

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 Wednesday, December 14, at 7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary. We will discuss the General Fund, Building Fund, and Christian Education Fund proposed 2017 budgets. Ushers will distribute copies following the Worship Gathering today. Elections will also be held. The Wednesday Night Children's Ministries, Junior High, and Bible Studies will not meet that evening.

SIM Missions Trip: A work team is scheduled to go to Charlotte, North Carolina from February 5-11 with an additional building maintenance week planned for January 29 – February 4. If you are interested in serving with the team, please contact Frank Boehm at 567-371-9541 by Saturday, December 31.

~ THANK YOU ~

I want to thank my church family for their prayers for my surgery. Also thanks to Pastor Warren, Pastor Dick, Kathy Brauen, Pastor Jim, and Pastor David for their visits and prayers. *The Lord is good His love endures forever.* Psalm 100:5A - *Marvin Reigle*

A special thank you to each one of you, who has prayed for me, visited, sent a card, or called; it was all so appreciated. I claim my life verse 1 Peter 5:7 for this journey. – *Dwight Bixel*

Announcing a New Giving Option! Electronic giving (E-giving) is now a viable way to give your tithes and offerings. Please go to Ebenezer's website (<http://ebenezymennonite.org>) and click on the Online Giving link (bottom left) to receive information and instructions which will lead you through the process of registering to consistently give to the church or to make one-time gifts. Thank you to the E-giving Committee for their work with this new giving option. If you desire assistance with the set-up process or have questions or problems, please contact Kathy Brauen at the church office (419-358-8588).

~ UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES ~

- Dec. 14** Congregational Meeting (7:00 p.m., Sanctuary)
Dec. 18 Junior High & High School Small Groups Christmas Caroling (5:30 p.m., meet at the Schoolhouse)
Dec. 24 Christmas Eve Service (6:00 p.m., CMC)
Dec. 25 Christmas Worship Service (10:15 a.m., CMC)
No Sunday School, Adult Bible Fellowship, or Evening Service
Dec. 28 Junior High and High School Ice Skating-Findlay (12:30 p.m., meet at the Schoolhouse)
Jan. 7 Living Faith ABF (7:00 p.m., Lima Rescue Home)
Jan. 13-15 Junior High Ice Camp (Miracle Camp)
Jan. 29-Feb. 11 SIM Building Maintenance Team (Charlotte, NC)
Feb. 5-11 SIM Work Team (Charlotte, NC)
Feb. 24-26 High School Ice Camp (Miracle Camp)

~ STAFF ~

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December 4, 2016

Ebenezer Emissary

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. 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.** Disciple Singers' Choir Meet *(FH)*
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 *(CMC)*
*A Different Kind of Christmas – Interrupted
Special Music: Jasmine Whitlow*
- 4:00 p.m.** *Messiah* *(Bluffton University)*
- 5:00 p.m.** Trustee Meeting *(103)*
- 6:30 p.m.** Junior High and High School Small
Groups Worship Night *(Schoolhouse)*
- 6:45 p.m.** Disciple Singers' Choir *(Grades 1-6, CMC)*

Messiah: Bluffton University will present its 121st performance of Handel's *Messiah* at 4 p.m. today in Founders Hall. The event is free and open to the public; a free-will offering will be taken. There will be no Evening Fellowship Service here at the church.

~ BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT ~

Congratulations to Eli & Laura Leader on the birth of their son, Ryan Elias, on Wednesday, November 23, weighing 6 lb. 15 oz.

~ ATTENDANCE AND GIVING ~

Attendance on November 27:

Sunday School/Adult Bible Fellowship	(9:00 a.m.)	238
Morning Worship Gathering	(10:15 a.m.)	401

~ FAITH PROMISE UPDATE~

The promises presently amount to \$256,740, towards our goal of \$275,000. 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*

~ OUR NEW PICTORIAL DIRECTORY HAS ARRIVED! ~

We want to thank each one of you who participated by making an appointment to have your photo taken or submitted a photo to be included in our directory. It takes many volunteers to help create this project and we want to thank each one of you. A special thanks to Deb Huber for doing the layout and Jamie Nygaard for taking all the photos for the activity pages. You may pick up your copy today in the Crossroads Ministry Center Foyer! Extra copies are available at \$5 each. Please see Deb Hilty.

~ TODAY'S GREETERS ~

Crossroads Ministry Center: Alan & Diann Yoder
Missions Center: Nicki Biery, Brittany Reigle

~ OPPORTUNITIES OF THE WEEK: DECEMBER 5-11 ~

Tuesday	6:30 a.m.	Men's Small Group (<i>Bluffton McDonald's</i>)
	7:00 p.m.	Missions Committee Meeting (<i>103</i>)
Wednesday	9:00 a.m.	Game Time (<i>FH</i>)
	5:30 p.m.	Family Supper (<i>FH</i>)
	6:00 p.m.	Men's Prayertime for Families (<i>103</i>) Women's War Room (<i>FH</i>)
	6:15 p.m.	Worship Team Rehearsal (<i>CMC</i>)
	7:00 p.m.	Adult Bible Study & Prayer (<i>103</i>) Children's Ministries and Junior High Christmas Caroling (<i>meet in Room 118</i>) Ladies' Bible Study (<i>Schoolhouse</i>) Men's Bible Study (<i>Sanctuary Overflow</i>)
	8:30 p.m.	Bread of Life Ministries (<i>Church Kitchen</i>) Dodgeball Junior High/High School (<i>CMC</i>)
Thursday	7:00 p.m.	Men's Prayer Time (<i>Sanctuary</i>) Young Adult Small Group (<i>Jaden & Amber August's home</i>)
	8:30 p.m.	Young Adult Basketball (<i>CMC</i>)
Friday	6:30 p.m.	Ladies' Christmas Tea (<i>CMC</i>)
Saturday	9:00 a.m.	Children's Christmas Program Rehearsal (<i>CMC</i>)
Sunday	9:00 a.m.	Sunday School & Adult Bible Fellowship (<i>Various Classrooms</i>)
	10:00 a.m.	The Good News Hour (<i>2 year olds-B16,</i> <i>3 year olds-B10, 4&5 year olds-B11</i>)
	10:15 a.m.	Worship Gathering (<i>CMC</i>)
	6:30 p.m.	Children's Christmas Program (<i>CMC</i>)

~ NEXT SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11 ~

Infant & Toddler Nurseries:

Janet Brauen, Mary Glick, Sarah & Jacob Lehman

Good News Hour:

Ben & Sarah Bergstrand, Krista Lehman, Marti & Melina Meza,
Jeremy & Stephanie Scoles

The Wild Game Committee is in need of any kind of wild game for our annual Wild Game Event. If you have some and would like to donate it, call Joe Alt at 419-234-1247. Thank you.

PrimeTimers will take place at noon on Tuesday, December 6, at St. John Mennonite Church. Following a free luncheon, join in on a fun Christmas Celebration, Christmas carols, Christmas themed games, prizes, and much more. PrimeTimers is a monthly lunch gathering for persons age 55 or older. For more information including the menu, please see the church bulletin boards.

Gift of Grace: *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 another for a friend to find encouragement, comfort, and true joy this Christmas season. *For the grace of God has been revealed, bringing salvation to all people.* - Titus 2:11NLT

Children's Ministries Christmas Caroling: All children please meet in Room 118 at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, December 7. We will return to the church by 8:00 p.m. for cookies and hot chocolate.

Ladies' Christmas Tea will be held this Friday evening, December 9, at 6:30. Join us for a wonderful evening of season-inspired food, decor, and of course tea. Please get your ticket (\$5) for this year's Christmas Tea in the Missions Center. Space is limited so don't delay! Hope you'll join us.

We are looking for ladies who would like to decorate a table for the Tea. For more information and details, see us at the ticket area or contact Christy Garmatter at garmatterc@gmail.com

Needed cookies, cookies, cookies for the children's program next Sunday, December 11. Home baked or bought, plain or fancy, we will need a lot. Any leftovers will be given to Transport for Christ chapel for drivers. Thanks to all and Merry Christmas!

Children's Christmas Program, The Good News Flash: Come hear the really good news as the children share in drama and song next Sunday, December 11, at 6:30 p.m. Everyone is invited. Bring all your friends and neighbors too!

Bluffton University's Camerata Singers and University Chorale will headline "A Festival of Lessons and Carols," the university's Christmas choral concert, at 2:30 p.m. next Sunday, December 11, in Yoder Recital Hall. Tickets are available online at <http://tickets.bluffton.edu>, or in person at the Marbeck Center information desk.