

Ebenezer Emissary



We extend the hand of Christian fellowship to all who have come to worship. May our prayers and the hearing of God's Word make our burdens lighter, our hearts encouraged, and our souls refreshed.

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.

~ 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 & Communion Service – Pastor Jim *(CMC)*
Be Holy – A Holy God
Scripture Reading: Pastor David
Special Music: The Halker Family
- 11:30 a.m.** FaithFull Singles Luncheon *(FH)*
- 6:30 p.m.** Disciple Singers' Choir *(Grades 1-6, 118-119)*
Junior High & High School Small Groups
(Meet in schoolhouse)
- 6:32 p.m.** Small Groups *(King, Lemley, Luginbuhl)*
- 7:00 p.m.** Sunday Evening Bible Study *(Sanctuary Foyer)*

FaithFull Singles: The deacons and pastors would like to invite our widows, widowers, and **all singles** age 50 and older to join us for a luncheon today following the morning Worship Gathering in the Fellowship Hall. Hope to see you there!

~ PRAYER CONCERNS ~

Scheduled Surgery: Jed Marquart, Friday, January 12, at St. Rita's Medical Center.

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 _____

January is Human Trafficking Awareness month. To raise awareness and to equip the church with skills related to stopping human trafficking, Engage Ministries presents...“Addressing Human Trafficking.” Saturday, January 20, Connie Anderson, Director of Justice Ministries for InterVarsity Fellowship’s Great Lakes East Region, will present a seminar in the Fellowship Hall from 2:00 to 7:30 p.m. This is a free event, open to the community, and supper will be included. On Sunday, January 21, Lynn Kolb, from *Exit 58*, a ministry of Transport for Christ, will present a seminar during the 9:00 a.m. Adult Bible Fellowship hour in the Crossroads Ministry Center. Connie Anderson, a trafficking survivor, will be our guest speaker during the Morning Worship Gathering at 10:15. Please make plans to participate and invite your neighbors.

To our Ebenezer Family and Friends: Thank you is inadequate to express our appreciation for the support you have shown our family in the loss of our son and brother and through Karen’s bout with pneumonia. We do so appreciate your prayers, visits, cards, and gifts. We especially thank Pastor Dick and Kathy for all the trips to Toledo to be with us and for the beautiful service Pastor Dick had for Jim. The Lord truly is our Shepherd and He has been so faithful even in these difficult times for our family. Blessings for the New Year to each of you. - *Marvin & Karen Garmatter, David & Channan and family, Alan & Sharon and family, and Janet (Garmatter) & Scott Howder and family*

Thank you church family for remembering me before the throne of grace during and following my surgery. God is gracious in bringing healing. Also, thanks for the cards and gifts of thoughtfulness during my recuperation. - *You are a blessing, Arlene Garmatter*

~ LOOKING FOR A SMALL GROUP IN THE NEW YEAR? ~

Sunday evenings at 6:32 p.m.

Beginning tonight at the following locations.

- Pastor Jim & Pat King, 152 S. Jackson Street, Bluffton
- Jim & Marty Lemley, 403 E. Main Street, Pandora
- Milo & Deb Luginbuhl, 4022 E. Bluelick Road, Lima

Tuesday mornings Men’s Group

Beginning January 9, at 6:30 meet at Bluffton McDonald’s

“The Pursuit of Holiness” by Jerry Bridges

Wednesdays “Connections”

Beginning January 10, from 7:05-8:10 p.m.

meet at Bluffton McDonald’s

“Uncomfortable” by Brett McCracken

If you have any questions or need to order a book, contact Pastor Jim King at 419-296-0885 or jim.king@ebenezermennonite.org

Year-end reports for 2017 are due on Sunday, January 28. All boards and committees should submit their annual reports to the church office for inclusion in the 2017 Annual Report.

Extra Cookies? If you have extra cookies or cookie dough left from the holidays, SIM (Serving in Mission) could use more than we brought last year! Please put in the church freezer marked for SIM. We will also need cookie dough in February before we go to Charlotte, North Carolina on Sunday, February 11. Thank you, it is so appreciated. - *Ginny Moser*

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 to donate, call Joe Alt at 419-234-1247.

~ UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES ~

- 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)*
- Feb. 25** Congregational Meeting *(11:30 a.m., CMC)*
- Mar. 24** Wild Game Event *(5:00 p.m., CMC)*
- June 10-16** Middle School 1 *(Grades 5&6, Miracle Camp)*

~ ATTENDANCE AND GIVING ~

Attendance on December 31:

Sunday School/Adult Bible Fellowship	(9:00 a.m.)	222
Morning Worship Gathering	(10:15 a.m.)	371

OPPORTUNITIES OF THE WEEK: JANUARY 8-14

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

Monday	9:00 a.m.	MOPS (FH)
	7:00 p.m.	Christian Education Com. Meeting (103)
Tuesday	6:30 a.m.	Men's Small Group (Bluffton McDonald's)
	7:00 p.m.	Missions Com. Meeting (103) Prayer Action Team (Church Library)
Wednesday	9:00 a.m.	Game Time (FH)
	5:30 p.m.	Family Supper (FH)
	6:00 p.m.	Men's Prayertime for Families (103) Women's War Room (FH) Worship Team Rehearsal (CMC)
	6:30 p.m.	Trustee Meeting (Sanctuary Overflow)
	7:00 p.m.	Adult Devotional & Prayer (103) Children's Ministries (Various Classrooms) Cup of Grace (Church Library) Junior High Dodgeball and Devos (CMC)
	7:05 p.m.	Connections Small Group (Bluffton McDonald's)
	8:30 p.m.	High School Bread of Life Ministries (Church Kitchen) High School Dodgeball (CMC)
Thursday	7:00 p.m.	Men's Prayer Time (Sanctuary)
	8:30 p.m.	Young Adult Basketball (CMC)
Friday	4:00 p.m.	Junior High Ice Camp (Leave for Miracle Camp)
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 (CMC)
	6:30 p.m.	Disciple Singers' Choir (Grades 1-6, 118-119) High School Small Groups (Meet in schoolhouse)
	6:32 p.m.	Small Groups (King, Lemley, Luginbuhl)
	7:00 p.m.	Sunday Evening Bible Study (Sanctuary Foyer)

~ NEXT SUNDAY, JANUARY 14 ~

Infant and Toddler Nurseries:

Brett & Kylie Baxter, Grant & Emily Warner

The Good News Hour:

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

~ TODAY'S GREETERS ~

Crossroads Ministry Center: Jerry & Vickie Cartwright
Missions Center: Dean & Deb Klingler

A new ABF class on parenting will begin this morning for young marrieds and young families at 9:00 in the Crossroads Ministry Center. We'll be discussing Wayne Rice's book *Generation to Generation: Practical and Creative Ideas for Raising Kids to Know and Love God*.

It is time to start preparing for the spring musical! The Disciple Singers' Choir will resume rehearsals tonight at 6:30, children ages Kindergarten through Grade 6 are welcome as we start to prepare for the musical, "Unselfie." If you have questions, don't hesitate to contact Sarah Lehman at 419-957-3607 or Katie Kruse at 419-889-0108. Come join the fun!

Young Adult Mexico Mission Trip - July 14 – 21: For those committed to the summer missions trip, deposit is due no later than this Tuesday, January 9. Any questions, please contact Barb Steiner 419-230-0979 or Dan Steiner 419-234-5385.

Junior High and Senior High Ice Camps: Junior High is January 12-14 and High School is February 23-25. Cost is \$115 and financial aid is available. Payment is due the week before. Contact Pastor David at 567-204-9777.

Ebenezer provides transportation to and from High School and Junior High Ice Camp, but the students are responsible for the \$115 fee to attend. However, some students are unable to afford this cost. In an effort to not turn away any student wishing to attend, would you be willing to sponsor a student? If so, simply place your donation in the offering plate, but be sure to designate Ice Camp on the memo line. Thank you! If you have questions, please contact Pastor David at 567-204-9777.

Trustee meeting is scheduled for this Wednesday, January 10, at 6:30 p.m. The Trustees will meet in the Sanctuary overflow. We will have a building walk-through followed by our regular meeting.

Wednesday evening's Cup of Grace Bible Study is temporarily moved to the church library. We meet at 7:00 p.m.

Women of all ages are invited to be a part of an eight-week Bible study titled "Pleasing our Savior More Each Day." Starting January 17 from 7-8 p.m. in the schoolhouse, we will be studying God's Word, memorizing eight verses, worshiping through hymns, praying with/for one another, and keeping each other accountable. For more information and study material, please contact Heidi Steiner 419-358-0116 or steinerhl@gmail.com.

2018 Birthday/Anniversary Calendars are available in the Missions Center and on the table in the CMC Foyer.