

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 23rd Psalm

The Lord Jesus is my sole salvation; because of His glorious grace, I have no needs – only wants and desires. 2. He provides me with resting places of quaint quietude: He guides me to the calm waters of tranquil peace. 3. He uplifts and rejuvenates my very soul: He places my hand in His and is my constant companion. Life should be lived for His glory and honor by serving Him with Christian compassion. 4. When I go from the top of the mountain to the depth of the valley, I know that He is with me. His very presence gives me comfort and assurance – Praise God! 5. He provides all of my needs in the presence of adversity: Jehovah-Jireh (God shall provide). He has said that no one shall pluck me out of His hand; He has showered my life with many blessings! 6. His goodness and mercy have been with me each moment of my life. Because Jesus has gone to prepare a place for me (and I know Him as my personal Savior), I shall be in His presence for ever and ever. (Praise God!)

A Paraphrase by Duane W. Smith March 28, 2000

~ WHAT DID JESUS SAY ABOUT MAKING DISCIPLES? ~

Matthew 28:19-20 (NIV) *Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.*

~ UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES ~

- Jan. 15-17** Junior High Ice Camp (*Miracle Camp*)
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*)
Feb. 14 Congregational Meeting (*11:30 a.m., CMC*)
Faithful Singles Luncheon (*noon, FH*)
Feb. 26-28 Senior High Ice Camp (*Miracle Camp*)

~ HOW TO CONTACT US ~

Ebenezer Mennonite Church

8905 Columbus Grove Road, Bluffton, OH 45817

Phone: 419-358-8588

www.ebenzermennonite.org

E-mail: info@ebenzermennonite.org

~ STAFF ~

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Dale Seefeldt, Pastor of

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Kathy Brauen, Church Administrator

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Deb Hilty, Secretary

info@ebenzermennonite.org



January 3, 2016

Ebenezer Emissary

We welcome you with sincere joy on this first Sunday of 2016! Let us follow the instructions of the old hymn: "Take time to be holy, speak oft with thy LORD; Abide in Him always, and feed on His Word; Make friends of God's children, help those who are weak, forgetting in nothing His blessing to seek."

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 & Adult Bible Fellowship
(*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 Service - *Run*
Pastor David (*CMC*)
5:00 p.m. Trustee Meeting (*103*)
7:00 p.m. Evening Fellowship Service (*Sanctuary*)
Junior High & High School Small Groups
(*Meet in schoolhouse*)

~ PRAYER CONCERNS ~

Our sympathy is extended to the family of Bonnie Roller. Bonnie, the mother of Lori Loewen, passed away on Saturday, December 26. Services were held Wednesday, December 30, at Grace Church, Ashland, Ohio.

~ ATTENDANCE AND GIVING ~

Attendance on December 24

Christmas Eve Service (6:00 p.m.) 261

Attendance on December 27:

Sunday School/Adult Bible Fellowship (9:00 a.m.) 218

Worship Gathering (10:15 a.m.) 443

Giving on December 27:

\$42,706.28

Benevolent 536.00

Building Fund 1,740.00

Christian Education Fund 1,824.28

General Fund 19,924.00

Missions Fund 17,257.00

New Building 395.00

Van Fund 400.00

Youth Fund 100.00

Rally Point-Youth Fund 530.00

Missions Giving:

\$50 Gideon Bibles in memory of Rev. Richard Steward (passed away 11-26), father of missionary Debbie Siemens.

\$240 Mission Possible-Hannah Conley, Haiti missions trip.

~MISSIONARIES OF THE WEEK~

Missionaries of the Week are **Rod & Lori Kraybill**, serving with **Africa Inland Mission in Kenya**. They were recently in the States, travelling some 15,000 miles visiting and reconnecting with family, friends, and churches. Rod, Lori, and Anissa have returned to Kenya to get their home and dorm ready for the return of the girls under their care as dorm parents. Please remember Rod as he readies himself for his new role and prepares for leadership meetings beginning in February. Send a message to encourage them as they adjust and minister in these new roles at Rift Valley Academy by e-mailing them at: rlkraybill@aimint.net.

~ YOUTH NEWS ~

Who Wants to be a Superhero? All kids in Grades 1-6 are welcome to join Disciple Singers as we begin practicing Sunday evening, January 10, for the Spring Musical, *The Agape League*. Choir practice will start at 6:45 p.m. in Rooms 118&119. Contact Renea Zimmerman or Angela Steiner if you're interested in joining the choir or have any other questions.

~ TODAY'S GREETERS ~

Crossroads Ministry Center: Jerry & Vickie Cartwright

Missions Center: Steve & Doneta Reigle

OPPORTUNITIES OF THE WEEK: JANUARY 4-10

Monday 7:00 p.m. Beth Moore Study Group (115)
Tuesday 6:30 a.m. Men's Small Group (Arby's)
Wednesday 9:00 a.m. Game Time (Fellowship Hall)
5:30 p.m. Family Supper (Fellowship Hall)
6:00 p.m. Women's Prayer Group (Fellowship Hall)
6:15 p.m. Worship Team Rehearsal (115)
7:00 p.m. Adult Bible Study & Prayer (103)
Children's Ministries (age 3-Grade 6)
Junior High Meet (B17)
7:05 p.m. Connections Small Group
(Bluffton McDonald's)
8:30 p.m. Bread of Life Ministries (Church Kitchen)
Junior High and High School Dodgeball
(Crossroads Ministry Center)
Thursday 8:30 p.m. Young Adult Basketball
(Crossroads Ministry Center)
Friday 7:00 a.m. Youth Prayer Group (Bluffton McDonald's)
7:00 p.m. Agape Adult Bible Fellowship Class
Game Night (Dan & Barb Steiner's home)
Sunday 9:00 a.m. Stephen Ministries (115)
Sunday School & Adult Bible
Fellowship (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
(Crossroads Ministry Center)
6:45 p.m. Disciple Singers' Choir (118-119)
7:00 p.m. Evening Fellowship Service (Sanctuary)
Junior High & High School Small
Groups (Meet in schoolhouse)

~ NEXT SUNDAY, JANUARY 10 ~

Nurseries: Janet Brauen, Thomas Eachus Family, Arlene Garmatter

The Good News Hour: Ben & Sarah Bergstrand, Karna Marquart,
Marti & Melina Meza, Jeremy & Stephanie Scoles

~PLEASE NOTE~

2016 Birthday/Anniversary Calendars are available in the Missions Center and on the table in the Crossroads Ministry Center Foyer.

New Small Group will begin to meet on Wednesday, January 6, at 7:05 p.m. at the Bluffton McDonald's a Connections, small group study, on the book *Simplify*, by Bill Hybels. This study will run for ten weeks. Please contact Pastor Jim at 419-296-0885 if you are interested in attending and would like to purchase a book.

Agape Adult Bible Fellowship Class (aka College/Career) has scheduled a Game Night on Friday, January 8, at 7:00 p.m. Bring an appetizer or snack or beverage to share at the home of Dan & Barb Steiner, 8320 Swaney Road. Have questions? Call 419-358-6783.

New Adult Bible Fellowship Class: Pastor Dale Seefeldt will be teaching a new class beginning next Sunday, January 10, "The Old Testament in a Year: What's in it Anyway?" Join us in the church library at 9:00 a.m. Everyone is welcome!

A few more volunteers are needed to set up the chairs in the Crossroads Ministry Center on Sunday mornings. If you would be willing to help with this very special ministry, please contact Bill Spallinger at 419-233-3258.

Year-end reports for 2015 are due on Sunday, January 17. All boards and committees, please submit your annual reports to the church office (info@ebenenezermennonite.org) for inclusion in the 2015 Annual Report.

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.

~THANKS~

Thank you to our Ebenezer youth group for Christmas caroling at my home and for the delicious cinnamon rolls and cookies. Pastor David's prayer for me was much appreciated and needed. – Virginia Gladwell

~ POSTCARDS AND VISITOR INVITES ~

Available in the Missions Center are ready-made welcome postcards and also smaller cards with all the church contact information you can use to invite someone to worship. What a blessing a postcard in the mail can be!