



## 75 Days till Power Time

*The committee is working hard. Be watching for the sign-up sheets on how you can help. Let's show the PowerTeam how strong Ebenezer Church really is.*

**Prayer Survey:** Please remember to complete the prayer survey and return it to the Prayer Table in the Missions Center today. Additional surveys are on the table. Words cannot express how much our church leaders, our families, our youth, our missionaries, and the recipients of our outreach events all thank you for your past, present, and future prayers on their behalf. God bless each one of you!

**It's been an exciting** first year as a Relay Center for Operation Christmas Child. As a result of being a relay center, Ebenezer had 258 shoeboxes arrive at our facility. That's 158% more than if it were us alone. Isn't it great to work with others in the community to reach 258 children around the world with the Good News that Jesus came at Christmas for them? Each shoebox we received is truly a treasure! Thanks to all who participated in Operation Christmas Child 2009.

**Just letting you folks** know how grateful the Mission, *Matthew 25* ministry is for all the bottles and medical equipment we sent to them. We are still collecting and if you have any donations please put in the appropriate box in the Sharing Room. Thank you! – *Ginny Moser*

**Dear Church:** Thank you all for the prayers and support through my surgery and recovery. Especially want to thank Pastor Jim & Pat and Kathy Brauen for visiting me down in Columbus. I continue to cherish your prayers during recovery and awaiting the pathology report. God bless you all. – *Don & Denise Luginbuhl and boys*

**Thank you** to the family of Wayne Holt for sharing the poinsettias in the Crossroads Ministry Center Foyer and in the Missions Center following Wayne's memorial service held this past Wednesday in Lima.

**To my Ebenezer Friends:** Many thanks for your generous gifts and expressions of love at my retirement shower. I feel very welcomed and am tremendously blessed to be with you again! My desire is to serve with and among you in this new chapter of my life. – *Linda Sommer*

**A thank you:** An excerpt taken from Aaron & Emily Koogler's CaringBridge.org journal. *We again have to PRAISE OUR WONDERFUL GOD WITHOUT CEASING for each day of healing and even the pain for he has blessed us with amazing love and support! Thank you to all of our family and friends. Aaron wasn't very excited that I made this site at first. It seemed as a reminder of how long and challenging the road will be; but as he looked at it today for the first time and felt loved, encouraged, and blessed by all of you that take time to pray and love on him in your own ways... we are truly humbled by your love. God bless – Aaron & Emily* Aaron's website is: <http://www.caringbridge.org/visit/aaronkoogler>

**Our MOPS group** has seen a dramatic increase in our numbers this year with over two-thirds of our moms not attending Ebenezer. **That's where we desperately need your help.** We have an urgent need for helpers in the toddler and 2-year-old class. Would you be able to help out even once or twice during the year? If this ministry is something that you would be willing to assist with, or if you have questions, please contact Marti Meza at 419-358-0789 or Sarah Lehman at 419-957-3607 as soon as you can. Thank you all so much for supporting this ministry!!

**The Wild Game Committee** is in need of any type of wild game you are willing to donate for our Wild Game Night on March 27, 2010. Please contact Mark or Kay Spallinger at 419-230-9346 if you are willing to donate any type of meat. Thank you.

### ► UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES ◀

- Dec. 24** Christmas Eve Service (6:00 p.m.)
- Dec. 31** Maranatha Class Party (7:00 p.m., CMC)
- Jan. 8-10** Junior High Winter Retreat (Miracle Camp)
- Jan. 29-31** Senior High Winter Retreat (Miracle Camp)
- Feb. 7-13** SIM Missions Trip (Charlotte, NC)
- Feb. 19** Transport for Christ Banquet (6:30 p.m., BU)
- Feb. 24-28** PowerTeam Crusade (CMC, 6:00 p.m.)



# EBENEZER

## Emissary Weekly

December 13, 2009

### Opportunities of the Day

- 9:00 a.m.** Adult Bible Fellowship  
Sunday School (2-year-olds – High School)
- 10:00 a.m.** The Good News Hour (2-3-year-olds, Room B10 & 4-5-year-olds, B17)
- 10:15 a.m.** Worship Gathering – Pastor Jim (CMC)
- 5:00 p.m.** Trustee Meeting (103 & 104)
- 6:00 p.m.** Disciple Singers (formerly Children's Choir, Grades 1-6, CMC)
- 7:00 p.m.** Children Choirs Christmas Program (CMC)  
Junior & Senior High Small Groups Meet

**In the Hospital:** Marilyn Busenitz, Newton, Kansas and Aaron Koogler, St. Rita's Medical Center.

**2010 Faith Promise Update:** The total amount of faith promises received to date towards our 2010 missions budget is at \$182,500 towards our goal of \$195,000. Additional cards (which are located on the tables in the Missions Center and Foyer) may be completed and turned in to the Church Office or placed in the offering plate through the end of the year.

**Missionaries of the week: Daniel & Lynn Plett** and their three children live in the **Slovak Republic**. Daniel serves with **Trans World Radio**. Ministry among Roma peoples is vital to TWR. Pray for these Romanian programs as they are aired by the National Partners in Hungary, Romania, Bulgaria, Serbia, and Albania. Please send a note of encouragement to Daniel & Lynn at [thepletts@zoznam.sk](mailto:thepletts@zoznam.sk).

## Attendance and Giving

### Attendance on December 6:

Sunday School & ABF	(9:00 a.m.)	302
Worship Gathering	(10:15 a.m.)	387

### Giving on December 6:

\$18,805.78

Benevolent Fund		50.00
Building Fund		614.00
Christian Education Fund		497.94
Current Expense Fund		10,919.84
Missions Fund		6,519.00
New Building Fund		185.00
Van Fund		20.00

**Congregational Meeting:** The following persons were elected at the annual meeting on Wednesday, December 9: **Deacons:** Three-year term – David Brauen, Chuck Niswander, **Trustees:** Four-year term - Kurt Emans, Randy Garmatter, Bill Spallinger; **Nominating Committee:** One-year term - Arlene Garmatter, Linda Sommer; **Head Usher:** One-year term - Ron Steiner; **Ushers:** One-year term - Joe Alt, Mike Biery, Randy Forrer, David Garmatter, Richard Garmatter, John Good, Alan Hefner, Bruce Moser, Larry Moser, Mike Powell, John Schutz, Jim Spallinger, Robert Spallinger, Josh Steiner, Bill Steiner, Bob Zimmerman, Jr.

**Christmastown** is coming to the Ebenezer Mennonite Church on Thursday, December 24, at 6:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary. Join us for this year's Christmas Eve program. You'll enjoy an evening of humorous and insightful holiday dramas that emphasize the power of simplicity in the Christmas season. You will also enjoy a time of singing together some of the season's traditional Christmas songs.

*Merry Christmas!*

**SIM Workers Needed:** If interested please contact Ruth Anna Bixel at 419-358-5078. Dates of SIM trip are February 7-13, 2010.

## Opportunities of the Week: December 14-20

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

<b>Monday</b>	<b>9:00 a.m.</b>	MOPS (FH)
	<b>7:00 p.m.</b>	Christian Education Com. Meeting (FH)
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>6:15 a.m.</b>	Men's Bible Study/Breakfast (FH)
	<b>7:00 p.m.</b>	EMC Men's Basketball (CMC)
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>9:00 a.m.</b>	Game Time (FH)
	<b>6:00 p.m.</b>	Wednesday Night Supper (CMC)
	<b>6:30 p.m.</b>	Worship Team Rehearsal (115)
	<b>7:00 p.m.</b>	Adult Bible Study & Prayer <i>Love to Pray (103-104)</i> Adult Choir Rehearsal (115) Children's Ministry (ages 2-grade 6) Ladies' Bible Study (B17) Men's Bible Study (Sanctuary overflow)
	<b>8:30 p.m.</b>	Dodgeball (CMC)
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>7:00 p.m.</b>	Deacon Meeting (FH)
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>*No ABF, Sunday School, or Evening Service*</b>	
	<b>10:00 a.m.</b>	The Good News Hour (ages 2-3, B10, 4-5-year-olds, B17)
	<b>10:15 a.m.</b>	Christmas Worship Service (CMC)

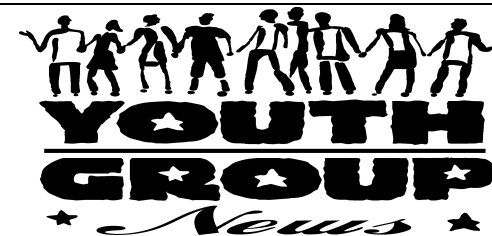
### ~ Helpers for Sunday, December 20 ~

**Nursery:** Caroline & Kyla Dawson, Jason & Kim Fritsch  
**The Good News Hour:** Amber Bewsey, Mariah Burkholder, Cindy & Katie Breidenbach, Adel Sommers, Andrea Spallinger, Kathy Steiner, Rhonda & Allene Thompson

**Maranatha ABF Class:** Plan now to attend New Year's Eve at 7:00 p.m. in the Crossroads Ministry Center and bring your family and friends. Also bring games and food to share.

### TODAY'S GREETERS

Hanné Burkholder, Marissa Schutz - *Missions Center*  
David & Mary Ream - *Crossroads Ministry Center*



~ The Plug ~

**All Junior & Senior High Students** are invited to a Fifth Quarter (Christmas movie) following the Bluffton boys' high school basketball game (around 9:30 p.m.) on Tuesday, December 22, in the schoolhouse.

**Registration** for 2010 Miracle Camp Winter Retreat, January 8-10 Junior High and January 29-31 Senior High. A sign-up sheet will be in your Sunday School Class or see Pastor Wade. Please bring a \$10.00 deposit and sign up **ASAP**.

**Supply Drive for Romania:** From Andy LaBreche (Missionary with GEM in Romania) *This past year we have been involved with a day center for underprivileged kids in Romania which runs an afterschool VBS type program. They have about 50 kids, so they go through arts and crafts and school supplies like crazy. If anyone has unused supplies at home, we can ship them to be used at the center. (No crayons – someone gave us an entire case!) They are also starting sewing classes for girls, so any sewing supplies (fabric remnants, buttons, & other notions) would be welcome. It doesn't have to be new stuff. Winter wear is also something the center has asked for. Along with any donations please include a check to help with the shipping costs. We are getting a deal of \$1.05 (charge) per pound, but have close to 1,000 pounds already. Donated items can be placed in the box in the Missions Center. The LaBreche's will be in our area to pick them up January 9, 2010. Funds for shipping are greatly needed and can be sent directly to **Greater Europe Mission, P.O. Box 1669, Monument CO 80132-1669** designated *LaBreche Ministry* or made out to Ebenezer Mennonite Church and designated for LaBreche's. Thank you very much for your help with this great project! - *Missions Committee**