



EBENEZER

United Methodist Church

www.ebenezerum-church.org

October '15

Volume 11 Issue 10

Church's e-mail: ebenezerumc@yahoo.com

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Sunday Services

- 8:30a Worship Service (Contemporary)
- 9:50a Sunday School
- 11:00a Worship Service (Traditional)
- 6:00p Youth Group (Grades 6-12)
- 6:00p Adult Choir Practice
- 7:00p Every FOURTH SUNDAY United Methodist Women



Pastor's Corner — Rev. Eric Lane



Guest Speaker: Rev. Mitch Wilson

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!

REVIVAL BEGINS HOMECOMING SUNDAY NIGHT!

October 11-14, 7 PM

Rev. Chris Lakey, Associate Pastor at 1st United Methodist Church, Wilkesboro will be our Revival Preacher. Special music will be presented each evening. Please be in prayer for these meetings, and invite your friends, co-workers, and neighbors. If we want to renew our nation and our families, we need to renew our personal relationship with God. This is your opportunity to do so; and to pray for the renewal of His Church on earth.

WEDNESDAY ACTIVITIES

- 6:00p Praise Band Rehearsal
- 7:00p Bible Study—Children & Adults.



CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:

Tues.—Friday: 8:30—1:30 p.m.

Phone: (828) 396-2214



Meetings

Homecoming Sunday

On **October 11th**, we will meet to worship at **10:00 a.m.**, then share a covered-dish lunch afterwards. There will be no Sunday school this Sunday. Our revival will begin the same evening. See p. 1 for more information.

Lord's Supper Ministry

I think this ministry will deliver their meal on **Monday, October 19th**. Drivers need to be here at 5:00 p.m. Volunteers see Ricky or Shawn Baker for details.

Charge Conference

The annual Charge Conference will be held on Sunday, **October 25 at 4:00 p.m.** All members of the council should attend. We will be voting on the budget and committee members for next year.

United Methodist Women

The UMW will meet on **Sunday, October 25 at 7:00 p.m.** Gwen Teague will present the program. Harolyn Roberts and Sonya Crouse are in charge of refreshments. All women are invited.

Nov. Newsletter Items

Please have information and articles for the November newsletter in by **October 25**. Thank you. —Editor

Time Change Coming

Daylight Savings Time ends on Nov. 1. Turn clocks back 1 hour on Oct. 31 PM.

"Don't waste time and energy feeling sorry for yourself. LIVE with a capital L. Contribute something good to our world...fight for justice for everyone, but understand that life on this earth will never be totally fair."

Something to Pray About

by Cindy Sears

My friends, as believers in our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory, you must never treat people in different ways according to their outward appearance. —James 2:1 GNT

GRACE NOW AND THEN

Jake Resor's sermon on Sunday, June 21, 2015, was good and brought up some valid points, but I do have something to say on the matter of "inadvertent racism." As Dennis Prager says in an article on the Web:

"...regarding whites, blacks and crimes, we seem to inhabit a strange moral universe. Great numbers of black Americans seem to be unable or unwilling to forgive America—specifically white Americans—for sins committed by whites who are long dead. But many seem to support the forgiveness of a white man who murdered nine blacks last week."

Parents are not to be put to death for crimes committed by their children, and children are not to be put to death for crimes committed by their parents; people are to be put to death only for a crime they themselves have committed. --Deuteronomy 24:16 GNT

Why am I singled out for disdain because I am white? Did I ever own a slave? No, and as far as I can determine, none of my ancestors did either. Why does everything I say need to be filtered through a "latent racism" filter? Why does this murderous act by a lone white man, suddenly point to a problem with racism everywhere in our country? I do not deny that there are racists in this country, but I am tired of being lumped in with them because of the color of my skin. African-Americans do not want to be lumped into a category because of their skin color. Racism is racism, no matter whom it is used against. "The truth is that the vast majority of white Americans are not racist." (Prager)

Have black people had a tough time in the U. S. in the past? Yes. Did many white people help make life tough for them? Yes. Has America changed its attitude towards black people? Yes. Are there still problems here? Yes, but we are working on it. Isn't this still the best country, the most free with the most equal opportunity for everyone in the world? Yes. Everyone born in this world is born with handicaps of some kind. Does that make us all victims of circumstance? No. It makes us humans in a fallen world. We take what we are given and do the best with what we have to make a decent life for ourselves, and, hopefully, add more good to the world than evil. Those born blind, live without sight; those who can't hear learn to deal with the loss; even a quadriplegic person can contribute something good to the world (ex. see Joni Erickson Tada's bio).

Don't waste time and energy feeling sorry for yourself. LIVE with a capital L. Contribute something good to our world, such as helping those less fortunate to make their lives better. Stand and fight for justice for everyone, but understand that life on this earth will never be totally fair. Government cannot make people good, nor can it build a perfect society. And, as a Christian, always look forward to the NEW WORLD Jesus will give us where all things are good and righteousness reigns supreme. ✚



Bearing One Another's Burdens



The *Ebenezer Praise Band* made a special trip to Hospice in Lenoir to visit our dear Missy Mullinax, who was there to receive help in managing her pain. Please continue to pray for Missy and her family as her battle with cancer continues.

"And now I give you a new commandment: love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another." —Jesus Christ (John 13:34 GNT)

Special Giving

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

In Memory of Peggy Duncan by:

Mailon & Ella Mae Nichols
JoAnn Knepp
Kerry Veurink

In Memory of Sue McDonald by:

Jo Nell Harrison
Freida S. Matthews

In Memory of Wade Austin by: Anthony & Sherry Austin

In Honor of Patty Coffey by: The Herman Family

In Honor of Friends and Helpers by:

Delores & Gary Paul Campbell

In Honor of People Who Sent Bill Get Well Cards by:

Delores & Gary Paul Campbell

In Honor of Bleaka & Monte Hollar by:

Delores & Gary Paul Campbell



Suggested Reading: *Joy: Poet, Seeker, and the Woman Who Captivated C. S. Lewis* by Abigail Santamaria, c 2015.

Santamaria brings the life of Joy Davidman, C. S. Lewis's wife for a brief time before her death from cancer, to full-bodied life in this biography. We see her warts and all as she searches for and works toward an earthly utopia only to find disillusionment in the Communist Party USA and in her marriage to another bohemian free spirit. Financially strained and broken in spirit, she experiences a moment of ecstasy that leads her to God and then to Christ and the Christian faith. Her pursuit of Lewis begins after reading some of his theological works on Christianity. Through her pursuit of Lewis, we see that justification is immediate, but sanctification is an ongoing process. Lewis comes off as just a man, who makes some bad decisions in his life, too—even after he, once an atheist also, comes to Christ. Yet, in the end, and in God's mercy, they find in each other great joy and love. Their humanity and faith in Christ shines forth in both their lives. Very good read.

Home to Holly Springs by Jan Karon, c2015.

Father Tim Kavanaugh returns to Holly Springs, Alabama, after receiving a brief, unsigned letter from someone in his hometown. Thus begins a story filled with nostalgia and revelation and redemption. The grace and mercy of Christ flows in and through the story as old family secrets are revealed, and long unanswered questions involving flawed family relationships resolved. Delightful, insightful, and full of wonderfully human people touched by Kavanaugh's visit and Christ's love.

Both books available at CCPL's Lenoir branch

—Reviewed by Cindy Sears



Church Council — September 13, 2015

Attendees: Kim Ellis, Barbara Frye, Gerald Frye, Roy Hamby, Jo Nell Harrison, Alice Hill, Bleaka Hollar, Cathy Huffman, Boyd Johnson, Keith Keener, JoAnn Knepp, Eric Lane, Judy McCrary, Cinda McCrary, Linda Moretz, Cindy Sears, Jeff Smith, and Jerry Kohnle.

Gerald called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. and opened with prayer, and a reading of scripture. "God can do what no one else can do." "The will of God can be a burden that you carry or it can be the power that carries you."

The minutes from the August meeting stand as written.

Jo Nell Harrison: Financial Report.

All Things Made New class owed the church \$45.22. Eric Lane made a motion to absorb this into the budget. This was seconded by Keith Keener. Motion passed. There was 2¢ left in the marriage seminar fund. Jo Nell will close it out. Back to school bash t-shirts are still available. Those who have one need to pay for it; others can be bought (\$8-10 each). Food ministry account stands at negative \$154.46. We decided to leave it until the end of year, because donations are still coming in. Cathy Huffman asked that the \$45 in the Alaska fund be moved to the Missions Scholarship Fund. We agreed to do so.

The money recently paid for two burial plots will be moved into the general fund, since the land is already paid for.

Jo Nell explained that we remain behind by around \$6,000. We will need to adjust the budget for next year or use our savings.

We still owe \$197,613 on the CLC mortgage. We will have to re-finance the loan if it is not paid off by June of 2016.

Old Business

Folding Machine: Jo Nell Harrison will look into buying it through McCreary Modern to see if we can get it for less. Boyd made a motion that we

purchase a folder for the office. Keith Keener, seconded. Motion passed.

New Business

Kim Ellis: Brought us a proposal to hire Blue Ridge Sanitation to pick up our trash once a week. This is a locally owned business. The cost is \$25 a month, and the trash will be picked up on Wednesdays. They can supply more trash cans at no charge, if needed. We can also schedule more pick-ups when necessary. Kim proposed that we accept this proposal. Keith made a motion that we accept it. Boyd Johnson, seconded. Motion passed.

Bleaka Hollar said that we need to begin pushing the \$10,000 Sunday offering now. A mailing to our members/attendees/friends was suggested to promote that and the Homecoming and Revival services in October.

Judy McCrary: wants the whole church to figure out something to do to raise money for the building fund. To make money at this, we would need to make it available to the area businesses, etc. Eric suggested barbecue chicken or pork barbecue.

Boyd Johnson reminded us that there will be a fish fry again in mid-October (the 17th).

Gerald closed the meeting. Cindy Sears said the closing prayer.

Minutes by Cindy Sears.

Church Model on Display

We thank Jack Davis for all the hard work he did on building a model of the old wooden Ebenezer Church. Below are three photos of his work:



Inside the educational building

Inside the sanctuary, facing the pulpit



Thanks for Helping

We are grateful to everyone who helped us clean up the Ebenezer cemetery and install the donated crosses on the many unmarked graves. Here is a photograph of the new stones→





October Celebrations



Happy Birthday!



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

Happy Anniversary!

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



Little Country Store



The Little Country Store comes to Ebenezer on **Saturday, November 7th from 8 AM to 2 PM** with hot biscuits for breakfast and hamburgers and hot dogs for lunch.

The United Methodist Women are requesting donations of baked and canned items, candy, and crafts and other items to sale in their Little Country Store to raise funds for their ministries. Thank you!

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

Remember this, my dear friends! Everyone must be quick to listen, but slow to speak and slow to become angry. Human anger does not achieve God's righteous purpose."

—James 2:19-20 GNT



Acolyte Schedule - OCTOBER

4th Bethany Huss

11th Kevin Miller

18th Makayla Settlemyre

25th Payton Lyda

Nursery Schedule - OCTOBER

4th 8:30 Boyd & Emily Johnson

11:00 Tasha Haas

11th 8:30 Teresa Simmons & Dawn Yount

11:00 Angie Miller

18th 8:30 Cheryl Vosdingh & Tammy Adams

11:00 Nancy Sears

25th 8:30 Heather Stone & Kim Ellis

11:00 Kay Gilbert

Our Military

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

Nick Austin
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
Alex Shealy
Hunter Tolbert
Josh Yount

Quotable Quotes

"If sinners will be damned, at least let them leap to hell over our bodies. And if they perish, let them perish with our arms about their knees, imploring them to stay. If hell must be filled, at least let it be filled in the teeth of our exertions, and let not one go there unwarned and unprayed for."

—Charles Spurgeon



October Fundraisers & Events

Caldwell United Worship—2

We invite you to join us for another county wide worship at Smith Memorial UMC in Lenoir

**Sunday
October 4th
3-5:00 PM**

The Caldwell United initiative is continuing to work on finding ways to better coordinate and promote the mission work, fundraising efforts, and worship events of the United Methodist Churches in Caldwell County. We will worship and get an update on what has been accomplished so far.

Our new district superintendent, Carl Arrington will be preaching.

Biscuits Sales — x2

We will be selling ham, sausage, egg and gravy biscuits AND fried fruit pies on **Thursday, October 8th AND October 22nd.**

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!



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 Fruit Pie

We continue to accumulate funds for a church van. As of September 20th, we have

\$6,751.85!

We thank you for your help in building up this fund.



Fish Fry! October 17th

**SATURDAY
OCTOBER 17TH
11 AM 'TIL GONE!**

Our United Methodist Men and the Costa Rica Team have joined together to bring us another Fish Fry. They have ordered lots more fish this time, so they have hopes that it will last longer. Proceeds go towards the Men's and the Costa Rica Ministries and the Van Fund.

We thank you for your support!



Trunk or Treat—2015

Our annual Trunk or Treat will be on **Saturday, October 31st from 6-8:00 p.m.** We will serve hotdogs and give out lots of candy.

We invite and encourage all our members to decorate their trunk or truck bed with **spooky** things and help give out candy to the little "**spooks**."

We are collecting candy now for this event. Please place it in the orange box in the hallway. We will also need brownies. Come at 4:30 p.m. (or later) to help set up and work in the kitchen. Thank you!



Ghost Story in the Bible?

Did you know that there is a ghost story in the Bible?

In 1 Samuel: 28:3-25, on the eve of a battle with the Philistines, King Saul visits a medium—a person who claims to be able to talk with the dead. But when the woman does call up the ghost of the prophet Samuel, she screams in horror!

This woman was living in a place called Endor. Those of you who have read the Tolkien classic "The Lord of the Rings" or seen the movies should recognize that name.

King Saul's visit to the medium did not end well. He went to see the witch, because he had lost his faith in the Lord. Guard your hearts and minds, and keep your soul grounded in faith, or your life may also end on a bad note—as did King Saul's.





EBENEZER UMC

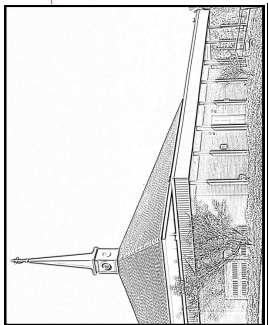
Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors.


October 2015



Ebenezer United Methodist Church

Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors.



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Every Sunday: 8:30 a.m. Worship 9:50 a.m. Sunday school 11:00 a.m. Worship	Church Office is now Closed on Mondays		<i>Every Wed.:</i> 6 pm: Praise Band 7 pm: Children and Adult Bible studies	1	2	3 P&S Golf Tourney (Rain delayed), see September Newsletter
4 Caldwell United Worship at Smith Memorial, see p. 6	5	6 	7	8 Biscuit Sales—6 AM 'til gone! See p. 6	9 Biscuit Sales—6 AM 'til gone! See p. 6	10 HOMECOMING PREP. CLC UNAVAILABLE
11 Homecoming & \$10,000 Sunday, see p. 1	12	13	14	15	16	17 Fish Fry—11 AM 'til gone!, see p. 6
18	19 REVIEWAL, 2 PM,	20	21	22 Biscuit Sales—6 AM 'til gone! See p. 6	23	24 
25 Charge Conference, 4 PM, see p. 2 UMW, 7 PM, see p. 2	26 	27	28 <div style="background-color: orange; color: white; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> The Spooks are coming! Bring yours to the party on Saturday for more fun than frights. </div>	29	30 	31 Trunk or Treat, 6-8 PM, see p. 6 Turn your clocks back 1 hour tonight!