

Ebenezer
Today, Tomorrow and Beyond
Monthly Newsletter for Ebenezer United Methodist Church
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Carl's Corner.....

Dear Church Family,

It is good to observe the different seasons of the church year. On February 26th we started the Holy Season of Lent with Ash Wednesday. Some churches and people have very little knowledge about Lent. I think our Book of Worship has a great way to describe it.

"Lent is a season of forty days, not counting Sundays, which begins on Ash Wednesday and ends on Holy Saturday. *Lent* comes from the Anglo-Saxon word *lencten*, which means "spring." The season is a preparation for celebrating Easter. Historically, Lent began as a period of fasting and preparation for baptism by converts and then became a time for penance by all Christians. The First Sunday describes Jesus' temptation by Satan; and the Sixth Sunday (Passion/Palm Sunday), Christ's triumphal entry into Jerusalem and his subsequent passion and death. Because Sundays are always little Easters, the penitential spirit of Lent should be tempered with joyful expectation of the Resurrection."

May this Lenten Season draw us closer to God.

Blessings,
Pastor Carl



Thank you to everyone who gave to the Country Breakfast. Your help in putting posters out in the communities, setting up, decorating, making the food, serving that day or cleaning up afterwards was most appreciated. Ebenezer is truly blessed to have such a great group of people in their congregation.

Basic Christian Training (BCT)

Lent was and is a season of preparing people to be baptized and join the church. We have some people who have not been confirmed. We also have people who were confirmed years ago and would like a refresher. I invite you to "come and see".

At Ebenezer (BCT) will be on Thursdays at 7:30 (or 7:30 am). We will meet for six weeks.

Dates are: March 5,12,19,26, April 2 & 9.

March/April's Lenten Preaching Plan

March 1-1st Sunday in Lent, Matthew 4:1-11
Sermon Title: "If you are..."

March 8-2nd Sunday in Lent, John 3:1-17
Sermon Title: "How it starts"

March 15-3rd Sunday in Lent, John 4:5-42
Sermon Title: "A Simple Request"

March 22-4th Sunday in Lent, John 9:1-41
Sermon Title: "What do you say?"

March 29-5th Sunday in Lent, John 11:1-45
Sermon Title: "See the Glory of God!"

April 5-Passion/Palm Sunday

April 9- Holy Thursday 7 pm at Atlanta

April 10-Good Friday Community Services @ Atlanta & Hopedale

April 12-Easter Sunday, Matthew 28:1-15
Sermon Title: "The Soldier's Report"



Time Change

Before you go to bed on **March 7th**, set your clocks ahead one hour. "Spring Forward." It is also a good time to replace batteries in safety devices around your home.

Ebenezer's Weekly Attendance January 2020

Date	Adults	Children
5	25	1
12	20	0
19	19	0
26	23	0

February 2020

Date	Adults	Children
2	30	3
9	25	0
16	23	0
23	30	1

Ebenezer Church Council

Ebenezer Church Council will meet on **Monday, March 9th** and **April 13th**, at **7 p.m.** Church Council is always open to all who would like to attend.

Maundy Thursday Service

The Parish will gather at the Atlanta United Methodist Church on Thursday, **April 9th**, at **7 p.m.** for our Maundy Thursday Service.

Community Good Friday Services

On Friday, **April 10th**, Community Good Friday Services will be held in the Atlanta and Hopedale Communities at **7 p.m.**



Camping News

Each church is being challenged to send 3 more children than last year to camp this year. We should consider grandchildren and children in our communities.

Need a Summer Job???

East Bay Camp is looking for help in the kitchen, lifeguards, and others. Talk with Pastor Carl if you know a high school senior or a college student or someone who needs a summer job.

Upcoming Events in the area.....

Mennonite Relief Sale

The 62nd Annual Illinois Mennonite Relief Sale will be held **March 20-21, 2020**, at the Interstate Center, in Bloomington, Illinois.

Here's a few of the activities going on each day.

Friday, March 20

- 4:30 – 7:30 p.m. Fish / Chicken Barbecue dinners
- 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. Rib-Eye Steaks, Butterfly Pork Chops, Barbecues, & Pork Burgers
- 4:30 p.m. Dutch Market / Butcher Shoppe & Booths Open
- 6:30 p.m. Auction Begins

Saturday, March 21

- 6 – 11 a.m. Pancakes / Sausage breakfast
- 7 a.m. Dutch Market / Butcher Shoppe/ Booths
- 8:30 a.m. Grand Auction Begins
- 11 a.m. Rib-Eye Steaks, Butterfly Pork Chops, Barbecues & Pork Burgers
- Activities continue until sold out.



Cunningham Children's Home 16th Annual Festival of Quilts

Friday and Saturday, April 3-4, 2020, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. each day. Help us celebrate a tradition that offers warmth, comfort, and hope to the youth at Cunningham.

Cunningham Spiritual Life Center is located at 1301 N Cunningham Ave., Urbana, IL.