

Thank You

Pastor Michael Fick

June and summer at Ebenezer kick off on Pentecost Sunday, June 4, with a hearty: THANK YOU. Ebenezer is a vibrant, lively congregation because so many of you have been Spirit-led to share you time, care, and gifts with one another and the community. So it's time to celebrate another full program year with a BBQ of gratitude after church on the 4th. Ebenezer will provide hot dogs, veggie dogs, condiments and beverages. Bring a side or dessert to share and let's enjoy together! And remember: our schedule **does not change for the summer**. Worship remains at 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. each Sunday throughout the summer.

Peace,

 Pastor Michael Fick



Here's To Another Great And Growing Year Of Sunday School At Ebenezer!

And it couldn't have happened without all of the extremely generous volunteers that have worked tirelessly to be a real presence in the lives of Ebenezer kids. Please take a moment to thank 1 or 2 of them personally after the worship service; you will see how contagious their enthusiasm is! And if you see a role that you might be interested in filling for next year, talk to one of them about what it's like to participate for a 4-6 week session.

Tina-Marie Adams (Crafts), Wes Aldridge (Usher), Clair Anderson (Teacher), Nikki Anderson (Assistant), Laura Bowers-Hadley (Crafts), Kate Clemenz (Assistant), Kristin Clemenz (Teacher), Ralph Conrad (Teacher), Jessica Daniels (Teacher), Darlene Erickson (Teacher), Stephanie Frank (Substitute), Kirsten Ganschow (Substitute), Karen Hammer (Teacher), John Hammergren (Teacher), Mark Hicks (Teacher), Shannon Huneryager (Music), Anne Igoe (Assistant), Gennene Johnson (Teacher), Francois Jolie (Teacher), Chris Korn (Teacher, Coordinator), Kris May (Music, Coordinator), Karen Miley (Teacher Coordinator), Ann Ownby Hicks (Substitute), Karin Scott (Teacher), Joyce Sweet (Assistant), Becky Szajna (Assistant), Dion Walton (Drama).



Edgewater Congregations Together Youth Mission/Service/Learning Trip

This August, the Edgewater Congregations Together youth group will be going on its third mission/service/learning trip to Dubuque, IA with a few other Chicago youth groups. Cost: \$75 per person (scholarships are available)

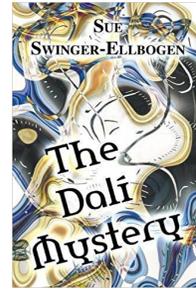
Contact Pastor Emily Heitzman for further information or to sign up at pastoremilyh@gmail.com.

June 4th: Ministry Appreciation Picnic and Potluck!



On Pentecost, following the 10 a.m. worship service, we'll honor our many volunteers at this end of the program season potluck. **Bring a side dish to share; hotdogs and veggie dogs, buns, condiments, and drinks will be provided!**

Women's Book Group Upcoming Gatherings



The women's book group meets at Ebenezer on the following dates for conversation, starting at 7:15 p.m.. Join in!

June 19 — *The Dali Mystery*
 by Sue Swinger-Ellbogen

July 17 — *The Redbreast* by Joe Nebo

August — *The Last Chinese Chef*
 by Nicole Mones

Vacation Bible School: The Life and Times of Jesus, June 26-29



WHO: Children ages 5 through 6th grade from Ebenezer, Immanuel, and Unity Lutheran Churches and from the surrounding community. 3-4 years olds are welcome to attend with an adult.

WHAT: Join others in a fun journey through the Life and Times of Jesus!

WHEN: Monday, June 26-Thursdays, June 29
 12:30pm - Optional FREE lunch (provided by Catholic Charities); 1:00-4:00pm – Program

WHERE: Immanuel Lutheran Church (1500 W. Elmdale Ave.)
 HOW: Registration forms will be available the first week of May in the Ebenezer and Immanuel Lutheran Church offices. Email your registration form to churchoffice@immanuelchicago.org.

VBS VOLUNTEERS NEEDED! Contact Pastor Emily Heitzman at pastoremilyh@gmail.com if you are interested in learning about volunteer opportunities.

Submit Your Favorite Hymns in June.



Sing Them in July!

Do you have favorite hymns that you want others to know about or that may have been overlooked recently at Ebenezer? The hymns that are used on the first two Sundays of July are going to be chosen from among requests that will be solicited during worship on the first three Sundays in June. This will be followed up by a special education hour on July 9 where we will talk about some of the hymns we used - or didn't - and what may contribute to their being our favorites. If you're unable to attend church during those first three Sundays in June feel free to email your suggestions to John Elmquist at johnelmquist@yahoo.com. (We are asking folks to try and limit it to three suggestions and also to consider if they may have been used recently during worship. We will include as many as possible but may not be able to get them all in.) We look forward to seeing what people have in mind!

Ebenezer Night at the Theatre

June 30th, 7:30 pm, Akvavit Theatre presents:

"Hitler on The Roof," a play for two clowns by Rhea Leman, directed by Kirstin Franklin and Amber Robinson

Tickets are \$25 and can be found at www.chicagonordic.org

This prescient 2011 Danish play finds the Nazi propagandist Dr. Joseph Goebbels (**Amy Gorelow**) and filmmaker Leni Riefenstahl (**Jay Torrence**) doomed to a perpetual afterlife in which to confront their pasts. Locked deep down inside the present day Führerbunker, the two engage in cunning feats of denial, manipulation and pure slapstick.

Written during an alarming rise of Danish Nationalism in 2011, this play is a timely reminder of the consequences of selling lies as truth and propaganda as art. A favorite of audiences and critics alike, *Hitler On The Roof's* original production toured Denmark for two years with the company Folketeatret, winning the prestigious Reumert award for Best Leading Actress. The English language version is scheduled to tour Europe in 2017.

Meet the directors June 25th for a special Community Hour to learn about the historical context of the play. Then JOIN fellow members of Ebenezer Lutheran at the performance June 30th at 7:30pm at the Strawdog theatre located in Lakeview at 1802 W. Berenice. A talkback with the directors will follow the 90 minute performance.

This play is a discussion piece. It's a reminder of what happens when power/fame hungry people take over structures in our government and the extremity in which they are willing to go to protect their image and maintain their power. This play is meant to grotesquely highlight the lives of Joseph Goebbels and Leni Reifensstahl and their contributions to the heinous crimes that occurred throughout WWII. But it's also a reminder to us all that turning a blind eye to lies and propaganda is how and why they got away with these crimes for so long and it took a World War to bring them down.

Now that being said...this is a COMEDY! We have skilled cross dressing clowns! There are so many layers to this play but we believe its these heightened elements: the clowns, the cross dressing (the masks), that allow us to sit with the material. The masks creates distance and space that allows us to laugh at the way these historical figures used their gender roles and artistry to come to power ...without those elements the material would be too dark to handle, especially in the state of our nation today. ---Kirstin Franklin, Co-Artistic Director of Akvavit Theatre

What Happens During Community Hour? (After worship at 11:30 AM)

Mental Health Sub Committee of the Justice Team

Does it mean food? Yes Does it mean talking to others? Yes Does it mean learning? Yes Does it mean making friends? Likely. On Sunday, May 7, members and friends of Ebenezer gathered to hear a provoking presentation on mental illness. Two individuals, Arnold and Nathaniel, shared their personal stories. How do depression, bipolar disorders and other mental illnesses present barriers to people who already have challenges. Being gay or a person of color often causes problems in getting appropriate mental health treatment. They reminded us as members for a church that cares, that we can learn about mental illness and be aware of resources in our church area. What is the reaction of family, of mental health professionals and the system at large? Arnold and Nathaniel gave us a powerful glimpse of their struggles and made us appreciate their resilience.



Learn more about
National Minority
Mental Health
Awareness Month

July 16: Special Summer Community Hour presentation.

Did you know that July is National Minority Mental Health Awareness Month? If not, you're not alone. In 2008, the U.S. House of Representatives designated July as Bebe Moore Campbell National Minority Mental Health Awareness Month in honor of the leading African American novelist and journalist, who also was a voice for individuals and families affected by mental illness. Campbell was a champion for mental health education and support among individuals of diverse communities. She co-founded NAMI Urban Los Angeles (National Alliance on Mental Illness) and received NAMI's 2003 Outstanding Media Award for Literature. Bebe Moore Campbell passed away Nov. 2006.

In recognition of National Minority Mental Health Awareness Month designated as a time for public education about serious mental illness in diverse communities, the mental health subcommittee will host a book discussion on "**72 Hour Hold**" by Bebe Moore Campbell during **Community Hour 11:30-12:30 on July 16.**

"**72 Hour Hold**" is based on a true story. The book is a masterfully written rollercoaster ride through the effects of mental illness on individuals, families, and communities. The characters are real; a family member, neighbor, co-worker or person who lives a couple blocks over. There's Keri Whitmore who owns a successful upscale Los Angeles resale clothing shop. She's a single mom who has a beautiful, brilliant daughter who's been offered a college scholarship. Sounds wonderful? But wait. This beautiful daughter begins to show outward signs of some sort of illness and is diagnosed with bipolar disorder.

Keri is thrust into seemingly endless hurdles in balancing the needs of the business with the growing medical needs of her daughter. The reader is then sent on the rocky highway of the mental health and medical insurance systems, along with the stigmas attached to a family when someone is diagnosed with mental illness. There's the ex-husband who refuses to acknowledge his daughter has a mental illness and a boyfriend who's confronting the fact his son is gay.

"**72 Hour Hold**" deals with Keri's desperate attempts to find help for her daughter, and her vain hope that somehow things will get back to the way they were.

This book is a must read for anyone who has ever dealt with a mental illness or has family or friends that battle mental illness.

Contact Us:

Ebenezer Lutheran Church 1650 W. Foster Ave., Chicago IL 60640
Phone (773) 561-8496 office@ebenezerchurch.org

Communication Deadlines: Wednesday at noon for bulletin and e-news; 15th of each month for the next month's *Messenger*.

NOTE: July and August are a combined issue with a deadline of June 15th.

Pastor Michael D. Fick pastormichael@ebenezerchurch.org
Dr. John Elmquist, Director of Music johnelmquist@yahoo.com
Marcia Smith BSN, FCN, Parish Nurse marcia.smith@advocatehealth.com
Norm Catty, Building Coordinator ebenezerbuilding@gmail.com
Nathan Tolzmann, Bookkeeper ebenezerbookkeeper@gmail.com
Pastor Emily Heitzman, Edgewater Congregations Together Youth and Household Minister pastoremilyh@gmail.com
Jesse Lopez, Sexton ebenezersexton@gmail.com
Diego Avila and Gerardo Guerrero, Attendants
Office Hours: Monday-Thursday 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.; Closed Fridays.

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