



April 2012

BERWYN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
INVITING NURTURING AND ENCOURAGING SERVICE

The Lighted Cross



Holy Week at Berwyn

April 1 – Palm Sunday

At the 8:30 and 10:30 services, we celebrate Holy Communion and hear the telling of the Passion Story.

April 4 – Lenten Lunch

At 12:30 p.m., we host the last of six Lenten Lunches in Schieck Hall. Speaker: Victor Wilson, pastor of St. John's Presbyterian Church.

April 5 – Holy Thursday

At 7:30 p.m., we celebrate the Sacrament of Holy Communion as a reenactment of what Jesus did that night before he was betrayed.

April 6 – Good Friday

At 7:30 p.m., the Chancel Choir will present special music based on The Seven Last Words of Christ. This continues our church's tradition of beautiful choral music for the Good Friday liturgy's service of darkness. The introductory anthem will be "O Come and Mourn With Me Awhile" by Hopson. This will be followed by anthems from the German Baroque, "Ah, Holy Jesus" by Cruger and "Praise to Thee, Lord Jesus" by Schuetz. The Classical Period is represented by Mozart's beloved "Jesu, Word of God Incarnate." The World War II period is represented by "Like as a Hart Desireth the Waterbrooks" by Howells. Contemporary music includes the lush "O Holy Jesu" by Artman for seven-part choir; the haunting "At the Cry of the First Bird" by Peninger, based on an anonymous medieval text; and the extremely dramatic "The Earth Did Tremble" by Neidmann, with text by Francis Quarles. The service will end in darkness with "Thee We Adore, O Savior" by the 19th century composer Dubois.

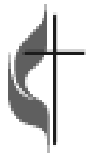
Joining the choir will be Elizabeth Mendoza, cellist who plays with the Pennsylvania Ballet, and Kathy Murphy, who is returning with her exquisite and moving flute playing. The soloist will be JoEllyn Berky Beck, soprano. Judith Lang, our director of music, will accompany the choir on organ.

April 7 – Gloria Saturday

At 10 a.m., children in preschool through sixth grade are invited to a continental breakfast and Easter Egg hunt on the lawn. After the hunt, there will be a short program about the symbols of Easter. In the event of rain, the egg hunt will be indoors. Donations of filled plastic eggs and prizes may be dropped off in the box in the Narthex.

April 8 – Easter Sunday

In services at 8:30 and 10:30, we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ in services at 8:30 and 10:30. The Evangelism and Nurture Committee urges everyone to invite a friend.



Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors.

The people of The United Methodist Church™

Once again, BUMC is a ‘welcoming congregation’

Congratulations to Berwyn United Methodist Church. We have renewed our designation as a certified Welcoming Congregation. How did we do it? By embracing newcomers and visitors with genuine hospitality and a welcoming lifestyle, by sharing ourselves and our faith with others, and by extending kindness and care to guests and members alike.

This year we were asked by the United Methodist communications to renew our certification by completing a questionnaire and by following a prescribed program of social networking. This program offered many suggestions, many of which we were already providing.

As part of the renewal, we were asked what courses were taken by our congregation to promote Open Hearts, Open Minds and Open Doors. Lay leaders and members have taken courses to enrich their knowledge on their personal belief journey with Christ. The website <http://moodle.umcom.org/moodle> offers many online learning courses for guests and registered members alike.

“Rethink Church,” a program of United Methodist Communications, offered a “welcoming training” seminar, which Pastor Phil attended. The seminar offered many good ideas for becoming welcoming disciples in our church and in our community.



Bishop Peggy A. Johnson said in a letter to our congregation: “You are living the promise of ‘Open Hearts’ when you extend kindness and hospitality to guests and members alike. Thank you that through your continued commitment people who walk through your doors will catch glimpses of Christ through their encounters with you.”

When you come to church next Sunday, come as a visitor, and see how we check out as a certified Welcoming Congregation. I think you’ll find that we pass with flying Christian colors.

Carol Williams

Carol Williams affixes the renewal sticker to the church’s “Official Welcoming Congregation” plaque.

LAY LEADER'S LETTER

Pondering statistics and the church's future

Remember my letter in the February issue, with all the news items about financial problems? I said we had not reached the end of the story yet. Here is more:

At our district Tools for Ministry workshops on March 3, the Rev. Dawn Taylor-Storm, pastor of St. Matthew's in Valley Forge, made a presentation on the Call to Action program of the church. Some statistics she presented:

- In 1968, when the United Methodist Church was formed by the uniting of the Methodist and the Evangelical United Brethren Churches, we constituted the largest Protestant denomination in the country, with 10,754,973 members in the United States.

Since that time:

- U.S. membership steadily declined year by year to 7,679,850 in 2009, down 29 percent.
- Average attendance declined 22 percent.
- The number of active churches declined 20 percent.

In the past 20 years:

- Membership declined 13.2 percent.
- Average worship attendance declined 8.8 percent.
- Average Sunday School attendance declined 37.3 percent.

At the same time:

- Spending continued to increase, up 26 percent
- Church debt also increased, up 282 percent.
- But in 2008, things began to change. A decline in giving could not be ignored. The United Methodist Church at all levels has reduced budgets, cut staffing and spent down reserves.

Declining membership.

Declining attendance.

Declining budgets.

The way we do church today is *not sustainable*.

- The General Conference of the United Methodist Church, which meets every four years and will meet this year in April, must deal with this reality on a churchwide basis.
- The Eastern Pennsylvania Annual Conference, which meets in May, must deal with this reality on a regional basis.
- Berwyn United Methodist Church must deal with this reality on a local basis.

Do we believe God has a place for the United Methodist Church today?

Do we believe God is calling us, calling the United Methodist Church, calling Berwyn Church?

How will we answer?

John Paylor

FROM THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

About the 'Apportionments' item in the budget

A major item in our annual budget is Connectional Ministries and Conference Support, sometimes known as "Apportionments." What is Apportionments, why is it a budget item, and what does it do?

The United Methodist Church is a connectional church, meaning that each local church is connected to each other and to the worldwide church. United Methodists are one body, organized into local churches, districts, annual conferences and central conferences located throughout the United States and around the world. Being a part of such a connection allows us to provide many ministries that no one church could do alone. Our apportionments, and those of every other local church, allow this connectional structure to operate.

Through our apportionments, we become the body of Christ in the world. We send United Methodist missionaries throughout the world, support each other's needs in times of emergency and disaster, and provide help and concern for the sick, the poor, the aging, the impaired, and the oppressed. We provide retirement security to our pastors who have given a lifetime of service to the church. We support educational institutions here and in Africa, expand Bible studies in local languages, provide leadership for youth ministry, and participate in ecumenical groups that carry the work of God beyond our Methodist church. There is a long list of services to local churches and those in need here and around the world that are provided by the general church through apportionments.

Of course, there are administrative costs in maintaining a worldwide organizational structure. Our apportionments pay the salaries and expenses of bishops, superintendents, and staff at the conference, national and international levels whose work enables our connectional structure to function, and enables us to be part of the body of Christ in all the world. We are privileged to be a part of this connectional system through the payment of our church apportionments.

Financial Report

At the end of February, our financial condition is very positive, with income exceeding budget, and expenses below budget:

INCOME: Budget \$70,576; actual \$75,525; difference, plus \$4,949.

EXPENSES: Budget \$81,399; actual \$73,496; difference, minus \$7,903.

From the Trustees: An update on church facilities

Spring cleanup has begun. Look around our beautiful grounds and enjoy the spring weather.

The Hurd House has been rented, and we have a new tenant as of March 12.

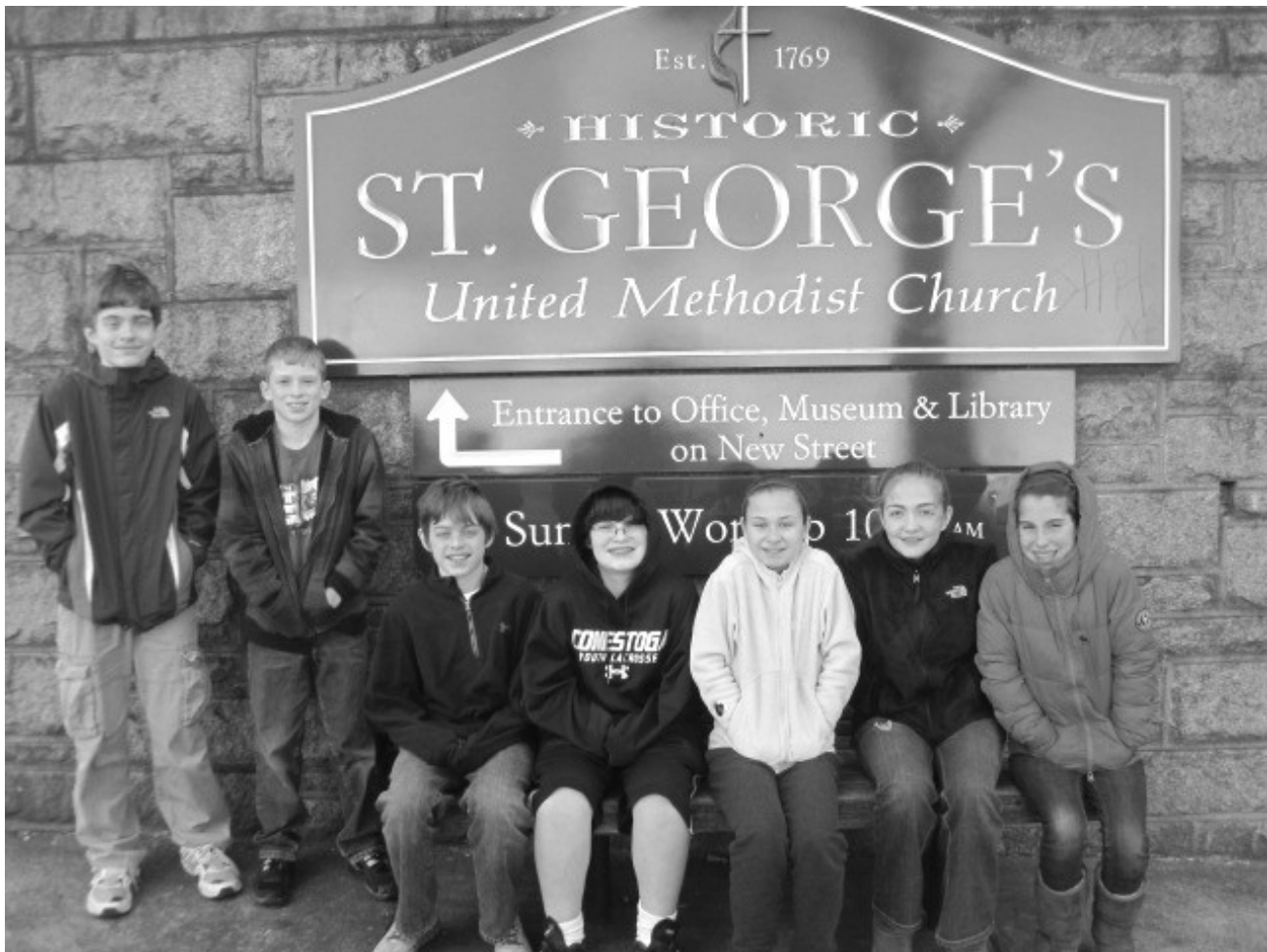
We now have the capability to record our Sunday and special services and will soon be able to offer the recordings to our shut-ins.

The church nursery has a new crib, bringing the nursery into compliance with government insurance regulations.

The major electrical problem that occurred in January was quite costly. After a secondary review, and many phone calls, our insurance company has agreed to pay the charges less the \$1,000 deductible.

Painting of the parsonage will begin the end of May with the departure of the Poncé family. We will have one week to prepare the home for the Jacabella family. Volunteers are needed to prep and paint. Please contact Jack Campbell or any of your trustees listed in the church directory.

Jack Campbell



Members of the BUMC Confirmation Class at St. George's Church in Philadelphia



Taking a break after packing food at SHARE

Confirmation Class goes on the road

Members of the 2012 Confirmation Class are taking field trips as part of their orientation on church membership. On Feb. 18, the class went to the Philadelphia SHARE food distribution center to pack boxes of food that will be sent to disaster relief centers. In three hours of work, they formed 96 cardboard boxes and loaded each box with 36 cans of food. On March 10, the young people became "time travelers" at historic St. George's UMC. Actors and musicians engaged them in exploring their Methodist heritage within America's oldest Methodist church building.

THE E-NEWSLETTER

Informing the church family every week

Since September 2010 the church has been e-mailing a newsletter each week to all the members and friends whose e-mail addresses are on file in the office.

The e-newsletter is a project of the Communications Committee, and this is what it is supposed to do:

- Sending information weekly via e-mail is a way to keep the BUMC family informed of events and activities between issues of the monthly Lighted Cross.
- The e-newsletter is a “quick read” for busy people. The format is simple – no boldface, no italics, no artwork – to accommodate the various types of computer hardware and software owned by the recipients. In another user-friendly effort, the e-newsletter is sent in the e-mail message field rather than as an attachment.
- The writing is concise, and information is arranged under topic headings. The e-newsletter begins with This Sunday at Berwyn United Methodist Church. This section lists service highlights, including scripture passages and Pastor Phil’s sermon topic. The Communications Committee hopes this section will encourage Sunday attendance.
- Other sections include prayer cares, concerns and joys; the current week’s events, announcements, and a long-range listing of events. Once a month, a final section provides online resources, with hyperlinks that can be copied for future reference. If anyone is going to skim rather than read closely, the long-range listing of events is the place to do it, because that section is changed only as new events are scheduled.

Look for the e-newsletter each Friday morning. On rare occasions, it may be sent out a day earlier or later.

The Communications Committee welcomes feedback on the weekly e-newsletter and on the other ways it tries to spread the news: The Lighted Cross, the church website, the Sunday worship bulletin, occasional flyers, and the church lawn sign. In the coming weeks, the committee hopes to expand the church’s presence on Facebook, with Kristine Adams taking the lead.

Gene Foreman

Tickets on sale now for the April 21 spaghetti dinner

The Berwyn Fire Company and Berwyn United Methodist Church will host a dinner fundraiser at 6 p.m. Saturday, April 21, in Schieck Hall. The fire company is raising money to buy an ambulance, and the church is raising money for the youth trip to Kentucky this summer for the Appalachia Service Project.

Tickets are \$12 for adults and \$8 for children 12 and under, with a maximum cost of \$40 for a family. The church will be selling 240 tickets to the dinner. Tickets can be obtained from Veronica Mosley at the church office, 610-644-5555 or officebumc@comcast.net. Tickets will be sold in church on April 1 and 15.

A delicious Italian dinner is planned. The menu: salad, bread (plain and garlic), spaghetti with marinara sauce, spaghetti with clam sauce, spinach lasagna, meatballs sausage and peppers, coffee, tea, lemonade, and a variety of homemade desserts.

The fire company will have a fire engine on hand for viewing by those going to the dinner.

Alyce J. Braun dies at age 86: served as secretary of BUMC



Alyce J. Braun, a member of Berwyn United Methodist Church since 1994, died March 4 at Keystone Hospice House after a brave fight with cancer. She was 86 years old.

Alyce was born and raised in Tonawanda, N.Y., outside of Buffalo. She retired in 1993 from the American Cancer Society in Amherst, N.Y., and moved to St. Davids in 1994 to be closer to her children. She then worked part time at BUMC as the church secretary and retired a second time in 1999.

In her retirement years she loved to be near a pool, an ocean or a lake. She enjoyed traveling with her late brother Dick and her sister-in-law Jean Braun. Everyone who knew Alyce always used the words “kind” and “sweet” to describe her. She loved to stay on top of current events, read her newspapers, shop, and have at least one good laugh every day. Most of all, she loved her family; they were the center of her life.

She is survived by three daughters, Susan Tiede of Devon, Barbara Guido of Chesterbrook, and Janet Chasin of New York City; a son, Dr. Richard Guido of Pittsburgh; a sister, Marilyn Luke; a sister-in-law, Jean Braun; and eight grandchildren.

A celebration of life service was held at Berwyn United Methodist Church on March 9.

Parent session April 24 will focus on teen mental health

The DART parent session in the Parlor at 7 p.m. Tuesday, April 24, will be devoted to teen mental health issues. The guest speaker will be Louis Bevilacqua, a Paoli clinical psychologist who specializes in cognitive-behavioral therapy.

This session isn't just for parents of teens; there will be a message for each of us. One of Dr. Bevilacqua's special interests is helping others deal with depression. In 2011 he published his most recent book, “When You Can't Snap Out of It.” It is a book designed to help all of us through the down times of when we feel depressed. He dedicated the book to “all individuals who have taught me what works in trying to manage or overcome the symptoms of depression. Most importantly, this book is for those who are still struggling. I want you to know, there is hope for healing.”

Please put this date on your calendar and plan to attend.

Ann West

In the Church Library: What is true health?

Health Care You Can Live With: Discover Wholeness in Body and Spirit by G. Scott Morris, c2011 [615.852 Mor]: Dr. Scott Morris, founder of the Church Health Center in Memphis, Tenn., the largest faith-based clinic of its type in the United States, believes that your physical health is affected by your spiritual well-being. In this book he tackles the thorny issues surrounding health care and health-care reform and answers the ultimate question of what is true health. “Living longer is not the goal for a healthy life. Loving more fully with all our capacity will define a well-lived life. If you want real health, you have to start with the real you.”

Marge Smink

At the Lenten Fair



The church began the Lenten season with a Lenten Fair in Schieck Hall during the Sunday School hour on Feb. 26. After everyone enjoyed a breakfast of pancakes, sausage and eggs, the children participated in crafts. They made pretzels and puzzle-piece crosses, and planted their own Easter grass. The more than \$300 in donations received that morning will be added to the children's Heifer Project goal of a gift ark.

Prayer Shawl Group will help fellow knitters in Japan

Responding to a report in *The Wall Street Journal* on March 5, the Prayer Shawl Group of BUMC will help the "Japanese Elderly Knit a Safety Net."

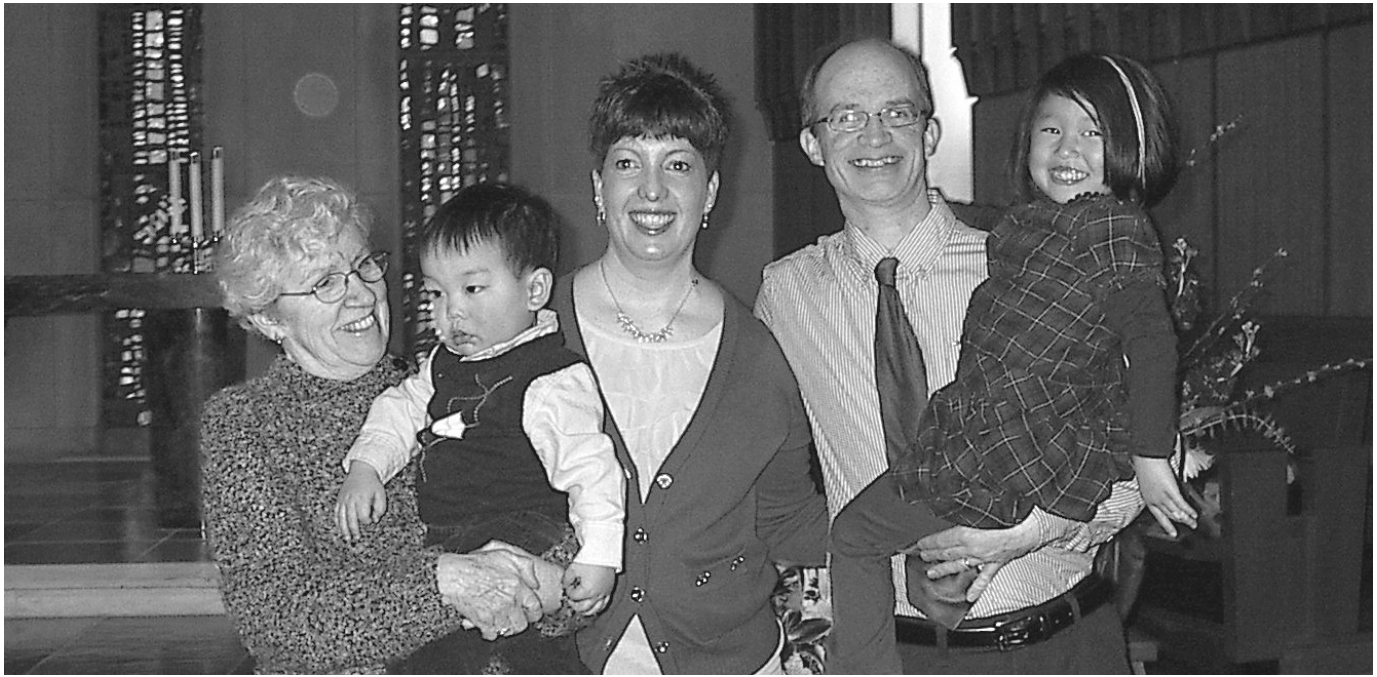
The *Journal* reported that every Tuesday a group of older women meet in Shichigahama, Japan, a small fishing village that the tsunami almost destroyed. The women meet to socialize and to knit or crochet items for their families as well as to make knitwear that can be sold. So far, they have sold enough leg warmers that they have accumulated \$2,000 to contribute to the rebuilding of their town.

The knitting group was organized by a Christian missionary from Ohio, Teddy Sawka, who settled in this Japanese coastal village 37 years ago. Once the tsunami hit the town, she realized the need to help evacuees. Knitting is popular in Japan, and the people of the village soon started making blankets for people in places whose homes were destroyed. It wasn't long before the world began to hear of the Japanese knitters.

How does this relate to Berwyn United Methodist Church? We have been in touch with a distant relative of Teddy: Jill France from the Cuyuga Falls (Ohio) United Presbyterian Church. The knitting groups continually need yarn. Thanks to so many people of our church and especially to the Genuardi and Denisevich families, our church group has been given wonderful gifts of yarn. We are going to send to the knitting ladies of Japan that extra ball or skein of yarn that we can't seem to fit into a prayer shawl because of color or texture. Our gift of yarn will be sent directly to Mrs. Sawka in Japan.

Thank you, Berwyn United Methodist Church, for your continued support of the Prayer Shawl Group during the past five years. The group feels truly blessed. Our next meeting is at 7 p.m. Thursday, June 7, in the church library. All knitters and crocheters are welcome.

Pat White and Ann West



After joining BUMC at the 10:30 service on March 11, Beth and Fritz Lang pose with their children, Aidan and Annabelle, and Fritz's mother, Betsy Lang.

New members: Beth and Fritz Lang

Beth and Fritz Lang met during their junior year at Penn State University's main campus at State College, where they were both in Alpha Phi Omega coed service fraternity. Beth was from Erie and had transferred to main campus from Penn State Erie. Fritz was from Malvern.

Beth and Fritz married on May 23, 1992, in Erie, and lived in Wayne from 1992 to 1998. They joined Wayne United Methodist Church and were active in bell choir, served as youth group leaders, and taught the Sunday School class for college students.

After graduating from Penn State, Beth earned a master's in school counseling degree from Villanova University. She became a school counselor in 1996. She has worked at The Vanguard School as a middle school counselor, and currently works for Methacton School District as a grades 5 and 6 school counselor. Beth is president-elect of the Pennsylvania School Counselors Association and will assume the presidency in July. Her passions are being a mom, digital scrapbooking, and kayaking.

Since graduating from Penn State with a physics degree, Fritz has worked as a systems engineer for the same Valley Forge company through various ownerships – originally GE Aerospace, then Martin Marietta and Lockheed Martin, and now the SI Organization. He enjoys cooking, kayaking, roaming the outdoors, and spending time with his family.

Beth and Fritz live in Phoenixville with their two children, Annabelle and Aidan. Annabelle is 5 and Aidan will be 2 on May 10. Both children were born in South Korea and have found their way to Beth and Fritz: Annabelle in 2007 and Aidan in 2011. Both children love to play, dance, run amok, sing, color, and bring joy to their forever family.

Card of Thanks

Saturday night, Feb. 11, was an exciting night in Schieck Hall for 159 people: good food, good salsa dancing, and lots of good fun. The event was sponsored by the Supper Clubs and the Maria Circle of United Methodist Women. Donations were accepted for the ADDA Foundation, a nonprofit organization in Colombia for which Yamile Toro's sister is treasurer. Special thanks to Yamile and Roger Toro, Luz Mery Perez, Carol Cherry, Claudia Sharpless, Luis Montaner, Jon Stockler and the many others who made the evening a rousing success.

Sally Robie

Brief items of interest to members of BUMC

30-Hour Famine: Members of Anthem, the BUMC youth group, will be raising money to combat world-wide hunger in a 30-Hour Famine on the weekend starting April 27. The event includes an overnight stay at the church with time spent on learning about hunger around the world, prayer, games, and movies. There also will be blocks of time for homework and community work.

Guardian Angels Reunion: The Mission Committee will host a “reunion” for returning college students and their guardian angels at 9:30 a.m. Sunday, May 20. The identity of each student’s Guard Angel will be revealed at a continental breakfast. Also, the Guardian Angels will be recognized at the 10:30 service.

Book Club: The club will meet at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, April 19, at the home of Judy and John Edinger, with Gene Foreman as co-host. Liz Young will lead a discussion of “Bossypants,” Tina Fey’s autobiography. Everyone is invited; RSVP to Judy Edinger at 610-687-4526.

National Men’s Meeting: The 2013 National Gathering of United Methodist Men will be July 12-14 at Belmont University in Nashville, Tenn. The theme for the four-day event is “From the inside out,” from the hit song by Phil Stacy, a prayer for Christ to change us from the inside out. Contact: Rick Stoker.

Note Cards Are Back: Once again the Narthex Greeters are offering BUMC note cards for sale. The price is \$4 for a package of 10 cards and envelopes. The cards are great for thank-you notes or just a welcome-to-spring “hello” to someone you love – or for invitations to the first barbecue of the season. *And* you’re supporting the 2012 program goals for the Membership and Congregational Care Committee.

Speaker for Vigil: Andrew French, a member of BUMC, will be the keynote speaker at the Crime Victims of Chester County annual vigil at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, April 26, at Central Presbyterian Church, 100 West Uwchlan Avenue, Downingtown. Andrew is chair of BUMC’s Church and Society Committee. The annual vigil and memorial service honors the memory of homicide victims and fallen law-enforcement officers. The event concludes with a candlelight walk to the Victims’ Memorial in Kardon Park.

Memorial Garden Dedication: The Memorial Garden will be officially dedicated immediately after the 10:30 service on April 22.

Community Bible Study: The meetings will be held at BUMC on Tuesday evenings this summer, beginning in June. Watch for details in next month’s issue of *The Lighted Cross*.

Methodist Night at the Phillies: The Arizona Diamondbacks will provide the opposition at 7:05 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 4. Tickets are \$30 each, and part of the proceeds will benefit United Methodist Ministries. To order: nancy_atchison@verizon.net.

Lydia and Maria Circles to meet for lunch on April 15

The Lydia and Maria Circles of United Methodist Women will meet for lunch on Sunday, April 15, immediately after worship services. The topic will be “A Time for Change,” the 2012 theme of Call to Prayer and Self-Denial.

The Call to Prayer and Self-Denial offering in 2012 will support institutions serving the poor, the physically challenged, and others who need help. UMW wants especially to help women, children and youth who don’t have access to information technology that can improve their quality of life. These institutions offer training in computer literacy, information technology, English as a second language, and career-enhancement and job-seeking skills.

The theme of information technology is particularly appropriate for Berwyn UMW, as we will be discussing how to direct a generous donation of money from Jim Dwyer, in Amy’s memory. Members are encouraged to continue thinking about ways to put the donation to use in a way that honors Amy’s love of mission. Jan Polasky will lead this discussion at the April meeting. All women are invited to attend.

Carol Cherry

GREAT-GRANDSON OF MARY ALICE

Max Chambers: Music came naturally to him

The following is excerpted from an article on the website of Musicopia, a nonprofit organization that conducts programs in music education and advocates for improving in-school music instruction in the Philadelphia region. The subject of the article, Maxwell Chambers, is the great-grandson of the late Mary Alice Chambers, who was a member of Berwyn United Methodist Church. Max is 12 years old.

You might just say that this ... music narrative began right here, in Berwyn, with [a] single mom, one of her eight adopted children, a dream, and Journey's "Don't Stop Believing."

"You would think she's your only child!" a friend lovingly chided Belinda Chambers after a series of encounters at her daughter Savannah's horseback riding lessons, shows, competitions—call it what you will, it was all horses, all the time.

Feeling partly defensive, partly guilty, Belinda confided that as soon as she got home she barked at Maxwell, her 8-year-old: "So, what do you want to do with your life?"

"That's easy, play the violin."

Max saw an assembly in kindergarten, a sort of "Peter and the Wolf" type of program, where the bass, cello, flute, violin, and other instruments personified different characters, and he fell head over heels for one of the strings. (He apparently kept that to himself for a couple of years.) Belinda immediately rented a violin and scouted out someone to give him lessons. She found Mr. Black, a retired Devon Elementary School music teacher. After the third lesson, Mr. Black wondered how Max could possibly be reading music so quickly. When he asked him, Max said: "I always knew how."

Max was born with paralyzed vocal cords and needing heart-lung bypass surgery. At eight months he found his voice. While vacuuming one day, Belinda was dumbfounded that Max could accurately imitate the [sound of the vacuum cleaner], in the exact same key. This wasn't just a one-time thing, either. It happened over and over again. Belinda speculated, "Maybe his hearing is so keenly evolved because he couldn't make any sounds for so long." ...

[A few years ago] Belinda and Max met Denise Kinney, executive director of Musicopia, at the International Strings Camp at Bryn Mawr College. Denise was captivated by Max and blown away by his talent. She was adamant about Max finding a strings teacher and bent over backwards assisting him in finding one. Max blossomed emotionally and musically.

He is home-schooled now, practicing violin, three to four hours per day. "By choice," he adds. He studies classical violin with Lee Snyder, an Oberlin- and Julliard-trained musician. He was introduced to jazz two years ago at a concert featuring Diane Monroe and John Blake, both master jazz violinists. Max was smitten with improvisation after that concert experience and carved out even more time to work weekly with Diane, who also studied at Oberlin Conservatory and Curtis Institute of Music. In order to learn improvisation, Diane insisted that Max needed a piano to "work things out."

[Lorraine Ritacco Shaw gave Musicopia a 1959 Lester piano she had inherited from her father.] It passed inspection, and Musicopia found a loving home in the Chambers'. ...

Talking about the gift to Musicopia, Lorraine's eyes fill up with tears. "It's bittersweet for me. One the one hand I let go of my father's legacy, yet on the other hand, I feel like I'm sharing it, too, and I'm just thrilled the piano is with a family that needs it and appreciates it."

In a thank-you letter to Lorraine, Belinda says, "There are no words to express our gratitude. Up until now, Max had to 'work things out' on a computer piano. It's just not the same as the real thing. The kids came home from school to find the piano in our family room. Max and two of his brothers immediately sat down to teach themselves 'Don't Stop Believing.' We will always remember this. As a mom of eight adopted children, this was just a dream."

Max, by the way, is now a first-chair, second-seat violinist in the Musicopia String Orchestra.

'Operation Overboard' is the Vacation Bible Camp theme

Register children now for five days of fun and Bible study. The camp will take place on the afternoons of June 24-28.



Children from age 4 through fifth grade are invited to attend the BUMC Vacation Bible Camp at the church from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m. Sunday-Thursday, June 24-28.

This year, the camp theme is "Operation Overboard: Dare to Go Deep With God." It is both a challenge and an invitation to dive into the water of God's Word and discover what it means to have deep faith. As kids journey farther down toward the ocean floor, Deep Sea Voyage Bible stories introduce people from both the Old Testament and New Testament who show deep faith. In addition to the Bible stories, the camp will offer music, games, science and crafts.

Here is a sneak peak at the themes and Bible stories we will be exploring:

Sunday – Noah Depends on God; Genesis 6:9-13, 22-7:17, 8:13-9:17.

Monday – A Servant Girl Dares to Care; 2 Kings 5.

Tuesday – John Proclaims Jesus; Matthew 3:1-17; Mark 1:1-11, Luke 3:1-22.

Wednesday – The Disciples Choose to Follow Jesus; Luke 5:1-11, John 21:4-24.

Thursday – Paul Delivers Good News; Acts 27.

A light supper will be served each day.

To sign up, fill out a registration form for each child you will be sending to VBC. *A copy of the form appears on the next two pages of The Lighted Cross.* Return the form to the church office with the fee (\$25 if registered on or before June 10; \$35 after June 10). You may also register online at www.berwynumc.org/vbc.

Questions? Contact Nancy Atchison (610-644-2775), Janet Campbell(610-647-8291), or Sarah Baker (610-247-7647), or email the church office at officebumc@comcast.net.

We look forward to seeing you and your children this summer!

Sarah Baker

The Lighted Cross

Next deadline: April 20

The Lighted Cross is published monthly (except in July and August) to spread the good news about the activities of Berwyn United Methodist Church. Chairs and members of committees are invited to submit articles to inform the congregation about events and the work of the church. Individuals are invited to submit cards of thanks and brief items of interest about congregation members. Your submissions may have to be edited for length. The next issue is scheduled to be delivered by postal mail by May 1, and an electronic version will be available earlier on the church website. Submit your items to gene.foreman@verizon.net or use the mailbox in the church office.



Church Phone:
610-644-5555

Office E-mail:
officebumc@comcast.net

Church Website:
berwynumc.org

Office Hours:
Mon-Fri, 8:30 a.m.-2 p.m.

BERWYN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

VACATION BIBLE CAMP
JUNE 24 TO JUNE 28, 2012

REGISTRATION FORM

Please complete both sides of form and submit with payment.

Student's Name _____
(Age 4 through 5th grade)

Birth Date _____ Entering Grade _____
(Used to group pre-elementary school children)

Parent's Name(s) _____

Student's Address _____

City _____ Zip Code _____

E-mail _____
(Used for program email only)

Phone No. 1 _____ (circle) Cell Home Work

2 _____ (circle) Cell Home Work

3 _____ (circle) Cell Home Work

Who is authorized to pick up this child from VBS, other than the parents listed above?

I give permission for my child's pictures to be used in a VBS slideshow (circle) YES / NO
(for Berwyn UMC only)

Can you help with Vacation Bible Camp? (circle) YES / NO / MAYBE

Your Name _____ Phone _____

Registration Forms

Completed registration forms and fee should be delivered or mailed to the church office, 140 Waterloo Avenue, Berwyn, PA 19312. Additional registration forms are available at www.berwynumc.org

Registration Fee

ON OR BEFORE June 10: \$25
AFTER June 10: \$35
Make checks payable to Berwyn UMC

Please complete the reverse side

BERWYN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

VACATION BIBLE CAMP
JUNE 24 TO JUNE 28, 2012

MEDICAL INFORMATION AND AUTHORIZATION FORM

Any allergies of medical concern? (circle) YES / NO
If yes, please detail allergies and extent of allergies below.

If this student has any food allergies, you may be required to provide the daily meal. Water will be provided.

Detail any other medical conditions, behavioral issues or special needs that we should be aware of. List any medications this student is currently taking.

Emergency Contact

Name _____ Phone No. _____

Cell Phone Number _____ Work Number _____

Parent's Signature: _____ Date _____

Release of Liability

I release Berwyn Methodist Church and its ministers, leaders and volunteers from any claim that my child or I may have against them as a result of injury or illness incurred during the course of participation in the activities. This release of liability shall include (without limitation) any claims of negligence or breach or warranty. I further agree to indemnify and hold harmless Berwyn Methodist Church and its minister, leaders and volunteers from any and all claims arising from my child's participation in these activities, or as a result of injury or illness of my child during such activities.

First Aid and Emergency Medical Treatment

I recognize that there may be occasions where the child named above may be in need of first aid or emergency medical treatment as a result of an accident, illness, or other health condition or injury. I do hereby give permission for agents of Berwyn United Methodist Church to seek and secure any needed medical attention or treatment for the child named above, including hospitalization, if in the agent's opinion such need arises. In doing so, I agree to pay all fees and costs arising from this action to obtain medical treatment. I give permission for attending physician(s) and other medical personnel to administer any needed medical treatment.

I represent that I am the parent/guardian of _____.

I give permission for the child named above to participate in the Vacation Bible School of Berwyn United Methodist Church. I hereby consent to the Release of Liability and Emergency Medical Treatment above, on behalf of the child and agree that this form shall be binding upon me.

Signature of Parent or Legal Guardian

Date

The peril of abusing prescription drugs

At our Recovery Sunday on Feb. 26, we heard the Rev. Jack Abel talk about prescription drugs and the role they play in today's society. I was shocked to hear that our young people don't need to go "to the street corners of Philly" to score drugs; all they need to do is pay a visit to their parents' or grandparents' medicine cabinets. Over the past decade, prescription drug abuse in the United States has increased rapidly, to the point that the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention now labels the problem an epidemic. Here are some facts Jack brought to us on Recovery Sunday.

- Twenty-percent of Americans have used prescription drugs for non-medical uses.
- In 2008, 15 percent of 12th graders surveyed reported some non-medical use of a prescription drug in the previous 12 months.
- More than 36,000 people died of drug overdoses in 2008, the most recent year for which data has been analyzed. That is only a few thousand fewer than the total killed by car crashes. Of those drug overdoses, prescription drugs were involved in over 20,000 cases.
- In 2009, seven million Americans aged 12 years and older abused prescription drugs for non-medical purposes within the past month, up from 6.2 million in 2008.

According to the Center for Disease Control, prescription drugs, including opioids and antidepressants, are responsible for more overdose deaths than "street drugs" such as cocaine, heroin, and amphetamines.

How many of us may have had a prescription for a drug like Ambien, Percoset, or Oxycontin for some medical procedure? We often don't finish the bottle, and it just sits in our medicine cabinet. I am sure many of us are guilty of this. But what can we do with the meds we don't need or want any more? Following is an excerpt of Food and Drug Administration recommendations:

"FDA supports the federal guidelines calling for the responsible disposal of medicines from the home. Almost all medicines can be thrown away in the household trash after mixing them with some unpalatable substance (e.g., coffee grounds) and sealing them in a bag or other container. Drug take-back programs for disposal can be another good way to remove unwanted or expired medicines from the home and reduce the chance that someone may accidentally take the medicine.

"There are, however, a few, select medicines (certain controlled substances) that are especially harmful (and possibly deadly in a single dose), if taken accidentally by someone other than the person the medicine was prescribed for. These medicines should not be thrown in the trash, given this method of disposal may still provide an opportunity for a child or pet to accidentally take the medicine. Although FDA endorses drug take-back programs, such programs may be unable to accept drugs that are controlled substances."

Following is information about an event in our area: Annual Recycling/Shredding/Drug Take-Back Day – Saturday, April 28, Penn State Great Valley Parking Lot, Swedesford Road, Malvern, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. The following will be collected: any item with a plug; paper; expired prescription and non-prescription drugs — no EPI; pens; old flags; cell phones and chargers.

Liz Young

Nursery School is planning an open house on April 19

The children return to Berwyn United Methodist Nursery school on Monday, April 9, after a one-week spring break. Our families enjoy the hiatus and often visit extended family members.

During March, our families donated food items to the church's Feed the Five Thousand project. In conjunction with the project, the children learned about others who are not as fortunate and who benefit from the donated food. The school also will support the T/E Cares clothing sale. Families will be asked to donate gently used children's clothing to the sale.

On April 19, the school will host a spring open house from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. Pass the invitation to families with children. We are hoping for a large turnout.

Janet Wham

Our Mission Statement

God calls Berwyn UMC to be a community

Of Christian believers that:

Invites ~ Nurtures ~ Encourages Service

Sunday Morning Worship

8:30 AM	Early Worship
9:15 AM	Sunday School for all Ages
10:30 AM	Worship

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