



March 8, 2015

# Ebenezer Emissary

Welcome! Please take a moment to fill out the Ebenezer Communications Card which is part of the Emissary. This communication is a vital link which helps our Body stay connected. Please feel free to place completed ones in the offering plate or in the box provided in the Missions Center on the Prayer Counter.

## ~ OPPORTUNITIES OF THE DAY ~

- 9:00 a.m.** Adult Bible Fellowship (*Various Classrooms*)  
Christian Leadership Class (*116*)  
Sunday School (*2-year-olds – High School*)
- 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, Missions Trip Reports - *Ethiopia, Haiti, & SIM (CMC)*
- 2:00 p.m.** Youth Pastor Search Committee (*103*)
- 6:00 p.m.** Disciple Singers' Actors (*CMC, Acts 4,5,&6, narrators 3&4, Prodigal Son actors*)  
Disciple Singers' Choreography (*FH*)
- 6:31 p.m.** Small Groups (*Tim & Bev Stockman's home*)
- 6:45 p.m.** Disciple Singers' Choir (*118-119*)
- 7:00 p.m.** Evening Fellowship Service (*Sanctuary*)  
High School Small Groups (*Meet in Schoolhouse*)  
Junior High Small Groups (*Guys Schoolhouse, Girls 116*)

## ~ PRAYER CONCERNS ~

**Our sympathy** to the family of Ruth Haushalter. Ruth, the mother of Sheryl (Todd) Haushalter Sopher, passed away on Saturday, February 28. Services were held Wednesday, March 4, at Crawford Funeral Home in Jerseyville, Illinois.

## ~ BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT ~

**Congratulations** to Ben & Janeth Magiri on the birth of their daughter, Nataniela Nyamisi, on Tuesday, March 3, weighing 9 lb. Janeth is from Tanzania and a student of Bluffton University who is staying with Ron & Sue Epp. Ben & Janeth also have a daughter, Noela.

## ~ 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 \_\_\_\_\_

**Several area churches** are collecting feminine hygiene products for homeless or poor women. **Supply Our Sisters** (SOS) is a month-long collection of pads and tampons of various types which will be distributed to The Samaritan's House and Crossroads Crisis Center in Lima. A drop-off box is provided in the Missions Center from now until March 30. For more information please contact Jamie Nygaard at 419-358-4884.

**WTGN is sponsoring** a trip to the Pacific Garden Mission (PNG) in Chicago April 25. They will be collecting men's new underwear, t-shirts, and socks, any size or color. Please drop off your donation in the box in the Missions Center by Wednesday, April 22, so items can be delivered to WTGN before the trip. PNG is in great need of these items and is very blessed by what we bring.

*Choral Anthem*

### Joy Overflowing

*(words and music by Cindy Berry)*

When I consider the heavens above, the moon and the stars that Thou hast ordained,

When I consider Thy merciful love, how can I help but sing?

And my praise will be ever to Thee, ever to Thee, O Lord,

The Great I Am, redeemer of man and giver of joy overflowing.

Mountains and hills burst forth into song. The trees clap their hands; the heavens rejoice.

All creation sings for joy, and I must add my voice, add my voice.

And my praise will be ever to Thee, ever to Thee, O Lord,

The Great I Am, redeemer of man and giver of joy overflowing.

Great King eternal, Lord of hosts, Prince of Peace, Ancient of days,

Thou art worthy, worthy of glory, majesty and praise.

And my praise will be ever to Thee, ever to Thee, O Lord,

The Great I Am, redeemer of man and giver of joy overflowing.

Giver of life, giver of love, giver of joy overflowing.

## ~ UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES ~

- Apr. 3** Good Friday Service (*7:00 p.m., CMC*)
- Apr. 5** SonRise Service (*7:30 a.m., CMC*)  
SonRise Breakfast (*8:30 a.m., CMC*)  
Easter Worship Service (*10:15 a.m., CMC*)  
*No Sunday School, ABF, or Evening Fellowship Service*
- Apr. 11** Wild Game Event (*5:00 p.m., CMC*)
- Apr. 19** Welcome to Ebenezer Luncheon (*11:30 a.m., CMC*)
- Apr. 26** Disciple Singers' Spring Musical, *Here for the Gold* (*10:15 a.m., CMC*)
- May 2** High School Students (*Lima Rescue Mission*)

**Ebenezer:** Thank you for the Valentine's Day gift. It's nice to know I'm thought of while away in college. May God bless all of you! – *Summer Burkholder*

**Dear friends:** After nearly three decades of being blessed by the good people of Ebenezer, we at SIM have to say wow, in addition to saying thank you. If it were possible, we'd love to have the whole church travel down for a visit! You are collectively and lovingly known to us as *The Bluffton Team*. Even those of you we haven't yet met are dear to us and to the ministry of SIM. The wonderful history of your service is a powerful testimony to your love for God, your heart for the world, and your dedicated partnership with SIM. We always enjoy interacting with the team, but I also want to recognize the contribution of the whole church family at Ebenezer and those from the Bluffton community who have donated time, money, and so much more to your ministry to SIM. The many ways you bless us increase our ability to minister well to the people who visit our campus. Wow, friends. Thank you for your kindness to SIM and for your ministry among us. Thank you for your generous financial gift. Thank you for faithfully making this ministry a priority. We pray the Lord will continue to guide and bless Ebenezer Mennonite Church in fulfilling God's plan to proclaim the gospel to all people! – *Bruce Johnson, President SIM USA*

~ ATTENDANCE AND GIVING ~

**Attendance on March 1:**

Sunday School & ABF	(9:00 a.m.)	244
Worship Gathering	(10:15 a.m.)	398
Evening Fellowship Ministries	(7:00 p.m.)	120

**Giving on March 1:**

\$17,454.71

Benevolent	50.00
Building Fund	820.00
Christian Education Fund	640.71
General Fund	9,272.50
Missions Fund	6,407.50
New Building Fund	100.00
Van Fund	164.00

~ MISSIONARIES OF THE WEEK ~

**Missionaries of the Week** are *Lyn & Lori Loewen* working with **Youth for Christ** in the **Van Buren** area. They thank you so much for your prayer and support of the ministry at Van Buren. *Lori & I greatly appreciate the support and prayers that you have given to the ministry for lost kids in Van Buren. Please continue to pray for the Youth for Christ ministry that we may step through any doors the Lord opens up to share Jesus by any and all possible means. Thank you again for partnering with us.* Please encourage Lyn & Lori by sending a note at: 1895 Baker Way, Findlay, OH 45840 or e-mail at: wild4the1@yahoo.com.

~ RESCHEDULED ~

**Evening Sew** is tomorrow Monday, March 9, from 6:00-9:00 and the All Day Sew is Tuesday, March 10, from 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. We will be knotting comforters for our missionaries. Please bring a hot and cold dish for a noon potluck meal on Tuesday. The potluck is also open to all spouses of those working and all widow/widowers to be our guest. Everyone is invited.

~ TODAY'S GREETERS ~

*Crossroads Ministry Center: Dan & Barb Steiner  
Missions Center: Robert & Sue Spallinger*

OPPORTUNITIES OF THE WEEK: MARCH 9-15

<b>Monday</b>	<b>9:00 a.m.</b> <i>MOPS (FH)</i>
	<b>6:00 p.m.</b> Evening Sew (CMC)
	<b>7:00 p.m.</b> Christian Education Com. Meeting (103)
	<b>7:05 p.m.</b> Small Group (173 Albert Street, Bluffton)
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>6:30 a.m.</b> Men's Small Group (Bluffton Arby's)
	<b>9:00 p.m.</b> All Day Sew (CMC)
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>9:00 a.m.</b> Game Time (FH)
	<b>6:15 p.m.</b> Worship Team Rehearsal (CMC)
	<b>7:00 p.m.</b> Adult Bible Study & Prayer (103)
	Adult Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary Choir Loft)
	Children's Ministries (age 3-Grade 6)
	Junior High Youth Group (B17)
	Ladies' Small Group (Infant Nursery)
	Men/Ladies' Bible Study (Church Library)
	Men's Bible Study (114)
	Women's Bible Study (S4)
	<b>7:05 p.m.</b> Connections Small Group (Bluffton McDonald's)
	<b>8:30 p.m.</b> Bread of Life Ministries (Church Kitchen)
	Dodgeball (CMC)
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>6:45 a.m.</b> Christian Leadership Class (Bluffton Arby's)
	<b>8:30 p.m.</b> Young Adult Basketball (CMC)
<b>Friday</b>	<b>7:05 a.m.</b> Youth Prayer Group (Bluffton McDonald's)
	<b>3:30 p.m.</b> Junior High Game Day (CMC)
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>10:30 a.m.</b> College Age Small Group (Ron & Sue Epp's)
	<b>2:00 p.m.</b> Ethiopia and Haiti Missions Trip Reports (CMC)
	<b>5:30 p.m.</b> Maranatha ABF Class Get-Together (Brent & Renea Zimmerman's home)
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>9:00 a.m.</b> Christian Leadership Class (116)
	Stephen Ministries (112)
	Sunday School & ABF (Various Classrooms)
	<b>10:00 a.m.</b> The Good News Hour (2 year olds-B16, 3 year olds-B10, 4,5&6 year olds-B11)
	<b>10:15 a.m.</b> Worship Gathering (CMC)
	<b>6:00 p.m.</b> Disciple Singers' Actors (CMC)
	Disciple Singers' Choreography (FH)
	<b>6:31 p.m.</b> Small Groups (Tim & Bev Stockman's home)
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	High School Small Groups (Schoolhouse)
	Junior High Small Groups (Guys Schoolhouse, Girls 116)

~ NEXT SUNDAY, MARCH 15 ~

**Infant & Toddler Nursery:**

Wayne & Susan Bixel, Brian & Kendy Young Family

**Good News Hour:**

Emma Klinger, Milo & Deb Luginbuhl, Jeremy & Stephanie Scoles

**Junior High Game Day:** On Friday, March 13, after school until 7:00 p.m. we will be having **Game Day and Pizza** in the Crossroads Ministry Center. We will be playing a huge variety of games from Yonk to kickball, from Minute-To-Win-It to Run Horsey Run. All Junior High students are welcome and we ask that you bring \$5 for pizza. Beginning at 3:30 p.m. but if you get there later because of school that is quite okay!

**A new class in Christian leadership** will start today at 9:00 a.m. in Room 116. The focus will be on becoming leaders who are disciples of Jesus. For more information, contact Pastor Dale 419-792-0147 or Dan Steiner 419-358-6783.

**If the Sunday class does not work for you,** the same content will be offered on Thursday mornings at Arbys in Bluffton at 6:45, beginning March 12. Please contact Ben Moser 419-303-5775 or Jaden August 419-889-9652 for more information.

**More stories, more pictures...** Everyone is invited to come at 2:00 p.m. Saturday, March 14, in the Crossroads Ministry Center. Members of recent mission trips to Ethiopia and Haiti will share of their exciting experiences. Bring some friends!

**Maranatha ABF Class Get-Together:** A time of food, fun, and fellowship is planned for 5:30 p.m., Saturday, March 14, at the home of Brent & Renea Zimmerman, 222 Locust Court, Bluffton. Families are welcome. Please bring a hot dish and a cold dish to share.

**Tickets for the Wild Game Night** are \$15 each and will go on sale Saturday, March 21, at 8:00 a.m. until sold out. This year's event will take place on Saturday, April 11, at 5:00 p.m. The speaker will be Steve Scott of On Target Outfitters.

**Registration is available** for the Bluffton University Women's Council conference, *Women Enriching Women: Finding Your Inspiration*, on Saturday, April 18. Sandy Monfort, an award-winning criminal justice professional from Lima, will be the keynote speaker. To register, go to <http://tickets.bluffton.edu>; for more information, contact Julia Szabo at 419-358-3245. Cost is \$45 per person.