



# EBENEZER

## United Methodist Church

www.ebenezerum-church.org

# May '18

Volume 14 Issue 5

Church's e-mail: [ebenezerumc@yahoo.com](mailto:ebenezerumc@yahoo.com)

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**June newsletter items  
are due on May 22nd.  
Thank you.**



**Sunday, May 13th**



### Sunday Services

- 9:00a Worship Service (Combined)
- 10:15a Sunday School
- 6:00p Adult Choir Practice
- 7:00p Every FOURTH SUNDAY United Methodist Women



## Mother

Mother's footsteps; I hear them falling  
O'er the path she often tread.  
For they tell me mother's dying;  
Yes, they tell me mother's dead.

She's not dead, but passed out from us;  
And her life is living on  
In her children left behind her;  
Yes, they say that mother's gone.

Mother's gone—how sad and lonely.  
Her bright smiling face I see—  
Just beyond that land of sorrow,  
Just beyond the crystal sea.

Mother's love so kind and thoughtful;  
Mother's love so dear to me.  
I can hear her speak so softly  
As I sat upon her knee.

Mother's gone; we miss her footsteps.  
Tears of sorrow dim our eyes;  
But she's smiling back up yonder  
In her home beyond the skies.

We will know no sorrow yonder  
In that land so free from care.  
Mother's gone from us to Heaven;  
And she leaves a vacant chair.

Mother's gone—oh, how we miss her,  
Since from us she went away.  
But we'll meet again up yonder  
On a bright and better day.

—Mrs. W. R. Moss



How hard it is to find a capable wife!  
She is worth far more than jewels!

Her husband puts his confidence in  
her, and he will never be poor.

As long as she lives, she does him  
good and never harm...

She is strong and respected and not  
afraid of the future.

She speaks with a gentle wisdom.

She is always busy and looks after her  
family's needs.

Her children show their appreciation,  
and her husband praises her.

He says, "Many women are good  
wives, but you are the best of them  
all."

Charm is deceptive and beauty  
disappears, but a woman who honors  
the LORD should be praised.

Give her credit for all she does. She  
deserves the respect of everyone.

—Proverbs 31:10-31 selected

### 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

The Church Council will meet on **Sunday, May 20 at 4:30 p.m.** Please contact Cindy or David Crouse if you wish to add a request or concern to the agenda.

### United Methodist Women

The women will have their next meeting on **Sunday, May 20 at 7:00 p.m.** Dawn Yount is in charge of the program.

### Lord's Supper Meal

**Monday, May 21 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, May 21 at 7:00 p.m.**

## Special Giving

We gratefully acknowledge the following special gifts in *April*:

**In Memory of Ginny Teague and Rachel Poe by:**

Bill, Delores, & Gary Paul Campbell

**In Memory of Steve Kirby by:**

Bruce & Cathy Kirby

**In Memory of Rachel Poe by:**

Nick & Brenda Poe

**In Honor of Peggy Jenkins by:**

Marsha McRary

**In Honor of Ebenezer's United Methodist Men by:**

Bill, Delores, & Gary Paul Campbell

**In Honor of the Sonlighters Class by:**

Bill, Delores & Gary Paul Campbell

**In Honor of Our Church Family by:**

Bill, Delores & Gary Paul Campbell



"Reputation is the shadow,  
and character is the tree."  
--Abraham Lincoln

## Something to Pray About

by Cindy Sears

Then the Israelites cried out to the LORD, and he sent someone to free them... —Psalm 3:9a GNT

## GOD'S HEROES WARTS & ALL

Since Adam and Eve chose to disobey God in the Garden (Gen. 3), mankind has been flawed. We all have flaws. Some of the flaws are highly visible—like warts; other flaws are well-hidden—like an undiagnosed cancer in the body. Yet all our flaws eventually reveal themselves as the poison they are made of—pride and disobedience to our Creator.

Yet, God works in the world, and he does his work through and with flawed human beings. There was only one tool he used that was not flawed—Jesus the Christ, His Son—but that is another story. Today, we are looking at God's heroes—men and women who did his work on earth, despite not being perfect.

Noah—Drunkard (Gen. 6-9): Noah built an ark over several decades, loaded it up with animals of all kinds, and his immediate family, and saved humans and the land animals from sure extinction when the great flood came. It took great and abiding faith in God and in God's prophecy of a coming flood for Noah to do all that. So far, so good; yet, even Noah was flawed. When all the excitement was over, he planted a vineyard, got drunk on his new wine, and then cursed his son's grandson and his descendants because his son found him lying naked in his tent in a drunken stupor—a rather shameful end for such a great hero.

Abraham—Deceiver; Doubter: Abraham left his country of birth and traveled into the unknown on a promise from God. He also left his culture behind and became a true monotheist—believer in the one true God. He showed his faith in God several times, but failed miserably several times, too. He lied to the Egyptians, calling his wife, Sarah, his sister—and profited from the lie (Gen. 12:10-19). He tried to fulfil God's promise of a son in his own way by taking Hagar, Sarah's servant woman, as a surrogate wife (Gen. 16)(at Sarah's insistence, so he was henpecked, too).

Jacob (Israel)—Trickster; Deceiver; Mama's Boy; Bad Father (Gen. 25-32; 37): With the help of his mother, he stole the birthright from his elder brother, Esau. He built up his flock of sheep by trickery (sanctioned by God because his father-in-law first dealt deceitfully with him). He left his father-in-law without telling him he was going. He bribed his brother Esau to get back in his good graces. He showed excessive favoritism to his son, Joseph that built up the boy's ego, and led to jealousy against him from his brothers.

Joseph—Conceited; Tattletale (Gen. 37-48): Joseph is one of God's heroes that did not have too many flaws reported; but his pride of place in his father's household did lead to being sold into slavery. Yet, his faith and obedience to God helped him survive slavery and prison. Once he was humbled by circumstances, God used him to save his whole family (and many more people) from a great famine.

*(Continued on page 5)*



## May Events & Fundraisers

### Butterfly Festival

**Downtown Hudson  
Saturday, May 5th  
9 AM—6 PM**

We hope you will visit the annual Butterfly Festival in Hudson. There will be lots of good food, crafts, and just plain fun going on.

We are asking our members to help South Caldwell Christian Ministries supply their booth at the festival with sugar-free cakes, sugar-free pies, regular pies, cupcakes and brownies. Please see Becky Yount or Judy McCrary if you want to help. SCCM needs workers for the day also.



### Mini-BBQ

We will be serving up our homemade barbecue and desserts to raise some money for our church. It will all be delicious, and we thank you mightily for your support! Take-out will be available. (No drink with take-out.)

Adult plates—\$9; Children's plates (6-12)—\$5; Children 5 & Under—free! BBQ sandwich is \$3.

Price includes port barbecue, sauce, beans, slaw, dessert, and drink.

### Layman's Revival

**May 6-9 at 7:00 PM**

We have lined up speakers and singers and musicians for our annual Layman's Revival when we let the preacher take a break while lay people speak to us about their relationship with Jesus.

Date	Speaker	Music
Sun., May 6	Scott Triplette	Purpose Quartet
Mon., May 7	Nathan Atwood	Angela Wagoner
Tues., May 8	Linda Moretz	Patrick & Cliniece Bradshaw
Wed., May 9	Sonya Crouse	New Life Praise Band

Invite your neighbors and friends and co-workers and relatives for this celebration of Jesus, the Savior for everyone and anyone.

### Let's Feed Mom!

**Mother's Day Breakfast  
8 AM**

Ebenezer's men will fix breakfast in honor of all our women and girls on Mother's Day. And they will clean-up, too! Whoopee!

### Blood Drive

**Monday, May 14  
2:30—7:00 PM**

Help save a life by giving a small portion of your life's blood to the Red Cross. We will be serving good food and homemade sweets to the donors. Walk-ins welcome, or schedule an appointment online at [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org) & enter "Ebenezer UMC."

## May Celebrations



- 3rd—Bea Spencer
- 3rd—Kelle Bowman
- 5th—Bill Campbell
- 5th—Brei Ledford
- 8th—Marsha McCrary
- 12th—Paul Burson, III
- 12th—Heather Wallace
- 13th—Ricky Baker
- 13th—Meredith Knepp
- 14th—Carolyn David
- 15th—Darren McCrary
- 15th—Ann Smith
- 15th—Kevin Miller
- 21st—Tom Kohnle
- 22nd—Michael Crouse
- 24th—Lillie Johnson
- 28th—Jamie Starbuck
- 29th—Ted Daniel

### Happy Anniversary!

- 2nd—Lucas & Sarah Teague
- 5th—Wes & Shannon Triplette
- 13th—Robert & Teresa Herman
- 30th—Monte & Bleaka Hollar

### Our Military

Nick Austin  
Kyle Blair  
Anthony Coffey  
Paul Coffey  
Ricky Garland  
Jason Gibson  
Trey Hefner  
Chris Kaisenski  
Shane McCrary  
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.



## Church Council Minutes for April 15, 2018

Attendees: Pastor Tom Hunter, Ricky Baker, Patty Coffey, David & Sonya Crouse, Kim Ellis, Gerald Frye, Jo Nell Harrison, Bleaka Hollar, John McCrary, Judy McCrary, Cinda McCrary, Marsha McCrary, and Cindy Sears.

David Crouse called the meeting to order at 4:32 p.m. and asked Sonya to open the meeting with prayer. He then read from John 21:1-9 about triumph after failure. Peter is restored after falling short. We should not wallow in failure, but count on God to raise us up again for service.

March Council Minutes were read and passed as written.

### Financial Report—Jo Nell Harrison

Jo Nell reported that our new building insurance is about \$2,000 less than our previous policy. Our current bank balance will be very low after paying the latest bills. She also reported that we spent \$2000 more than we took in in March. On a more positive note, the principle on the CLC mortgage is now below \$50,000.

Mission Funds: \$1,430 was taken in for the Thank Bank (aka Needy Fund).

### Old Business

New gutters have been placed on the parsonage. The UMM is waiting on a dry day to finish some other work.

Church clean up day may be moved to April 28<sup>th</sup>. This date is not yet confirmed. (NOTE: Saturday, June 30<sup>th</sup> has been set as the new clean-up date.

Jo Nell reported that we were unable to pay our apportionments again in March.

### New Business

Marsha (*Sunday School Superintendent*): children's class attendance is very low. But otherwise things are going well.

A *Mother's Day Breakfast* will be served on Sunday, May 13.

*Vacation Bible School* is set for June 10-13. Commencement will be at Redwood

Rec. Pool in Hudson. Tom wants to encourage the adults to come to the Commencement, and sit around and talk and show support for the children.

**Kim will be going to Conference on June 21-22** at Lake Junaluska as our representative.

**The Bolivia mission trip is begins on June 25<sup>th</sup>.** Kim reported that she has almost all her money for her trip, but wants to raise some money for bricks to build a house (\$4000 in all, but we do not have to raise the whole amount ourselves). This fundraising effort will be called "Bricks for Bolivia."

On **Switcheroo Sunday, April 29<sup>th</sup>**, we will switch Sunday school to 9 a.m. and Worship to 10:15 a.m.

Sonya reminded us to send cards, letters, emails, text, etc. to people who have not been attending regularly or at all. These do help to bring people back.

**UMM** will have meeting at 4:00 p.m. next Sunday April 22<sup>nd</sup> to plan new projects and the Mother's Day Breakfast. John McCrary thanked the whole church for helping with the Fish Fry. The men cleared \$879.

Bleaka reminded us that we will have a small **BBQ fundraiser on May 19<sup>th</sup>, beginning at 4:00 p.m.** She hopes to have enough workers to sell take-outs outside, along with enough workers for the inside service. The proceeds from this event is going to our church. We will need desserts for this meal. The *Sound of Power* singing group is planning to come and perform at the BBQ.

Bleaka reported that the *Outreach and Witness Committee* will send out more cards and hope for more responses.

**Layman's Revival week begins on May 6<sup>th</sup>.** We hope to run through Wednesday evening, but only have two speakers, though we have singers for every night. We will meet each night, whether or not we have speakers for that day.

**Cemetery Committee** reported that we allowed Grace Bradford to buy a plot for her daughter, Lindsay beside her father,

Keith. The \$1200 cost of the plot went into the Cemetery Fund.

### Miscellaneous

David Crouse thanked Tom for his service to our church. Tom said that he is enjoying this church.

Kim asked Tom to begin searching for a Homecoming speaker.

Marsha made a motion we close the meeting. Motion passed.

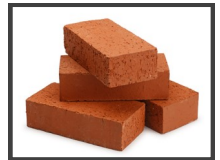
--minutes by Cindy Sears



## Bricks for Bolivia

Kim Ellis is going to Bolivia on a mission trip this summer. She is helping raise money for the bricks needed to build a home for a needy family in Bolivia. The total required is \$4,000. Others in the mission team have raised \$2,000. Kim is asking us to help buy some of the bricks, too.

To give, use the "Other" section on the offering envelope and write "Bricks for Bolivia" on the memo line. We thank you for your support!



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

Shameless nation, come to your senses before you are driven away like chaff blown by the wind, before the burning anger of the LORD comes upon you, before the day when he shows his fury.

Turn to the LORD, all you humble people of the land, who obey his commands. Do what is right, and humble yourselves before the LORD.

Perhaps you will escape punishment on the day when the LORD shows his anger.

—Zephaniah 2:1-3 GNT



## Something, con't

**Moses—Murderer; Fugitive; “Stutterer” (Ex. 2-4ff):** Moses killed a man in Egypt who had beaten a Hebrew slave, then ran away. He tried to refuse God’s call by saying that he could not speak well. He let his temper or anger get the best of him a few times, too; which led to his being denied entry into the Promised Land. Yet, Moses led the Hebrews out of Egyptian slavery, and helped God mold them into a cohesive faith community on the way to the Promised Land.

**Miriam—Jealous Sister (Num. 12):** Miriam, as a young girl, helped rescue the baby Moses from the Egyptians (Ex. 2), and danced and sang a victory song when Pharaoh’s army was defeated at the Red Sea (Ex. 15:19-21). Yet, she became jealous of her brother’s leadership. Her rebellion was punished by God by giving her leprosy for a short time (Num. 12).

**Aaron—Jealous Brother; Idol Worship Enabler:** The first high priest of Israel and Moses’s right hand man gave in to the Israelites and made an idol for them to worship when Moses stayed on the mountain a few too many days (Ex. 32). He also joined Miriam’s jealous rage against Moses (Num. 12).

**Rahab—Prostitute; Deceiver (Jos. 2 & 6):** The prostitute, Rahab, lied to her king’s men and hid Israelite spies from them to keep them safe; betting that the Israelites would win the battle, and believing that they represented the true God of heaven. (And what were the Israelite spies doing staying with a prostitute anyway—more flawed heroes.)

As you can see, God chooses some unlikely people to be heroes and to carry out his will; so don’t ever let Satan talk you out of serving the Lord because of past mistakes or sins, or present weaknesses. Our strength and effectiveness comes from the Lord, not from us. We’ll look at more of God’s flawed heroes in the next few months. ☆

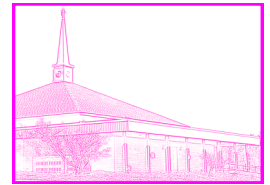


## EBENEZER UMC

*Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors.*



# May 2018



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Every Sunday: 9:00 AM Worship 10:15 AM Sunday school	Every Monday: Basketball—7 PM	1 Senior Adults Go Visiting—9:30 AM	2 Every Wed.: 6 PM Praise Band 6 PM Teens Group 7 PM Children and Adult Bible studies	3 Every Thursday: Volleyball—7 PM <b>National Day of Prayer</b>	4	5 Austin Wedding—12-5 PM, CLC & Sanctuary
6 Layman’s Revival—7 PM	7 Layman’s Revival—7 PM (No Basketball)	8 Layman’s Revival—7 PM	9 Layman’s Revival—7 PM	10 Ascension of the Lord	11	12 Simmons Bridal Shower—10-12 PM
13 Mother’s Day Breakfast—8 AM <i>Mother’s Day</i>	14 Red Cross Blood Drive—2:30-7 PM (No Basketball)	15 Senior Adults Go Visiting—9:30 AM	16	17	18	19 Mini-BBQ—4-7 PM
20 UMW—7 PM	21	22	23	24 Aldersgate Day	25	26
27	28 Church Office Closed <b>MEMORIAL DAY</b>	29	30	31		



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