



EBENEZER

Methodist Church Dudley Shoals

Jun '26

Volume 22 Issue 6

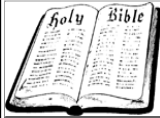
www.ebenzerm-church.com

Church's e-mail: emcdudleyshoals@yahoo.com

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“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit...” *Matthew 28:19*



Pastor's Pen



Dear Ebenezer Family,

Grace and peace to you in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

As we continue walking together in faith, I want to express my sincere gratitude for your continued love, prayers, and faithful financial support to the ministry of Ebenezer. Your generosity enables us to serve our church family, support ministry outreach, and continue sharing the Gospel in our community. Thank you for your commitment and sacrifice. May God richly bless you for every seed sown into His kingdom.

I would also like to remind everyone that our Covenant/Discipleship Group Meeting will take place on Sunday, June 28th, immediately after the worship service. This will be a meaningful time of fellowship, spiritual growth, encouragement, and strengthening our commitment to Christ and one another. I encourage every member to attend and participate.


Let us pray for our Christian Education Director, Ms. Kelly Hefner who is planning for a one day Vacation Bible School this summer for our kids. Please reach out to her indicating areas you may be able to assist with. As a church family, let us continue reaching out to others with the love of Christ. Please take time to invite your friends, neighbors, coworkers, and family members to join us for worship services. A simple invitation can become the beginning of someone's transformation through Jesus Christ. Let us be intentional in sharing hope and welcoming others into our church family.

Together, let us continue to be “Alive in Christ,” growing in faith, unity, and service.

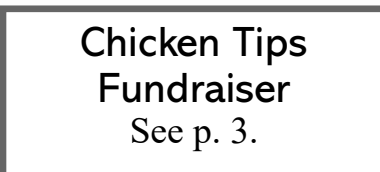
May the Lord bless and keep you always.

With gratitude and prayers,

Pastor Simon Chigumira
Ebenezer Methodist Church

Happy Father's Day!
See p. 3



Chicken Tips Fundraiser
See p. 3.



Sunday Services

- 9:00am Worship Service
- 10:15am Sunday School
- 5:00pm Adult Choir / 4:00 pm Praise Band Practice
- 6:00pm Every FOURTH SUNDAY Ebenezer Methodist Women

WEDNESDAY ACTIVITIES

- 6:30p Prayer Meeting
- 7:00p Bible Study — Adults.



CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:

Mon.—Friday: 8:30—1:00 p.m.
Phone: (828) 396-2214



Meetings, etc.

Seniors Gathering

Our Senior citizens are invited to another morning of fellowship with meal on **Tuesday, June 16th at 11:00 a.m.**

Global MC Conference

Pastor Simon and Kim Ellis will attend the conference June 17-19.

Finance & Church Council

Finance Committee will meet on **Sunday, June 28th at 3:00 p.m. and the Council at 4:00 p. m.** for business and to hear the Pastor’s report from the N.C. Global Methodist Conference.

EMW Meeting

The Women will have their next meeting on **Sunday, June 28th at 6:00 p.m.** All women of the church are invited to participate.

Special Giving

We gratefully acknowledge the following special gifts in May:

In memory of Bleaka Hollar by Women’s Bible Class, EMW, Patty Toliver, and Jo Ann Knepp.

In memory of JoNell Harrison by EMW, and Patty Toliver.

In memory of Billy Hefner, Jr. by EMW, Patricia Johnson for Alexander Central High School Class of ‘73, Susie Cox, Trey & Kelly Hefner, Jerry & Barbara Hefner, Todd Hefner, and Judy D. Hefner.

In memory of Gerry Daniel by EMW, and Delores Campbell.

In memory of Michael Childers by EMW.

In memory of P. G. Lackey by Patty Toliver.

In honor of Ted Daniel by Delores Campbell.

In honor of Monte Hollar by Jo Ann Knepp

Something to Pray About

by Cindy Sears

For no matter how many promises God made, they are “Yes” in Christ. And so through him the “Amen” is spoken by us to the glory of God.

–2 Corinthians 1:20 NIV



Source: Bible Made Simple: The Word “Amen” – the truth most people missed (on Youtube).

A simple looking word, but full of meaning you may have missed despite using it throughout your life. This word is not an English word. It is a Hebrew word that was never translated, because it carries meaning that no word in any other language can carry fully. It comes from the Hebrew root AMAN which means to be firm, to be established, to be sure, to be reliable, to be faithful. It affirms something that does not shift or waver. It is something that you can put your full weight on and it will hold. From the same root, the Hebrew word EMUNAH is translated as FAITH.

Faith in the Hebrew mind was not a feeling or spiritual sensation. “It was a settled confidence in something that was proven to be reliable.” God’s record is consistent throughout history. The Hebrews, later Israelites, use it to affirm their belief in God’s reliability, actually in their experience that he was reliable, consistent, and true. It is a covenant word that affirms God’s character and the person’s willingness to rely upon God’s promises and remain true to God.

The first occurrence in the Old Testament is in Numbers 5:11-31 where it is used in a legal ceremony. A man accuses his wife of unfaithfulness. A priest speaks a curse over her, and the woman uses the word, “Amen” to affirm that the curse will come to pass if she is lying about being faithful (vs. 19-22). Her double “Amen” sometimes translated as “Amen. So be it” is not redundancy, but intensity. She is saying that it is established by God and will surely come to pass if she is lying. The next occurrence is in Deuteronomy 27:9-26 where Moses reads off a list of curses that will fall on anyone who breaks God’s commandments, and the whole nation, in unity, shows their agreement and resolve to obey God’s laws by saying, “Amen” at the end of each curse. This is covenant and legally binding language. Double “Amens” are used at the end of Psalms 41, 72, 89, and 106 to affirm statements about the LORD, the God of Israel. It appears across the whole Old Testament. It is not just a formula or ritual word. It anchors, declares, and affirms that “this is true.”

(Continued on page 4)



June Events & Fundraiser

Father's Day Celebration

Sunday, June 21

We will recognize our fathers and then after the worship service on Father's Day, we invite you to enjoy cake and coffee in honor of the men of our church and all our fathers, living and passed on to glory.



Chicken Tips w/ Onions and Peppers Fundraiser

Saturday, June 27th

4-7:00 PM

Join us for another delicious meal by our master chef, Ricky Baker. We will be serving chicken tips with onions and peppers. Sides may include a baked potato, salad and roll. (Still working on the menu.) Beverage and dessert is included for a donation to the upcoming mission trip to Romania.

We thank you for your support.



June Celebrations



- 4th—Marley Smith
- 7th—Wyatt Baker
- 10th—Mary Lynn Pennell
- 11th—Ezma Austin
- 13th—Kim Ellis
- 16th—Casey Knepp
- 22nd—Nathan Adams
- 23rd—Theia McRary Wheeler
- 26th—Delores Campbell
- 28th—Ragan Knepp

Happy Anniversary

- 21st—Kirk & Irene Austin
- 22nd—Dwight & Rosalind Kelley

Monthly Afternoon Bible Study

For people who may have difficulty attending our regular services and Bible study classes, we are preparing to begin a monthly Bible study group in the afternoon. If this goes over well, we will add more sessions per month. All members of the church and community may participate.



Proposed days and times are

Tuesday or Thursday afternoon at 2:00 or 3:00 p.m. Sessions will be about one hour long.

The Bible study will be led by Cindy Sears. Please contact her at the office, 828-396-2214, if you are interested in attending. She would like to hear from you about what subjects you would like to be addressed from a biblical perspective during these meetings. Prayer and a reading from Psalms will be included in each session.

Our Military

**Ricky Garland
Shane McRary
Jamie Mullinax
Hunter Tolbert**



Please pray for the men and women who protect our freedoms.

John Wesley Said:

"God's command to "pray without ceasing" is founded on the necessity we have of His grace to preserve the life of God in the soul, which can no more subsist one moment without it, than the body can without air. "

Upcoming Events & Ministry Opportunities

- June 16th, 11:00 a.m. — Seniors Gathering with meal
- June 17-20 — Global Methodist District Conference
- June 21st — Father's Day with Display and Coffee/Cake
- June 27th, 4-7:00 p.m. — Chicken Tips Fundraiser for Missions
- June 28th after Worship — Covenant Group planning meeting
- June 28th, 6:00 p.m. — Ebenezer Methodist Women



Something, cont'd

(Continued from page 2)

Then comes Jesus who uses the word in a way no scribe, rabbi, or prophet ever did. He begins some of his most radical declarations with “Amen. Amen.” This is translated as “Verily, Verily” or “Truly, I say to you.” Before “Amen” was always a response or confirmation of a statement. But Jesus was saying that what he was about to say was already confirmed—because he was the confirmation! Jesus points to himself as the authority. This is why people were astonished by his teaching. “Before Abraham was I AM.” He was affirming that he is God.

In Revelation in his letter to the church of Laodicea, Christ introduces himself as the “Amen, the faithful and true witness, the ruler of God’s creation.” (Rev. 3:14) The one that this word, “Amen,” has always been pointing to is Christ who is always faithful and true.

For no matter how many promises God made, they are “Yes” in Christ. And so through him the “Amen” is spoken by us to the glory of God.

–2 Corinthians 1:20.

When we say “Amen,” we are agreeing with everything Christ said and did (including what God has said in the Old Testament). We are standing firm on the ground of his promises, his faithfulness, his truthfulness. All God’s promises are fulfilled in Christ from Genesis 1:1 to what has been predicted after he returns to set all things right.

When a congregation says “Amen” they are affirming what was said about God for God by the speaker. When you pray and say “Amen,” pause and consider what that word means. It is your declaration that you affirm that God will act even though you cannot see the end result yet. You are agreeing that God is true and faithful and can be trusted. It is not a statement about yourself, but an affirmation that God is who he is and his promises hold and are true, firm, faithful, and established.

Amen and Amen.

On every occasion of uneasiness, we should retire to prayer, that we may give place to the grace and light of God and then form our resolutions, without being in any pain about what success they may have. In the greatest temptations, a single look to Christ, and the barely pronouncing his name, suffices to overcome the wicked one, so it be done with confidence and calmness of spirit.
–John Wesley

A Quote to Ponder

“If you believe in the miracle of Christ’s resurrection, then everything you do in this life should be done with His sacrifice and purpose in mind. How could a Christian otherwise behave? Once you accept the truth that Jesus Christ died for our sins, how can any earthly struggle seem insurmountable? How can any hardship seem too great to endure? How can any temptation seem preferable to eternal salvation? Do you believe in miracles? Then steel your faith, persevere, and conquer your fears. Those who believe are shown the way.”



https://www.americanthinker.com/articles/2025/04/this_easter_let_us_renew_our_faith.html#



How do I hide God’s word in my heart? Memorize it!

Fathers, do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord.

–Ephesians 6:4 NIV



A Poem to Ponder

If you question God's existence
Is that because He seems so distant?
And you've never heard
God utter a word
Not one word to you—not one
instance?

Perhaps you don't need a solution
It's all explained by evolution
You've placed your reliance
Completely on science
It's all settled—God's an illusion

If that describes your world view
I've got a few questions for you
Does your view explain
From where all life came?
Is that something you have thought
through?

The Universe had a beginning
And that's when nothing became
something
Time, matter, and space
All popped into place
What caused them to come into
being?

All things follow physical laws
The slightest change and all is lost
A hair's deviation
And nothing would function
Such fine tuning—what is the cause?

Our planet is perfect for life
With all the conditions just right
The sun and the moon
Both perfectly tuned
To balance the day and the night

Is Earth pure perfection by chance?
Some wayward rock in the expanse
Of space where it flies
And on it we ride
Or could it be part of God's plan?

Do you believe evolution
Can answer these world view
questions?
Do you know instead
There isn't a shred
Of science to reach that conclusion?

And finally I'll just ask you this
Do you think the Bible's a myth?
All stories made up?
No substance—just fluff?
But might there be something you
missed?

Do you think the Bible has changed?
The words written are not the
same?
That they've been corrupted
And so can't be trusted
And that it's not what Christians
claim?

Did you know there's a discipline
Called textual criticism?
They've asked if the Bible
Is reliable
Are the words what they have
always been?

And what did the scholars find out?
Their study left them with no doubt
The original words
Are mostly preserved
Just trivial changes throughout

Do you believe evil exists?
And do you believe that it is
Objectively real
Not something you feel?
What standard made you believe
this?

And that leaves the question of
Jesus
Is He who Christians claim He is?
God's begotten Son
And the only One
From God's wrath who's able to free
us?

The Person of Jesus is fact
All scholars agree about that
And there is no question
That His crucifixion
To kill Him was a Roman act

And then there's the critical
question
Of Jesus' resurrection
Did He come to life
After He had died?
If yes, that should get your
attention

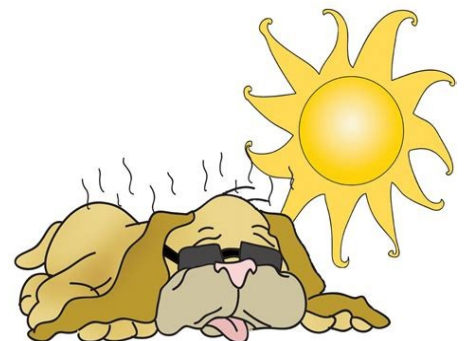
But how can we know that it's true?
What evidence is there to prove
He rose from the dead
Just like it is said
In Matthew and Mark, John, and
Luke?

The disciples all testified
That Jesus rose after He died
They knew what they said
Would lead to their death
Would they give their lives for a lie?

We all have free will to decide
What we think's the meaning of life
Eternity's long
So don't get it wrong
With true wisdom you'll get it right

By James Henry on American
Thinker blog in comments section.

HAVE A BLESSED SUMMER!



KEEP YOUR COOL!



Let's Get Ready for the U. S. 250th Birthday!

