume in September. Near the end of August you can let us know of people who may need a little extra attention, and we can add them to our list. Have a happy summer!

Something to Pray About

by Cindy Sears

"Jesus, Jesus, Jesus! There's just something about that name!" —Wm. Gaither hymn

"and you will be hated by all because of my name..." —Matthew 10 22a

**THE OFFENSIVE
NAME**

I ran across an article on the Web not long ago, in which the author claimed that no one needed to be offended by the name of Jesus. I didn't read the whole article, because it seemed obvious to me that the author had not read the Bible very well. She also did not understand fully who Jesus Christ is and what he claimed about himself. Unbelievers have many reasons to be "offended" by the Name:

Jesus claims to be the ONE TRUE GOD in the flesh—therefore; all other beliefs about God are false.

Jesus reminds us that evil must be punished or atoned for—there is no third way. God's righteousness requires God's wrath.

Jesus points out the seriousness of our sin and rebellion against God by dying a horrible death to atone for it; so sin is nothing to wink at or joke about.

Jesus claims to be the ONLY WAY to salvation—the only door to the FATHER and a right relationship with our CREATOR; so nothing and no one else can get you to heaven.

Jesus tells us that we cannot work our way into heaven—we cannot earn our "wings" by doing good—we can only believe in him, and be saved from an eternity in Hell.

Jesus confirms that there is a heaven and a hell (a place of eternal, unremitting punishment for our rebellion against God—see Matthew 10:28, for instance), and that we will spend eternity in one place or the other; so not coming to Him is a serious and potentially catastrophic decision that must be made before we die. "Everyone must die once, and after that be judged by God." (Hebrews 9:27, GNT)

Jesus reminds us that God is in control—not us. (see John 5:30)

Jesus reminds us that God is sovereign and can do whatever he pleases to do—we cannot persuade God to do what we want. We cannot bargain with God.

Jesus claims to be the WAY and the TRUTH and the LIFE; so if you are not following Him, you are on the WRONG PATH for your life, following LIES, and already DEAD. (see John 14:16; Colossians 2:13)

Jesus confirms that all people—male and female, Jew and gentile, slave and free—are equally valued by God and equally condemned by God's righteousness—unless we believe in Him; therefore, no one can claim to be better or more worthy than anyone else. (see Galatians 3:28)

(Continued on page 4)



Special Giving

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

In Memory of Rilla Phillips by:

Family of Rilla Phillips
Karen Hudson

In Memory of Bob Sears by:

Nancy Sears

In Memory of Ronnie Satterwhite by:

Cindy Satterwhite

In Honor of Rev. Eric & Beth Lane by:

Blanche Kohnle
Peggy Jenkins

In Honor of Rev. Eric Lane's Family by:

Delores, Bill, Gary Paul Campbell

In Honor of EUMC's Acolytes by:

Delores, Bill, & Gary Paul Campbell

In Honor of Ebenezer's UMM by:

Larry & Alice Hill

In Honor of Jimmy Stone by:

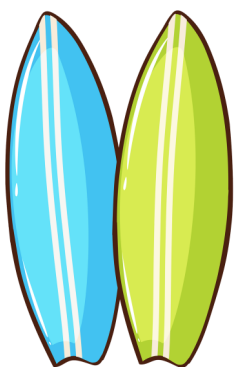
Larry & Alice Hill

In Honor of Father's Day by:

Bill, Delores, & Gary Paul Campbell

In Honor of Children's Time by:

Bill, Delores, & Gary Paul Campbell



Grab your
board.

The surf is up!
See p. 6 for
more about it.



Church Council Minutes – June 5, 2016

Attendees: Becky Clark, Kim Ellis, Gerald Frye, Roy Hamby, Jo Nell Harrison, Bleaka Hollar, Boyd & Emily Johnson, Connor Johnson, Keith Keener, Joann Knepp, Marilyn & Jerry Kohnle, Steve Kohnle, Eric Lane, Judy McCrary, Libby McCrary, Scott Miller, Kevin Miller, Cindy Sears, Jimmy Stone, and Alice Hill.

Boyd called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. Gerald Frye opened us in prayer. A devotional based on Isaiah 51:11 was read by Boyd. We can hold onto the promise of a painless future, when we will live forever with God.

Minutes of the last meeting stand as read.

Finance Report

Jo Nell said we still have about \$17,000 in the bank to pay our bills. We continue to run above the budget with offerings. Peoples Bank will make us re-do the loan. We may want to extend the loan to a longer time, so that we can lower the monthly amount; because we plan to hire a youth pastor next year. Jo Nell will check on a 3 year and a 5 year loan for the last \$136,000. She will get back with the council before she does anything.

We received a large donation for the Belize Missions, leaving us around \$41 over (instead of in the hole). That amount will remain in the mission fund. We will leave the Merrill Orphanage fund as is for now, but the trip has been postponed.

SPPR Report from Roy Hamby: They have changed the youth pastor qualifications and will give us the results at a later meeting. The Committee voted to give Pastor Eric his bonus before he leaves--%3 of his current salary. Keith seconded. The discussion was that this was for the year 2016, so do we only give

Eric the amount for 6 months? Jimmy moved that we go ahead and pay Eric the \$1875 now and trust that we will stay in the black this year. This bonus will not carry over to the new pastor. Jo Nell seconded to pay now. Cindy and MaryLynn will also receive their bonuses now or can ask to be given them later. Motion passed.

Old Business

Trustees: Lucas Teague will re-plumb all the toilets in the church. They also reported that the filter in the concrete tank on the waste line has been cleaned, which may have to be done again if the system backs up again.

We are looking for another cleaning crew, because our current company will not do it anymore (after we get a replacement). (Update: the current crew has found someone to do it, who lives near enough to make it worth their while to keep us as a customer. C.S.)

Eric will be packing the u-haul on the 27th. Anyone who can help, please be there early. A request was made that sandwiches for the work crews would be nice. So if you can help supply lunch, please do.

VBS: Kim Ellis told us about the special treat happening this year on commencement night. Come to VBS to find out what it is! ☺

—minutes by Cindy Sears ☩

The New York Times blamed the Orlando shooting on Republican attitudes toward gays. This is just nuts. In today's politically correct world, if a boy self-identifies as a girl, he's a girl, but if a gay Muslim who's a registered Democrat self-identifies as a warrior for ISIS, he's still a Republican. —Argus Hamilton



More on Jay Bissett

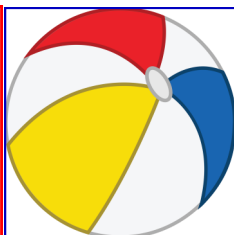
Jay is 56 years old. His birthday is on May 3rd. He graduated with a BA from UNC-Greensboro in 1984, and with a MDiv from Duke in 1998. His wife Monica currently teaches at Asheville High. Their children are grown.

You can write him at the e-mail listed below. The parsonage number will not change, but the cell phone number will. We will let you know what it is.

JBissett@wnccumc.net

The tragedy of life is not death but what we let die inside of us while we live.
--- Norman Cousins

Bounce over to p. 6 for news about fun times on the way at Ebenezer UMC!



Youth Group Leader: We are looking for a leader and assistant to take over our Youth program, which meets on Sunday evenings at 6:00 p.m. Please see Roy Hamby for more information or to volunteer.

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

God poured out the Holy Spirit abundantly on us through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that by his grace we might be put right with God and come into possession of the eternal life we hope for.

—Titus 3:6-7 GNT

Something to Pray About, con't

(Continued from page 2)

Jesus says that if we do not forgive others, then God (our Father) will not forgive us. (Matthew 6:14-15); therefore, revenge and bitterness towards others because of past wrongs is sin.

Jesus says that God will judge us the same way we judge others and using the same rules; and that puts a big damper on our self-righteousness and pride. (Matthew 7:1-2)

Jesus tells us not to store up riches for ourselves here on earth, because they will not last (see Matthew 6:19-21; Luke 12:33,34). So, grasping for riches and power here will do us no good after we die; we cannot take them to heaven. Only the riches of obedience and witnessing and worship of God and accepting persecution for his Name's sake will translate into rewards in heaven.

If you want to control all aspects of your life, if you want to be able to do anything you feel like doing, and not do anything you do not feel like doing, if you want to believe that you are better than other people, if you desire to have power over other people, if you want to live in luxury without feeling guilty about it, if you want to be able to use other people for your own pleasure without regard to any harm that comes to them, if you want to think you are good enough to stand before an all righteous God, if you want to believe in any other religious belief besides Christianity, if you want to believe that there is no such thing or person as God, and that you will never have to bow down to Him; then you will be offended by the NAME above all names.

To we who believe in Jesus, his name is wonderful! To those who refuse to believe, he is a stumbling block or foolishness. "But we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles" (1 Corinthians 1:23, NRSV).

In his NAME we gather together—and he is with us; in his NAME, we pray, and he provides what we need to continue his work here on earth; in his NAME we worship and give, and he opens the windows of heaven to pour out blessings upon us; in his NAME we have hope of eternal life and happiness in the midst of pain and sorrow, and when facing death here on earth; in his NAME we have the strength to stand up for what is right, true, and just.

And one day every knee shall bow, and every tongue confess that Jesu Christ is Lord of lords, and King of kings. But, understand that those who are offended by the Name, are in need. They need to hear the good news about Jesus—that "God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not die but have eternal life." (John 3:16, GNT) So, let's tell them over and over and over again until they believe, because those who do not believe have already been judged, and are in danger of hell fire. (John 3:18)





July Celebrations



Happy Birthday!



- 3rd—Freida Farr
- 4th—Maddie Seagle
- 10th—Arlene McCrary, Cameron Collins
- 13th—Alice Hill
- 14th—Matt Shook, Marilyn Kohnle
- 15th—Wesley Bradford
- 19th—Thomas Johnson
- 20th—Casey Mullinax
- 22nd—Kay Gilbert
- 27th—Cody Parham
- 29th—Josh Bowman, Kirsten Hartley
- 30th—Mildred Tolbert, Rebecca Hirt
- 31st—Jerry Parson, Jr.

"The inherent vice of capitalism is the unequal sharing of blessings; the inherent virtue of socialism is the equal sharing of miseries." --Winston Churchill.

Happy Anniversary!



- 3rd—Randy & Marsha McCrary
- 4th—Scott & Kelsey Sims
- 13th—Steven & Cheryl Vosdingh
- 14th—Chris & Melissa Wilson



We invite you and your children to join us at the Surf Shack this July. Come and we will fill your bucket with knowledge about the God who created the sand and the beach. Learn how to build your "castles" on the solid foundation of God's love and mercy. See p. 6 for all the details. See you there!



Acolyte Schedule - JULY

3rd	Kaylee Haas
10th	Kevin Miller
17th	Cole McCrary
24th	Makayla Settlemysre
31st	Savanna Creaseman

Nursery Schedule - JULY

3rd	8:30	Tammy Adams & Linda Moretz
	11:00	Joann Knepp
10th		ONE SERVICE SUNDAY
	10:30	Katy & Clair Gilbert
17th	8:30	Bleaka Hollar & Nancy Sears
	11:00	Celeste Creaseman
24th	8:30	Lucas & Sarah Teague
	11:00	Kirstin & Makayla Settlemysre
31st		ONE SERVICE SUNDAY
	10:30	Boyd & Emily Johnson

Our Military

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

Nick Austin
Kyle Blair
Anthony Coffey
Paul Coffey
Dakota Fox
Ethan Fox
Andy Gaillard
Ricky Garland
Jason Gibson
Trey Hefner
Chris Kaisenski



Shane McCrary
Travis Miller
Joey Moore
Jamie Mullinax
Michael Potts
Alex Shealy
Hunter Tolbert
Josh Yount

Cathy Huffman Contact Information

Cathy is in Alaska on a mission trip for the summer. Below is the address where you can write to her and encourage her in her mission work:

Catherine Huffman
%LIM
P. O. Box 72961
Fairbanks, Alaska 99707



Rev. Jay Bissett Commissioning Service

We invite all our members and associates to the commissioning service for our new pastor, Rev. Jay Bissett on

**Sunday
July 10th
10:30 AM**

Sunday school will be held at 9:00 a.m., and there will be one worship service at 10:30 a.m. as we celebrate and welcome Rev. Bissett as the new pastor of Ebenezer United Methodist Church. We hope you will make a special effort to attend.



It's summertime and we are inviting you to the Surf Shack! Come learn about God's Amazing Love at our annual VBS→→→→

July Fundraisers & Events

Vacation Bible School

**SUNDAY-THURSDAY
JULY 10-14
5:30-8:45 PM**

Join us for another great week of Bible study, games, great food, drama, and fun. All children and adults of the community are invited! Everything is free!

A light supper will be served for the children and teens at 5:30 p.m. Adults will eat at 6:00 p.m.

Assembly for the children and teens is at 6:15 p.m. The adult class will begin at 6:30 p.m. in the sanctuary, and last about one hour.

We have a special treat in store for everyone on Thursday, too. Come and find out what it is.

Summer Blood Drive

The Red Cross Blood Drive will be on

**Monday
July 18
2:30-7:00 PM**

Help us prevent a summer shortage of life-saving blood.

You may schedule your appointment to give by seeing Dawn Yount or do it online at www.redcrossblood.org. Sponsor keyword: Ebenezer UMC.

We will need help during the blood drive to help register and check in donors and serve food. Volunteers, please contact Dawn Yount to let her know you can help.

We ask our members to help provide food and desserts for this event. We will be serving spaghetti and salads, along with sweets.

Biscuits Sales

The *Rainbow* Sunday School Class has taken over the biscuit sales. They will be selling ham, sausage, egg and gravy biscuits AND **bologna biscuits** on **Thursday, July 21st.**

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: 396-2214** (church office; Mon.-Fri. 8:30-1:30 pm).

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

Yum! Yum!



ONE SERVICE SUNDAY

JULY 31ST

We will have only one worship service this Sunday as we welcome Pastor Jay with a special service and a covered-dish lunch afterwards.

Sunday school

9-10:00 AM

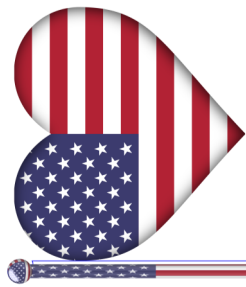
Worship

10:30 AM

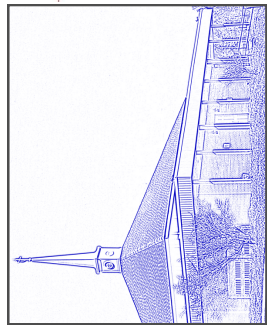
Please bring a covered-dish of your favorite food or dessert to share after the worship service. Beverages will be provided by the church.



EBENEZER UMC
Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors.



July 2016



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

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
8:30 a.m. Worship 9:50 a.m. Sunday school 11:00 a.m. Worship	See p. 5 for Acolyte & Nursery Schedules		Every Wed.: 6 pm: Praise Band 7 pm: Children and Adult Bible studies		1	2
3 Have a Happy 4 TH of JULY	4 Church office closed	5 Church office closed	6	7	8	9
			WBS PREP. WEEK — CLS UNAVAILABLE			
10 ONE WORSHIP— 10:30 AM, see p. 6 VBS—5:30 PM, see p. 6	11	12	13	14	15	16
			VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL			
17 Church Council— 4:30 PM	18 Blood Drive—2:30-7 PM, see p. 6	19	20	21 Biscuit Sales—6-9 AM, see p. 6	22	23 Floor waxing today— CLS unavailable
24 UMW—7 PM	25	26	27	28	29	30
31 ONE WORSHIP— 10:30 AM, see p. 6						
WELCOME— REV. JAY BISSETT!						

