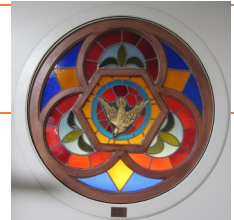


# THE LIGHTED CROSS

BERWYN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



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- May 20-22 Annual Conference

**TO STAY UP TO DATE WITH OUR CHURCH EVENTS & THE GLOBAL CHURCH PLEASE FOLLOW ON SOCIAL MEDIA**

**FACEBOOK:** BUMCservice

**INSTAGRAM:** bumcares

**YOUTUBE:** Berwyn UMC

**WEBSITE:**

[www.berwynumc.org](http://www.berwynumc.org)

**WEBSITE:**

[www.epaumc.org](http://www.epaumc.org) (Eastern PA Conference of UMC)

**WEBSITE:** [umnews.org](http://umnews.org)  
(United Methodist News)

## EASTER WEEKEND SERVICES

**Thursday, April 1:** Our **Maundy Thursday** service will feature the cantata "Colors of Grace," with readings, songs and musical instrumentalists, broadcast via Facebook Live, BUMCservice or YouTube, Berwyn UMC at 7:00 p.m.

**Friday, April 2:** **Good Friday** Prayer Stations in the sanctuary for your in-person use, 2:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

**Sunday, April 4:** **In-person Easter Sunrise Service** at 6:30 a.m. in Valley Forge Park sponsored jointly with Paoli, St. Matthews, Valley Forge and Wayne United Methodist Churches and Grace Crossing Community Church. Directions to exact location will be furnished.

**Sunday, April 4:** **Virtual Easter Sunday worship service** broadcast from our sanctuary at 10:30 a.m. via Facebook Live, BUMCservice and YouTube, Berwyn UMC.

**Sunday, April 11:** The **Sunday after Easter** will feature a recorded service prepared by our Eastern Pennsylvania Conference District Superintendents, with Bishop Peggy Johnson preaching, available via Facebook Live, BUMCservice and YouTube, Berwyn UMC at 10:30 a.m.



Due to COVID-19 we continue to hold worship services only online. Even though we cannot worship together in person we can worship together every Sunday at 10:30am on Facebook Live. If you can't attend via Facebook you can always find our services on YouTube and on our website [www.berwynumc.org](http://www.berwynumc.org). Share with your friends and family!

*Berwyn United Methodist Church*

Worship with us online every Sunday at 10:30 am via

[Facebook.com/BUMCservice](https://www.facebook.com/BUMCservice)

[www.berwynumc.org](http://www.berwynumc.org)

YouTube: Berwyn UMC



### Thank you!

Thank you to the leadership team and all the members for your generous Christmas Love Gift. I am always blessed by your love, support and generosity.

*We [I] always thank God for all of you and continually mention you in our prayers. 1 Thessalonians 1:2 (NIV)*

Blessings,  
Veronica



Thank you friends!

On behalf of David and myself, I want to thank everyone for their thoughts, prayers, cards and texts after David's accident and surgeries. He is progressing nicely and we expect he will be back to his old self in a couple of months. In times of difficulty, I am reminded of how loving and supportive the BUMC family is and I am appreciative. We look forward to singing and worshipping with everyone in person sooner rather than later.

Love and blessings to all! Kristine & David Adams

*Pilgrimage to Jerusalem*

It is 5,782 miles from Berwyn, PA to Jerusalem, Israel - as a crow flies.

*Our trek has begun!*

Lace up your sneakers or comfy walking shoes. Grab your pedometer, iPhone/Android, Fitbit or tracking device and get out there and walk/run!

There are NO age restrictions – everyone is eligible to participate!!! If walking isn't your 'thing' – laps in the pool, gardening, knitting - anything that gets us outside and moving - can be converted into miles.

Keep track of every mile you walk and send to Stephanie Borely WEEKLY at Johnborely@comcast.net or text at 610.299.6254.

### HUB UPDATES *Joy Fuerst*

The HUB has been mostly dormant for the past year due to the absence of group activities, but there are a few highlights to share.

In March / April 2020, at the start of the pandemic...

- 25 school kits were provided to a community organization to distribute, supporting families transitioning to at-home school.
- The small number of N95 masks that were in HUB inventory were provided to first responders in our township.
- Our larger inventory of “non-standard” / non-N95 masks were provided to local essential workers, who at the time had limited access to masks of any kind.

More recently, we were thrilled to have Sofia Larson-Montaner volunteer 10 hours with the HUB during the early months of 2021. Largely due to her efforts, we were able to deliver a cargo van full of supplies to Mission Central in March. Sofia diligently inspected and assembled school kits; loaded relief kits, shoes, medical supplies, and donated computers into the cargo van for transport; prepared first aid kits; assembled plastic yarn to be used in the construction of sleeping mats for those who sleep on the streets in Philly. The hours she volunteered were in support of her membership in Key Club at Conestoga. Thank you, Sofia!

Be on the lookout for a special update about the PLARN sleeping mats in the next Lighted Cross!



## EASTERN PA CONFERENCE EVENTS



### UNITED METHODIST DENOMINATION UPDATES

There was going to be a Special Session of General Conference on May 18. That event has been cancelled. The **2020 General Conference** continues to be postponed to 2022. The **2020 Northeast Jurisdiction Conference** that was to happen in July 2021 is now postponed as well.

To stay up to date with all things regarding General Conference, please visit <https://www.umnews.org/en/category/general-conference>.

The Eastern PA Delegation Team for General Conference & Northeast Jurisdiction Conference continue to meet on a regular basis. If you have any questions or concerns regarding The United Methodist Church, please call or email Kristine Adams, Alternate Delegate to Northeast Jurisdiction Conference & Lay Delegate to Eastern PA Annual Conference. Kristine's email is [kidl.adams@gmail.com](mailto:kidl.adams@gmail.com) and cell phone is 484-574-4457.



#### UPDATE by Jane Harris

The Nursery School has been full of spring flowers, baby animals and Easter eggs as Spring is upon us! Parent conferences are behind us as we look forward to warmer weather and more time outside. This is the time of year the children show their teachers how comfortable they are in school and demonstrate that they are ready to move on to new adventures. We continue to be thankful to have been in school in person so far this school year. We would like to wish everyone in the church community and very happy and peaceful Easter.

#### Ministry of the People is supported by the Staff

Pastor: Rodney Brailsford

Children's Coordinator: Cindy Shallcross

Lay Leader: Amy Dodds

Sexton: Over Caicedo

Admin. Assistant: Veronica Mosley

Organist/Director of Music: Amy McLoughlin

Nursery Assist: Eliza Chumpitaz

*Recordings of Sunday Services are available—Contact Jon Stockler, 610-348-3385 or [JStockler@aol.com](mailto:JStockler@aol.com)*

Dear Berwyn Family,

Every year, as the Spring season arrives, we are reminded of new life. However, in our part of the world, early April does not always feel much like spring. This year, however, the dawn of the spring season brings new hope because of the effectiveness of the Covid vaccine. This news brings with it the promise of a different and brighter summer and fall than we experienced last year, and we cannot help but rejoice at that thought! Churches across the country, including ours, are looking towards this hopeful future and starting to plan to resume in-person worship services. As we see the daffodils beginning to bloom outside at Berwyn UMC, we hope that we may begin to worship together, even if we must meet outdoors. This spring brings us new hope.

However, there is a profound difference between the hope of the spring season and Easter's hope. The beauty we find in the newness of spring is not returning to life after death; it is the return of life after dormancy. The plants did not die during winter; they lost their leaves and stored their energy. The birds that are now starting to chirp outside our windows were not previously silent because they were dead; we did not hear them because they were migrating.

Easter hope is different. We base Easter hope on Jesus Christ, who the Apostles' Creed asserts, "suffered, died, and was buried." To emphasize this point, it states, "he descended to the dead" (Ecumenical Version). After Jesus' death on the cross, his disciples could not hope to see Jesus ever again. They understood what death meant. Jesus was gone, and his mission was over. They had no genuine hope of resurrection. Jesus had told them that God would raise him from the dead, but the Gospels stress that they did not understand what he was telling them. We cannot blame them for their lack of understanding. In terms of human experience, a resurrection made absolutely no sense – it defied human comprehension.

There were no witnesses to Jesus' resurrection. The Gospels tell us of discovering an empty tomb, messages from angels, and ultimately, of the appearances of Jesus Christ to his disciples. Whatever happened, not long after the crucifixion, the disciples knew something with total conviction: Jesus was alive. God had resurrected Jesus from the dead. Immediately after this, those same disciples dedicated their lives to sharing the Good News of what God had done. The resurrection became a critical moment in history for them, as it has for us.

So, all these years after the first Easter, we live with the same hope that those first disciples experienced. God can bring life out of death. God brought unanticipated, miraculous hope even out of a tragedy like Jesus' death on the cross. We have not yet seen the end of what God started on the first Easter. We still live in a world where it seems that grief is ever-present. This grief burden weighs even heavier on us because of the loss of so many lives to the pandemic. However, in Jesus Christ, we have God's assurance that there will be a resurrection and new life even after the longest Lent.

May God Bless You Richly,

Pastor Rodney





## Our Mission Statement

God **CALLS** us to **Care, Accept, Love, Laugh and Serve**

## Worship Schedule

Sundays 10:30 AM      On-Line Worship on Facebook Live/  
Church Website/YouTube

Subscribe to our channel on YouTube: Berwyn UMC

Follow on Instagram: bumcares

Like us on Facebook: Berwyn UMC

[www.berwynumc.org](http://www.berwynumc.org)

Email: [officebumc@comcast.net](mailto:officebumc@comcast.net)

Fax: 610-644-7890

Church Office: 610-644-5555

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