

EBENEZER UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

**4901 Woodbine Road
Sykesville, Maryland 21784
(410)795-6136**

*Rev. Judith A. Emerson, Pastor
Linda Bange, Director of Music/Organist
8:30 AM and 11:00 AM*

***Order of Worship
January 5, 2025
Epiphany of The Lord***

WELCOME

Welcome to Ebenezer United Methodist Church. Here we are again at the beginning of a new year: "New Year, Same God". This brief statement reminds us of the scripture in Hebrews 13:8 (NKJV) "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever." With changes coming at us so quickly, it's wonderful to know God is still the same. God doesn't "adapt" to the times. The Word doesn't change according to cultural pressures. God is King of Kings and Lord of Lords, and we should prepare to be changed by God's Holy Word! We are blessed by your presence with us today and we pray this time of worship will be a blessing to you.

PRELUDE

(8:30 AM) "I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day" Bill Jones
(11:00 AM) "Violin Solo" Jennifer Wise

LIGHTING THE CANDLES

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

God's light has come to reveal The Way in this New Year.
Arise! Shine!
The glory of the Lord has risen upon us.
Arise! Shine!
God's light enters the darkness that covers the world.
Arise! Shine!
Nations shall come to God's light and kings to the brightness of God's dawn.
Arise! Shine!
For the Glory of the Lord has risen upon us!

*OPENING HYMN "The First Noel" UMH No. 245

OPENING PRAYER

God of all time, we praise and adore you for breaking into the darkness of this world with the glorious light of your presence. A light which made your love for the world visible in the babe born in Bethlehem. A light which guided those gift-bearing travelers from afar to find and worship the Christ Child. A light which leads us to you, now revealed in Jesus Christ. We pray that you will accept our worship, for it arises from hearts and minds in awe over the enormity of your gift to us of pure love. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen

FROM THE OLD TESTAMENT Isaiah 60:1-6

Isaiah 60 is a powerful illustration of God's faithfulness to His promises and His ability to restore and transform.

FROM THE GOSPELS Matthew 2:1-12

This text emphasizes the role of divine guidance, highlighting the journey of faith that Mary, Joseph, and the Magi undertook, and the prophecies fulfilled.

The Word of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God.

SOLO (11:00 AM) "I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day" Bill Jones

SERMON "Prepare to be Changed!" Rev. Judy Emerson

HYMN "Rise Up, Shepherd and Follow" TFWS No. 2096

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Prayer Requests
Pastoral Prayer

THE GIFTS OF THE PEOPLE

Announcements
Offertory (11:00 AM) "Glory Hallelujah" Chancel Choir
*Presentation of Gifts

*Doxology

UMH No. 94

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below:
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God, the source of all our gifts!
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

*Prayer of Dedication

Generous God, we joyfully acknowledge that our spiritual blessings are evidence of your love for your children. May these generous gifts be applied according to your plan as we glorify your Holy Name. Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Breaking the Bread & Sharing the Cup

Communion Offering for Carroll County Food Sunday

Hymns During Communion: #217, #218, #219

Prayer After Communion

Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*HYMN

"We Three Kings"

UMH No. 254

*DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

*POSTLUDE

Announcements

January 5, 2025

THANK YOU - I would like to take this opportunity to express my deepest appreciation and thanks for the kindness and generosity you have shown to me during this Christmas Season. Your outpouring of love and support, your cards, notes, and gifts have been so kind and generous. Time has gone by so quickly as I can hardly believe we just completed our 19th Christmas together. I pray we will share many more as God continues to bless us through the programs and ministries at EUMC. Happy New Year! Rev. Judy

BIRTHDAY PARTY FOR JESUS! – *TODAY*

Time: Sunday School PreK -5th grade at 9:45-10:45 AM Grades 6-12 will report to regular SS class at 9:45 AM and then join the younger grades at 10:30 AM for cake and ice cream in the Fellowship Hall.

Place: Sunday School Rooms at 9:45 AM and Fellowship Hall at 10:30 AM.

PLANNING FOR NEW OUTDOOR MINISTRY SPACE – The Ad Council has voted to begin a fund to build a pavilion on our property behind the food pantry. This could be used for so many activities for our church family, including for VBS, youth, picnics and so much more. If you would like to donate, just mark “Pavilion Fund” on your check. You can also donate in memory or in honor of a loved one.

SOUPER BOWL - Ebenezer is again having a Souper Bowl Fundraiser offering their yummy homemade soups, chicken salad, BBQ and cookies. Order forms are in your bulletins. Orders must be received no later than February 2nd. Pick up will be on Saturday, February 8th between 12-2 or Sunday, February 9th after each church service. If you have any questions, please see Sandy Wean, Nancy Newcomer, or Valerie Hyer. Thanks in advance for supporting this fundraiser; proceeds go to the mortgage and the general fund.

CHRISTMAS CLEAN-UP – We will be packing up Christmas after the Service today! If you are available, we would love the help. It goes much quicker when we have help. Thank you!

BIBLE STUDY – Tuesdays starting on **January 7, 2025**, from 9:30 – 11:00 AM with Rev. Rick Gray. Come and join us and study the book of Matthew!

AD COUNCIL – There will be **NO** Ad Council meeting this week. We will meet on Sunday, January 19th after our 11:00 AM worship service. The Potluck Planning Day will begin around 12:00 PM and we will end the day by 3:00 PM.

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Church Office: 410-795-6136
 Website: ebenezerumchurch.org
 Email: eumcwinfield@gmail.com
 Pastor's Email: revjae@aol.com

Office Hours

Tues - Thurs 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM
 Sunday 9:00 AM - Noon

	OFFERING	ATTENDANCE
Christmas Eve: 12/24/24	\$1,897	120
Last Week: 12/29/24	\$9,162	97
WORSHIP LEADERS	8:30 AM	11:00 AM
Liturgist	Barb Conaway	Bill Jones
Ushers	Rick & Brenda Baker	McGehrins & Stevens
Acolyte	Kyle Flater	Ryan Piecewicz
DATE	EVENT	TIME
Tuesday, January 7 th	Bible Study – With Rev. Rick Gray	9:30 – 11:00 AM
Wednesday, January 8 th	OWLS Children's Choir Chancel Choir	12:00 – 2:00 PM 6:30 – 7:15 PM 7:30 PM
Thursday, January 9 th	Pachelbells	6:45 – 7:30 PM
Sunday, January 12 th	Children's Church	11:00 AM
Monday, January 13 th	Community Table	12:00 PM
Sunday, January 19 th	Ad Council Planning Day	12:00 – 3:00 PM
Sunday, January 26 th	Children's Church	11:00 AM



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