



EBENEZER

United Methodist Church

www.ebenezerum-church.org

October '14

Volume 10 Issue 10

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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

“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*

Please see p. 3 for Eric's letter to the church this month.



Pastor's Corner — Rev. Eric Lane



HOMECOMING!

sUNDaY
OCToBeR 12th
10:00 AM

Guest Speaker: Gary Camp

We invite all our current and former members to a celebration of family on Homecoming Sunday. We will worship and praise God in the Sanctuary, then gather in the Christian Life Center to share a covered-dish lunch. Please bring a dish of your favorite food or dessert to share, if you can. We will provide tea and coffee.

Also, we are asking all our members and friends to dig deeply this Sunday and help us raise



ABOVE and BEYOND our regular giving to help pay off the CLC's mortgage. God has blessed our church tremendously in the past year in our ministries, and the Christian Life Center has been an integral part of our service to the Lord. So, let's give thanks for God's blessings by giving some back to His kingdom.

Thank you! God bless you!

IGNITE!

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

IGNITE!
OCT. 12-15

Acolyte Recognition

We will recognize our 2014 acolytes on **Sunday, October 26th** during the 2nd worship service. All our acolytes are encouraged to attend.

Charge Conference

The Church Council will meet on **Sunday, October 26th at 4:00 p.m.** to discuss and vote on the 2015 budget and nominees for the 2015 committees, etc. All members of the church are invited to attend, but only members of the council may vote.

Acolyte Training & Party

We encourage our current acolytes and any boys and girls who would like to volunteer to be **acolytes next year** to attend the training session on **Sunday, October 26th at 4:30 p.m.** Pizza will be served after the training session.

Food Ministry

The Lord's Supper Ministry will prepare and deliver their next meal on **Monday, October 20th at 5:00 p.m.** —Editor's note: date and time not confirmed.

United Methodist Women

The UMW will meet on **Sunday, October 26th at 7:00 p.m.** Gwen Teague will present the program. Harolyn Roberts and Sonya Crouse are in charge of refreshments.

November Newsletter Items

Please have information and articles for the November newsletter in by **October 23rd**. Thank you. —Editor

Yet, a true believer in Christ has no need of shame, no reason to feel guilty. In Christ you deserve mercy from God, and you are worthy enough to receive blessings from God.

Something to Pray About

by Cindy Sears

Now that we have been put right with God through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.

—Romans 5:1 GNT

**YOU ARE
RIGHTEOUS**

Have you ever started to pray to God for something, and then began thinking that you do not deserve to receive anything good from God? I catch myself doing this often—thinking that I am not “good enough” to receive good things; that I am unworthy of the blessings I already have, so how can I possibly have the gall to request even more blessings?

Yet, a true believer in Christ has no need of shame, no reason to feel guilty. In Christ you deserve mercy from God, and you are worthy enough to receive blessings from God.

“But now God’s way of putting people right with himself has been revealed. It has nothing to do with law...God puts people right through their faith in Jesus Christ. God does this to all who believe in Christ...by the free gift of God’s grace all are put right with him through Christ Jesus, who sets them free.” --Romans 3:21-24 (selected portions) (GNT)

When God looks at a Christian disciple He sees His Son, Jesus Christ. Therefore, there is no need to work to be deserving of God’s grace, His mercy, or His provisioning. As a Christian, you do not need to earn your way into heaven. God has given you that reward as a gift through His Son, Jesus Christ. Heaven, or living with God the Creator, is the natural home of Jesus Christ. As His followers, heaven, or living in the presence of God the Creator, is our natural home now, too.

Also, you do not have to earn God’s pleasure or His blessings. If you have a need, ask that it be filled. You do not have to feel deserving of God’s mercy, grace, or His provisioning. The only consideration in what you ask for is whether or not it is within the circle of God’s will for you, His church, and His kingdom’s work. (Just don’t forget that God puts a high priority on “community” and “covenant” when you are asking and looking for a “yes” answer to your requests. It isn’t all about you or your idea of happiness.)

God knows that you need food, shelter, clothing, and companionship and love, and even beautiful and pleasurable things in your life—ask Him for these things. He knows that you have needs for specific items to help you serve Him better, and to help you be more joyful and better able to witness for Him. Ask, seek, knock and wait for the door to open; the gift to appear.

And do not box God in. Do not box yourself into a preconceived idea of what you need to be God’s witness and representative in the world. “God works in mysterious ways His wonders to perform.”* Do not box yourself into a preconceived idea of what you need to be happy either. God knows you better than you can ever know yourself. Let Him work on you in His way and in His own time. He will sanctify you (make you a new creature in Christ Jesus) —IF you let Him!

So, when you pray, go ahead and tell God what you think you need or

(Continued on page 6)



Pastor's corner — Rev. Eric Lane

I have said on many occasions how blessed I am to have the opportunity to serve Ebenezer. I am proud not just of who you are, but even more of what God is doing within the lives of the people of Ebenezer.

In saying that, I must also give warning that we not allow our pride to get in the way of God's work for our lives. As seen throughout the scriptures, too often pride is what has led the people, and even God's very own servants, to fall into sin. Our pride sometimes is reflected in the words we speak.

You have perhaps heard the old saying "well I just simply spoke before I thought," or "it just rolled off my tongue," or how about this one, "My tongue moved faster than my brain." The point that I am trying to make is that, while we remember that old rhyme that says; "sticks and stones may break my bones but words will never hurt me," words do hurt, and words do cause damage; damage that, at times, cannot be easily undone, and goes beyond just ourselves.

We only have to look at those in the media to see how our words can cause harm. We have seen businesses fail and careers be damaged, which not only hurt the owner, but all those who earned their livings from those businesses. As in the story of the adulterous woman, too often we are like those who were ready to cast the first stone. The reality is that we need to be more mindful of the words of our Lord and Savior who said, "Let any one of you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her." (John 8:7, NIV).

It is no wonder that Jesus told us, "What goes into someone's mouth does not defile them, but what comes out of their mouth, that is what defiles them." (Matthew 15:11, NIV) Satan, the devil, the evil one, name it what you want, has used the words we say as stumbling blocks for the kingdom of God, perhaps more than anything else I can think of.

The Bible says that we should love our neighbor, but Jesus takes things a little further and says to "...love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you..." So how can we love our neighbors and enemies, and pray for those who persecute us when we are using our words to build walls of separation, or as arrows to fling against one another?

The church is about building the kingdom, God's kingdom, not an earthly kingdom. The way we build that kingdom is by living a life that reflects the life of Jesus Christ. We need to keep in mind that Jesus could have uttered the words, and His Father would have released, as that old hymn goes, ten thousand angels; but, instead, he said "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing." Words can destroy or words can bring about healing and forgiveness.

I will close with a little rhyme that I was taught and probably (if you are as old as I am) know as well. It goes like this:

O be careful little eyes what you see
O be careful little eyes what you see
There's a Father up above
And He's looking down in love
So, be careful little eyes what you see



O be careful little ears what you hear
O be careful little ears what you hear
There's a Father up above
And He's looking down in love
So, be careful little ears what you hear

O be careful little hands what you do
O be careful little hands what you do
There's a Father up above
And He's looking down in love
So, be careful little hands what you do

O be careful little feet where you go
O be careful little feet where you go
There's a Father up above
And He's looking down in love
So, be careful little feet where you go

O be careful little mouth what you say
O be careful little mouth what you say
There's a Father up above
And He's looking down in love
So, be careful little mouth what you say

Before we speak, it would be wise of us to take time to pray about our words. I have said many times that the words we speak can be used either to build bridges that unite us or to build walls that keep us separated. May the words that we speak and the things that we do bring glory and honor and praise to our Lord and God always.



Blessings;

Rev. Eric Lane



IGNITE!
OCT. 12-15



Church Council — September 14, 2014

Attendees: Chuck Adams, Ricky Baker, Sonya Crouse, Kim Ellis, Barbara Frye, Gerald Frye, Jo Nell Harrison, Alice Hill, Bleaka Hollar, Keith Keener, Joann Knepp, Eric Lane, Barbara Miller, Scott Miller, Cindy Sears, Jeff Smith, Jimmy Stone, Cathy Huffman, Jerry Kohnle, and Boyd Johnson.

Gerald Frye called the meeting to order and opened with prayer. He then read a Psalm. Minutes stand as printed.

Financial Report

Our financial situation is looking good. We will pay an extra \$1000 on the mortgage this month. We will pay our annual missions' amounts to the District Office, too. The UMW reported a goodly amount of money was raised at the Mexican Party and Arts and Crafts Show. The profit from that will go to the CLC mortgage.

Our **annual \$10,000 Sunday is at Homecoming on October 12th**. Please pray about this and dig a little deeper, so we can pay more of the mortgage off before we refinance next year.

Eric expressed his admiration for the way our church is working and the ministries that we are continuing to do each year for the Lord's kingdom. We are strong financially and in our attendance. Jo Nell commended the men for their participation in the administration of the church and its ministries, because many churches have only women to serve on committees, etc.

Gerald expressed appreciation for Jo Nell and Joann's work in helping to keep the finances of the church straight.

Old Business

We have raised about half of what we need to buy the 8 **cordless microphones** for the Praise Band. The lawn mower has been repaired again and is now working. The Church Photo Directory has been printed, and will be picked up on Monday.

Eric reported on the **October Revival** plans. We are considering providing some refreshments on Sunday evening and on Wednesday evening that will be self-serve. We are

also going to work on videos to show during the services with our members talking about our church and its ministries. Eric reported that 73% of the people in Caldwell County are not affiliated at all with a church. There are plenty of people that can be drawn in. We will also be giving a reward to the person who brings in the most people to the services. The speaker will be Jesse Carr. He will speak every night. We have **prayer chains** going on and are asking people to pray for specific aspects of the revival. The services will be held in the Christian Life Center.

Charge Conference will be October 26th. Be in prayer for the Nominations Committee as they choose our workers for next year. We need people willing to work and to lead, because we want to continue to grow in size and in our ministries.

New Business

Cathy Huffman spoke to the council about the Alaska Mission trip. She suggested that we consider setting up a **Mission Scholarship** for lay people who may want to go on a mission trip in the future. This would not be a budget item, but a designated fund that is 100% voluntary contributions. There could be a committee set up to determine the distribution of the funds based upon need. Keith Keener made a motion to set up the fund and set up the committee to handle the dispersion of the funds. Sonya Crouse made the second. No further discussion. Cathy Huffman agreed to head up the Committee, choose members, and set up the rules for dispersing the funds.

We had a chance to buy a buffer to use to wax and buff the CLC floors ourselves, but we decided against it. It would be too difficult to arrange for people to do the work.

Greeters: Eric read a description of the need and what the service would entail (written by Beth Lane). He asked for the Council's opinion. Scott Miller spoke up and said that he would work harder to help out and Gerald Frye suggested that the description of the

service be copied and sent to the classes to ask people to sign up to be greeters.

Beth Lane has agreed to help out with the acolyte service again, but she wants us to find someone to take over.

Ricky Baker announced the **Wyll Baker Golf Tournament** and wondered if the Council was interested in sponsoring a hole or a team. Money goes to help with Wyll's bills that his insurance does not cover. Barbara Miller made a motion that we sponsor three holes for the tournament. That would be \$300. Keith made a second to the motion. Motion passed.

Gerald closed out the meeting with a reading from the latest newsletter article by Cindy Sears about serving the Lord. He then read from Eric's words in the same newsletter about serving, and Gerald requested that we pray and consider our place of service for the Lord and this church in the coming year. Jerry Kohnle said the closing prayer.

—minutes by Cindy Sears

Special Giving

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

In Memory of Bob Sears by:
Ebenezer United Methodist Women

In Memory of Tom Harrison and Eula Looper by:
Jo Nell Harrison

In Memory of Penny Kohnle by:
Steve & Danielle Miller

In Memory of Keith Bradford by:
Grace Bradford

In Memory of Edward and Bonnie Roberts by:
Darrell & Harolyn Roberts

In Honor of Bill and Delores Campbell's 46th Wedding Anniversary & Billy Wayne's 45th Birthday by:
Delores & Gary Paul Campbell



October Celebrations



Happy Birthday!



- 3rd—Kevin Simmons
- 4th—Bleaka Hollar
- 5th—Gwen Teague
- 7th—Larry Hill
- 8th—Jackson Behmer
- 12th—Skylar Helton, Michael Knepp, Brent Sherrill
- 13th—Meredith Sherrill
- 14th—Taffy Rice
- 17th—Warren Bumgarner
- 18th—David Crouse
- 21st—Loretta Helton
- 22nd—Colby Collins
- 23rd—Cleo Clark
- 26th—Victoria Coffey
- 28th—Randy McRary, Donetta Spencer
- 30th—Felicia Fowler

Happy Anniversary!



- 10th—Lindsey & Gina Teague
- 16th—Reggie & Dawn Yount
- 18th—Joshua & Jessica Bowman
- 25th—Larry & Alice Hill
- 26th—Marvin & Sharon Bowman
- 27th—B. Dale & Flaxen Reid



Acolyte Schedule - OCTOBER

5th	Payton Lyda
12th	Makayla Settlemire
19th	Austin Teague
26th	Kevin Miller

Nursery Schedule - OCTOBER

5th	8:30	Sonya Crouse & Becky Yount
	11:00	Wayne Ellis
12th	8:30	Boyd & Emily Johnson
	11:00	Tasha Haas
19th	8:30	Teresa Simmons & Dawn Yount
	11:00	Rosalind Kelley
26th	8:30	Cheryl Vosdingh & Tammy Adams
	11:00	Teresa Herman
	10:30	

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
Ricky Garland
Jason Gibson
Trey Hefner



Chris Kaisenski
Shane McRary
William E. McRary
Travis Miller
Joey Moore
Jamie Mullinax
Michael Potts
Hunter Tolbert
Josh Yount

Our speaker for IGNITE!

Jesse Carr

with

Special video presentations!

Special music!

Hot Chocolate/Coffee and snacks on
Sunday and Wednesday evenings.

Check the insert to see what it's all about.



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

"For we brought the Good News to you, not with words only, but also with power and the Holy Spirit, and with complete conviction of its truth."

—1 Thessalonians 1:5a GNT



Women's Movie Night

Enjoy a movie night with the girls!

**Saturday
October 4th
7 PM**

We will be showing the movie:
Mom's Night out.

You may bring a finger food to share at 6 PM for a time of fellowship before the movie begins.

Please let Tasha Haas, Beth Lane, or Emily Johnson know if you need childcare services. Our youth will be available to babysit during the movie.

So KEEP CALM and enjoy the show!

October Events & Fundraisers

Chicken & Dumplings

Pairs & Spares Class will serve up Ricky Baker's award-winning chicken & dumplings on

**Sunday
October 19
10:50 AM &
12:15 PM**

(Take-out available)

Price: \$6

Menu

Chicken & Dumplings

Green Beans

Cole Slaw

Yeast Roll

Cobbler for dessert

Proceeds go to P & S Class's local ministries. Thank you for your support.

Breakfast Biscuits—2x's

We will be selling ham, sausage, egg and gravy biscuits AND fried fruit pies on **Thursday, October 9th AND October 23rd.**

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!**

Christmas Is Coming!



It's time to get ready for our annual Christmas extravaganza on December 14th.

We invite all our children and young people who want to participate to attend the practice sessions that begin in October. The actors will be rehearsing in the Christian Life Center during the first worship service from 8:30-9:45 a.m. every Sunday until the time of the play.

The title of the play this year is:
Isaiah Jones.

Come and be a part of this great adventure.



Only a Southerner knows the difference between a hissie fit and a conniption fit, and that you don't "HAVE" them, you "PITCH" them.

(Continued from page 2)

want. He will let you know what you truly need and what you ought to truly desire. But never let feelings of unworthiness or guilt or shame stop you from asking or from talking with God. He knows your name. He cared enough to send His Son, Jesus, to die on the cross for you. He watches over you. He desires to hear from you. In Christ, you deserve to be loved by God and to be cared for by God.

And what can separate us from God's love once we are in Christ?

"...nothing can separate us from his love: neither death nor life, neither angels nor other heavenly rulers or powers, neither the present nor the future, neither the world above nor the world below—there is nothing in all creation that will ever be able to separate us from the love of God which is ours through Christ Jesus our Lord." —Romans 8:38b (GNT)

Not even our sins—of commission or omission—can separate us from God's love and care, because we are credited with the righteousness of Jesus Christ. Peace and joy is ours when we remember this.

"Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice!" --Philippians 4:4 (RSV)

So, go ahead and ask! And expect to be blessed again and again!

*From hymn by William Cowper, written in 1773.

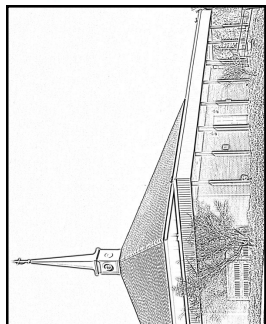
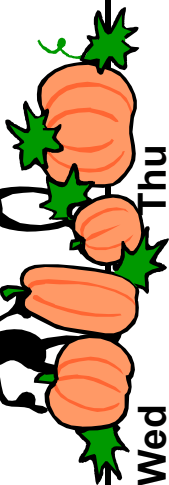




EBENEZER UMC

Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors.

October 2014



Sun

Mon

Tue

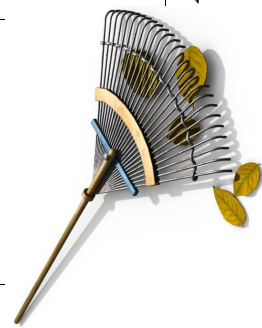
Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

Every Sunday: 8:30 a.m. Worship 9:50 a.m. Sun, 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	1	2	3	4 <i>Women's Night Out—6 PM share snacks 7 PM Movie begins, see p. 6</i>
5	6	7 Prayer Group—10AM	8	9 Breakfast Biscuit Sales, 6 AM 'till gone!	10	11 Homecoming Prep—CLC unavailable
12 Homecoming—10 AM IGNITE! Begins—6:30 PM	13	14 Prayer Group—10AM	15	16	17	18
19 Chicken & Dumpling Lunch Fundraiser, see p. 6	20	21 Prayer Group—10AM	22	23 Breakfast Biscuit Sales, 6 AM 'till gone!	24	25
26 Acolyte Recognition Charge Conference—4 PM, see p. 2 Acolyte Training—4:30 PM, see p. 2	27	28 Prayer Group—10AM Senior Citizens Meeting—info to come later	29	30	31	Fall Party coming on NOV. 1st! 





Music, Good News, & Fellowship

Ebenezer United Methodist Church

Invites you to

Hear the GOOD NEWS

Feel the LOVE OF GOD

Be touched by the GRACE OF GOD

Become a NEW CREATION IN CHRIST JESUS

October 12-15

6:30 PM

Christian Life Center

4948 Burns Rd, Granite Falls NC

(828) 396-2214