

Ebenezer UCC Tidings

Monthly Newsletter - March 2024

"What A difference!" a person at the

A note from Pastor Wally Lent small group said to me. They said how different the social hall looked after coatings of paint. They continued," It looks much bigger." I must admit it does look bigger and better than before. So does the hallway coming to the social hall from the portico. The new lights have made such a big difference - we can read what is on the bulletin board finally without having to use our phone light. Yes, the place is looking better each month that goes by. The 6 old TVs in the classroom are almost gone from when I first came in October 2020. The outside is sprucing up, too. The bushes have been removed and trimmed with more to come. Old dead trees are gone for new tree planting to take their place. The pavilion was painted a first coat with another yet to come. The leaking roof in the teen room has been fixed. The leaking urinals are fixed and there are new faucets with motion sensors.

The new preschool classroom is filled with kids and teaching resources.

Folks, we are getting there. "What is there, Wally," you ask? It is we are becoming open for our mission again to teach the good news to all - to fill the building with people!!! That is the purpose of our building. It is to teach people how to live the Way and how to teach others how to live the Way of God. Our building is to be used to attract people into relationship with those who serve God in the building. The people serving God must be mature in faith to model the faith to those who enter the building. The church is to be a place where others enter to see holy people representing God to visitors. This open house mentality is what we need to do to attract and befriend new members to help maintain and pass on this gift from our ancestors that was built over 130 years ago. They built this place with a "wow factor" in 1900. The sanctuary was not made by a group of young adults throwing together a tree house or a log cabin. They took time and energy to make something that still today amazes us all and all who visit. We stand in a wow moment each time we walk into our sanctuary. This has been an amazing feat from people who took the time to consider all who would walk through our doors for 100 years. They spent money and time to make sure this church building attracted the eyes of all. This architectural feat was not cheap or quickly decided. They planned and planned to impress generations.

"We know, Wally, it is beautiful. What are you saying?" I'm saying let's continue to plan and invest time and money into a new social hall that, too, will have a wow factor so that 50 years from now, people will enter our social hall like they do to the sanctuary and say, "wow!" Let's place memories in the next generation that will make beautiful memories of birthday parties, anniversaries, concerts and plays, Eagle scouts and wedding receptions, meals with entertainment, plays and recitals, comedy nights and funeral receptions. All these opportunities to sit in a room that makes you feel it is a holy, beautiful basement of God's house.

Agape and Blessings, Wally

If you would like to speak with Pastor Wally about a questions, concern or counseling need, please contact him.

pastor@ebuccnewtripoli.org

(484) 330 6061

In This Month's Newsletter: Business 2 Church and Members 3 Christian Education 4 Kids' Page 5 February's Photos 6 Upcoming Events 7 Scouts / Community 8 March Calendar 9



For up to the minute news from Ebenezer UCC, please

visit our website:

EbenezerNewTripoli.org

follow us on Facebook:



facebook.com/ebuccnt

login to your

My Church phone APP



Submission Deadline for the Ebenezer UCC Tidings is the 15th of each month.

Please contact Jana at the Ebenezer office with ideas and suggestions for our publication.

Meet our new secretary: Jana Murray

You might have noticed a new face when passing by our office at Ebenezer. Jana has recently joined the Ebenezer staff as our new secretary. Together with her husband Raub and son Benjamin, they have recently relocated from Slovakia to the US.



Jana is excited to be getting to know our community at Ebenezer and working with everyone. Her son Benjamin has started going to our

Preschool so you will most likely meet both of them in our hallways 3 Jana loves spending time with her family, being in nature, reading, studying languages and discovering the world. She has a Master's degree from Faculty of Management (Comenius University, Slovakia) as well as diverse work experience and is excited to put her skills to good use here at Ebenezer.

The Committees of Ebenezer UCC - we need members for all committees!

- Altar Guild prepares our sanctuary for worship **CHAIRPERSON: Anna Lou Fritzinger**
- Christian Ed. responsible for the educational work of our church **CHAIRPERSON: Steph Quier**
- Communications (Marketing Team) prepares our newsletter, church directory and other publications

CHAIRPERSON: Valerie Borman

Evangelism and Outreach – connects with unchurched members of the community

CHAIRPERSON: Sheila Burkert

- Finance (Budget) oversees our church finances **CHAIRPERSON: Jason Breininger**
- Long-Range Planning the chairs of each committee
- Nominating develops a slate of potential Elders and Deacons **CHAIRPERSON: Susan Christ**
- <u>Pastoral Relations/Spiritual Council</u> aids our Pastor in spiritual affairs **CHAIRPERSON: Pastor Wally**
- Property oversees operations and maintenance of our building and property

CHAIRPERSON: Mike Wertman

- Stewardship inspires our membership to give generously **CHAIRPERSON: Holly Rainey**
- Worship & Music plans and leads music for the worship service **CHAIRPERSON: Valerie Borman**

Please join a committee and help to accomplish the work of Ebenezer UCC. Your talents and contributions would be most welcomed AND you can be a member of multiple committees! Contact a chairperson for more info.

HOLY WEEK SERVICES

Palm Sunday Celebration – Sunday, March 24th – 10:15 a.m.

Maundy Thursday Service – Thursday, March 28th – 7 p.m.

Good Friday Walk with The Cross – Friday, March 29th – 10 a.m.

Easter Worship and Communion – Sunday, March $31^{st} - 10:15$ a.m.

Church Staff Pastor

Wally Frisch Phone # 484-330-6061 Email: pastor@ebuccnewtripoli.org

Administrative Assistant

Jana Murray Office Phone: # 610-298-8000 Email: office@ebuccnewtripoli.org

Christian Ed Director

Stephanie Quier Phone: Home – 484-212-5172 Cell - 610-657-7830 Email: Meizdiz@gmail.com

Music Director

Valerie Borman Phone: 615-948-7944 Email: music@ebuccnewtripoli.org

Our Consistory

Elders:

Jason Breininger (Vice Pres.) Mike Schock (President) Mike Wertman

Deacons:

Valerie Borman Debra Boyer Sheila Burkert Pam Delligatti AnnaLou Fritzinger Cheryl Handler Clarence Opolsky Holly Rainey (Secretary) Bambi Snyder

Our monthly Consistory Meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 26th at 6:30 p.m. Members are welcome to observe.

Women of the Church

NEXT Monthly Meeting Tuesday APRIL 2nd @ 7 p.m. All women are welcome to attend!



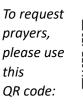
Wayne and Ruth Frey celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary on February 13th. Congratulations!

The Ebenezer Candy Crew filled orders for over 540 lbs. of Easter Candy! Thank you to all of our volunteers who made the candy, to everyone who provided meals for our confectioners and to everyone who sold candy!

See photos of our amazing Candy Crew on page 6.

Please join us as we pray for:

- Sheila Burkert
- o Doris Bruder
- o Tim Snyder
- Scott Koenig
- Anne Bowers
- o Jean Borman
- o All homebound members
- o All friends and family members recovering from an illness or a loss
- o Our Veterans, Military Service Personnel, Firemen and First Responders







Thank you to everyone who donated to our February Soup vs. Pasta Souper Bowl Food Drive for the Lowhill Food Pantry!

Ebenezer UCC donated 733 lbs of food to the Christ's Church at **Lowhill Food Pantry in 2023!**

"Thank you for your continued support of our mission!" -Bev Kistler

The painting in our Fellowship Hall has been completed. Thank you to our painters: Nancy Zellner, Mike Schock, Pastor Wally, Fred Reith and Mark Binder. Thank you to Susan Christ for bringing a delicious lunch!

Worship Service Sundays - Volunteer Opportunities

Service	Greeter	Acolytes	Lay Reader
3/3	Donna Herman &	NEEDED	Loder/Wagstaff
	Nancy Zellner		Family
3/10	Sharon Andersch	NEEDED	Tyahla Family
3/17	Linda Smith	NEEDED	Pam Delligatti
3/24	NEEDED	NEEDED	Sansone
			Family
3/31	NEEDED	NEEDED	Hansut Family

UPCOMING SERVICES with Fellowship

Join us for worship with FELLOWSHIP following these services:

March 3 - Holy Communion - Birthday Celebration Sunday

March 17 - Wearing of the Green! Bring a Friend!

April 7 - 10:15 am - Birthday Celebration Sunday

April 21 - Spring Cleanup Day - Bring a Friend!

May 5th - Holy Communion - Birthday Celebration Sunday

May 19th - Pentecost and Confirmation Sunday - Bring a Friend!

FELLOWSHIP HALL RENOVATIONS



The Preschool at Ebenezer

The Preschool at Ebenezer is now accepting registrations for our 2023-24 school year. Registration forms are available outside the preschool room and on our website:



EbenezerNewTripoli.org/preschool-program/

Join us for our OPEN HOUSE on April 18th, 6-8 pm!

Ebenezer Vacation Bible School 2024

Sunday, June 23rd - Thursday, June 27th 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. daily

We need adult and teen volunteers to lead our 2024 VBS classes and activities. Our sign-up sheet is located outside the sanctuary.



Use this QR code to sign up as a volunteer!



SUNDAY SCHOOL

We are in need of additional Sunday School teachers. Our Christian Ed. & Preschool Director, Steph Quier, would like to have a rotation of volunteers who could help to fill in regularly. If you would like to help teach our Sunday School students at 9 a.m. on Sunday mornings, please contact Steph!

Lenten Challenge for Ebenezer

Pastor Wally's <u>4-week</u>, <u>Small Group Experience</u> on Forgiveness continues this month.

Wednesdays, 6 – 7 p.m.: 3/6 & 3/13 Saturdays, 10 – 11 a.m.: 3/2, 3/9 & 3/16

Cruide to Holy Week



Palm Sunday

Sunday before Easter. Celebration of Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem. Observed with palm branches, parades, and celebration.



Maundy Thursday

Thursday before Easter. Commemorates the Last Supper. Often observed with foot washing, stripping of the altar, and overnight prayer vigil to keep watch with Jesus in the garden.



Good Friday

Friday before Easter. Most solemn day of the church year. Observes the day Jesus was crucified. Observed by praying the Stations of the Cross and three hours of silent prayer while Jesus was on the cross.



Holy Saturday

Saturday before Easter. Observes the day Jesus was in the tomb. This is a day of somber reflection, reflecting on what we'd miss in a world without Jesus.



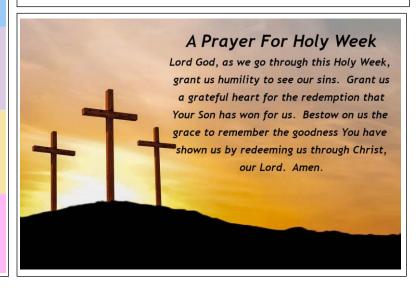
Easter Sunday

Hallelujah! Christ has risen! This day we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus. Sing hallelujahs and celebrate with great joy.





Preschool artwork decorates our halls at Ebenezer!



Why Do We Celebrate EASTER?

Easter is a special holiday that we celebrate to remember that Jesus Christ, the Son of God, came to save us from our sins.

We are all sinners because we have all disobeyed God.

God is holy and just. He cannot let sinners come into heaven.

God sent Jesus Christ, His Son, into the world to live a perfect life in our place and then to die in our place, to take the punishment for our sins.

If we believe in Jesus Christ as our Savior, we can be saved from our sins and spend all of eternity in Heaven



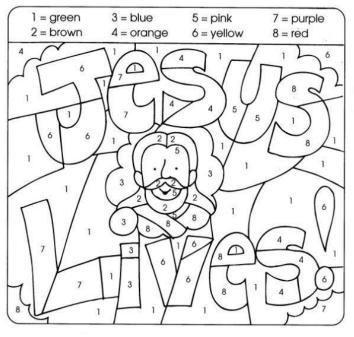
Jesus died for our sins. But, He didn't stay dead. He rose again from the dead on the third day. And that is the wonderful story of EASTER!

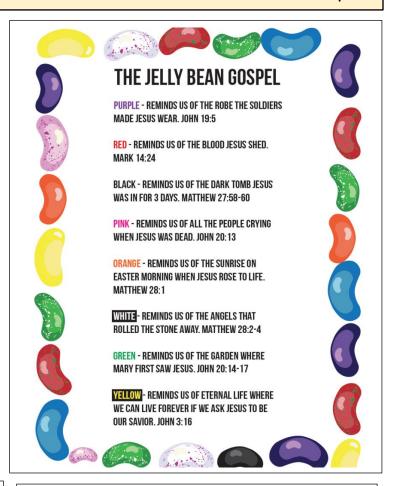
Jesus Is Alive!

(John 20)

At the empty tomb, Mary Magdalene talked to a man. She thought he was a gardener. But then she saw that the man was really Jesus! He had risen from the dead and was alive again!

Color the picture using the code. Cut it out and tape it up so you can be reminded of this wonderful truth!







Jesus is Risen! Easter Sunrise

SUPPLIES:

- 1 small paper plate
- Watercolors, crayons, or markers in yellow, orange, red, purple and blue
- 1 piece of black construction paper

INSTRUCTIONS:

- Beginning at the top of the plate, create the sunset by coloring with blue, then purple, red, orange, and yellow.
- Fold the sheet of black construction paper in half.
- 3. Cut out a set of crosses as shown in the graphic here.
- 4. Unfold and glue the crosses to the sunrise/plate.
- 5. Celebrate our risen Lord!

















Thank you to Cheryl Handler for making our birthday cakes and to Pam Delligatti for facilitating our "Valentine's Share the Love of Christ" fellowship meal!

Basic First Aid Class with Earl Ostrander of CPRRoadTour.com

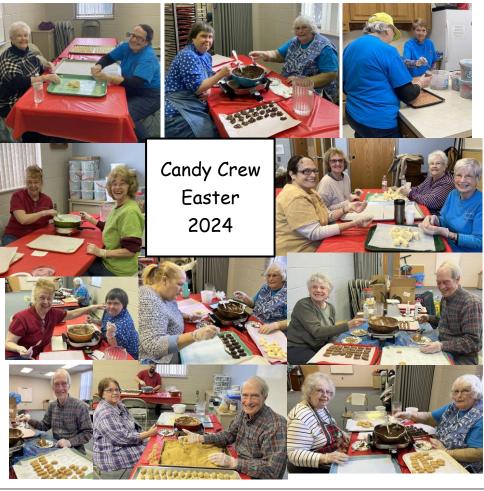
Stay tuned for future CPR/AED and Basic First Aid Certification Classes to be held at Ebenezer.



Christian Ed.'s Soup & Chili Cook-off



February photo credits to Pam Delligatti, Donna Krenicky and Bonnie Smoyer.





THIS Saturday, March 9th from 4 to 8 p.m.

Adults: \$12 | Children (12 & under): \$6

Dinner includes spaghetti, salad, garlic bread and dessert. Gluten-free dinners available.



Make your reservation on the sheet outside the sanctuary or use this QR code to reserve your meal(s) online. >>>

Musical entertainment by Valerie Borman



You're Not Alone

This is a support group for widows, divorcees, parents who've lost a child, those who've lost a sibling, anyone who is recovering from a loss. Please contact Donna Herman for more information:

donnaeherman47@gmail.com

Upcoming meetings: Tuesdays,

March 12th & March 26th @ 1 p.m., Room 126

Ebenezer's Closet



Ebenezer's Closet is open on the second Thursday and Saturday of every month. All clothing is FREE! Please spread to word so we can serve those in need.

Thursday, March 14th - 6 pm to 8 pm Saturday, March 16th - 10 am to 12 pm

Ebenezer's Annual Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday, March 30th - 1 p.m. More details to come!





Ebenezer's Escape Room Youth Event Friday, April 5th - 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Challenges for different age levels. Fun for the whole family!

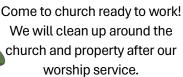
Women of the Church's **Annual Penny Party** Saturday, April 20th



Doors & Kitchen open at 12 p.m. Play begins at 1 p.m.



Spring Clean-up Day with the Scouts Sunday, April 21st







Mother's Day Cherry Blossom High Tea

Saturday, May 18th 1 p.m. - 3 p.m.



Join us for our Pentecost Sunday worship service on May 19th as our Confirmation Class students are confirmed as members of Ebenezer UCC.

VENDOR & CRAFT FAIR

Saturday, May 4th

1TABLE - \$15 2 TABLES - \$25



More details to be announced.



Coach - Michael KorsVera Bradley - Kate Spade &more

Sunday, September 15th – Time TBA Hosted by Diamond Fire Co. 209 Washington St., Walnutport, PA

SCOUT SUNDAY – February 25th Worship Service













Our Local Community







Christ's Church at Lowhill Food Pantry

4695 Lowhill Church Road. PO Box 115 New Tripoli, PA 18066 (610) 674-2440

LowhillFoodPantry.com

Thank you for your donations!

Towels

NEEDED: Pet Foods Cereals **Paper Products Instant Oatmeal** Personal Care Items Canned Soups/Stews Laundry Soap Spaghetti Sauce Socks Pasta & Rice **Blankets SpaghettiOs**

ITEMS



6305 Route 309 Suite 3 New Tripoli, PA (484) 274 - 3248

March 2024

						Birthday - Anna Mae George Birthday - Beatrice Hinkel EASTER SUNDAY Fam - Sunday School 0:15am - Church 0:15am - Holy 1:30pm - Confirmation
1pm - Easter Egg Hunt Raindate	10am - Good Friday Walk	2pm - Choir Rehearsal 7pm - Maundy Thursday	ω [!	9am - Crafters 1pm - You're Not Alone 6:30pm - Consistory 2	Birthday - David Reitz Birthday - Roger Delligatti 10am - Quilters	PALM SUNDAY 9am - Sunday School 10:15am - Church 7:30pm - Confirmation
10am - Lenten Small 1pm - Easter Egg Hunt	3 2	2pm - Choir Rehearsal	20	9am - Crafters	10am - Quilters	9am - Sunday School 10:15am - Church 7:30pm - Confirmation
10am - Ebenezer's Closet 10am - Lenten Small	15 Birthday - Elle Snyder Birthday - Jeff Ettl	2pm - Choir Rehearsal 6pm - Ebenezer's Closet	6pm - Lenten Small Group	9am - Crafters 1pm - You're Not Alone	10am - Quilters	Birthday - Bonnie Smoyer Birthday - Craig Snyder 9am - Sunday School 10:15am - Church 7:30pm - Confirmation
lly Frisch n Small etti Dinner	Birthday - Ryland Zellers	7	Birthday - Jania Yenser 6pm - Lenten Small Group	Birthday - Mary Ann wetzger 9am - Crafters 7:30pm - Cemetery	10am - Quilters	Birthday Celebration 9am - Sunday School 10:15am - Church 10:15am - Holy 7:30pm - Confirmation
Birthday - Chrissa Sansone 10am - Lenten Small Group	I - David	29		27	won 26	25
Sat	Fri	Thu	Wed	Tue	Mon	Sim

Ebenezer United Church of Christ 7293 Decatur Street New Tripoli, PA 18066

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March 2024

WELCOMING ALL WITH OPEN ARMS!