

# THE LIGHTED CROSS

## BERWYN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



### DECEMBER

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#### Calendar Highlights

- Dec 9 Soupy Thursday
- Dec 11 Charge Conference
- Dec 12 Stewardship Sunday
- Dec 16 Soupy Thursday; Carols & Cocoa
- Dec 19 Lessons & Carols and Christmas Brunch
- Dec 24 7pm Candlelight Christmas Eve service

**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)



### WELCOME OUR NEW MUSIC DIRECTOR!

John Lewis joins the Berwyn UMC family on Sunday, December 5 as our new Music & Choir Director. John is already busy planning for Lessons & Carols on December 19. Be sure to introduce yourself and welcome John to Berwyn UMC.



TOY CHRISTMAS COLLECTION  
& GIFTS COLLECTION  
*Jeff Barger*

It's time to start thinking about donating toys and gifts to Methodist Services and Mt. Zion UMC.

Because of your generosity each year your gifts and nations bring smiles and happiness to mothers and children and others who are less fortunate than us.

Mt. Zion is also collecting toiletries, warm socks, gloves and hats for the homeless. You can drop off donations in the church Narthex between Nov 14th and Dec 12th. Veronica has emailed the list of toys and gifts to the congregation.

There are also lists in the Narthex for you to take. And lastly, The Alternative Gift event will be back again this year. A list of worthy missions will be available in December's Lighted Cross.



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## ALTERNATIVE GIFTS



*Janelle Larson*

What can you give the person who has everything, or at least who has ‘enough’? How about supporting a small business start-up for a former street child in Kenya? Groceries for local families in need? After-school programming for children in Philadelphia or a winter coat for a child in Oklahoma? These and many other gifts will be available through the Berwyn United Methodist Church Gift Alternatives Program this year. Your tax-free donation can provide a Christmas gift to a family member, teacher, employee or friend instead of a store-bought gift so they can share in the gift of giving. Or you may give it as a special donation in your name. You will receive a card that you can send as your “gift” that describes the mission project that your gift is supporting.



*Jane Harris*

December 2021 is upon us! We are so thankful we have been able to be in school since September. December can be dark and cold outside but the nursery school is always full of light and warmth especially during this season. The children are very excited for all the holidays at this time of year. We intend to have our annual Holiday Show before we leave for the winter break. Unfortunately, we will be limiting the audience and having only one performance but it is important to us to continue this special BUMNS tradition.

The Nursery School would like to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a peaceful, healthy New Year.

## TROOP 181 UPDATE *Mary Ostein*

Troop 181 does it again- this time we’re had an Eagle Scout project completed at Field of Dreams. The children’s playground was so overrun with weeds and debris that no one could use it. It took a few weekends but you can see the results. Great job Michael!

In addition we had our Be A Scout camp out in October. We set up tents behind the shed at the church and had s’mores, a cookout, archery and more. It was a lot of fun.

Our troop sells coffee to help decrease dues. We get it from Giving Bean. They have a variety of coffees, teas, cocoa and cookies. It’s really good coffee. If anyone is interested in purchasing any of the items, please message me at [mary.ostien2@gmail.com](mailto:mary.ostien2@gmail.com) for more information.

Our next event will be bowling night at Devon Bowling Lanes. Bring a friend. If you have anyone in your family interested in scouting please contact Mary !



### SOUPY THURSDAY

December 2 Turkey Noodle Soup

December 9 Cream of Potato Soup

December 16 Vegetable Beef

Beverages, Bread, Dessert included



# Soupy Thursday

*Rick Stoker*

We are pleased to announce that Soupy Thursday returns Thursday, December 2. Once again we will offer both take out and eat in.

Take out will be available each week from 5pm-6:30pm. Soup will be \$5.00/Qt., bread will be \$3.00/loaf and cookies will be 3 for a \$1.00. We ask that you please bring your own container for the soup.

If you are coming to Schieck Hall to eat your soup it will be available from 5:30pm-6:30pm. There will be a free will offering taken for the soup. Soup, bread, cookies and beverage will be offered each week.

Dec. 2 – Turkey Noodle

Dec. 9 – Cream of Potato

Dec. 16 – Vegetable Beef

There will be no soup on Dec. 23 or Dec. 30. Soup will resume on January 6 and will continue through till the end of February. (Soup may end earlier if we don't get enough volunteers to help out).

Where do we need volunteers? Soup prep and dining room set up 2-5p each week. Serving from the kitchen 5-6:45p each week, this also includes clean up. If you would like to volunteer to help out please contact [Rickstoker@aol.com](mailto:Rickstoker@aol.com)



## MISSION:

“Worshipping God, Serving Jesus, Loving Others”

## VISION:

“We are a diverse community of socially conscious believers affirming our faith in Jesus Christ through action”

# Christmas Brunch

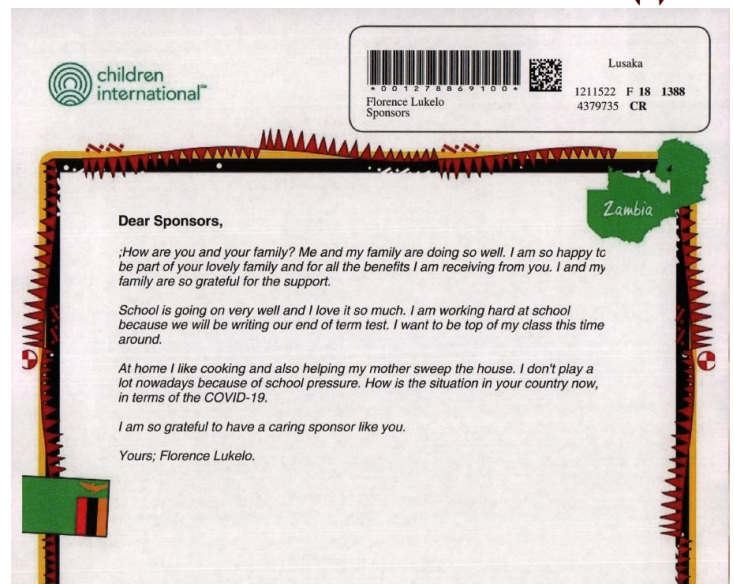
*Rick Stoker*

Our Christmas Brunch will be held on Sunday, Dec. 19th immediately following the 9:30am service (so approx. 10:45-11:00am).

The menu will include: Scrambled eggs, sausage, chicken divan, roast pork loin, cheesy potatoes, vegetable, salad, rolls and dessert.

The meal is \$10.00 for adults and children 10 and above, \$5.00 for children 5-9 and free for children under 5. Reservations are required. Reservations will be taken in church on both Dec. 5&12. You can always email or call the office to make your reservation.

Volunteer helpers are needed. Rick is having foot surgery on Dec. 10th and will be limited to what he can do. If you are willing and able to help please let Rick know. Help is needed for Friday morning (17th) set up and kitchen prep, Sunday morning in the kitchen starting as early as 8am, further help in the kitchen around 9am. We will also need a pot and pan washer after the meal as well as 2 people to run the dishwasher. Thanks for your help in advance. See you there!





# Carols and Cocoa

*A celebration of the Advent Season,  
featuring "The Parson Brown Singers."*

**December 16th, 2021 | 6:00 PM**  
**Berwyn United Methodist Church**

**140 Waterloo Avenue Berwyn, PA**

*Celebrate the season at this festive event hosted by  
Berwyn United Methodist Church!  
Listen to live Christmas Carols while enjoying Hot Cocoa  
and Cookies with friends!*

*- Face Masks Required -*

Dear Berwyn Family,

The most joyous of seasons in the church's calendar is Advent. This year it started on November 28<sup>th</sup>. Advent comes from the Latin word "adventus," which means *coming*. On each of the four Sundays before Christmas, we give special attention to the events surrounding the coming of Jesus Christ into the world. Four-candle Advent wreaths help us get ready. We light ours each Sunday of Advent in Sunday worship.

Frequently in December, we hear people saying, "It doesn't feel like Christmas." "I'm not ready for Christmas." Maybe it is because of all the work we must do, such as sending cards, purchasing gifts, and preparing dinners. Perhaps our family and friends are distant; we feel emotionally cut off from home. Maybe a personal loss makes the season newly difficult. Maybe our childhood memories are so remarkable as to feel unrepeatable, leading to more regret than anticipation.

I want to propose a way to overcome the pre-holiday blues. To truly feel like Christmas, try this:

1. Come to church.
2. Come to worship.
3. Sing the carols.
4. Invite a friend.
5. Get in touch with the deep meaning of the season.
6. Participate in our Christmas Gifts Toy Drive

Fellowship with one another at our Christmas Brunch and Carols & Cocoa events.

Hear the age-old story of God's wondrous love and know the Good News story is for you.

Advent can be one of those teachable moments when something might slip through our defenses. It can penetrate over-familiarity. The longing in our hearts is permitted a voice. "The hopes and fears of all the years" are met in Christ's coming.

It comes as no surprise to you for pastors to say, "Come to church for Christmas." However, beneath those predictable words is something profound: "God's Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth."

May you and your families enjoy a blessed Advent-Christmas season!

Pastor Rodney



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: John Lewis

Nursery Assist: Eliza Chumpitaz

*You can view any Sunday Worship Service on our YouTube Channel Berwyn UMC*



## Our Mission Statement

Worshipping God, Serving Jesus, Loving Others

## Our Vision Statement

We are a diverse community of socially conscious believers affirming our faith in Jesus Christ through action

## Worship Schedule

Sundays	9:30AM	In Person Worship in Sanctuary
	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

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