February - March 2020

Ebenezer United Methodist Church



Schedule

Sunday, April 5, 2020 Palm Sunday

Worship at 8:30 AM and 11:00 AM

Thursday, April 9, 2020 Maundy Thursday

Covered Dish Dinner at 6:00 PM Followed by Worship at 7:30

Friday, April 10, 2020 Good Friday

Worship at 7:30 PM in the Sanctuary

Sunday, April 12, 2020 Easter Sunday

Sunrise Service at 6:30 AM Pancake Breakfast 7:00 AM Worship at 8:30 AM and 11:00 AM Sunday School at 9:45 AM

4901 Woodbine Road Sykesville, MD 21784 (410) 795-6136 www.ebenezerumchurch.org

A Note from Your Pastor

Rev. Judy Emerson

I once read a quote that said: "The main thing is to keep the main thing the main thing." What does this mean for Ebenezer UMC as we prepare to move into our new building, I believe the following story helps us figure it out.

A Pastor once sent his parents a microwave oven one Christmas. They were excited. Now they, too, could be a part of the instant generation. However, when his Dad unpacked the microwave and plugged it in, they were stumped. They couldn't figure out how it worked. Literally within seconds, the microwave transformed their smiles into frowns! Even after reading the directions, they couldn't make it work. Two days later, his mother was playing cards with a friend and confessed her inability to get that microwave oven even to boil water. "To get this darn thing to work", she exclaimed, "I really don't need better directions; I need my son to come along with the gift!"

"When God gave the gift of salvation, the Pastor said, "He didn't send a booklet of complicated instructions for us to figure out; He sent His Son." This is what we just celebrated at Christmas! "She will bear a son, and you are to name Him Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins."

As we begin anew in the beautiful space created for the ministries of our church and as we work through the logistics of setting up our new space, we need to trust that God is with us. As we meet and plan for creative ways to payback our loan, we need to trust that God will lead us. In other words, we do not need a booklet of complicated instructions to figure out what to do next, we just need to listen for the many ways God will speak to us and guide and direct us as we now put our plans into action!

This is an exciting time to be together in ministry; a time very few congregations get to experience. Let us give thanks to the Lord for the many blessings we are able to enjoy and do so by keeping the main thing the main thing! May we keep Christ at the center of all that we say and do and listen carefully to what God has to say.

Once we have our U&O we will announce the date for a weekend celebration! The plan is to offer an Open House at the church on a Saturday for all to come and see. The next day we will gather for one service only in our new space where we will consecrate our buildings to the Glory of God and to the ministry we have been called to share. I hope you will all plan to join us for this special time given to us as a gift from God!

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

Featuring the Boy Scout's Mountain Man

February 25, 2020

5:00 PM to 7:30 PM

On Tuesday, February 25, 2020 from 5:00 PM until 7:30 PM, all are invited to stop by the church for our Annual Pancake Supper. Please come and join us for a time of fellowship and good food as we prepare to begin the Lenten Season together. All donations for this meal will go toward our Building Project.





Ash Wednesday

Stop in at Ebenezer

February 26, 2020

12:00 Noon to 7:30 PM

Lent, the period of 40 days before Easter (excluding Sundays), begins on <u>Ash Wednesday</u> and ends at sundown on Holy Saturday, the evening before Easter. During Lent, we enter into a season of preparation, self-reflection and repentance when we seek to literally "turn around" and realign our lives and focus toward God. It is a time to give up things as well as take on new life-giving practices, helping us rid ourselves of distractions and our own selfish desires.

By doing so, we seek to live and love as more faithful disciples of Jesus Christ.

On Ash Wednesday, February 26, 2020, Ebenezer United Methodist Church will be open from **12:00 Noon until 7:30 PM.** During this time, you may stop in the sanctuary for the imposition of ashes, communion and for a time of personal prayer. All are welcome to begin this Lenten Journey through a time of prayerful reflection.

LENTEN BIBLE STUDY

LENTEN BIBLE STUDY "ON THE ROAD AGAIN" A Faith Journey

Each lesson of this six-week study includes a Scripture reference, a brief reflection, questions for reflection, a brief prayer, and a focus for the coming week. We will meet in the adult Sunday School Classroom each Sunday from 9:45 AM until 10:45 AM beginning March 1, 2020 and ending on April 5, 2020.

If you have questions about our Lenten Bible Study, please contact Rev. Judy.

"Each year as we move toward Easter, we make a road trip. We join Jesus on the road as he moves to and through the cross. It is interesting to note that some of Jesus' most powerful and poignant experiences happened on the road. In a real sense, we could say that Jesus spent his whole life on the road. He was born on a road trip. He died on a road trip. And one of his most dramatic post-Resurrection appearances occurred on the road to Emmaus. In this Lenten study, we will explore the significance of Jesus' experiences on the road, and we will take a closer look at some of the people he met along the way."

-James W. Moore, adapted from the introduction.





February - Shampoo/Conditioner

March - Toilet Paper

April - Household Cleaners (Mr. Clean, etc.)

May - Deodorant

What is Scrip Fundraising?

Scrip is fundraising while you shop[®]! You buy gift cards for over 780 retailer brands you already shop at and earn a rebate on every gift card you purchase at face value. That rebate goes right to our Building Fund.

How it Works

We run our scrip program through ShopWithScrip.com, who has worked with over 30,000 nonprofit organizations over the course of 23 years. You can sign up and create an account to order online (Enrollment Code: 5297142A57829) or you can just contact Susan Brown (Stmpnsusan@aol.com) and give her a list of cards you want to order. Orders are placed weekly or bi-weekly depending upon how many orders are received. We have already made over \$8000 for the Building Fund since we started! More information is available in the narthex.

Holly Mart Craft Group

Thanks everyone for all the Holly Mart help in 2019.

We are taking February and March off.

Next time help will be needed is for Easter Candy making April 2^{nd} and 3^{rd} . See below for candy information.

Linda Bennett bennettga@aol.com 301-253-3367



EASTER EGGS AND CANDY

The Easter fundraiser is just around the corner and it will soon be time to think of the Easter Candy you will need for family and friends. Orders and payment need to be turned in by March 29th. Limited extras will be available for last minute needs. Orders can be picked up on April 5th. Thanks in advance for making this fundraiser a success again this year.



See sign-up sheet in March for help needed to make the eggs and pack the orders on April 2nd and 3rd from 9:30 AM until we are finished. Come when you can and leave when you must!

Lunch will be provided. It is always a fun time and the smell of chocolate is incredible!

wows

Sharon Torosky

This has been an exciting winter and God continues to bless us. Our January dinner at Salerno's was an evening of fellowship with lots of laughter and smiles. The food was great too. Thanks to all who attended. We'll have our regular meeting in February on the 20th @ 6:30 PM hopefully in our new building, such an exciting time in our church life. In March our Women's Retreat is such a great event for everyone. Pick up a brochure in narthex or see Susan Brown. This is always a highlight of the year. Hope to see you there. God has lots in store for our church as we move forward in 2020 and He deserves our Praise and Thanks.

Ebenezer United Methodist Krimgold Cleanup Crew

Many Hands Make Quick Work

A big thank you to Ebenezer United Methodist parishioners who have provided the helping hands to keep Krimgold Park litter free. On the second Sunday of each spring, summer and fall month an energetic group meet at the Krimgold parking lot. There we distribute work supplies and walk the trails and pathways for a quick hour of collecting litter.

Join the Stewardship

Starting in April we will meet at the front parking lot. Bring a friend, your walking shoes, work gloves, trash bag or get some supplies from Chuck. Shortly after noon we split up and walk the many pathways collecting litter. After about an hour we return to bag everything into the normal park trash collection. Join us for the next afternoon of Krimgold Cleanup Crew!

Chuck Wisner 410 852-4356

Women's Retreat

Our 29th Annual Retreat!

March 20th to 22nd, 2020

Register Now!

Final numbers are due to Skycroft by Feb 19th

Ebenezer United Methodist Church Women's Retreat



Brochures are in the narthex. Share with friends and family! It is difficult to describe the benefits of attending retreat, but rest assured there will be plenty of laughter, fun and fellowship and you will return home with a sense of renewal. Please join us for this incredibly uplifting weekend. Spending time away to be with God and his followers is a gift you can give yourself. Register now!

"For we live by faith, not by sight."

This scripture has echoed through the ages! As women of faith these words are much more than a beloved lesson, they are a reflection of how we live and walk by faith!

God teaches us to stay in the race no matter how difficult life becomes. During our retreat we will learn that our faith walk starts with just one step. We need to keep walking of course, but it begins with one step of trusting God. We are to run with endurance, especially during times when hurdles are in front of us. We may not have scripture readily available to us, so we will learn how important it is to keep scripture in our hearts so it can become a light for the path ahead. We will also tackle one of the most challenging lessons of all, learning to wait on God!

MEN'S GROUP

MEN'S GROUP SCHEDULE – all are welcome!

Saturday, February 8th

8:30 AM in the Food Pantry Loft – breakfast and talk, Scott Murchie, "The Dragonfly Mission to Saturn's Ocean Moon, Titan". Afterward we will brainstorm potential changes to our meeting format and times.

Saturday, March 14th

8:30 AM in the Food Pantry Loft – breakfast and talk, topic TBD

Saturday, April 11th

8:30 AM in the Food Pantry Loft – breakfast and talk, topic TBD

Saturday, May 9th

8:30 AM at IHOP in Eldersburg – Mother's Day outing!

OWLS

Diane Biddinger

"OWLS meets the first Wednesday of the month, September through June, at noon. During Ebenezer's construction, Taylorsville UMC graciously hosted our luncheons, but we have high hopes of gathering in our new social hall soon.

As we age, we don't want to drive after dark, nor in the rain, definitely not in fog nor snow, and we take no chances walking on slippery parking lots. So OWLS is perfect for senior citizens! Noon is neither too early nor too late. If the local meteorologist predicts anything remotely threatening, OWLS is postponed. We enjoy a potluck and much laughter. Please join us".

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"No one has ever become poor by giving."

COLD WEATHER SHELTER

The Men's Group is again supporting the Cold Weather Shelter in Westminster, with a hot home-made dinner the 3rd Sunday of each month from November to March. We are looking for people to contribute dishes and volunteer to serve. A signup sheet is in the narthex.

The Cold Weather Shelter has provided refuge to 116 unique individuals since November 15th. That is 116 people each with their own face, personality and set of circumstances that led them to needing shelter. There are many things that lead someone down the path to homelessness. Some may have experienced an accident or a significant health challenge that led to a loss of job or large medical bills. Others may have a mental illness or an addiction that severely interferes with daily living. Some have a history of significant childhood trauma while others are fleeing a violent situation in what was their home until very recently. Others may be part of a group who tend to be marginalized by our society and find it hard to maintain relationships, employment and housing. Many have no safety net of family or friends with the means to support them through tough times. For many, it isn't just one of these factors that have caused their homelessness but instead a complicated web of several of these things. The lack of affordable housing in our community compounds these situations. Some of the clients choose to share their stories while others choose to be more private. Each and every one does have a story, an important story.

We can also support the Cold Weather Shelter with our donation. The most needed items right now are below – there is a bin for donations in the narthex.\:

- ear plugs (frequently requested by those trying to sleep in close proximity to someone who snores loudly)
- Women's size Small and Medium t-shirts, thermals and sweatpants.
- Men's sweatpants (M, L, XL, 2XL)
- Men's warm winter gloves (while they are still available in stores)
- lemonade and iced tea mix, regular canisters and sugar free powder packets.



For Youth in Middle and High School

February

7-8-9 - ROCK Event in Ocean City

23rd - Meeting at the church 4:00 PM - 5:30 PM in the Food Pantry **March**

15th & 29th - Meetings at the church 4:00 PM – 5:30 PM in the Food Pantry

Come join the fun and fellowship!!!!!



Communion Servers

On the 1St Sunday of every month we celebrate the sacrament of the Lord's Supper.

Each time we come to the table we need 4 volunteers to help the Pastor serve the congregation. If you would like to help, please put your name next to the date you can help on the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the narthex.



We have 24 volunteers getting excited for the upcoming summer! We will be taking three teams to work on homes in western Maryland come this June. Our teams leave on June 28th but we still have some fundraising to do to get there. The recycling of any kind of scrap metal is our ongoing endeavor. If you have any items you would like to donate please let us know. If you are recycling any type of food cans we would appreciate them being rinsed out first due to insects and other critters if the cans stay in storage containers. No recycle item for scrap is too big or to small we take them all.

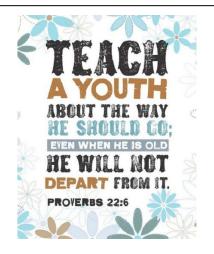
In May we will be having a yard sale and would happy to take for any donations for that event.

Please contact Nancy Thompson (410-241-1509 or threetsmicheast@aol.com)

Children's Church

During 11:00 AM Worship on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the Month

We will continue to offer Children's Church on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month. The kids can join our volunteers during worship on these weeks as they have some wonderful stories and activities planned! Older youth are encouraged to provide their usual assistance when possible!!





Ebenezer United Methodist Church Goals for 2020

On Saturday, January 11, 2020, 42 leaders of the church gathered for our Annual Planning Day. Our Administrative Council Chairperson, Kate Luette, facilitated our time of reflection, thanksgiving and planning for the year ahead. The goals we have set are as follows:

- 1. Move into our new building and discern how to utilize our new space in order to continue growing in ministry and outreach.
- 2. Establish fundraising events to help pay our building debt. As of now we have planned for the following events: Holly Mart, Pickles, Jams and Jelly Sale, Easter Candy Sale, Spaghetti Supper w/silent auction, Pit Beef and Turkey Supper w/auction, white elephant and live music.
- 3. Work with the Board of Trustees and our Building Manager to establish new policies and procedures for our facility.
- 4. Discern the best use for our parsonage and implement a plan.
- 5. Offer Christian Education events for all ages and multi-generational fellowship including:

Lenten Study, Summer Study, Advent Study, VBS, Shrove Tuesday Supper, Church Family Picnic, Camping Weekend, Christmas Dinner, Camp Hope, Manidokan, Women's Retreat, Men's Retreat.



Dates to Remember

FEBRUARY

5 th	OWLS Luncheon	12:00 PM			
$7^{th}-9^{th}$	ROCK				
8^{th}	Men's Group – FP2	8:30 AM			
9 th	Children's Church	11:00 AM			
10^{th}	Feed My Sheep	10:30 AM			
15^{th}	FOOD PANTRY	9-11 AM			
16 th	Cold Weather Shelter				
18 th	Brinton Woods	10:30 AM			
20^{th}	WOWS Meeting	6:30 PM			
23^{rd}	Children's Church	11:00 AM			
	UMYF	4:00 PM			
25 th	Shrove Tuesday Panca	ake Supper			
23	5-7:30 PM				
26 th	Ash Wednesday				
۷0	Open house noon – 7	7:30 PM			

MARCH

1^{st}	Lenten Bible Study	9:45 AM
	Flower order due	
4 th	OWLS Luncheon	Noon
8^{th}	Lenten Bible Study	9:45 AM
	Children's Church	11:00 AM
9 th	Feed My Sheep	10:30 AM
14^{th}	Men's Group	8:30 AM
15 th	Lenten Bible Study	9:45 AM
	UMYF	4:00 PM
17^{th}	Brinton Woods	10:30 AM
$20^{th}-2$	22 nd Women's Retreat	
21st	FOOD PANTRY	9-11 AM
22^{nd}	Lenten Bible Study	9:45 AM
	Children's Church	11:00 AM
29 th	Lenten Bible Study	9:45 AM
	UMYF	4:00 PM



Birthdays

February

6	Jake Zamostny
7	Rachel Holl
10	Sharon Torosky
12 14	Bonnie Zavona Eric Brown
15 17	Tim Baker Bridgett Estes
23	Cheri Holl
26	Maddie Jones
28	Sharon Grim

March

3	Ellie Klausmeyer
6	Doris Leary
8	Steve Bergmann
8	Dave Biddinger
14	Olivia Wisner
14	Andrea Murchie
17	Bill Jones
23	Tyler Arnold
25	Mel Wroten
27	Kim Middleton
27	Karl Streaker

Anniversaries

March

- 2 Chuck & Julie Shacochis
- 21 Brian & Lori Rapids

MEET BRYAN AND JENNIFER SISK by Ellie Baublitz



When new families come to Ebenezer, it doesn't take long for Rev. Judy to get them involved in church activities through their special gifts or interests. Take Jennifer and Bryan Sisk and their sons Tristan, 15, and Dustin, 12, for example.

Jen, a retired dance teacher/choreographer/studio owner, had a liturgical dance company, Ministry in Motion Ensemble (M.I.M.E.), where Amanda Brown was a member and student at Jen's Footprints/Blizzard Dance Studio. After attending the studio's annual dance recital one year that included Amanda, and hearing Jen sing the grand finale, "I Hope You Dance", Judy asked Jen and M.I.M.E. to perform at church one Sunday. Judy also asked Jen to fill in as a special music vocalist at Ebenezer's annual Women's Retreat one year when the previously scheduled singer couldn't attend. Now, Jen periodically shares her beautiful voice with Ebenezer at special events and services, such as Easter, and the Women's Retreat.

Even though they just started attending Ebenezer regularly in the last year, the whole family is involved in the early Sunday worship and all attend Sunday School. "Dustin loves being an acolyte under the direction of Kenny Wean and takes his job very seriously," Jen said. "For the last two years we have read Scripture for Advent." Jen and Bryan also sometimes help serve Communion. Quieter than his brother, Tristan especially enjoys his Sunday School classmates.

"We have enjoyed the friendly, honest and humble community there is to enjoy at this welcoming country church," Jen said. "The support and genuine concern of the people, and Pastor Judy, are a true reflection of what God looks like on earth today. The prayers of these warriors are strong and encouraging and Pastor Judy preaches and upholds the true purpose of God's intention for His people, the church."

The Sisks live in Glenelg, where Jen was caregiver for her now deceased parents. Bryan, originally from Princeton, WVA, where his parents still live, met Jen at Claytor Lake in Dublin, VA, while water- and jet-skiing. When their wedding date, April 15, tax day, was announced almost 25 years ago, Jen was asked if she was marrying an accountant. But not to be, Bryan is an electrician like his dad, who was an electrician for the coal mines.

Twenty years ago, Bryan founded and owns his own company, BRS Electrical Contractor LLC, in Lisbon, that specializes in commercial and industrial projects. He enjoys bass fishing and goes to tournaments all over the country, though he admits to never having caught "the big one." That was Jen. "I caught 'the big one'," she laughed. Bryan's favorite job, though, is "being a father and teaching his boys to fish, hunt and ride dirt bikes," Jen said. He would like to someday retire and be a bass fishing guide on Smith Mountain Lake in Virginia, where they have a second home.

Jen, whose favorite job currently is being "a full-time mother, the hardest, most rewarding job I'veever held," she declared. But she also has worked the last seven years for Howard County Public Schools as a coach for the Glenelg High School Color Guard. She also has certification in massage therapy from the Baltimore School of Massage but works mostly on her family. Her hobbies include "being a taxi for her sons' activities, and seamstress for their creative Halloween costume ideas," she said.

But Jen grew up singing with her family and "just enjoys praising the Lord," she said. In 1999 she recorded a CD, "Her Patriotic Heart," original songs that she has sung at churches and retreats in the area.

As a dancer, when she was 16, Jen had the opportunity to represent the U.S. in the third "Banner of Peace" Assembly held in Sofia, Bulgaria, in 1985 a Communist-controlled country. The 14-day trip, just weeks after the bombings in Frankfurt, Germany, included dancing with a semi-professional company and performing with children ages 5 to 18, under the banner of "Unity, Creativity and Beauty," across the country, from Sofia, the Valley of Roses to the Black Sea. "I still have a pen-pal from Bulgaria to this very day from that trip," Jen said.

Tristan, a freshman at Glenelg High School, plays trumpet in the concert band, but hopes to be a kicker on the football team. He has also tried basketball, soccer and karate. He loves dogs (the family includes a King Charles Cavalier Spaniel, Remington, and a Belgian Malinois, Athena), and spending time with his young adult West Virginia cousins. Jen jokes that Tristan "loves to eat healthy but has an allergy to school!"

Dustin, a sixth grader at Folly Quarter Middle School, plays percussion in the symphonic band and guitar in the jazz band. He also likes to draw and act in drama productions. He has also tried soccer, baseball and karate. "He is a very animated, outgoing boy who is willing to help with anything needed," Jen said. Both boys play computer games with friends, and ride dirt bikes and four-wheelers. While Tristan likes to fish with his dad, Dustin hunts with him instead.

The family spends much of the summer at their Virginia home doing water sports and having family time.

EASTER FLOWERS

We will be selling flowers to be displayed in the Sanctuary for Easter Sunday.

Orders are due by March 1st. Order forms are attached and will also be available in the bulletins soon.

We will again be selling:

Tulips – yellow, red or pink

Mums – yellow or white

Geraniums – red or regal (pink two toned)

Hyacinths – purple, pink or white

Lilies – white

Dutch Asiatic Lilies – yellow or white (non-fragrant)

All for \$12 each

Also available; Azaleas – red, white or pink \$20 Hydrangea – assorted colors only \$25



TREASURER TIDBITS...Sandy Wean

Finance News 2019/2020......

Welcome to 2020. I hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season and is looking forward to a new year filled with excitement and surprises. As discussed at our Planning Day, below are some of the year end numbers. As you will see, our actual income exceeded our expenses and our actual expenses came in under budget. Many blessings to all of you for your dedicated giving and helping to make and keep Ebenezer solvent.

2019 Approved Income Budget \$225,900 2019 Approved Expense Budget \$233,027

2019 Actual Income \$253,662 2019 Actual Expenses \$228,650

Balance: \$ 25,012

Distribution of this balance will be decided by the Finance Committee at their next meeting.

Capital Campaign: See attached Building Project Funding Report

2019 Additional Outreach: \$4,752.50 (disbursed as approved to Outreach Ministries)

2019 Good Sam Fund: \$1,353.56 (disbursed as needed by Rev. Judy)

2019 Fund Raisers:

Easter Candy \$ 1,600.00

Holly Mart \$13,280.23 (disbursed to General, Scholarship, Kitchen, and Christmas Dinner Funds)

Total: \$14,880.23

Overall, Ebenezer had a very good 2019. THANK YOU doesn't seem enough, but its sincere and from the heart. May you receive blessings as abundant as your giving.

Our **2020 Annual Income Budget** was approved at Planning Day for \$223,100. Our needed weekly offering is \$4,290.

We are currently nearing completion of our Statistics for 2019 to be submitted to the Conference by January 28. All quarterly taxes and W2's have been completed as well as new tax forms for 2020. We will be closing out the 2019 financial system very soon in anticipation of the annual audit. Giving statements should be coming very soon as well.

If you would like to receive any of the reports handed out at Planning Day, please let me know. Or, if you have any questions/concerns, don't hesitate to contact me.

Looking forward with anticipation as to what God has in store for the new year and our new building. God Bless and many thanks,

Sandy:-)

Ebenezer UMC-"Building on our Rock of Faith" Building Project Funding Report

Activity Through 12/31/2019

Donations Received			Capital Campaign Breakdown	
01-Beg. Bal9/30/2015	\$	38,045	Capital Campaign-Original Pledge	\$ 333,344
02-Building Fund Donations	\$	4,764	Capital Campaign Donations	
03-Capital Campaign Donation	\$	589,897	Capital Campaign-Pledges Paid	\$ 338,675
04-Memorial Bldg. Donations	\$	37,549	Capital Campaign-Non-Pledged Paid	\$ 251,222
Total Donations Received	\$	670,256	Total Capital Campaign Donations	\$ 589,897
Other Items			Where's the Money?	
05-Amazon Smile	\$	1,194	Building Expenses Paid to Date	\$ 2,204,588
05a-SCRIP Gift Card Profit	\$	7,967	Other Expenses Paid to Date	\$ 2,527
06-Investment Income	\$	7,397	Interest on LOC	\$ 16,978
11-Cemetery Contribution	\$	29,786	Building Fund Balance (all accounts)	\$ 71,006
12-Endowment Contribution	\$	695,000	Total Use of Funds	\$ 2,295,099
14-Line of Credit Used	\$	791,500		
15-Other Funds Transferred In	\$	92,000		
			Reserved Funds-portion of balance	
Total Donations + Other Items	<i>\$</i>	2,295,099	Stage/steeple/pavers/etc.	\$ 43,586.00
Pledges Outstanding			Capital Campaign Status	
10-Capital Campaign-Pledges EXCEEDED	\$	5,331	Percent of Pledges Paid	101.6%
			Percent of Campaign Time Passed	130.7%
Total Funding	\$	2,295,099	Funding Remaining	\$ 71,006

LITURGICAL YEAR

There are six distinct periods of Christian observances in the church year with each focusing upon a different aspect of the Christian experience and tradition. These periods, or seasons, do not necessarily occur on the same dates from year to year, but are related to the dates of the two principal Christian celebrations of Christmas and Easter. **Advent** begins four Sundays before Christmas with **The**Christmas Season being the twelve days from sunset Christmas Eve (December 24) through Epiphany (January 6). The Season After Epiphany begins January 7 and lasts until Ash Wednesday when Lent begins and lasts until Easter. The exact dates of Lent depend on the date for Easter Sunday. Easter is the first Sunday after the first full moon after March 21. Because the date for Easter moves between March 22 and April 25, the length of the Season After Epiphany and the Season After Pentecost varies. The Easter Season is fifty days long and goes through the Day of Pentecost. The Season After Pentecost begins immediately after Pentecost Sunday and continues until the beginning of Advent which is known as Ordinary Time.

CAMP MANIDOKAN NEWS

Ebenezer's week at Camp Manidokan is fast approaching: **July 19 – 24, 2020**! Registration will open any day now; it is time to decide which program you want to attend and get your name on the list! Programs this year will be as follows:

Adventure, Grades 3-5, \$485 (housed in a lodge)

Adventure, Grades 6-8, \$485 (housed in a lodge)

Rustic Adventure, Grades 9-12, \$485 (see note below)

Horseback Adventure, Grades 6-12, \$705 (housed in cabins and meeting house)

*Note for High School attendees: This year will be different and tons of fun! The program this year will add a rustic component that will feature sleeping under a covered hammock shelter, an overnight canoe trip, campfire meals, and outdoor living skills.

Once registration opens, link to register will be the same as last year: https://app.campdoc.com/!/home/auth/login?r=manidokan.

If you are planning to attend this year, please let Julie Partridge know via call, text, or email ASAP so that a space can be reserved for you. All registration is done through the CampDoc Portal, including payment of your \$100 non-refundable deposit. If the system indicates that your child has been waitlisted, contact Julie immediately so that she can coordinate with the conference.

CAMPERSHIP PROGRAM

If you are working towards a campership, here is a reminder of the rules:

- You must attend Sunday School every week from September 2019 May 2020
- You may miss up to four weeks of Sunday School
- You may miss an additional two weeks if you attend another church's service or Sunday School and bring a bulletin or Sunday School activity to show your attendance
- If Sunday School is cancelled (i.e., weather), this will not count against your attendance
- If you earn a campership, but do not attend camp, you must reimburse Ebenezer the full value of the campership earned
- Campership amount will be limited to the base cost of camp attendance, less the \$100deposit (\$385); you will be responsible for the balance of any specialty camp selected (i.e., horseback)
- MAKE SURE THAT YOUR SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHER MARKS YOU PRESENT EACH SUNDAYTHAT YOU ATTEND! You are highly encouraged to track your attendance as well!

Campers that earn a campership will be notified at the conclusion of the Sunday School year.

VOLUNTEERS - WE NEED YOU!

We are still in need of volunteers for our week of camp! We love volunteers of <u>all ability levels and areas of expertise</u>! Can you lead a hike? Great! Can you plan bible study? Perfect! Can you be an extra set of eyes and ears during game night? We would love your help! There is no cost to volunteer for the week; who doesn't love a FREE vacation!? Contact Julie Partridge for more information and to signup for the week.

Julie Partridge, 410.596.2501, jpartridge623@gmail.com

Vacation BibleSchool June 22nd to 26th



Join us for another fun filled week of VBS! This year's theme is "Knights of North Castle" and Sparky the Dragon will guide you through some exciting adventures!

VBS will run Monday through Friday this year (Sunday is Father's Day - and we'd rather you have that family time). So, put it on your schedule now and keep an eye out for updates and registration as we get closer.

As always -the fun cannot happen without our awesome volunteers. The kit is running late, but as soon as it arrives, we'll be reaching out to anyone who may want to help. So please - save the date and keep your eyes open for updates and requests. Let us know if you are willing to help in any way. Thank you in advance.

Cindi Arnold, Cyndi Diethrich & Angie Grim, VBS Directors



Be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power. Ephesians 6:10

EASTER FLOWERS

Available for \$12 each:

Lilies - White

Dutch Asiatic Lilies - White or Yellow

Hyacinths - Purple or Pink or White

Tulips - Yellow or Red or Pink

Easter Mums - Yellow or White

Geraniums - Red

Available for \$20 each:
Azaleas - Red or Pink or White

Available for \$25 each: Hydrangea – Assorted colors only

Please have order forms and check/cash turned in by Sunday, March 1st.

Use back if you need more room

I WOULD LIKE TO ORDE	ER:
Flower Color	Quantity
In Honor of	
In Memory of	_
Given By	
Flower Color	
In Honor of	
In Memory of	-
Given By	 _
Flower Color	_
In Honor of	
In Memory of	
Given By	
AMOUNT DUE:	



Esercial Services Ebenezer United Methodist Church Easter Egg Sale

Dhone #



PLEASE PLACE ORDERS - Limited extras only available on a first come, first served basis - no guarantees! Orders and Payments Due by Sunday, March 29th, 2020

Name:Address:								
*PICKUP on Sunday, April 5th, 2020 from 9:30AM – 11:00AM & 12:00 Noon - 12:30PM								
Easter Egg/Candy Choices	LARGE 8 oz. (in box)	Quantity	Amount Due (Price x Qty)	SMALL 2 oz. (in foil)	Quantity	Amount Due (Price x Qty)		
Vanilla Butter Cream	\$6.50			\$2.50				
Chocolate Butter Cream	\$6.50			\$2.50				
Peanut Butter	\$6.50			\$2.50				
Cherry Vanilla	\$6.50			\$2.50				
Coconut Butter Cream	\$6.50			\$2.50				
Fruit and Nut	\$6.50			\$2.50				
Black Walnut	\$6.50			\$2.50				
Subtotals		Large			Small			
		Total	Amount Due	è				

Please make all check payable to Ebenezer United Methodist Church Drop off order forms and payment or mail to: Ebenezer United Methodist Church, 4901 Woodbine Rd. Sykesville, MD 21797

For questions or other pickup arrangements email Susan Brown - StmpnSusan@AOL.com