

# **EBENEZER**

# United Methodist Church

www.ebenezerum-church.org

September 15

Volume 11 Issue 9

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

"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

September begins a great mission opportunity for us and our brothers and sisters in Caldwell County. I have been saying that *Habitat* is coming and guess what—IT IS HERE!

I know you are tired of hearing about *Habitat*, but this is a way for we, who enjoy the comforts of a home with our family, to give back. This will be the 4<sup>th</sup> house that we have been involved in building together with all the other UM Churches in Caldwell County. I am excited that we'll be building this home in Granite Falls. Let me introduce you to the man who will be buying the home.



#### Paul Whitt

Paul grew up in the Whitnel area of Caldwell County. He has 2 sons; Cameron, 14 and Collin, 6. Paul has joint custody of Collin. Cameron lives with his mother in Florida during school but stays with Paul during holidays and summer breaks.

He is employed with Imagine One Resources doing maintenance work for their business offices in Hickory and rental units in Caldwell County.

Paul entered the Habitat for Humanity partnership process in January 2014. He has completed over 300 sweat equity hours working on other Habitat houses and is excited to begin work on his home.

(Continued on page 7)

#### 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**

## Senior Citizens Meeting

Senior Citizens will meet here at the church at **9:30 a.m.**, then go to Granite Falls to visit the Transportation Museum.

### Church Council Meeting

The Church Council will meet Sunday, **September 13 at 4:30 p.m.** All members of the church are invited to attend.

## **Lord's Supper Ministry**

I think this ministry will deliver their meal on **Monday, September 21st**. Drivers need to be there at 5:00 p.m. Volunteers see Ricky or Shawn Baker for details.

#### **United Methodist Women**

The UMW will meet on **Sunday**, **September 27 at 7:00 p.m.** Celeste Creaseman will present the program. Nancy Sears and Barbara Miller are in charge of refreshments. All women of the church are invited to participate.

#### Oct. Newsletter Items

Please have information and articles for the October newsletter in by **September 22.** Thank you. —Editor

## **Church Office Closure**

The Church Office is now **closed on Mondays.** 

"Birth control is nothing more or less than the facilitation of the process of weeding out the unfit, of preventing the birth of defectives or of those who will become defective."

-Margaret Sanger

# **Something to Pray About**

When my bones were being formed, carefully put together in my mother's womb...you knew that I was there—you saw me before I was born.

—Psalm 139:15 GNT

# A DEADLY SILENCE

by Cindy Sears

#### Roe vs. Wade, January 22, 1973

"Norma McCorvey became a member of the pro-life movement in 1995; she now supports making abortion illegal. In 1998, she testified to Congress:

'It was my pseudonym, Jane Roe, which had been used to create the "right" to abortion out of legal thin air. But Sarah Weddington and Linda Coffee never told me that what I was signing would allow women to come up to me 15, 20 years later and say, "Thank you for allowing me to have my five or six abortions. Without you, it wouldn't have been possible." Sarah never mentioned women using abortions as a form of birth control. We talked about truly desperate and needy women, not women already wearing maternity clothes."" –Wikipedia

In 1960 Vital Statistics recorded 1,579 pregnancy-related deaths for the whole year, of which 289 could be attributed to abortion (legal and illegal).

In 1968 Vital Statistics recorded 859 pregnancy-related deaths, of which 133 were attributed to abortion.

In 1972 there were 24 deaths attributed to legal abortions; 39 deaths attributed to illegal abortions. (Deaths from abortions were falling because of greater access to antibiotics and better surgical procedures.)

January 21, 2015 – estimated number of abortions since the Roe vs. Wade decision:

#### 57,762,169 lives lost.

That is an average of 1,375,290 per year. (divided by 42, number of years since Roe vs. Wade)

Founder of Planned Parenthood organization Margaret Sanger speaks:

"On a radio show, Sanger is reported to have said that 'morons, mental defectives, epileptics, illiterates, paupers, unemployables, criminals, prostitutes, and dope fiends' ought to be surgically sterilized. If they wish, she said, such people should also be able to choose a lifelong segregated existence in labor camps.

"...she feared that if the belief were to spread that the goal of the Negro Project was to 'exterminate the Negro population' it would hinder her true eugenic objective: the extermination of the subset of the black population that she considered 'degenerate.'"

"In this objective she was joined in the Negro project by many African-American leaders. For example, in 1939 W.E.B. Du Bois wrote in Sanger's *Birth Control Review*, 'the mass of ignorant Negroes still breed carelessly and disastrously, so that the increase among Negroes, even more than the increase among Whites, is from that part of the population least intelligent and fit, and least able to rear their children properly. . . [the black race] must learn that among human races and groups, as among vegetables, quality and not mere quantity really counts."

--The Gospel Coalition (www.thegospelcoalition.org)

"Knowledge of birth control is essentially moral. Its general, though prudent,



# A Letter from the Men's Room

Howdy y'all from the UMM. The men have been a little busier than we were back in the spring. We have almost finished our summer honey-do, I mean, mission projects. Got some trees trimmed for decoratin' for Jesus' b-day. I'm so very sorry to the UMM guys I didn't make that one; prior commitments, ya know. I did hear it went well. So to all you real tree peeps, the hard workin' men at the Ebenezer UMM are here for you!

We almost got a local mission project done. We just have to get a roof on a small block building that has been built so well it will be here when Jesus comes back, thanks to Roy Hamby. I didn't know a 64 in. by 64 in. building needed a 3 ft. deep footer. Who knew? We did have fun though. Jimmy started playing target practice with a can of wasp spray-you know, the stuff that will shoot about 30ft. The bees had nuthin' to worry about, though; Jimbo unloaded most of the can in Anthony's eyes and Chris Haas' ear. Good shootin', Jim. It's not like Anthony couldn't snap you like a twig or Chris couldn't step on ya.

Now, new business—keep Saturday, October 17<sup>th</sup> open and do not go to Captain's Galley the night before, cause the UMM and the Costa Rica Mission team are planning another fish fry! This time we will do our best NOT to run out of fish at 3:30. So, all y'all afternoon fish eaters, please give us one more chance. We're gonna give y'all all the grease, salt, taters, and cabbage that you can handle. A big THANK YOU to the Costa Rica Mission team for the help cause the fish fry earlier in the year nearly put us down. Viva la Costa Rica!

So to end this fine piece of literature (which my wife loves to type), we have a great group of guys, but even more would be better! We could do more with less, like more projects with less work, and I'm all about that. Thank you to everybody who has donated to the van-bus fund. We hope to have enough in there by the end of the year to get our youth and seniors "on the road again, just can't wait to get on the road again"—a little Willie to close with.

Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows.

- James 1:17

Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.

- Philippians 4:6

—Boyd Johnson

# **Special Giving**

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

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

Paul & Edna Hart

# In Memory of Keith Bradford by:

Karen Worsham Lindsay H. Bradford

# In Memory of Peggy Duncan by:

Patty Coffey
Lowell & Carol Ebersole
Keith & Mary Harrison
Judy McCrary
Rebecca Simpson
The Women's Bible Class
Lena T. Hurley
Blanche Kohnle
EUMC United Methodist Women
Don & Joan Haynes

# In Memory of Sue McDonald by:

Jo Nell Harrison
Leonard & Jeanette Teague
Delores & Gary Paul Campbell
Dianne & Thomas Henderson
Betty M. McRee
Roscoe & Carolyn Marshall
Ezma Austin
EUMC United Methodist Women
Julia Jeanne Whisnant

# **In Honor of Judy McCrary by:** Kim Knepp

# In Honor of Barbara Ferguson by:

Judy McCrary

**Suggested Reading:** Dreamland: the True Tale of America's Opiate Epidemic by Sam Quinones, c2015 and Triggers: Creating Behavior that Lasts—Becoming the Person You Want to Be by Marshall Goldsmith, c2015. Quinones gives a riveting and enlightening account of the new heroin use epidemic in the U. S.—how our country was primed for this by indiscriminate prescribing of opiate-type pain pills by doctors (pushed by drug companies), and how a small village in Mexico took it to the next level by using unique sales techniques to move their heroin product with little chance of being shut down by the law.

In his book, Goldsmith explains why it is so difficult to change our behavior and provides the groundwork and a structured way to beat the "triggers" in our environment that keep us mired in bad or destructive behavior patterns. We think that all it takes to change is will power, but Goldsmith shows us that our external environment is often the real culprit that keeps us from changing—not lack of will power. (Both books available at Caldwell County Public Library, Lenoir)

—Reviewed by Cindy Sears

# Church Council — August 9, 2015

Attendees: David & Sonya Crouse, Kim Ellis, Gerald Frye, Roy Hamby, Jo Nell Harrison, Alice Hill, Bleaka Hollar, Boyd Johnson, Keith Keener, Joann Knepp, Marsha McRary, Scott & Terri Miller, Linda Moretz, Cindy Sears, Jeff Smith, Jimmy Stone, and Jeanette Teague.

Gerald called the meeting to order and opened with prayer. Reading of the minutes from the June meeting was next, and Gerald asked for corrections. Roy Hamby noted that the special speaker would be here on the fifth Sunday of August, not October as recorded. Correction was recorded.

#### **FINANCIAL REPORT**

Gerald asked for comments from Jo Nell Harrison. Our general fund is now down to \$5,000. We could be having problems if our giving does not improve. She also brought up that she is not receiving receipts for items bought for the church or its ministries, and she needs those receipts. Marsha McRary will try to find out to whom we need to send the remaining *Relay for Life* monies. Jo Nell went over a few more items that she had questions about...

Our attendance and giving are down. We are about \$7,000 behind at this point.

#### **MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS**

Cindy read out a congratulatory letter from the district related to our apportionment giving.

Bleaka Hollar reported on the library and encouraged people to use it. Cindy suggested that classrooms could take a selection out and put them in their rooms for their members to use and switch them out again.

Gerald said that he has been reading the Book of Discipline, and found out that our missional work should be talked about at each council meeting. He mentioned the *Kids for Christ* (children's church) that will begin in September. We need to nurture our children, but all our other members need to be nourished also. So, we should be training and feeding our members, and reaching out to the

community, too. A *witness* is a person who has seen or knows and can testify. Let us be more willing to be witnesses to what Christ has done for us—and offers to do for everyone.

We should be in prayer now for our leaders and committee members for next fiscal year, and as we determine our budget for next year, too.

#### **NEW BUISNESS**

Jimmy made a motion to give \$200 to the Back-to-school bash on August 22<sup>nd</sup>. Judy McCrary suggested that other Sunday school classes could give to this. Rainbow class is buying some supplies for the teachers. Keith Keener said the men's group would give \$50 to this. Jo Nell will write the check. Jimmy withdrew his motion.

Cindy brought up a motion to purchase a new folder for the church office, since the ancient one we have is no longer working. It was requested that Cindy find out if there is a warranty and what a maintenance contract would cost if we buy it. Then, we will call a meeting to make a decision.

#### **CLOSING**

Gerald then shared some scripture with us from Exodus 4 where Moses complained that the people would not listen to him. God then showed him how to convince them that he spoke for God. Redemption is through Christ. God wants faith from us, not performance religion. Is God calling you beyond what you see now? He wants to use us, but we must take steps in faith, and do the work He has set before us.

Roy Hamby said the closing prayer.

Minutes by Cindy Sears.



#### **Habitat Fundraiser**

The Missional Network Team is selling tickets for a

Pancake Breakfast at FATZ Café in Lenoir On September 26th 8:00–10:00 a.m.

All proceeds go to Habitat Humanity (\$4 per ticket sold). Make all checks payable to FATZ Café.

Tickets are on sale until September 20th. Any leftover tickets will be sold at the door on September 26th.

See Eric Lane for tickets.



## **Special Guest Speaker**

We will have a special guest speaker on

# Sunday September 13th

Brooklyn Boston, who attended South Caldwell High School and recently graduated from Wingate University will come and share how God blessed her. She will tell how she used her ability as a basketball player to go to college, and, now, she wants to give back by serving as a Campus Outreach Counselor at UNC-Greensboro. This is a Christian outreach ministry to college students. She must raise her support, because this is not a paid position.

Donations can be made at cocharlotte.org/giving. You can contact Brooklyn at

Brooklyn.boston@campusoutreach.org.



# September Celebrations







- 1st—Devon Lyda
- 3rd—Leonard Teague
- 4th—B. Dale Reid, Heather Stone
- 9th—Jadelynn Chester
- 11th—Will McRary, Daniel Simmons
- 12th— Sherry Austin
- 13th—Jason Haas
- 16th—Chris Haas
- 17th—Tasha Haas, Susan Keener
- 18th—Payton Lyda, Kenny Silver
- 19th—Billy W. Campbell, Michael Gilbert, Butch Smith
- 20th—Ginny Teague, Kelly McCrary, Jerry Shealy
- 21st-Kalieb Reid, Flaxen Reid
- 24th—Lois Starnes, Louise Teague,
- 30th—Russ Knepp

# Happy Anniversary!

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

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

Jesus said, "Let the children come to me and do not stop them, because the Kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these."

-Matthew 19:14 GNT



Acoly	<u>rte Schedule - SEPTEMBER</u>
6th	Makayla Settlemyre

**13th** Clair Gilbert

20th Cole McCrary

27th Savanna Creaseman

	Nurser	y Schedule - SEPTEMBER
6th	8:30	Jessica Haas & Linda Moretz
	11:00	Tasha Haas
13th	8:30	Boyd & Emily Johnson
15(11	11:00	Rosalind Kelley
20th	8:30	Teresa Simmons & Dawn Yount
20111	11:00	Beth Lane
27th	8:30	Nancy Sears & Tammy Adams
2/(11	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

# Bible Teaching Help on Youtube

Check out "The Bible Project" on YouTube on the WEB. Short illustrated videos are available that explain specific books of the Bible or such things as "holiness" and "covenants" and what "the Messiah" is all about. The illustrations are delightful and the explanations simple, but accurate and insightful.

The two men who are producing these shows accept donations to help them with this non-profit project. You can visit them at www.jointhebibleproject.com and download the videos there and help support their work.





## Kids for Christ Begins

# A time to break out, and learn about Christ through music and scripture. Pre K-5<sup>th</sup> grade

Begins Sunday, September 6th

Jessica is still looking for helpers with this new ministry. Please see her about the program. This is not like Sunday School, but is a worship service with singing and a sermon for children. It will begin right before the adult sermon, and the children will return for Communion or the end of the regular service.

Our motto for these services is to follow the admonition from Proverbs 22:6:

"Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it."

# **September Fundraisers & Events**

## **Biscuits Sales**

We will be selling ham, sausage, egg and gravy biscuits AND fried fruit pies on **Thursday**, **September 17th.** 

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 August 23rd, we have

\$6,434.85!

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



# **Cemetery Work**

We are looking for people to help clean up the cemetery and put up crosses on the graves that do not have markers.

Please join us on:

# Saturday, September 12th 8:00 AM—NOON

The crosses used in this project have been donated to our church.

Rain or Shine!



# P & S Class Invitational Golf Tournament

Golfers and wannabe's are invited to participant in the Pairs & Spares Class's Invitational Golf Tournament on **September 26** at Cedar Rock Country Club.

Format: 4-Man Captain's Choice (Shotgun Start)

Cost: \$55 a person/\$220 a team (Includes free

Mulligan)

Place: Cedar Rock Country Club

When: September 26 (Rain date: Oct. 3)

Time: Registration at 11:30 a.m.; Lunch at 12:00

p.m.; Shotgun Start at 1:00 p.m.

Hole sponsorships are \$100 each, but all donations

are welcome!

First and Second Place receive gift certificates to Pro Shop! Door Prize Raffle and much more.

Please see a member of the P& S Class for registration forms, or call Tyler Baker: 320-5616 or Jeff & Ann Smith: 728-5748 or Candace Collins: 499 -0715 for more information.

Proceeds help those in need at Christmas and beyond!



See p. 8 for Team Sign-up Form.

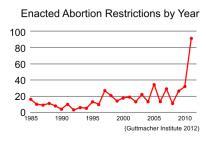


## Something, con't

practice must lead to a higher individuality and ultimately to a cleaner race.

Birth control is nothing more or less than the facilitation of the process of weeding out the unfit, of preventing the birth of defectives or of those who will become defective." (emphasis mine) --Margaret Sanger

Right to Life coalitions are gaining ground now against indiscriminate



abortion, but there is a long way to go to save the lives of not-yet-born children. Laws restricting abortion have increased since 1985, with a great deal enacted in 2010. The number of abortions per year began falling in 1998, and continues to go down. Ebenezer UMC helps support the local Pregnancy Care Center, which attempts to convince women to have their

babies, instead of killing them in the womb.

Yet, the number one problem with decreasing the number of abortions is still the so-called "free sex" society that we and our children live in today. Young people, especially, no longer look forward to marriage and family. Instead, they reside in the never-never land of "feelings" and perpetual childhood, where responsibilities and self-control are not talked about or accepted as desirable. Women and children are the main losers in this society, though men lose also by never becoming truly "adult" men. Children are so de-valued that we look the other way when they are killed and their body parts are sold for a profit (if Planned Parenthood wasn't making a profit, why would they negotiate prices?). As a reaction to this atmosphere, we have helicopter parents who wrap the children they do decide to have in a bubble of comfort and safety so tight that the children have little or no concept of self-discipline or true self-worth. Families continue to decline and fall apart. Fatherless children continue to end up in jail or dead, instead of becoming hard-working, stable members of society. Single parent households are more likely to be in poverty, and remain there, than whole families.

"Children are a gift from the LORD; they are a real blessing."
—Psalm 127:3 (GNT)

Christians have always fought for the dispossessed, the handicapped, the orphans, the poor, the weak, the powerless, and the aged or sick. Since the Planned Parenthood videos have been coming out, have you heard one sermon about the sanctity of life? Since the high divorce rate and single



parent families have become a normal part of our culture, have you heard a sermon about the sanctity of marriage and the marriage bed? Have any of the spokespersons for the United Methodist Church said anything about the videos?

Silence is not always golden; sometimes it is deadly.

### Pastor's Corner, con't

(Continued from page 1)

I have asked us as a church to give \$5,000.00 to this cause. Our goal as a group of UM Churches is to raise at least \$25,000 towards the total cost of \$75,000. This is not a give-away program, yet it allows people to buy a home, which, otherwise, might be impossible for them to do.

Why did I ask Ebenezer to donate \$5,000? There are 52 Sundays in a year. I asked that each of us commit to giving \$1.00 every time we gather to worship. Last year we averaged \$172 each Sunday for 50 weeks. Taking \$172.00 for each Sunday, multiplied by 50 weeks comes to \$8.600. I have only asked for a portion of that for this project.

Not everyone can come out on Saturday, Tuesday, or Thursday to work on the house; yet everyone can be a part of making this house happen. How much have you given towards *Habitat?* If you are unsure, put in a little extra. Many of us can spare \$2.00. Also, we will be needing volunteers to help with the build. If you would like to volunteer, simply pick up a volunteer form at the church and fill it out.

Our goal is to have Paul celebrate Christmas in his first home. I cannot imagine a greater gift. Paul will be coming out to the church soon to share with us.

And I want to say Thank YOU, THANK YOU for being a congregation that cares, that loves, and that is willing to sacrifice for others.

I want to invite everyone who can to come out **September 5**<sup>th</sup> at **8:00 a.m. for our "Ground Breaking" service.** Then if you want to hang around, we will give you a hammer and nails.

**Blessings** 

Rev. Eric R. Lane





# Pairs & Spares Invitational Golf Tournament

# Team Member's Sign-up Form

Price: \$55.00 Per Person/ \$220 a team

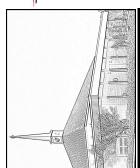
# Deadline to turn in money is September 12th

Mail Check/Forms To: Shawn Baker 6017 Brandy Place Granite Falls, NC 28630

Team Members: Name & Phone Number

Contact: Tyler Baker (828)320-5616 or Jeff Smith (828) 758-5748 Ricky Baker (828) 312-6941 (To sign up teams or ask questions)

# Ebenezer United Methodist Church Open hearts, Open minds, Open doors,



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EBENEZER UMC Open hearts. 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	2	85	4	5 Habitat House Groundbreaking—8 AM, see Pastor's Corner
9	LABOR DAY	8 Senior Citizens Meeting—9:30 AM	6	10	II	12 Cemetery Work—8 to Noon, see p. 6
13 Guest Speaker: Brooklyn Boston, see p. 4 Church Council— 4:30 PM	14	15	16	17 Biscuit Sales—6 AM 'til gone!	18	19 Collins Private Party —3-5 PM
20	21 Lord's Supper Ministry?—5 PM	22	23	24	25	26 P&S Golf Tournament , see p. 6
27 UMW—7 PM	28	29	30	Every Wed.: 6 pm: Praise Band 7 pm: Children and Adult Bible studies	See p. 5 for Nursery and Acolyte Lists	