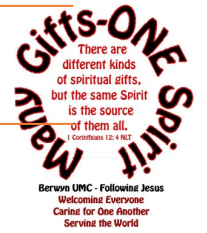




THE LIGHTED CROSS

BERWYN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



December 2016

Newsletter

Mark Your Calendars:

- Dec 3—9am UMW @ Janet Campbell's house
- Dec 11—Choir Christmas Cantata & Brunch, reservations required
- Jan 5—Soupy Thursday begins
- Jan 14—Used Computer & Medical Supply Collection

Join Us For Worship

8:30am Early Worship

9:15 am Sunday School for All Ages

10:30am Worship Service with Choir

Communion is observed on the First Sunday of the Month

Greeters: 4-Judy Fisk

11-Jane McDowell

Flowers: 11-Barbara Mekenney

18-Paula Renneisen

25-Sue Denisevicz

PASTOR'S THOUGHTS—

Gary Jacobella

On the Sunday before Election Day, I provided everyone who came to worship with a Prayer for Election Day. Today, the day I am writing my thoughts, is the day after Election Day and so I have adapted the prayer as an ongoing prayer for concerns raised by the 2016 campaign.

God of us all,

you make all your human children one family.

We have one Creator, we live on one planet.

You created humankind, male and female, in your image and likeness.

As followers of Jesus, it hurts us to see deep divisions in our world and especially right here in our own land.

Have mercy on us

as we seek to live in freedom and peace.

We pray for our elected leaders.

Help us work with them to heal our nation from the divides that put us into factions

based on gender, ethnicity, economics, education . . .

Help us work with them to take down barriers

that stand in the way of anyone's

God given hopes and aspirations.

We want to help our nation refuse power that breaks those who are already bruised and puts out hopes that are already dim.

We confess we need your help.

Have mercy on us! (*cont next column*)

We are followers of Jesus.

We have a responsibility to live as prophets.

We cannot move beyond our fears without a fresh anointing of your Spirit.

We dedicate ourselves to living as citizens of God's Kingdom, the Kingdom the lifts up the lowly and that seeks and finds the lost.

We confess that we cannot wait for our elected leaders to do for us what Jesus expects his people to do.

We are his hands and his feet.

We are his body carrying out his ministry of healing and making peace, reconciling people to each other and to you, the God who is like Jesus. Amen.



CHRISTMAS BRUNCH

The BUMC Christmas brunch will be held on Sun. Dec. 11 immediately following the 10:30 service highlighting the Chancel Choir's cantata.

The menu for the brunch will feature both breakfast and lunch items. A sampling: quiche, sausage links, pancakes, baked chicken breasts, roast pork, cheesy potatoes and desserts.

Reservations are required for this meal. You can sign up at the services on Nov. 27 or Dec. 4. Or, call the church office by noon on the 7th. Cost is \$10.00 pp for adults, \$5.00 pp for children 5-10 and free for children under 5.

Please invite a friend or family member to come enjoy the cantata and then bring them along to the brunch.

SOUPY THURSDAY

Soupy Thursday this year will begin on Thursday Jan. 5 and run for 8 consecutive weeks. As in the past you can bring your own container and purchase soup by the quart and a loaf of home baked bread or you can come to Schieck Hall and eat with some of your church family.

Take outs will be available starting at 5:15p each week. If you prefer to eat in it will be available from 6:15-7:15p.

Soup is \$5. per quart, bread is \$3. per loaf. For those of you choosing to eat in a free will offering is taken.

If you would be interested in helping out please contact Rick Stoker.



The Holiday season is upon us! The hum of happy children is heard throughout the school. During the month of November, BUMNS families donated toys, art supplies and warm clothing to the children living at the Methodist Home in Philadelphia.

The children have been busy practicing for our annual Holiday Show, under the direction of BUMNS music teacher, Tori James. Judith Lang will be our guest pianist. The show is held in the chapel on Dec. 12th and 13th at 9:30. Church members are invited to the show.

BUMNS wishes church families all the blessings of the holiday.

School will not be in session from December 16th through January 3rd.

MISSION COMMITTEE

Jeff Barger

Christmas Donations

The Missions Committee will be bringing back our "Alternative Gift Giving Program" during the Christmas Season. Keep in mind that the Alternative Gift is a wonderful "Alternative" to an actual present (i.e. Socks, a tie, or fruit basket). Donating money in someone's name to your favorite Mission is the perfect gift to the person who already has enough of everything. Why not make a donation to help individuals and families in need in our local area or help a child receive proper education in Kenya on behalf of your favorite Aunt or Uncle? The Alternative Gift just might be the most meaningful gift you might give this year. Look for Janelle or Kelly in the Narthex on Sundays in December to assist in your options.

We are presently accepting donations of toys for children, gift and gift cards for mothers and toiletries, new socks, and gently used clothing for the homeless. They will be delivered to Methodist Home for Children, Mt. Zion Methodist Church, and United Methodist Neighborhood Services. Your generosity each year brings such joy and happiness to those who are so less fortunate than us.

The Mission Committee thanks everyone for their generous support the past year and we wish you all a Merry Christmas and a happy and healthy New Year.



FAITHFUL STEWARD—MECCA Committee

This month, we highlight Ann West as our Faithful Steward. Ann's contributions during the many years she and her family have belonged to BUMC are many. She served as Children's Coordinator and along with her husband, Jean, served as MYF leader for several years. Ann also has been an integral part of Membership and Evangelism committee, Adult Fellowship, Missions Commission, DART, the Chancel Choir, and the Prayer Shawl Ministry. In fact, it is not unusual to see Ann knitting away while attending some of the meetings of the many committees on which she has served! The Prayer Chain Ministry was also fortunate to have Ann as its coordinator for many years.

We are thankful for members like Ann West who so often has put others before herself. When you see Ann in church, please give her a word of thanks for her many loving contributions to BUMC!



Dear Berwyn United Methodist Church, On behalf of TEMPO and the Cavalcade Committee, we would like to thank you for your generous participation and support. Cavalcade 2016 was a huge success and we appreciate your donation. Thank you for supporting the Conestoga High School Marching Band and our Music Department. We couldn't have done it without you!

Sincerely, Jimmy A., Drumline

Our Mission Statement

God calls Berwyn UMC to be a community

Of Christian believers that:

Invites ~ Nurtures ~ Encourages Service



WORSHIP COMMITTEE *John Paylor*
UPCOMING WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sunday, November 27, **First Sunday of Advent – Prayer and Healing Services** at 8:30 and 10:30.

Sunday, December 4 – **Greening of the Church** including Lighting of the Christmas Tree.

Sunday, December 11 – **Annual Choir Cantata** during 10:30 service; Christmas Brunch following the service.

Sunday, December 18 – 10:30 service opens with **Enter with Praise and features the Children’s Pageant.**

Saturday, December 24, **Christmas Eve** – Two services for adults and children; music led by guitars at 5:30, choir to sing at 8:00.

Sunday, December 25, **Christmas Day** – Single worship service at 10:00.

Sunday, January 1, **New Year’s Day – Church open for Prayer and Celebration, 9:00 - noon;** no formal service.

Sunday, January 8 – **Epiphany Sunday with Wesley Covenant Renewal Service.**



WE’LL TAKE YOUR ACME STAMPS! *MECCA Committee*

The Acme Grocery Stores are offering Saver Stamps for Farberware Millennium Stainless Steel Cookware. You may give your stamps to us in a basket in the narthex, or fill the stamp book yourself and give the filled books to us, or select the cookware yourself and give to us. The cookware will then be given to an agency helping families needing a new start. Any questions, see Lee Paylor, chair of Mecca Committee.



I want to thank everyone for their prayers and get well cards after my wrist surgery. The surgery seems to have been the answer and I am recovering very well. There is a lot of love at BUMC and I am extremely grateful.

Kristine Adams

United Methodist Women (UMW) will be getting together monthly for prayer and fellowship. All women are invited and encouraged to attend.

Dec 3, 2016—9am at Janet Campbell’s house

Jan 7, 2017—9am location to be determined

Feb 4, 2017—9am location to be determined



Fellow BUMC Congregants/Friends:

On behalf of Carol, Marsha and myself, I want to express our sincere appreciation for the prayers and cards we have received during our journey with my liver cancer diagnosis. We have been blessed on more than one occasion by your kind gestures of support. They have provided reassurance we are not alone on this journey.

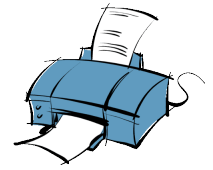
The prayer shawls Pat White delivered to Carol and I have provided great comfort during good and not so good times.

Thank you all for being the very best friends.

Gene



Used Computer and Used Medical Equipment Collection



Saturday, January 14, 2017*

9am to 12pm

Berwyn United Methodist Church

140 Waterloo Ave, Berwyn

For further information

See—www.berwynumc.org

Write—hub.bumc@gmail.com

Like us on Facebook—The HUB at BUMC



*Snow date: January 21, 2017

HUB KIT MATERIALS NEEDED!

SCHOOL KITS

- Cloth Bags (14" x 16" Heavy-duty fabric)
- Handheld Pencil Sharpeners (1" min.)

HEALTH KITS

- Hand Towels (NO Kitchen or Microfiber)
 - Adult Wash Cloths
 - Sturdy Combs (NO Pocket Size)
- Fingernail Clippers (NO Toenail Clippers)
- 3 oz. or Larger Bath Soap (NO Ivory, Lisa, or Jergens)
 - Adult Toothbrushes (sealed in packaging)
 - BandAid Type Bandages 3/4" or 1"

Cash donations are welcome, if you prefer not to shop!

MEET US AT THE HUB TO WORK ON KITS

December 7: 10am to 2pm

December 14: 6pm—8pm

TRUNK OR TREAT 2016 *Kristine Adams*

This year's Trunk or Treat was quite a success despite the rain that morning and chilly temperatures. We think about 60 children came and they brought their parents too! One family was celebrating a child's party and they brought the grandparents and aunts and uncles. Everyone had a wonderful time. Our members are so creative and enthusiastic and the children were adorable and boo-tiful. Thank you so much to everyone who came out and decorated their car and greeted families. We look forward to doing this next year! We would love to have more Boo-tastic Trunks!



LAY LEADER'S LETTER—FOLLOW THE SIGNS *David Adams*

We celebrated the stories and experiences told by some people who teamed up to go on an Appalachian Service Project mission trip. During worship, I noticed that everyone in the group was wearing the symbol of the ASP organization on their team shirts.

My mind wandered around thinking of symbols that I see in my life such as traffic lights and warning signs. All of these things are guides and instructions for how I should act and proceed.

There are other signs that I see that are reminders of how I should proceed as well. There's the cross, the Word, and the stained glass windows.

In a more different sense, the people I was looking at in their ASP shirts, were also a sign. Right in front of me, were members of the body of Christ who heard the call to service and took a journey outside of their comfort zone to demonstrate how to proceed with love, compassion, and faith. These people are in that moment, a sign showing the way to actively lead instead of following.

Their skills were not perfect, nor was anyone expecting perfection. The invitation was still presented and the only requirement was to accept the change that was possible.

I believe the same is true in our relationship with Christ. He extends an invitation, a sign of some kind, to each of us that describes a way to proceed. He does not expect perfection, but only a willingness to accept and join in service and ministry.

As we enter into Advent, I encourage every one of us to take time to open up to the signs God is giving you and meditate on what you are being called to do.



Ministry of the People is supported by the Staff

Recordings of Sunday Services are available.

**Contact Jon Stockler at
610-348-3385 or
JStockler@aol.com**

Pastor: Gary Jacobella

Lay Leaders: Janet Campbell & David Adams Church Phone: 610-644-5555

Admin. Assistant: Veronica Mosley

Organist/Director of Music: Judith Lang

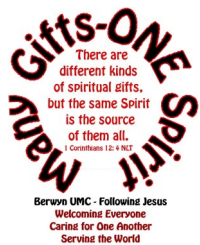
Nursery Assist: Eliza Chumpitaz

Children's Coordinator: Cynthia Shallcross

Office E-mail: officebumc@comcast.net

Church Website: www.berwynumc.org

facebook: www.facebook.com/BerwynUMC



Our Mission Statement

God calls Berwyn UMC to be a community

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Invites ~ Nurtures ~ Encourages Service

Worship Schedule

- 8:30 AM Early Worship
- 9:15 AM Sunday School for All Ages
- 10:30 AM Traditional Worship with Choir

Like us on Facebook: Berwyn UMC

www.berwynumc.org

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