

# Pastor's Corner

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September 2008

Greetings in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord,

When you receive this newsletter, school will have officially opened and what we think of as summer vacation will be over. When we think of school starting, we think of getting up early, homework, and getting back into a routine. I hope that you and your family have had a wonderful summer; and I hope that you are ready to return to a routine, a routine of keeping those vows that you made as a member of Ebenezer United Methodist Church.

Remember, as a member of Ebenezer United Methodist, we vowed to faithfully participate in its ministries, by our prayers, our presence, our gifts, and our service. Summer is a time to break from the normal routine, kick back and relax while enjoying time with family and friends. But sooner or later summer and vacation time come to an end. Although it is important to get away and relax, to unwind and enjoy life, let us not forget our God and our worshiping community. In the Bible in the book of Ecclesiastes, it speaks of time. Ecclesiastes 3:1-8 begins by saying; "For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven." Now is the time for us to remember our vows and be faithful to our God and our worshiping community.

Over the next few weeks, our Finance Committee will begin to develop a budget for next year. Be in prayer for them and ask yourselves, "Have I been faithful in my gifts." We also should ask ourselves whether or not we have been faithful with our presence. God does not keep a scoreboard, but as the body of Christ, when part of our body is missing, all parts suffer. A cup that is full of water cannot hold more water, and if left to sit, it becomes stale and stagnates. No one wants to drink from a cup of water that has been sitting out for months. However, a cup that is continually emptied and filled with new water is refreshing and quenches the thirst. At times we try to hold on to our full cups rather than share, causing our spiritual life to become stale. If we empty ourselves, God will rain new blessings on us, and we will continually be refreshed and renewed by living waters. John Wesley said, "Earn all you can, save all you can, and give all you can." This will keep our spirits alive for Christ. Try it.

Peace,

Rev. Eric Lane

