



# THE LIGHTED CROSS

## BERWYN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



### December 2018 Newsletter

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- **Christmas Service & Brunch**
- **Missions**
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- **Way Forward Update**
- **Fall Fest Thank You**
- **Soupy Thursday**
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#### Calendar Highlights

- Dec 1** UMW Advent Devotion
- Dec 2** Advent Begins
- Dec 3** Way Forward Update
- Dec 16** Carols & Lessons; Christmas Brunch
- Dec 24** Christmas Eve service 7:30pm
- Jan 3** Soupy Thursday begins
- Jan 5** Epiphany Brunch



#### Join Us For Worship

- 8:30 am Worship
- 9:15 am Sunday School
- 10:30 am Traditional Worship
- Communion is observed on the First Sunday of the Month

### **ADVENT & CHRISTMAS 2018** *John Paylor*

In the Christian calendar, December is a month of anticipation and preparation for the coming of Christ. It features Advent, a four week season of waiting for the birth of our Savior, which this year begins on Sunday, December 2. We will start the season on that Sunday with our church decorated in the traditional Advent and Christmas manner and will light the first candle of our Advent Wreath, as we begin the countdown to the coming celebration on Christmas day of the birth of Jesus. An additional candle will be lighted on each Sunday of Advent.

On **Sunday, December 16** we will celebrate with music and song and a feast. Our early service at **8:30 a.m.** will feature a spontaneous sing-a-long of your favorite Christmas carols. Pick out your favorite to suggest and come enjoy the singing.

Then stay or join us at **10:30 a.m. for a traditional service of Lessons and Carols**, where we will hear nine Old and New Testament passages predicting and describing the coming of the Christ into the world, interspersed with carols and songs celebrating this event in music. Finally, stay for our annual Christmas Brunch at which we will enjoy good food and fellowship in keeping with the spirits of this season.

We will gather on **Christmas Eve for evening worship at 7:30 p.m.** in final anticipation of the wondrous birth of Christ Jesus. The Christ Candle on the Advent Wreath will be lit, symbolizing the coming of God into the world through his Son and His offer of salvation to all.



Please join us throughout December as we revere and remember what Christmas means, and prepare ourselves to live for Christ in the coming New Year.



### **CHRISTMAS BRUNCH** *Rick Stoker*

Our annual Christmas Brunch will be held on Sun. Dec. 16th following the festival of lessons and carols at the 10:30am service. Invite your friends and neighbors out to hear and participate with the choir and then stay with them for brunch.

The menu will feature a mixture of breakfast and lunch items. Items like quiche, sausage links, roast pork, cheesy potatoes and an assortment of desserts.

The price for the meal is \$10.00 for adults, \$5.00 for children 5-10 and free for children under 5. Reservations will be taken at the services on Dec. 2 and Dec. 9th. You can always call the church office with your reservation as well. All reservations must be in by noon on Wed. Dec. 12.

See you at the service and brunch.



Janet Wham

The routine at BUMNS has varied during the month of December. The children are busy practicing for our annual Holiday Show under the direction of Dana Sapp. The show is an annual event. There is much excitement building up to the show. The children love to perform! The Holiday Show will be presented on Friday, December 14th at 9:30. Members of the church are invited to attend the show.

BUMNS families donated clothing and toys to Berwyn United Methodist Church for their mission projects. We also supported troops overseas by donating candy. The candy was mailed to the men and women serving our country.

BUMNS will be on vacation until January 2. We wish the staff and members of the church a joyous holiday filled with the blessing Christ brings.

Registration for the 2018-2019 year is open to the public. Encourage friends to visit our school.



### WAY FORWARD UPDATE

On Monday, December 3, 7:00 p.m., we will host a discussion sponsored by the Eastern and Western Main Line Mission Connections on the report of the Commission on the Way Forward.

The United Methodist Council of Bishops appointed this Commission to consider the position of the worldwide United Methodist Church on issues related to human sexuality, and the Commission has presented three alternative plans for the church to address these issues.

A special called session of the United Methodist General Conference will be held February 23-26 in St. Louis, MO to act on these recommendations. Two of the Eastern Pennsylvania Conference delegates to the special General Conference,



*Dear Berwyn United Methodist Church, On behalf of TEMPO (Tredyffrin Easttown Music Parents Organization) and the Cavalcade committee, we would like to thank you for your generous donation. Cavalcade 2018 was a huge success and we appreciate your participation and support. Thank you for supporting the Conestoga High School Marching Pioneers and our music department. We couldn't have done it without you!*

*Sincerely, Lauren H.*



### DAILY DEVOTIONS FOR ADVENT

We are making available for Advent the booklet Surprises Along the Way, with daily Advent devotionals beginning with the first Sunday of Advent, December 2. These booklets are provided to us free of charge by the Society of St. Andrew, a gleaning mission that helps to feed hungry people by gleaning and using produce that would otherwise be left in farmers' fields and be wasted. Some in our congregation have worked with Society of St. Andrew projects, and it always makes a truckload of potatoes available at our Eastern Pennsylvania Annual Conference to be bagged and taken by delegates for distribution to those in need.

Please take a booklet and use it during this season to prepare yourself for the coming of the Christ child on Christmas. We also ask that you consider making a donation to the Society of St. Andrew to aid it in its ministry of feeding the physical needs of the hungry in our country.

## LAY LEADER'S LETTER *Lee Paylor*

Our cats love Christmas – actually, they love the Christmas tree and the tree skirt. They “hide” under the tree and they “hide” under the tree skirt, sometimes bringing catnip toys with them. When we place presents under the tree, we have to leave their “places” vacant.

Do we leave God a place in our Christmas doings—decorating, shopping....

Do we place our nativity sets where we can pause and look at them each time we pass through the room ?

Do we have a place for the Alternative Gift Opportunities on our shopping list instead of another mug, tie, pair of socks? For your comfort and convenience, the Gift Opportunities will be available after worship services during Advent. Avoid the rush – shop early!

Do we have a place for God in our hearts and daily lives ?

“When Christmas morn is dawning, I wish that I could be there by the manger cradle, God’s Son, new born to see.

We need you, O Lord Jesus, to be our dearest friend.

Your love will guard and guide us and keep us to life’s end.”

*The Methodist Hymnal 232*



### EPIPHANY BRUNCH

Saturday, January 5, 2019

9:30am in Schieck Hall

Please bring a potluck breakfast item to share. We will be making feminine hygiene kits to support The American Foundation for Children with AIDS.

## SOUPY THURSDAY *Rick Stoker*

Soupy Thursday should be on your calendar for 2019. It will start on Thurs. Jan. 3 and run for the months of January and February.

We make homemade soup each week, bake bread and bake cookies for you to enjoy. You can either pick it up to take home or you can eat in Schieck Hall with some of your church family and enjoy the fellowship.

Take outs: Will be available starting at 5P. Bring your own container to take the soup home. Soup is \$5.00/quart, bread is \$3.00/loaf and cookies are usually 3 for a \$1.00.

Service for people deciding to eat in is available from 5:45P until 7P. There is a free will offering for the soup.

We need help! If you could help prep, serve or clean up please let Rick Stoker know. We try to have a schedule so you would help 1 time each month.

Winter weather is just around the corner, why not warm up with our soup. Let us know if you know of shut ins and we will deliver soup to them.



Thanks to everyone for contributing to the World Thank Offering on 11/11/18.

A total of \$442.50 was collected.



**THE FALL FESTIVAL WAS A HUGE SUCCESS!!** *Stephanie Borelly and Cindy Shallcross*

What a fabulous October day. There was no sun, BUT the rain was not heavy and I think people just shopped more!!

Schieck Hall was once again transformed into a Market Place.

There were “treasures”, books, a variety of collectibles, pumpkins, gourds, cookies and pies – something for everyone!

**Our total this year is \$4,583.36**

A great big ‘THANK YOU’ to all of our chairpersons:

Joy Fuerst (Books)

Judy Fisk and Kathy Mullins (Collectibles)

Janet Campbell and Barb Stockler (Baked Goods)

Stephanie Borelly and Cindy Shallcross (Flea Market)

To all of the volunteers, everyone who donated items to the flea market, the books, bake goods and treats, jewelry, collectibles, to all “movers”, “set-uppers” and “take-downers” we truly APPRECIATE you.

Boy Scout Troop 181 was terrific at helping move and sort the flea market items. They made quick work emptying out the scout cabin.

And a special round of thanks goes out to Roger Toro, who helps in so many ways!

Thank you, one and all, for another great day of fellowship and “FUN”draising!

\*\*\*\*We are currently looking for someone to take over Chairing the Fall Festival as well as the Flea Market.

We have enjoyed our reign but it is time for us to step down.\*\*\*\*



**MISSION UPDATE** *Jeff Barger*

December 9th is the last day to drop off Christmas gifts, toys and toiletries.

The Alternative Gift event will be set up in the Narthex each Sunday in December.

The Missions Committee wishes to express a heartfelt thank you to everyone for their support throughout the year.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all!

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

Pastor: Tim Duchesne

Children's Coordinator: Cindy Shallcross    Lay Leader: Lee Paylor

Admin. Assistant: Veronica Mosley

Organist/Director of Music: Amy McLoughlin

Nursery Assist: Eliza Chumpitaz

Sexton: Roger Toro

*Recordings of Sunday Services are available—Contact Jon Stockler, 610-348-3385 or JStockler@aol.com*



## Our **M**ission **S**tatement

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

## **W**orship **S**chedule

|          |                                |
|----------|--------------------------------|
| 8:30 AM  | Early Worship                  |
| 9:15 AM  | Sunday School                  |
| 10:30 AM | Traditional Worship with Choir |

Church Office: 610-644-5555  
Fax: 610-644-7890  
Email: [officebumc@comcast.net](mailto:officebumc@comcast.net)  
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