



December 7, 2014

# Ebenezer Emissary

~ EBENEZER COMMUNICATIONS CARD ~

Please take a moment to complete the information below.

Place in the offering plate or the box provided in the Missions Center on the Prayer Counter.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**I am interested in information on:**

Ebenezer Mennonite Church    Baptism    Membership

Child dedication    Getting involved in ministry

Joining a small group    Prayer requests \_\_\_\_\_

~ CHOIR ANTHEM ~

## Noel Peace Canon

(by Ruth Elaine Schram)

*Dona nobis pacem, pacem (Peace, the gift to us).*

*Bring us peace this Christmastime.*

*Dona nobis pacem, pacem.*

*Bring us peace this Christmastime.*

*The first Noel the angel did say*

*Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;*

*In fields where they lay keeping their sheep*

*On a cold winter's night that was so deep.*

*Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.*

*Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King who will bring us;*

*Dona nobis pacem, pacem.*

*Bring us peace this Christmastime.*

*Dona nobis pacem, pacem.*

*Bring us peace this Christmastime.*

*Dona nobis pacem, pacem (Peace, the gift to us).*

**Cookies for Transport for Christ:** Starting Thursday, December 18, we would like to pass out cookies and ministry literature to our truckers at the TFC Second Chance Chapels at the Pilot Travel Center and the Flying J Travel Plaza. Our Chaplains will bag them to pass out to our truckers. If you can bake some cookies and deliver them to one of the Chapels, our truckers will really appreciate this 'little bit of home' at Christmas when they cannot be home with their loved ones. Thank you so much for your cookies and as you bake them pray that each trucker who receives them will get a blessing from this and being at our TFC Chapels. – *David Lugibihl*

**SIM Missions Trip:** A work team is scheduled to go to Charlotte, North Carolina February 8-14, with an additional roofing week planned for February 1-7. Sign-up is on a first-come, first-served basis. Please contact Frank Boehm at 567-371-9541 by December 31, if interested.

~ OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD 2014 ~

**We thank God** for the 670 shoeboxes collected from Ebenezer, the community, and for all the volunteer workers to make this happen. These boxes bring smiles of joy to children all over the world and make an impact for the cause of Christ. Thank you for helping Operation Christmas Child! - *Tom & Annie Spallinger*

~ PRAYER CONCERNS AND PRAYER CHAIN ~

**Please call the church office** for any names or concerns that you want listed in the Weekly Prayer List or prayed for during our Worship Services. To start the Prayer Chain, call or text Kathy Brauen at 419-234-7808 or call the church office at 419-358-8588.

**Church Office Hours:**

Monday – Friday, 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

~ UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES ~

**Dec. 21** Christmas Worship Service (10:15 a.m., CMC)  
*No Sunday School, ABF, or Evening Fellowship Service*

**Dec. 24** Christmas Eve Service (6:00 p.m., CMC)

**Jan. 9-11** Junior High Ice Camp (Miracle Camp)

**Jan. 18** Adult Sunday School Workshop (6:30 p.m., FH)

**Jan. 30-Feb. 1** High School Ice Camp (Miracle Camp)

**Feb. 1-14** SIM Roofing Team (Charlotte, North Carolina)

**Feb. 8-14** SIM Work Team (Charlotte, North Carolina)

~ OPPORTUNITIES OF THE DAY ~

**9:00 a.m.** Sunday School & ABF (Various Classrooms)

**9:50 a.m.** Disciple Singers' Choir Meet (FH)

**10:00 a.m.** The Good News Hour  
*(2 year olds-B16, 3 year olds-B10, 4,5&6 year olds-B11)*

**10:15 a.m.** Worship Gathering – Pastor Jim (CMC)  
*Adventures in Advent: Anticipation*

**11:30 a.m.** Berean ABF Class Lunch (FH)  
India Youth Missions Trip Meeting (schoolhouse)

**4:00 p.m.** *Messiah (Bluffton University)*

**5:00 p.m.** Trustee Meeting (103)

**6:00 p.m.** Children's Christmas Play Characters  
*(CMC, costume fitting)*

**6:30 p.m.** Full Dress Rehearsal of Children's Christmas Program for all Sunday School and choir members  
*(CMC)*

Small Groups Christmas Party (Tim & Bev Stockman's)

**7:00 p.m.** High School Small Groups (Meet in schoolhouse)

Junior High Small Groups (Guys B11, Girls 116)

**Bluffton University** will present its 119<sup>th</sup> performance of Handel's *Messiah* at 4:00 p.m. today in Founders Hall. The event is free and open to the public. There will be no Evening Fellowship Service here at the church.

~ PRAYER CONCERNS ~

**Our sympathy** to the family of Edna Herr. Edna, the mother of Cheryl Burkholder, passed away on Wednesday, December 3. Services were held yesterday at Siferd-Orians Funeral Home in Lima.

**Scheduled Surgery:** Jane Shaw, Wednesday, December 10, at OSU James Center.

~ BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT ~

**Congratulations** to Joshua & Heidi Steiner, on the birth of their daughter Annie Leigh on Monday, December 1, weighing 8 lb.5 oz.

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~ ATTENDANCE AND GIVING ~

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**Attendance on November 30:**

Sunday School & ABF	(9:00 a.m.)	256
Worship Gathering	(10:15 a.m.)	440

**Giving on November 30:**

\$18,599.23

Benevolent Fund	230.00
Building Fund	625.00
Christian Education Fund	1,218.23
General Fund	6,636.00
Missions Fund	9,855.00
New Building	35.00

**Missions Giving:**

\$200 – Findlay Area Youth for Christ-training for Wade Slechter

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~ MISSIONARIES OF THE WEEK ~

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**Missionaries of the Week** are **Jared & Amy Diller**, serving with **Youth for Christ** in **Lima** through **Rally Point Youth Center**. Rally Point is a safe place for Lima teens to retreat to for their after-school program from 3:00 - 6:00 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday. In this place teens find positive opportunities to grow mentally, emotionally, and spiritually through Jesus Christ. Students can receive help with their homework and a free snack. This is a foundational program that allows students to interact with caring Christian adults and learn of other opportunities such as Wednesday Night Bible study, *Revive*. To send a message to Jared & Amy write to: P.O. Box 1502, Lima, OH 45802 or e-mail: rallypoint@live.com.

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~ FAITH PROMISE UPDATE~

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**The promises presently** amount to \$237,757, towards our goal of \$275,000. Faith Promise pledges will be taken until the end of December. Pledge cards may be picked up in the Missions Center or the church office. Thank you again for your prayers and pledges that make our missions program a great blessing to many missionaries and ministries. - *Missions Committee*

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~ TODAY'S GREETERS ~

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Dan & Barb Steiner – *Crossroads Ministry Center*  
Jeannie Lee, Tiffany Rodabaugh – *Missions Center*

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OPPORTUNITIES OF THE WEEK: DECEMBER 8-14

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<b>Monday</b>	<b>9:00 a.m.</b>	<b>MOPS (FH)</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>6:30 a.m.</b>	Men's Small Group ( <i>Bluffton Arby's</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>CMC</i> )
	<b>7:00 p.m.</b>	Congregational Meeting ( <i>Sanctuary</i> )
	<b>8:00 p.m.</b>	Adult Choir Rehearsal ( <i>115</i> )
	<b>8:30 p.m.</b>	Bread of Life Ministries ( <i>Church Kitchen</i> )
		Dodgeball ( <i>CMC</i> )
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>8:30 p.m.</b>	Young Adult Basketball ( <i>CMC</i> )
<b>Friday</b>	<b>7:00 a.m.</b>	Youth Prayer Group ( <i>Bluffton McDonald's</i> )
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>10:00 a.m.</b>	Children's Christmas Program Rehearsal ( <i>CMC</i> )
	<b>10:30 a.m.</b>	College Age Small Group ( <i>103 W. Elm St.</i> )
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>9:00 a.m.</b>	Sunday School & ABF ( <i>Various Classrooms</i> )
	<b>10:00 a.m.</b>	The Good News Hour ( <i>2 year olds-B16, 3 year olds-B10, 4,5&amp;6 year olds-B11</i> )
	<b>10:15 a.m.</b>	Worship Gathering ( <i>CMC</i> )
	<b>6:00 p.m.</b>	All Children in Christmas Program Meet ( <i>115</i> )
	<b>7:00 p.m.</b>	Children's Christmas Program ( <i>CMC</i> )

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~ NEXT SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14 ~

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**Nursery:**

Ann, Emily & Amber Gladwell, Cheryl Potter, Phil & Sarah Shank

**The Good News Hour:**

Ashley Fry, Sarah Schutz, Jeremy & Stephanie Scoles  
John & Jaime Shaw, Maria Spallinger

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~ YOUTH NEWS ~

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**India Mission Trip Meeting** will be held right after church in the schoolhouse today. This meeting is for any student who has any possible interest in coming on the trip and wants information about when and how to sign up. There also will be information sent home for the parents. For further questions please talk to Ben Moser.

**Junior High Youth Group** will not meet this Wednesday due to the scheduled Congregational Meeting.

**High School Christmas Caroling:** On Friday, December 19, at 6:00 p.m. we will meet at the church to go Christmas Caroling at the Mennonite Memorial Home. After we carol we will get some food and play some games at the church. It should be a fun night!

**Junior High and High School Ice Skating:** On Sunday, December 21, at 1:15 p.m. we will meet at the church to head over to the Cube in Findlay to go ice skating. We will be back at the church around 4:30 p.m. Please bring \$5 and it will cover it all. Get ready to get your skate on!

**Junior High Ice Camp:** For those Junior High students interested in going to Ice Camp (January 9-11) please sign up now. There is a sheet at the Information Center in the Missions Center or you can e-mail ben.moser@ebenezymennonite.org to reserve your spot. The cost is \$100 please make check out to Ebenezer. We are looking forward to this awesome weekend!

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~ PLEASE NOTE ~

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**Berean ABF Class Lunch:** Join us today for a Christmas Party following the morning Worship Gathering in the Fellowship Hall.

**Finding Peace at Christmas:** *Our Daily Bread* has published a special devotional with ten reflections designed to help you in your spiritual journey. Please stop by the Information Counter in the Missions Center to get your copy and a copy for a friend to find encouragement, comfort, and true joy this Christmas season.

**The Bluffton/Pandora** Swiss Community Historical Society Christmas Open House, *Christmas at the Homestead*, will be held on Saturday, December 13, from 1:00-6:00 p.m. at the Schumacher Homestead. For more information please see the bulletin board next to the church kitchen.

**Please plan now** to bring plenty of finger foods to share with family and visiting friends who attend the Children's Christmas Program next Sunday, December 14, at 7:00 p.m.

**Small items needed for the Sunshine Boxes!** The Women's Ministry Team would again like your help in providing small gifts for our elderly and shut-in members. Please place your selected items in the Missions Center (red tub) on or before next Sunday, December 14. If you have any questions see Pat King or Bev Stockman. Thank you!

**Anyone willing to donate** a deer or any type of wild game for our Wild Game Event Saturday, April 11, 2015, please contact Joe Alt at 419-234-1247. Thank you.