



# EBENEZER

## United Methodist Church

www.ebenezerum-church.org

# October '18

Volume 14 Issue 10

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

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**Homecoming  
&  
\$10,000 Sunday!**  
See p. 3

November newsletter  
items are due by **Sunday,  
October 28th.**



### Sunday Services

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



## Pastor's Pen

### October Beginnings

October is a month of change. The summer heat usually drifts away, the leaves begin to turn from green to red, yellow, or orange and fall to the ground. We spend a little more time indoors in the evenings.

It is a time to prepare for a variety of events. We look forward to **Homecoming, Trunk or Treat, Thanksgiving and Christmas**. We will also have our annual Charge Conference.

We are planning to offer a **confirmation class** during the Sunday school time. This class will begin October 21st and continue for six to ten weeks. The purpose of confirmation is to teach about the UMC. It is geared to young people ages 12 to 18, but anyone may attend. It gives the confirmand the opportunity to be baptized if they have not been, profess Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, and join the church.

October 14th at 10:30 a.m., we will celebrate **Homecoming**. We have invited **Frank Gordon** to bring the morning message. We will also receive a special **Harvest Offering**. Will you prayerfully consider an additional gift to the treasury of the church?

On October 21<sup>st</sup>, we will begin—**Fall: A Time for Spiritual Inventory**. The sermon series will feature “The Joy Stealers.” Each week we will have a special prayer focus shown below:

October 21: **Worry**—pray for ourselves;

28: **Bitterness**—pray for our church and pastor;

November 4: **Communion**—pray for our personal and church finances;

11: **Negativity**—pray for our community;

18: **Busyness**—pray for our outreach;

25: **Guilt**—pray as we prepare to celebrate Christmas.

December 2: **Advent begins: Hanging of the Greens;**

**9: Secrets of Living with Joy.**

Let us begin praying for the coming events and get ready for an active season.

—**Pastor Tom**

### 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.

### Charge Conference

Our annual Charge Conference will be held during the worship service on **Sunday, October 21st**. The new 2019 budget and the Officers and Committee members for 2019 will be presented and voted on.

### Lord's Supper Meal

**Monday, October 22nd 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, October 22nd at 7:00 p.m.**

### United Methodist Women

The women will have their next meeting on **Sunday, October 28 at 7:00 p.m.**

## Special Giving

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

**In Memory of Wade Austin by:**  
Ezma R. Austin

**In Honor of Mom & Dad's 50th Wedding Anniversary by:**  
Billy W. Campbell

**In Honor of Peggy Jenkins by:**  
Bill, Delores, & Gary Paul Campbell  
Robert & Teresa Herman

**In Honor of Billy & Libby Long by:**  
Bill, Delores, & Gary Paul Campbell

**In Honor of Marilyn & Jerry Kohnle by:**  
Bill, Delores, & Gary Paul Campbell

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

The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands.

—Psalm 19:1 NIV

## Something to Pray About

by Cindy Sears

All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness—2 Timothy 3:16

God to Job: "Were you there when I made the world?" Job 38:4a

### GOD'S WORD OR SATAN'S LIES

Genesis 1:1 -- *In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.*

Genesis 1:5,8,13,19,23,31 – *And there was evening, and there was morning—the "first, second, third, fourth, fifth, sixth" day.*

Genesis 2:1-3 -- *Thus the heavens and the earth were completed in all their vast array. By the seventh day God had finished the work he had been doing; so on the seventh day he rested from all his work. Then God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it he rested from all the work of creating that he had done.*

Luke 24:5-6 – *Full of fear, the women bowed down to the ground, as the men said to them, "Why are you looking among the dead for one who is alive? He is not here; he has been raised. Remember what he said to you while he was in Galilee: 'The Son of Man must be handed over to sinners, be crucified, and three days later rise to life.'"*

Mark 16:6 -- *And he saith unto them, "Be not affrighted: Ye seek Jesus of Nazareth, which was crucified: he is risen; he is not here: behold the place where they laid him."*

1 Corinthians 15:3-6 -- *For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance[a]: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures, and that he appeared to Cephas, and then to the Twelve. After that, he appeared to more than five hundred of the brothers and sisters at the same time, most of whom are still living, though some have fallen asleep.*

Which set of passages above do you believe are true? Did God create the earth and the universe in 6 days? The Hebrew word for day used in the Genesis passages always refers to one twenty-four hour day. The designation, "evening and morning" emphasizes an actual 24 hour day—so no one should be confused about what God meant when he had Moses write these words. If you believe that Jesus was crucified (even secular scholars confirm that Jesus was in fact crucified), and that he rose on the third day, and now abides in heaven at the right hand of God, interceding on our behalf, why would you not believe the rest of God's word?

Christians have allowed God's word to be nullified by embracing the *theory* of evolution or letting their children be taught that this *theory* is in fact true without providing evidence for the alternative *theory* that God is the Creator of all things. The evidence against the *theory* of evolution becomes more compelling every day. Actually, it's the lack of evidence that is proving the *theory* of evolution is a non-starter. Textbooks continue to include "evidences" that have been proven to be 1) hoaxes, 2) misrepresentations,

(Continued on page 3)



## October Events & Fundraisers

### Homecoming!

**Sunday  
October 14th  
10:30 AM**

We hope you will join us for our annual Homecoming Service. Former pastor Rev. Frank Gordon will be our guest speaker. His wife, Mary, will have copies of her book *Dreams and Revelation* available for people to take for a donation to our Building Fund. Please consider helping by giving on this day.

This is also our annual

**\$10,000 SUNDAY!**

We want to raise that amount OVER/ABOVE our regular offering amount. We can do this! Dig deep and give.

A covered-dish meal will be shared after the service. If you can, please bring a dish of your favorite food or dessert to share.

### Trunk or Treat!

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 27  
5-7 PM**



Bring your little spooks to Ebenezer for a scary, but sweet time at our annual, safe Halloween party.

There will be lots of candy to collect from multiple decorated truck beds and car trunks. Hot dogs and brownies will be served in the Christian Life Center, along with other treats.



We ask that our members and affiliates decorate their vehicles and come help us dole out the sweets to our visitors. No tricks—just treats!

We are collecting candy now for this event. Place your donations in the lobby area behind the sanctuary. Thank you.

### Breakfast Biscuits

The *Rainbow* Sunday School Class will be selling ham, sausage, egg and gravy biscuits and bologna biscuits on **Thursday, Oct. 18th.**

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!**



### Christmas Shoe Box Program

We will be collecting the shoe boxes for Samaritan's Purse's 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.samaritanspurse.org/occ](http://www.samaritanspurse.org/occ)

### Something, con't

(Continued from page 2)  
and 3) outright lies.

We worry about our children who, as they grow up and go on to college (or not), turn away from God and the Church. But, why do they turn away? Is it because they believe that parts of the Bible have been disproven by science, therefore the other parts cannot be true either—or at least not relevant to their lives? I know that I personally had a difficult time after being introduced

## October Celebrations



- 3rd—Kevin Simmons
- 4th—Bleaka Hollar
- 5th—Gwen Teague
- 8th—Jackson Behmer
- 12th—Skylar Helton
- 12th—Michael Knepp
- 18th—David Crouse
- 19th—Katelyn Little
- 21st—Colby Collins
- 23rd—Cleo Clark
- 26th—Victoria Coffey
- 28th—Randy McRary
- 30th—Felicia Fowler

### Happy Anniversary!

- 17th—Tom & Patsy Hunter
- 27th—B. Dale & Flaxen Reid

### 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.

to the theory of evolution in school.

Who started the scientific process and why? It was Christians, because we believe that God created an orderly universe—not a chaotic universe, and not one that coalesced willy-nilly from nothing. Evolution is modern man's idolatry. Either the Bible is true in all respects or not true at all. Do we follow



(Continued from page 3)

## Something, con't

man's opinion or the Creator's word? If you want to see the evidences for God's version of the creation, I recommend the following websites and their videos and magazines that explain geology, astronomy, archaeology, anthropology, and biology from the perspective of "creationism" instead of "evolutionism."

Youtube videos by: Dr. Grady McMurtry, scientist and former atheist; Dr. Jason Lisle, astronomer; Spike Psarris, astronomy; Ken Ham, former science teacher; and Daniel Skupien.

Websites: [www.icr.org](http://www.icr.org), Institute for Creation Research; [www.answersingenesis.org](http://www.answersingenesis.org); creationmuseum.org; creationresearch.org; drdino.com (geared toward children); [www.creationism.com](http://www.creationism.com) (clearing house for various creationism related articles, images, lessons, & websites.); christiananswers.net (check out their Super Library further down on the page); and nwcreation.net, Northwest Creation Network (good site and videos).

## Church Council Minutes for September 23, 2018

Attendees: Rev. Tom Hunter, Ricky Baker, David & Sonya Crouse, Kim Ellis, Barbara Ferguson, Roy Hamby, Jo Nell Harrison, Bleaka Hollar, JoAnn Knepp, Judy McCrary, Cinda McCrary, Will McCrary, Phyllis Minton, Cindy Sears, and Patty Coffey.

David Crouse called the meeting to order at 4:33 p.m. Bleaka was asked to give the opening prayer. Our devotional material came from Galatians 6:9+. David emphasized that we must not become weary in doing good, as the scriptures attest. We pulled together well to do the job required of us for the barbecue fundraiser. Let's continue to do so. He then commended our church on a successful barbecue and for touching lives in our community through this event.

### Finance Report

August Report – Jo Nell Harrison. We had a good August for giving with the fundraisers and regular giving. She has been paying the Apportionment payment every two weeks if the funds are available. After the next payment, we will have paid around \$8,000 this year. The van sell has helped to keep us in the black, even though we did not take in enough in regular giving to keep our regular bills paid.

Jo Nell then presented the Budget for 2019 Worksheet, which we voted on later in the meeting (see below). She told us that we now owe about \$35,000 on the CLC mortgage. We hope to have it paid off in the next 20 months or less.

General Fund: We took in approx. \$191,100 in a year's time (includes some 2017 and 2018 reports). Our budget for next year will be \$206,684. The Building Fund is an additional \$25,416 for next year.

Minutes were read from August meeting, and passed as read.

### Old Business

Pastor Tom brought up his intent to have **Confirmation classes**, either during Sunday school or on Wednesday evenings. There was general discussion. Tom stated that he wants to open the class up to anybody who has not been through such a class, including adults. If you are interested, please talk to Pastor Tom. The class will last for 6-8 weeks. Kim and Tom will talk to the parents and decide when to have the classes.

The UMM reported that the church's sign at the Dudley bridge crossroads has been replaced. New letters were purchased, too, and some other small signs at other intersections were refurbished. The UMM paid for all of this.

### New Business

Kim Ellis reported that we are planning a **Christmas play**, using children and a few adults on December 16<sup>th</sup>. We will have another **birthday party for Jesus** afterwards. The festivities will begin at 5:00 p.m. On Sunday, December 2<sup>nd</sup> we will have the **Hanging of Greens** during our worship

service as we decorate for the Advent season. (We will not have communion until the Christmas Eve Candlelight service).

**Roy Hamby of the Trustees** informed us that he is taking bids for a new cleaning service for our church. He is asking classes to take out their trash and keeping their rooms as clean as possible while we work on getting a new janitorial service in place. There was a general discussion and suggestions from the council members.

Roy also reported that the fallen cemetery headstones are in the process of being lifted back up. There are some stones that may need bigger repairs, requiring bonding materials and taking them to the shop to fix. The Cemetery fund will take care of all of this.

**Our Gateway breakfast and fellowship** for the students and teachers at Gateway School is scheduled for 9:30 a.m. on November 19<sup>th</sup>, though Kim is trying to get it changed to the 20<sup>th</sup>.

**Sonya reported that we now have 8 counters.** Yeah! She has set a schedule for the next few months using the new people. We thank our volunteers that provide this vital service to our church.

**Homecoming is set for October 14th at 10:30 a.m.** Tom reported that we will have a sermon series on "The Joy Stealers" for the next few Sundays afterwards, instead of having a fall revival. We will be given a prayer focus for each Sunday of these sermons.

**Our Charge Conference** is scheduled for right after the service on Sunday October 14th. Since this is Homecoming Sunday, Tom said he will check on changing this date to October 21<sup>st</sup>. **The District Dialog will be on the 14<sup>th</sup> from 3-5:00 p.m. (registration at 2:30 p.m.) at Grace Chapel UMC.**

**The vote on the 2019 budget proposal** was taken: Motion made to accept by Tom and Bleaka. Passed.

**Christian Education Fellowship classes start at Dudley Shoals elementary school in November.** There will be a **meeting on September 27<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. at Dudley Shoals Baptist Church.** The CEF classes introduce children to Christianity, and include stories, games, and snacks in the after school sessions. Potential volunteers should attend this meeting.

The leftover barbecue is being sold at \$9 a pound+. So tell your friends and neighbors.

Meeting was adjourned.

-- recorded by Cindy Sears. 📝

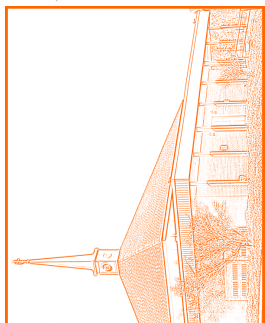




**EBENEZER UMC**

*Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors.*

# October 2018

**Ebenezer United Methodist Church**  
*Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors.*

| Sun   | Mon  | Tue   | Wed  | Thu   | Fri       | Sat  |
|---|--|---|--|---|-----------|--|
| <b>Every Sunday:</b><br>9:00 AM Worship<br>10:15 AM Sunday school<br>6:00 PM Adult Choir                | <b>1</b><br>Basketball—7 PM  | <b>2</b><br>Seniors Go Visiting—9:30 AM<br>Volleyball—7 PM  | <b>3</b><br>6 PM Praise Band<br>6 PM <i>Teens for Christ</i><br>7 PM Children and Adult Bible studies  | <b>4</b>  | <b>5</b>  | <b>6</b><br>Private party—1-5PM  |
| <b>7</b>  | <b>8</b><br>Basketball—7 PM  | <b>9</b><br>Volleyball—7 PM                                 | <b>10</b><br>6 PM Praise Band<br>6 PM <i>Teens for Christ</i><br>7 PM Children and Adult Bible studies | <b>11</b>   | <b>12</b> | <b>13</b><br>   |
| <b>14</b><br><i>Homecoming—10:30 AM, see p. 3</i><br><i>District Dialogs—3-5 PM, see p. 4 (minutes)</i> | <b>15</b><br>Basketball—7 PM   | <b>16</b><br>Seniors Go Visiting—9:30 AM<br>Volleyball—7 PM | <b>17</b><br>6 PM Praise Band<br>6 PM <i>Teens for Christ</i><br>7 PM Children and Adult Bible studies | <b>18</b><br><i>Biscuit Sales—6 AM—'til gone!</i>                                   | <b>19</b> | <b>20</b>  |
| <b>21</b><br><i>Charge Conference, see p. 2</i><br><i>Spencer Reunion—1:30-3:30 PM</i>                  | <b>22</b><br><i>Food Ministry—5 PM</i><br><i>Trustees Meet—7 PM</i><br>Basketball—7 PM | <b>23</b><br>Volleyball—7 PM                                | <b>24</b><br>6 PM Praise Band<br>6 PM <i>Teens for Christ</i><br>7 PM Children and Adult Bible studies | <b>25</b>   | <b>26</b> | <b>27</b><br><i>Trunk or Treat—5-7 PM, see p. 3</i><br> |
| <b>28</b><br><i>UMW—7 PM</i>  | <b>29</b><br>Basketball—7 PM   | <b>30</b><br>Volleyball—7 PM                                | <b>31</b><br>6 PM Praise Band<br>6 PM <i>Teens for Christ</i><br>7 PM Children and Adult Bible studies |  |           |  |