

July 31, 2016

Ebenezer Emissary



Welcome! May God's grace and peace enfold you as you join in church fellowship and worship. *Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.* 1 Corinthians 1:3

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. 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 year olds-B11)*
- 10:15 a.m. Worship Gathering – *Pastor Jim*
Jesus is the Best: Blood and Memory Loss
(Crossroads Ministry Center)
Scripture: Pastor Dick
Special Music: Mary Glick
- 11:45 p.m. Baptism Class *(Schoolhouse)*
- 6:00 p.m. Young Adult Small Group
(Jaden & Amber August's home)
- 6:30 p.m. Small Group *(Pastor Jim & Pat's home)*
- 7:00 p.m. Evening Fellowship Service *(Sanctuary)*

~ BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT ~

Congratulations to Cory & Molly Meyer on the birth of their daughter, Emmaline Lucy, on Tuesday, July 26, weighing 9 lb.

~ UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES ~

- Aug. 7-13 Grade School 2 *(Grades 2-4, Miracle Camp)*
- Aug. 7-10 Grade School 3 *(Grades 2-4, Miracle Camp)*
- Aug. 9 Women's Ministries Mystery Dinner
(5:00 p.m. meet at the church)
- Aug. 10 JH Summer Session *(7:00 p.m., schoolhouse)*
- Aug. 10-13 Grade School 4 *(Grades 2-4, Miracle Camp)*
- Aug. 14 Baptism Service
(6:30 p.m., Elnora Stratton's Pond, 6121 Bentley Road)
- Aug. 17 HS Summer Session *(7:00 p.m., Ron & Tobi Meyer's)*
- Aug. 20 Cup of Grace *(9:00 a.m., 103)*
- Aug. 21 JH & HS Parents' Meeting *(schoolhouse)*
- Aug. 24 Freshman Night at the Schoolhouse *(7:00 p.m.)*
- Aug. 28 JH & HS Small Groups Kickoff *(schoolhouse)*
- Sept. 1, 2, 3, 6,7,8,9,10 Pictorial Directory Photography Dates
- Sept. 15 Women's Ministries Mystery Dinner
(5:00 p.m. meet at the church)
- Oct. 11 Women's Ministries Mystery Dinner
(5:00 p.m. meet at the church)
- Oct. 15 Beth Moore Simulcast *(8:30 a.m., Crossroads Ministry Center)*

~ HOW TO CONTACT US ~

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

~ STAFF ~

James King, Senior Pastor
jim.king@ebenezermennonite.org
Dale Seefeldt, Pastor of
Christian Education and Family Ministries
dale.seefeldt@ebenezermennonite.org
David Glick, Pastor of Student Ministries
david.glick@ebenezermennonite.org
Richard Potter, Assistant Pastor
dick.potter@ebenezermennonite.org
Charles Warren, Pastor Emeritus
cewarren21@gmail.com
Kathy Brauen, Church Administrator
kathy.brauen@ebenezermennonite.org
Deb Hilty, Secretary
info@ebenezermennonite.org

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 _____

~ NEW PICTORIAL DIRECTORY ~

Do you know the names of the people sitting around you? There is no cost to you or the church to have your photographs taken, and you will receive a complimentary 8x10 portrait and directory for participating. The photography dates are: September 1,2,3,6,7,8,9,10. Sign up early!

There are three ways you can make your appointment.

1. **Visit Ebenezer website:** www.ebenezermennonite.org to schedule your own appointment by clicking on the Lifetouch link.
2. If you do not have internet **call the church office** at 419-358-8588 Monday-Friday from 9:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.
3. Someone will assist you **in the Crossroads Ministry Center Foyer or the Church Library** before Adult Bible Fellowship and before the Morning Worship Gathering.

Volunteers are also needed. Please contact Deb Hilty at 419-358-8588 if you can help greet members during photography sessions or help with contacting church family.

Hebrews 9:13-14 (NIV)

¹³The blood of goats and bulls and the ashes of a heifer sprinkled on those who are ceremonially unclean sanctify them so that they are outwardly clean. ¹⁴How much more, then, will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself unblemished to God, cleanse our consciences from acts that lead to death, so that we may serve the living God!

~ ATTENDANCE AND GIVING ~

Attendance on July 24:

Sunday School/Adult Bible Fellowship	(9:00 a.m.)	230
Morning Worship Gathering	(10:15 a.m.)	402
Evening Fellowship Service	(7:00 p.m.)	30

Giving on July 24:

\$15,806.98

Benevolent Fund	50.00
Building Fund (\$2,130 towards roof replacement)	2,505.00
Christian Education Fund	465.98
General Fund	9,649.00
Missions Fund	2,937.00
Youth Fund	200.00
White Christmas	\$860.00

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White Christmas in July: Today is the last Sunday 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. There are small envelopes in the Missions Center at the Information Counter for your gift and may be placed in the offering plate. (Since Christmas gifts are considered personal by the IRS, no tax-deductible receipts will be issued.) - *The Missions Committee*

Open invitation to church family and friends, swimming and Bible life lesson every Wednesday (noon to 5:00 p.m.) until school starts and weather permitting at the home of John & Rosie Good, 401 County Road 33 (just east of County Line Road). You are welcome to bring snacks and pool toys. Life lesson will begin around 2:00 p.m.

~ TODAY'S GREETERS ~

Crossroads Ministry Center: Frank & Patty Boehm
Missions Center: Wayne & Susan Bixel

OPPORTUNITIES OF THE WEEK: AUGUST 1-7

- Tuesday 6:30 a.m.** Men's Small Group (*Bluffton McDonald's*)
- Wednesday 9:00 a.m.** Game Time (*Fellowship Hall*)
6:15 p.m. Worship Team Rehearsal
(*Crossroads Ministry Center*)
7:00 p.m. Adult Bible Study & Prayer (*103*)
7:05 p.m. Connections Small Group
(*Bluffton McDonald's*)
- Thursday 8:30 p.m.** Young Adult Basketball
(*Crossroads Ministry Center*)
- Friday 7:00 p.m.** HS Olympic Games Ceremony Party
(*Crossroads Ministry Center*)
- Sunday 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 year olds-B11*)
10:15 a.m. Worship Gathering (*Crossroads Ministry Center*)
11:30 a.m. Stephen Ministries Luncheon (*112*)
6:00 p.m. Young Adult Small Group
(*Jaden & Amber August's home*)
6:30 p.m. Small Group (*Pastor Jim & Pat's home*)
7:00 p.m. Evening Fellowship Service (*Sanctuary*)
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~ NEXT SUNDAY, AUGUST 7 ~

Infant & Toddler Nurseries:

Sue Epp, Deb Hilty, Gail Schantz, Tammy Whitlow

Good News Hour:

Kathy & Kassandra Bishop, Mary Glick,
Traci Heinze, John & Jaime Shaw, Aubrey Snider

~ PRAYER CONCERNS ~

In the Hospital: Paul Terlecky, Honolulu.

~ YOUTH NEWS ~

High School Olympic Opening Games Ceremony Party!

Food and fun! The party starts at 7:00 p.m. this Friday, August 5, in the Crossroads Ministry Center. We will watch the Opening Ceremony from Brazil and play games! Cost is \$3 for pizza.

Junior High Students: Our last Summer Session is Wednesday, August 10, from 7:00-9:00 p.m. at the schoolhouse. Free food and games!

High School Students: Our last Summer Session is Wednesday, August 17, from 7:00-9:00 p.m. at Ron & Tobi Meyer's home (7055 Lugabill Road).

~ PLEASE NOTE ~

Children Choosing Christ needs volunteers to help present the gospel to children attending the Allen County Fair. If you can help, contact Kay Spallinger at 419-230-9346. You may attend training on Thursday, July 28, from 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. at Woodlawn Baptist Church in Lima, or Sunday, July 31, from 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. at Cable Road Alliance Church in Lima. However, if you have previously helped you can also contact Kay to get a DVD or the link for online training.

PrimeTimers will take place at noon this Tuesday, August 2, at St. John Mennonite Church. Following a free luncheon, sacred music on piano will be performed by Phil Schey. PrimeTimers is a monthly lunch gathering for persons age 55 or older. For more information including the menu, please see the church bulletin boards.

Archival Display Case: Last summer during the 175th celebration of the founding of the first Mennonite church in this area, items from Ebenezer's past history were displayed. The Trustees approved the construction of a display case to permanently display these items provided the \$4,600 cost was raised through donations. Thank you to each person who donated funds to gather the total amount for this special project. Please direct any questions regarding the archival display case to Chuck Niswander (419-890-3797) or Jane Shaw (419-302-2179).