

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 annual congregational meeting is this Wednesday, December 9, at 7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary. We will discuss the General Fund, Building Fund, Christian Education Fund, proposed 2016 budgets, and the Constitution revision. Elections will also be held. Ushers will distribute copies of the Constitution revision (changes are in bold italic) today following the Worship Gathering. The Wednesday Night Children's Ministries, Junior High, and Bible Studies will not meet that evening.

Ladies....Would you like to go see Christmas Lights but don't like driving at night? Here's an opportunity for you! This Tuesday evening, December 8, there will be a trip to see the lights in Upper Sandusky! Meet at the church at 5:00 p.m. We will stop for a bite to eat on the way. Space is limited, so please RSVP to Anita Willow. Call/text: 419-429-9369 or email: treesplus5@frontier.com

Sunshine Boxes: The Women's Ministry Team would like to bring joy into the lives of our elders and shut-in members by assembling a 10-gift surprise package for each of them. We will be visiting them and delivering the gifts on January 1. This year we are asking you for monetary donations so we can buy the needed items. Money envelopes will be passed around the ABF classes today. If you are not in the ABF classes and would like to donate money for the sunshine boxes, please see Pat King or Bev Stockman. Thank you for your help.

SIM Missions Trip: A work team is scheduled to go to Charlotte, North Carolina February 7-13 with an additional building maintenance week planned for January 31-February 6. If you are interested in serving with the team, please contact Frank Boehm at 567-371-9541 by December 31.

Sewing needs: In February, we will be teaching the ladies in Haiti to make quilts, rugs, and hot pads. We are in need of the following items for these sewing projects: fabric (all sizes), thread of any color (partial or full spools), safety pins (1 1/2 to 2 inches), needles (size 7 or 8), and seam rippers. Please place the donated items in the box placed in the Crossroads Ministry Center foyer. Contact Bev Stockman at 419-234-8278 for further details. Thank you! We appreciate any and all contributions!

If you have a deer or any type of wild game you are willing to donate for the Wild Game Event (April 9, 2016), please contact Joe Alt at 419-234-1247. Thank you.

For God So Loved: *Our Daily Bread* has published a special devotional with ten reflections designed to help you in your spiritual journey during the Christmas season. Please stop by the table in the Foyer or 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.

~ UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES ~

- Dec. 9** Congregational Meeting (7:00 p.m., Sanctuary)
No Adult Bible Study & Prayer, Children's Ministries, & Junior High
- Dec. 13** Children's Christmas Program (6:30 p.m., CMC)
- Dec. 20** Christmas Worship Service (10:15 a.m., CMC)
No Adult Bible Fellowship, Sunday School, and Evening Fellowship Service
- Dec. 24** Christmas Eve Service (6:00 p.m., CMC)
- Jan. 2** Living Faith Adult Bible Fellowship Class
(7:00 p.m., Lima Rescue Home)
- Jan. 31-Feb. 13** SIM Building Maintenance Team
(Charlotte, North Carolina)
- Feb. 6** Maranatha Adult Bible Fellowship Class
(7:00 p.m., Lima Rescue Home)
- Feb. 7-13** SIM Work Team (Charlotte, North Carolina)

~ HOW TO CONTACT US ~

Ebenezer Mennonite Church
8905 Columbus Grove Road, Bluffton, OH 45817
Phone: 419-358-8588
www.ebenezermennonite.org



December 6, 2015

Ebenezer Emissary

We welcome you to worship this Sunday with sincere joy! 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 cards 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.** Living Faith Adult Bible Fellowship (*Fellowship Hall*)
Sunday School & Adult Bible Fellowship
(*Various Classrooms*)
- 9:30 a.m.** Disciple Singers' Choir & Kindergarten-Grade 12
Classes (*Meet in the Crossroads Ministry Center*)
- 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 (*Crossroads Ministry Center*)
Shattered Joy: Crazy People - Pastor Jim
- 11:30 p.m.** Berean Adult Bible Fellowship Christmas Luncheon
(*Fellowship Hall*)
- 4:00 p.m.** *Messiah* (*Bluffton University*)
- 5:30 p.m.** Disciple Singers' Actors (*CMC Stage*)
- 6:00 p.m.** Disciple Singers' Choir (*Crossroads Ministry Center*)
- 6:30 p.m.** All Small Groups Christmas Party (*Jim & Marty Lemley's*)
- 7:00 p.m.** Junior High & High School Small Groups (*Schoolhouse*)

Bluffton University will present its 120th 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 Lillian M. Neiswander. Lillian, the wife of Evan (deceased), passed away on Monday, November 30. Services were held Saturday, December 5, at St. Gerard Catholic Church in Lima.

~ ATTENDANCE AND GIVING ~

Attendance on November 29:

Sunday School/Adult Bible Fellowship	(9:00 a.m.)	326
Worship Gathering	(10:15 a.m.)	440
Evening Fellowship Service	(7:00 p.m.)	121

Giving on November 29:

\$19,147.95

Benevolent	200.00
Building Fund	2,875.00
Christian Education Fund	658.95
General Fund	10,902.00
Missions Fund	1,812.00
New Building Fund	100.00
Van Fund	2,000.00
Youth Fund – Rally Point	600.00

~MISSIONARY OF THE WEEK~

Missionaries of the Week: Don & Brenda Ernst serve with *SEND North in Alaska*. Don and Brenda have, most recently, been traveling to various locations for conferences, a retreat, and a church strategy meeting having to do with the native Alaskan culture. Don arranged the meeting and brought in three men from SEND North as well as a man from Worldview Resource Group to help facilitate it. Their desire was to find a way to break through culturally in presenting the gospel to the native people in a way that is more fruitful than seen presently. Papers were spread all over the room with ideas and thoughts to narrow down. Please send a message of encouragement to Don & Brenda as they are in ministry transition. Write to: P.O. Box 95, Huslia, AK 99746 or send an email to koyukonflight@hughes.net.

~ FAITH PROMISE UPDATE~

The promises presently amount to \$237,230, towards our goal of \$250,000. 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*

~ TODAY'S GREETERS ~

Crossroads Ministry Center: Alan & Diann Yoder
Missions Center: Lillian Burkholder, Ariel Schantz

OPPORTUNITIES OF THE WEEK: DECEMBER 7-13

Monday	9:00 a.m.	MOPS (<i>Fellowship Hall</i>)
	6:30 p.m.	MOPS Steering Committee Meeting (<i>Fellowship Hall</i>)
	7:00 p.m.	Beth Moore Study Group (<i>103</i>)
Tuesday	6:30 a.m.	Men's Small Group (<i>Arby's</i>)
Wednesday	9:00 a.m.	Game Time (<i>Fellowship Hall</i>)
	6:15 p.m.	Worship Team Rehearsal (<i>115</i>)
	7:00 p.m.	Annual Congregational Meeting (<i>Sanctuary</i>)
	8:30 p.m.	Bread of Life Ministries (<i>Church Kitchen</i>) Junior High and High School Dodgeball (<i>Crossroads Ministry Center</i>)
Thursday	8:30 p.m.	Young Adult Basketball (<i>CMC</i>)
Saturday	9:00 a.m.	Disciple Singers' Actors in costume (<i>Crossroads Ministry Center</i>)
	9:30 a.m.	Disciple Singers' Choir Rehearsal (<i>Crossroads Ministry Center</i>)
Sunday	9:00 a.m.	Stephen Ministries (<i>112</i>) Sunday School & Adult Bible Fellowship (<i>Various Classrooms</i>)
	10:00 a.m.	Disciple Singers' Choir & Kindergarten- Grade 12 (<i>Fellowship Hall</i>) The Good News Hour (<i>2 year olds-B16,</i> <i>3 year olds-B10, 4,5&6 year olds-B11</i>)
	10:15 a.m.	Worship Gathering (<i>Crossroads Ministry Center</i>)
	5:00 p.m.	Disciple Singers' Actors (<i>CMC Stage</i>) Disciple Singers' Choir light supper (<i>Fellowship Hall</i>)
	5:30 p.m.	Disciple Singers' Choir (<i>118-119</i>)
	6:30 p.m.	Children's Christmas Program (<i>Crossroads Ministry Center</i>)

~ NEXT SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13 ~

Nurseries: Deb Hilty, John & Jaime Shaw, Tammy Whitlow
The Good News Hour: Bev Stockman, Pat King, Emily Bish,
Molly & Cory Meyer, Alison & Charlie Mosler, Diane Sharrock

~ THANK YOU~

Operation Christmas Child 2015: Your gift wrapped shoeboxes will soon be shipped to needy children around the world. Thank you to churches in Ada, Bluffton, Cory Rawson, Ottawa, and Pandora and to countless individuals who came together to donate a record 790 shoeboxes! Thank you to all volunteers who donated their time and resources and to host site Ebenezer Mennonite Church for making this happen. Children will soon be rejoicing and thanking God that someone cared for them and they will have a chance to know the real meaning of Christmas – Jesus.

~PLEASE NOTE~

Children's Christmas Program: Everyone is invited to the Children's Christmas program Sunday evening, December 13, at 6:30 p.m. in the Crossroads Ministry Center. Come celebrate with the Cherubs as they proclaim the Good News of Jesus' birth. The Disciple Singers' Choir will perform the musical, "Wise Guys and Starry Skies," where three kings, a camel boy, and cook travel to find and worship the heavenly king. Invite your family and friends and come support our children as they minister this evening. An afterglow will be held following the program.

Sunday School classes (Kindergarten – Grade 12): You will be singing "Twelve Days of Christmas" at the beginning of the church service next Sunday, December 13. Each class will walk together to the Fellowship Hall hallway and be in line ready to go on stage by 10:05 a.m.

Living Faith Adult Bible Fellowship class: Because of the Sunday School classes practicing on the Crossroads Ministry Center stage this morning, the Living Faith Adult Bible Fellowship class will meet in the Fellowship Hall today during the Sunday School hour.

Berean Adult Bible Fellowship: You are invited to a Christmas luncheon today in the Fellowship Hall following the Morning Worship Gathering. You do not need to bring anything, just wear something Christmassy and enjoy a meal along with some Christmas music.

Lost and found is full! Please look over the items we have placed on the rack across from the kitchen in the Crossroads Ministry Center and in the cupboards in the Missions Center for anything that may belong to you or someone you know. Thanks for checking!