



# Ebenezer

Emissary Weekly  
July 20, 2008

## Founder's Day

### Opportunities of the Day

**10:00 a.m.** Worship Service – Pastor Dan Dalke, Pastor Dick Potter, & Pastor Jim King (CMC)

**Reception of New Members:**  
Joe & Tina Alt, Keith & Alice Bates, Jim & Beth Bish, David & Mary Glick, Jeremy Lemley, Bruce & Lori Schafer, John Shaw

**11:45 a.m.** Founder's Day Meal (CMC)

**Welcome to all** who have come to join in on this our Founder's Day. As we celebrate our past, we look forward to what God would have for us in the future. We give a special welcome to Pastor Dan Dalke. Pastor Dalke and his wife Edna served Ebenezer from 1961-1979. They now live in Inman, KS. All are invited to stay for the meal immediately following today's service. *Any undesignated money in the offering today will go to help defray the costs of the meal.* Please notice there will not be an Evening Fellowship Service.

**Our sympathy** to the family of Earl Bowersox. Earl, the brother of Elinor Burkholder and Dottie Edinger, passed away on Monday, July 14. Funeral services were held on Friday, July 18, in Ashland, OH.

**Middle School 2 to Miracle Camp**  
**July 20-26 • Grades 5-6**

Christian Bame	Mateo Bonifaz	Timothy Huber
Mikaela Diller	Carrie Morris	

**Driver: Dave Huber**

### Looking Back with Thanksgiving

Swiss immigration to America began immediately after the War of 1812. Swiss immigrants came to the Northwest Territory beginning in 1820 and by 1833 *Swiss Mennonites were settled in Richland Township in great numbers.*

Early church and school sessions were held in cabins of the settlers. Christian Steiner was the first bishop of the Mennonite Church here beginning in 1834.

In 1840 the first church building was erected and was known as the Swiss Church. It was located on a farm now owned by Chuck & Saun Niswander.

The second Swiss Mennonite Church was built in 1846 after the first was destroyed by fire. It was located west and across the road from our present structure. It was known as the Bucher Church.

Ebenezer Mennonite Church replaced the old structure in 1869 and was located on our present site. Ebenezer was enlarged in 1883 and again in 1928 (with full basement), 1964, 1980, and 2001.

As the Swiss Community grew and expanded, St. John Mennonite, Pandora, was built in 1889, Grace Mennonite, Pandora, was built in 1905, and First Mennonite of Bluffton was built and dedicated in 1906.

*In less than one hundred years a prosperous, modern, and well settled district was developed out of uncut forests and swamps. It was accomplished by the Herculean efforts of forefathers who labored hard, lived peaceably, and built foundations firm so that posterity might enjoy the benefits accruing from the great Republic.* (Historical Sketches of Old Shannon and Bluffton)

### Stepping Forward to what God would have for us in the future

Ebenezer is a well-chosen name for our church. It means *stone of help*. We are a testimony to God's gracious presence and help all through these 175 years since our forefathers arrived in America. As long as Ebenezer stands, may it always be a testimony that challenges men and women to bow in thanksgiving before our God and praise Him for His help and salvation through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior!

Our charter remains *...as living stones built up a spiritual house...offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God by Jesus Christ...holding forth the Word of Life.* 1 Peter 2:5, Philippians 2:16

### ► UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES ◀

- Aug. 3** Youth NYC Missions Trip Report (7:00 p.m., Sanctuary)
- Aug. 10** Berean ABF Class Get-together (Hefner Dairy on Route 309, following 7:00 p.m. service)
- Aug. 17** David & Marjory Patrick TEAM (7:00 p.m., Sanctuary)  
Afterglow following evening service (CMC)
- Aug. 24** Christian Education Sunday (Sanctuary)  
Family Music Night (7:00 p.m., Sanctuary)
- Aug. 31** Combined Worship Service (10:30 a.m., Sanctuary)
- Sept. 6&7, 13&14** Dinner Theatre/~~The Rubber Room~~ (6:00 p.m., CMC)

**Ebenezer Mennonite Church Staff**

Pastor Dick Potter, Senior Pastor  
dick.potter@ebenezymennonite.org

Pastor Jim King, Associate Pastor Elect  
jim.king@ebenezymennonite.org

Pastor Wade Slechter, Pastor of Student Ministries  
wade.slechter@ebenezymennonite.org

Rev. Charles Warren, Pastor Emeritus  
cewarren21@yahoo.com

Kathy Brauen, Visitation Coordinator/Administrative Assistant  
kathy.brauen@ebenezymennonite.org

Deb Hilty, Secretary  
info@ebenezymennonite.org

## Attendance and Giving

### Attendance on July 13:

Contemporary Worship Service	(8:15 a.m.)	164
Sunday School & ABF	(9:30 a.m.)	312
Traditional Worship Service	(10:30 a.m.)	207
Evening Fellowship Service	(7:00 p.m.)	136

### Giving on July 13:

	<u>\$9,751.28</u>
Benevolent Fund	50.00
Building Fund	465.00
Christian Education Fund	541.27
Current Expense Fund	3,363.00
Missions Fund	2,244.00
New Building Fund	2,403.00
White Christmas Offering	685.01

**Missionaries of the Week: Paul & Julie Diller** are appointees to southwest **Asia**. Wycliffe is opening a computer office in Asia, and the Dillers will be going to supervise the computer work. They are in need of some monthly support. Continue to pray for this family and their needs. Please send an encouraging email note to the Dillers at: paul@dillerfamily.com.

**Christmas in July:** Help us make Christmas a little more special for our Ebenezer-member missionary families. Please use the special White Christmas envelope (extras on the table in the Crossroads Ministry Center Foyer) to make your donation through next Sunday, July 27. (Since Christmas gifts are considered personal by the IRS, no tax-deductible receipts will be issued.) – *Missions Committee*

**Flowers for the Sanctuary:** Please sign your name on the Flower Calendar in the Missions Center if you would be interested in supplying an arrangement for our Sanctuary on August 10 & 17 and September 21 & 28.

**Attention VBS teachers and guides:** Please stop in the library and pick up the follow-up packet of cards to send to your students this summer.

## Opportunities of the Week: July 21-27

Monday-Friday 7:30 a.m. - Walking Program – Gym

<b>Monday</b>	<b>7:15 p.m.</b>	EMC Softball Game ( <i>Village Park, Bluffton</i> )
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>9:00 a.m.</b>	Game Time ( <i>FH</i> )
	<b>6:30 p.m.</b>	Worship Team Rehearsal ( <i>Sanctuary</i> )
	<b>7:00 p.m.</b>	Prayer Time ( <i>FH</i> )
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>7:00 p.m.</b>	Outreach Ministries Com. Meeting ( <i>FH</i> )
<b>Friday</b>	<b>6:30 p.m.</b>	<b>Family Camp Begins</b> ( <i>Ouabache State Park, Bluffton, IN</i> )
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>9:30 a.m.</b>	Sunday School & ABF Classes ( <i>Various classrooms</i> )
	<b>10:30 a.m.</b>	Combined Worship Service ( <i>Sanctuary</i> ) <i>No Evening Fellowship Service</i>

### Nursery workers for next Sunday, July 27

Susan & DeAnna Bixel, Leah Eiden,  
Jeremy & Christina Lemley, Donita Luginbill

**Congratulations** to Paul & Jean Reichenbach who will celebrate their 60<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on Friday, July 25. May God bless them on this very special and happy occasion!

**Please Notice:** Ebenezer Sunday School Classes use Discipleland Curriculum. If you check out the website for DiscipleLand you will see some photos of our classrooms featured.  
<http://www.discipleland.com/spotlights/ebenezerbaptoh.phtml?ckc=0>

**Berean Adult Bible Fellowship Class Get-together:** On Sunday, August 10, immediately *after* the 7:00 Evening Fellowship service, we will be going to the Hefner Dairy on Route 309 for a time of fellowship.

### TODAY'S GREETERS

Richard & Gera Bixel and Jerry & Vickie Cartwright  
*Crossroads Ministry Center*

**Dinner Theatre tickets** will be available beginning Sunday, August 10, from 8:00 a.m. – Noon and 6:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. in the Missions Center. Plan now to attend and invite a friend or two to **The Rubber Room** scheduled for September 6, 7, 13, & 14 at 6:00 p.m. in the Crossroads Ministry Center. All tickets are \$10.00. Please be prepared to pay for your tickets when you pick them up.



**Extra BANKS are available** in the Missions Center for any child who wants them. The banks will be collected on Promotion Sunday, August 24, and the money will be used toward the New Building Fund.

### EMC Softball Schedule

(All games held at the Village Park in Bluffton, complete schedule is on the table in the Missions Center.)

Mon., July 21	7:15 p.m.	EMC vs. Lukes
Wed., July 30	7:15 p.m.	EMC vs. Lutheran Church
Mon., Aug. 4	7:15 p.m.	EMC vs. Bluffton Baptist Church

**Would you like to be a classroom helper** for a 3, 4, or 5-year-old Sunday School Class once a month? All you need to do is smile, help with attendance, and guide the children during class time. Only 12-15 adults could fill the needed positions and missing out on your regular class only 12 times during the year. Think about this and contact the church office 419-358-8588 or Joan Steiner 419-358-0486. You'll enjoy working with these little ones.

*Too often we underestimate the power of a touch, a smile, a kind word, a listening ear, an honest compliment, or the smallest act of caring, all of which have the potential to turn a life around.*

*by Leo Buscaglia*