

Notice: The annual December congregational meeting to elect officers is scheduled for this Wednesday, December 10, at 7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary. All other Wednesday evening activities (except Adult Choir Rehearsal will follow the meeting) will be cancelled for December 10. The annual elections for deacons, trustees, president, secretary, assistant secretary, nominating committee, constitution revision committee, head usher, and ushers will be held.

Nominees for Elected Offices for 2009

Deacons:	Frank Boehm Marvin Foster Moser	Ron Epp Don Leader Bart	
Trustees:	Seth Bixel Ronald Koontz	Dennis Burkholder Bob Spallinger	
President:	Greg Kidd	Jed Marquart	
Secretary:	Rosie Good	Sarah Lehman	
Assistant Secretary:	Kelli Foster	Nancy Wright	
Nominating Committee:	Sue Epp Joyce Reigle	David Ream Julie Steiner	
Constitution Revision Committee:	Vickie Cartwright Ralph Gerber	Arlene Garmatter David Miller	
Head Usher:	Randy Garmatter	Ron Steiner	
Ushers:	Keith Bates Randy Forrer Randy Garmatter Alan Hefner Russell Koontz Bob Spallinger	Mike Biery Alan Garmatter Richard Garmatter Corky Huffman Larry Moser Bill Steiner	Jerry Cartwright David Garmatter John Good Don Kirkendall Mike Powell Ron Steiner

Dear Friends & Co-Workers at Ebenezer: Thank you so much for the privilege of being with you for your 45th Missions Conference. It takes many people coordinating a lot of details to continue to make it the success that it is. Thank you for your continued partnership with the ministry of MAF through us, too. What a blessing you are as you use your gifts and talents to encourage the body of Christ in your community and around the world. Your faithfulness in everything you do makes a difference for God's Kingdom, as well as adding to it. – *Together in Him, Steve & Carol Lehman*

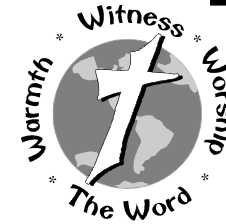
► UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES ◀

- Dec. 20** Children's Christmas Program Rehearsal (9:00 a.m., CMC)
Dec. 21 Combined Christmas Service (10:00 a.m., CMC)
No 8:15 a.m. service, Sunday School, or ABF
 Children's Christmas Program (7:00 p.m., CMC)
Dec. 24 Christmas Eve Service (6:00 p.m., Sanctuary)
Dec. 28 No Evening Fellowship Service
Jan. 3 Potter's Clay Class (7:00 p.m., Lima Rescue Home)
Jan. 10 Men's Fellowship Breakfast (7:30 p.m., FH)
Jan. 12 **MOPS** (9:00 a.m., FH)
Jan. 18 Chili Festival (5:00 p.m., CMC)
Jan. 26 **MOPS** (9:00 a.m., FH)

New Service Times - Beginning January 4, 2009
Sunday School/Adult Bible Fellowship 9:00 – 10:00 a.m.
Worship Gathering 10:15 – 11:15 a.m.

Ebenezer Mennonite Church Staff

Pastor Dick Potter, Senior Pastor
 dick.potter@ebenezymennonite.org
 Pastor Jim King, Associate Pastor
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 Pastor Wade Slechter, Pastor of Student Ministries
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 Rev. Charles Warren, Pastor Emeritus
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 Kathy Brauen, Visitation Coordinator/Administrative Assistant
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Ebenezer
Emissary Weekly
December 7, 2008

Opportunities of the Day

- 8:15 a.m.** Worship Service (*Sanctuary*)
9:30 a.m. Adult Bible Fellowship
 Sunday School (*2-year-olds – High School*)
10:30 a.m. Worship Service (*Sanctuary*)
 Children's Church (*grades 1-3, 106*)
12:00 p.m. College Students' Meal (*FH*)
3:00 p.m. Senior High Boys' Small Group (*school house*)
4:30 p.m. Children's Choir (*Grades 1-6, Rooms 118&119*)
7:00 p.m. Junior & Senior High School Small Groups

Children's Church Notice: Today there will be Children's Church for grades 1-3 only. Because of the lack of Children's Church teachers during the second service several of the classes have been cancelled. Please check your bulletin each Sunday. We are sorry for this inconvenience. We want to continue this ministry, but without teachers it is difficult to do so. Please prayerfully consider teaching one Sunday. If anyone would like to fill this need please contact the church office or Joan Steiner at 419-358-0486.

In the Hospital: Helen Diller, Lima Memorial Hospital and Wilson Steiner, St. Vincent's Medical Center in Toledo.

Scheduled Surgeries: Sharon Koogler, Tuesday, December 10, St. Rita's Medical Center, on Friday, December 12, Donna Dukes Orthopaedic Institute of Ohio and Rhody Hartman OSU Hospitals.

SIM workers needed February 1-7. Contact Ruth Bixel as soon as possible at 419-358-5078.

Attendance and Giving

Attendance on November 30:

Sunday School & ABF	(9:30 a.m.)	327
Worship Gathering	(10:30 a.m.)	393
Christmas Praise & Worship	(7:00 p.m.)	159

Giving on November 30:

\$11,156.19

Benevolent Fund	135.00
Building Fund	650.00
Christian Education Fund	283.19
Current Expense Fund	4,089.00
Missions Fund	3,811.00
New Building Fund	2,152.00
Youth Fund	36.00

Missions Giving-

\$500.00 to SEND International to help send Ukrainian children to camp.

Missionaries of the Week: *Lyn & Lori Loewen* live in Findlay and serve with the Findlay Area Youth for Christ. Lyn writes *Thank you so much for allowing me to be a part of the teens' lives in McComb and Van Buren. I enjoy the opportunity to be able to encourage them to make that Big Choice!* Please send an encouraging note to the Loewens at: wild4thel@yahoo.com.

Missionary Updates: Copies of letters received in November from the following missionaries are available in the Missions Center underneath the large world map – *Brad & Debbie Dukes, Tim & Tiffany Gallant, David & Mary Glick, Steve & Belva Rae Kotlarczyk, Don & Ann Leader, Lyn & Lori Loewen, Joel & Nada Mathai, Jorge & Lynn Mogrovejo, Les & Verla Unruh, and Chuck & Naomi Smith.*

Attention Hunters: The Wild Game Committee is in need of your *game* that you have harvested (especially venison). The meat will be used for the 2009 Wild Game Event. Contact Gary Lugibihl at 419-235-9416 or Joe Alt at 419-234-1247 with your meat donations. Thank you and good luck hunting!

Opportunities of the Week: December 8-14

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

Monday	9:00 a.m. <i>MOPS (FH)</i>
	6:30 p.m. Ladies' Walking Program
	7:00 p.m. Ebenezer 2 Men's Basketball Game (CMC) Christian Education Com. Meeting (FH)
	8:00 p.m. Ebenezer Men's Basketball Game (CMC)
Tuesday	6:15 a.m. Men's Bible Study (FH)
	6:30 p.m. Ladies' Walking Program
Wednesday	9:00 a.m. Game Time (FH)
	6:30 p.m. Worship Team Rehearsal (Choir Room)
	7:00 p.m. Congregational Meeting (Sanctuary)
	8:15 p.m. Adult Choir Rehearsal (Choir Loft)
Thursday	6:30 p.m. Ladies' Walking Program
Sunday	5:00 p.m. Trustee Meeting (FH)
	6:00 p.m. Children's Choir Rehearsal (118) Women's Ministries Com. Meeting (115)

Nursery workers for next Sunday, December 14

Lynette & Amber Bewsey, Jason & Kim Fritsch,
Dave & Channan Garmatter,
Randy & Christy Garmatter, Cheryl Potter

2009 Faith Promise Update: The total amount of faith promises received to date towards our 2009 missions budget is at \$173,305 towards our goal of \$185,000. Additional cards (which are located on the tables in the Missions Center and Foyers) may be completed and turned in to the Church Office or placed in the offering plate through the end of the year.

Youth Cheese Sale: Today is the last day to place your cheese orders. Order forms are available on the table in the Missions Center. Delivery is next Sunday, December 14.

All seniors are invited to attend a free breakfast with entertainment by the Bluffton Concert Choir this Wednesday, December 10, at 8:30 a.m. at the Bluffton Middle School Cafetorium.

TODAY'S GREETERS

Richard & Gera Bixel, *Sanctuary Foyer*
Dwight Bixel, *Missions Center*
Drew Luginbuhl & Ben Moser, *Crossroads Ministry Center*

Remember to keep in prayer Pastor Warren as he travels to Delhi, India this Thursday, December 11.

The Trustees (with the concurrence of the Deacons) have decided to sell the parsonage. The parsonage is being offered to current members/attendees of the church in its current condition (as-is) at the appraised price. Contact any Trustee for more information.

Needed: Five people who are able to carry a cinder block and would like to go on a Missions Trip to Bolivia in early June 2009. Room, board, and flight \$1,500. Any interested persons please contact Peg Moser at 567-204-1798.

Year-end Giving Opportunities & Challenges

Beginning January 4, Sunday morning worship will be held in the Crossroads Ministry Center (CMC) in a single, unified service. Even though the CMC is functional as it is, some technical upgrades would greatly improve the acoustics, lighting, and projection of the facility. If you would like to contribute toward these improvements, please do so using your giving envelope and marking it **Transition Equipment**. If you would like to give toward a specific item, please contact Trustee Chairman, Lynn Lehman, or technicians, Greg Luginbill and Marvin Foster.

Thank you everyone for your prayers, visits, and food. Also, thanks to Pastor Warren and Kathy for being there with me during my surgery. All the cards that were sent were very much appreciated. – *Dottie Edinger*

Thank you to those who participated in this year's shoebox collection. As a result, 128 shoeboxes were collected. Please continue to pray for this ministry especially the children who will be receiving our boxes that the gospel will transfer into their hearts and lives. - *Annie Spallinger*

Dear Friends: Thank you for such a warm welcome you gave us during Missions Conference week. We were blessed by the food and fellowship with you. Thank you for letting us share about our ministry. Your support and prayers are what allows us to share Jesus with others. - *Love from Rod & Lori Kraybill*