

## February Update 2026

Without question, most students of the Bible would agree that one of the least-understood and misused verses in Scripture is Romans 8:28. The verse states that “We know that all things work together for good to them that love God. . .” I guess it’s only human nature to question God and His intentions when things don’t work out the way that we had planned. However, I have learned that the verse’s promise reminds us that even those things that aren’t pleasant for the moment are purposeful within God’s greater plan. He sees the “bigger picture,” and we are only privileged to live one circumstance, pleasant or painful, at a time. Due to weather-related circumstances, the month of February required all of us to endure some necessary changes to the plans we had made. Churches like ours had to cancel and reschedule both special events and regular services, changes that may have seemed burdensome at the time. However, in doing so, God opened up opportunities to minister to our community in ways that took us beyond “the normal.” Although Sunday services had to be postponed due to ice and snow that needed clearing, God allowed members of the ECC team to take the services to the residents of Recovery Point. We also had the privilege of taking meals to several homes/families in our church community who needed extra food during the inclement weather.

Our doors have now reopened, and the church family was blessed to celebrate communion together again. We have relaunched our Men’s and Women’s monthly Bible studies and look forward to the fellowship and encouragement this ministry provides each month. February also allowed Ebenezer the blessing of providing an outreach opportunity for the Refuel students to serve during D-Now weekend. We are so thankful for the willingness of these young people to come and pass out flyers and church information door-to-door, pray with many of our neighbors, help clean and organize areas of our church building, and take a music ministry to the men at Recovery Point.

On the 28<sup>th</sup> of March, we will open the doors of Ebenezer from 11:00 a.m. to 1 p.m. for our first ECC ministry opportunity fair. Team members from the various ministries will be available to present opportunities to serve to anyone praying about how God may be leading them to volunteer their time and talents to reach our community. For more information on this and any upcoming events, please feel free to contact us via the website, by phone at 419-203-7675, or at the LMBC offices. All these events serve as a reminder that God certainly uses circumstances to take us from the comfort of our plans to the greater plan He has for reaching people, perhaps in non-traditional and unexpected ways, for the purpose of sharing Christ and bringing glory to Himself.

~Mike & Pam Smith