

the Scripture Memory Program, please note this needs to be completed by Sunday, May 12. If you have any questions please contact Joan Steiner 419-358-0486.

Choral Anthem  
***I Will Go On***

I repent for moments I have spent recalling all the pain and failures of my past  
I repent for dwelling on the things beyond my pow'r to change,  
the chains that hold me fast.

I will go on! My past I leave behind me; I gladly take His mercy and His love.  
He is joy and He is peace; He is strength and sweet release.  
I know He is and I am His. I will go on.

I give up the bitterness and hate, the blaming men and fate for all my discontent.  
The guilt and pain I empty from my cup so God can fill it up  
with peace and sweet content.

I will go on! My past I leave behind me; I gladly take His mercy and His love.  
He is joy and He is peace; He is strength and sweet release.  
I know He is and I am His.

I will go on! My past I leave behind me; I gladly take His mercy and His love.  
He is joy and He is peace; He is strength and sweet release.  
I know He is and I am His. I will go on.  
Go on, I will go on.

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**~ CHILD DEDICATION SERVICE SUNDAY, MAY 12 ~**

At our Child Dedication Service, parents commit to raise their child to know Jesus Christ for the glory of God. The church family pledges to support the family with love and encouragement, plus provide opportunities for spiritual development of the family.

***Parents, if you would like to take part in this service we need you to:***

- \* Register your child or children in one of the following ways:  
Call the church office at 419-358-8588 or contact Pastor Jim or Pastor Wade.
- \* Provide a digital photo of you with the child or children to be dedicated. Send to: [info@ebenezymennonite.org](mailto:info@ebenezymennonite.org) or contact Pastor Wade at 567-204-1868 or e-mail him at [wade.slechter@ebenezymennonite.org](mailto:wade.slechter@ebenezymennonite.org).
- \* Please register and have photo turned in no later than Sunday, May 5. There will be a time in the dedication where your child will specifically be prayed for. This prayer can be offered by you, a family member, friend, or pastor. Please let us know who will be praying.

*Any parents who attend Ebenezer are welcome to dedicate their child. The requirement is membership in the family of God, not Ebenezer Mennonite Church. All parents who know Christ as Savior are welcome to participate in this child dedication.*

**Safe Sanctuary Training** will be held Sunday, May 19, after the Morning Worship Gathering until 2:00 p.m. for all of those 17 and older who will be working with children here at Ebenezer. A light lunch will be served. You may sign up in the Missions Center. If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Jim or Joan Steiner.

**Coed Softball League** through the Bluffton Family Recreation has invited Ebenezer to join. If you are interested in joining the team, sign ups and information are on the counter in the Missions Center. The team will need a coach/point person who is willing to organize and inform the participants. If no one is in place by Saturday, June 8, we will not have a team *this* year. If you have any questions please contact Pastor Wade at 567-204-1868.

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**~ THANK YOU ~**

**We thank you** for all the prayers, cards, and a call from Pastor Warren from afar. Also, thanks to Pastor Dick and Kathy for their visits. Bless all of you. *In Christian love, Don & Joan Anderson*

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**~ UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES ~**

- May 12** Child Dedication Service (10:15 a.m., CMC)
- May 12, 19, 26** Vacation Bible School Registration
- May 19** Christian Education Promotion Sunday (9:00 a.m., CMC)  
Safe Sanctuary Training (11:30 a.m., 103)
- May 26** Meet the Teacher (9:00 a.m., basement classrooms)  
Graduate Recognition Service (10:15 a.m., CMC)  
*No Evening Fellowship Service*
- June 1** Agape/College Age Class (7:00 p.m., Lima Rescue Home)
- June 2-7** Vacation Bible School (6:30 – 9:00 p.m.)
- June 9-15** Middle School (Miracle Camp - Grades 5&6)
- June 23-29** Senior High (Miracle Camp - Grades 9-12)
- June 30-July 3** Grade School 1 (Miracle Camp - Grades 2-4)
- June 30-July 12** Adult Missions Trip (France)
- July 1-8** Youth Missions Trip (Mexico B2Live) *Please note date change.*
- July 7-13** Junior High (Miracle Camp - Grades 7&8)



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**April 28, 2013**

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# Welcome to EBENEZER

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**~ OPPORTUNITIES OF THE DAY ~**

- 9:00 a.m.** Adult Bible Fellowship  
Sunday School (*2-year-olds – High School*)
- 9:45 a.m.** Cherub Choir (*age 2-K, B11*)
- 10:00 a.m.** The Good News Hour (*2&3 year olds-B10, 4 year olds-K-B11*)
- 10:15 a.m.** Worship Gathering – Pastor Jim  
*After God's Heart – Nabal/A Stingy Heart (CMC)*
- 11:30 p.m.** Welcome to Ebenezer Luncheon (*FH*)
- 2:30 p.m.** VBS Staff Meeting (*at Melissa Hilty's home*)
- 5:30 p.m.** Concession Stand Opens (*CMC*)
- 6:00 p.m.** Disciple Singers' Musical -**THE GAME PLAN**  
(*CMC*)
- 7:00 p.m.** Senior High Small Groups
- 7:15 p.m.** Small Groups (*King's, Niswander's, Stockman's*)
- 8:15 p.m.** **Selah** (*Sanctuary*)

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**~ WELCOME TO EBENEZER LUNCHEON ~**

**You may have been attending** Ebenezer for several months, weeks, or perhaps visiting for the first time today. Whatever the case you are invited to join us for a Welcome Luncheon immediately following the Morning Worship Gathering in the Fellowship Hall today. All college age students are also invited to attend. The luncheon will give us the opportunity to further introduce you to our church and the ministries of our church.

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**~ PRAYER CONERNS ~**

**Our sympathy to the family of Charles Kinsinger:** Charles, the husband of Treva and mother of Pauline Watts, Mark Kinsinger, Kent Kinsinger, and Clair Kinsinger passed away on Friday, April 19. Services were held here at the church on Monday, April 22.

**Pray for the family of Peg Dukes:** Peg, the mother of Dick, passed away Tuesday, April 23. Services were held on Friday at

Pleasant View United Methodist Church, Bluffton.

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~ ATTENDANCE AND GIVING ~

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**Attendance on April 21:**

Sunday School & ABF	(9:00 a.m.)	293
Worship Gathering	(10:15 a.m.)	433
Evening Fellowship Service	(7:00 p.m.)	86

**Giving on April 21:**

**\$10,260.93**

Benevolent	105.00
Building Fund	530.00
Christian Education Fund	463.93
General Fund	6,106.00
Missions Fund	2,811.00
New Building Fund	155.00
Youth Fund	90.00

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**Please note:** The Trustees have established a Cemetery Restoration Fund for future projects. Any donations should be made to the Building Fund and earmarked "Cemetery Restoration."

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~ OUR MISSIONARIES ~

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**Missionaries of the week: Phil & Deb Leach** have been missionaries for 33 years and have worked in the following countries: Ecuador, China, Taiwan, Hong Kong, Nepal, India, and the Philippines. Phil now serves with **BEE** (Biblical Education by Extension) and trains pastors and church leaders who have not had opportunity to attend a formal Bible school. Deb produces (films and edits) the Bible study series of *His Healing Light* ministries. Please encourage Phil & Deb by sending an e-mail note at: phil.leach@me.com.

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~ BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT ~

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**Congratulations** to Kyle & Amy Gratz on the birth of their son, Tyler William, on Friday, April 19, weighing 6 lbs. 9 oz.

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~ YOUTH NEWS ~

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**Parents of all Sunday School Students:** Please note that

pictures for Promotion Sunday will be taken today. This will be done during the Sunday School hour.

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~ TODAY'S GREETERS ~

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Mariah Burkholder, Rachel Moser – *Missions Center*  
David & Mary Ream – *Crossroads Ministry Center*

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**OPPORTUNITIES OF THE WEEK: APRIL 29-MAY 5**

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<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>6:30 a.m.</b>	Men's Small Group ( <i>Arby's</i> )
	<b>7:00 p.m.</b>	<b>NDOP</b> Community Choir Rehearsal ( <i>CMC</i> ) Missions Sub Committee Meeting ( <i>103</i> )
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>9:00 a.m.</b>	Game Time ( <i>FH</i> )
	<b>6:15 p.m.</b>	Worship Team Rehearsal ( <i>115</i> )
	<b>7:00 p.m.</b>	Women's Bible Study ( <i>S4</i> )
	<b>7:05 p.m.</b>	Connections ( <i>Bluffton McDonald's</i> )
	<b>8:30 p.m.</b>	Dodgeball ( <i>CMC</i> )
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>7:00 p.m.</b>	<b>National Day of Prayer Event</b> ( <i>CMC</i> )
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>9:00 a.m.</b>	VBS Staff Meeting ( <i>Melissa Hilty's home</i> )
	<b>7:00 p.m.</b>	Berean ABF Class ( <i>Lima Rescue Home</i> )
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>9:00 a.m.</b>	Sunday School & ABF ( <i>Various classrooms</i> ) VBS Training ( <i>Schoolhouse</i> )
	<b>9:45 a.m.</b>	Cherub Choir ( <i>Ages 2-K, B11</i> )
	<b>10:00 a.m.</b>	The Good News Hour ( <i>2&amp;3 year olds-B10, 4 year olds-K-B11</i> )
	<b>10:15 a.m.</b>	Worship Gathering ( <i>CMC</i> )
	<b>6:30 p.m.</b>	Small Groups ( <i>Epp's, King's, Niswander's</i> )
	<b>7:00 p.m.</b>	Evening Fellowship Service ( <i>Sanctuary</i> ) Student Small Groups Meet
	<b>7:05 p.m.</b>	Small Group ( <i>103</i> )
	<b>8:15 p.m.</b>	<b>Selah</b> ( <i>Sanctuary</i> )

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~ HELPERS FOR NEXT SUNDAY, MAY 5 ~

**Nursery:** Arlene Garmatter, Melba Gerber, Gail Schantz

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~ CHICKEN BBQ YOUTH FUNDRAISER ~

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**The Youth Ministry is having its Annual Chicken BBQ** on Mother's Day, May 12, to support the 2013 Youth Missions Trip to La Mision Mexico, July 1-8. The dinners will include a half chicken and two sides or just a half chicken. Orders may be taken out or enjoyed at the church. Please use the pink order form inserted in today's *Emissary* to place your order. Then place in the offering plate or in the basket in the Missions Center. Contact Pastor Wade

with any questions, or you may e-mail him at: wade.slechter@ebenezymennonite.org with your order. Thank you for supporting the 2013 Youth Missions Trip!

**NDP Round-the-Clock Prayer:** Stop by the display at the table at the back of the Crossroads Ministry Center to sign up to pray for one-half hour during the 24 hours of the National Day of Prayer, Thursday, May 2. You will receive a prayer guide with prayer points to assist you in your prayer time.

**National Day of Prayer Event:** Please make plans to invite your friends and attend a special program this Thursday, May 2, at 7:00 p.m. in the Crossroads Ministry Center. There will be a variety of persons praying for our nation, for our community, and for many other prayer focus points. The program will also include a special musical package by a church and community choir. - *Sponsored by the Prayer Action Team Committee*

**Disciple Singers** will present a musical called **THE GAME PLAN** tonight at 6:00 in the Crossroads Ministry Center. **THE GAME PLAN** is a fun summertime kids' musical about the importance of team work and following the game plan—God's game plan. The story wraps around the adventures of the Tigers' soccer team and cheer squad, made up of girls and boys with all different personalities, talents, and skills. Come join us and invite your family and friends (invitations are available in the Missions Center and on the Crossroads Ministry Center table). A concession stand (by donation) will be open between 5:30-6:00 p.m. and after the program.

**VBS Volunteers Still Needed:** Melissa Hilty will be at the table in the back of the Crossroads Ministry Center today if you would like to turn in your completed yellow insert. Thank you!

**At Willow Ridge,** Bill Herr, Mennonite Memorial Home Chaplain, leads two Bible studies for the residents. He is finding that he needs assistance in leading one of these groups one day a week. Would you be willing to lead a Bible study group at Willow Ridge once a week? The day would be Wednesday or Thursday (whichever day would fit the volunteer) at 10:30 a.m. and last 1/2 hour. The study plan is at the volunteer's choice. If you have any questions, please contact Mary Ann Ring at 419-358-1015, Volunteer Coordinator, at Mennonite Home Communities of Ohio.

**Promotion Sunday** will be held on May 19 during the Sunday School hour. There will be no ABF classes, but all are encouraged to attend this special time for our youth. If your child is involved in