

Ebenezer Communications Card

Please take a moment to complete the information below. You may place in the offering plate. Thank you!

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 13, at 7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary. We will discuss the General Fund, Building Fund, and Christian Education Fund proposed 2018 budgets. Ushers will distribute an information packet today following the Worship Gathering. Elections will also be held. The Wednesday Night Children's Ministries and Bible Studies will not meet that evening.

Berean ABF Class Christmas party at Maple Crest, 5:00 p.m., Thursday, December 14, for dinner and a musical evening.

The Wild Game Committee is in need of any kind of wild game for the annual Wild Game Event (March 24). If you have some and would like to donate it, call Joe Alt at 419-234-1247.

SIM Missions Trip: A work team is scheduled to go to Charlotte, North Carolina, February 11-17, 2018. An additional building construction week is planned for February 18-24 if the required permits can be obtained by that time. If you are interested in serving with the team, please contact Frank Boehm at 567-371-9541 by Sunday, December 31.

Habitat for Humanity: While we can use volunteers at any time, we have two current needs at the Lima Habitat for Humanity ReStore. Once a month continuing commitment for 2-4 hours. This would involve 4-6 people organizing and tidying up the showroom floor. Also a one-time commitment for 2-4 hours, this would involve any number of people or even an ABF class to organize and clean the back storage room. Please contact Mark Suderman, Volunteer Coordinator at 419-230-5368 or e-mail at mark@habitatlima.org if interested in volunteering.

~ UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES ~

- Dec. 13** Congregational Meeting (7:00 p.m., Sanctuary)
Dec. 21 Women's Ministries Mystery Dinner (5:15 p.m., meet at church)
Dec. 24 Christmas Worship Service (10:15 a.m., CMC)
No Sunday School or Adult Bible Fellowship
Christmas Eve Service (6:00 p.m., CMC)
Jan. 6 Living Faith ABF (7:00 p.m., Lima Rescue Home)
Jan. 12-14 Junior High Ice Camp (Miracle Camp)
Feb. 3-10 Missions Trip with Mission Possible (Haiti)
Feb. 11-17 SIM Work Team (Charlotte, NC)
Feb. 11-24 SIM Building Construction Team (Charlotte, NC)
Feb. 23-25 High School Ice Camp (Miracle Camp)
Mar. 24 Wild Game Event (5:00 p.m., CMC)
June 10-16 Middle School 1 (Grades 5&6, Miracle Camp)
June 17-23 Junior High 1 (Grades 7&8, Miracle Camp)
July 8-14 Senior High 2 (Grades 9-12, Miracle Camp)
July 14-21 Young Adult Missions Trip with Be2Live (Mexico)
July 27-29 Family Camp 2018 (Whitewater Memorial State Park, Indiana)
July 29-Aug. 1 Grade School 2&3 (Grades 2-4, Miracle Camp)
July 29-Aug. 4 Grade School 2&3 (Grades 2-4, Miracle Camp)

~ THANK YOU ~

Dear Ebenezer: Thank you so much for your continued support of the food pantry. It is greatly appreciated! – *Bluffton Community Assistance Corporation*

Dear Ebenezer: In a season where it's easy to get busy, I wanted to stop and thank you for your faithful prayers and financial support! It means the world to me to have you stand by my side in this journey called life! – *Much love, Brynden Wiens – Avant Ministries, Alaska*

~ CONTACT INFORMATION ~

Ebenezer Mennonite Church

8905 Columbus Grove Road, Bluffton, OH 45817

Phone: 419-358-8588

Website: www.ebenzermennonite.org

E-mail: info@ebenzermennonite.org

December 3, 2017

Ebenezer Emissary



~ OPPORTUNITIES OF THE DAY ~

- 8:30 a.m.** Haiti Medical Trip Meeting (Church Library)
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 (CMC)
Living in the Light: Light in the Darkness
Special Music: Olivia Spallinger & Jasmine Whitlow
11:30 a.m. Women's Ministries Meeting (115)
6:30 p.m. Disciple Singers' Choir (Grades 1-6, 118-119)
Junior High & High School Small Groups (Meet in schoolhouse)
7:00 p.m. Sunday Evening Bible Study (Sanctuary Foyer)

~ PRAYER CONCERNS ~

In Rehabilitation: Pastor Warren, Hallmark House, Pekin, Illinois - cards may be sent to: c/o Mr. & Mrs. Gordon Baker, 1924 Liberty Court, Pekin, IL 61554.

Our sympathy: Cliff Rogers, the brother of Noretta Schantz, passed away on November 18. A memorial service was held on November 22 in Brighton, Michigan.

Scheduled Surgery: Mariah Burkholder, Tuesday, December 5 at Findlay Surgery Center.

~ FAITH PROMISE UPDATE ~

Give our praises to our Lord! The promises presently amount to \$282,730, exceeding our goal of \$275,000. Thank you again for your prayers and pledges that make our missions program a great blessing to many missionaries and ministries. - *Missions Committee*

~ ATTENDANCE AND GIVING ~

Attendance on November 26:

Sunday School/Adult Bible Fellowship	(9:00 a.m.)	262
Morning Worship Gathering	(10:15 a.m.)	407
Evening Fellowship Ministries	(7:00 p.m.)	91

Ladies' Christmas Tea is this Friday, December 8, at 6:30 p.m. Tickets are \$5 on sale in the Missions Center. Enjoy an evening of fellowship, tea, and music with our guest speaker, Leah Lynch, wife of Andy Lynch, from WTLW-44. So bring your favorite tea cup and a friend. Any questions, contact Kelli Foster at 419-234-3559.

The Hope of Christmas: *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. *May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in Him.* Romans 15:13

~ TODAY'S GREETERS ~

Crossroads Ministry Center: Jean Reichenbach, Dean Sommers
Missions Center – Bella Basinger, Olivia Spallinger

OPPORTUNITIES OF THE WEEK: DECEMBER 4-10

(ABF- Adult Bible Fellowship, CMC-Crossroads Ministry Center, FH-Fellowship Hall)

Tuesday	6:30 a.m.	Men's Small Group (<i>Bluffton McDonald's</i>)
Wednesday	9:00 a.m.	Game Time (<i>FH</i>)
	6:00 p.m.	Men's Prayertime for Families (<i>103</i>) Worship Team Rehearsal (<i>CMC</i>)
	7:00 p.m.	Adult Devotional & Prayer (<i>103</i>) Children's Ministries (<i>Various Classrooms</i>) Cup of Grace (<i>115</i>) Junior High Dodgeball and Devos (<i>CMC</i>)
	7:05 p.m.	Connections Small Group (<i>Bluffton McDonald's</i>)
	8:30 p.m.	High School Bread of Life Ministries (<i>Church Kitchen</i>) High School Dodgeball (<i>CMC</i>)
Thursday	7:00 p.m.	Men's Prayer Time (<i>Sanctuary</i>)
Friday	6:30 p.m.	Ladies' Christmas Tea (<i>CMC</i>)
Saturday	9:30 a.m.	Children's Christmas 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>)
	4:00 p.m.	<i>Messiah</i> (<i>Bluffton University</i>)
	5:00 p.m.	Trustee Meeting (<i>103</i>)
	6:30 p.m.	Children's Christmas Program (<i>CMC</i>)

~ NEXT SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10 ~

Infant and Toddler Nurseries:

Brett & Kylie Baxter, Karlyn Holt, Denise Rex

The Good News Hour:

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

The next two Sunday mornings the youth will be in the back of the CMC taking orders for coffee and popcorn from Pelican Coffee. The coffee is 100% Arabica and all proceeds will go towards the youth missions trip to Miami, Florida this summer.

Ebenezer Youth Small Groups: On Sunday, December 17, we will go Christmas caroling and have our Christmas party. Please meet at the church at 4:00 p.m.

High School and Junior High: On Tuesday, December 26, we will go to the Entertainment Station in Lima to play Laser Tag. The cost is \$15 for two hours of Laser Tag! Please meet at the church at 12:15 p.m.

Junior High and Senior High Ice Camps are now having sign-ups! Junior High is January 12-14 and High School is February 23-25. Cost is \$115 and financial aid is available. Payment is not due until the week before. Contact Pastor David.

PrimeTimers will take place at noon on Tuesday, December 5, at St. John Mennonite Church. Following a free luncheon, stay for a fun Christmas celebration! PrimeTimers is a monthly lunch gathering for persons age 55 or older. For more information including the menu, please see the church bulletin boards.

There will be a dress rehearsal for the Children's Christmas Program on Saturday, December 9, from 9:30-11:00 a.m. in the CMC. All Disciple Singers and all children who have acting parts in the play "The Shawl" need to make sure they come for this very important practice. Thank you, parents, for bringing your child.

Bluffton University will present its 122nd performance of Handel's *Messiah* at 4:00 p.m. next Sunday, December 10, in Yoder Recital Hall. Tickets will be required. While the tickets are free, they must be reserved at <http://tickets.bluffton.edu> or at Marbeck Center. A free-will offering will be taken for music scholarships.

Please bring your family and friends to an evening of music and drama presented by the children, next Sunday, December 10, at 6:30 p.m. The drama, *The Shawl*, along with the Disciple Singers and Cherub Choir sharing Christmas music. Following the program, there will be a time of fellowship with an afterglow and treats for every child. The children have been working hard to give you a special evening. Come out to enjoy this heartwarming event!

Cookies, Cookies: Bring your favorite cookies for the Children's Christmas Program afterglow. Bring any kind, Christmas or not. All remaining cookies will be given to Transport for Christ truckers. Thank you in advance for your generosity!