



EBENEZER COMMUNITY CHURCH

REAL TRUTH, REAL HOPE FOR REAL LIFE

2026 August Update

Many of us have had the privilege of being “raised in the Scriptures.” Maybe our exposure to the transforming truths that are found in the Bible was the responsibility of parents or other family members. Perhaps we attended a Sunday school or were part of a congregation led by pastors and teachers who faithfully proclaimed God’s Word to us. However, familiarity with a passage’s words can lead us to overlook truth that has the power to mature us as we walk closer to Christ. In our Sunday morning services this month at ECC, we have begun a study of Psalm 1 through a mini-series entitled, “The Keys to Contentment.” Our goal is to come to an understanding of what God’s Word tells us we need in order to live a life of joy and peace that is only possible as we walk in a relationship with Him that is real and that honors His Word. We began by looking closely at the word “blessed” and what it really means. Most people use this word to describe someone who possesses material things and lives more comfortably than those around them. Today’s world also considers favorable social standing, personal achievement, and success in relationships as marks of one who has been blessed. Yet in reality, a blessed person is one who has chosen to walk the path that God has designed, the end of which is contentment that is found only in pleasing Him. This topic may seem strange to those who have known pain and heartache in their lives and struggle to meet their own needs as well as those they love. However, we need to understand that what we have, or what we have achieved, does not determine our level of contentment. That is why the Apostle Paul could write, “I have learned in whatever state I am in to be content” (Phil. 4:11). He had discovered that whether in need or with abundance, whether approved or despised, whether free or in bonds (as was the case when the letter to the Macedonian believers was pinned), his contentment and joy were found in his relationship with Christ. Our prayer is that God will give us an opportunity to introduce those around us to the joy that they are searching for, joy found only in knowing Christ.

Our men’s and women’s Bible studies have continued to meet monthly through the summer months, and we are enjoying a time of fellowship and encouragement each month as we share God’s Word together. As part of June’s Bible study, we put care bags together for the homeless in our surrounding neighborhoods. September’s study will be preceded by a cookout for our friends in the apartments next to our church. These two events will provide us the opportunity to share the love of Christ with those around us. On August 15th, ECC hosted a family lawn party with a bouncy house for the kids, games, face painting, and food. Many from the community and beyond attended, giving us the opportunity to invite them to our regular services. Our community dinners continued through the summer as well. This has proven to be an excellent way to meet a real need in our area and to pray with and encourage those who attend each month. We are thankful for Bonnie and her leadership and for the many LMBC and ECC volunteers who faithfully serve the fourth Thursday of each month. Pam has introduced a study of the fruits of the Spirit to our children’s ministry for this fall, and she and our workers are excited to watch God’s Word make an impact in the lives of our kids. The ECC team is so thankful for the chance to minister in our neighborhood and to partner with the Pastor and congregation of Lewis Memorial to reach others with the good news of the Gospel. Please pray about how you may play an important part in this ministry. If you are interested, feel free to contact the church office or reach out to us directly. Most of all, we welcome your prayers as we serve the Ebenezer community.

~ Pastor Mike & Pam