

## **Eben-Ezer Lutheran Church March 2020 Newsletter**

### **Ministry Message: John 3:16**

<sup>16</sup>“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

This verse from John 3 contains the most precise and concise explanation of God’s graceful actions on our behalf for our salvation. In this verse, it is Jesus speaking directly to us about God’s reasons for sending God’s Son, Jesus Christ, into the world to die on the cross. It is because God loves God’s creation, all of it, so much that God is willing to sacrifice everything so that it might be redeemed and made whole again.

Jesus Christ came into this world for no other reason than to do away with sin and death for all time through his death upon the cross and through his resurrection to new life again. God loves the world so much that God is willing to make this sacrifice for us. So that we might live. So that we might be forgiven.

You often see posters with John 3:16 written on them and hung over the railings at sports events. This is done to call attention to the Gospel of Jesus Christ, for all the world to see. John 3:16 is called “the Gospel in a Nutshell” for the very reason that it so concisely states God’s motivation for sending Jesus Christ into the world. This is, indeed, a message worth conveying to the world, by whatever means possible.

As you go about your daily life, I hope and pray that you will keep the words of John 3:16 in mind. God has done this great and gracious act for you, so that you might be forgiven of your sins. And God has done this for the world, so that all people might come to know Christ as their Savior and as their Lord.

This is the work of the church, to spread this good news to all people. And this is the work that you are called to, individually, so that you spread the Gospel message to all people through your words and actions. You are called to lift up people in love and grace and when you do this you are called to point the way to Jesus Christ as the source of your motivation and to the Holy Spirit as the source of the power of the Gospel.

Share God’s love with the world, just as Christ’s love has been shared with you. The world will be a better place for it.

Peace, Pastor Ken

### **SECOND SATURDAY BREAKFAST AT IMMANUEL LUTHERAN, WIEDEVILLE SATURDAY, MARCH 14<sup>TH</sup> AT 8:00 AM**

Everyone is invited to come out for a delicious breakfast and great fellowship at Immanuel Lutheran as they host their Second Saturday Breakfast on March 14<sup>th</sup>, starting at 8:00 am. Please join us!

## **EBEN-EZER CHURCH COUNCIL POSITIONS FOR 2020**

We have the following positions open on the church council for 2020:  
***Vice-Chairperson and Stewardship.*** We are seeking volunteers to serve. Please contact a member of the Church Council or Pastor Ken to volunteer. Thank you!

## **WEDNESDAY LENTEN WORSHIP SERVICES**

Lenten Worship Services will be celebrated each Wednesday in Lent beginning on March 4<sup>th</sup> and ending on April 1<sup>st</sup>.

***There will be a 12:10 Noon Worship Service each week at Eben-Ezer Lutheran, followed by a Noon Meal.***

***The 7 pm Evening Worship Services will alternate each week between Eben-Ezer Lutheran and Immanuel Lutheran of Wiedeville. The schedule is as follows:***

- 7pm Wednesday, March 4<sup>th</sup> – Eben-Ezer Lutheran
- 7pm Wednesday, March 11 – Immanuel Lutheran
- 7pm Wednesday, March 18 – Eben-Ezer Lutheran
- 7pm Wednesday, March 25 – Immanuel Lutheran
- 7 pm Wednesday, April 1 – Eben-Ezer Lutheran

***There will be an Evening Meal served at the congregation hosting the Worship Service, each week, at 6:00 pm.***

Everyone is invited to come out and Worship and share in a meal with your brothers and sisters in Christ at both congregations. Invite all those around you to join us as well!

## **MID-WEEK LENT WORSHIP SERVICE THEME**

Please join us for our Wednesday Lenten Worship Services beginning March 4<sup>th</sup>. Our Theme this year will be “*Nobody but Jesus*”. There will be a contemporary video each week featuring an eyewitness to Jesus’ remarkable journey to the Cross. Service times are 12:10 Noon each week at Eben-Ezer and the 7:00 pm Service will alternate each week with Immanuel, Wiedeville. We will be here at Eben-Ezer on March 4<sup>th</sup>.

The Holy Helper  
EBEN-EZER LUTHERAN CHURCH

“Oldest Lutheran Church in Washington County”

A Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

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March 2020



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February Church Council Meeting highlights/unapproved minutes:

**JANUARY 2020 MINISTRY REPORT**

- Eben-Ezer Mileage: 10 miles
- Eben-Ezer Visitation
  - Home Communion: 2 visits, 5 people present
  - Home Visits: 1 visit, 7 people present
  - Hospital Visits: 0
- Immanuel Mileage: 25 miles
- Immanuel Visitation
  - Home Communion: 3 visits, 10 people present
  - Hospital Visits: 1 Scott & White Brenham

**Eben-Ezer Worship Attendance for January**

- Average Sunday Worship Attendance in January: 60
- Sunday Worship – Year-to-Date Average through January: 60

**WORSHIP**

- Johnny Danesi Funeral: January 8
- Wednesday Lent Video Series – “*Nobody but Jesus*”
- Wednesday 7:00 pm Lent and Holy Week Worship Schedule:
  - March 4: Eben-Ezer
  - March 11: Immanuel
  - March 18: Eben-Ezer
  - March 25: Immanuel
  - April 1: Eben-Ezer
  - April 5: Palm Sunday
  - April 9: Maundy Thursday: Immanuel
  - April 10: Good Friday: 2 pm service at Immanuel, 6:00 pm service at Eben-Ezer
  - April 12: Easter Sunday

**OTHER**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Communion: Maundy Thursday, April 9 (Immanuel)
- Vacation: March 9-15, out of worship on March 15
- Vacation: July 13-19, out of worship on July 19
- Vacation: October 12-18, out of worship on October 18
- Vacation: December 25 – January 2, out of worship on December 27

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** General Fund: \$5,325.17 (as of Feb. 12<sup>th</sup>) Building Fund: \$9,527.17  
Parsonage Account: \$14,026.46 Discretionary Fund: \$154.26 Youth: \$567.02  
Sunday School: \$559.94 Confirmation: \$690.02 CUNA Mutual Group-Mertz: \$6,426.66  
Cemetery Fund: Edward Jones - \$5,546.21 Lutheran Foundation of the SW - \$21,442.77

**CHRISTIAN ED:** Sara reported that the Sunday School will be assisting with the upcoming Valentines Dinner. And she will be working on the curriculum.

**YOUTH:** Michael is excited for the Youth and the Team Leaders; and working with Sunday School to create a bridge between age groups to keep children involved. He would appreciate any ideas from others.

**WORSHIP:** Shannon reported that Vic Fair of Christ Lutheran Church will be the guest speaker on March 15<sup>th</sup>.

**CONGREGATIONAL LIFE:** Larry reported that he provided coffee for the Valentines Dinner.

**SOCIAL OUTREACH:** Olivia reported that the sponsored family was invited to the Valentines Dinner.

**EVANGELISM:** Lisa will be starting a Welcome Committee and a Church Facebook page.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

1. Cathie & Randy Steinfeld have volunteered to change out the Paraments.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Church Council Orientation – Pastor Ken talked about being on Church Council and the responsibilities with that. Thank You to the new council members.
2. Flowerbed Workday on February 15<sup>th</sup>.
3. Lent/Holy Week Meals – Council members will provide the meal on March 18<sup>th</sup>, Mexican food will be served.
4. Easter Breakfast – Michael is in charge of the Easter Breakfast with lots of help from the Youth & Team Leaders along with the Sunday School kids, families, and friends.
5. Synod Assembly – May 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>, New Orleans, need two lay voting members to attend.
6. Council agreed to contact Sergeant Todd Ashorn to speak to the Congregation about safety procedures.

**SOCIAL OUTREACH  
WORKING WITH BREAD PARTNERS OF WASHINGTON COUNTY  
TO HELP FEED THE HUNGRY**

**For the month of March, please bring  
canned fruit, rice, and small bags of sugar & flour.**

## LENT SERVICES and HOLY WEEK Schedule:

- March 4
  - Eben-Ezer 12:10 Noon Wednesday Lent Service with Luncheon
  - 6:00 pm Meal at Eben-Ezer
  - 7:00 pm Wednesday Lenten Service at Eben-Ezer
  
- March 11
  - Eben-Ezer 12:10 Noon Wednesday Lent Service with Luncheon
  - **6:00 pm Meal at Immanuel**
  - **7:00 pm Wednesday Lenten Service at Immanuel**
  
- March 18
  - Eben-Ezer 12:10 Noon Wednesday Lent Service with Luncheon
  - 6:00 pm Meal at Eben-Ezer
  - 7:00 pm Wednesday Lenten Service at Eben-Ezer
  
- March 25
  - Eben-Ezer 12:10 Noon Wednesday Lent Service with Luncheon
  - **6:00 pm Meal at Immanuel**
  - **7:00 pm Wednesday Lenten Service at Immanuel**
  
- April 1
  - Eben-Ezer 12:10 Noon Wednesday Lent Service with Luncheon
  - 6:00 pm Meal at Eben-Ezer
  - 7:00 pm Wednesday Lenten Service at Eben-Ezer
  
- April 5 – PALM SUNDAY
  
- April 9 – MAUNDY THURSDAY
  - Eben-Ezer 12:10 Noon Service with Luncheon
  - **6:00 pm Meal at Immanuel**
  - **7:00 pm Evening worship at Immanuel**
  
- April 10 – GOOD FRIDAY
  - **2:00 pm Good Friday Service at Immanuel with Luncheon to follow**
  - 6:00 pm Good Friday Service at Eben-Ezer
  
- April 12
  - Easter Sunday

EBEN-EZER LUTHERAN CHURCH  
YOUTH GROUP

Join Us and See What all the Excitement is About!

attend Sunday morning class at 9:45 AM

Curriculum:

t.b.d.

think. believe. do

➤ Sunday, March 1<sup>st</sup>

**Youth Sunday**

Team Leader: Scott Gresham

➤ Sunday, March 8<sup>th</sup>

Team Leader: Josh Ruemke

➤ Sunday, March 15<sup>th</sup>

Team Leader: Josh Ruemke

➤ Sunday, March 22<sup>nd</sup>

Team Leader: Travis Cole

➤ Sunday, March 29<sup>th</sup>

Team Leader: Michael Brister

**The Youth will be hosting the Easter Breakfast.**

# EBEN-EZER LUTHERAN CHURCH



- March 1                      9:45 a.m. - opening in the Sanctuary  
Celebrate March Birthdays  
Lesson: Jesus' Baptism  
Teacher: Sara Gresham
- March 8                      9:45 a.m. - Opening in the Sanctuary  
Lesson: The Disciples
- March 15                     8:30 a.m. - Worship  
Children sing during offering: "Before All Time"  
9:45 a.m. - Opening in the Sanctuary  
Lesson: The Lord's Prayer  
Teacher: Olivia Borgstedte
- March 22                     9:45 a.m. - Opening in the Sanctuary  
Lesson: Jesus Blesses the Children  
Teacher: Charly Ruemke
- March 29                     9:45 a.m. - Opening in the Sanctuary  
Lesson: The Greatest Commandment  
Teachers: Lisa Grebe & Debbie Knipstein

Sunday School will be helping the Youth serve Easter Breakfast.

At the February 12<sup>th</sup> Church Council Meeting, it was agreed to invite Sergeant Todd Ashorn with the Brenham Police Department to speak with the Congregation on March 29<sup>th</sup>, following the worship service.

### **Emergency Preparedness Training**

The following information was submitted by Sergeant Ashorn:

CRASE – Civilian Response to Active Shooter Event  
through ALERRT (Advance Law Enforcement Rapid Response Training)

This training is approximately forty-five minutes to an hour in length on average. The training's main points are Avoid, Deny, Defend. Simply put if you can Avoid the threat you do. If you cannot, then you Deny access. If unable to Avoid or Deny access, then you Defend yourself. The training consists of multiple videos involving situational thinking as well as a brief look into the shootings at Columbine High School and Virginia Tech. If you or anyone within the congregation would like to see a video demonstrating the taught principles they can watch **Surviving an Active Shooter Event – Civilian Response to Active Shooter (11:34 in length)** on You Tube. If you watch the video you will be able to see the concept that ALERRT promotes, but the CRASE training itself covers it while providing visual examples of why the concept of A.D.D. works and provides you with information to assist with your planning. This is not a super technical program, but instead contains a lot of common sense practices that can help keep you safe on a daily basis.

### **MESSAGE FROM THRIVENT:**

#### **THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS**

All Thrivent members that have Choice Dollars credited to them have until the end of March to designate the amounts or they will expire.

To designate them, members should call Thrivent at 1-800-847-4836 and say "Choice Dollars" when prompted.

They can also call their Thrivent representative at 979-836-0693 or stop by the local Thrivent office at 203 S. Jackson Street in Brenham.





## Remember In Prayer

### OUR MEMBERS

Dan Borchgardt  
Sheila Bradshaw  
Tracy Draehn  
Denise Ebert  
Albert Green

Julia Green  
Marta Green  
Troy Grimm  
Bernice Hanath  
Lavonne Hegefelfd

Valeria Oevermann  
Judy Smith  
Randy Smith  
Cathie Steinfeld  
Debora Talamantez

### FRIENDS OF THE CONGREGATION

Wilburn Addicks  
DeAnna Barnett  
Pastor Sue Beall  
Carrie Bozarth  
Anna Breddin  
Hildegarde Brinkmeyer  
Nichole Carr  
Judi Cole  
Sheila Grimm Cordray  
Pastor Bill Derrick  
Yvette Dorian  
Verna Mae Druckhammer  
Sam Engman  
Shannon Froebel  
Carol Fenton  
Laura Fiesler  
Archie Gandy  
Arvin Gresham  
Carol Haarmeyer  
John Haarmeyer  
Patrick Harper  
Mattie Haynes

Lane Henke  
Mandy Henke  
Gene Herrmann  
Betty Hohlt  
Connie Hohlt  
Dorothy Jean Hohlt  
Weldon Hohlt  
Lena Jacks  
Billy Jo Jasinski  
Amy Jeter  
Teresa Knight  
Ora Nell Kuretsch  
Sarah Salazar Lopez  
Cindy Lyles  
Grant Milton  
Shirley Moehlmann  
Jeff Moore  
Arlin Naegeli  
Veryl Neumann  
Helen Nienstedt  
Kaitlyn Nienstedt

Eric Ortiz  
Sue Perry  
Kenneth Pieper  
Mike Pope  
Lana Powell  
Herbert Rust Jr.  
Ashlyn Hohlt Sanford  
Annie Schulze  
Fred Schwartz  
Amanda Sebastian  
Kyree Koehne Shaver  
Bobby Smith  
Hannah Smith  
Jim Sorenson  
Wade Steinfeld  
Dee Turner  
Verlin Warmke  
Krystal Weatherly  
Bill Winkelmann  
Mary Winkelmann  
Glenda Wise

### SERVING IN THE MILITARY

Stacey Burgoon - niece of Scott & Sara Gresham  
Steven Burgoon - nephew of Scott & Sara Gresham  
Justin Hawkins - husband of Kristin Hawkins and son-in-law of Linda Koonce  
Sydney Shell - niece of Cathie & Randy Steinfeld  
Lindsey Theile - daughter of Larry Grebe

## MARCH Celebrations and Special Occasions



1st Tim Hohlt  
 2nd Anthony Talamantez  
 6th Brooke Hynes  
 6th Gary Koerth  
 8th Franklin Goerlitz  
 9th Donna Mills  
 10th Harry Grimm  
 12th Curtis Dittert  
 12th Aiden Griffin  
 12th Martha Weidner  
 16th Katie Beckendorf  
 19th Mitchell Danesi  
 21st AnNell Zwahr  
 22nd Kaylynn Draehn  
 23rd Carrie Little  
 27th Mischelle Schwartz  
 31st Brynlee Beckendorf  
 31st Ashlea Schwartz  
 31st David Schwartz

1st Dwayne Stegent Jr  
 1st Lindsey Theile  
 5th Sandy Delacroix  
 5th Paisley Huston  
 8th Joyce Ahrens  
 8th Jody Naumann  
 11th Jared Campbell  
 11th Luther Gregor  
 12th Jason Grimm  
 15th Sawyer Beckendorf  
 15th Amanda Grimm  
 20th Kaitlyn Lewis  
 20th Donna Mills  
 21st Bryan Ruemke  
 23rd Sheila Bradshaw  
 23rd Dustin Schwartz  
 26th Ellamae Cole  
 26th Debbie Knipstein  
 28th Allan Draehn  
 28th Pat Gold  
 28th Donna Griffin  
 28th JoAnne Hynes  
 29th Ethan Gessner  
 30th Leroy Baron

## Wedding Anniversary



8th	Scott & Sara Gresham	6 years
16th	Robert & Connie Warmke	35 years
18th	Wesley & Rocio Warmke	3 years
29th	Charles & Angelie Franke	45 years



Wednesday Lent Services	begin on March 4
Palm Sunday	April 5
Maundy Thursday	April 9
Good Friday	April 10
Holy Saturday	April 11
Easter Sunday	April 12

Services will alternate being held at Eben-Ezer and Immanuel; please see the enclosed schedule.



EASTER LILY ORDER FORM

COST PER PLANT: \$10.00

LAST DAY TO ORDER: Sunday, April 5

Name \_\_\_\_\_

In Honor of \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Plants: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount Enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Place order form in offering plate OR mail/bring to church office OR call church office @ 836-6706.

Sale sponsored by Women of the Church