



June 2008

BERWYN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
INVITING NURTURING AND ENCOURAGING SERVICE

The Lighted Cross

We Salute Our 2008 Graduates

HIGH SCHOOL

Sarah Andersen

Kaitlyn Brennan

Lia Campbell

Katie Frey

Sebastien Galvez

Suzanne Nemetz

COLLEGE

Kyle Andersen

David Bushnell

Julia Farina

Keelie Fitzgerald

Eric Lewis

Christine Nemetz



**VOICES FROM THE FINANCE
AND STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE**

Constant maintenance is what we need

Most of us, at one time or another, have been involved with choosing and financing a new car. Perhaps a payment book or a monthly bill will arrive and be a persistent reminder that a payment is due. Your financial responsibility does not end there, however. *Constant maintenance* is needed to keep your car on the road. Oil changes, new tires, inspections, washer solvent, air in the tires, and of course the gasoline (at constantly increasing costs) all help propel our vehicle *forward!* In exchange for all this is transportation to jobs, the store, homes of family and friends, vacation spots, children’s sporting events, school activities and places too numerous to mention. If we *take care* of our cars, the miles we travel are trouble-free. Most of us think nothing of spending money on this marvelous vehicle that gives us years of service.

We took time to choose our home of worship. We have taken responsibility toward our financial commitment to our church. *Constant maintenance* is needed to keep our church on the right road. Dedication and commitment to outreach, projects, and mission have always been important part of the church’s life, and there are numerous beneficiaries of our gifts. In exchange for all this is the marvelous congregation we call “home.” Through our church, babies are baptized, children are confirmed, weddings are celebrated, and solemn burials take place. We laugh, eat, listen, sing and learn, and pray and praise. We are all traveling a journey of Faith together and *forward*. The Finance Committee thanks all who *take care* of the church through financial commitments. With God’s help, all the miles we travel together will be trouble-free.

Have you considered how much is accomplished by the gifts we so generously give to the glory of God and the work of our church?

Janet K. Campbell

Financial results for April 2008

We’re pleased to report that income is approximately \$13,000 ahead, compared with the same point in year 2007. Congratulations and thank you!

April 2008	Actual	Budget	favorable (unfavorable)	% of budget
Contribution Income	\$121,687	\$133,776	(\$12,089)	91%
Other Income	\$18,140	\$15,768	\$2,372	115%
Expense	\$148,534	\$152,615	\$4,081	97%
gain(loss)	(\$8,707)	(\$3,071)	(\$5,636)	

Ad board to receive revised strategic plan June 24

The strategic planning team delivered a draft Ministry Action Plan to the Administrative Board on April 29. The plan is guided by our Vision Statement and builds on the intrinsic strengths of the Berwyn congregation identified by the Church Vitality Index.

The church leadership is reviewing the suggestions with the committees. The draft plan will be refined and presented again to the Administrative Board on June 24 . That meeting will be dedicated to discussion of the Ministry Action Plan.

Mike Benton

FROM THE PASTOR

A time for celebrating, and for giving thanks

TIMOTHY, at the age of sixteen, was the bishop of the church in Ephesus. This was the highest ecclesiastical office that anyone could hold. Paul, his mentor, knew that at this tender age Timothy had not learned everything needed to make him an effective leader. In 2 Timothy 2:15, Paul exhorted Timothy to “study to show yourself approved to God, a worker who needs not be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth” (King James Version).

During May and June, this verse repeatedly comes to my mind whenever I remember those who have graduated or will be graduating from college and high school. Their graduation is an indication that they have studied diligently and worked hard to acquire some necessary tools in preparation for a productive and useful life in the years ahead. I honor and celebrate the achievement and accomplishments of our graduates from our Berwyn UMC family. I hope and pray that you will make learning a lifelong pursuit, always keeping on the cutting edge of new thoughts, insights, and tools that would enhance your lives and the lives of others.

At this time of the year I also think of Paul’s words to the Philippians when he said to them in Philippians 1:3, “I thank my God every time I remember you” (New Revised Standard Version).

I think of the laity and the excellent work that has been done over the year in the vital ministries of Missions, Communications, Christian Education, Nurture, Hospitality, Worship and Outreach, and I give God the praise and the honor.

I think of the music ministry and the crucial role it has played in the life and work of the church, and again I give thanks.

I think of the vitality of the youth ministry, and I praise and magnify the glorious name of the Lord.

Whenever I remember the D.A.R.T team, I thank God for answering a prayer of need from our community for healing and restoration to wholeness.

I think of the mission and vision statements; the initial work that has been done on the Ministry Action Plan; and again I laud and adore the great God of wonder for the excellent work that was done by Mike Benton and the visioning team.

I am always blessed when I take time to remember and give thanks to God for providing such dedicated and committed lay ministers here at Berwyn UMC. We are the Body of Christ, and it takes each and every one of us to do the work of ministry so as to make this community and the world a better place.

I honor and congratulate our graduates and I offer my heartfelt thanks to all who gave of their time and talent to the Lord over the course of this church year. May God continue to bless and strengthen us on our journey of faith and as loving followers of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Peace during the summer months. Enjoy the rest and relaxation of summer; then may we return with renewed eagerness to do even greater things for our Lord in the new church year starting in September.

Pastor Phil

OUR HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES

Sarah Andersen, Conestoga. Since sixth grade, Sarah has been a part of the Civil Air Patrol, an Air Force auxiliary. At Conestoga, Sarah was in the writers' forum and was a member of the speech team. She completed her senior internship at Beaumont Elementary School, where she assisted the art teacher. She will attend Lock Haven University and major in elementary education.

Kaitlyn Brennan, Conestoga. She was active in the Best Buddies Club and has been volunteering in emergency medical service at Berwyn Fire Company since November. Kait attended The American School in London in 2006, then moved back to Devon for her senior year. After school, she volunteers with the horseback riding program at Greyllyn Farms in Malvern, in exchange for riding lessons. She completed her senior internship with the IST department at Valley Forge. Kait will enroll in American University.

Lia Campbell, Conestoga. She has participated in our ASP trips many times and is a part of our team for 2008. She completed her senior internship at the Episcopal Academy and works at Barnes & Noble bookstore. Lia will take a year off to tour Europe before enrolling in the University of Colorado in fall 2009.

Katie Frey, Conestoga. Katie was a member of Conestoga's first-ever state champion girls' soccer team. A goalie, she allowed only five goals in 25 games — and none in the state playoffs. She was on the all-area and all-region teams and was Main Line Life's player of the year. She also was captain of the rugby team. She completed her internship at New Eagle Elementary School, working with the gym teacher. Katie will attend George Mason University, where she will major in sports marketing and play on the soccer team.

Sebastien Galvez, Conestoga. He completed his senior internship at Gamestop in Devon, where he has been working for the past few years. Sebastien is interested in art and literature. He accompanied the Volunteers In Mission (VIM) team to El Salvador in 2006-07. He will attend Penn State University's University Park Campus, where he will major in international politics and play on the soccer team.

Suzanne Nemetz, Conestoga. She was an officer and board member of the Best Buddies Club, an officer of the EMT/Firefighter Club, and an emergency medical technician and CPR instructor with the Berwyn Fire Company. Suzanne was an honor student and received Conestoga Service and Leadership Awards each year. She teaches horseback riding at Greyllyn Farms in Malvern. She will attend Juniata College and study to become a special-education teacher.

OUR COLLEGE GRADUATES

Kyle Andersen, Elon University, bachelor's degree in communications. He directed and produced the news broadcasts for ESTV, the Elon student television station. He has a job as a multimedia content and coverage coordinator for WNCT in Greensboro, N.C.

David Bushnell, East Carolina University, bachelor's degree in mathematics and computer science. He played club basketball and many intramural sports, and was a math tutor.

Julia Farina, James Madison University, bachelor's degree in music. She was a member of the JMU Opera Guild. She plans to find a job in her field.

Keelie Fitzgerald, Temple University, bachelor's degree in psychology. She was on the Dean's List, participated in Habitat for Humanity, and worked at the Tech Center on campus. Throughout her college experience, Keelie worked at a variety of jobs: day care, baking, catering services, restaurant wait staff, advertising sales, market surveys, and child care.

Eric Lewis, New York University, a bachelor's degree from NYU's Gallatin School for Individualized Study.

Christine Nemetz, Gettysburg College, bachelor's degrees cum laude in biological chemistry and molecular biology and health sciences. She received the Karl J. Mattson Service Award for campus and community service. Christine was a program assistant at the Center for Public Policy and volunteered as an emergency medical technician and firefighter with the Gettysburg Fire Company. After an internship at Astra Zeneca, Christine will join VISTA for a year, heading the Campus Kitchens at Gettysburg College.



Blast off with us on July 7

On July 7, we will blast off to Cosmic City for our 2008 Vacation Bible School. We will team with families to help children grow in the confidence and understanding of the love of God.

Few places inspire the awe and wonder of God more naturally than the heavens He created. So we are launching our voyagers into space, where they'll experience the awe and wonder for themselves.

After a successful VBS last summer, this year we're creating a fun and fanciful floating space city where they can delight in discovering who God is. The program includes a light supper, games, crafts, music and drama, and more surprises that you'll have to come to see for yourself.

Vacation Bible School will run from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m. on Monday, July 7, through Friday, July 11.

For those who register before June 15, the fee is \$30. After June 15, the fee is \$40.

For each child you will be sending to VBS, please fill out a registration form and a medical information and authorization form. You can download the forms from our website, www.berwynumc.org/vbs. Or, if you prefer, you may register online. Forms should be returned to the church office, attention VBS. Don't forget to include the fee. Please note that registration is required. Space is limited, so please register as soon as possible.

If you have any questions, please contact Nancy Atchison (610-644-2775), Ryan Benton (610-308-4309), or Janet Campbell (610-647-8291), or e-mail officebumc@comcast.net.

MISSIONS MEMO

Foursomes needed to play golf for a good cause

Scott Campbell came to the Missions Committee with a compelling request. He and Gail have formed a foundation in Chelsea's name to provide funds to young people who have addiction problems, and whose health insurance will not pay for their care. To fund the foundation, they are holding a golf tournament on Sept. 1 at Kimberton Golf Club. He hoped that the committee would sponsor a hole.

The committee met with Scott and Kate Walker from the D. A.R.T. Committee, considered the proposal, and voted to sponsor a hole. In addition we are hoping that golf-playing members of the congregation will form a foursome or two to play in the tournament. The cost per foursome is \$400. Dinner after the tournament is included in that cost. If you can't play golf, perhaps you will consider volunteering at the tournament.

On Sunday, June 1, a special offering will be taken for the welfare of the survivors of the earthquake in China and the cyclone in Myanmar. The funds collected will be sent to UMCOR for disbursement.

The Guardian Angels Brunch will be held on Sunday, June 8, before the 10:30 service. All angels and students are invited. Each student will have an opportunity to personally thank his or her angel.

Betsy Newman

Card of thanks

Bob and Kathleen Niles thank you for your prayers, your get-well cards, and many other kind gestures during the past several months.

As you may know, Kathleen spent 87 days in hospital/physical rehab settings recovering from a prescription-induced and near-fatal toxic shock experience, followed by a still-continuing recovery period at home.

Your spiritual and emotional support during this scary and challenging time has truly made an unforgettable contribution to her positive outlook!

32 years in ministry

In May, the Rev. Philip I. Ponce observed the 32nd anniversary of his ordination as a minister in the United Methodist Church. Lay leader Jim Tiede paid tribute to Pastor Phil in remarks at services on May 18.

Alumnus award

David Brennan received a Distinguished Alumnus Award from Gettysburg College at honors day on May 17.

Bibles from the church go to 12 children

Bibles were presented on May 18 to children who will enter the third grade in the fall. Kathleen West made the presentations at the 10:30 service. The following received Bibles:

Elizabeth Cutler	Marianna Mancera
Katie Deflavia	Maria Merino
Wilson Dodds	Mateo Marino
Sophie Dunn	Javier Montaner
Chelsea Escurra	Allison West
Miranda Escurra	Campbell Wolov

United Methodist Women meet at Reading in July

United Methodist Women of the Eastern Pennsylvania Conference will meet July 18-20 at the Inn in Reading for study and fellowship.

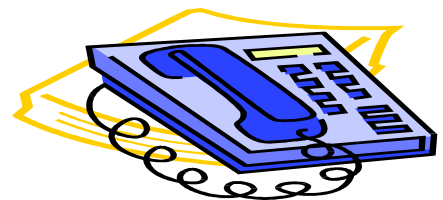
Amy Dwyer will be going – and hoping that others would like to go, too. See Amy for information about registration.

The Lighted Cross

This is the last issue until September

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. Please submit your items by Aug. 15 to gene.foreman@verizon.net. There also is a mailbox in the church office.



Church Phone:

610-644-5555

Office E-mail:

officebumc@comcast.net

Church Website:

www.berwynumc.org

Lending a Hand

June 1

Liturgist: Barbara Stockler

Ushers: Brian Dunn, Vic Burriss,

Luis Montaner, Rachel Burriss

Acolyte: Emily Miccariello

Coffee Committee: Amy Dodds,

Janelle Larson, Janet Campbell

Flower Delivery: Margie MacKenzie

June 8

Liturgist: Graduates

Ushers: John Ku, Bob Borst, Will Bushnell,

Carl Bushnell

Acolyte: Zachary Phelps

Coffee Committee: Sue Denisevicz,

Gina Phelps, Nancy Koons

Flower Delivery: Barbara Borst

June 15

Liturgist: Keith, David and James Emery

Ushers: Jacque Leiser, Jack Campbell,

Jon Stockler, Alis Nicholas

Acolyte: Laura Stockler

Coffee Committee: The Spirit Cafe

Flower Delivery: Judy Fisk

June 22

Liturgist: Bill Robie

Ushers: Don Young, John McDowell,

Peh Ku, Pete Tillett

Acolyte: Daniel Galvez

Coffee Committee: The Spirit Cafe

Flower Delivery: Margie MacKenzie

June 29

Liturgist: Gene Foreman

Ushers: Judy Fisk, Hal Craig, Alan Hess,

Tyler Borelly

Coffee Committee: The Spirit Cafe

Flower Delivery: Barbara Borst

WHAT'S GOING ON AT B.U.M.C.

Landscaping. The Landscape Group needs helpers this summer to feed, weed, and otherwise tend the church landscape. We will meet from 6:30 to 8 on Tuesday evenings for fun and fellowship. If you can join us, please contact Judy Edinger. If you would prefer to help at another time during the week, please contact Judy for suggestions. There is always lots to do.

Homes for Katrina homeless. The week after Easter, five teams of builders gathered at the Devon Horse Show grounds to build identical 1,200-square-foot homes. They competed to see who could build the fastest. The event, sponsored by St. John's Presbyterian Church, helps the Habitat for Humanity chapter of Baton Rouge, La., to build homes for people left homeless from Hurricane Katrina. As the walls on each home were completed, they were dismantled, loaded on a tractor trailer, and driven to Baton Rouge. Along with the walls, each home departed Devon with enough money to finish the roof on location. All five homes are now standing in Baton Rouge and are expected to be finished inside for occupancy this summer. Thanks to your support throughout the year (Harvest Dinner, Christmas brunch, soupy Thursdays, pancake breakfasts) the Adult Council was able to donate \$1,000 toward the roof on one of the homes. We thank you for supporting the fellowship efforts of the Adult Council. We look forward to more good times and to helping out again next year

Eagle Scout Project. Have you noticed the funny-looking poles sticking up out of the ground back behind the Scout cabin area? Those are the supports for the benches (yes, they will be cut lower) for the outdoor chapel that is being built by the Boy Scouts for Fredy Tuez-Chumpitaz's Eagle Scout project. The outdoor meditation area should be completed by the middle of June.

On the Web. Check <http://bythezip.com/>. The church is participating in this innovative website to let others know about the wonderful things that go on at Berwyn United Methodist Church. By the time you get this issue of The Lighted Cross, our web page should be established — another way to spread the word.

Fall Festival, Oct. 11. We will not be able to accept televisions due to the switch from analog to digital broadcasting. We are also unable to accept child car seats due to federal regulations. Please remember the sale when you clean areas around the house. Storage will be available after Sept. 1.

Meet the Confirmation Class of 2008

Emily Andersen is a seventh grade student at T/E Middle School. Her interests include horseback riding, sailing, volleyball, kayaking and Girl Scouts. She is considering teaching as a possible career. She would like to serve in the Bell Choir and Youth Council.

Jeremy Borelly is a sixth grade student at Spring-Ford Intermediate School. He enjoys biking and working with his hands. He is considering a career in construction. He would like to help the church with special projects.

Ben Cutler is an eighth grade student at Spring-Ford Middle School. His interests include sports, football and video games. Ben is considering a career as a football player or engineer. He would like to serve the church on Youth Council.

Andy Cutler is a sixth grader at Spring-Ford Intermediate School. He enjoys football and video games and aspires to be a NFL player. He would like to serve on Youth Council.

James Emery is a sixth grade student at Renaissance Academy. His interests include soccer and sports. He is not sure about his career goal but would like to serve the church as an usher and help with special events and Sunday School.

Matt Hoffman is an eighth grade student at T/E Middle School. He enjoys baseball, video games and friends. He is interested in a career in business and would like to serve on Youth Council.

Emily Miccariello is a seventh grade student at T/E Middle School who loves softball, basketball and traveling. She is thinking about becoming a softball player or a lawyer. She would like to be on the Youth Council.

Andres Montaner is a seventh grader at T/E Middle School whose interests are lacrosse, swimming and traveling. He is considering a career in photography and would like to serve on Youth Council and Bell Choir.

Alex O'Donnell is an eleventh grade student at Conestoga High School whose interests are marathon running, triathlon, politics, and philosophy. Possible career goals are college professor, political analyst, author and senator. He would like to serve the church on the Missions Committee or Church and Society Committee.

Zachary Phelps is a seventh grade student at T/E Middle School who enjoys sports, outdoors and reading. Possible career goals are stock broker or a basketball player. He would like to serve on Children's or Youth Council.

Roger Toro is an eighth grade student at Harris School. His interests include soccer, drawing and music. Possible career goals are a digital designer or an architect. He would like to serve the church on Children's Council or Youth Council.

Asa Walker is a seventh grader at T/E Middle School. His interests include soccer, biking and video games. He is possibly interested in a career in programming and currently sings in the Adult Choir.

BUMC welcomes the Cutler family as new members

Jennifer and Mark Cutler, who live in Collegetown, have joined BUMC by transfer of membership from First UMC in Phoenixville. Their sons, Andy and Ben, were confirmed at the May 11 service. They also have a daughter, Elizabeth, a first grader. Jennifer is the daughter of Judy and Bob Fisk. Mark, a mechanical engineer who graduated from Villanova University, works for SKF North America in Lansdale. Jennifer was confirmed at BUMC and received a business degree from the University of Delaware. She is a stay-at-home, volunteering and chauffeuring mom.

Thank you, Coffee Committee. You make Sunday mornings special. If you would be willing to serve on this committee next year, please call Margie O'Donnell or Sue Farina.



The confirmands were photographed after being received into the church at the 10:30 service on May 11. *Front row:* Roger Toro, Jeremy Borelly, Emily Andersen, Emily Miccariello, Andy Cutler, James Emery. *Back row:* Asa Walker, Andres Montaner, Matt Hoffman, Alex O'Donnell, Ben Cutler, Zach Phelps.

14 will go to Clinchco, Va., to help repair houses

Fourteen youth and adults will leave BUMC on June 28 for the 2008 Appalachia Service Project in Clinchco, Va. This annual mission trip is a great way to take our youth outside the bubble we live in on the Main Line and experience what many people go through to meet their basic needs.

During the trip, we split into two work teams and help families in need by making repairing their houses. At the same time, we develop a relationship with the families, share our faith and other experiences.

We still need more financial support, so look for our last burst of fundraising to come in June. If you would like to make a direct contribution, you may do so by placing an envelope marked "ASP" in the offering plate during worship. For more information, contact Ryan Benton, RPBenton@gmail.com.

Nursery School winds down for the summer

We had a wonderful Staff/Mother Appreciation Event. The evening was beautiful. We all had a chance to socialize and view the items up for bids.

The 5-Day classes presented a Musicale and Mother's Brunch in honor of Mother's Day. This group also journeyed to St. Monica's School for a play put on by the children of the school.

The 3-Day and the 2-Day classes have visited the Great Valley Nature Center for nature lessons. Other events included a visit to Milky Way Farm by our 5-Day classes; Pajama Day for all the classes; and Spirit Day at Handel's Ice Cream in Berwyn.

As school ends, Camp Fun begins. This camp runs from the day after Memorial Day until June 6. Some of the special days are Messy Paint Day, Water Day, and BUMNS Turnpike Day.

Q&A on the Memorial Garden

Where will the Memorial Garden be located? A wall containing the niches will be constructed in the grassy area between the entrance driveway and the north window wall of the church. The scattering garden will be placed against an existing brick wall that is part of the north entrance to the Sanctuary. The garden will be a quiet place for family and friends to visit.

When will the Memorial Garden be constructed? We hope we can construct the first phase of the garden in the fall or spring of 2008-09, but construction will not begin until \$67,000 in fees has been paid. (This garden will be a self-supporting project, not part of the annual church budget.) In the first phase, a section of the wall containing 80 niches will be built. Later, a second section containing 100 niches would be added.

Who can be interred in the Memorial Garden? The niches and the scattering garden will be reserved for church members and their families. However, the Memorial Garden Committee may approve interment of others who have a relationship to BUMC.

What will it cost? For niches: Members/previous members – \$1,500 for a single niche and \$500 for second person prior to Sept. 1, 2008; thereafter, \$2,500 for a single niche and \$500 for second person. Nonmembers with Memorial Garden Committee approval – \$2,500 for single niche and \$500 for second person prior to Sept. 1, 2008; thereafter, \$3,000 for a single niche and 500 for second person. For the scattering garden, with name on a memorial plaque on the wall – \$750 per person. In addition, a one-time donation of \$350 per person will be charged at the time of death. This one-time donation will pay for continuing maintenance of the garden and for engraving the granite face plate of niches or the brass name plate on the plaque for those whose ashes are scattered.

What are the church's responsibilities? The church will assign the niche and arrange for engraving of the face plate on the niche and, in the case of the scattering garden, the engraving of the name plate on the memorial plaque. Precise record-keeping and the perpetual care of the garden will be important responsibilities of the church.

What are my responsibilities? You are encouraged to register and make an advance donation for interment space. At that time, you can select your location in the garden and obtain additional information, including the regulations governing the garden. To arrange interment in the garden, the church should be contacted by the family or a funeral director. A committal service in the Sanctuary will precede each interment. Your family is responsible for making the arrangements with the funeral home and for paying the funeral home's fees, including the cost of cremation.

How can I receive more information? Contact the church office for more information or to obtain an "Application for Internment." The contractor's rendering of the garden is on display in the narthex. Members of the Memorial Garden Committee are available to answer questions. Nancy Atchison is committee chair. Other members are Sally Bridwell, Judy and Bob Fisk, Judy Edinger, Margi MacKenzie, Sally Robie, Claudia Sharpless, and Ann West.