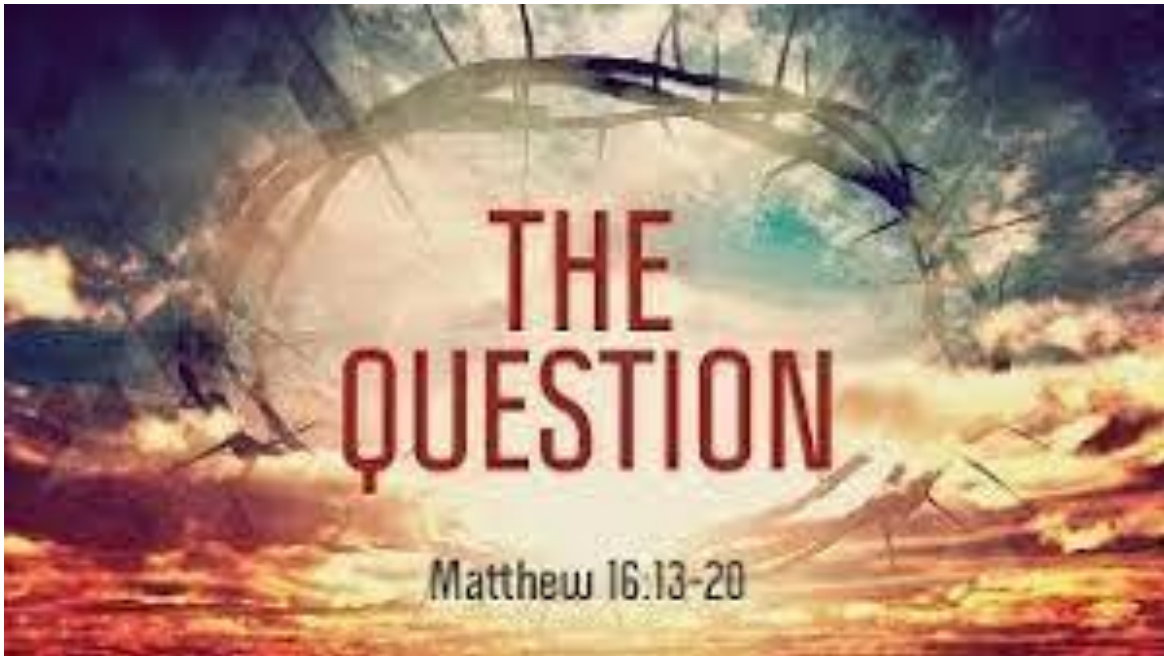


Ebenezer United Methodist Church

August 27, 2023



*Ebenezer United Methodist Church is a
Stephen Ministry Congregation*



The Flowers today are presented to the Glory of God and

In Loving Memory of Curtis and Mark Reedy

Presented by Family friends

*In Loving Memory of my twin brother, Robert Whibley
on our 97th birthday*

Presented by Peggy Dempsey

Participating in Service

Pastor:	Rev. Mary H. Browne
Director of Music:	Mr. F. Robert Rudolph
Worship Leader:	Stacy Gates
Media Team:	Bill Clark, Rich Johnson
Greeter:	Marlene Tribitt
Usher Coordinators:	Don Grimes and Don Pruden

THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

*“He asked his disciples, ‘Who do people say that the Son of Man is?’
And they said, ‘Some say John the Baptist but others Elijah and still others Jeremiah
or one of the prophets.’*

*He said to them, ‘But who do you say that I am?’
Simon Peter answered, ‘You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.’”
Matthew 16:13b-16*

August 27, 2023

10:00 a.m.

GATHERING

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CENTERING MUSIC

“Meditation (from Thaïs)”

Jules Massenet

*CALL TO WORSHIP

With steadfast love and growing faith,

We come as the people of Christ.

With prayers of hope and songs of joy,

We come to worship God, the eternal and ever-loving.

With thankful hearts and humble prayers,

We come to give God glory and praise.

**Here we are together as people of faith and hope,
to celebrate the good news of Jesus Christ.**

*PRAISE SONG (UMH 545)

“The Church’s One Foundation”

AURELIA

*PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

**God of revelation, mere flesh and blood cannot reveal divine truth,
only your Spirit can give that gift.**

**Be in our breath and voice, be in our ears and understanding,
that through these words your Word may be known. Amen.**

*GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 16:13-20

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

A WORD FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES

MINISTRY OF MUSIC

“Fifty Miles of Elbow Room”

Iris DeMent

Ron Durbin: vocals, guitar; Susan Durbin, vocals

Twelve-hundred miles, it's length and breadth

That four-square city stands

It's gem-set walls of jasper shine

They're not made by human hands

One-hundred miles, it's gates are wide

Abundant entrance there

With fifty miles of elbow room
On either side to spare

Chorus

When the gates swing wide on the other side
Just beyond the sunset sea
There'll be room to spare as we enter there
There'll be room for you and room for me
For the gates are wide on the other side
Where the fairest flowers bloom
On the right hand and on the left hand
Fifty miles of elbow room

Sometimes I'm cramped and I'm crowded here
And I long for elbow room
Now I long to reach for altitude
Where the fairest flowers bloom
It won't be long before I pass
Into that city fair
With fifty miles of elbow room
On either side to spare

Oh, when the gates swing wide on the other side
Just beyond the sunset sea
There'll be room to spare as we enter there
There'll be room for you and room for me
Oh, for the gates are wide on the other side
Where the fairest flowers bloom
On the right hand and on the left hand
Fifty miles of elbow room

Chorus (with congregation)

MESSAGE

"The Unasked Question"

Rev. Mary Browne

RESPONSE TO THE WORD (UMH 163)

"Ask Ye What Great Things I Know"

HENDON

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The Nicene Creed (UMH 880)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.

Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our trespasses,

as we forgive those who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

God invites us to live in gratitude by offering what God has already given us.
Giving thanks, we open our hearts and share our possessions for the work of the church.

OFFERTORY

"Seeds"

Pat Alger, Ralph Murphy

Ron Durbin: vocals, guitar; Susan Durbin, vocals

Sometimes I stop on my way home and watch the children play
And I wonder if they wonder what they'll become someday
Some will dream a big dream and make it all come true
While others go on dreaming of things they'll never do

Chorus

We're all just Seeds in God's hands
We start the same but where we land
Is sometimes fertile soil
It's sometimes sand
We're all just Seeds in God's hands

I saw a friend the other day, I hardly recognized
He'd done a lot of living since I last looked in her eyes
He told her tale of how he'd failed the lessons he'd been taught
But offered no excuses, and he left me with this thought

Chorus

BRIDGE: And as I'm standing at this crossroads once again
I'm reminded we're all the same when we begin
And in the end....

Chorus (with congregation)

*PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS (UMH 95)

"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" OLD 100TH

*OFFERING PRAYER

**Ancient of Days, you call us not just to give us the blessing
of being your people, but also to be a blessing for all people on this earth.
Give us the wisdom and the courage to be a blessing to this community
and to this world.
Through these offerings may we be channels of your compassion and healing
to others, for the sake of Jesus, in whose name we pray. Amen.**

*HYMN OF SERVICE (UMH 368)

"My Hope Is Built"

THE SOLID ROCK

*DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

My friends, we are the body of Christ, built on the foundation of God's grace.
Jesus asks each one of us: Who do you say that I am?
Connected in call and in love, go now and answer his question this day
and all your days, in every word you speak and every action you perform.

May God who restores,
Christ who calls,
and the Spirit who empowers bless you and increase your joy and gladness
now and always.

Amen.

GOING FORTH "Be Of Good Courage (Musique Heroique)" Georg Philipp Telemann
Please remain seated until the GOING FORTH is concluded.

*All are welcome to a time of fellowship and refreshment at Social Hour
in the Christian Life Center.*

**please stand, in body or spirit*
bold text indicates congregation response

††This Order of Worship is subject to the direction of the Holy Spirit.††

Lectionary Scriptures for the **Fourteenth Sunday After Pentecost,**

September 3, 2023:

Exodus 3:1-15; Psalm 105:1-6, 23-26; 45b; Romans 12:9-21; Matthew 16:21-28

Next Sunday, September 3, members of the Health & Wellness Committee will be available in the Workroom following the worship service doing blood pressure checks.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Altar Flowers: As many of you may know, altar flowers can be dedicated "in memory of" or "in honor of" a family member or friend on any Sunday of the year. The dedication appears in the Sunday bulletin of your chosen Sunday. If you wish to make an altar flower dedication (\$50/Sunday), please contact Carol in the church office at 731-9495. Thank you!

In Person Attendance for Aug 20 – 64.

Blessing
of the
Backpacks



School students and teachers join us at the 10:00 service on **Sunday September 10th**, and bring your backpacks! Pastor Browne will give a special blessing for a great 2023-2024 school year!



We will be collecting donations for the stockings from July through November. The box is out in the narthex and ready to accept your donations.

This month we will do **toothbrushes and small toothpaste, granola/fruit bars, foot powder, razors and chewing gum.** Of course, we will accept anything else that is suitable. There are lists of all donations requested available in the Narthex. Thanks again for your generous support of this endeavor.

Money donations and Christmas cards for the troops are always welcome. Cards would be a great project for the children.

Our Prayers



Mary Anderson Gary Avery +++ Bill Bedient Mary Bowers + Cami +++ Lois Chamberlain ++++ Arthur Elston ++++ Hack +++ Frank Harkins +++	Jenna Becky Knowles +++ Becky Mack +++ Carrie Mack +++ Micah +++ Rachel +++ Susan Shirley Vanderpool +++ Elaine Williams ++++	<u>Ongoing Concerns</u> Jade August Clara Brelsford Roy Brown Rick Browne Ron Case Judy Crescenzo Delia Irwin Jeannette Jarrell	Rich Johnson Kristin Gary Pierce Denise Reedy Olivia Richart Louis Simmons Joyce Simpson Zach Trexler Alex Wiant
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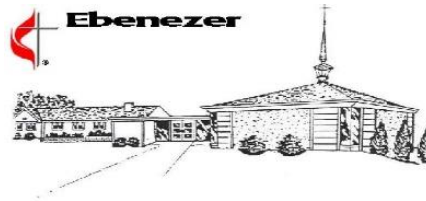
In an effort to list all prayer requests each will appear for 4 weeks as indicated by the number of + after the name

Please pray for all Law Enforcement Officers.

**Please continue to remember all who serve our country in the military,
especially pray for those represented from our congregation.**

Missionaries We Support:

Matt & Erin Reinders	(Unalaska UMC)	Michael Fisher	(I-Tec)
Catherine & Andy Kellogg	(Florida)	Joy & Robert Vargas	(Paraguay)
Gaston Ntambo	(Congo)	Jeanne Ntambo	(Congo)



On the Calendar, this week....

Sun	08/27	13th Sunday after Pentecost	10:00am	Worship
			11:00am	Social Hour – CLC
			1:00pm	Private Event - GHH
			3:00pm	Youth Group – Youth Room
Mon	08/28		10:00am	AA Meeting – Room 204
			7:00pm	NA Meeting – GHH
Tues	08/29		12:00pm	AA Meeting – Room 204
Wed	08/30		10:00am	AA Meeting – Room 204
			7:00pm	Admin Board – Room 204
Thurs	08/31		6:30pm	Al-Anon – Room204
			7:00pm	BSA50 - CLC
			7:00pm	NA Meeting– GHH
Friday	09/01		10:00am	AA Meeting – GHH
Sat	09/02		1:00pm	Private Event - CLC
			6:30pm	NA Meeting – GHH & Old Kitchen



Looking forward...

Sun	09/03	14th Sunday after Pentecost
		10:00am Worship
		11:00am Social Hour – CLC
		1:00pm Private Event - GHH
		3:00pm Youth Group – Youth Room
		5:30pm BSA50 - CLC
Mon	09/04	Labor Day
		10:00am AA Meeting – Room 204
		7:00pm NA Meeting – GHH
Tues	09/05	12:00pm AA Meeting – Room 204
		12:30pm UMW Exec Board – Room 211
Wed	09/06	10:00am AA Meeting – Room 204
		10:00am Chancel Choir
		6:30pm Good Chimes
Thurs	09/07	11:45am Health & Wellness Comm. – Room 204
		6:30pm Al-Anon – Room204
		7:00pm BSA50 - CLC
		7:00pm NA Meeting– GHH
Friday	09/08	10:00am AA Meeting – GHH
		7:00pm 2 x 4 Square Dance - CLC
Sat	09/09	10:00am Delaware Valley Historic Samplers - CLC
		6:30pm NA Meeting – GHH & Old Kitchen

STAY CONNECTED THROUGH SOCIAL MEDIA!

Website: www.EbenezerUMCNewark.org and **Facebook:** [Ebenezer UMC Newark](https://www.facebook.com/EbenezerUMCNewark).

If you have information about an event which you would like featured on the website, please contact Lori Brown loribrown927@msn.com, or Rick Browne at rbrowne646@gmail.com.



All our members, ministers
Rev. Mary H. Browne, Senior Pastor
contact @ eumc_pastor@verizon.net
Robert Rudolph, Music Director
contact @ eumc_music@aol.com
Calvin Keeler, Sr., Minister of Visitation
Megan & Mike Jones, Youth Ministry
Carol Coney, Administrative Assistant
Jackie Scott, Facilities Manager
Church email: NewarkEbenezerUMC@verizon.net
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