



EBENEZER

United Methodist Church

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AUGUST 2019
newsletter items are due
by **Monday, August 19th.**

**Church Office will
be closed on
Thursday, July 4th.**

**Happy
Independence Day!**



Sunday Services

- 9:00a Worship Service (Combined)
- 10:15a Sunday School
- 5:00p Adult Choir Practice
- 6:00p 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*



Quotes to Ponder

Below are some quotes discovered on the Internet related to the way our culture has gone off the rails of reality lately. Can we return to sanity, or is it too late?

"Notre-Dame's hulking, Gothic presence has long suggested that there is something mysterious and unknowable at the center of it all."

It might be too late for urbane and rational liberals to ponder big questions like the possibility that there is something bigger than mankind, the New York Times, and Planned Parenthood behind the gift of life.

French President Macron called the human effect of the fire a "tremblement intérieur" -- an internal trembling. Druckerman says, "There's also a shared sadness and disappointment that, with the extensive damage, we've failed, as a civilization, to be the caretakers of something priceless."

No, Ms. Druckerman, the something priceless was never made of wood and stone and glass. The physical structure only represented eternal values such as hope, faith, humility, and shared morality.

Those are the priceless somethings that you, the New York Times and the "urbane" amongst us extensively damaged and failed to protect. Michael James article on American Thinker about NY Times article by Pamela Druckerman about the Notre Dame cathedral fire.

The much better and accurate quote attributed to Churchill is: "Socialism is a philosophy of failure, the creed of ignorance, and the gospel of envy, its inherent virtue is the equal sharing of misery." Read more at <http://www.jewishworldreview.com/0319/colon031219.php3#eClfeaTqMOWWuRY.99>

Prejudice is prejudice, whether it's against someone with an accent, someone because of their religion, or someone because of race and the hat they wear. The definition of the word "bigot" isn't dependent upon the amount of melanin in the skin of an individual; it's dependent upon the amount of ignorance in that individual. Unfortunately, when it comes to far too many people in positions of influence on both sides of the aisle, that amount is large. Derek Hunter, 1-24-2019 on Townhall.com

According to Scottish historian Alexander Fraser Tytler, only about 200 years:

"A democracy cannot exist as a permanent form of government. It can only exist until the voters discover that they can vote themselves largesse from the public treasury. From that moment on, the majority always votes for the candidates promising the most benefits from the public treasury with the result that a democracy always collapses over loose fiscal policy, always followed by a dictatorship. The average age of the world's greatest civilizations has been 200 years. These nations

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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.

Lord's Supper Ministry

The next meal will be delivered on **Monday, July 15th at 5:00 p.m.** See Ricky Baker to volunteer to help.

Church Council

The Council will meet on **Sunday, July 21st at 4:00 p.m.**

Trustees Meeting

The Trustees will meet on **Monday, July 22nd at 7:00 p.m.**

United Methodist Women

The women will meet on **Sunday, July 28th at 6:00 p.m.** Marsha McRary is in charge of the program.

Jordan Peterson, a psychology professor from the University of Toronto, made a brilliant statement. He is vehemently against the left's attacks on men and often speaks on how destructive leftism is to society.

He once said, **"A harmless man is not a good man. A good man is a very, very dangerous man who has it under voluntary control."**

Special Giving

We gratefully acknowledge these special gifts in *June*:

In Memory of Hoke Clark by:
Becky Clark

In Memory of Ellen Burns by:
The Women's Class

In Memory of Ronnie Satterwhite by:
Cindy Satterwhite

In Memory of Laura Silver by:
Anonymous

In Memory of James Franklin Campbell and Paul Spencer by:
Bill, Delores, & Gary Paul Campbell

In Honor of Delores Campbell's 82nd Birthday on June 26th by:
Bill & Gary Paul Campbell

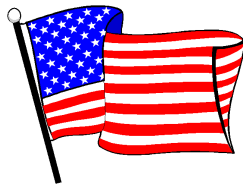
In Honor of Bill Campbell by:
Delores Campbell



Something to Pray About by Cindy Sears

I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people—for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness. This is good, and pleases God our Savior, who wants all people to be saved and come to the knowledge of the truth. —1 Timothy 2:1-4 NIV

**SAVING
AMERICA
FROM SELF-
DESTRUCTION**



"As I show in my commentary on Genesis, what the first book of the Bible depicts is not only God's creation of the world but, equally important, God's shaping primordial chaos (Genesis 1:2) into order. The divine order consists of distinctions; prominent examples include man and God, man and animal, male and female, good and evil, holy and profane, parent and child. The left is a war against order; in its essence, leftism creates chaos. It has worked to destroy all those biblical distinctions. The present giveaway is the nihilist project of the left to erase the male-female distinction, the only innate human distinction God cares about: "God created mankind in his own image ... male and female he created them" (Genesis 1:27); "He created them male and female and blessed them" (Genesis 5:2). No ethnic or racial distinction matters in Genesis; only the male-female distinction.

The God-centered West produced Bach and Michelangelo. The left, which dominates music and art, has produced mostly junk; there is nothing higher to aspire to, as excellence is not a left-wing value and the left uses art to shock, not inspire. Hence the huge amount of scatological art, for example.

Belief in God and the Bible were instrumental to the creation of America, the last, best hope of mankind. The rejection of that God and that Bible are instrumental to wrecking America (and the rest of the West). That alone tells me how important that God and that Bible are. The left knows it, too." —Dennis Prager (Read more at <http://www.jewishworldreview.com/0419/prager040219.php3#5bpHISEgrvcBx3l2.99>)

Government cannot save us, but we do need government to keep order and avoid chaos. Thus, God, through the Apostle Paul, asked us to pray for our leaders—even if they are unjust or corrupt—not to bless them in their evil, but to avoid further chaotic circumstances. (See 1 Timothy 2:1-4) We can and ought to pray for and work towards acquiring better leaders, and more just laws; but we can never rely on any of mankind's governance to be free of corruption or evil.

Corruption and tyranny go hand in hand. As we, as a nation, have moved further away from belief in God; we, as a nation, have become more prone to corruption and a tyranny based on feelings and an elitist ruling class's belief that they know best how everyone should live and what everyone should believe.

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July Events & Fundraisers

Biscuit Sales

**Thursday
July 18th
6 AM — 'til gone!**

The *Rainbow* Sunday School Class will be selling ham, sausage, egg, livermush, bologna, and gravy biscuits on **Thursday, July 18th**.

Kitchen will be open from **6:00 a.m. —til gone!** 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!



Something, cont'd

(Continued from page 2)

There are still plenty of us who believe in liberty and in our God-given rights written into our constitution. So, how do we keep America from becoming a less free country? In 2 Chronicles 7:14, God says to Solomon, "if my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land." This is in reference to Israel, but we can conjecture from this that turning away from God often leads to disaster and judgment.

Men and women are prone to sinfulness. Laws are designed to curb that sinfulness enough to let people live together in relative peace and harmony. But there are never enough policemen around to stop criminal behavior. To avoid chaos, especially in a nation not run as a "police state," people must police themselves most of the time. This is where morality comes in. And that morality must have an authority behind it—besides and above the state.

And that is where God comes in. Without an ultimate, all-powerful, unassailable authority for moral laws and conventions, each person will do what is right in his own eyes with little or no regard for the rights of any other person. Anyone who reads the Bible knows how bad things turn out when we ignore God and follow after other gods or live without regard to God's

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All-American Sunday— July 28th



Back by popular demand!

We will celebrate the United States of

America on a Sunday filled with patriotic music and praise to God for letting us be born in the freest nation in the world.

Plans were not set at time of publication, but we will have a good time. Service personnel are encouraged to wear their uniforms.

Let us pray that God will continue to bless America and show mercy to us all.

Have a happy and safe Independence Day celebration on the Fourth!

July Celebrations



- 3rd—Freida Farr
- 10th—Arlene McRary
- 10th—Cameron Collins
- 13th—Alice Hill
- 13th—Phyllis Minton
- 14th—Matt Shook
- 14th—Marilyn Kohnle
- 19th—Thomas Johnson
- 20th—Casey Mullinax
- 22nd—Kay Gilbert
- 27th—Cody Parham
- 30th—Mildred Tolbert
- 30th—Rebecca Hirt
- 31st—Jerry Parson, Jr.

Happy Anniversary!

- 1st—Matthew & Amanda Coffey
- 3rd—Randy & Marsha McRary
- 13th—Steven & Cheryl Vosdingh

Our Military

Nick Austin
Kyle Blair
Ricky Garland
Trey Hefner
Shane McRary
Jamie Mullinax
Michael Potts
Hunter Tolbert
Josh Yount



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

"If we continue to teach about tolerance and intolerance instead of good and evil, we will end up with tolerance of evil." —Dennis Prager

"The pure righteous people do not complain against wickedness but add righteousness. They do not complain against disbelief but add faith. They do not complain against ignorance but add wisdom." — Rabbi Abraham Isaac Kook



Something, cont'd

(Continued from page 3)

revealed law.

We can't force people to believe in God or his laws—God doesn't even do that. So our only and best hope for our country and ourselves is to lead people to Christ and teach them to be his disciples. (See Matthew 28:19-20) Then, in the power of the Holy Spirit, and with the help of fellow believers, people can "police" themselves; corruption and other sin will be nullified or constrained, and we can live in a world with less chaos and confusion.

So, evangelism is not only a command from Jesus that we should obey, but it is also the only way to save the freest nation in the world from self-destruction.

"The righteous are guided and protected by the LORD, but the evil are on the way to their doom."

—Psalm 1:6 GNT ✠



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

First of all then, I urge that petitions, prayers, requests, and thanksgivings be offered to God for all people, for kings and all others who are in authority, that we may live a quiet and peaceful life with all reverence toward God and with proper conduct. This is good and it pleases God our Savior, who wants everyone to be saved and to come to know the truth.

—1 Timothy 2:1-4 GNT

Finding Hope Ministries Update—June 2019

Finding Hope June 2019 Update:

What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us? —Romans 8:31

Children's Homes:

Hope Home (1st children's home)

Things are still going as before. The 13 kids in the Hope Home are thriving, enjoying family life, and growing up in the ways of the Lord (most of the older ones know the Lord as their personal Savior). Soon school will be out, and the summer fun will begin. This will include summer camps, a trip to the beach (the Black Sea), camping and hiking trips with the Finding Hope family, outreaches in the gypsy villages, and lots of other fun activities.

Perhaps the biggest news: Alina, our oldest daughter, is heading to the USA in July 2019. She will be doing her senior year at a Christian high school in NC. Then she wants to go to a US university to study social work. Her dream is to eventually return to Romania to become a host parent at one of our children's homes. We are so very proud of our daughter Alina.

Lucas Home (2nd Children's Home)

The renovations are nearly finished thanks to hard work from volunteers and a mission team from East Taylorsville and Antioch Baptist Church. Next comes, inspections/permitting, and installation of a fire installation/suppression system. There is no telling how long this will take. We are hoping and praying that we can open the Lucas home by the end of the summer. Please pray with us that God will make the way smooth and quick. There are many orphan children eagerly waiting the Lucas House their home!

Anchor Home (3rd children's Home):

This home still requires more renovations and inspections before we can open it. We have the host parents but are just beginning with the necessary renovations to pass inspection. We expect to open this home for operation around December 2019 or early 2020.

Missionary Quarters

Recently a mission team from Hickory Grove Baptist Church in Charlotte came to build a place so we can better host short-term mission teams. This facility is on the property of the Lucas children's home. It will be able to comfortably house 12 people, has two bathrooms (including two showers), a living area, and conditioner/heating. Unfortunately, because of time constraints, Hickory Grove was unable to completely finish the project. We still need to hang a few doors, hang/mud some drywall, do the trim work, paint, and install the flooring. We are looking for volunteers or mission teams to button this project up. If you or anyone you know are interested, please let us know. We would be very grateful.

Church Planting and Gypsy Ministry Outreach:

Thanks to Dale and Kathy Little (missionaries from the USA) joining the team we are able to start planting churches in some of the local gypsy villages. We have started small home Bible study groups. We are believing God will eventually grow these home groups into full-fledged churches. Please pray that God will enable us to plant these churches and bring many of the gypsy people to the Lord.

(Continued on page 5)



Finding Hope, cont'd

Additionally, we finished building a living quarters for an older, handicapped gentleman in one of the villages. He had been in living in dire circumstances before this. He is now attending our weekly Bible studies.

Mission Teams:

There are three more mission teams slated for this year, but we would like to schedule a few more since the needs are so many. We especially need more construction teams, as we have a lot more of this sort of work.

If are interest in coming to visit/volunteer or have questions about planning a mission trip, please contact us. We would be very delighted to have you. The needs are many and the laborers few!

Future Visions:

Children's Home in USA:

We are currently laying the ground work to begin a Finding Hope Children's Home in North Carolina. We envision a children's home similar to the ones we operate in Romania, where the kids become part of a family - rather than a ward in a small private institution. The home will be staffed by house parents (a Christian married couple) and have no more than 12 kids. The house parents will serve as the would-be parents of the children in the home, living with them 24/7. They will not work in shifts or take extended time away from the children, as happens in other children's homes in the US. They will be *de facto* parents, not caretakers/shift-workers. Moreover, we will seek kids that will stay in our home until they age out at 18. We will not house children who are shifted back and forth between different homes, as frequently happens in the US. We want the Finding Hope home in the USA to be a family environment where kids can thrive, are loved, and can grow

up in the ways of the Lord. We expect this home to take at least two years of planning and praying. Please pray this will one day become a reality.

Children's Home in Moldova:

God has also given us a vision to start a Finding Hope Children's Home in Moldova. Moldova is the poorest country in Europe. Though Moldova has fewer orphans than Romania, their plight and future is much bleaker since the country is poorer than Romania. We just need the host parents, volunteers, funds, and a lot of prayer. Perhaps, one day this children's home in Moldova will be a reality!

Home for Disabled Children:

Currently there is no private institution in Romania that houses disabled orphans. All the disabled orphans are holed up in state-run facilities which are far worse than the worst nursing home in the US. These poor children live in horrid circumstances where no one cares about them. We would love to be able to provide a family to love some of these unfortunate orphan children. We pray God will pave the way for this.

Needs:

We always need more volunteers and mission teams. As noted above, we especially need building teams to help with the many construction projects we have. If you have interest in coming to visit/volunteer or have questions about planning a mission trip, please let us know.

As is always the case when ministry is involved, financial needs abound. Below are some current and soon-to-be financial needs:

There are several construction type inspections necessary. All three homes must pass a fire inspection. This includes modifying the homes (installing fire escapes, changing up the hallways, and putting in bigger windows in the bedrooms) and installing a sophisticated installation of a fire sensor/suppression system. The cost for each home is around \$3,700/home. We received money for one home recently but still need to cover the other two homes. This is a very pressing need – so we can get ready for the children!

We are in need of a 2nd ministry van (and perhaps a 3rd in the not too distant future!) We're limited to a single 8-passenger van now. The cost for a good used one should be around \$10,000.

We will have more children very soon and will need more sponsors for them as well.

We also need money to help us buy furnishings for the 2nd and 3rd homes – beds, couch, sheets, blankets, kitchenware/appliances, wardrobes, dressers, etc.

Art/craft supplies are hard to find here. We can't buy Ranch dressing mix and the peanut butter is bad. They also don't know what terrycloth is and we need kitchen towels. So if you'd prefer to send things, here's a good starting place!

Please pray where God would have you help serve. There are SO many needs but prayer and financial support are two of the biggest and most pressing. We need more people involved. Please make it a point to share our ministry with others in your church and community. Print off the newsletter and share it with someone else. Or send a link with our Facebook page to your friends. And here is the direct link to our website: <https://findinghopeministries.org/>. We never know when a new seed is planted, how God will make it grow. Find your place and join us!

God bless, Nathan, Anca, and Family



Quotes, cont'd

(Continued from page 1)

have progressed through this sequence: From bondage to spiritual faith; From spiritual faith to great courage; From courage to liberty; From liberty to abundance; From abundance to selfishness; From selfishness to apathy; From apathy to dependence; From dependence back into bondage."

As we have so often heard, "the truth will set us free." Sadly, many today have twisted this to mean "I get to make my own truth so I'm free to do as I please." No. As Dr. Zacharias reminds us, "[t]rue freedom is not the liberty to do as we please; rather, it is to do as we ought. For that we need the truth."

So, in the most real sense, the political and social trials this country is facing are not between Democrat and Republican, but rather between those who struggle with a conscience who seek the good of others through telling the truth and those who avoid their conscience to avoid pain and seek power and control through the use of lies. —Rick Hayes, Aug. 15, 2018, American Thinker website article, "Last Remaining Weapon of the Left."

But there is a world of difference between judging favorably and not judging at all. When political correctness advances to the point where we are no longer permitted to judge, we will have truly reached the sunset of civilization.

In their well-intentioned but misguided frenzy to create a more civil society, adherents of political correctness have forgotten Edmund Burke's famous dictum, "All that is necessary for evil to triumph is for good men to do nothing." We must make judgments, we have to speak out where we see evil, and we have to stand up for values and standards. If we don't, we empower and enable the wicked to corrupt the ideals of virtue and thereby pull society down into the mud of moral anarchy.

Read more at http://www.jewishworldreview.com/0418/civil_society.php3#DCTZTfApAdeua8Pr.99

"Who says any Catholic should lack tension stoked by his weaknesses?" Milo continued. "You don't see me disputing the Church's teachings on homosexuality. There's no intellectual tension, because I wouldn't dream of demanding that the Church throw away her hard truths just to lie to me in hopes I'll feel better about myself. I love the truth, not lies, and I know no one's feelings are the basis of truth. That's why I don't understand those Catholics — such as, if you'll forgive my horrid impertinence, this magazine's editor at large, Fr. Martin — who imply that if people don't like what the Church says, maybe the Church is wrong or should apologize. The Church was founded on a rock and a cross, not on a hug."

"My history with homosexuals was not the result of anything related to a spectrum of identity or inner urges. I was abused and pressured by a loud and obnoxious gay community in the 1980s until I found myself stuck in a homosexual behavioral pattern. There is nothing funny or glib about this," he said. "My story is like many others who ended up 'gay' through unjust external pressures, often abuse or grooming. It is disingenuous and unprincipled to discuss homosexuality without acknowledging that the political realm we call 'the gay community' purposefully forces people to join them and then holds them captive." --Robert Lopez, former gay man.

(In article about how even educated people have fallen for the myth that biological sex/gender is malleable) Indeed, these developments transcend politics. At the risk of subjecting myself to anti-Christian scoffing, I believe we are in the throes of spiritual warfare, which is one reason I'm not attempting to unduly demonize people falling prey to it. I used not to believe in the devil, but that was then, and this is now. I have no other rational explanation for morality and truth routinely being turned on their very heads — for right being considered wrong, and unreality masquerading as reality. Satan is the first and great deceiver, and many people, most of them unwittingly, are being deceived.

Pray for America. Pray for mankind.

Read more at <http://www.jewishworldreview.com/david/limbaugh111417.php3#vmIBAB2PIKm3dV0k.99>

limbaugh111417.php3#vmIBAB2PIKm3dV0k.99



God bless America, land that I love
Stand beside her and guide her
Through the night with the light from above

From the mountains to the prairies
To the oceans white with foam
God bless America, my home sweet home

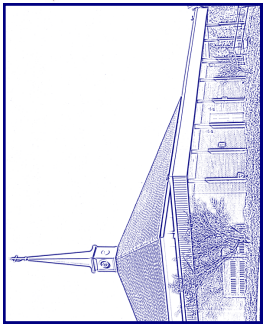
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EBENEZER UMC

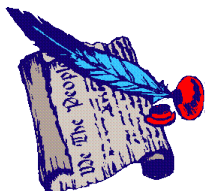


Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors.

July 2019



Ebenezer United Methodist Church

Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Every Sunday: 9:00 AM Worship 10:15 AM Sunday school 5:00 PM Choir Practice	1 Basketball—7 PM	2	3 <i>Every Wed.:</i> 6 PM Praise Band 6 PM <i>Teens for Christ</i> 7 PM Children and Adult Bible studies	4 Church Office Closed 4th July <i>Happy</i> Independence Day	5	6
7	8 Basketball—7 PM	9	10	11	12	13
14	15 Lord's Supper Ministry—5 PM Basketball—7 PM	16	17	18 Biscuit Sales—6 AM <i>'til gone!</i>	19	20
21 Church Council—4 PM	22 Trustees—7 PM Basketball—7 PM	23	24 	25	26	27 
28 <i>All-American Sunday!</i> UMW—6 PM 	29 Basketball—7 PM	30	31			