



June 2009

BERWYN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
INVITING NURTURING AND ENCOURAGING SERVICE

The Lighted Cross

HONORING OUR GRADUATES

The Class of 2009

Brandon Burriss is graduating from DePauw University in Greencastle, Ind., with an economics degree and a minor in Spanish. While working this summer for an international meeting-management company, he will look for a job that applies his economics degree and his Spanish-language skills.

Erica DePenna is graduating from Great Valley High School and will attend the University of Pittsburgh with a major in physical therapy. Erica works at Paoli Pharmacy. Her interests are reading, running, and hanging out with friends.

Emily Jackson Levitt has earned her Ph.D. in international nutrition from Cornell University.

Alex O'Donnell is graduating from Conestoga High School. He will enroll in the University of Pittsburgh. While at Conestoga he was on the debate team and participated in political club activities. Outside of school, he enjoys running marathons and has been doing this with his dad since his sophomore year.



Elizabeth Anastasia Elder is graduating from Henderson High School. She will enroll in West Chester University with a major in teaching. She is the daughter of Annemarie Nicholas and the grand-daughter of Alice Nicholas.

Karis Poncé is graduating from Conestoga High School. She was on the honor roll for the last three years. She will enroll in Holy Family University in Philadelphia on an academic scholarship, majoring in nursing.

Matthew Tiede is graduating from Drexel University with a master's degree in Medical Science. He is now a Physician's Assistant.

Fredy Tuez is graduating from Conestoga High School. He will enroll in the culinary school of Johnson and Wales University in Providence, R.I.

Our graduates will be honored at the 10:30 a.m. service June 14.

Join us for Vacation Bible School

4:30-7:30 p.m. Monday-Friday, July 13-17

WANTED: Extreme adventurers ready to trek to the E.D.G.E., *experiencing and discovering God everywhere!*

Would you like to spend a whole week camping on the edge, complete with extreme adventurers, exciting challenges, great music and hours of fun?

Register online: www.berwynumc.org

Or pick up a registration form at the church.



VOICES FROM THE FINANCE AND STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

Some facts and figures on the finances of BUMC

As you may have figured out, members of the Finance and Stewardship Committee are taking turns writing the monthly article for The Lighted Cross. My article more likely resembles notes to a financial statement, since this is my area of expertise. There are several points I would like to make that I hope you will find informative.

The purpose of the Finance Committee is to fund the ministries of the church; it is not to decide how to spend the money.

The BUMC annual budget is about \$450,000 plus additional unbudgeted missions of \$30,000. Our income (including missions) is 90% from our contributions, 4% from the nursery school, 3% from renting the Hurd house, and 3% from other sources. On the expense side (excluding missions), 47% for salaries and benefits, 16% mortgage, 10% utilities, 9% connectional ministries, 7% maintenance, 3% property insurance, and 8% for other expenses.

The building expansion and renovations cost about \$1.5 million. Initial funding came from two estates totaling around \$300,000, plus a capital campaign that raised about \$200,000. The remaining balance of \$1,000,000 rolled into a mortgage. The annual mortgage payments are \$70,000.

Eighty percent of our contribution dollars come from 20% of our active-membership families.

BUMC accepts credit card payments, as well as automatic deductions from your bank account. Visit our website and sign up today.

There are anonymous families in our congregation who deserve our utmost gratitude and prayers for their generous financial support. Although it might appear that the Finance Committee cries wolf all year long and then sings Hallelujah in the end, each of the past several years was saved when someone different stepped forward. Heroics are much appreciated, but they do not diminish the need for — and our gratefulness to — those who give throughout the year.

The task of the Finance Committee has been extremely challenging. Do we concentrate our stewardship efforts on the 20% who provide 80% of the dollars, or do we try to reach the other 80%? Why are so many ignoring our pleas? Has the Finance Committee failed miserably, or is there a fundamental fault or unseen need in our congregation?

The Finance Committee would love to hear from you and learn how we can help you meet your financial obligations to your church.

Go to the church website. Sign up for electronic giving.

Brian Dunn
Financial Secretary

Financial Results for April 2009

30-Apr-09	Actual	Budget	(Unfavorable)	Of Budget
Contribution Income	\$114,989	\$119,000	(\$4,011)	97%
Contribution – Mortgage Fund	2,714	2,736	-22	99%
Other Income	18,847	17,412	1,435	108%
Expenses	156,443	152,002	-4,441	103%
Gain (Loss)	(\$19,893)	(\$12,854)	(\$7,039)	

FROM THE PASTOR

Church: Not a place to go, but something to do

One of the exciting challenges placed before us by the last General Conference through the United Methodist Communication is to “rethink church.” This rethinking involves our seeing the word *church* as a verb instead of a noun; where we see going to church as an everyday occurrence instead of just on Sunday; where we are spending more time addressing the needs of the world and the community instead of concentrating solely on the needs of the church.

This concept of rethinking church came out of the General Conference evaluating the last eight years of our stressing as a denomination that we had “Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.” It was decided that we had to use the word *open* as a verb, and begin to see the church “not in terms of what it is, but what it could be.” To embark on this journey, we were invited to start asking the “what if” question: “What if church wasn’t just a place we go, but something we do...”



It is felt that that call to rethink church can energize the youth and young adults. The research that was done in relation to the call to rethink church showed that young people want new ways to express their faith, want practical application of faith to real life and a way to make a difference in the world. One of the burdens we have as a church is to do more with our youth and young adults. There is a website specially designated for young people: 10thousanddoors.org. The site uses images of thousands of doors, each opening to a new way to connect with church

I think that this challenge to rethink church has come at a good time for us here at BUMC, as we are five months into our strategic MAP, or Ministry Action Plan. We are in the process of strategizing and planning the implementation of the actions we feel would help us in realizing our future. As we plan to implement the various components of our MAP, it would be important for us to ask the “what if” question to see where God’s Holy Spirit would lead us.

We have covenanted as a church to work diligently toward our transformation and the transformation of the world. For us to do this, we need to start rethinking what church means to us, and what we can do and be to make a difference in our community and the world. If you want to do some further exploration on this emphasis of rethinking church you can check our rethinkchurch.org website.

May God bless each and every one of us in this venture of rethinking church.

Pastor Phil

Eastern Pennsylvania Conference on June 16-18

The Eastern Pennsylvania Annual Conference will be held June 16 - 18 at the Greater Philadelphia Expo Center at Oaks. Those attending from BUMC will be Ryan Benton, Nancy Atchison and Pastor Phil. Please pray for discernment at this time of Holy Conferencing.

The Mission Project for the Annual Conference will be the donation of the following items for the Methodist Home for Children: gift cards from Walmart, JC Penney, Sears, Target, etc., and hygiene kits, packed in baggies, which should include toothbrush, toothpaste, soap, comb, shampoo and conditioner.

These items will be used as part of the school-based programs in eight schools and for the foster care and residential living programs, which serve 600 to 800 children daily. Please place your donations in the box in the narthex labeled “Annual Conference Mission.”

Summer Sundays at outdoor chapel: June 21, July 12 and Aug. 9

As part of his Eagle Scout project, Fredy Tuez built a chapel in the woods at the back of the church. We used it once last year when it was dedicated to the honor and glory of God. At a recent Worship Committee meeting we decided that we would like to use the chapel a little more this year.

To this end, weather permitting, the Sunday morning services for June 21, July 12 (also the day for our all-church picnic) and Aug. 9 will be held in the open air at the chapel. Please bring your lawn chairs.

There was a concern that there may be some of us who will not be able to walk there after parking. Please note that if you need to, you are invited to drive into the area of the chapel for parking on these days of worship at the Chapel in the Woods. We look forward to worshipping together in our outdoor chapel on the appointed days.

We're considering adding a blended worship service

During the summer many of us will have the privilege and the opportunity of worshipping at other churches in this land and in other places. I invite you to take a note of what you experience and how the worship service is structured. If you go to an area and the church offers a multi-sensory, praise or blended worship, I would ask that you intentionally go to worship at that service, taking note of all that is done and the impact it had on you. Please bring back a bulletin and let me have that and the notes of your impressions as soon as you are back from vacation.

One of the calls of the strategic Ministry Action Plan is to introduce at our church a blended or multi-sensory worship service. The Worship Committee members have begun to visit other churches who offer these services. We are hoping to have as much input as possible. We are thinking that we would have to offer a new worship time so as to meet the growing demands of our membership. Would it be on a Saturday evening, or Sunday just after the 8:30 service, or Sunday evening?

Recently, Anne and I went to the blended worship at Hopewell UMC, which was on Saturday at 5:05 p.m. It was called the 505 service. There were quite a number of people present. Most of those present were young families. Each family was there for a different reason: Some children don't like to wake early on Sunday, others had sporting events on Sunday, and others were traveling to visit families on Sunday. We have those issues here at BUMC. The Visioning Team and now the Worship Committee see the call of God to address these needs through the introduction of another worship service. Please help us with as much information and input, for they will be truly valued.

Pastor Phil

Guardian Angels brunch at 9:15 a.m. June 14

On Sunday, June 14, the Missions Committee will host the Guardian Angels Thank You Brunch in the Parlor from 9:15 to 10:15 a.m. All Angels, students and parents of students who had a Guardian Angel are invited. Come anytime during the hour to share coffee, tea, bagels, fruit, and conversation. Guardian Angels will be identified so that students may thank them in person or with a note. We look forward to seeing you there. If you are interested in this mission program, drop in to speak with the participants.

LAST IN A SERIES

Finding a Spiritual Gift by trying something new

In Part 1 of this series, I gave an overview of the scriptural basis for the existence of spiritual gifts and mentioned two particular characteristics that Paul repeatedly emphasizes in his writings: that Spiritual Gifts are God-given, and that they are given to each of us for use in service to help grow God's kingdom in the communities in which we live and work.

Last month I listed the 32 Spiritual Gifts that Charles Bryant suggests are made available to us together with some thoughts on what Spiritual Gifts *are* and *are not*. But there is still an underlying question that is very challenging: How do I figure out what my Spiritual Gifts are and what I should do with them?

This, to me, is part of the joy and challenge of being a person of faith. Unlike getting a birthday gift that you can see, feel and sometimes taste or smell, receiving a Spiritual Gift is, at least in the beginning very intangible. What does it mean to be given the gift of Wisdom or Faith or Intercessory Prayer? And how do I know if I've been given them?

Bryant in his book identifies two ways that can help in sorting this out. If the involvement (or thought of the involvement) in an activity excites you, energizes you, uplifts you, then chances are that activity relates very strongly to a Spiritual Gift that you have been given. On the other hand, if an activity feels like a burden, weighs you down, or is something that you find ways to avoid doing, this is probably an area in which you are not gifted in a spiritual sense. Bryant goes on to write that this realization can be freeing for people, since one shouldn't feel obligated to be involved in an activity that does not draw on their Spiritual Gifts. However, there is a big *but* here. We shouldn't use this as an excuse for not getting involved in an activity where there is an unfulfilled need. The dishes need to be washed and the trash needs to be taken out; we all need to occasionally help out in these activities, as "un-fun" as they may be.

I think there is a third way we learn about our Spiritual Gifts in addition to the two scenarios Bryant describes. At times, we may be asked to become part of an activity in which we're not sure how we feel; it may not be something for which we have a natural affinity or immediate positive response, but also may not be something that immediately results in a negative reaction. Rather, the reaction is one of uncertainty. Sometimes this may be because the activity may be something new to us, or it is something that takes us out of our comfort zones. What do we do in these cases?

I think that in situations like this, it is important to take time to consider the possibilities, or as Pastor Phil would say, take time for discernment. Talk to God in your prayers, talk to your friends, go to Cokesbury to find a book, or look online for some resources that would be helpful in your search for an answer. And if, at the end of this process, you still don't have a clear answer, my suggestion would be to give it a try. What better way to discover our Spiritual Gifts than to become involved in an activity that allows these gifts to grow and flourish, to become something real and tangible in our lives. And if it turns out that this is not an area in which you are spiritually gifted, you would have still learned and grown as a result of the process.

When Phil first asked me to do a class on Spiritual Gifts, I will admit this was not exactly high on my list of things to do. To be honest, it wasn't on my list at all. But, after doing a lot of reading on this topic, I've come to develop a number of insights that I never had considered before. More important, I have had a number of wonderful conversations with people within and outside of BUMC and have been able to experience God making his presence known to me through these people. I still have many questions of my own, but I've also been blessed with many insights along the way.

Spiritual Gifts are a blessing from God to each and every one of us. By discovering and acting our Spiritual Gifts, we create a channel through which God can make his presence known to those around us in a very real and tangible way. That is quite a blessing!

Jim Tiede

Chapel at Methodist Home dedicated to Niles

The chapel at Methodist Home for Children was scheduled to be rededicated officially on May 29 with its new name: the Robert Olin Niles Chapel of the Four Orphans.

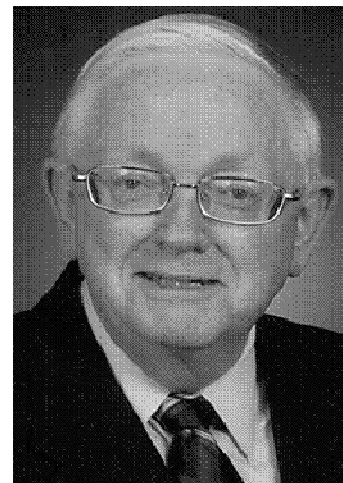
Scheduled speakers for the rededication service were Bishop Peggy Johnson and Pastor Paul Gutknecht.

Bob Niles retired last year as chairman of the MHC board, on which he had served for 20 years. On that occasion, the board adopted a resolution stating in part:

“With a singular blend of plain speaking, depth of analysis, perception and personal warmth, you have led Methodist Home for Children into a strong and positive future.

“Under your visionary leadership we have:

- Turned the Methodist Home for Children campus into a sanctuary for families and children;
- Sustained the organization through troubled times;
- Built a strong, reliable leadership through the corporate structure; and
- Sustained and grown the positive contributions that Methodist Home for Children stands for.”



The Memorial Garden plan is being revised

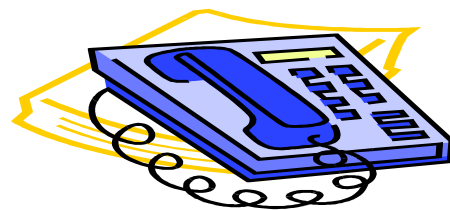
The Administrative Board will be asked to approve a revision in the plan for the Memorial Garden construction. There would be no change in the overall proposal. The change is that Phase II would be constructed first. Phase II consists of the two short walls that intersect at a right angle and contain a total of 45 niches, as opposed to the 78 niches that would be contained in the longer, straight section of wall [Phase I]. Phase II is the section of the wall closest to Waterloo Avenue. Phase II can be built for \$33,000 instead of the \$61,120 required to build the longer wall. Preliminary requests for niches do not indicate a need for more than 45 niches at this time. The Finance and Stewardship Committee has endorsed this change.

Revised drawings are available in the narthex. Please contact Nancy Atchison, Judy Fisk or Sally Robie if you have any questions.

The Lighted Cross

Next deadline: Aug. 15

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 will be published Sept. 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 office.



Church Phone:
610-644-5555

Office E-mail:
officebumc@comcast.net

Church Website:
www.berwynumc.org

HERE'S WHAT IS GOING ON AT BERWYN U.M.C.

Movies That Make You Think. We will show "Entertaining Angels" at 7 p.m. Saturday, June 6. Following is a review: "Dorothy Day is no saint. She lives hard, makes mistakes and endures the consequences. But the unquenchable fire burning with her cannot be contained. Dorothy wants to make a difference. During the Depression, she vows to house the homeless, feed the hungry, tend the sick. Easily said. Not easily done when her total finances amount to 97 cents in a battered canister. Yet Dorothy persists, walking on frequently stormy waters of faith. Popular stars and important themes combine in this compelling true story of the American Mother Teresa." Moira Kelly plays Day, the impassioned New York journalist who launched the activist newspaper *Catholic Worker* and put the words she wrote into controversial action. Martin Sheen, Melinda Dillon and Brian Keith join Kelly in the moving saga of a faith not just believed, but lived.

Lydia Circle (United Methodist Women). We will meet at Andrea Bolger's home at 6 p.m. Sunday, June 7. Everyone should bring an appetizer or a salad, and Andrea will make dessert. Let us know if you will join us! Amy Dwyer perthenia@mac.com.

Offering of Letters. At worship services on June 7, we will have an offering of letters in support of a bipartisan congressional bill that starts the process of overhauling U.S. foreign aid. The Initiating Foreign Assistance Reform Act of 2009, H.R. 2139, calls on the President to create a national strategy for global development. People can write letters ahead of time and bring them to church, or we will have materials at church that day for people to write. Information: <http://www.bread.org/>.

Visit to St. George's. Maxine Jex is organizing a visit to historic St. George's United Methodist Church, 235 North Fourth St., Philadelphia, on Sunday morning, June 28. The group will attend the 11 a.m. service and will have a guided tour of the church afterward. Everyone is invited. If you would like to attend, please phone Maxine at 610-644-5978 before June 20.

Sunday Evening Playdate. Join us for an evening of family fun at 6:30 p.m. Saturday, June 20. This event offers play time for the kids and fellowship and community time for parents. Meet at the church playground (Schieck Hall in case of rain). Please bring kid-friendly snacks to share. Drinks will be provided.

Book Club. The club will discuss *The Soloist* at its meeting at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, June 10, at the home of Romaine Rood. Gene Foreman will lead the discussion of this nonfiction book by his friend and former colleague Steve Lopez. Please RSVP to Romaine at 610-647-3534.

Mission Trip. Susan Burris is leaving June 18 on a mission trip to Nicaragua. She is gathering old eyeglasses and new toothbrushes to distribute on her trip, and she invites donations of these items from the congregation.

'VeggieTales' DVDs are available for borrowing

The Children's Collection of our church library has been the recent beneficiary of a marvelous donation by Ryan Benton. Ryan has given BUMC 26 new *VeggieTales* DVDs! Yes – just in time for summer viewing, this new collection is available for borrowing.

VeggieTales is a series of children's computer-animated films featuring vegetables that act like people. Bob the Tomato, Larry the Cucumber, Junior Asparagus and the rest of the crew share stories and songs that the whole family is sure to enjoy. Developed by the company Big Idea, these films have moral themes based on Christianity, often compatible with Judaism, which are dotted with references to current events and pop culture. Some of the titles you will see are: *Abe and the Amazing Promise: A Lesson in Patience*; *Duke and the Great Pie War: A Lesson in Loving Your Family*; *Sheerluck Holmes and the Golden Ruler: A Lesson in Friendship*; and *Gideon Tuba Warrior: A Lesson in Trusting God*.

Marjorie Smink



A happy update on a resettled Kosovo family

Many of you remember that about 10 years ago our church family sponsored three Kosovo refugee families as they resettled here in our community. The family that lived in our home decided to stay in the United States and have become U.S. citizens. They recently expressed again their sincere gratitude for all that the church did for them during a very terrible time.

Over the years, it has become even more apparent to them the wonderful gifts they received from our church family. You may recall that they did not speak English, and had lived in an Albanian refugee camp for weeks prior to coming to the United States. They were separated from their families and did not know if their families had escaped Kosovo or been killed. They lost all their worldly possessions. Your generosity with donations of your time and money, helped them resettle in an apartment in West Chester, where they still live today.

When Basha and Melita came to live with us, Jacqui (spelled Xhevrije) was 5 and Blendi was 3. Jacqui and Blendi now have a younger brother, Andy, who is now 5. We recently met for a pizza dinner, a favorite meal 10 years ago. I hope you enjoy the picture!

If you would like to send them a note their address is: Shefki Basha Family, Golf Club Apartments-J8, 1100 West Chester Pike, West Chester, PA 19382.

Susan Burris

LENDING A HAND

June 7

Acolyte: Asa Walker

Liturgist: Tom O'Donnell

Ushers: John Ku, Bob Borst,

Will Bushnell, Carl Bushnell

Bulletin Preparation: Pat White

Friday Volunteers: Peh-sun and Hui-chen Ku

Flower Delivery: Judy Fisk

June 14

Acolyte: Jeremy Borelly

Liturgists: Graduates

Ushers: Jack Campbell, Jon Stockler,

Alice Nicholas, Brett Shallcross

Bulletin Preparation: Sue Farina

Friday Volunteer: Peggy Robinson

Flower Delivery: Margi Mackenzie

June 21

Liturgists: Luis, Andres, Javier

and Sofia Montaner

Ushers: Don Young, Peh-sun Ku,

Pete Tillett

Bulletin Preparation: Barbara Borst

Friday Volunteer: Barbara Borst

Flower Delivery: Margie O'Donnell

June 28

Liturgist: Mark Cutler

Ushers: Bob Fisk, Nagle Bridwell,

Judy Dunn, Margie O'Donnell

Bulletin Preparation: Sue Farina

Friday Volunteer: May Dickenson

Flower Delivery: Barbara Borst

Nursery School ends on an exciting note

Nursery School has come to an end for the 2008-09 school year. All the classes had one last trip, and then came the final week's picnics.

We can always tell when it is time for the year to end. The children take on a new level of excitement. Classes who walked single file in the hallways are suddenly tearing down the hall. The bathrooms are echoing with great and loud bursts of laughter and classrooms are erupting with so much energy and fun. This is nothing new; it occurs every year. Shy children find lots to talk about in the spring, and they join in with the heightened level of hilarity.

The Spring Musicale for the 5-Day Mothers was a joy to hear and see. The children entertained their mothers with songs they had learned throughout the year. After the final note, the mothers joined their children for brunch in the flower-filled 5-Day rooms. Sitting with the mothers in the Sanctuary during the program, I saw many tissues being used to wipe those unexpected tears. As usual, our music teacher, Lynne Hockenbury, did a wonderful job.

So now, as easels are stored away and bookcases are straightened we already have new supplies being delivered for next year. Two weeks of Camp Fun, and the school will fall silent once again. There will be some painting, some cleaning and before we are even aware, the school year will begin once again.

Ann Bole

Fall Festival, Oct. 10

We are starting to gather our DUCKS in a row and have already put some dust BUNNIES into the Scout Cabin for the FLEA market. The seeds have been planted, ready to grow into the Reiters family PUMPKIN sales. The BUSY BEES are working on the popular Flea Market tables and the BOOKS, and the JEWELRY and the COLLECTIBLE tables are starting to put their heads together. BUT we still need you. We need HELP, and October will be here before we know it. Please contact Jack and Janet Campbell and Kate and Brian Walker to join in the fun.

CARDS OF THANKS

To the Lenten Luncheon Helpers. Thanks to the people who helped prepare food for the Lenten lunches this year: Nancy Atchison, Kay Krause, Sally Robie, Donna Pitz, Debbie Nemetz, Judy Fisk, Romaine Rood, Claudia Sharpless, Sue Farina Rick Stoker, Pat White and Jen Cutler. Special thanks to Dick Rood for cleaning up. Also, thanks to the BUMC devotional speakers: Kristine Adams, Veronica Mosley and Pastor Phil. The proceeds from the free-will offering were donated to REACT.

From Bridge of Hope, Lancaster and Chester Counties: Dear friends at Berywn, thank you for your gift of fleece children's blankets and supplies for making Valentines. At a time when so many are pulling back in their giving, we celebrate your generosity to those who are in need. Your gift allows us to work towards restoring hope for formerly homeless families. Blessings, Francesca J. Crane, executive director, and Sue A. Groff, church relations and development director.

From Lynn Price: Dear Berwyn friends, thank you for all the support and prayers for Basil and me during his long illness. Many of you stayed in touch via e-mail, and I really appreciated it. During the many long days, your prayers touched me and your e-mails cheered me. I will always be grateful and always remember you.

From Alice Nichols: My dear friends and family of BUMC, I want to thank all of you for the many home visits, the cards, thoughts and prayers you sent me during my 28 days in the hospital and rehab center. I am presently at home. I would like to share with all of you that BUMC is the best house of worship, and that Pastor Phil is the best preacher and keeps us ministering to all who need our help. Let's continue to make BUMC the best anyone could ever want in the blessings God has bestowed upon us. With gratitude, love and grace.

From Ruth Rumiano: For the cards, phone calls, acts of kindness and prayers by Pastor Phil and members of BUMC during my recent illness, I am deeply appreciative and thank you. Rosalie and I are especially blessed to be a part of this church family.

From Alyce Braun: I wish to thank the nice people of the congregation for all the lovely cards I received recently following surgery April 3. It is so nice to receive mail when you are confined to the hospital or rehab. I am continuing to recuperate at daughter Sue Tiede's home. Thank you all so much.

From the Family of Maria Claudia: We thank you very much for all the attention our daughter, Maria Claudia, has received. We hope that sometime we can say this in person, all of what you do for others will be rewarded in the future. May God, Our Lord, bless you and your house and may Jesus Christ light your life. We ask that you keep Maria Claudia in your prayers and all the children with cancer. Eternally, thank you from all of our family: Fredy and Zully, Whinnie (older sister) and Maria Claudia. [A sad update: Unfortunately, Maria Claudia's cancer is not cured, and her doctors are trying to determine if more chemotherapy or surgery is in order.]

Applications are invited for the job of youth ministry director

Our current youth ministry director, Ryan Benton, will be leaving his church job this summer and moving on to new life adventures. (Ryan, who graduated in December from West Chester University, is now on the marketing staff of the Morris Arboretum of the University of Pennsylvania.) We have been blessed to have Ryan work with our youth for the past few years, and will miss all of the wonderful attributes he has brought to this role.

We are seeking a youth ministry director who will work very closely with Jess Simmons in her role as children's director. This individual should be at least 21 years of age and have a passion to help guide the spiritual growth, biblical education and fellowship of our youth (grades 5-12). Should you know of any potential candidates, please contact Brian Donadio or Pastor Phil.

Staff-Parish Relations Committee