

## MANY THANKS

**The family of** Harold Closson wishes to gratefully acknowledge all the expressions of sympathy that helped comfort us during Harold's illness and passing.

**Dear Church Family:** Thank you for loving us, nurturing us, teaching us, laughing with us, and worshipping the God of all wonders with us. As our journey with Christ takes us to North Dakota, we will fondly remember our time in Bluffton and Ebenezer. Rather than saying good-bye we say, *see ya'll next time*. In *His name and our prayers, Bob, Rhonda, and Allene Thompson*, 1301 16th Avenue - Apt. D, Minot, N.D. 58703.

### Better Than A Hallelujah

God loves a lullaby  
In a mothers tears in the dead of night  
Better than a Hallelujah sometimes

God loves a drunkards cry  
The soldiers plea not to let him die  
Better than a Hallelujah sometimes

We pour out our miseries  
God just hears a melody  
Beautiful the mess we are  
The honest cries of breaking hearts  
Are better than a Hallelujah

The woman holding on for life  
The dying man giving up the fight  
Are better than a Hallelujah sometimes

The tears of shame for what's been done  
The silence when the words won't come  
Are better than a Hallelujah sometimes

Better than a church bell ringing  
Better than a choir singing

## PRAYER CONCERNS AND PRAYER CHAIN

**Please call the church office** for any names or concerns that you want listed in the Weekly Prayer List or announced during our Worship Services. To start the Prayer Chain, contact Kathy Brauen at 419-234-7808 or the church office at 419-358-8588.

### Church Office Hours:

Monday – Friday, 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

## GREEN CARDS

**Please notice** the Green Ebenezer Communications Card in your bulletin. These cards may be used: to request prayer for you and/or your family or friends; to request information concerning our many church ministries; to provide address information or address/phone changes, etc. These cards are a vital communication link which helps our Body stay connected. Please feel free to use these cards and place completed ones in the offering plate or in the box provided in the Crossroads Ministry Center Foyer. Thank you!

## UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES

- Aug. 22** Worship Gathering/Were You There? (10:15 a.m., CMC)
- Aug. 29** Teacher/Student Back to School Dedication  
(10:15 a.m., CMC)
- Sept. 12** Christian Education Volunteer Appreciation Sunday  
Speaker: Randy Keeler (10:15 a.m., CMC)
- Sept. 29** Kick-off for Wednesday Night Children's Ministry  
(6:00 p.m., Bill & Joan Steiner's home)
- Oct. 3** Worship & Communion Service (10:15 a.m., CMC)
- Oct. 6** Wednesday Night Children's Ministry & Junior High  
Ministry Begins (7:00 p.m.)
- Nov. 14-21** Missions Conference



August 8, 2010

# Welcome to EBENEZER

Come friends, let us warmly welcome each other and join together to worship God. In the spirit of the psalmist who wrote: *O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good and Let the redeemed of the Lord say so* (Psalm 107: 1-2), let us praise the Lord. Hearts warmed by the Spirit cause hands to reach out in love.

## OPPORTUNITIES OF THE DAY

- 9:00 a.m.** Adult Bible Fellowship Combined Classes (CMC)  
Berean ABF Class (118-119)  
Sunday School (2-year-olds – High School)
- 10:00 a.m.** The Good News Hour (2&3-year-olds B10,  
4-5-year-olds B17)
- 10:15 a.m.** Worship Gathering – Pastor Jim (CMC)
- 6:30 p.m.** Message Series Small Group (Jim & Marty Lemley's home)
- 7:00 p.m.** Evening Fellowship Service (Sanctuary)

## PRAYER CONCERNS

Roger Ford (Cleveland Clinic)

**Our Sympathy** to the family of Rachel Huser. Rachel, the mother of Donna Dukes, passed away on Wednesday, August 4. Services were held on Friday, August 6, at the Love Funeral Home, Ottawa.

## RECENT MOVE

Hazel Austin now residing at the Mennonite Memorial Home.

## ATTENDANCE AND GIVING

### Attendance on August 1:

ABF and Sunday School	(9:00 a.m.)	244
Worship Gathering	(10:15 a.m.)	349
Evening Fellowship	(7:00 p.m.)	93

### Giving on August 1:

\$17,219.59

Benevolent Fund	900.00
Building Fund	750.00
Christian Education Fund	1,130.64
General Fund	9,548.95
Missions Fund	4,695.00
New Building Fund	120.00
White Christmas Fund	75.00

## ABOUT OUR MISSIONARIES

### Missions Giving:

\$300 to Avant Ministries, special needs for Nick Powell.

**Missionaries of the week: Andy & Pam LaBreche** serve with **Greater Europe Mission (GEM)** in **Romania**. They were in the States from September to May to visit supporting churches. They are happy to be back in Romania. Pam is serving part time in the Areopagus Library. Alex is attending Cedarville University. Andy is also in the States. Please send an encouraging note to Andy & Pam at:

O.P. 16, C.P. 1165  
1900 Timisoara, Romania or  
e-mail: alabreche@gemission.com

## WEDDING CONGRATULATIONS

- ♥ Kent Cherry and Rachel Smith were united in marriage yesterday at the St. John Mennonite Church.
- ♥ Bob Cupples and Joyce Fox were united in marriage yesterday at the Methodist Church in Ada.
- ♥ Dr. James Gideon and Elaine Ashley were united in marriage yesterday near Pandora.

## OPPORTUNITIES OF THE WEEK: AUGUST 9-15

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

- Monday 6:00 p.m.** EMC Tournament Softball Game  
*(Village Park)*
- Tuesday 7:00 p.m.** Christian Education Com. Meeting *(103)*  
**8:30 p.m.** Dodgeball *(CMC)*
- Wednesday 9:00 a.m.** Game Time *(FH)*  
**7:00 p.m.** Adult Bible Study & Prayer/*God As He Longs for You to See Him (FH)*  
Worship Team Rehearsal *(CMC)*  
**7:05 p.m.** Small Group - *Same Kind of Different As Me* *(at Pastor Jim's home)*
- Sunday 9:00 a.m.** Sunday School & ABF *(Various classrooms)*  
**10:00 a.m.** The Good News Hour *(2&3-year-olds B10, 4-5-year-olds B17)*  
**10:15 a.m.** Worship Gathering/Sleepy *(CMC)*  
**5:00 p.m.** Trustee Meeting *(103)*  
**6:30 p.m.** Message Series Small Group *(Jim & Marty Lemley's home)*  
**7:00 p.m.** Evening Fellowship Service

## TODAY'S GREETERS

Rosie and Brittany Good – *Missions Center*  
Dave & Mary Ream – *Crossroads Ministry Center*

## HELPERS FOR NEXT SUNDAY, AUGUST 15

### Nursery:

Teresa Marquart, Brittany Sheehan,  
Josh & Heidi Steiner, Bev Stockman

### Good News Hour:

Saun Niswander, Adel Sommers, Sue Steiner

## YOUTH NEWS

### ~ The Plug ~

All students going into grade seven through the 2010 graduates are invited to all events.

**Squirry Worm and Pizza** on Thursday, August 19. Meet at the BCLR at 6:00 p.m. Bring money.

**Laser X and Mall:** Meet at the BCLR on Sunday, August 22, at 1:00 p.m. Spots are limited, so sign up! The cost is \$15. Bring extra money for the mall and food court.

**Dodgeball:** Tuesdays, 8:30 - 10:00 p.m., in the Crossroads Ministry Center. Junior High and up are welcome.

## PLEASE NOTE

☀ **Do you** have fruits or vegetables this summer that you would like to give away to others in need? Your extra produce may be placed in the kitchen window.

☀ **Do you** not have the room for a garden or don't have a green thumb? Please feel free to check out the kitchen window to see what others have to share.

## MINISTRY OPPORTUNITY

**Putnam County Hospice** Volunteer Training and Orientation will begin in September. New hospice volunteers are required to complete 14 hours of training prior to providing support to families facing a terminal illness. If you are interested in joining our volunteer team or would like more information, please contact Kathy Rellinger, Putnam County Hospice Volunteer Coordinator, at 419-523-4449.

## MISSIONS CENTER UPDATE

**Missions Center Renovation:** Would you like to be a part of the exciting renovations that are being made to our Missions Center? Some items have already been purchased and are in place, but there are still several to purchase and install. Would you consider helping to defray the cost of these items by giving a donation toward the project? You may mark your gift Missions Center Renovation which will be deposited to the Building Fund. Please contact Kathy Brauen at 419-358-8588 with any questions.