



# EBENEZER

United Methodist Church

www.ebenezerum-church.org

September '14

Volume 10 Issue 9

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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*



## Pastor's Corner — Rev. Eric Lane



*"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!"* —2 Corinthians 5:17

We have come to the beginning of yet another school year. As I was looking at my Facebook, I began to notice the many pictures posted of our children preparing to go to their first day of school. They looked excited to begin the year.

During the past I spoke with some teachers as they were preparing for the year. As we all know, North Carolina law makers have not been kind to our dedicated teachers; so they are some of the lowest paid educators in the country—not something to brag about. However, talking with these educators, I find that they do not allow their personal feelings to interfere with preparing for another school year.

A student's goal is to learn all he can to prepare for the year ahead and to enjoy the time in school; and the teacher's goal is to equip their students to do the same. That is what makes for a successful year for both the student and the teacher.

The church is very much the same in that we too will soon move into a new year of ministry. Some of you will be asked to sacrifice your time and energy; and to give of yourself, your gifts, and your talents to lead the church, and to teach, and equip others for the year ahead.

One of the things to pray about is that we remain open to that which God would have us, as a church, do over the next year; and that we prepare ourselves to achieve God's will.

In the story of the exodus, the Israelites did not take the most direct route to the promise land. If they had, they would have encountered stronger armies and could have easily become discouraged. Instead, God led them though the wilderness so that they could learn to trust in Him, put their faith in Him, and learn to follow in His ways.

(Continued on page 3)

## 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](mailto:ebenezerumc@yahoo.com)



## Meetings

### Council Meeting

The Church Council will meet on **Sunday, September 14th at 4:30 p.m.** All members of the church are invited to attend.

### Food Ministry

The Lord's Supper Ministry will prepare and deliver their next meal on **Monday, September 15th.**

### Nominations Committee

The Nominations Committee will meet on **Sunday, September 21st at 4:00 p.m.** in the Heavenly Sonlighters classroom.

### United Methodist Women

The UMW will meet on **Sunday, September 28th at 7:00 p.m.** Libby Long will present the program. Marilyn Kohnle and Tammy Adams are in charge of refreshments.

### October Newsletter Items

Please have information and articles for the September newsletter in by **September 24th.** Thank you. —Editor

### Notice to All Committees

The following committees need to meet this month to determine the need for new committee members and the church budget for next fiscal year: *Nominations and Personnel, Finance Committee, Staff-Pastor-Parish Committee*, and the *Trustees*. Leaders of each committee are asked to set up meetings as soon as possible. Let Cindy know so she can publicize the meetings and send notices.

*We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us.* —Romans 12:6 NRSV

Life is about letting God use each of us for a purpose. When we step out in faith to serve God, a way will open before us.

I know of no other religion that has such an abundance of individually named people in its sacred writings.

## Something to Pray About by Cindy Sears

<sup>30</sup> Then Moses said to the people of Israel, "See, **the LORD has called by name** Bezalel the son of Uri, son of Hur, of the tribe of Judah;  
—Exodus 35:30 ESV

**NAMES,  
NAMES,  
NAMES!**

In the Read Thru the Bible plan I am in, I was directed to read in 1 Chronicles in the Old Testament. Practically, the first 12 chapters of this book are nothing but lists of names—from Adam to Abraham to a list of the warriors of David, the King of Israel. Names, names, and more names! Why all these lists of names of individuals and families and their duties and feats of heroism in the Bible? Generations of people and their service to the temple and to the nation of Israel are listed. Why are all these names listed in the Bible—God's holy Word? What is the significance of this aspect of the History of Israel and of God's people? There are even lists of individuals by families and by occupation.

Our God cares for us as individuals within families that are working in the world. He calls us by name. He knew us before we were conceived in the womb. He calls us—summons us to faith and to obedience and to service in all aspects of life—relationships, work, and worship. Our God is a god of people. Our God cares for each one of us. He numbers all the hairs of our heads. He collects our tears in a bottle and promises to one day wipe them all away. Our God inspires people to do great and mighty things as individuals and in groups. Our God uses us—weak, fearful, vacillating, doubting—people to transform the world and restrain the evil in it. I know of no other religion that has such an abundance of individually named people in its sacred writings.

So, why all these names, all these lists, of people and families, jobs and contributions to God's work on earth? Because we count to God—I count; you count. We are so important to God, you and I, that He sent His only Son, Jesus, to die for each and every one of us! How amazing is that? Does any other religion, does any other god, does any other philosophy, does any other governor, and does any other master, care so much for each and every person who has been born or ever lived on this earth?

<sup>13</sup> **For You formed my inward parts;  
You covered me in my mother's womb.**

<sup>14</sup> I will praise You, for I am fearfully *and* wonderfully made;  
Marvelous are Your works,  
And *that* my soul knows very well.

<sup>15</sup> My frame was not hidden from You,  
When I was made in secret,  
And skillfully wrought in the lowest parts of the earth.

<sup>16</sup> Your eyes saw my substance, being yet unformed.  
And in Your book they all were written,  
The days fashioned for me,  
When *as yet there were* none of them.

--Psalm 139:13-16 NKJV



## Something..., con't

(Continued from page 2)

<sup>6</sup> “Are not five sparrows sold for two copper coins? And not one of them is forgotten before God. <sup>7</sup> **But the very hairs of your head are all numbered.** Do not fear therefore; you are of more value than many sparrows.  
--Luke 12:6-7 NKJV

<sup>8</sup> You Yourself have recorded my wanderings.

**Put my tears in Your bottle.**

**Are they not in Your records?**

<sup>9</sup> Then my enemies will retreat on the day when I call.

This I know: God is for me.

--Psalm 56:8-9 HCSB

<sup>8</sup> The Sovereign Lord will destroy death forever! **He will wipe away the tears from everyone's eyes** and take away the disgrace his people have suffered throughout the world. The Lord himself has spoken.

--Isaiah 25:8 GNT

<sup>16</sup> **God loved the people of this world so much** that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who has faith in him will have eternal life and never really die.

--John 3:16 CEV

2 The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. 3 The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. **He calls his own sheep by name** and leads them out. 4 When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice.

—John 10:2-4 NRSV

As you see in the quote from Exodus next to the title of this article, God calls us by name for specific service. (Bezalel used his artistic skills to help design and decorate the Tabernacle of God.) Everyone that God calls into His kingdom through the power of forgiveness in Jesus Christ is also called into service in that Kingdom here. Jesus died to save each one of us; we serve in joyful obedience. We are all in full-time ministry for God—not just pastors and missionaries. “Serve the Lord with gladness...enter his courts with praise” (See Psalm 100).

Have you found your place of service in this church? Have you heard God's call at your place of work? Do you use your skills and talents for God's glory and to further His kingdom's work? He calls you by your name. Are you listening? Will your name be written down in the history of faith, in God's history of the kingdom's work on earth?

Suggested reading: *The Call; Finding and Fulfilling the Central Purpose of Your Life* by Os Guinness. This is an excellent examination of what it means to be called by God into salvation and into His service.

## Pastor's corner, con't

(Continued from page 1)

Finally, the Israelites were ready. They marched around Jericho and witnessed just how mighty was their God. Yet, the journey from Egypt to the Promise Land was not an easy journey, and the ways of God had to be taught to the people.

Therefore, we must never become discouraged, and we must never feel that we don't count.

Whether you are part of a committee, teach or assist in Sunday school, sing in the choir or praise group, serve as acolyte, help as an usher, greet those coming in, count money or attendance, or help in any way—or sit in a pew—your presence counts. God is using you to prepare His kingdom.

During the month of September, I am asking you to pray for our upcoming revival services that begin with our annual Homecoming. I also request that you keep Rev. Gary Camp in your prayers, asking that God will give him the words we need to hear at Homecoming.

And finally, I ask that you pray for the church—that means one another—for we are the church. Pray that we are ready to trust God to lead us, that we have the faith to follow God, and that we will use our gifts and talents to teach others of God's ways.

Let me leave you with a simple prayer from Psalm 86:11: "Teach me your way, LORD, that I may rely on your faithfulness; give me an undivided heart, that I may fear your name."

Blessings

Rev. Eric Lane





## Church Council — August 10th, 2014

Attendees: Anthony Austin, Ricky Baker, David & Sonya Crouse, Kim Ellis, Barbara Frye, Gerald Frye, Jo Nell Harrison, Alice Hill, Keith Keener, Joann Knepp, Eric Lane, Judy McCrary, Marsha McRary, Linda Moretz, Cindy Sears, Jeff Smith, Jeanette Teague, Beth Lane, Jerry Kohnle, and Jake Resor.

Gerald Frye called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. and opened with prayer. Minutes read from June: stand as printed.

### Financial Report

Jo Nell Harrison: our situation is good. We may be able to add an extra \$1000 to the next mortgage payment (to the principle). There was some discussion on the balances on several funds and who to pay them out to and when. Eric encouraged us to find a way to pay off the mortgage completely by next year by giving a little extra every week (over and beyond the regular tithe). Eric also suggested doing another daytime barbecue to the businesses to raise money specifically for paying on the mortgage principle for the CLC. This could be done several times throughout the year—if we have enough volunteers to work it well.

### Old Business

The new closet is built and being used. Visitation program is not going well. Greeters are still needed, plus better organization. This is being worked on. Volunteers are welcome. Beth Lane volunteered to work with the Sunday school classes and get a schedule set up. Motion made by Marsha to let Beth do this. Keith Keener second. Motion passed.

### New Business

Eric asked for permission to

take the church lawn mower to be worked on. Kim made a motion to let him do it, second by Jeff Smith. Motion passed to let him get it fixed.

Jake Resor was asked to exit the meeting; then Eric mentioned that Jake's car was having a problem that will cost about \$300 to fix. Jerry Kohnle made a motion to fix his car, second by Alice Hill. Motion passed.

Calendar notices: Fall party Nov. 1<sup>st</sup>, UMW bazaar Nov. 15<sup>th</sup>, Hanging of the Greens Nov. 29<sup>th</sup>. Community Thanksgiving on Nov. 23<sup>rd</sup>? There will be a meeting on the revival soon to figure out exactly what we want to try doing. The plan is to have the revival away from the church. Gary Camp will be our Homecoming speaker. Promotion Sunday is August 31<sup>st</sup>. We are in desperate need of teachers, assistants, and volunteers to pinch-hit when teachers or assistants are absent. See Marsha McRary or let Cindy Sears know. Charge Conference will be October 26<sup>th</sup>.



Ricky Baker: Microphone wires are a problem. He has quotes on cordless microphones. \$579

each for the mic and receiver; and another series is \$325 each (slightly lower quality). He recommends 8 in all, bought a few at a time or all at once. It was recommended to open it up to the church and let people contribute to it. We will push for the ones that are \$325 each and try to raise enough money for 8 of those in the next few months.

Gerald Frye closed the meeting with prayer.



## Upcoming Appalachian District Events

### *Inspire Living Worship*

**Saturday, Sept. 27th  
9:30 AM—3:00 PM**

First UMC N. Wilkesboro  
401 6th St, N. Wilkesboro, NC

Choose 1-2 workshops in the morning. Lunch is included, and an afternoon worship service. **\$10 per person.** Brochures and registration forms are available on the table in the hallway at Ebenezer UMC.

Workshops include: *Music in Worship, Emerging Worship, Radical Hospitality in Worship, Creative Worship Planning as a Team, Liturgical Movement & Dance, Visual Arts in Worship, Using Technology in Worship*, and a workshop for clergy: *Empowering the Laity for Ministry*.

See [www.wnccumc.org/events/inspire-living-worship](http://www.wnccumc.org/events/inspire-living-worship) or call the District Office at 336-667-5401.

**"You really shouldn't say 'I Love you' unless you mean it. But if you mean it, you should say it a lot. People forget."**

—Jessica, age 8

## Special Giving

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

**In Memory of Bob Sears by:**  
Annette & Paul Burson III

**In Memory of Keith Bradford's Birthday on August 11th by:**

Grace Bradford  
Paul & Edna Hart





## August Celebrations



*Happy Birthday!*



- 1st—Devon Lyda
- 3rd—Leonard Teague
- 4th—B. Dale Reid, Heather Stone
- 5th—John Brown
- 11th—Will McRary, Daniel Simmons
- 12th—Sherry Austin
- 13th—Jason Haas
- 16th—Chris Haas
- 17th—Tasha Haas
- 18th—Payton Lyda, Kenny Silver
- 19th—Billy W. Campbell, Michael Gilbert, Butch Smith
- 20th—Kelly McCrary, Ginny Teague
- 21st—Kalieb Reid, Flaxen Brookshire-Reid
- 23rd—Monte Hollar
- 24th—Lois Starnes, Louise Teague
- 24th—Cooper Behmer, Connor Johnson
- 30th—Russ Knepp

*Happy Anniversary!*



- 3rd—Hoke & Cleo Clark
- 5th—Jeff & Ann Smith
- 7th—Bill & Delores Campbell
- 7th—Robbie & Kristen Settlemire
- 10th—Chuck & Tammy Adams
- 13th—Kevin & Teresa Simmons
- 25th—Paul & Annette Burson
- 26th—Wayne & Kim Ellis



### Acolyte Schedule - SEPTEMBER

<b>7th</b>	Austin Teague
<b>14th</b>	Kevin Miller
<b>21st</b>	Payton Lyda
<b>28th</b>	Samantha Stone

### Nursery Schedule - SEPTEMBER

<b>7th</b>	8:30	Heather Stone & Kim Ellis
	11:00	Nancy Sears
<b>14th</b>	8:30	Keith & Susan Keener
	11:00	Kay Gilbert
<b>21st</b>	8:30	Bleaka Hollar & Cinda McRary
	11:00	Joann Knepp
<b>28th</b>	8:30	Jessica Haas & Beth Hernandez
	11:00	Beth Lane
	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  
Jason Nichol  
Michael Potts  
Hunter Tolbert  
Josh Yount

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

"I assure you that those who declare publicly that they belong to me, the Son of Man will do the same for them before the angels of God."

—Luke 12:8 GNT

### **Attention Youth:**

*Back to School*

*Ice Cream Sundae Party*

**Sunday, September 7th  
6 PM in the CLC**

All Middle & High School students welcome!





## September Fundraisers

### Celebrate Your Creativity!

We invite the artists and craft makers of our community to display their creations at our church on

**Saturday  
September 13th  
5-7 PM**

We know that there are many talented people in this area and the United Methodist Women's group at Ebenezer wants to encourage your creativity.

Artists/Craftmakers may sell their works or simply display them for people's enjoyment. Please call the church office at 396-2214 to reserve a free space .

### And Eat a Good Meal!

The United Methodist Women of Ebenezer will have a

### "Mexican Party"



**September  
13th**

**5—7 PM**

#### Menu

**Tacos, Taco Soup, Enchiladas,  
and Burritos, Tea or Soda**

**Price: donations**

Enjoy the meal and take some time to look at or buy some of the arts and crafts on display from the creative people in our church and community.

### Breakfast Biscuits

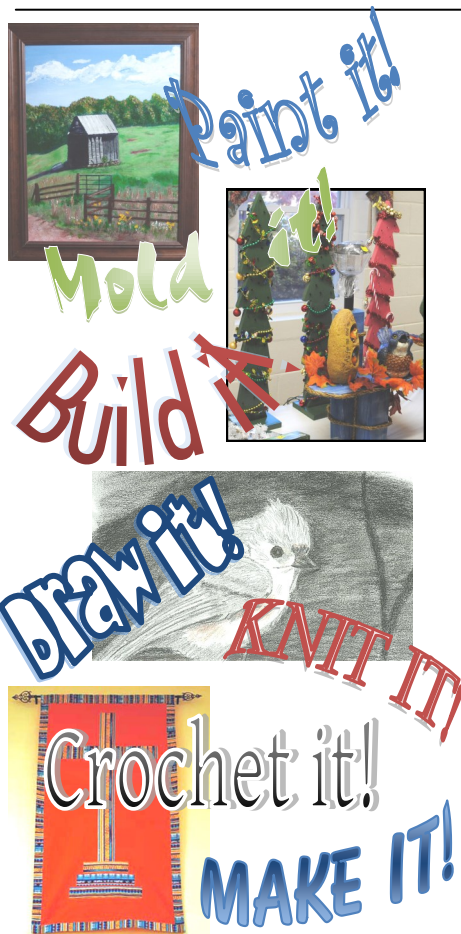
We will be selling ham, sausage, egg and gravy biscuits AND fried fruit pies on **Thursday, September 18th.**

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!**



### Cruise In & Show Off Your Classic Car!

### Cruise-In

**SEPTEMBER 27TH**

**10-2:00 PM**

Hamburgers, Hotdogs, Fries, and Sodas for sale during this event.

Beautiful cars and good food.

Join us for the fun!



### 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 Apple Pie

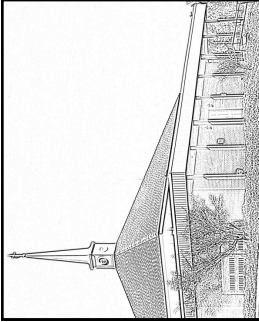
Only a Southerner knows how many fish, collard greens, turnip greens, peas, beans, etc. make up "a mess."

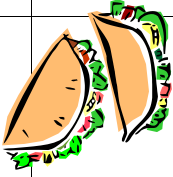

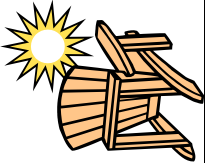


**EBENEZER UMC**

*Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors.*

# September 2014



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>Every Sunday: 8:30 a.m. Worship 9:50 a.m. Sun. School 11:00 a.m. Worship</p>	1	2 <i>Prayer Group—10AM</i>	3	4	5	6
<p>7 <i>Communion Sunday Ice Cream Sundae Party for Youth—6 PM, see p. 5</i></p>	8	9 <i>Prayer Group—10AM</i>	10	11	12 	13 <i>UMW Mexican Meal, 5-7 PM with Arts &amp; Crafts Show, see p. 6</i>
<p>14 <i>Church Council, 4:30 PM</i></p>	15 <i>Food Ministry, 5 PM</i>	16 <i>Prayer Group—10AM</i>	17	18 <i>Breakfast Biscuit Sales, 6 AM 'till gone!</i>	19	20
<p>21 <i>Nominations Committee, 4 PM</i></p>	22	23 <i>Prayer Group—10AM</i>	24	25	26	27 <i>Cruise—In &amp; Lunch, see p. 6</i> 
<p>28 <i>UMW, 7 PM</i></p>	29	30 <i>Prayer Group—10AM</i>	<p>Every Wed.: 6 pm: Praise Band 7 pm: Children and Adult Bible studies</p>	<p>See p. 5 for Nursery and Acolyte Lists</p>		<p>So long, Summer!</p>