

# Stonemaker

Newsletter of Ebenezer Church



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## AWKWARD WITH A GREAT DEAL OF MESS

The great philosopher Lemony Snicket opined, "Love can change a person the way a parent can change a baby- awkwardly, and often with a great deal of mess." I want to lobby for that to be added to the book of Proverbs.

Change happens. Sometimes it's messy. Sometimes it's awkward, but it is constantly part of our lives. This summer we are experiencing a fair amount of change. Our schools are resetting their schedules to start a bit earlier, leading to the shortest summer ever. We're saying goodbye to one of our pastors and welcoming another. We're taking steps to fulfill our new vision and beginning to launch initiatives associated with several of the strategic goals. I wanted to spend a few moments sharing with you about some of the exciting new opportunities coming our way.

As Pastor Mark prepares to depart for his new appointment to St. Matthews UMC in the Richmond area, I join many of you in mourning. His gifts and graces have been such a blessing to our congregation. His enthusiasm, joy, wisdom, and kindness have touched us all. It has been a privilege to partner with him in ministry and a great honor to know him as a friend. He is a deeply devoted follower of Jesus, husband, and father. There is no doubt in my mind that he will continue to do world-changing ministry for the Kingdom of God as he goes forth. We look forward to celebrating Pastor Mark, along with his family, and sending them on their way with great appreciation. Pastor Mark's last sermon at Ebenezer will be delivered on June 2, and we will share a farewell luncheon on Sunday, June 9 following the 11:15 service.

In July, we will welcome our new Associate Pastor, the Rev. Monica Reynolds. Pastor Monica already shares much in common with our Ebenezer community. After playing collegiate soccer at Shippensburg University, she served in the Army. She met her husband while working as a civilian for the Air Force. Her husband, Fred, is in federal law enforcement and will retire soon from the Air Force Reserves.

*continued pg. 3*

## upcoming SERMON SERIES

### LEAD

We are all leaders. We lead our families, our church, we provide leadership out into the world. But what does fruitful, faithful Christian Leadership look like? In our culture successful leadership is often measured by outcomes and achievements. In his book, *Redefining Leadership*, Joseph M. Stowell states that “truly successful leadership is not defined by the standards of this world, but by the counter-intuitive practices and perspectives of the Kingdom of God.” We will focus on biblical measurements for success and provide real-life practical examples of ways we can become far more effective in the way we LEAD.

### THREE SIMPLE RULES

John Wesley, the founder of the Methodist Movement was fond of sharing his three general rules with the saints of his day. These rules were designed to help the people draw closer to God and live more fruitful lives. They are simply these: first, do not harm. Second, do all the good you can, by all the means you can, in all the ways you can, in all the places you can, at all the times you can, to all the people you can, for as long as ever you can. And third, attend to the ordinances of God. Said differently, Do no harm; do all the good we can, and stay in love with God.



## a note from PASTOR MARK



Growing up in South Texas, I never thought I would leave. Now that I've lived on the East Coast for over ten years, including my three years at Duke, it's clear that the future rarely turns out the way we might think. One thing I never could have predicted I would enjoy so much here in Virginia is something that does not, and will not ever, exist back in South Texas—all four seasons.

I'll never forget when my wife Melissa first moved from Richmond to Corpus Christi, she said, “I don't know how you've done it all these years. You have two seasons, really hot and hot. The leaves don't even change color here.” Her point was well made when we were in shorts and t-shirts during the Christmas parade. I have come to value the rhythm of winter, spring, summer, and fall, the changing of the weather, and the activity that comes along with it. I anticipate the first cool breeze, the first big snow storm, the first blooms of spring, and the first hot day of summer.

The writer of Ecclesiastes 3:1 states, “For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven.” There is this rhythm in life that is similar to the rhythm of a year. We are continually planting, growing, harvesting, and letting the old pass away so we can do more planting, growing, harvesting, and letting the old pass away.

As I prepare to transition from my current role as Associate Pastor at Ebenezer into my new role as Senior Pastor at St. Matthew's in Richmond, I find myself not wanting this season to end, yet I can't wait for this new season to begin. As I look back on my time here, I can't help but be thankful for the great people who have invested in making me better, those who walked with me as I grew in my leadership. I have experienced the joy in what God has done in and through the people of Ebenezer during my time here, and in what feels like an instant, my time here is finished.

As I depart from this place on June 9, I know that my family and I will look back on this season of our lives with fondness and gratitude. I also know that as the winds of change are upon us. We look forward to our new season with expectant hope of what God will do, not only in our new church setting, but also in this new season for Ebenezer.

I am excited about Monica's arrival and the great work I know God will do in and through her as she walks alongside the great people of Ebenezer. I will miss all of you dearly, but as the name Ebenezer reminds us, God is our rock of help no matter the season. May the Lord continue to bless you and may His face shine brightly upon you!

In Christ,  
Pastor Mark



They have five children, three of whom they adopted from Ethiopia. In addition to having her M.B.A. she was awarded her master's degree of Divinity from Wesley Theological Seminary in D.C. She has served as an Associate Pastor at Christ Church in Fairfax as well as the Executive Pastor at Warrenton UMC. Pastor Monica is a passionate and gifted leader, and I could not be more pleased she's joining the Ebenezer family. We will welcome Pastor Monica and her family with a series of receptions following each service on July 7.

In addition to the change in leadership, Ebenezer has also been led toward an exciting series of ministry initiatives outlined in our Focus 2025 vision. I am pleased to share the progress related to a number of the strategic goals associated with Focus 2025 and thank those of you who signed up to serve on teams to help bring these goals to fruition. So far, we have gathered the teams working to establish young adult ministry, launch our Hope Night, and begin addressing our parking needs. There is still much work to be done. In May, I will meet with those feeling called to explore ways Ebenezer can support our students and educators in our local schools. We'll also begin working with representatives from Helping Children Worldwide to strategize on facilitating the microloan program through the Child Rescue Center and assisting Mercy Hospital reach out to villages across the Bo District in Sierra Leone. If you find yourself called to help with one of our Focus 2025 initiatives, please let our Executive Director, B.J. Priest, know.

Yes, plenty of novelty is on the horizon, and I want to share one final thought about change with the help of an interesting story. In the mid 1990's Apple was hemorrhaging money. The computer giant had been one of the most important companies in the world, but there was debate

about whether it would or even could survive. Then, a man named Rob Siltanen showed up. He wasn't a software guy or an engineer. He was in advertising. He worked with his team to write the following ad: Here's to the crazy ones. The misfits. The rebels. The troublemakers. The round pegs in the square holes. The ones who see things differently. They're not fond of rules. And they have no respect for the status quo. You can quote them, disagree with them, glorify or vilify them. About the only thing you can't do is ignore them. Because they change things. They push the human race forward. And while some may see them as the crazy ones, we see genius. Because the people who are crazy enough to think they can change the world, are the ones who do.

This campaign initiated a rally that helped make Apple what it is today. I share this with you because it reminds me of the work of the early disciples. Everything they had grown up with seemed to be in flux. They'd met a man named Jesus, and he called them to live differently and think differently. They didn't see change as terrible but inevitable. They saw change as a path to a new, abundant future for themselves and all the earth.

As we say goodbye to one beloved pastor and welcome a new one, as we stand on the cusp of exciting new ministry initiatives, I want to encourage us to remember that the constancy of change is a good thing, for we are not yet who God has dreamed we could be. I pray in the midst of life and change we will be crazy enough to believe we can change the world together. Perhaps Margaret Mead said it best, "Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has."

In Christ,  
Pastor Rob

## RENEW WOMEN'S RETREAT



**EBENEZER WOMEN AT THE 2019 RENEW WOMEN'S RETREAT AT THE ROSLYN CENTER IN RICHMOND.**



## HOW DO I TEACH MY CHILDREN TO LIVE OUT THEIR FAITH?

Jesus gave us a vital directive in Matthew 28:19-20. He informed us that we are to, "Make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always to the end of the age."

I recently attended a Christian counseling conference. I learned some very fascinating things and met some amazing people. One comment that stuck out to me was this, "Ministry starts and ends with the family." To further this point, the presenter asked, "Do you see your children or are you too busy? Do you see them the way God sees them?"

All of a sudden, the Great Commission had a different meaning to me. How can I expect to disciple others well if I am not doing it well in my own house? For instance, am I talking about faith as often or to the depth at which I am talking about grades or school work? Am I spending more time teaching them how to kick a soccer ball or musical theory compared to being in relationships well? Without realizing it, we are teaching our children what we value based on how we are spending our time together. One of God's best blessings is the children with whom He entrusts us. The most important thing that we can teach them is how to cultivate a vibrant relationship with Him.

- Keith Priest  
Christian Counselor

## SMALL GROUP SPOTLIGHT | SHARON GROUP

We had a chance to talk with Chris and Crissy Sharon about the small group they lead on-campus. Here's more about the group and why we're happy to offer many different small groups, at Ebenezer Church, both on and off campus. Please email Chrissy Leathers, Director of Connections, to sign-up for a small group at [cleathers@ebenezerumc.org](mailto:cleathers@ebenezerumc.org).

### TELL US ABOUT YOUR GROUP

Our group is made up of men and women at various stages of spiritual growth. Some have been Christians for a long time and some of us are struggling to wrap our minds around the person of God and His purpose for our lives. All of us are parents – we have members who are grandparents and members who are still building their families.

### WHAT ARE YOU STUDYING?

Right now, we are studying Parenting Through the Phases. It is a study that reminds us that time is something we cannot get back and to make the most of the weeks we have with our kids. We have all been looking forward to this. **\*\*SPOILER ALERT\*\*** We are not all failures as parents!

### WHAT IS UNIQUE ABOUT YOUR GROUP?

We do life together. We would do anything for each other. It's cliché, but our group really is a family. Like a family, we laugh, disagree, argue a bit, camp, attend conferences, cook meals, or stop to rescue someone on the side of the road...but mostly, we laugh.



### WHY WOULD SOMEONE WANT TO JOIN YOUR GROUP?

New joins feel as if they belong after the first week. Also, we have great snacks and a judgement free zone!

### WHAT ONE WORD DESCRIBES YOUR GROUP?

Taking some liberty here since there was lots of feedback (and we make our own rules sometimes): Authentic, Family, Loud, Fun, Tribe, Blessed.

### IS THERE A STORY YOU CAN BRIEFLY SHARE THAT SHOWS HOW GOD IS WORKING IN YOUR GROUP?

One member shared, "There's been some intense conversation and even some tears, and I have felt challenged to seek God more and more, but where I have seen the biggest change is my husband. He's around spiritual men and fathers for one of the first times in his life. This group is changing him and I see God working in his life now more than ever. I am so excited to see what changes continue...for both of us!"

- Chris Sharon  
Small Group Leader



## FAITHFULLY AGING – TIPS FOR EVERY GENERATION



“Aging with faith, purpose and abundance” was the title of Melissa Andrews’ presentation. She is the President and CEO of LeadingAge Virginia and the keynote speaker for the Faithful Aging Conference hosted by the Beard Center at Lynchburg University. A group of nine people from our Empty Nest Ministry team attended the conference to find resources and training we can use in this fast-growing program at Ebenezer Church.

Financial planning and healthcare for baby boomers is a million-dollar business but aging faithfully is a whisper on the sidelines. The conference reminded us of the powerful impact aging faithfully has on our retirement and long-term health and wellness. According to Pastor Brad Hales, one of the session leaders, there are several factors that affect aging spirituality.

- Losses suffered (jobs, family, home, friends, independence, purpose)
- Daily attitude (good and bad attitudes’ affect aging)
- Views on immortality (what will happen when I die)
- Perspective on one’s impact (did my life have meaning and purpose)
- Self image (trying to stay young physically and mentally)
- Faith life (do you know Jesus)
- Hope factor (surrounded by hope or isolated)

Much of the information gleaned will be incorporated into our programs and projects. However, like financial planning, some aspects of aging spiritually reap the greatest reward when you start early. Hess B. “Doc” Hall, Jr, Director of Older Adult Spiritual Formation Programs for the Upper Room, reminded us to share our story – all of it.

Doc related seven principles of spiritual autobiography we can all use:

- 1) Every life is a unique, valuable story - our lives are priceless and irreplaceable
- 2) God speaks to us in our story
- 3) Connecting is the work of the Holy Spirit
- 4) Painful memories can be healed through the sharing of stories
- 5) Remembering our stories can create community
- 6) Faith stories are legacies we leave
- 7) Stories create meaning at any age

For more information on Empty Nest programs and activities visit [ebenezerumc.org/empty-nesters](http://ebenezerumc.org/empty-nesters) or contact Vicki Stones at 540-659-1349 or [vstones@ebenezerumc.org](mailto:vstones@ebenezerumc.org) and get signed up for our monthly newsletter.

**- Vicki Stones**  
Director of Empty Nest Ministries

## MISSION POSSIBLE

Ever wanted to be a bus driver? Well, this is your chance! We are excited to be launching a new transportation ministry with Micah Ecumenical Ministries in Fredericksburg. Our goal is to help them to transport their clients, members of the homeless community, using our bus (yes, we have a small bus) on Wednesday mornings from 10:00 AM until 2:00 PM to the doctor, physical therapy, the DMV, or other appointments in the Fredericksburg area.

Our vision is to have at least two Ebenezer volunteer drivers scheduled on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month to take the Ebenezer bus to Micah, which is located at 1013 Princess Anne St., and drive to appointments. There is a church parking lot just across the street with space for the bus to park while you are at Micah. Micah will encourage the clients who need rides to sign up in advance.

Here is where you come in - we need drivers and ride-along monitors. You can volunteer once a month or even once a quarter. Please email Tina at [tdeboeser@ebenezerumc.org](mailto:tdeboeser@ebenezerumc.org) and help us get this bus rolling!

**-Tina DeBoeser**  
Director of Missions and Outreach



# May EVENTS

## EVENT REGISTRATION

To learn more about our upcoming events or to register to attend, please visit [ebenezerumc.org/events](http://ebenezerumc.org/events)

## GROUPS & CLASSES

Share life together and grow in your faith.

- Small groups
- Short-term Classes
- Recreation Groups
- Support Groups
- Special Interest Group
- Kids & Student Groups

Free KidzCare is available for all groups who meet on campus.

Visit [ebenezerumc.org/groups](http://ebenezerumc.org/groups) then click Groups/Classes to learn more.

## FIND US ONLINE

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**GAME DAY**  
*EMPTY NESTERS*

5

**VBS REGISTRATION OPENS**

6

**LEADER LIFTER**

9

**MILITARY WIVES CONNECT CELEBRATION**

12

**MOTHER'S DAY**

14

**UMW FRIENDSHIP DINNER**

16

**WINCHESTER TRIP**  
*EMPTY NESTERS*

18

**UMM/BOY SCOUTS YARD SALE**

23

**LUNCH & LEARN**  
*EMPTY NESTERS*

27

**MEMORIAL DAY, CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED**

29

**R.E.A.C.H. FOR FORGIVENESS**  
*WELLNESS WORKSHOP*

30

**PRESCHOOL GRADUATION**

31

**PRESCHOOL GRADUATION**

## WEEKLY & MONTHLY RECURRING EVENTS

### Nar Anon Meetings -

Wednesdays 7:00 PM

### Basketball -

Women - Sundays, 3:00 PM  
Men - Sundays, 7:00 PM

### Exercise Classes -

Mondays - Friday  
9:15 AM

### Indoor Hockey-

Mondays, 7:00 PM

# June EVENTS

- 2** TNT IGNITE
- 5** AXIS END OF YEAR CELEBRATION
- 8** UMW MEETING  
UMM MEETING
- 9** CELEBRATION FOR PASTOR MARK
- 14** STAFFORD COUNTY LAST DAY OF SCHOOL
- 16** FATHER'S DAY
- 18** LUNCH & LEARN  
*EMPTY NESTERS*
- 21** RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE
- 22** BURGERS AND BLUEGRASS  
*EMPTY NESTERS*
- 24** VBS BEGINS
- 26** THE ADOLESCENT MIND  
*WELLNESS WORKSHOP*
- 27** GAME DAY  
*EMPTY NESTERS*

**Community Meals -**  
May 4, June 1  
9:00 AM

**4th Saturday Meals -**  
May 25, June 22  
1:00 PM & 3:15 PM

**Gaming Club -**  
May 18, June 15  
12:00 PM

**Active Older Adult Exercise Group -**  
Tuesdays & Fridays  
10:30 AM

## SERVICE TIMES

**Traditional** | 8:15 AM  
**Contemporary** | 9:45 AM, 11:15 AM,  
6:00 PM

**Church Online** | 9:45 & 11:15 AM

Watch at [live.ebenezerumc.org](http://live.ebenezerumc.org)

## KIDZCARE

Available for infants and toddlers during Sunday Services and for infants, toddlers, and school age children during most events and studies.

*Check-in at the KidzRock Kiosk.  
Please note, during the week, KidzCare is closed when Stafford County Schools are closed.*

## KIDZROCK SUNDAY SCHOOL

Available during all Sunday Services for children age 3 through 5th Grade.

*Check-in at the KidzRock Kiosk and classes in the Ministry Center.*

## TNT MIDDLE SCHOOL

**Sunday** | 9:45 - 11:00 AM  
*Meet in Room B01*

## AXIS HIGH SCHOOL

**Wednesday** | 7:00 - 9:00 PM

Specific Studies  
**Sunday** | 9:45 - 11:00 AM  
*Meet in Room 216*



## MOPS REGISTRATION OPENS FOR THE 2019-20 SEASON

MOPS is an international organization that began in 1973, and in the last 46 years, it has spread across the USA and into more than 60 countries worldwide. Ebenezer started hosting a MOPS group in 2017 to help make an impact on the families in the church who have young children.

Here at Ebenezer, MOPS rally together to support each other through parenthood. The acronym MOPS stands for Mothers of Preschoolers, but it isn't limited to preschool moms. From the beginning of your motherhood journey—pregnancy until your youngest child is finished with kindergarten, you are welcome in this group.

We believe amazing things happen when women come together in the name of Jesus. Ebenezer MOPS meets twice a month from September through May and has monthly

play dates and Moms' Nights Out. During our meetings, we share a warm meal together (because when else can you get a warm meal during this stage of life), listen to devotionals from our mentor moms, do crafts, do service projects and have guest speakers.

Now in our third season at Ebenezer, we will be learning how to live life to the FULL! Sometimes moms need the reminder that it is okay to let our hair down, worry less, and enjoy all the life we have been given. We will have more fun, fear less, and find our people because these are the things Jesus truly wants us to do.

Not only do we want preschool mamas to join in this fun, but we also have a need for amazing mentor moms. Mentor

moms are there to walk closely with the mamas in our group and offer guidance, advice, prayer, and maybe that game changing hug of the day. To be a mentor mom, you need to be a Jesus lover and have children no younger than first grade.

If you have any questions about our group, you can contact Jacquelyn at [jacquelyn.kippenbrock@gmail.com](mailto:jacquelyn.kippenbrock@gmail.com). If you are interested in mentoring, you can contact Maureen at [mosinon88@gmail.com](mailto:mosinon88@gmail.com). Go to [ebenezerumc.org/events](http://ebenezerumc.org/events) to register for MOPS. We can't wait to meet you!

**- Jacquelyn Kippenbrock**  
MOPS Coordinator







## VBS 2019

Each year in June, our church transforms into a children's wonderland as we decorate for Vacation Bible School (VBS). This year between June 24 – 28, our rooms become home to an African Safari for "Roar! – Life is wild, God is good."

Children will learn throughout the week that God is good even when life is unfair, scary, or changing. We help kids learn Bible points through songs, Bible adventures, games, snacks, imagination activities, and real-life movies. The children will

participate in both a local and a world-wide mission project as they learn to care for others.

When God's Word becomes relational to them, His love becomes meaningful to them. There is nothing I treasure more as a Children's Ministries Director than seeing a child asking Jesus to become their Forever Friend! And, VBS helps this happen.

Consider Ebenezer Church's VBS the Disney experience for kids in the faith building community. We have teams who work for weeks on VBS to make sure everything is exciting and spectacular for the children who come for a week of VBS Bible immersion.

We can't do it alone. Do you know it takes over 250 volunteers to hold a week of VBS? This is a community

event and we need you. Who can volunteer? Anyone who has completed 6th grade through adults! If you can't volunteer, but still want to help make the magic happen, you can donate supplies, help decorate, or prepare meals. Best of all, you can pray for our week of VBS. Pray that lives will be changed and Jesus will become a Forever Friend for many.

Registration opens **Sunday, May 5** and is open until we are full.

Come, be a part of the Safari fun! You'll be glad you did. It's a short summer in Stafford, but VBS is worth a week of your time.

- **Shari Parsons**  
Director of Children's Ministries

## SUMMER IS FOR READING

Each summer, we sponsor a "Summer Reading Program" at Ebenezer Church. In addition to being fun and allowing children and adults to earn cool, age-appropriate prizes, reading is good for us at all ages. Studies indicate reading out loud to infants engages their deep cognitive networks (inside the children's brain). This is critical since the brain doubles in size within the first year of an infant's life. Researchers have found that within the first five years of childhood, the wiring and firing of neurons help create the architecture of the child's mind and lay the pathways for his or her future thought and imagination.

However, reading isn't only good for infants and toddlers. Children and youth can suffer from "summer slide," the loss of reading-gains made during the school year that many experience during summer break. Continuing to read during the summer can help kids help overcome this natural slump. Additionally, reading makes kids better researchers and lifelong learners.

Lest we think reading only benefits children, researchers found that adults who read books live an average of five years longer. They said magazines and newspapers are okay, but there's something about reading books that seems to have this positive relationship to longevity.

In *The Shallows: What the Internet is Doing to Our Brains*, Nicholas Carr explains that when using the internet and working online, we are constantly shifting our attention. This "may make our brains more nimble when it comes to multitasking, but improving our ability to multitask actually hampers our ability to think deeply and creatively." There is much more valuable information in this book, and I highly recommend it. Additionally, I propose reading is one tool that may help develop the area of the brain being negatively affected by Internet and computer use.

So, read books this summer and win prizes! Frequently asked questions (FAQs) of the Summer Reading Program can be found on the back of the reading log, and you may email me with questions. Enjoy your summer!

**Jane Waddell, Ph.D., Librarian, [jtwaddell2010@gmail.com](mailto:jtwaddell2010@gmail.com)**





## EGGSTRAVAGANZA

Clockwise: Color Dash, Preschool Book Fair Crafts, Photobooth, Easter Egg Hunt





## GEARING UP FOR #SHORTESTSUMMEREVER

It is quickly upon us, the summer that will fly by before we know it. All school year, students have been growing and serving, and that doesn't end when the last bell rings. Keep growing!

## WHAT ARE WAYS STUDENTS CAN STAY ENGAGED?

**Serve in VBS:** Sign up to be a volunteer for VBS and get involved in the growth of another person's life.

**TNT Ignite:** Best of The Mess! Middle schoolers are invited to come out for an afternoon of AWESOME on June 2 from 4:00 - 6:00 PM. Invite a friend and be prepared to get messy.

**Youth Group:** We will wrap up TNT Middle School Youth Group on June 16. It will resume on Sunday, August 25 when rising 6th graders will join us.

**End-of-Year Celebration:** High School Students, our End-of-Year celebration is Wednesday, June 5, from 6:30 - 9:00 PM. Dinner is included.

**Tater Talks:** We will take a short break until July when all high school students are invited to come to Tater Talks! We will be heading out to Ebenezer Acre every Wednesday in July (except July 10) and spend some time weeding the potato field and then talking about a topic in the Bible. Tater Talks begin at 7:00 PM at Ebenezer Acre, 2249 Garrisonville Road in Stafford. If students need a ride to Ebenezer Acre, they can meet us at the church at 6:30 PM.

**Mission Trip Celebration:** This summer, the high school students will be going on a mission trip to Birmingham, AL. We invite you to come to our celebration on Sunday, July 14, at 12:30 PM to hear stories from the trip.

## GROW WITH YOUR STUDENTS

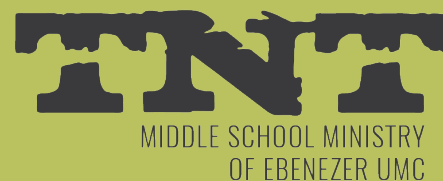
Even better than your student growing is when parents grow WITH their students! Since this is the shortest summer ever, don't let it just fly by without some quality time together. Take an intentional break from the busy-ness and spend some quality family time together.

If you think you'll get push-back from your student, disguise family time. Adolescent scholar, Chap Clark, describes it like this, "Driving is support, being active is love, and trying to provide any and every opportunity is selfless nurture, but we have forgotten how to be together and lost the ability to spend unstructured down-time together—that is needed to thrive." This summer, take some time to thrive. It is essential. The summer isn't too short to do that.

For more information on how to grow with your students, read the book, *Growing With: Every Parent's Guide to Helping Teenagers and Young Adults Thrive in Their Faith, Family and Future* by Kara Powell and Steve Argue.

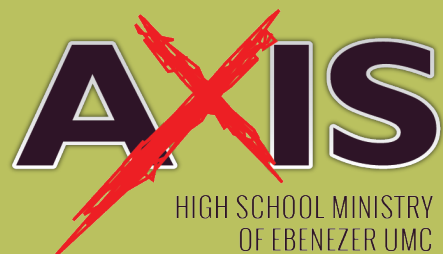
## BASEMENT RENOVATIONS UNDERWAY

In other exciting news, the basement is getting a facelift! The hallway and rooms have a new bright look, and in July, the Youth Room (B01) will be getting a little love. Make sure to pop down and see the wonderful changes.



## THE BEST OF THE MESS

June 2, 2019  
4:00 - 6:00 PM  
Location: Gym



## END OF THE YEAR CELEBRATION

June 5, 2019  
6:30 - 9:00 PM  
Location: Gym





161 Embrey Mill Road  
Stafford, Virginia 22554

*Change of address service requested*

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



# VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

**JUNE 24-28**

**REGISTRATION OPENS MAY 5**

**VISIT [EBENEZERUMC.ORG/EVENTS](http://EBENEZERUMC.ORG/EVENTS) TO REGISTER**