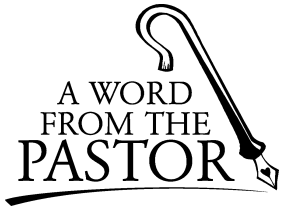
The Highlighter

august

Ebenezer United Methodist Church, Newark, Delaware **August 2026**

Then Samuel took a stone, set it up…and said, "The LORD has helped us all the way," and he named it Ebenezer [Stone of Help]. 1 Samuel 7:12 GNB



"For I am about to do something new. See, I have already begun! Do you not see it?"

— Isaiah 43:19

Grace and peace to you!

Over the past few weeks, I have been grateful for your warmth and spirit. Getting to know so many of you, hearing your stories, and seeing your deep love for God and one another has been an incredible blessing. It is truly an honor to journey alongside you in this next season for our church.

As I've spent time in prayer and listened to where God is moving in our congregation and community, I am excited and hopeful in our ministry together. We serve a God who is constantly doing new things, and I believe is preparing us to stretch our arms wider than ever before.

I hope that you will join me as we walk along side together in the following ways:

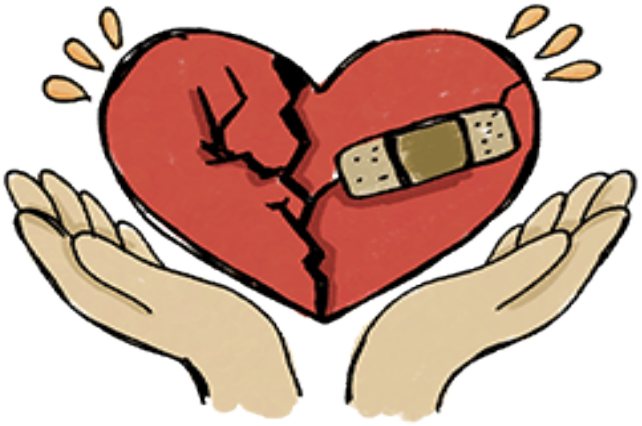
1. **Pray:** Please join me in praying for God's guidance, fruitfulness, and unity as these ministries launch.

2. **Serve:** God has uniquely gifted each of you. If there is a ministry idea that sparks a passion in your heart, I would love to hear from you.

3. **Invite:** Start thinking about friends, neighbors, or coworkers who might benefit from a connection to our church.

Thank you for your warmth, your faith, and your readiness to step boldly into this new chapter together. The best is truly yet to come!

Pastor Tracy



Our lives are marked by brokenness, including broken relationships, broken promises, and broken expectations. Left unattended, these fractures can quietly shape us, hardening into bitterness or resentment.

How do we live with such brokenness without losing heart? We return, again and again, to God's faithful presence. In Him, we find not only comfort but restoration. God does not ignore what is broken. He meets us in it, gently mending what we place in His hands and reshaping what feels beyond repair.

Scripture reminds us, "He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds" (Psalm 147:3, NIV). What we cannot fix on our own, God is able to restore in His time and in His way.

Henri Nouwen, a Dutch Catholic priest, professor and spiritual writer, often spoke of this sacred return, the daily turning back to God where healing begins and hope is renewed. In His presence, our brokenness is not wasted. It becomes the very place where grace takes root and new life begins.

Are you enjoying a happy time? *Praise God.*

Is life becoming difficult? *Seek God.*

Are you experiencing a quiet moment? *Worship God.*

Are you suffering great pain? *Trust God.*

Are you unsure what to do? *Ask God.*

Are you overwhelmed with joy? *Thank God.*

Finance Committee Report

Finances are holding up well with our budget.

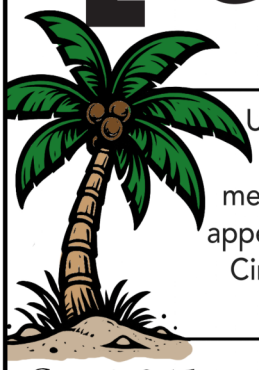
There are still a lot of projects from Trustees that are in the works.

Please continue to donate for both capitol and current expenses.

The Finance Committee thanks you for your donations and support.

Ann Varey
Finance. Chairperson

Puzzle!



Use the Scripture verses below to locate the places in the puzzle. (If a verse mentions more than one place, only one appears in the puzzle, so choose carefully.) Circle each place as you find it.

Answers go: → ↓ ↘

Genesis 2:15
Genesis 11:9
Genesis 35:1
Exodus 13:18
Ruth 1:1
1 Kings 18:19
1 Chronicles 11:4
Isaiah 23:1
Isaiah 23:2
Isaiah 23:3
Jonah 1:2
Matthew 3:6
Matthew 4:18
Matthew 26:36
Luke 24:13
John 2:1
Acts 8:5
Acts 11:22
Acts 17:16
Romans 1:15

S	I	D	O	N	G	N	I	L	E	S	O
J	J	O	R	D	A	N	R	I	V	E	R
E	S	G	A	A	R	C	A	N	A	A	M
R	A	E	T	B	D	C	D	B	E	O	O
U	M	T	H	B	E	T	H	E	L	F	U
S	A	H	E	T	N	E	A	T	N	G	N
A	R	S	N	Y	O	M	N	H	I	A	T
L	I	E	S	R	F	M	T	L	N	L	C
E	A	M	D	E	E	A	I	E	E	I	A
M	F	A	R	S	D	U	O	H	V	L	R
G	H	N	O	A	E	S	C	E	E	E	M
I	J	E	M	B	N	A	H	M	H	E	E
T	O	W	E	R	O	F	B	A	B	E	L

Answers: Garden of Eden, Tower of Babel, Bethel, Red Sea, Bethlehem, Mount Carmel, Jerusalem, Tyre, Sidon, Nile, Nineveh, Jordan River, Sea of Galilee, Gethsemane, Emmaus, Cana, Samaria, Antioch, Athens, Rome

A Route — (AUGUST)
3 - Sharon Keeler & Gail Donaldson
10 - Sharon Keeler & Gail Donaldson
17 - Paul & Beverly Shunta
24 - Donna Sperow and Belita Duncans
31 - Sharon Keeler & Gail Donaldson

B Route — (AUGUST)
3 - Mary Ann Menghi
10 - Ann Sylvester & Sue Stewart
17 - Mary Minker & Adele Madden
24 - Kathy and Doug Gibney
31 - Mary Minker & Adele Madden

A Route — (SEPTEMBER)
7- Sharon Keeler & Gail Donaldson
14 - Sharon Keeler & Gail Donaldson
21 - Paul & Beverly Shunta
28 - Donna Sperow and Belita Duncans

B Route — (SEPTEMBER)
7 - Mary Ann Menghi
14 - Ann Sylvester & Sue Stewart
21 - Mary Minker & Adele Madden
28 - Kathy and Doug Gibney

Substitutes

Mary Anne Menghi	302-234-1544
Newark Senior Center	302-737-5747
Paul & Beverly Shunta	302-239-7765
Adele Madden	302-540-2313
Mary Minker	302-593-2982

(Coordinators)

The Highlighter
is a monthly publication of
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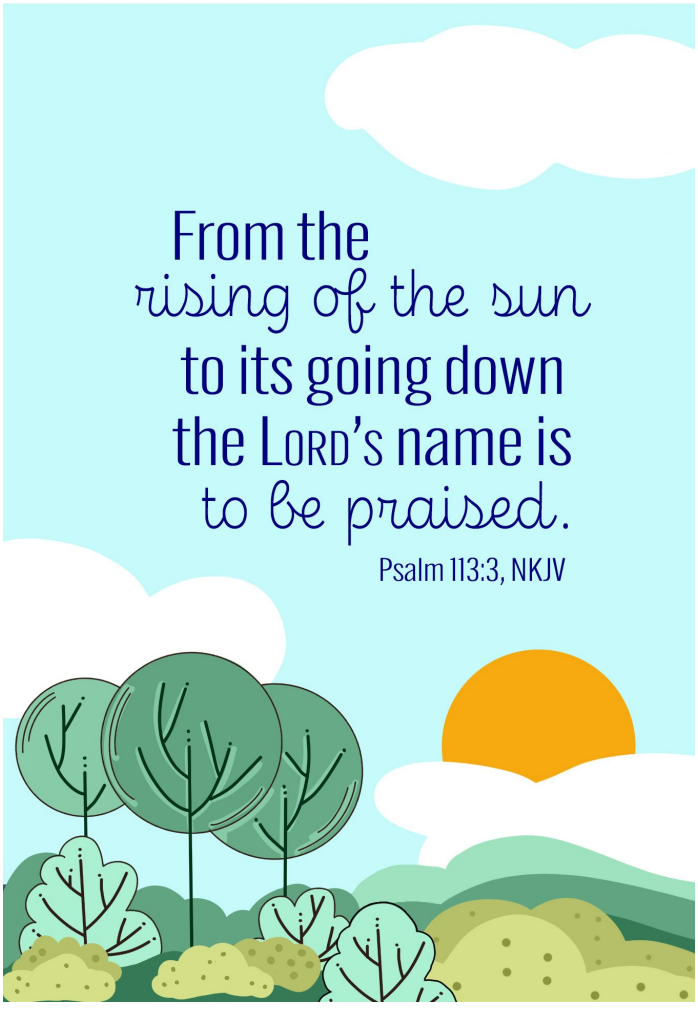
If you find it in your heart to care for somebody else, you will have succeeded.

—Maya Angelou



School students and teachers join us at the 10:00 service on **Sunday, August 30th**, and bring your backpacks!
Pastor Mooney will give a special blessing for a great 2026-2027 school year!

To my Ebenezer family,

I want to express my sincerest thanks for the outpouring of love and support shown to my wife of 48 years, Valerie, who passed away on June 16. Throughout her five-year battle with dementia and diabetes-related health issues at Cadia Healthcare Pike Creek, she deeply appreciated the regular visits from Calvin Keeler, Sr. and Stacy Gates. Their presence always brought a smile to her face; she especially cherished the prayers offered by Calvin and the toccatas Stacy played for her cell phone.

While the love of my life has passed on, the kindness you showed her will, no doubt, serve as an inspiration to all who visit Ebenezer UMCto return.

May the peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you and all who enter these walls.

David Rodeheaver

1 Hunter Reed
2 Mindy Hicken
Kathleen Park
3 Cheryl Cunningham
4 Gabrielle Simmons
5 Mary Anderson
Jason Curley
Barbara Just
7 Kenna Cutler
Martha Helojoki
Leagha Johnson
Bill Just
Robert Rudolph
8 Calvin Keeler, Sr.
Paul Kelley
Michael Peffley, Jr.
Reagan Welch
9 Jim DiOrio
10 Skylar Brownlee
Roberto DeDeus, Jr.
Kristin Moser
Mary Walton
Cara Zolandandz
11 Virginia Aiello
Joe Brown
Ari Washington
12 Kaitlyn Larer
13 Lisa Boyette
Rich Johnson
14 Timothy Sowden
15 Christopher Brookens
Brittany Logan
Sofia Trapani
Michael Willey
16 Sandra Steggell
17 Kimberly Kefauver
18 Alexis Delaney
Dave Hofer
Michael Jones
Quinn Marvel
Lacey Roberts
19 Andrew Barnett
Haden Helojoki
20 Kennedy Ann Boyette
21 Kristy Lawton-Keys
22 Diane Bailey
Fritz Feldmann
Shui Salam
23 Ellen Gorton
24 Goga Brendza
Jane Lamb
25 Tyler Delaney
Dylan Delaney
Kathy Siple
26 Chase McAdams
Tommy Williams
27 Lucy Merritt
28 Ellen Helojoki
Lorie Laws
Kathy Murray
Casey Wilhelm-Pannell
30 Lori Donovan
Melissa Goldsborough
Kathryn Pruden

September

1 Moonyeen Klopfenstein
Linda Lumb
Patricia Orendorf
2 Don Grimes
3 Adalynn Taylor
Andrew Thomson
4 Teddi Terzian
5 Sharon Hodgson
Max Walton
6 Alex Hudson
Dawn Tackett
8 Andrew Broderick
Anna Broderick
Austin McAdams
Ava Washington

August

1 Michael & Christy Smith (17 Years)
Robert & Ericka Sylvester (11 Years)
17 Casey & Chris Wilhelm-Pannell (2 Years)
21 Carl & Margie Pankok (28 Years)

September

16 Mark & Elyse Miller (14 Years)
22 Jeffrey & Lori Donovan (36 Years)
23 Rick & Mary Browne (48 years)
24 Evan & Carla Shows (19 Years)
25 Jason & Lindsay Curley (21 Years)

Our Trustees have scheduled an outside church wide cleanup for Saturday, September 26th, starting at 9:00 am. Please consider joining them, they would very much appreciate any assistance.

Peninsula-Delaware Conference

Pastor Mary, her husband Rick and I attended the 242nd Session of the Peninsula-Delaware Conference in Ocean City, MD in May. The meeting began with a personal highlight, a luncheon where Pastor Mary was recognized by the District Superintendent, Rev. Passmore on her retirement.

The three-day meeting was filled with praise and worship to the theme of the 2026 Peninsula-Delaware Conference, "Rooted in Christ: Love Boldly". This theme is rooted in the new United Methodist Church Vision Statement, which calls us to form disciples of Jesus Christ who, empowered by the Holy Spirit, *love boldly, serve joyfully, and lead courageously in local communities and worldwide connections. Bishop LaTrelle Miller Easterling's charismatic and dynamic style was in evidence during a truly uplifting opening worship. A Livestream recording of the opening service can be found at the following link* https://www.youtube.com/live/600iWc726WY . *Bishop Easterling's sermon "Man in the Mirror" can be found beginning around the 31st minute. I encourage you to listen to her message, a call to action which energized and challenged everyone in attendance. A few of the many points that resonated with me were her call for us to love and pray for all nations, the observation that political pattens change while scripture does not, and the desire that instead of putting the 10 Commandments in schools we should be sharing the Beatitudes.*

During the annual conference Pastor Tracy received her formal appointment to Ebenezer United Methodist Church. It was heart-warming to see her and Pastor Mary together for this event. Finally, I sat with Pastor Tracy at the concluding Celebration of Ministries Service, where Pastor Mary was recognized and thanked for her years of ministry.

I was honored to once again attend the Annual Conference and represent Ebenezer as its Lay Representative. Thank you.

Calvin Keeler, Jr.,

Lay leader

August 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 6:30pm NA
2 **10th Sunday after Pentecost** 10:00am Worship 11:00am Social Hour 4:00pm BSA50	3 10:00am AA 11:30am Social Seniors 6:00pm Cub scouts 7:00pm Scouts 7:00pm NA	4 12:00pm AA 6:00pm Support Group	5 7:30am AA 10:00am AA 7:00pm District Committee BSA	6 12:00pm ACOA 7:00pm BSA50 7:00pm NA	7 10:00am AA	8 6:30pm NA
9 **11th Sunday after Pentecost** 10:00am Worship 11:00am Social Hour	10 10:00am AA 6:00pm Cub scouts 7:00pm Eagle Scout Boards 7:00pm NA	11 12:00pm AA 6:00pm Support Group	12 7:30am AA 10:00am AA **11:00am Stephen Ministry** **4:00pm Project Linus**	13 12:00pm ACOA 7:00pm BSA50 7:00pm NA	14 10:00am AA 7:00pm 2 X 4 Dance	15 1o:00am Car Wash 6:30pm NA
16 **12th Sunday after Pentecost** 10:00am Worship 11:00am Social Hour	17 10:00am AA 6:00pm Cub scouts 7:00pm Scouts 7:00pm NA	18 12:00pm AA 6:00pm Support Group	19 7:30am AA 10:00am AA **7:00pm Admin. Board**	20 12:00pm ACOA 7:00pm BSA50 7:00pm NA	21 10:00am AA	22 6:30pm NA
23 **13th Sunday after Pentecost** 10:00am Worship 11:00am Social Hour	24 10:00am AA 6:00pm Cub scouts 7:00pm NA	25 12:00pm AA 6:00pm Support Group	26 7:30am AA 10:00am AA **10:00am Hope Dining Room** **7:00pm Finance Committee**	27 12:00pm ACOA 7:00pm BSA50 7:00pm NA	28 10:00am AA 7:00pm 2 x 4 Dance	29 6:30pm NA
30 **14th Sunday after Pentecost** **Blessing of the Backpacks** 10:00am Worship 11:00am Social Hour	31 10:00am AA 6:00pm Cub scouts 7:00pm NA					

EBENEZER UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
525 Polly Drummond Hill Road
Newark, Delaware 19711

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