

Stonemaker

Newsletter of Ebenezer Church



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TO BO AND BACK. 4,562 MILES.

I'm not an artist, but I want to paint a picture of Bo, Sierra Leone. The base color is definitely orange! That deep orange soil, like the red clay of Georgia. Next, layer a multitude of greens; everything is alive and lush during the rainy season. Add the grays and tans of the homemade concrete houses and thatched roofs. To these, add the most vibrant colors you can imagine...brightly painted commercial buildings, clothing and fabric exploding with patterns and color. Africa even has a distinct smell - earthy, organic, and authentic.

Africa is a complex recipe of community, exploitation, scarcity, potential, natural resources, good humor, pride, ingenuity, and most of all, hope. On one of the first days I was in Sierra Leone, I sent a text to my dad (my lifelong travel partner) and simply said "I thought I had seen poverty, and then I came to Africa." That feeling was quickly replaced by a sense of awe at the resourcefulness and resilience of the people of Sierra Leone. Bo is 4,562 miles from Stafford, at first sight the differences seem great, but in truth, we are far more similar. We each desire purpose, opportunity, and the best for our children.

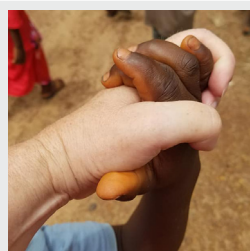
Many of you know the story of the Cloe sisters, Mary Stuart and Frances, lifelong members of Ebenezer who chose to gift their estate to our church.

Ebenezer tithed 10% of that gift, and in doing so, blessed many of our mission partners; from a new van for S.E.R.V.E. to two clean water wells in Ethiopia. And

then, there was the gift to Mercy Hospital, 4,562 miles away.

In July, I stood in the new surgical wing the Cloe sisters made

possible. I was overcome with the knowledge that two faithful servants of God, on the other side of the globe, made this building possible, but it is not just the building. It is the promise of lives saved through Mercy's ability to do surgeries for all patients - regardless of their ability to pay. The Cloe sisters couldn't have known the impact they would have on generations in Bo, but we do, and we will celebrate it endlessly!



I WANT TO SHARE MY EXPERIENCE IN A WAY THAT IGNITES A PASSION FOR MISSION IN THE ENTIRE CONGREGATION.

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UPCOMING SERMON SERIES

BIBLE 101

Where did the Bible come from? We don't have a single original document from the Apostles. We don't have a signed parchment from Moses. There is no such thing as an autographed copy of scripture.

So where did we get it? How can a book over 2,000 years old apply to our lives today? Join us for our new series called BIBLE 101 in which we will discuss the origins of the Bible as well as how we can understand and apply the life-giving inspiration found inside.

I QUIT!

When was the last time the church told you to quit? There are times in all of our lives when we participate in bad habits, processes that lead us away from rather than toward abundant living.

Beginning October 7, join us for our new series, I QUIT!, as we look at habits that make us lesser versions of ourselves. If we long to be the people God calls us to be and live the lives God calls us to live, perhaps we must begin by saying "I Quit".



A NOTE FROM PASTOR ROB

Why do the Bibles we use at Ebenezer have 66 books when the Bibles used by our Roman Catholic brothers and sisters have 73 books? Where did the books in the Bible come from and how did they get to us? Why were some books included and others left out? Why are the books of the Bible arranged the way they are? What is the best translation, and if I'm just beginning to read my Bible, where should I start?

The Bible is the most important book in the world. In fact, the word Bible means book. In scripture, we find the stories of Jesus upon which Christians base our lives and we find the foundations for our beliefs, our actions, and our hope. One cannot overstate the importance of this text in history.

It is curious, then, that many Christians don't know where the Bible came from, how it was translated, or why it is structured the way it is. There are many Christians who don't know how to use their Bibles in meaningful, applicable ways and culturally Biblical illiteracy is on the rise. In this digital age, Bibles are more accessible and less understood than ever.

Our September sermon series is designed to help. Throughout September we'll join in a series called Bible 101 that walks through the origins of Scripture, the reasoning behind the inclusion of certain texts and the rationale behind the Bible's structure. The goal of this series isn't, however, to help us better answer questions on Jeopardy.

A better understanding of the Bible leads to a greater proclivity to read and apply Biblical truths to our lives, for when we apply the truth of God's word, our lives are enriched and our impact on the community becomes greater, all to God's glory.

We've all heard the wisdom which states, if you want to feed someone for a day, give them a fish. If you want to feed someone for a lifetime, teach them to fish. This is a series designed to help all of us become more proficient at feeding our spiritual selves. I hope you will join us throughout September for Bible 101 as we learn more about God's word and how to apply it to our lives.

In Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rob", written in a cursive, flowing style.

Pastor Rob



TO BO AND BACK *CONTINUED*

WE ARE 4,562 MILES AWAY, BUT I WANT YOU TO SEE, FEEL, AND HEAR BO.

While there, our mission team felt the nervousness of expectant mothers as they waited for hours in line to test for HIV and malaria at one of Mercy's village medical outreach clinics. We saw relief on a grown man's face when he brought his ailing mother to Mercy, knowing she will be taken care of, even though he didn't have any money. We heard the gratitude in the joyous sobs of a mother who owes her toddler son's life to God for placing our mission team member, Karen Hall, with the perfect blood type match, in Bo on the very day her son could only be saved through a transfusion.

The good news, you don't need to *go to* Bo to be part of the mission. Not everyone can, should, or wants to *go to* Bo. But you don't have to, God is on the ground working in Bo on our behalf. He sees our brothers and sisters and knows their struggles and their desire to improve their community and country. What does he ask of us? It almost seems silly considering real-world Bo. You only need to "Go FOR Bo."

Yes, the good work happening in Bo is partially funded through a fun family event 4,562 miles away in Stafford. Your participation in the Go For Bo race plays a large part in helping the Child Rescue Center and Mercy Hospital transform lives in Bo, Sierra Leone.

This year's \$50K in Go For Bo race sponsorships goes directly to missions in Bo, just as it has since the inception of the Go For Bo race eight years ago. Your race registration fees cover the cost of race day and an additional donation to missions in Bo.

Please register to run Saturday, October 13. This is your day to experience Bo and impact lives. Visit goforbo.org to register to run, volunteer, or donate.

- Tina DeBoeser

Director of Missions & Outreach

To read and see more about the mission trip to Bo, visit ebenezerumc.org/ToBoAndBack.



Top to Bottom: Karen and her young transfusion patient, summer camp students, Mercy Hospital, community outreach



WHAT'S NEXT? WHEN SESSIONS CONCLUDE, I AM OFTEN ASKED, "WHAT IS THE LONG-TERM PLAN?"

Interestingly, the long-term plan is pretty simple: get invested in a community of believers by joining a small group. This achieves multiple purposes. First, the Apostle Paul tells us to be in community which will encourage us in love and works (Hebrews 10:24-25). Second, Paul tells us God is the God of comfort who will comfort us in all our afflictions. This allows us to comfort others in their time of need (2 Corinthians 3-4). Being in a small group supports Christians in so many ways. As Paul stated, we can be encouraged from a place of love. This means even when you falter, you will still be surrounded by people who genuinely love you and will help you get back on your feet and move forward.

During small group discussions, people quickly realize everyone struggles. This is where the 2 Corinthians passage comes into play. When we are intentional about sharing our sufferings with others and how God supported us through those times, we can begin to come alongside other people in similar circumstances and bring them hope and healing. When we are not invested in a small group, we are not exposed to people who can help us in this manner. God calls us into community, and these are two examples of how and why that community can be the difference between feeling empowered in our struggles, or succumbing to hopeless or helpless feelings.

- Keith Priest
Christian Counselor

Game On

TRUNK OR TREAT 2018 - GAME ON!

Most Candy Ever! That's right, we plan to pass out thousands of pieces of candy and thousands of smiles at TRUNK or TREAT 2018 - GAME ON! This will be our first community-wide Trunk or Treat event where we invite all our neighbors to come out and enjoy the fall weather on Sunday, October 28 from 3:30 – 5:30 at Embrey Mill Park. Our GAME ON theme brings the best of family friendly video games and board games to life with costumes, games, decorations, crafts, and food. The best part, IT'S FREE! We will have treats for all kids, including those with food allergies.

There is room for an entire caravan of trunks and plenty of space on our designated fields for games. Ebenezer Church has always been a family friendly place. Now, we want to extend that same warm and welcoming experience to our community and get to know our neighbors. TRUNK or TREAT 2018 - GAME ON will feature plenty of carnival style games, prizes, bounce houses, crafts, and snacks for everyone. Since we're not confined by space, we plan to have more than 75 decorated trunks and collect enough candy to share with 1200 children. Imagine the party we are going to have!

We need YOU to volunteer. Volunteer to help with the food distribution, decorations, parking, help with a game, prepare a craft, direct traffic, or hand out goodie bags. Check out our volunteer opportunities at ebenezerumc.org/events.

Decorate your trunk. We have a huge goal of 75 trunks to keep families happy and the candy flowing. There are prizes for the best decorated trunks! Register your trunk and read the guidelines for trunk participation at ebenezerumc.org/events.

Candy is good for you. Well, it is good for the community connections we'll be making when we attract over a thousand people to our trunk or treat! Please donate bags of candy for this event in the designated bins located in the KidzCare/Sunday School registration area during the months of September and October. We'll have some friendly competition – so GAME ON!

- Chrissy Leathers
Director of Connections



Don't miss Ebenezer Church's One Night Women's Event, **"The Struggle Is Real"**. It will be an incredible night of fun, laughter, worship, and practical teaching.

Join us!

Tickets are \$10.
A portion of the proceeds helps support Stafford Food Security and Stafford kids.
ebenezerumc.org/events.

Friday, November 2
6:00 - 9:30 PM
at Ebenezer Church



MISSION POSSIBLE - BRAIN BUILDERS

In his book *The Mission – Minded Guide to Church and School Partnerships*, Jake McGlothlin talks about the importance of the Church-School Connection. He states that “Partnerships between churches and schools are a natural progression toward meaningful community engagement and ultimately, a glimpse into the kingdom of God.” At Ebenezer we’re working on building this type of relationship with Hampton Oaks Elementary School in Stafford.

One of the main activities we support at the school is the Brain Builder Afterschool Program. Brain Builders was established by our mission partner, Stafford Junction to help students who are struggling academically, but it’s not just about the academics. Spending one-on-one time with the kids reminds them there are adults who care about them, not because they have to, but because they want to. The students are also given a hearty snack that helps fill the gaps if their family is struggling with food insecurity. Most importantly, Brain Builders allows us to create a community of people helping people because at the end of the day, the mission is the people.

IT IS EASY TO GET INVOLVED.

You don’t need experience as a teacher, but it helps! We need caring adults who love working with children. There are two teams of tutors – one for Mondays and one for Wednesdays. You serve on one or both teams. People of all ages can volunteer, and teenagers can receive community service hours for their time.

The program is very structured – you will always be paired with a student and you will always have the guidance and materials you need to best work with your student. If you can’t make a regular commitment, you can still support our Brain Builders teams by supplying snacks. This is also a great service opportunity for small groups!

Brain Builders starts for the 2018-2019 school year the first week in October on Mondays and Wednesdays from 3:30-5:00 PM. We need at least 18 volunteers each Monday and Wednesday. Interested? Email Dana Czzowitz, our Brain Builders Site Coordinator, at dczzowitz@ebenezerumc.org or call the church office at 540-659-1349.

The gift of your time and friendship to these students is more valuable than you can imagine. But you may also be amazed at how much this connection will change your life as well.

- Ann Bieniawski
2017-2018 Brain Builders Coordinator

Start HERE

New to Ebenezer?
New to your faith?
Want to get
connected?

Start here.

A three-week course starting
November 4
11:15 AM

Register at ebenezerumc.org/events

EXPERIENCE A TRIP OF A LIFETIME. JOURNEY TO THE HOLY LAND

Ebenezer Church is excited to invite you to travel with Pastor Rob on a Holy Land Classic tour. Join the journey January 14-23, 2020, that follows the footsteps of Jesus.

You will visit and be moved by many Holy sites like: the Sea of Galilee, the Jordan River, Nazareth, Caesarea, Jericho, Qumran, the Mount of Olives, Jerusalem, and Bethlehem. During your scheduled leisure day, you can visit Masada and the Dead Sea.

Want to see more? Extend your trip and tour the Wonders of Petra and additional Dead Sea sites from January 23-28.

Interested and want to hear more? Attend one of the following information sessions:

Sunday, October 14, 12:30-1:30 PM
Tuesday, October 23, 1:00-2:00 PM or
6:00-7:00 PM

For additional information prior to the sessions, please contact Stephanie Evans, Holy Land Tour Coordinator, at swemee@comcast.net or email Vicki Stones at VStones@ebenezerumc.org.

- Vicki Stones

Director, Empty Nest & Older Adult Ministries



Join Pastor Rob Lough on the
Holy Land Classic
January 14 - 23, 2020



United
Methodist
Women

FAITH • HOPE • LOVE IN ACTION

UMW ANNUAL DINNER

The United Methodist Women invite you to our annual dinner on Tuesday October 9, 6:30 - 8:30PM.

A guest speaker from Mary's Shelter in Fredericksburg, VA will share their efforts to help women and children, focusing on their

Christ centered program of guidance and support for women facing crises during pregnancy. Dinner and childcare are free.

Please bring a baby item to donate to Mary's Shelter. Diapers, wipes, laundry detergent, dryer sheets, baby wash, or any other items a pregnant mom could use are appreciated.

Register at ebenezerumc.org/events by October 1.

Questions? Contact Terry at t.l.cleven@gmail.com.

YARD SALE

SATURDAY
September 22
7:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Donate items in the Gym
Friday, September 21
6:00-8:00 PM

EMPTY NEST & OLDER ADULTS SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES

SUPPER CLUB

Supper Clubs are fun ways to meet new people and get to know one another. We don't need to be impressed. The food should be tasty and filling, but not complex. A big pot of soup with bread you didn't bake is totally acceptable! Ice cream you bought at the store makes a great dessert. Would-be diners could be asked to share a picture, a hobby, or an interesting story. Don't let the supper become the focus of your supper club. The focus is hanging out with new friends!

We kick-off our next round in October. We need 8 people to commit to six months together with the goal of getting together four times for dinner.

Be creative when it's your turn to host, don't feel like you have to host in your home if that is not your thing. Feel free to find a comfortable picnic location.

Interested? Email Vicki, vstones@ebenezeumc.org.

LUNCH AND LEARN: STAFFORD HISTORY

We are delighted to have local author and historian, Jane Conner as our guest speaker for Lunch and Learn: Stafford History on Tuesday, September 18 at noon. Please register at ebenezerumc.org/events/. Lunch is available for \$5. Jane Conner is a graduate of the

University of California at Santa Barbara with a degree in Early Childhood Education. Since 1979, Jane's goal was to save Government Island from development, as she recognized its historic importance to the nation. She was successful.

In 1998, the Stafford Board of Supervisors purchased the island. Later, she appeared before Congress requesting they approve the island as a National Historic Site. They did. She was delighted when the island opened up as a Stafford public park in November 2010.

Jane has received a number of awards and sits on many boards in the local community. Jane authored three books, *Birthstone of the White House and Capitol, Lincoln in Stafford*, and *Sinners, Saints, and Soldiers in Civil War Stafford*.

She refuses all proceeds from her books and contributes her book revenues to the Stafford County Museum Fund. After a year's approval process, her Birthstone book was chosen to be sold at the U.S. Capitol's bookstores.

LUNCH AND LEARN: CHOCOLATE THROUGH TIME

Surely any program that has chocolate in the title will be amazing, right? At noon on October 16, Joyce White will educate us on the history of chocolate

from its ancient beginnings in Meso-America, through the centuries, to the modern day.

Her interactive presentation will focus on how chocolate has changed through time, both in terms of its cultural value and how mechanization has altered its production process. Her presentation will be followed by an opportunity to taste an assortment of chocolate recipes.

Please note: Joyce White is insured through the Food Liability Insurance Program (FLIP). All prepared food served is cooked and prepared in a home kitchen, not a commercial kitchen.

Foods are prepared where potential allergens such as wheat, gluten, soy, peanuts, tree nuts, dairy, and many other food products, are processed. Commercial foods may also be included.

Register at ebenezerumc.org/events. The program and lunch costs \$5.

SMALL GROUPS

Check out the list of Small Groups for fall. Several are ideally suited for Empty Nest and Older Adults. Visit ebenezerumc.org/groups or contact Chrissy Leathers at cleathers@ebenezerumc.org to get connected.



BUILDING COMMUNITIES IS AGELESS

Unconditional belonging is the dominant need for today's teenagers. But isn't that true for everyone?

By definition, a community is a group of people living in the same place or having a particular characteristic in common. Through God a community is described as one body, sharing our lives in Christ. We were not meant to do life alone.

The teenage season is a beautiful limited moment. It's crucial that during this season they belong to a community that is going to help them grow their roots deep and know they are children of God.

Through TNT (middle school) and Axis (high school) youth groups we design everything (youth group, events, retreats) for students to be connected into small groups with incredible adult leaders to experience that community. This past summer, the high school students went on a mission trip to Beckley, WV.

"THIS MISSION TRIP TRULY WAS WILD AND WONDERFUL! I HAD AN AMAZING TIME SERVING THE COMMUNITY OF BECKLEY THIS WEEK. I AM SO HAPPY THAT GOD HAS PUT SOME AMAZING PEOPLE INTO MY LIFE. I HAD SO MUCH FUN AND HAVE SO MUCH LOVE FOR EVERYONE IN THIS GROUP!"

During the week, the students served the community of Beckley in a variety of ways: leading a Kids Club for 60-70 kids; helping with a local VBS; cleaning out the Salvation Army Thrift Store; and painting and doing maintenance on

several local homes. Prior to going on the trip, the students commit to being in small groups with other students and an adult going on the trip. Those small groups meet and grow together.

The students also commit to serving in our local community and church. By the time we go on the mission trip students are ready to invest in the towns we go to serve.

"I HAD AN AMAZING WEEK IN BECKLEY, WV SERVING SIDE BY SIDE WITH THE COMMUNITY AND LEARNING MORE ABOUT JESUS. CAN'T WAIT FOR MY LAST YEAR WITH THESE AMAZING PEOPLE."

Community is crucial no matter the age. When you love God and love others, community happens. Take the steps to get plugged in!

- Michelle Paquette
Director of Student Ministries



AXIS HIGH SCHOOL WEEKLY MEETING TIMES

Wednesdays 7:00 - 9:00 PM
meet in the Gym

Specific Studies
Sunday 9:45-11:00 Room 216

TNT MIDDLE SCHOOL WEEKLY MEETING TIMES

Sundays 9:45 -11:00 AM
meet in Room B01

BUFFALO
WILD
WINGS



EAT WINGS. RAISE FUNDS.

On the day listed below, present this ticket to your server and Buffalo Wild Wings® will donate 10%* of your total bill (not including tax, gratuity or promotional discounts) to our organization.

Buffalo Wild Wings strives to support our community and the organizations and sports teams within it. Together we can make a positive impact and help keep our community working and playing together.

(Show this ticket to your server on the date & time listed below.)

EBENEZER UMC PRESCHOOL

September 24, 2018 • 10:30 AM - 11:30 PM

1050 Stafford Marketplace • Stafford, VA • 540-288-0580

*The 10% donation is contingent on the organization raising at least \$100 of pre-tax sales during the promotion (subject to change in our discretion). Other restrictions may apply. Please see participating location for details. ©2015 Buffalo Wild Wings, Inc.

ADMIT ONE

Free

Family MOVIE Night

September 22, 6:45 PM
with free concessions

Enjoy this free movie night under the stars with your family. Grab your blankets, chairs, bug spray and come on over to Ebenezer.

ebenezerumc.org/events

Sponsored by

Ebenezer
Children's Ministry
& EUMC Preschool

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUTH AND STUDENTS

September 22 –
Family Movie Night

September 24 –
Preschool Fundraiser at
Buffalo Wild Wings

September 28-30 –
AXIS Fall Retreat

October 6 –
Mother & Son Dance

October 13 –
Go For Bo Race, 5K, 1 Mile
Fun-Run, Tot-Dash

October 20-21 –
TNT Overnight Retreat

October 28 –
Trunk or Treat

November 11 –
AXIS Mission Trip Info
Meeting



KIDZROCK SUNDAY SCHOOL

Available during all Services for children age 3 through 5th Grade. Check-in at the main building and classes are in the Ministry Center.

KIDZCARE CHILDCARE

Available for infants and toddlers during all services. Available for infants, toddlers, and school age children during most events and studies.



CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES SUMMER OF FUN
Clockwise from top: Vacation Bible School, Art Camp: Korea, VBS, Just a Phase Sunday



SMALL GROUP LOCATOR

NO BETTER TIME THAN THE PRESENT

Are you looking for a way to connect, fellowship, learn and grow? That happens at every Small Group meeting! We offer a variety of Small Groups for you no matter where you are in your faith. This is a current list of groups starting in September.

You can visit our website at ebenezerumc.org/groups for a complete list of groups. Our groups meet either on campus or off campus in homes, some meet during the day and some in the evening or weekends. If you need help deciding where to start, please contact Chrissy Leathers, cleathers@ebenezerumc.org for help!

FIND A GROUP ON CAMPUS

SUNDAY

Renovation Group Sundays,
11:15 AM-12:15 PM, Room 215
Brandon and Dorothy Hood,
Facilitators,
brandon@thehoods.ws

Join the Hoods for this inter-generational co-ed small group, reading together James Bryan Smith's book, "The Good and Beautiful Life" (IVP). The Good and Beautiful God guides us to look behind these character flaws and to replace our false beliefs with Jesus' narratives about life in the kingdom of God.

Propts Group Sundays, 9:30-10:45 AM, Room 215

Tom Propts, Facilitator, thomas.propts@gmail.com

We are a group of middle aged to senior adults, both mixed and single, believers with a focus on Biblical studies. We are using two of the latest "That the World May Know" volumes which focus on the Mission of Jesus and A Clash of Kingdoms which are both focused on New Testament materials but provide insight into the Old Testament basis upon which Jesus taught.

Hoffer Group Sundays, 9:30-10:30 AM, Music Room (Chapel),

Ted Hoffer, Facilitator,
hoffertj@yahoo.com

This fall we will be studying John Ortberg's "All The Places To Go", a six-week series that explores God's call and opportunities provided, and our responsibility in making wise decisions and stepping out in faith. We are a mixed gender group of adults who welcome newcomers.

Page Group Sundays, 9:45-10:45 AM, B13, Michael and Marissa Page, Facilitators,
Marissa.page@yahoo.com

We are a group of adults of all ages with a mixture of singles and couples. We meet at 9:45 which allows parents to be a part of a small group while their kids

are in TNT or Axis. We enjoy talking about important things with people who care. We strive to help each other grow in faith as we do life together.

MONDAYS

Shepard Group Mondays,

9:30-11:30, Room 203,
Marilou Shepard, Facilitator,
happydaymom@msn.com

We are a group of women from all walks of life. We will be using the Jen Hatmaker study, "Seven": It's not so much about what we own, it's about what owns us. We always welcome new members to our group. Please come join us and bring a friend!

TUESDAYS

Beirne/Park Group Tuesdays,

10:00 AM-Noon, Room 203,
Jessica Beirne and Mandy Park,
Facilitators, jbeirne82@gmail.com,
amandapark2@gmail.com

You are invited to join our group of moms with mostly infant/preschool/elementary school aged kids, but anyone is welcome! Join us this Fall when we dive into the "Seamless" Bible study. In 7 sessions, we will cover the people, places, and promises of the Bible, tying them together into the greater story of Scripture.

Fuel for Men Tuesdays,

7:00-9:00 PM, Rm 202,
Jim Sunderlin, Barry Mills,
Facilitators, jhsunder@aol.com,
bmills7367@aol.com. We are a group of men aged 20 to 70 who meet weekly for a meal and fellowship followed by a video study, discussion and prayer. We meet to develop relationships, introduce men to Christ, and grow in our relationship with

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

IMPORTANT DATES FOR ADULTS

September 22 –
Family Movie Night

September 22 –
UMM & Boy Scout Yard Sale

September 22 –
4th Saturday Meal Prep and
Serve at Micha Ministries

September 24 –
Preschool Fundraiser at
Buffalo Wild Wings

September 24 –
Financial Peace Legacy
Journey classes begin

October 6 –
Mother & Son Dance

October 6 –
Community Meals for Seniors

October 9 –
UMW Dinner

October 13 –
Go For Bo Race, 5K, 1 Mile
Fun-Run, Tot-Dash

October 14 & 23 –
Holy Land Tour info session

October 20-21 –
TNT Overnight Retreat

October 21 –
Kairos Cookies Due

November 2 –
One Night Women's Event,
"The Struggle is Real"

God through the missions of the church. We will kick off the fall with a 4-week study on Tim Mackie's "How To Read The Bible."

WEDNESDAYS

Sunderlin Group Wednesdays, 10:00 AM-Noon, Room 207, Brenda Sunderlin, Facilitator, jhsunder@aol.com. We are a small group of women who love studying God's Word together and praying for each other's needs. Our objective is to develop an intimate love relationship with Jesus and special relationships with each other. We meet each week at the church, but also plan outings together after we complete each study.

Johnson Group Wednesdays, 10:00 AM-Noon, Room 203, Joanie Johnson, Facilitator, Thejohnsonclan@hotmail.com. We are a group of gals from all ages and stages who seek to grow in and live out God's Word for His glory. This fall we will kick off the study by Beth Moore "Here and Now...There and Then" about the Book of Revelation.

Zappa Group Wednesday, 6:00-8:00 PM, Room 203, Aimee Zappa, Facilitator, zappaan@gmail.com. We are a group of married couples raising kids ranging in age from 0-18. We have a lot of laughs during our meetings and great discussions. We will kick off the fall with a 4-week study on Tim Mackie's "How To Read The Bible."

THURSDAYS

McGee Group Thursdays, 10:00 AM-Noon, Room 202, Bridget

McGee, Facilitator, bmcgee@okstatealumni.org. You're invited to join our women's group. This fall we'll be doing "Bad Girls of the Bible and What We Can Learn From Them."

Abbott Group Thursdays, 6:30-8:00 PM, Room 207, every other week. Rob Abbott, Facilitator, abbott9820@gmail.com. We are parents with school age kids in elementary through high school. We invite you to join us for fellowship and learning. We will study the Frances Chan "Basic Series". Chan invites us to reclaim the simple, full, and beautiful journey that church was always intended to be.

Priest Group Thursdays, 6:30-8:30 PM, Room 204, Keith Priest, Facilitator, Kpriest@ebenezerumc.org. We are a group of couples with school-aged children. Most of the kids are elementary school level, but we do have some teens and newborns! We will kick off the fall with a 4-week study on Tim Mackie's "How To Read The Bible."

FRIDAYS

Sharon Group Fridays, 6:30-8:30 PM, Room 202, Chris Sharon, Facilitator, Csharon@me.com. We are a group of couples with school-aged children. Most of the kids are elementary school level, but we do have some teens and newborns! We will kick off the fall with a 4-week study on Tim Mackie's "How To Read The Bible."

Emerson Group Fridays, 6:30-8:30 PM, Room 203,

MEmerison@ebenezerumc.org
We are a group of couples. Most of us have children ranging in age from baby to elementary school. We enjoy getting together in fellowship and digging further into God's Word. This fall we will study "Follow" by Andy Stanley.

Young Adult Ladies Group
Fridays, 7:00-9:00 PM, Room 216, Julie Leathers & Erika Ortner, julieleathers89@gmail.com ortnererikae@gmail.com
Join us on Friday nights and be a part of a bible study for young adult women led by young adult women 18-25 years-old, engaging in bible study, fellowship, and service with one another.

FIND A GROUP OFF CAMPUS

SUNDAYS
Poff Group Sundays, 11:15 AM-1:00 PM, Mike and Marvona Poff, Facilitators, gloryfied@comcast.net. We meet at the home of Mike & Marvona Poff and it is made of couples with high school and college students. This fall we will study "The Book of Colossians" an 8-week study by Louie Giglio.

MONDAYS
Thomas Group Mondays, 7:15-9:15 PM
Christina Thomas, Facilitator, thomaschristina780@gmail.com. Our small group is a mixed group of all ages and walks of life, some married, some divorced, some widowed, some veteran disciples of Christ, and some newborn. Anyone is welcome to come and fellowship, study, and worship with us.

WEDNESDAYS
Hoppe Group Wednesdays, 7:00-8:15 PM Chris and Jean Hoppe, Facilitators, jmhoppe4@gmail.com. We are empty nest couples' meeting in Aquia Harbour in a relaxed atmosphere. All ages and stages are welcome. This fall we will be studying the "Book of Nehemiah."

Dalgarn Group Wednesday, Bi-Weekly, 7:00-9:00 PM, Quail Run, Brad & Hyoson Dalgarn, Facilitators, bradandhyoson@gmail.com. We are an informal group of couples ages 45+ with adult children. We meet for biblically based studies, prayer and fellowship with others who are seeking to grow spiritually. We usually meet for 2 hours every other week and have quarterly social events. This fall we will be doing a study on James.

THURSDAYS
O'Leary Group Thursdays, 7:00-8:30 PM, Michelle O'Leary, Facilitator, Mpoleary@gmail.com
We are a group of women of all ages and stages. Our next study is "Armor of God" by Priscilla Shirer. If you're tired of being pushed around and caught with your guard down, this study is for you.

Beutel Group Thursdays, 7:00-9:00 PM, Ongoing Ken and Deb Beutel, Facilitators, deb@beutel.us. We have multiple grandparents, a couple of couples, a single mom, and others that come in and out. The average age of the group is around 50 and we are enthusiastic but certainly not deep students of the Word.

We are currently studying 1st Corinthians.

FRIDAYS
Ellis Group Fridays, 7:00-8:30 PM, North Stafford Mark Ellis, Facilitator, Mark.ellis21@comcast.net. Our current group members are couples and singles ranging from ages early 40's to mid 60's with a mix of retirees and retiree wannabes. We typically do a weekly Bible or topical Christian study, but also enjoy time together at restaurants, plays, vineyards, etc. We meet at group members homes on Friday evenings primarily in the North Stafford area, and do not offer childcare.

REMEMBER, IF YOU NEED HELP DECIDING WHERE TO START, PLEASE CHAT WITH CHRISSY LEATHERS, CLEATHERS@EBENEZERUMC.ORG. SHE IS HAPPY TO HELP.



BOOTS & PEARLS
MOTHER-SON DANCE
OCT. 6 | 6 - 8 PM | 5TH GRADE & BELOW
WWW.EBENEZERUMC.ORG/EVENTS

SUPPORT GROUP LOCATOR

SUPPORT GROUPS ARE FRAMED AROUND A SPECIFIC TOPIC SO PEOPLE CAN SHARE EXPERIENCES AND TALK OPENLY WITH ONE ANOTHER. THE FOLLOWING GROUPS ARE AVAILABLE AT EBENEZER THIS FALL.

Nar-anon, Wednesdays, 7:00-9:00 PM, Room 216, Ongoing
Nar-anon is primarily for those who know or have known a feeling of desperation concerning the addiction problem of someone very near to you. We have traveled that unhappy road too, and found the answer with serenity and peace of mind. For more info, email staffordnarnon@gmail.com

Divorcecare Group, Susan and Larry Anderson, Facilitators
susanemorgan11@gmail.com
Wednesdays, 7:00-9:00 PM, Rm 207. DivorceCare helps people find healing for the hurt of separation and divorce. The weekly sessions are with a friendly, caring group of people

who will walk alongside you through one of life's most difficult experiences. The sessions are led by people who understand what you are going through and who want to help.

During the sessions, you'll gain access to resources that will help you deal with the pain of the past and look forward to rebuilding your life. Open to the community and childcare is available. Registration is \$15.00. To complete your registration and pay for your class kit, please go to: my.ebenezerumc.org/events.

Cancer Support Group,
Bill Metheny, Facilitator
wpmeth@aol.com, 1st Tuesdays, 7:00-9:00 PM, Room 207. The Cancer Support Group meets to provide support for patients, survivors, caregivers, family members or friends whose lives have been affected by cancer.

Each meeting will have a devotional and a scheduled theme for discussion. The goal is for all attendees to find comfort from the sharing of experiences. This is an open group and can be joined at anytime. There is no cost to be part of this group.

Single Adults Living the Truth,
Jennifer Stratton, Facilitator
jgbstratton@yahoo.com
Wednesdays, 7:00-9:00 PM, Room 215. Join fellow single Christians in prayer, fellowship, encouragement, service and more. This group meets twice monthly at Ebenezer as well as for social events.

Griefshare, Bryan and Holly Adams, Facilitators
bryan.adams0821@gmail.com
Wednesdays, 7:00-9:00 PM, Room 202. GriefShare is a weekly seminar/support group for people in our community grieving the death of someone close.

It's a place where you can be around people who understand how you feel and the pain of your loss. At GriefShare, you'll learn valuable information that will help you through this difficult time in your life. Childcare provided. This is an open group and can be joined at any time.

Share the love of Jesus
with the incarcerated.

Kairos Cookies

BAKED COOKIES SHOULD BE BROUGHT TO THE CHURCH BY OCTOBER 21. FOR SAFETY AND SECURITY PURPOSES, ALL COOKIES MUST MEET THESE GUIDELINES.

ACCEPTABLE COOKIE TYPES:

- Chocolate Chip
- Peanut butter
- Molasses
- Ginger
- Sugar
- Oatmeal

DO NOT USE:

- Any Fruit (including raisins)
- Candy (including M&M's)
- Icing, Sprinkles, or Nuts

SIZE & SHAPE:

- Round
- 2-2 1/2 inches in diameter
- 1/2 inch thick

ONCE COOLED:

- Bag cookies by the dozen (In quart size zip-lock freezer bags)
- Label the type of cookies
- Cookies can be frozen

PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE DELIVERING AND RECEIVING COOKIES!

S.E.R.V.E. CAMPAIGN - COOKIN' UP THE CLASSICS

Pick up a brown bag with shopping list for a classic meal.

Please return all bags to the Gym by October 9.

All donations go to our local food pantry, S.E.R.V.E.

Classic Cookin'

Chicken Soup

- 1 can whole kernel corn
- 2 cans chicken broth
- 1 can chunk chicken
- 1 can black beans
- 1 can diced tomatoes & green chilies
- 1 jar Mexican seasoning spice

Combine corn, chicken broth, chicken, black beans, diced tomatoes and 1 T of Mexican seasoning spice in a large pot and simmer over medium-low heat for 45 min to an hour.

Classic Cookin'

Texas Black Bean Soup

- 2 cans black beans
- 1 can Mexican stewed tomatoes
- 1 can diced tomatoes & green chilies
- 1 can chicken broth
- 1 packet chili seasoning

Combine all ingredients in a large pot and simmer over medium-low heat for 45 min to an hour.

Classic Cookin'

Tuna Pasta

- 1 box spaghetti
- 1 can tuna
- 1 jar Alfredo sauce
- 1 can peas
- 1 jar Parmesan cheese
- 1 jar Italian Seasoning Spice

1. Cook pasta for 8 to 10 minutes or until al dente; drain and set aside.
2. In a large saucepan over medium heat, combine tuna, peas, Alfredo sauce, and 2 t of Italian Seasoning.
3. Cook until heated through and add cooked pasta; mix well. Serve with Parmesan cheese.



161 Embrey Mill Road
Stafford, Virginia 22554

Change of address service requested

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
Stafford, VA
Permit #16

The background of the poster is a photograph of children running in a race, wearing purple t-shirts and bibs. A central white box contains the event's logo and details.


Go For Bo
5K • 1 Mile Fun Run • Tot Dash

October 13, 2018
Register at GoForBo.org