



The Eagle



May 2014



Ebenezer United Church of Christ
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Chilton WI 53014
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Website:
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Mission Statement of this Church

Ebenezer United Church of Christ is a vibrant faith community that strives to...

- ◇ Serve the spiritual needs of our neighbors.
- ◇ Transform by walking in Jesus' footsteps.
- ◇ Openly reach out for opportunities to share God's word at home and abroad.
- ◇ Nurture our relationships with God and each other.
- ◇ Empower and embrace faith, hope, and love in God!



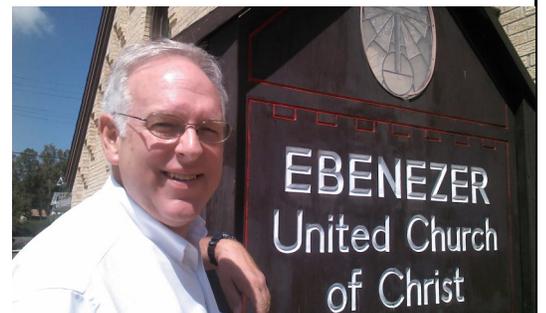
PASTOR'S CORNER

Do you know what's coming? Summer! Vacations, swimming, running outdoors, walks in the morning and evenings, the sounds of kids playing in the yard. Ah, summer is one of God's wonderful blessings.

I remember summers as a kid. I would spend them playing baseball almost every day. I'd play "whiffle ball" in the driveway a couple of times each day. Sometimes we would walk to the Junior High School about a mile away and play ball on the ball field. When we didn't play a game of baseball we'd play "pickle" for an hour or more. If there wasn't anyone else to play with I'd take a ball and a glove and throw the ball off the foundation of the house and practice my glove skills.

My dad was a baseball umpire so we would spend at least two evenings a week at one of the local ballparks. We would watch my dad umpire and listen to the people in the crowd yell at him and occasionally "boo" him. (It's a strange feeling to hear people "boo" your father and say all kinds of unkind things about him.) I have many good memories of Sullivan Field in Grand Rapids. I can still picture the wooden bleachers and the concession stand. It was extra fun when the game would be broadcast on one of the local radio stations!

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Cont. from pg. 1

During the evenings the family would sit on the porch and listen to the Detroit Tigers game. During the summers of 1967 and 1968 we would listen to the Detroit Tigers and talk about the race riots in Detroit and in our town of Grand Rapids. One week, during the riots, the police set up barricades just one block from our house. It was confusing and scary.

Much of my life was lived during those summers, outside in the sun (without sunscreen, we didn't know any better!) playing baseball, learning how to win and more painfully – learning how to lose, and then doing it again the next day.

God blessed me during those summers. How will God bless you this summer?

Peace and Grace, *Pastor Mike*

Welcome to our Confirmands



May 4th we welcomed Casey Stephenson, Cory Woelfel, and Dylan Tyson into the church as our newest Confirmands. I met with these young people Sunday mornings from September through February and Wednesday evenings from March through the end of April. These young people are equipped to move forward in their lives and their faith. When you meet one of them in church congratulate them and encourage them to continue growing in their faith.

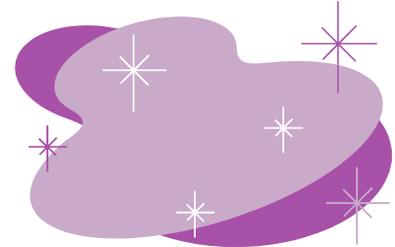
Council Meeting- April 27, 2014

Meeting called to order at 11:05. Members present: Karen Cmejla, Don Waldvogel, Andrea Cmejla, Steve Stenz, Janene VanHoorn, Tiffany Knoespel, and Pastor Mike. Members not present: Stephanie Adamietz and Jane Schroeder. Karen made a motion to approve the March minutes as well as the agenda for today. Steve seconded.

Motion carried.

Finances Report

Due to an oversight in the office, the financials were not received. March bills and approval for the report will be approved via email.



Pastoral Reports

Pastor Mike shared with us a written synopsis of what he has done from mid-March through mid-April, including funerals, visitations, counseling, and Sunday School/confirmation. Confirmation will be the 1st Sunday in May.

Committee Reports

Christian Ed/Music- No new news.

Evangelism- Cards will be sent to those who are sick or in the hospital.

Mission- No new news.

Women's Guild- No new news.

Men's Breakfast- No new news.

Property- Carpeting and floor is all in. Cabinets will be installed the first 2 weeks in May. Then the plumber and electrician will come in and finish up. Possible renters are also selected.

Old Business:

Search committee is working diligently on profile.

With little funds in our "wish list" account, these items will be put on hold until that amount increases. We are still hopefully for members to sign up for the United Community Card to help increase this amount at no cost to our members.

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Cont. from pg. 3

New Business

A stewardship committee is still in the works and wanted. If anyone is interest in joining in a stewardship committee, please see/talk to Don. Getting new doors with a small window in it for the two office doors will be looked at for purchasing for insurance reasons and heating/cooling purposes.

Contacting a photographer for a church family directory is something we are looking at setting up for the fall. Andrea is going to get this started.

The parsonage is going to be rented out starting next month. Possible renters have been discussed.

Pastor was contacted by a Protestant Hispanic family if they would be able to rent the church to hold Sunday afternoon worship every Sunday and a Bible study every Tuesday afternoons. It was also discussed that funerals and other church events would have priority. Fees were talk about and agreed upon by the council. Steve made a motion to allow the church be rented out to the families on Sundays and Tuesdays. Karen seconded. Motion carried.

Elaine will be using the fellowship hall for a piano recital.

The council decided we will not be donating education material to the sheriff's department.

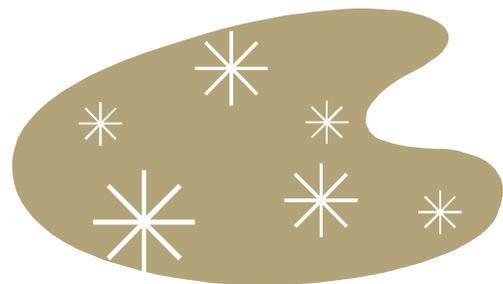
Next council meeting will be Sunday, May 18th, following the church service.

Karen made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Andrea seconded. Motion carried.

Meeting was adjourned at 12:40.

Council Secretary,

Andrea Cmejla



Summer 2014: A Time for Rest and Work

Usually summer time is a time for rest and relaxation after a long winter and this past winter certainly calls to some serious rest and relaxation! Families take vacations and churches usually slow down. This summer we'll relax but we'll also be working.

We have a few items on the calendar to get done in the summer so we can ready for autumn. First we'll be looking at doing a new pictorial directory of the church. It's been several years since we did a directory; we have new families, children have grown and some of those children now have children! We hope to be able to take pictures late this summer or early autumn. Getting the pictures done in a few months will allow anyone who wishes to purchase pictures to have them ready for Christmas presents.

Our next task isn't as much fun but it is important for the church as you prepare for your next settled minister, we need a new constitution and bylaws. Ebenezer has been operating without an effective constitution for a couple of years. As the church grows in attendance, financial giving, and mission projects we need to have an agreed upon way of doing church business, i.e. a constitution and bylaws.

Finally, we will be preparing for next autumn. Sunday School grew by leaps and bounds this year and we'll see even more kids in September. We need to be ready for them. We need to devise a program for teens to keep them interested in church, and adult education needs to return to Ebenezer.

The time of slowly retreating into shrinking: attendance, financial giving, enthusiasm, and involvement has ended. Ebenezer is now a growing church in all those areas and we need to be ready to support all those people who are making Ebenezer's future bright and exciting.

Peace and grace, *Pastor Mike*

THANKS

The entire church offers their heartfelt thanks to Elaine Hessil and the Bell Choir for their offering of music during the season of Lent and especially Easter morning. The Bells add a depth to the worship services that cannot be found through the words of any sermon.

Thank you to all who decorated the church during Lent, Palm Sunday and Easter. The cross with the white cloth was breathtaking on Easter morning. The banners and flowers added brightness and glory to our Easter worship!

A special thanks goes out to the Sunday School teachers, Sunday school youth, Elaine Hessil and William Elliot for the wonderful music that began our Palm Sunday worship. Your hard work, hours of preparation and practice brought forth great joy to the congregation on Palm Sunday.

Finally, thanks to everyone who made the Easter breakfast and then stayed after the services to clean up the kitchen and fellowship hall. Your hard work was delicious!



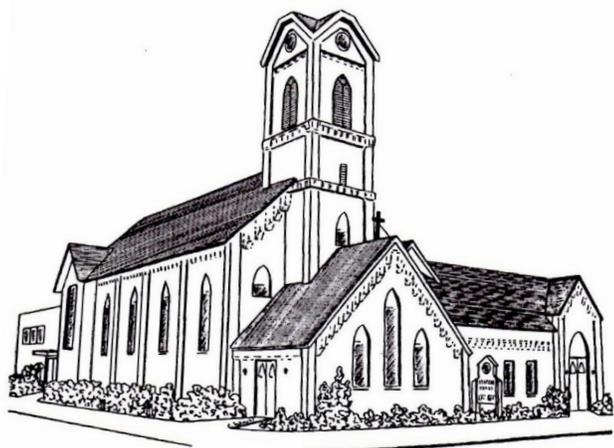
THANKS TO THE PROFESSIONAL KNOWLEDGE OF AARON LISOWE AND THE DRIVE AND DETERMINATION OF RUTH AEBISCHER, EBENEZER NOW HAS A BRAND NEW WEBSITE. WHILE IT IS FULLY FUNCTIONAL AT THIS TIME, IT WILL NEED TO BE CONSTANTLY UPDATED IN ORDER TO STAY CURRENT. I'M LEARNING TO DO THIS AS I GO, BUT IT'S SOMETIMES SLOW GOING. (OLD DOG, NEW TRICKS—YOU UNDERSTAND) CHECK IT OUT. THE SITE NAME IS WWW.EBENEZERCHILTON.ORG . IF YOU SEE THINGS THAT NEED CORRECTING, PLEASE LET ME KNOW AND IF YOU'D LIKE TO SEE THINGS INCLUDED THAT ARE NOT CURRENTLY ON THE SITE, LET ME KNOW AS WELL. ~ Shirley



Mission Education News



The Mission Committee would like to thank everyone that donated items to our recent rummage sale. We are happy to report that we took in \$969.56 with the help of a great group of volunteers. Thank you to everyone that contributed to our success!!



Newsletter Articles

Please get your articles to Heather by the 3rd Tuesday of the month so she can get the Eagle published before the start of the next month. That means the deadline for the June 2014 Eagle is Tuesday, May 20. Weekly bulletin announcements are due each Tuesday morning.

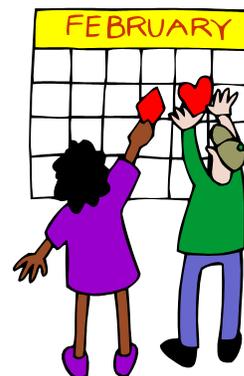
Let's let everyone know what is happening at Chilton's best church!

WALL CALENDAR

Over the course of the past several months people have asked about meeting dates or church availability. Instead of memorizing dates and times we re-introduce Heather's wall calendar.

Yes, the wall calendar has finally arrived and is hanging in the church office behind the door. If you have a meeting, even if it is a recurring meeting, please jot down the date and time for your meeting. This will help ensure meetings make it into the Eagle and the weekly bulletins.

Remember, we'd rather hear about a meeting or event 50 times than for 50 people to assume someone else has told us about the event.



USHERS

- May 4** Church Council
- May 11** Sunday School
- May 18** Ken & Shirley Lisowe, Kelly Brown Family
- May 25** Dean & Ellie Papendieck, Kelly & Wayne Kress



May Birthdays

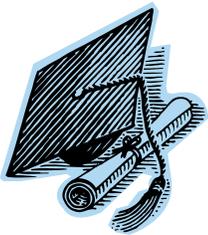
Nancy Rusch	01
Don Pingel	01
Ralph Schmid	02
Don Sattler	03
Ken Lisowe	03
Denise Hofmeister	05
Talena Popp	06
Dorothy Neuhaus	09
Connie Waldvogel	11
Alice Horst	13
Carol Werblow	14
Sandy Hammerschmidt	19

Lynn Sattler	21
George Goeldi	22
Janice Halbach	29
Lynn Michels	30

If you have a May birthday, and it was missed, please let the office know so we can get it right next time.



We have had great participation with our SCRIP program so far this year. Since January 1, we have earned over \$670 for the church. We have been able to do that with less than 15 families participating. Just think of the possibilities if we all would use scrip for our groceries, gas, gifts and dining out. Stop by the office or check out www.glscrip.com to see how you can help support our church. Once you get started, you will see how easy it really is.



GRADUATES

PLEASE CONTACT THE OFFICE BY PHONE (849-4331), BY E-MAIL (EBENEZEROFFICE@YAHOO.COM), OR BY A NOTE ON THE NOTEPAD ON THE DESK IN THE OFFICE AND LET US KNOW WHO IS GRADUATING AND FROM WHERE. BACCALAUREATE SUNDAY IS JUNE 1 AND WE WANT EVERYONE TO BE INCLUDED!

NOTES FROM THE MUSIC CORNER...



Reflections on Lent & Easter: Thank you to the Sunday School, Adult vocalists- Don Pingel & Tiffany Knoespel and to William Elliott on the trumpet for presenting *“Look Who’s Coming”* on Palm Sunday. The Sunday School really set the ‘tone’ by marching and waving palms as the prelude to worship.

Ebenezer Brass added to the joyous Easter message with a dynamic processional and with the worship music, *“Victory”*. Thanks again to William for accompanying the bells for the processional. Neither of the bell songs were difficult but required concentration and energy. Everyone was grateful for the delicious breakfast before worship!!!!

Glancing ahead: We’re anticipating a bell tree duo accompanied by the entire bell choir on the handchimes for Mothers’ Day worship. It will be a debut for a beginning bell tree ringer! A possibility for worship music for that day will be the composition *“Fantasia on Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee”*. This was the composition that the bell choir commissioned a favorite bell composer/arranger, Kevin McChesney to write in memory of Jeris Waldvogel. It is very demanding so it is uncertain if it can be accomplished by May 11.

Thank you to the consistent dedication of the bell choir members. It is always great to have instrumentalists, vocalists and bell ringers offer their time and talents.

It was sooo uplifting to have the sanctuary filled with joyous sound of singing for Easter worship. Let’s have Easter rejoicing every Sunday!!!!

Thank you to Shirley Lisowe for organizing the delicious and attractive Easter breakfast. Also, thank you to the Christian Ed / Worship committee for providing the food and lending a helping hand. It provided the food, fun and fellowship that commenced the excitement for Easter worship!

THANK YOU!



Offering Envelopes

You may have noticed a small change to your newest set of offering envelopes. When you receive your new packet of offering envelopes you will notice the red sticker that says you are almost out of envelopes has been moved to the week before you use your final envelope. This small change will allow Heather to get your new packet out to the table before you use your last envelope.

This change helps in a couple of ways. First, the office will have two weeks to get the new envelopes to you. Second, you will always have an envelope at the ready for your offering, no more arriving at church and hoping you have new envelopes for that Sunday.

Thanks for the suggestions that have helped us make improvements to an already good system!

THE PURPOSE STATEMENT OF THIS CHURCH

Loving, living, and serving faithfully – uniting God and our neighbors.



Eva Tod Alice
 Joyce Louise Dennis
 Charlaine Barb
 Phyllis Jane Sarah
 Stefanie Sharon

Due to privacy laws, we can no longer list last names of members of our congregation on the prayer list above because our Eagle goes on the church website which can be viewed by anyone on the internet. Thank you.

Scrip



Please keep in mind to buy scrip if you plan on making a shopping trip, gassing the car, or having dinner out!! It helps our church meet our goals!



We have partnered with United Community to help raise funds needed to help our church. We are using the funds towards our OCWM contributions and the General Fund. Many of you have been using your United Community Card at the partnered businesses and we thank you for doing that. If you do not have a United Community card and would like more information on how to obtain one, please contact the church office at 849-4331.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4 9:30 am Worship 	5 Cinco de Mayo 	6 Church office open 9-5	7 Church office open 9-5	8 8:30 am Men's Brkfst @ 7 Angels 6:30 Bell Rehearsal 	9	10
11 9:30 am Worship 	12	13 Church office open 9-5	14 Church office open 9-5 Evangelism Comm. Mtg 8:30 AM @ Terra Verde	15 1:00 pm Women's Guild @ 7 Angels 6:30 Bell Rehearsal 	16	17
18 9:30 am Worship Last Day of Sunday School Council Mtg 	19	20 Church office open 9-5 Eagle Articles Due 	21 Church office open 9-5	22 6:30 Bell Rehearsal 	23	24
25 9:30 am Worship 	26 Memorial Day Office Closed 	27 Church office open 9-5 Pastor on Vacation 	28 Church office open 9-5 Pastor on Vacation	29 6:30 Bell Rehearsal Pastor on Vacation 	30	31