

Ebenezer United Methodist Church

September 10, 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 my Mother
Presented by Rusty Lomax*

*In Loving Memory of my husband, Dick, on his birthday
Presented by Sherri Hodgson*

Participating in Service

Pastor:	Rev. Mary H. Browne
Director of Music:	Mr. F. Robert Rudolph
Worship Leader:	Paul Kelley
Media Team:	Bill Clark, Rich Johnson
Greeter:	Sherri Hodgson
Usher Coordinators:	Don Grimes and Don Pruden

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

*“Don’t run up debts, except for the huge debt of love you owe each other.
When you love others, you complete what the law has been after all along.
The law code, . . . finally adds up to this:
Love other people as you do yourself. You can’t go wrong when you love others.
Romans 13:8-10 (The Message)*

September 10, 2023

9:45 a.m.

HYMN SING

UMH 638, v.1	“This is the Feast of Victory”	FESTIVAL CANTICLE
UMH 127, v.1	“Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah”	CWM RHONDDA
UMH, 133, v.1	“Leaning on the Everlasting Arms”	SHOWALTER
UMH 514, v. 1, 4	“Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus”	WEBB
UMH 364, v.1, 3	“Because He Lives”	RESURRECTION

GATHERING

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CENTERING MUSIC

“I Saw the Light”
Ron and Susan Durbin

Hank Williams, Sr.

I wandered so aimless life filled with sin
I wouldn't let my dear Savior in
Then Jesus came like a stranger in the night
Praise the Lord, I saw the light.

[Chorus]

I saw the light, I saw the light
No more darkness, no more night
Now I'm so happy no sorrow in sight
Praise the Lord, I saw the light.

Just like a blind man I wandered along
Worries and fears I claimed for my own
Then like the blind man that God gave back his sight
Praise the Lord, I saw the light.

[Chorus]

I was a fool to wander and astray
Straight is the gate and narrow the way
Now I have traded the wrong for the right
Praise the Lord, I saw the light.

[Chorus]

*CALL TO WORSHIP

SONG OF PREPARATION

"Come to the Table of Grace"

Come to the table of love.

Come to the table of love.

This is God's table; it's not yours or mine.

Come to the table of love.

Worship & Song, #3168, v. 3
(Abingdon Press, Nashville, TN, 2011)

We come to this table not only for food, but for friendship and family.

We are here not only to eat, but to serve.

We prepare our meal of bread and fruit of the vine with compassion.

We invite everyone to join in the feast.

We are all part of one human family.

We are united in love.

*PRAISE HYMN (UMH 402)

"Lord, I Want to be a Christian"

DIVERNON

BLESSING OF BACKPACKS

PRESENTATION OF BIBLES TO THIRD GRADERS

Receiving Bibles today are:

Austin Logan

Levi Merritt

Michael Sylvester

INTROIT

"Speak, O Lord"

Keith & Kristyn Getty, Stuart Townend

Kathy Zinn, soloist

**Speak, O Lord, as we come to You
To receive the food of Your holy Word
Take Your truth, plant it deep in us
Shape and fashion us in Your likeness
That the light of Christ might be seen today
In our acts of love and our deeds of faith
Speak, O Lord, and fulfill in us
All Your purposes for Your glory**

**Teach us, Lord, full obedience
Holy reverence, true humility
Test our thoughts and our attitudes
In the radiance of Your purity
Cause our faith to rise, cause our eyes to see
Your majestic love and authority
Words of pow'r that can never fail
Let their truth prevail over unbelief**

**Speak, O Lord, and renew our minds
Help us grasp the heights of Your plans for us
Truths unchanged from the dawn of time
That will echo down through eternity
And by grace, we'll stand on Your promises
And by faith, we'll walk as You walk with us**

**Speak, O Lord, 'til Your church is built
And the earth is filled with Your glory**

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Awaken our hearts and minds to your Word, O God.

Give us understanding so that, by the power of your Holy Spirit, we are able to do all that you command for love's sake.

Gathered in Christ's name, gathered around the Word, we pray. Amen.

SCRIPTURE LESSONS (from *The Message*)

Romans 13:8-14
Matthew 18:15-20

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

A WORD FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES

"Abide with Me"

Matt Redman

Sharon Keeler & Christine Harlan

MINISTRY OF MUSIC

"Feel the Joy of Worship"
Chancel Choir

Pepper Choplin

Feel the joy.

O what a joy when we come through the door,
meeting together to worship the Lord.

Greeting each other with blessing and smile,
joining in spirit to worship a while.

MESSAGE

"The Table of Love"

Rev. Mary Browne

RESPONSE TO THE WORD (*UMH* 408)

"The Gift of Love"

GIFT OF LOVE

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.

SONG OF PRAISE

"Ebenezer, Ebenezer"

Nancy Neeves-Wissinger

We love to come to our church, Ebenezer on the hill.

It's lovely in the Spring time, when the frogs their music trill.

It's so peaceful in the Autumn, when the geese fly overhead.

In the Summer and the Winter, this is where our souls are fed.

Ebenezer, Ebenezer, this is the church we love.

As we worship here together.

God will guide us from above.

We are one big loving family.

We share our tears and joys.

**And each one of us is special, including little girls and boys.
God has a job for each of us, He wants our light to shine.
We must share the news that Jesus died for your sins and for mine.
Ebenezer, Ebenezer, this is the church we love.
As we worship here together.
God will guide us from above.**

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

Paul's counsel to the church in Rome was this:

"Don't run up debts, except for the huge debt of love you owe each other."

So come, let us love one another and all in God's world by sharing what we have been given so that needs are met and the gospel is proclaimed.

OFFERTORY

"Alleluia Fanfare"
Good Chimes Handbell Choir

Fred Gramann

*PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS (UMH 621)

"Be Present at Our Table, Lord" OLD 100TH

*OFFERING PRAYER

**Almighty God, receive these gifts that we offer with grateful hearts
and use us for your ministry in the world, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
Amen.**

*HYMN OF SERVICE (TFWS 2223) "They'll Know We Are Christians by Our Love"

ST. BRENDAN'S

*DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

This Table of Love requires much of us.

It insists that we love one another as we love ourselves, and that we love ourselves as we love others.

Love asks that we raise one another up by saying, "Yes, you are worthy!
You are welcome at this table."

When we surrender to the mysterious ways of love, we may be surprised to find just how much there is to go around.

The grace of God abounds!

The invitation of Christ is wide!

The power of the transforming Spirit will surprise us every time!

May the blessings of love you find here go with you and move through you to others wherever you go this week.

CHORAL AMEN

Richard Smallwood

SENDING FORTH

"Fanfare"
F.R.J. Rudolph, IV, Organist

Keith Chapman

Please remain seated until the SENDING 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.††

UMH: The United Methodist Hymnal (red)
TFWS: The Faith We Sing (black)

Lectionary Scriptures for the **Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost,**
September 17, 2023:

Exodus 14:19-31; Exodus 15:1b-11, 20-21; Romans 14:1-12; Matthew 18:21-35

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunday School Classes at Ebenezer, classes start at 9:00am.

Faith Class	Lounge	“God Heard Their Cry”
Youth/Children’s Sunday School	Lower level	

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 Sept 3 – 60.

Please join us for our “Welcome Back Luncheon after this morning’s service!”



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 **lip balm, pretzels / trail mix, foot powder, ramen noodles (bricks only, no cups) and jerky.** 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 ++ Bill Bedient ++ Mary Bowers +++ Lois Chamberlain Hack	Jenna ++ Wrenly Rea Susan +	<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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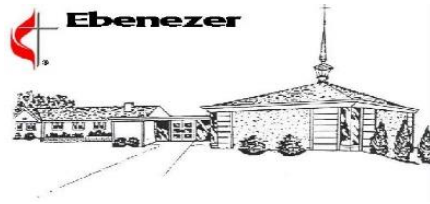
In an effort to list all prayer requests each will appear for 4 weeks as indicated by the number of + after the name

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	09/10	15th Sunday after Pentecost	9:00am	Sunday School
			10:00am	Worship
			11:00am	Welcome Back Luncheon – CLC
			1:00pm	Cub Scouts - GHH
			3:00pm	Youth Group – Youth Room
Mon	09/11		10:00am	AA Meeting – Room 204
			11:30am	Social Seniors – GHH
			7:00pm	2 x 4 Classes – CLC
			7:00pm	Eagle Scout Boards – Room 204, 211 & Lounge
			7:00pm	NA Meeting – GHH
Tues	09/12		9:30am	Bible Study – Room 204
			12:00pm	AA Meeting – Room 204
			7:00pm	Priscilla Circle – CLC
			7:00pm	Trustees – Room 204
Wed	09/13		10:00am	AA Meeting – Room 204
			10:00am	Chancel Choir
			1-:30pm	Naomi/S&S Circle - CLC
			4:00pm	Project Linus - GHH
			6:30pm	Good Chimes
			7:00pm	2 x 4 Class - CLC
Thurs	09/14		6:30pm	Al-Anon – Room204
			7:00pm	BSA50 - CLC
			7:00pm	NA Meeting– GHH
Friday	09/15		10:00am	AA Meeting – GHH
Sat	09/16		6:30pm	NA Meeting – GHH & Old Kitchen



IF CHURCH LADIES WERE IN CHARGE OF THE LAST SUPPER

Looking forward...

Sun	09/17	16th Sunday after Pentecost
		9:00am Sunday School
		10:00am Worship
		11:00am Social Hour – CLC
		3:00pm Youth Group – Youth Room
Mon	09/18	10:00am AA Meeting – Room 204
		7:00pm 2 x 4 Classes – CLC
		7:00pm NA Meeting – GHH
Tues	09/19	9:30am Bible Study – Room 204
		12:00pm AA Meeting – Room 204
		2:15pm Stephen Ministry – Confirmation Room
Wed	09/20	10:00am AA Meeting – Room 204
		10:00am Chancel Choir
		6:30pm Good Chimes
		7:00pm 2 x 4 Class - CLC
Thurs	09/21	6:30pm Al-Anon – Room204
		7:00pm BSA50 - CLC
		7:00pm NA Meeting– GHH
Friday	09/22	10:00am AA Meeting – GHH
		7:00pm 2 x 4 Square Dance - CLC
Sat	09/23	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
Phone: 302-731-9495

Romans 13:8-14

Don't run up debts, except for the huge debt of love you owe each other. When you love others, you complete what the law has been after all along. The law code—don't sleep with another person's spouse, don't take someone's life, don't take what isn't yours, don't always be wanting what you don't have, and any other "don't" you can think of—finally adds up to this: Love other people as well as you do yourself. You can't go wrong when you love others. When you add up everything in the law code, the sum total is *love*. But make sure that you don't get so absorbed and exhausted in taking care of all your day-by-day obligations that you lose track of the time and doze off, oblivious to God. The night is about over, dawn is about to break. Be up and awake to what God is doing! God is putting the finishing touches on the salvation work he began when we first believed. We can't afford to waste a minute, must not squander these precious daylight hours in frivolity and indulgence, in sleeping around and dissipation, in bickering and grabbing everything in sight. Get out of bed and get dressed! Don't loiter and linger, waiting until the very last minute. Dress yourselves in Christ, and be up and about!

Matthew 18:15-20

“If a fellow believer hurts you, go and tell him—work it out between the two of you. If he listens, you’ve made a friend. If he won’t listen, take one or two others along so that the presence of witnesses will keep things honest, and try again. If he still won’t listen, tell the church. If he won’t listen to the church, you’ll have to start over from scratch, confront him with the need for repentance, and offer again God’s forgiving love. “Take this most seriously: A yes on earth is yes in heaven; a no on earth is no in heaven. What you say to one another is eternal. I mean this. When two of you get together on anything at all on earth and make a prayer of it, my Father in heaven goes into action. And when two or three of you are together because of me, you can be sure that I’ll be there.”

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**