

July 5, 2015

# Ebenezer Emissary



This weekend we celebrate Independence Day. With great gratitude for freedom of worship, let us thank God for our nation. Let us also greet one another with loving kindness as we praise God. Make yourself at home, you are among friends who would love for you to be part of the family! 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.** Sunday School & ABF (*Various Classrooms*)
- 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 & Communion Service – Pastor Jim (*CMC*)  
*Stand Firm in the Scriptures*
- 6:31 p.m.** Small Group (*Jim & Pat King's home*)  
Small Group (*Chuck & Saun Niswander's home*)
- 7:00 p.m.** High School Small Group (*477 Cherry St., Bluffton*)  
Prayer Time for India Trip (*Schoolhouse*)  
*No Evening Fellowship Service*

**Please note:** All loose offerings taken during the Morning Worship Gathering will go towards the Benevolent Fund (in connection with communion).

~ MIRACLE CAMP NEWS ~

Grade School 1 (July 8-11) - Marco Eiden

**You've heard the bad news** from the Middle East! Plan now to attend next Sunday, July 12, at 7:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall to come hear some **good news** of how God is working, how families are being strengthened and churches are growing. Dennis & Cindy Wiens will be sharing how God is using satellite television in transforming the Middle East and North Africa through hope in Jesus Christ. Their amazing stories will change your perspective and you will be encouraged! Please bring finger foods to share.

**The Wild Game Committee** will be hosting Trap Shoots once a month here at the church for the next few months. Our first Trap Shoot is planned for Saturday, July 25, at 9:00 a.m. If interested, plan now to attend. Watch for more information about it in the next week or two.

~ THANK YOU ~

**Thank you to all** who sent cards, prayed for me, and came to visit while I was in the hospital and since I have returned home. God is healing me and I can feel His presence. God is great! – *Carlene Nusbaum*

~ SWISS MENNONITE 175 – SUNDAY, AUGUST 30, 3-8 P.M. ~

**A traditional homemade Swiss meal** of sausage, sauerkraut, potatoes, and pie will be served. You may pre-order your meal tickets, make a donation (suggested \$7), and RSVP at the church office or online at [SwissMenno175.eventbrite.com](http://SwissMenno175.eventbrite.com). There will be free hotdogs for kids.

~ UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES ~

- July 17-19** Family Camp (*Winton Woods, Cincinnati*)
- July 19** *No Sunday School for children ages 2-Grade 6*  
*No Children's Church for 2-6 year olds*
- July 19-25** Senior High (*Miracle Camp, Grades 9-12*)
- July 25** Trap Shoot (*9:00 a.m., church field*)
- July 26-Aug. 1** Junior High (*Miracle Camp, Grades 7-8*)
- July 26** Congregational Meeting (*CMC*)
- Aug. 7,8,&9** Dinner Theatre-*Suspect Hollywood* (*6:00 p.m., CMC*)
- Aug. 9-15** Grade School Full Week (*Miracle Camp, Grades2-4*)
- Aug. 9-12** Grade School Half Week (*Miracle Camp, Grades2-4*)
- Aug. 12-15** Grade School Half Week (*Miracle Camp, Grades2-4*)
- Aug. 30** 175<sup>th</sup> Celebration (*Founding of the first Mennonite church*)
- Nov. 8-11&14-15** Missions Conference – 1 John 2:2

**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 \_\_\_\_\_

**The Youth Pastor Search Committee** along with the deacons have unanimously approved David Glick as our candidate for the Pastor of Youth Ministries position. David along with his wife, Mary, will share their testimonies, vision, and answer questions in the Crossroads Ministry Center for all classes Junior High through Adult Bible Fellowship at 9:00 a.m. next Sunday, July 12. Then an election, by ballot vote, will be held on Sunday, July 26, after the Morning Worship Gathering. A two-thirds majority of the votes cast by the membership will constitute a call for a five-year term.

**FaithFull Singles:** The deacons and pastors would like to invite our widows, widowers, and all singles age 50 and older to our next gathering scheduled for next Sunday, July 12. A luncheon will be provided following the Worship Gathering. We will have a guest speaker, Ruth Naylor, a long-time Bluffton resident, and writer who will speak on the importance of recording our stories. She will encourage us to write down some of the most memorable events of our lives and to have us describe our faith journeys. As the author of several published books of poetry, Ruth will also share some of the poems she has written. Hope to see you there!

**Baptism,** take your next step in your journey with Jesus. Sign up with Pastor Jim to take the three baptism classes that will meet today and on Sundays July 19, & 26, at the Bluffton Campus Life Room. Classes will meet from noon to 1:15 p.m. and lunch will be included. The baptism service will take place on Sunday, August 2, at 6:30 p.m. at Elnora Stratton's pond.

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~ ATTENDANCE AND GIVING ~

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**Attendance on June 28:**

Sunday School & ABF	(9:00 a.m.)	225
Worship Gathering	(10:15 a.m.)	395
Prayer Time for India Trip	(7:00 p.m.)	23

**Giving on June 28:**

**\$25,299.04**

Benevolent	300.00
Building Fund	210.00
Christian Education Fund	582.63
General Fund	7,456.00
Missions Fund	1,557.00
New Building Fund	20.00
Youth Fund	15,073.41
White Christmas	\$100.00

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~ MISSIONARIES OF THE WEEK ~

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**Missionaries of the Week** are *Phil & Mindy Steiner* with **Be2Live**. They live in California and serve the surrounding area as well as in Mexico and in Ghana, West Africa. "Be2Live is a non-profit organization that provides social justice service experiences to high school students, churches, and families across the United States. Our mission is to equip students to make a vital difference in the world with the vulnerable. This is accomplished in two ways: service experiences to Northern Mexico and Ghana, West Africa as well as a Student Leadership Academy focused on spreading awareness towards human trafficking and modern day slavery. It is our goal to partner with organizations in each country to support the needs of the locals. By doing this, we emphasize education of community, understanding of culture, and an attitude of service to realize that God created us to use our unique gifts to make a difference in the world." To send Phil & Mindy a note of encouragement write to: 1139 7th St., Novato, CA 94945 or e-mail them at: philsteiner77@gmail.com.

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~ BLUFFTON/PANDORA CAMPUS LIFE SUMMER EVENTS ~

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All events are open to students who have completed Grade 6 through 2015 graduates.

BCLR-Bluffton/Pandora Campus Life Room-111 W. College Avenue

**Pool parties:** Wednesday nights, 8:30 – 10:00 p.m.

Tuesday, July 14 Pizza & Putt Putt BCLR at 5:15 p.m.

Sunday, August 2 Laser tag & shopping BCLR at 1:00 p.m.

For more details see the flyer in the Missions Center at the Information Center or contact David Glick at 567-204-9777 or Hannah Slechter 419-236-5281.

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~ TODAY'S GREETERS ~

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Crossroads Ministry Center: Frank & Patty Boehm

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**OPPORTUNITIES OF THE WEEK: JULY 6 - 12**

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<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>6:30 a.m.</b>	Men's Small Group ( <i>Arby's</i> )
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>9:00 a.m.</b>	Game Time ( <i>FH</i> )
	<b>5:00 p.m.</b>	Women's Ministries' Mystery Dinner ( <i>meet at the church</i> )
	<b>6:15 p.m.</b>	Worship Team Rehearsal ( <i>115</i> )
	<b>7:00 p.m.</b>	Adult Bible Study & Prayer ( <i>103</i> )
	<b>7:05 p.m.</b>	Connections Small Group ( <i>Bluffton McDonald's</i> )
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>8:30 p.m.</b>	Young Adult Basketball ( <i>CMC</i> )
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>8:00 a.m.</b>	Dinner Theatre Ticket Sales Begin ( <i>Missions Center</i> )
	<b>9:00 a.m.</b>	Junior High through ABF Classes Meet ( <i>CMC</i> ) Sunday School ( <i>age 2-Grade 6</i> )
	<b>10:00 a.m.</b>	The Good News Hour ( <i>2 year olds-B16,</i> <i>3 year olds-B10, 4,5&amp;6 year olds-B11</i> )
	<b>10:15 a.m.</b>	Worship Gathering ( <i>10:15 a.m., CMC</i> )
	<b>11:30 a.m.</b>	FaithFull Singles Luncheon ( <i>CMC</i> )
	<b>5:00 p.m.</b>	Trustee Meeting ( <i>103</i> ) Women's Ministries Com. Meeting ( <i>115</i> )
	<b>6:31 p.m.</b>	Small Group ( <i>Jim &amp; Pat King's home</i> ) Small Group ( <i>Chuck &amp; Saun Niswander's home</i> )
	<b>7:00 p.m.</b>	Dennis & Cindy Wiens/SAT-7 ( <i>FH</i> ) High School Small Group( <i>477 Cherry Street</i> )

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~ NEXT SUNDAY, JULY 12 ~

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**Nursery:** Jeremy & Christina Lemley, John & Jaime Shaw

**Good News Hour:**

Allison & Madeline Burghaze, Julie McKanna, Sarah Schutz,  
Sarah Shank, Maria Spallinger, Joan Steiner, Bev Stockman

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**White Christmas in July:** The month of July is time to remember and honor our Ebenezer member missionaries with our White Christmas giving. This annual offering is to help make Christmas a little more special for our missionaries. Please use the small envelope that was inserted in the Emissary last Sunday for your gift and place in the offering plate. There are extra envelopes in the Missions Center at the Information Counter. (Since Christmas gifts are considered personal by the IRS, no tax-deductible receipts will be issued.) - *The Missions Committee*

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~ PLEASE NOTE ~

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**Remember to pray** for our team who is in India. You will find a prayer card and group photo at the Information Center in the Mission Center. Tonight there will be a time of prayer in the schoolhouse at 7:00. All are invited! **Members include:** Jaden & Amber August, Beth Baker, Jadyn Barhorst, Brooke Bewsey, Kyle Bewsey, Mateo Bonifaz, Allison Bowsher, Audrey Bowsher, Emma Burkholder, Hanné Burkholder, Lillian Burkholder, Hannah Conley, Leah Conley, Emily Gladwell, Alex Hord, Daniel Huber, Tim Huber, Gabe Meyer, Jared Meyer, Ben & Evania Moser, Rachel Moser, Tiffany Rodabaugh, Miranda Schutz, Dale & Ruth Seefeldt, Andrew Spallinger, Rich Streicher, Paige Swinehart, Lauren Willow, Nathan Willow. The group will return late this Thursday, July 9.

**The Global Leadership Summit** simulcast will be held August 6 & 7, 9:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. at the Winebrenner Theological Seminary at 950 N. Main Street, Findlay. Ebenezer is a Summit 2015 Partner Church and our members can receive leadership development at a discount. Register at [www.winebrenner.edu](http://www.winebrenner.edu) or [www.willowcreek.com/summit](http://www.willowcreek.com/summit). Enter the priority code 15GLSSPC. If you have questions, please contact Ginger Zambrano at [gzambrano@winebrenner.edu](mailto:gzambrano@winebrenner.edu) or 419-434-4226.

**Mystery Dinner:** Ladies, this Wednesday evening, July 8, is our next Mystery Dinner. We will be mixing it up this trip and doing a *Reverse Meal!* So, did you ever want to disobey and eat dessert first? Now's your opportunity! Meet at the church at 5:00 p.m. Please RSVP to Christy Garmatter at 419-358-0864 or [garmatterc@gmail.com](mailto:garmatterc@gmail.com) by Tuesday, July 7, for reservation purposes. Hope to see all you rebels then!

**Swiss Speakers:** Come to Maple Crest in Bluffton and practice speaking and listening to the Swiss language. Enjoy the fellowship and some Swiss chocolate on Tuesday, July 7, at 3:00 p.m.

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~ DINNER THEATRE TICKETS ON SALE NEXT SUNDAY ~

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**Ebenezer Drama Ensemble** will present a Mystery Dinner Theatre, August 7, 8, & 9, at 6:00 p.m. each night. Tickets will go on sale for \$10 each next Sunday, July 12, at 8:00 a.m. in the Missions Center. After that, tickets can be purchased Monday-Friday in the church office from 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Please be prepared to pay for your tickets when you pick them up, all sales are final and no refunds.