



EBENEZER

United Methodist Church

www.ebenezerum-church.org

June '14

Volume 10 Issue 6

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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



Dear Ones,

Well, we all wondered if winter would ever pass and we might again feel the warmth of the sunshine. While winter lingered for some time, we all knew that the warm weather would come again. We simply trusted and had faith that it would happen.

Spiritually, we must put our faith and trust in the things the Lord promises as well. Like the lingering cold of winter, we often wonder: "when will our struggles" or "when will our problems" pass? Yet, we can have faith and trust in God's promises. Not only will he travel through our struggles and difficult times with us, but there will come a time when all struggles and difficulties will pass.

As in winter, while we are going through those times, we wonder when or how long must I endure. But like spring, Christ says "Do not let your hearts be troubled... and Lo, I am with you always."

We are but passing through this world on our way home.

May the peace of Christ be with you always!

Rev. Eric Lane



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 will meet on **Sunday, June 8th at 3:30 p.m.** (not confirmed—Editor)

Church Council

Church Council will meet on **Sunday, June 8th 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, June 16th 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.

United Methodist Women

The UMW will meet on **Sunday, June 22nd at 7:00 p.m.** Dawn Yount will present the program. Kim Ellis and Gwen Teague will provide refreshments.

July Newsletter Items

Please have information and articles for the May newsletter in by **June 22nd**. Thank you. —Editor

New Intern Arrives

Please help us to welcome our summer intern, Jake Resor, to Ebenezer. He comes from Tennessee, near Nashville. Jake is in Duke Divinity School and was brought up in a Church of the Nazarene. Keep him in your prayers as he dips his toes into church service and ministry this year.



"We Christians are not just 'passing through this world of woe' We are building **in** God's kingdom. We are making things right in every way we can."

Something to Pray About

by Cindy Sears

"...because the creation itself also will be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God." Romans 8:21

"Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good." Romans 12:21

**GOD'S
KINGDOM IS
HERE—NOW!**

When God created the world, He looked on it and "God saw that it was good" (Genesis 1:25b). Then came *the fall*, and soon God noticed "that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually" (Genesis 6:5). So God washed the whole earth clean, except for one family; and sent them out to replenish the earth. Yet, evil continued to flourish, even after God set aside one nation on the earth to be an example of righteousness for all mankind. Prophets of God came and went, but nothing could stop man's evil from flourishing, even within the nation of God's chosen people.

"And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth" (John 1:14). The Christ, Jesus, was an embodiment of the Creator and His righteousness in a man. Jesus showed us how to live out the truth of made "in the image of God." He was killed and buried, but He rose from the dead. The Truth cannot be destroyed. The Word continues to live.

The death and resurrection of Jesus provided a road to our salvation, our deliverance from the tyranny of sin and death in our lives. "For the death that He [Jesus] died, He died to sin once for all; but the life that He lives, He lives to God. Likewise you also, reckon yourselves to be dead indeed to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus our Lord" (Romans 6:10-11; read the whole chapter).

When Jesus ascended into heaven, He left His disciples in charge. What are we in charge of? "And he [Jesus] said to them, "Truly I tell you, some who are standing here will not taste death before they see that the **kingdom of God** has come with **power**" (Mark 9:1). On the day of Pentecost, the Holy Spirit descended and power was given to the new people of God. The Kingdom of God has been ushered into the world. It is no longer limited to one person, as in Jesus, or one people, as in the Israelites; but flourishes over the whole earth and in all peoples and nations.

Have you not wondered why the early Christian church spread so rapidly and soon shook the Roman Empire to its core? Why were the first Christians so willing to die for what they believed? Because they knew that the Kingdom of God had already come and that they were working for the One, True King of the earth—Jesus Christ. No earthly king or power, no earthly pleasure or privilege could top that. They knew that Jesus Christ was in charge. "Then Jesus came to them and said, '**All authority** in heaven and on earth has been given to me'" (Matthew 28:18). And Jesus had commissioned them to go to all nations and peoples and teach "them to observe all things that I have commanded you" (Matthew 18:20).

We Christians are not just "passing through this world of woe." We are

(Continued on page 4)



Church Council — May 18th, 2014

Attendees: Chuck Adams, Kim Ellis, Gerald Frye, Jo Nell Harrison, Alice Hill, Keith Keener, JoAnn Knepp, Eric Lane, Judy McCrary, Marsha McRary, Barbara Miller, Linda Moretz, Cindy Sears, Jimmy Stone, Jeanette Teague, Becky Yount, and Jerry Kohnle.

Gerald opened the meeting at 4:32 p.m. and read from Judges 11 about the rash vow a man made to the LORD. Then he said the opening prayer.

Minutes from last meeting stand as read.

FINANCIAL REPORT/OLD BUSINESS

Jo Nell Harrison went over the financial report. She said that we would be able to put an extra \$1000 payment on the building mortgage, because of extra monies that came in as memorials for Bob Sears.

Kim suggested that we put the \$65.79, showing as a balance in the Rainbow Class Fund, be put back into the general budget. Jo Nell said that it will be credited to kitchen supplies. Eric mentioned that the youth will probably need to rent a van to go to Tennessee on their trip this summer, which includes mission projects. Our new intern will be going, too; and we will have to cover his expenses. Jimmy Stone reported on the switch to Charter for internet and phone that will save us around \$80 per month.

Eric reported that the parsonage drainage problem has been resolved. Cindy passed around a sample of the new Church Directory. We will be getting quotes from Staples and Carolina Office about printing some out.

NEW BUSINESS

Kim Ellis said that we need a small table for the nursery. She has a quote for table and chairs of around \$215. The height is adjustable. She

made a motion that we buy. Jo Nell seconded. Motion passed.

There are storage problems that could lead to being fined by the fire marshal. Eric suggested buying plywood to put over joist in the CLC attic and storing some of the lighter and less used materials there. We would need a ladder to reach this area more easily. There was a suggestion that we make one corner of the old fellowship hall into a small closet also. That would cost around \$1200. The ladder would cost around \$400. We will let the Trustees discuss this further.

Eric said that several new ministers have come into the area and more are coming. Since our church is the most stable one in the area, he recommended that we have a dinner to welcome them to the area in August. Eric made the motion to do it; Kim seconded. There would be about 30-35 people. Eric will be in charge of putting this together. Keith second. Motion passed.

We have a request to provide half of a down payment on a vehicle for a member of the church that is working regularly, but has been unable to set aside the money to make this purchase. The car is necessary to the person's job. The money would be taken from the Needy Fund and the check written to the dealership. The UMM is providing the other half of the payment. Jo Nell made a motion that we do it. Keith second. Motion passed.

Marsha McRary dismissed us in prayer.

Minutes by Cindy Sears. ✝

Special Giving

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

In Memory of Ned Hall by:

Diana R. Hall

In Memory of Wade Austin by:

Diana R. Hall

In Memory of Cynthia Orren & Penny Kohnle by:

Steve & Danielle Miller

In Memory of Bob Sears, Tommy Lane, & Pinola Holman by:

The Women's Bible Class

In Honor of Pairs & Spares Class by:

Delores & Gary Paul Campbell

VBS Coming in July

Our annual Vacation Bible School will be in July, the week of 13-18. We will have classes for all ages, including adults, and will serve a light free supper each evening.

Volunteers are needed to help in the kitchen, to supervise crafts, work in skits, and teach the classes. Please contact Kim Ellis to volunteer and to get assignments.

Children and youth of all ages will be treated to games, crafts, and Bible stories and teaching. We know you will have a good time. Please make plans to attend.

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

"Most assuredly, I say to you, the hour is coming, and now is, when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God; and those who hear will live."

—John 5:25 NKJV



Something..., con't

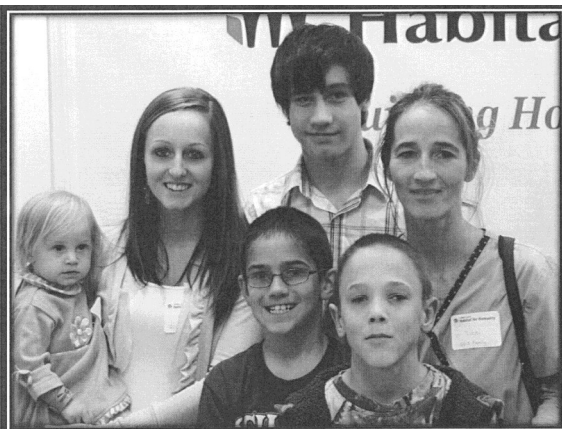
building in God's kingdom. We are making things right in every way we can. We fight for justice. We defend the weak and the fatherless. We speak out against evil in all its forms. We bring reason and truth to the world. We lift people up from poverty **and** sin by sharing our resources and teaching them about righteousness. We work in the power of the Holy Spirit to do good deeds every day—at work, at home, at play. No sphere of influence or activity in this world is out of bounds, except evil.

As God's agents in His Kingdom, we play the part of God (in His image) by: providing (making clothes, growing food, delivering food, building houses, etc.); by protecting (restraining evil and corruption through government, police work, military service, protest, and finding cures for diseases); and in redemption/renewal of the world (recycling, preaching the gospel message, cleaning the air and water, teaching people to take care of themselves and how to earn a living). **All good work is Christian ministry.** We overcome evil with good (see Romans 12:21). We pray that God's "will be done on earth as it is in heaven." Then we go out and work at making it so. We are the hope of the world. And what we do here NOW counts, because we are working in God's Kingdom NOW. And we will live here after Christ comes again and receives all things unto Himself, including a renewed and redeemed earth. (Sorry Charlie--no harps, no floating on clouds.) For God does love the world, and He will redeem it all. Let's get to work and help Him do it.

"Now I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away." Revelation 21:1a †

Habitat House & Family — 2014

The work on this year's Habitat house is proceeding nicely. The Methodist churches in Caldwell County are building the house for the Beach Family. Vicki Beach is a single mother with 6 children. She works with Caldwell Hospice and Palliative Care at the Lenoir facility. Vicki rents a 3 bedroom, 2 bath house on Conway Drive in Granite Falls. Their current



Tyler (not picture—senior at Mars Hill), Ashley 19, Nick, 16, Caleb 12, Austin 11, and Grace 2.

house is not large enough for the family as 3 boys share 1 bedroom, baby Grace shares a bedroom with Vicki, and oldest son, Tyler, sleeps on a couch in the basement when home from college. Their current neighborhood has gone downhill over the last few years with drug trafficking and a registered sex offender lives next door. The Habitat house will be a good home for them.

Habitat House Work





June Celebrations



Happy Birthday!



- 1st—Joan Pennell
- 3rd—Dustin Kirby, Melissa Wilson
- 6th—Ethan Haas
- 7th—William McRary, Sidney Austin
- 8th—Margaret Fairchild, Becky Yount
- 9th—Gerald Frye, Beth Lane
- 10th—Mary Lynn Pennell
- 13th—Kim Ellis
- 16th—Casey Knepp
- 22nd—Nathan Adams
- 23rd—Theia McRary
- 25th—Barbara Miller
- 26th—Sharon Bowman
- 28th—Teresa Herman, Boyd Johnson,
Ragan Knepp, Cara Bengé
- 29th—Susan Brown
- 30th—Austin Teague

Happy Anniversary!

- 20th—Boyd & Emily Johnson
- 20th—Jimmy & Heather Stone
- 22nd—Dwight & Rosalind Kelley
- 22nd—Rex & Gwen Teague
- 24th—Chris & Tasha Haas
- 28th—James & Freida Farr



Confirmation — 2014



Colby Collins, Makayla Settlemyre, Kevin Miller, Clair Gilbert, and Bethany Huss.



Acolyte Schedule - JUNE

1st Makayla Settlemyre

8th Austin Teague

15th Kevin Miller

22nd Samantha Stone

29th Payton Lyda

Nursery Schedule - JUNE

1st 8:30 Bleaka Hollar & Cinda McRary

11:00 Nancy Sears

8th 8:30 Beth Hernandez & Jessica Haas

11:00 Tasha Haas

15th 8:30 Sonya Crouse & Becky Yount

11:00 Rosalind Kelley

22nd 8:30 Boyd & Emily Johnson

11:00 Teresa Herman

29th 10:30 Teresa Simmons & Dawn Yount

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
Ricki Garland
Jason Gibson
Trey Hefner
Chris Kaisenski



Shane McRary
William McRary
Travis Miller
Joey Moore
Jamie Mullinax
Jason Nichol
Michael Potts
James Starbuck
Hunter Tolbert
Josh Yount

Rev. Eric Lane welcomed five newly confirmed members to our fellowship on Palm Sunday, who took the vows of the church to become full members of our congregation. We praise God for our new members, and ask that our church members pray for and help guide these new members in their walk in Christ.

Suggested Reading: *Surprised by Hope: Rethinking Heaven, the Resurrection, and the Mission of the Church* by N. T. Wright, c2014. Will Christians go to heaven when we die or will heaven come to earth? Wright says that God plans to save the whole world, not just humans; and we Christians are His agents of change and hope for the earth. Our work here counts. A book of hope and mission.



June Fundraisers & Events

Graduation Sunday



**Sunday
June 8th**

Ebenezer UMC will honor this years graduates, high school and college/technical school, on June 8th with a slide show and gifts (for the high school graduates).

We are asking the students and their parents to provide us with pictures of the graduate from birth to graduation (high school) or a few pictures (college grads) to use in the slide show. Please have them to the church by June 1st, either as hard copies (which will be returned unharmed) or as jpgs sent to our e-mail address.

Thank you for your help!

Summer Blood Drive

**Monday
June 9th
2:30-7:00 PM**

Community Blood Center of the Carolinas will be conducting our summer drive. All blood collected will be used to help save lives in our area.

We will be serving spaghetti and salad to the donors. There will also be homemade desserts and snacks available.

Donors may arrange for an appointment at a specific time by calling Gwen Teague at 828-396-5543.

As a Thank You, all June donors will receive a none-of-a-kind free t-shirt!

Breakfast Biscuits

We will be selling ham, sausage, egg and gravy biscuits AND fried fruit pies on **Thursday, June 19th.**

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!**



Rainbow Class Fundraiser for Disabled Vets Van

Saturday, June 14th, 5:00—7:00 PM

The Rainbow Class is sponsoring a meal to raise money for a van for disabled veterans. The menu was not set at time of publication. They are requesting donations toward this worthy cause.

Father's Day Honorary Breakfast

**Sunday, June 15th
9:30—10:45 AM**

We will serve breakfast to the men of our church and have a time of fellowship in their honor on Father's Day Sunday.

Officially, there will be no Sunday school on this Sunday, though classes may meet if they wish to.



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.



EBENEZER UMC

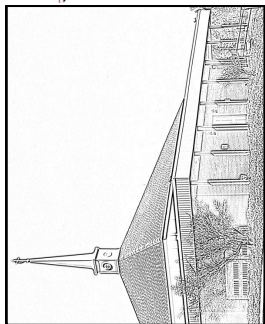
Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors.

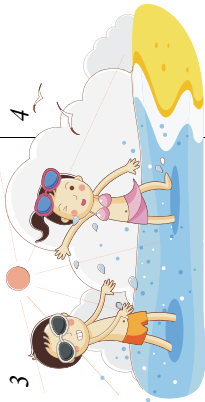

June 2014



Ebenezer United Methodist Church

Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors.



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3 	4	5	6 Wedding Rehearsal— evening	7 Wedding and reception
8 Graduation Sunday UMM—3:30 PM Church Council— 4:30 PM	9 Blood Drive—2:30-7 PM, see p. 6	10	11	12	13	14 Rainbow Class Fundraiser Meal—5-7 PM, see p. 6
15 Happy Father's Day Continental Breakfast 9:30-10:45 AM	16 Lord's Supper Ministry Prep & Delivery—5 PM	17	18	19 Breakfast Biscuit Sales—6 AM 'till gone!	20	21 
22 UMW—7:00 PM	23	24	25	26	27 Stafford Party	28 M. Wilson Party
29 Fifth Sunday Combined Service 10:30 AM	30	Every Sunday: 8:30 a.m. Worship 9:50 a.m. Sunday school 11:00 a.m. Worship	Every Wed.: 6 pm: Praise Band 7 pm: Children and Adult Bible studies	See p. 5 for Nursery and Acolyte Lists	