



EBENEZER

United Methodist Church

www.ebenezerum-church.org

November '18

Volume 14 Issue 11

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Church Office Closed:
November 22 & 23 for
Thanksgiving.

Please turn in Nov. 25th
bulletin items by 9:00 a.m.
Nov. 21st. Thank you.

December newsletter
items are due by **Sunday,**
November 25th.

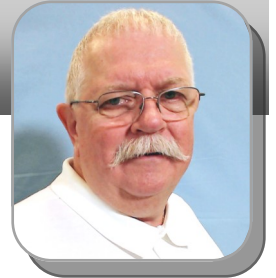
Sunday Services

- 9:00a Worship Service (Combined)
- 10:15a Sunday School
- 6:00p Adult Choir Practice
- 7:00p 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*



Pastor's Pen



Thanksgiving

The history of Thanksgiving lives in the distant past to present. It is one of the favorite holidays of our society. It includes tenets of worship, family, food, sports, and shopping. Unlike Halloween and Christmas, decorations are low key. Stack some hay bales, strategically placed pumpkins and mums, voila! It looks like the season of Thanksgiving.

Thanksgiving Day's location is somewhat of a poor choice. Halloween ends and Christmas begins with hardly a nod to the recognition of Thanksgiving. November 1st Channel 4 and 70 on Sirius radio began to play Christmas music at noon, as the season progresses other stations in this system will play music of the season. (Not many songs about the objects of the Thanksgiving season.)

Most religions have had or have a thanksgiving offering. Jews had a sacrifice of well-being. One of which was the thanksgiving one, featuring cakes made without leavening, cakes made without leavening spread with oil, and cakes made with leavening. The sacrifice or animal that was given had to be eaten that day. Under some circumstances the meat could be eaten the next day. If any of the meat was left until the third day, it was to be burned. They also celebrated Sukkoth, a fall festival (see Leviticus).

Like so many cultures, Native Americans celebrated after the harvest. Their celebrations often included feasting, story-telling, and some kind of sporting activity.

The first official Thanksgiving occurred in 1621 in Plymouth colony due to the good harvest. Other colonies, and later states, had various days set aside for Thanksgiving.

Sarah Josepha Hale, the Mother of the American Thanksgiving, spent 36 years campaigning for an official holiday to be Thanksgiving. In 1863, at the height of the Civil War, Abraham Lincoln designated the last Thursday in November as the day for “all Americans to commend God's tender care for all those who suffered due to the war.”

In 1939, FDR moved Thanksgiving from the last Thursday to the fourth Thursday of November in an attempt to boost holiday spending. In 1941, the fourth Thursday became the official Thanksgiving Day holiday (History Channel). We have built layers of tradition to make it one of the most popular family holidays. Recently, the holiday has become (for most people) a three day holiday.

The season of Thanksgiving is much more than just the fourth Thursday of November or the official beginning of Christmas shopping. Thanksgiving gives us a breather; a time to prepare for the season of Advent. (For United Methodist ministers,

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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.

Church Council

The Church Council will meet on **Sunday, November 18th at 4:30 p.m.** This is the last meeting for this year.

Lord's Supper Meal

Tuesday, November 20th at 5:00 p.m. (Note day change) Cooks, helpers and drivers will be needed. Please see Ricky Baker to volunteer. Thank you.

Trustees Meeting

The Trustees will meet on **Monday, November 19th at 7:00 p.m.**

United Methodist Women

The women will have their next meeting on **Sunday, November 25th at 7:00 p.m.**

Special Giving

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

In Memory of Zetta Mae Frye by:
Gerald Frye

In Memory of Wayne Reid, Lillian Reid, & Kenneth Reid by:
Gary Reid

In Memory of Ronnie Satterwhite, Kat Teague, Mary Wike by:
Cindy Satterwhite

In Memory of Missy Mullinax by:
Robert Mullinax

In Honor of Cindy Sears by:
Bill, Delores, & Gary Paul Campbell

In Honor of Delores & Bill Campbell by:
Pastor Tom & Patsy Hunter

In Honor of Becky & Cleo Clark by:
Bill, Delores, & Gary Paul Campbell

In Honor of Homecoming by:
Bill, Delores, & Gary Paul Campbell

In Honor of Cleo Clark's 88th Birthday by:
Becky Clark

In Honor of Tom & Patsy Hunter by:
Jimmy & Heather Stone ♥

Something to Pray About

by Cindy Sears

"It is the glory of God to conceal a thing; but it is the honor of kings to search out a matter." —Proverbs 25:2

NOT SO BORING GENEALOGIES

Have you ever wondered why God put all those lengthy lists of names in the Bible? Do you tend to skip over those long lists and go on to the narrative parts of the verses instead? Maybe, if you knew more about the Hebrew language, you would be amazed instead of bored.

There are some silly things on the internet about hidden messages in the Bible; yet, God has arranged the Bible in ways that prove that this document is a supernatural creation. The Hebrew alphabet carries meanings as well as signifying sounds for pronunciation.

In Genesis 5, we see a list of names from Seth to Noah, between the creation and the flood stories—the exciting parts. The names listed are: Adam, Seth, Enosh, Kenan, Mahalalel, Jared, Enoch, Methuselah, Lamech, and Noah—Just a list of names, some difficult to pronounce, especially if you are not Jewish. Yet, these names hold a message for anyone who knows the original Hebrew meanings encased in these names.

Let's break down these names. Adam = adomah = man; Seth = seth = appointed (see Genesis 4:25 KJV); Enosh = mortal, frail or miserable – from root anash which means to be incurable; Kenan = sorrow, dirge, elegy; Mahalalel = malal, which means blessed or praised, and el, which is a name for God = The Blessed God; Jared (Yared) = yaradh = shall come down; Enoch = academic phrase which means commencement or teaching; Methusaleh = muth means death; shalach means to bring or to send forth = His death shall bring (Note: Methusaleh died the year of the flood and his name was a foretelling of the coming worldwide flood); Lamech = lament or lamentation = despairing; Noah = nacham = to bring relief or comfort = comfort, rest (see Genesis 5:29).

What do we read from this list of names when we break down each name into its main meaning?

Adam	Man (is)
Seth	appointed
Enosh	mortal
Kenan	sorrow (but)
Mahalalel	The Blessed God
Jared	shall come down
Enoch	teaching.
Methusaleh	His death shall bring
Lamech	the despairing
Noah	comfort, rest.

So, man is now mortal and appointed to sorrow, but Jesus (the Blessed God) will come down teaching; and his death will bring despairing mankind comfort and rest. "God's plan of redemption was not a kneejerk reaction to surprise that Adam sinned." (Dr. Chuck Missler) God knew Adam would sin from the beginning, and God had a plan already in place before the creation

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November Events & Fundraisers

UMW Country Store

**Saturday
November 10th
8 AM—2 PM**

The United Methodist Women will open their annual Country Store and sale food, crafts, and gently used items at bargain prices.

Breakfast biscuits will be sold in the morning, with hamburgers and hot dogs on sale around lunch time.

This is a good chance to find a special gift for Christmas, or get a good buy on a useful or decorative item. The food and fellowship will be good, too.

Proceeds will help fund the Women's ministries in the coming year.

We thank you for your support.



Gateway Breakfast

**Tuesday
November 20th
9:30–11:30 AM**

We will cook and serve another fine breakfast to the students and teachers of Gateway School on November 20th. We invite our members who can to come and help, and also to spend some time socializing with our guests to make them feel welcome and loved.

Don't be too sweet, lest you be eaten up; don't be bitter, lest you be spewed out.

— Jewish Proverb

Breakfast Biscuits

The *Rainbow* Sunday School Class will be selling ham, sausage, egg and gravy biscuits and bologna biscuits on **Thursday, Nov. 15th.**

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!



3rd Saturday Supper

**Saturday
November 17th
4–7 PM**

Have an early Thanksgiving meal with us. We will be cooking up a fine hot meal of chicken & dumplings with green beans and coleslaw with fruit cobbler for dessert.

Adult plates are \$8; child's plate is \$4 (children 4 and under eat for free). Price includes beverage. Take-out will be available.

Proceeds go toward our church ministries. We thank you for your support.



November Celebrations



- 1st—Gerry Daniel
- 1st—Jacob Vosdingh
- 4th—Steven Vosdingh
- 6th—Linda Moretz
- 13th—Lilly Teague
- 15th—Paul Burson IV
- 21st—Amy Fowler
- 21st—Hunter Tolbert
- 24th—Jo Nell Harrison
- 24th—Kathryn Behmer
- 27th—Abby Haas

Happy Anniversary!

- 30th—Darren & Sarah McCrary

Our Military

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

Community Thanksgiving Service

We invite you to meet with us at First UMC in Granite Falls for the annual Community Thanksgiving Service on

**Sunday, November 18th
at 6:00 p.m.**

as we come together with other churches in the area to praise God and thank Him for all the ways He has blessed us in 2018.



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for our salvation.

Why would Jewish writers include a hidden summary of the Christian gospel message in the Torah? They wouldn't. Jews don't even believe in original sin or the need for a Savior. This is a supernatural message from God to his New Testament people. As Dr. Missler says, the Bible is an "integrated design." "The New Testament is in the Old Testament concealed; the Old Testament is in the New Testament revealed."

I'll leave you with another interesting point made by Dr. Missler in his youtube video by A O Productions (get it? Alpha and Omega; beginning and end). All written languages of the world flow toward Jerusalem. All languages east of Jerusalem are written and read right to left. All languages to the west of Jerusalem are written and read left to right. Isn't God amazing!? †

Charge Conference Minutes for October 21, 2018

Attendees: Pastor Tom Hunter, Ricky Baker, David Crouse (Council Chair), Sonya Crouse, Kim Ellis, Barbara Ferguson, Gerald Frye, Natasha Haas, Roy Hamby, Jo Nell Harrison, Bleaka Hollar (Lay Leader), JoAnn Knepp, Marilyn Kohnle, John McCrary, Judy McCrary, Cinda McCrary, Will McCrary, Phyllis Minton, Cindy Sears and Jimmy Stone. Other attendees: Tammy Adams, Shawn Baker, Jackson Behmer, Ted and Gerry Daniel, Wayne Ellis, Robert & Teresa Herman, Monte Hollar, Patsy Hunter, Peggy Jenkins, Rosalind Kelley, Kim Knepp, Billy Long, Kelly McCrary, Arlene McCrary, Cole McCrary, and Robert Mullinax.

Council Chairman, David Crouse, called the meeting to order and read devotional passages from Ephesians 4:4-7 and 11-13; and from Romans 12:4-8, reminding us that we are "one body, one spirit" and "many members, one spirit." We use our various gifts to work together to do God's work in our community and in the world.

Rev. Hunter asked Staff-Pastor-Parish Committee Chairman, Ricky Baker, to present the report on the pastor's salary and compensation. His salary remains the same as last year.

Pastor Hunter then announced the nominating committee members for 2019, and asked for a vote on all the new committee members and officers for next year, which was approved. He recognized Bleaka Hollar and Roy Hamby as our current qualified Lay Servants and asked that they be approved to continue as such. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Something, con't

Next, he told us that our apportionments for 2019 to the District and the UMC Conference will be \$19,000 (rounded). This amount is lower than last year's. Pastor Hunter acknowledged the Finance Committee for their work on the budget, and the members who help to keep our financial records, and also keep our spending inline.

Pastor Tom read the Pastor's Report that he will be sending to the Conference. He then went over the rest of the Conference paperwork with some explanation of each item. He asked for approval of all the paperwork. It was approved unanimously.

At the close of the Charge Conference business, we gathered around Pastor Tom as he prayed for our church, himself, and each of us as we move into another year of service for our Lord.

The persons who needed to sign some of the paperwork were asked to remain and do so. The Charge Conference was dismissed.

--minutes by Cindy Sears

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

The heathen have dug a pit and fallen in; they have been caught in their own trap. The LORD has revealed himself by his righteous judgments, and the wicked are trapped by their own deeds. —Psalm 9:15-16 GNT

Pastor's Pen, con't

(Continued from page 1)

it is also the season of Clergy assessment.)

Advent is the beginning of the period to celebrate and watch. We celebrate the first coming of our Lord and Savior, and watch for his return. The Church has been watching for twenty centuries. As they watch, they encourage their congregations to open the doors for seekers. We hope to represent our Lord and act as his first disciples. We do not know the day of his return; we have to be ready. It is time to adjust our attitudes, actions, and life to be the person that Christ wants us to be.

Those early disciples were convinced that their Lord would return in their lifetime. We are waiting. But we should have that same sense of urgency of our ancestors. We should keep watch. We may not see our Lord in our lifetime, but there are many that we may help in his name. The day is coming when the Lord will appear—be ready.

—Pastor Tom

Christmas Play Rehearsal

**Sundays at 5-6:00 PM
Nov. 4 to Dec. 9th**

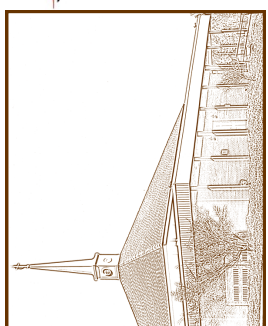
Children and interested adults need to attend the rehearsals if they wish to participate in this year's Christmas play. The play will be performed on Sunday, December 16th with a birthday party for Jesus following the performance. See Tasha Haas for more information.

Christmas Shoe Boxes

Christmas Shoe Box Program

We'll be collecting the shoe boxes for Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child program this year. Please begin buying items now. See the website for a list of acceptable items. A \$9 donation to offset shipping costs is requested. You can also pack boxes online at:

www.samaritanpurse.org/occ



November 2018



EBENEZER UMC
Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<i>Every Sunday:</i> 9:00 AM Worship 10:15 AM Sunday school 6:00 PM Adult Choir				1 1	2 2	3 3
4 <i>Play Rehearsal—5-6 PM</i>	5 Basketball—7 PM	6 Seniors Go Visiting—9:30 AM Volleyball—7 PM	7 6 PM Praise Band 6 PM <i>Teens for Christ</i> 7 PM Children and Adult Bible studies	8 1 1	9 1 1	10 <i>UMW Country Store—8-2 PM</i>
11 <i>Play Rehearsal—5-6 PM</i>	12 Basketball—7 PM	13 Volleyball—7 PM	14 6 PM Praise Band 6 PM <i>Teens for Christ</i> 7 PM Children and Adult Bible studies	15 Biscuit Sales—6 AM—'til gone!	16 1 1	17 3rd Saturday Supper—4-7 PM
18 Church Council—4:30 PM <i>Play Rehearsal—5-6 PM</i> <i>Thanksgiving Service at 1st in G. F.—6 PM, see p. 3</i>	19 Basketball—7 PM Trustees—7 PM	20 Gateway Breakfast—9:30-11:30 AM Food Ministry—5 PM Volleyball—7 PM	21 6 PM Praise Band 6 PM <i>Teens for Christ</i> 7 PM Children and Adult Bible studies	22 Church Office Closed for Thanksgiving	23 Church Office Closed for Thanksgiving	24 24
25 <i>Play Rehearsal—5-6 PM</i> <i>UMW—7 PM</i>	26 Basketball—7 PM	27 Volleyball—7 PM	28 6 PM Praise Band 6 PM <i>Teens for Christ</i> 7 PM Children and Adult Bible studies	29 29	30 30	