



# EBENEZER

United Methodist Church

www.ebenezerum-church.org

# NOV '20

Volume 16 Issue 7

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

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### Saints Honored on All Saints Day

#### 2019:

Ellen Burns  
Cleo Clarke  
Kay Delahanty  
Jerry Kohnle  
Laura Silver



#### 2020:

Bernice Burns  
Margaret Campbell  
Herb Creaseman  
Florine Lick  
Rene Huffman

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

To have faith is to be sure of the things we hope for, to be certain of the things we cannot see.

—Hebrews 11:1 GNT

“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 Note



Welcome to November. We have made it this far through the grace of God in a year like none that we can remember. November is full of special dates and I want to share with you what we will be doing.

November 1st: All Saints Sunday. We will celebrate communion as we remember those who have died in this past year. The sermon scripture is Revelation 7.9-17.

November 8th: The sermon scripture is Matthew 25.1-13. We will honor our veterans. Veterans Day is November 11th.

November 15th: Sermon scripture is Matthew 25.14-30

November 22nd: Sermon scripture is Matthew 25.31-46. This is the Sunday before Thanksgiving and we will prepare our hearts and minds for this celebration.

November 29th: The first Sunday of Advent. The sermon scripture is Isaiah 64.1-9. Let us prepare for the birth of our Lord and Savior!

I look forward to these celebrations with you.

In God's grace,

Pastor Alan

### If you need to get in touch with Pastor Alan you can:

Call the parsonage: 828-396-2017;

Call or text his cell phone: 386-785-3435;

Email him: [agaylord@wnccumc.net](mailto:agaylord@wnccumc.net)

He is also on Facebook under Alan Gaylor.

**NOTE:** we will continue with parking lot only services for the foreseeable future. Homecoming, etc. may have to be postponed or canceled.

### Sunday Services

- 9:00a *Worship Service*
- 10:15a *Sunday School*
- 5:00p *Adult Choir Practice*
- 6:00p *Every FOURTH SUNDAY United Methodist Women*

### 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.

### Special Note to Youth

Pastor Alan invites all youth to meet on **Sunday, November 8<sup>th</sup> at 4 p.m.** at the church. We will get to know one another and make plans for the future.

### United Methodist Women

The UMW will meet on **Sunday, November 15<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m.** Kim Ellis is in charge of the program.

**Please note that the Country Store has been postponed until early 2021.** You may continue to bring your donations in to the church.

### Church Council

The Council will hold its final meeting of the year on **Sunday, November 29<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 p.m. in the sanctuary.**

**NOTE:** *Thank Bank* offerings from Oct. 18<sup>th</sup>—Nov. 29<sup>th</sup> will be donated to Caldwell County Hospice.

## Special Giving

We gratefully acknowledge these special gifts in *Sept.-Oct.*:

#### In Memory of Margaret Campbell by:

Judy McCrary  
Cinda McCrary  
Freida Matthews  
UMW

#### In Memory of Jerry Kohnle by:

Cinda McCrary

#### In Memory of Hoke & Cleo Clark's September 3rd Anniversary by:

Becky Clark

#### In Memory of Florine Lick by:

Larry & Alice Hill  
UMW

#### In Memory of Herb Creaseman by:

UMW

#### In Memory of Rene Huffman by:

UMW

**In Honor of Addie Sears by:**  
Cindy Sears



## Pastor's Report to WNC Conference 2020

Below is a copy of the report by Pastor Alan that will be filed with the Western North Carolina Conference for this year as presented to the Church Council on November 1st.

This has been a year filled with changes and challenges that we have never experienced. Thanks be to God that God is still God, Jesus is still risen, and the Holy Spirit is still among us.

Moving from Florida would have been a big change. Doing so in a pandemic adds a level of difficulty. I am thankful for the welcome we have received at Ebenezer. As we move towards reopening, the congregation is ready to get back to its missions to the community, especially in the kitchen.

My emphasis as we move forward is to get to know the people of this congregation. I also want to identify what are the physical boundaries of Dudley Shoals, so that we can see, through Mission Insite, what the demographics are of the community and to identify needs. We are here for a purpose and this is our mission field.

I also wish to work with the congregation as General Conference meets and makes decisions for the future of the denomination. I have emphasized that my plan is to have the congregation look at whatever is decided in a deliberate and prayerful way. I am also reminding the congregation that while we wait, we still have a mission here that God wants us to cultivate no matter what.

In terms of my continuing education for the coming year, I plan to take two retreats for preaching planning. I will continue in a wide-ranging reading plan. I am also exploring more about social media and how to incorporate that in the mission of the church.

I look forward to the coming year and the possibilities that God will present to serve the cause of Jesus.

In God's grace,

Rev. Alan I Gaylord, Pastor - Ebenezer UMC



## Guidelines for Reopening

We have moved worship into the CLC. We have a capacity for 60 people under the current guidelines. The following are the guidelines we are working with as we seek to move towards a full re-opening:

1) All are encouraged to wear masks. 2) You will need to sign in. This is in case we need to do contact tracing. 3) The offering plates and the Thank Bank basket will be at the

table as you enter. We will not be passing the plates at this time. 4) The chairs will be socially distanced.

Also, the worship service will continue on Facebook Live and through the FM transmitter for those in the parking lot.

If you are sick, please stay home.

If you are uncomfortable with entering the building, we understand. We all need to do what we need to do for our health and safety.



**Church Council Minutes — October 18, 2020**

Attendees: Pastor Alan, Ricky Baker, David Crouse, Sonya Crouse, Ted Daniel, Kim Ellis, Barbara Ferguson, Irene Austin, Bleaka Hollar, Monte Hollar, JoAnn Knepp, John McCrary, Marsha McCrary, Phyllis Minton, Cindy Satterwhite, Cindy Sears, and Kenny Silver.

David Crouse opened the meeting by reading an Upper Room devotion based on Ephesians 4:4-16: We should honor Jesus by faithfully fulfilling our calling from God, which can be in a “secular” as well as a “religious” occupation. There is no lower calling when it comes to serving the Lord. Bleaka Hollar then led us in prayer.

**Reading of the minutes:** Motion to accept as written by Sonya Crouse; second by Monte Hollar.

**Financial Report by Irene Austin**

Irene has secured a safety deposit box at the bank for our special papers, such as deeds. She presented the budget for 2021. After discussion, motion was made by Monte Hollar to accept the budget as presented; seconded by Kim Ellis. Motion passed.

Irene then presented the most recent balance sheet to the council. There were no questions.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Monte Hollar reported that the heat pumps have all been serviced, and are now working. New thermostats have been installed.

Pastor Alan reported that he had contacted our insurance company. They do not cover communicable diseases.

The amount taken on our \$10,000 Sunday: \$8,836.

David Crouse reported that the AED machine has been updated. He will schedule classes later on how to use the machine.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Trustees Report by Monte Hollar**

We have the estimated cost to change out 8 ft fluorescents to LED

lightbulbs: \$1700. We will change out other lightbulbs to LED as they burn out. We will be doing a ramp for Rex Teague. The Trustees gave plots to Gail Reid and her son in the cemetery at no charge, because they continue to financially support our church.

He has located a floor machine we can use on the floor in the CLC ourselves.

**UMM Report by John McCrary**

They are working on setting up dates to get some things done. Due to the virus shutdowns they are falling behind in responding to their requests for help.

**UMW Report**

Our United Methodist Women’s group is collecting items for their annual country store, but will not be having it in November. They are looking at a date in January. They will be helping with Christmas for families in need this year. Please give names of children to them as soon as possible.

**SPPRC Report by Ricky Baker**

The committee is working on an evaluation of our new pastor, and expect to finish that paperwork this week (Oct. 21).

Ricky Baker announced that they are planning to do a meal for the elderly, shut-ins, etc. around Thanksgiving.

**Pastor’s Report**

Pastor Alan presented his schedule for the rest of the year. The Charge Conference will be on November 1<sup>st</sup> at 4:00 p.m.

Our first Sunday inside again was on October 11<sup>th</sup>. There were some issues with the equipment, but they are being worked out. Some Sunday school classes have begun to meet again. Others may do so, too; though, it was suggested that the younger children not meet at this time.

He also talked about the Trunk or

**November Celebrations**



- 1st—Gerry Daniel
- 1st—Jacob Vosdingh
- 4th—Steven Vosdingh
- 6th—Linda Moretz
- 12th—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**

Kyle Blair  
Ricky Garland  
Trey Hefner  
Shane McCrary  
Jamie Mullinax  
Michael Potts  
Hunter Tolbert



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

Treat on Oct. 31<sup>st</sup>, and some ideas on interacting with the youth of our church and community; and ways to get more of them involved in the church.

The worship committee will meet soon to determine activities for the season of Advent. Pastor Alan will take some time off in November, starting on the 22<sup>nd</sup>, for sermon planning.

Meeting adjourned.

--Minutes by Cindy Sears