



Summer Worship Schedule

July 3, 2011

Through

September 11, 2011

One Worship Service ONLY

10:00 AM

From the Pastor's Pen

On May 22, 2011 at the 11:00 AM Worship Service seven of our youth stood before the congregation at Ebenezer UMC and responded to questions about their faith and they took their vows of membership. Participating in this special service of worship reminded all of us of the day when we stood before God and others to confirm our belief in Jesus Christ as we too promised to serve through our prayers, our presence, our gifts and our service.

Even though some of us have been active members of a community of faith for a long time, we still have many questions about our faith and our beliefs. I think it is safe to say most of us have more questions than answers. The journey of discipleship is not about having all the answers, rather, it is about deepening our relationship with God, continuing to ask questions about our faith and following Jesus Christ.

One of the topics that intrigued our confirmands as much as it intrigues us is the topic of salvation. As United Methodists we believe that salvation is by God's grace alone, accessed through our faith alone. Good works are not necessary nor are they sufficient for salvation. In other words, we can't earn our way into heaven. We believe that even our faith is a response to God's grace.

As United Methodists we believe that God's grace is inescapable, but not irresistible. When our relationship with God is broken – it is not because God pulled away from us, rather, the brokenness comes in our turning away from God. In Hebrews 6:4-6 we hear that it is possible to deny the gift of salvation. We hold to a position that says if we have the free will to accept salvation, then we also have the free will to reject it. This rejection is tragic, of course, and even more so if it occurs after we have accepted the gift. Some even decide to set the gift aside, rather than to reject it outright.

By nature, we want to have our sins and our salvation, too, so we accept God's gift given to us in Christ Jesus and then box it up and put it on a shelf in some out of the way place in our lives. We claim the gift, we say we have accepted Christ into our hearts and we believe in Jesus Christ and want to follow him. But, then we go about living in such a way as to deny its truth. We think only of ourselves, we ignore the needs of others and we can't seem to find time to increase our knowledge of God's presence in our lives as told according to scripture. So we can't help but wonder if the gift is still ours if we choose to ignore it. That's a question none of us can answer - only God can answer that question.

As people of faith, however, we live by God's grace. As United Methodists we believe that faith in Jesus Christ is the only way the Bible gives as clearly God's gift and way of salvation and heaven. God can save anyone that God chooses to save and we cannot decide whom God will save. We simply trust the plain teaching of scripture, John 3:16, Acts 4:12 just to name a few.

Our Book of Resolutions says, "While we as Christians respond faithfully to the call to proclaim the gospel in all places, we can never presume to know the full extent of God's work in the world, and we recognize the reality of God's activity outside the Christian church. It is central to our faith that salvation is accomplished not by human beings, but by God. We know that judgment as to the ultimate salvation of persons from any faith community, including Christianity and Judaism, belongs to God alone."

I share this with you as a reminder to all of us that we too have made a promise to serve Christ as our Lord and promised to live according to his example. If you have not accepted Christ into your heart or feel as though you need to talk more about what faith in Jesus Christ means, now is a good time to do just that and talk to a clergyperson or talk to a Stephen Minister, talk to a friend or another member of this church. Start the dialogue now and trust that God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit is ever with us in all that we say and do.

God blesses each of us with gifts to be used, not for our own benefit, but for the glory of God. We glorify God by doing God's work in this world. We glorify God by using our gifts for God's purposes in this world. Give thanks for all that God has already given you by sharing God's love as Jesus has taught us to share. May we each be strengthened by the power of the Holy Spirit that we may live in grace and peace together. Amen!

Rev. Judy



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

JUNE 20-24th

Registration will be held on June 5th from 9:45-10:45am for Pre-K (3yrs) thru 5th Grade. Come by the fellowship hall, have some ice cream and sign up for a week of fun! If you can't make it on the 5th don't worry you can still sign up on June 20th.

Our café is called "Shake It Up" because Jesus calls us to "shake up" our lives and become his followers. The Bible gives us the recipe: be ready for God, give happily to God, believe fully in Jesus, remember Jesus often, and celebrate God forever. *Shake It Up Café* will introduce us to stories of biblical festivals that reveal these ingredients and link the Old Testament, the New Testament, and our lives today.

So let's get cookin'!

Dinner will be offered to all registered children, their families and volunteers starting at **5:45pm** with the kids heading on to *Shake It Up Café* activities immediately following (6ish-8:30pm). *This is a great opportunity for those of you entering 6th grade and older to get Service hours!* If you haven't volunteered and would like to help out, there's still time! Contact **Lori Rapids** at **443-487-1149** or by email at BLRAPIDS@COMCAST.NET



A VIEW FROM THE PEW

By Ellie Baublitz

MEET BUCK AND LAURA SCOTT

Buck and Laura Scott joined Ebenezer UMC only a few years ago, but already have made their mark on various activities in and around the church.

Buck heads up the men's group, while Laura puts together the breakfast for their monthly meetings. Both are on the Cemetery and Evangelism committees, and participate in the Feed My Sheep and cold weather shelter ministries. They both help with communion services, preparing the bread and wine and cleaning up afterward. Laura also makes candy for the Holly Mart and Easter sale, and likes to decorate cakes. Buck also is on the Endowment Committee.

While Laura grew up at Ebenezer and was confirmed here, and Buck grew up in nearby Bethesda UMC, the couple drifted away from the church after marriage, living for a time in Hyattsville while Buck attended the University of Maryland, studying agriculture.

Later, Buck became the herdsman for the university's farm in Sykesville behind Springfield Hospital and the couple lived there. They had a horse that Buck rode to round up the school's 300 cows, but they also farmed some crops for themselves as well. They joke that the birth of their first-born, Melanie, was brought on by Laura helping Buck deliver a calf the night before. Their second daughter, Jennifer, also was born while living there.

In 1977, the couple moved to Bethel Road on 11 acres given to them from her parents' farm and built a rancher, where their third daughter, Angela, was born. They grow mostly hay, but also have eight calves, 30 chickens, 30 guineas and a vegetable garden. It is here that they entertain their grandchildren: Melanie's twins, Donnie and Katie, who will be 15 in June; Jennifer's girls Penelope and Evangeline, 11 months and 2 years, plus another baby due in August; and Angela's baby, Hailey Elizabeth, just born May 5 and who "has more hair than Buck," Laura jokes.

Buck and Laura's story goes back to high school when they met at Bethesda UMC one Sunday after Laura spent the night before with her cousin. "He was a real gentleman, pulled out my chair for me in Sunday school," Laura recalled. "I was trying to impress her," Buck laughed. They were 16 and a year apart at South Carroll High School. They'll celebrate their 41st anniversary in June.

They both grew up on farms, he on Bartholow Road and she on Bethel Road. Both have two sisters and a brother. Buck was one of a set of triplets, two twins and a single, but one died, so "my mom calls me a twin," he said.

Around work, the family liked to go camping and to travel. In 1987, Buck welded together an armored camper for the back of his ton truck and bought a camper and the family took off for Fairbanks, Alaska. They drove cross country and crossed the Yukon River on a ferry, went deep sea fishing, saw Mount McKinley, the Alaskan North Pole, the Alaska Pipeline, Anchorage and Liard Hot Springs, "where the water was so hot you had to back away from it," Buck said. They also went to Yellowstone and saw the Grand Tetons on this trip of a lifetime. The following year they went snowmobiling in Yellowstone.

The couple went to Hawaii for their 35th anniversary, "where it rained the whole time," they said.

Work kept both busy for many years. Laura worked for 40 years at the Department of Energy in Germantown, first as a secretary, later as a contracts analyst.

She retired three years ago. Buck drove a truck for himself for six years, driving all over the country. He later did excavating, then welding, then went back to excavating.

Although Melanie and Jennifer were christened at Ebenezer, and the couple occasionally attended worship, work and family didn't leave much time for church. Until, like perhaps many, a problem crops up and you don't know where to turn. When their children's marriages began falling apart, Buck and Laura knew they had to do something, and that was go back to church.

They started coming to Ebenezer shortly after Pastor Judy arrived, and "we really liked her so much, that was the one reason we stayed," Laura said. And thus their involvement in so many programs.



CHANCEL CHOIR

Another year! I would like to thank the Chancel Choir for yet another wonderful musical year of service to Ebenezer. As usual, our group has been a blessing to worship settings and to me. I appreciate their willingness to sing praise and present God's gift of music. Our rich musical heritage of the church is truly to be shared.

Sincere thanks,
Linda

GOD AND FAMILY GOD AND LIFE

A variety of religious emblem programs are used by the Boy Scouts of America to encourage youth to learn about their faith. Programs are created, administered and awarded by the various religious groups, not the BSA, but each program must be recognized by the BSA. God and Family and God and Life are two of these programs developed to help young people grow in their understanding of the Christian faith and discover ways of translating their faith into action. Jeff Arnold and Shaun Arnold have completed these programs this year and today we celebrate their accomplishments.

Ebenezer United Methodist Church

May 22, 2011

Confirmation Class 2011

Teachers: Rev. Judy Emerson and Susan Brown

Class of 2011

Jeffrey Thomas Arnold
Andrew James Gauvin
Carson Stone Kaylor
Donald Kenneth Roe, III
Katelyn Mary Elizabeth Roe
Laura Nicole Spitalniak
Haley Elizabeth Wildbore

Mentors

Scott Murchie
Jim Lutz
Buck Scott
Jim Huff
Carolene Will
Susan Sager
Julie Jones

Ebenezer Celebrates 2011 Graduates

Hope Allen
Amanda Brown
Luke Daigle
Nick Kehyari
Becky Middleton
Stephanie Wells

Glenelg High School
Marriotts Ridge High School
Glenelg High School
South Carroll High School
Carroll Community College
St. Mary's College

Ebenezer Celebrates

Disciple I Class 2011

Teacher: Ken Middleton

Gary Paulsgrove, Debbie Paulsgrove, Kim Middleton, Nicole Wildbore, Billyl Zavona,
Jen Klausmeyer, Julie Partridge, Lynn Baker, Rebecca Wisner, Michelle Dahl,
Susan Rodriguez, and Kathy Hale.

On September 18, 2010, thirteen individuals from the Ebenezer Congregation embarked on a 34 week journey through the Scriptures. This past Sunday, May 22, we successfully completed the Disciple I Bible study entitled "Becoming Disciples Through Bible Study". While not reading every chapter of the Bible, the study led us on a whirlwind tour of the Scriptures from Creation in Genesis to the "New Jerusalem" in Revelation, and lots of "rabbit trails" in between. I am certain that all of us will appreciate a well deserved break from the sometimes demanding reading & study schedule provided by the 34 session course. I am just as confident that we have all been transformed, not only from a better understanding of God's Word and how God desires a relationship with each of us, but from the lessons learned from each other as we wrestled with sometimes difficult lessons from Scripture. We were blessed to be a part of an exciting, diverse group which ranged from Grandparents to Newparents. Some of the group had already completed Disciple I in the past, while others we able to experience many parts of Scripture for the first time. I think that I speak for everyone in the class when I say that the commitment of time for reading and meetings over the past nine months was indeed worth the investment. I pray that the lessons and relationships planted by this class will continue to produce fruit not only in the lives of those participating, but in the rest of the Church as well.

A number of the members of this year's class as well as others in the congregation have expressed an interest in a Disciple class during the upcoming 2011-2012 school year. (I know, Summer hasn't even started yet!) There are a total of four Disciple Bible study courses, as well as a number of other similar studies which we could use to form a group for next year.

Disciple I - "Becoming Disciples Through Bible Study" - The first study and prerequisite for the other three, is an overview of the entire Bible.

Disciple II - "Into the Word - Into the World" - A more focused study using primarily the books of Genesis, Exodus, Luke and Acts.

Disciple III - "Remember Who You Are" - Draws from the books of the Old Testament prophets and Paul's New Testament letters.

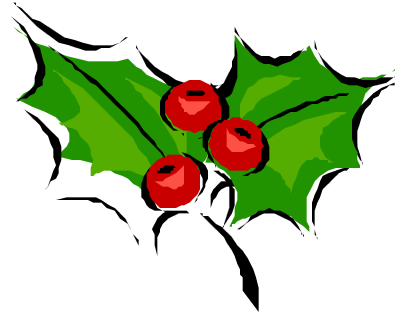
Disciple IV - "Under the Tree of Life" - Concentrates on the writings in the Old Testament – Ruth, 1 and 2 Chronicles, Ezra, Nehemiah, Esther, Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Song of Solomon, Lamentations, and Daniel. New Testament Scriptures include the Gospel of John; 1, 2, and 3 John; James; Jude; and Revelation.

If you have an interest in any of these studies, or any suggestions for possible long term study/small group opportunities for next year, please drop me an e-mail at kenwmid@yahoo.com or speak with either myself or Pastor Judy. Also, look for a signup sheet on the bulletin board in a few weeks where you can express your interests.

Thankfully,
Ken Middleton

Student Service-Learning Hours Opportunity--Feed My Sheep

Students in 6th grade or higher may again volunteer this summer at the FEED MY SHEEP [Soup Kitchen](#) at Wesley Freedom [United Methodist Church](#) to earn service-learning hours. There is a limit of **FOUR** volunteers each day, so you must sign the sheet posted on the bulletin board in the narthex. The sign-up sheet will be put up at the beginning of June. Student volunteer duty time is 10:30am to 1:00pm. Ebenezer hosts the meal on the second Monday of each month and students from Ebenezer will get first priority on these days. Our church is scheduled for [July 11](#) and [August 8, 2011](#). Remember to bring your service-learning reflection form to be signed for credit.



Holly Mart Craft Days

Thank you to all who have been helping make crafts for the Holly Mart craft room.

Anyone who can help for even a few hours is welcome, no experience needed - we will find something for you to do. Most times we work from 9:30 to around 12 on the days posted and enjoy fellowship as we work.

Thursday June 16th and 30th at 9:30

Thursday July 7th and 21st at 9:30

Watch the bulletin for any changes and reminders.

Thanks again for any help you can give or if you have a project you are working on to donate to the craft room. If you have something you think would be good for us to work on or have supplies to donate let Michelle or Linda know.

WOMEN OF THE WORD NEWS

The WOWS had a wonderful spiritual, relaxing, bonding, learning, and sharing retreat in April. The Women of the Bible Alive gave us a really good look into some of the bible stories we have known and read for years but presented them in a different way that was amazing and we enjoyed having them as our leaders for this special 20th anniversary retreat. There were 65 women who took part this year, we are growing! For those of you who like to plan ahead the dates for the retreat next year are March 9 & 10, 2012. Put this on your calendar now and don't forget to invite your family and friends to join us, they do not have to be a member of Ebenezer to come to the retreat.

Our end of year dinner will be on June 16th (our regular meeting night). Due to illness and stormy weather our attendance at the last meeting was small so we did not choose a place for the dinner yet, however we will see that when a decision is made it will be in the bulletin and on the web site.

Ladies have a blessed summer and our WOW meetings will resume again on September 15th. Thanks to all who make this an important service to Ebenezer as we pray for our church and our congregation. God be with you.



Building Committee Update

Kenny Wean, Chairperson

Our Building Committee has met several times with our Architect, Mel Arbaugh. Mel has presented several options to our committee with potential designs for a new sanctuary, and a redesigned fellowship hall and educational wing. We are in the process of gathering information and providing details for what our church leaders feel is needed in order to continue growing as a community of faith and making disciples of Jesus Christ.

This summer, our Endowment Committee will begin exploring options for funding a new building project for Ebenezer UMC. Once all of the information is gathered, it is our hope to call a church conference where all the members of Ebenezer UMC will have an opportunity to see a proposal and vote on how we should proceed in following where God is leading the mission and ministries of our church.

We will continue to keep all of our members informed as we progress from one phase to another in obtaining the necessary information for this project. The Building Committee fully appreciates your continued prayers that God will lead us and enlighten us as we move forward together in faith.

Staff Parish Relations Committee Update

Deb Mathias, Chairperson

As of June 1, 2011 Melissa Pollack will step down from the Nursery Coordinator position. As a young mother of three, Melissa now has her own nursery to coordinate at home. We offer a special thank you to Melissa for her ministry to our children at Ebenezer and for the wonderful way in which she cared for them on Sunday mornings. It is a blessing to our church family that Melissa will continue to serve as our Youth Director on Sunday evenings.

We are happy to announce that Jen Whittington will begin as our new Nursery Coordinator. Her first Sunday will be June 5, 2011. Jen will share this position with Susan Rodriguez. Jen has served as one of our Sunday school teachers and as a teacher at Vacation Bible School. She now begins a new ministry as part of our staff. Please take a moment to stop by the nursery and thank her for her willingness to serve the children of our church in such a loving way.

On June 12, 2011 we will celebrate in worship the 15th Anniversary of Linda Bange's ministry at Ebenezer. Linda has faithfully served as our Organist and Music Director. Please be sure to be here for worship on the 12th to thank Linda for her years of service as we look forward to many more years ahead together.

I Love It When a Plan Comes Together

Late in 2009, Rev. Judy Emerson and I sat down to discuss Ebenezer's need of a kneeler. I offered to make a two person Kneeler for the Church. We then browsed a couple of web sites and the plan started. I spoke of my project with fellow woodworker and church member "Poppy", Edwin Bennett. He offered me the wood for the project. The wood was from mighty white oak trees which once stood on the Church grounds between the cemetery and the church and withstood the winfield Winds over the years. In 1987 these oaks were taken down and Ed Bennett and Barb Conaway salvaged the logs and had them milled at a local saw mill into mill hewn boards. They were then stored in Barb's barn. During that time Ed cut some of the boards and made crosses which adorn our halls and classrooms throughout the church. In January 2010, Ed took me to the barn and presented me with the wood. Over the next 15 months I drafted the plans and shaped the wood to create this kneeler for Ebenezer United Methodist Church.

Thanks to Ed and Barb for preserving the wood over these years and making it available to me for this project.

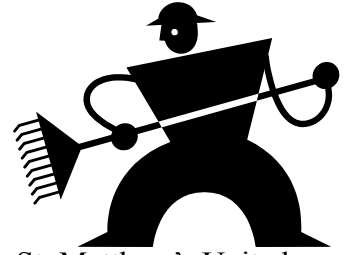
Thanks to Susan Brown for making the kneeling cushion.

It is my pleasure to present it to Ebenezer United Methodist Church in memory of my late wife Elaine Lutz and in Honor of my current wife Nancy Lutz.

God Bless all who pause here to pay homage to Jesus our Savior!

Jim Lutz

MISSION WORK PROJECT



Our mission team just completed a day of work in Bowie, Maryland, teaming up with St. Matthew's United Methodist Church. We accomplished quite a bit on Saturday, May 21, erecting a large new swingset, tilling a vegetable garden, tilling and reseeding the front yard and laying a new stepping stone pathway. Work was done inside the house by the team from St. Matthew's and a team from the Korean UMC from Rockville, Maryland. There has been a lot of work done on this house the past 5 months and it is nearing completion. Thank you to the following people from Ebenezer that helped on this project:

Mark and Laura Spitalniak, Steve, Joanne and Julie Davis, Kirsten Beck and Steve and Sue Bergmann. We are looking forward to another work project this fall and we will be posting information on this as soon as we have it. Thank you for showing the love of God to others

June	
<u>Birthdays</u>	<u>Anniversaries</u>
Brittney Zavona—6/2/01	Buck & Laura Scott—6/6/70
Diane Biddinger---6/5/40	Gary & Debbie Paulsgrove—6/10/78
Billy Zavona—6/7/61	Steve & Joanne Davis—6/12
Christopher Rapids—6/11/04	Tony & Debbie Rivera—6/13
Haley Wildbore—6/13	Bob & Diane Biddinger---6/17/62
Erin Roelle---6/18/86	Karl & Nicole Streaker—6/23/96
JoAnne Wells—6/20	Gene & Carolene Will---6/24
Katie & Donnie Roe—6/20/96	Bob & Sammy Jaharias—6/27
Buck Scott—6/23	
Debbie Paulsgrove—6/23/56	
Joyce Davis—6/28	
July	
Kathleen Biddinger—7/5	Tony & Susan Sager---7/21
Scott Baker—7/12	Rich & Pat Bucher---7/28/73
Becky Middleton---7/13/88	Bob & Joyce Davis---7/27
Tony Rivera---7/14/51	
Shannon Roelle---7/24/85	
Becky Paulsgrove---7/25/88	
Steve Shipley---7/30	
Jeff Arnold—7/30	
Nick Kehyari—7/30	