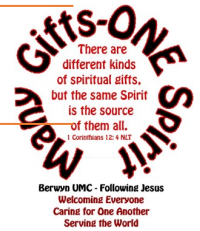




# THE LIGHTED CROSS

## BERWYN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



### June 2017

#### Mark Your Calendars:

- June 4 Adult Fellowship Progressive Dinner
- June 4 Graduate Recognition
- June 10 Used Computer & Medical Supply Collection
- June 11 Farewell Picnic for Jacabellas
- June 13 Summer Bible Study begins
- July 2—Pastor Tim arrives!
- July 16—Hero Central VBC!

#### Join Us For Worship

9 am Outdoor Chapel

10 am Sanctuary

Communion is observed on the First Sunday of the Month

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

Pastor: Gary Jacabella

Children's Coordinator: Cindy Shallcross

Lay Leader: David Adams

Admin. Assistant: Veronica Mosley

Organist/Director of Music: Judith Lang

Nursery Assist: Eliza Chum-pitaz

Sexton: Roger Toro

Introductory letter from our incoming pastor, Rev. Dr. Tim Duchesne:

May 14, 2017

To the Congregation and Saints of Berwyn United Methodist Church

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I am looking forward to meeting each and every one of you, and being in ministry together with you for the glory of God's Kingdom. I bring to our partnership in Christ over twenty years of ministry experience; including work on the Eastern Pennsylvania Conference Committee for New Church starts, and the Committee for Equitable Compensation. I began an emergent community, created a 501(C)3 community youth oriented outreach center, lead congregations through visioning and strategic planning as an experienced Transitional Intentional Interim Minister, and bring 20 years of experience being involved in Healing the Wounds of Racism and other related social justice ministries. I firmly believe that all people are welcome in God's church and that each one of us is deeply loved by God, just as we are right now.

I am deeply and passionately in love with God and my beloved wife of 26 years Rev. (soon to be Doctor Ph.D.) Suzanne Duchesne. My hobbies include golfing, sailing, playing Native American flute and guitar, scuba diving, theatre, playing a good board game with friends new and old, bridge, cribbage and walks in nature.

I would describe myself, as somewhat of, a Christian mystic. I engage in the contemplative practices of prayer, meditation, fasting, worship and study as a regular part of my personal spiritual life and invite others to join with me in this marvelous journey of life and faith in God.

I have already begun to pray for all of you. Please pray for Suzanne and me, as well. It is my hope and prayer that our time together will be a blessing for both of us, and the larger community of Berwyn, PA.

In Christ's love,

Rev. Dr. Timothy Duchesne

**July 2: First Sunday for Pastor Duchesne.** Please plan to attend church on Sunday July 2, 2017, as we welcome our new pastor, Dr. Rev. Timothy Duchesne and his wife Suzanne. There will be a gathering after the service with refreshments. More details to follow.

#### Our Mission Statement

God calls Berwyn UMC to be a community

Of Christian believers that:

Invites ~ Nurtures ~ Encourages Service

## PASTOR'S THOUGHTS *Gary Jacabella*

The Methodist way of appointing Pastors goes back to one of the first Bishops in America, Francis Asbury who led the early Methodist Movement in the 18<sup>th</sup> century. Asbury was a genius at deploying pastors. He relied on pastors who would itinerate, which meant going where their particular Holy Spirit inspired gifts and graces were needed. In those days, Methodist pastors relied more on prayer, Bible preaching and the power and anointing of the Holy Spirit than on formal education although pastors did a lot of studying outside of school. If a pastor wanted to “locate” or get married and settle down, then that pastor usually stopped serving congregations to take up another line of work, often times farming.

Over time the parsonage system enabled Pastors to get married and have a family and still move frequently from place to place. Pastors found out at the Annual Conference where they were being deployed. Congregations provided parsonages that were fully furnished and so the pastor's family just had to move themselves and their few personal belongings. It is within my own lifetime as a pastor that furniture began to be removed from parsonages so that pastors began taking along furnishings for the parsonage. An even bigger transition is now taking hold, more congregations are providing a housing allowance instead of a parsonage so that pastor families have to find their own housing when they move even when the move needs to happen in two months' time or less in some cases.

Itinerancy is still the Methodist way in the United Methodist Church of the early 21<sup>st</sup> century. Every year, every congregation and every pastor has to think about a move or a change. Every year, each Church Council of every congregation completes a Church Profile that describes their congregation and what they think they need in a pastor. Every year each pastor completes a clergy profile outlining his or her gifts and graces along with a description of what the pastor needs in a congregation. John Wesley urged his pastor not to stay in any one place any longer than was absolutely necessary. It is largely up to the pastor to discern from God when he or she has fulfilled the necessary time of service at a particular location. Up until 2017, each pastor has had a personal interview with their District Superintendent.

Making appointments has become very complicated for a Bishop and the District Superintendents of an Annual Conference. Some pastor's own their homes. Most pastor spouses have jobs. Pastors' children often have special needs that require the Bishop and the District Superintendents to think about the school district to which they are sending children. Pastors are often taking care of parents or in-laws and need to be close to extended family. You can imagine how difficult it is for a Bishop and District Superintendents to keep track of the needs and special requests and yet every congregation must have a pastor and every pastor who is fully ordained as an elder and full conference member is guaranteed an appointment.

So what is a congregation to do when it comes time for a pastoral transition? First of all it is important for the Church Council to cooperate and take seriously the responsibility of completing a church profile every year. Often, the pastor has a hard time getting the council to complete the task on time and so the pastor fills out the form. Not a good idea.

But even more important is for everyone involved to have mercy. Have mercy on the Bishop, the Superintendents, each other along with the pastor and the pastor's family. If a congregation and a pastor want to see things work out than large amounts of love are needed.

We are not more sophisticated than our forbearers. It takes the miracle working power of the Holy Spirit to help a congregation function as an outpost of God's Kingdom. Jesus is our Lord. We all have to look for how God is at work in a situation in spite of all the complications. We discern what God wants and what God is doing. God can take our frail efforts to make decisions and take action in complex situations and make them turn out for good, if we love.

It's my experience that the Berwyn United Methodist congregation has a lot of love to give. I have felt loved every year and every day of my sojourn in Berwyn. I thank you for all of that love expressed in many ways. I pray the next pastor who serves the Berwyn United Methodist congregation will also benefit from the love from day one and throughout the coming years.



# Used Computer and



# Used Medical Equipment Collection



**Saturday June 10, 2017  
9:00 – 12:00**



Berwyn United Methodist Church  
140 Waterloo Avenue, Berwyn

Equipment will be refurbished and  
donated for charitable causes.

**All hard drives will be wiped clean before use.**

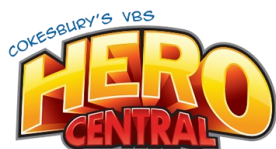
Tax donation receipts available.

## For further information

see – [www.berwynumc.org](http://www.berwynumc.org)

write - [hub.bumc@gmail.com](mailto:hub.bumc@gmail.com)

Like us on Facebook - The HUB at BUMC



## CHILDREN'S PROGRAM OF BERWYN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Proudly Presents

Vacation Bible Camp 2017

SUNDAY JULY 16 TO THURSDAY JULY 20

4:30 – 7:00 PM

For children 4 years-through Grade 5

**Please register by 7/1/2017**

Berwyn United Methodist Church

140 Waterloo Avenue

Berwyn, Pa. 19312

610-644-5555

[www.berwynumc.org](http://www.berwynumc.org)

## MISSIONS

Remember to collect school supplies for children and toiletries for the homeless throughout the summer months. Save those complementary toiletries that hotels supply when you travel. School supplies are also on sale during the summer. We will deliver these items to Mt Zion UMC in late August. Many thanks, The Missions Committee



Thank you,

A special thank you to my church family for your compassion during my broken wrist and surgery. The prayers, cards, visits, phone calls, flowers, bake goodies and fruit were a true blessing to me. Also, thank you to those who sent anonymous support, it was very much appreciated. I was encouraged and blessed by the support I received. God's blessing to everyone and thank you.

*Eliza Chumpitaz*



**ART AUCTION** *Gene & Carol Williams*

Thank you, thank you to all who donated; their time to help set-up and clean-up, their talents to prepare and set-up the refreshments, the walkers with their strong muscles, and most of all those who donated art work to be auctioned and the buyers who came and purchased. Our auctioneer was on top of her game and kept us entertained all evening. There was even a small bidding war on one of the pieces!

We had fun, ate well, and made a little money for the church at the same time. Our total net revenue for the evening was \$3,200.00.



## **BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION**

*Debbie Nemetz*

The school year is ending at Liberty Curtin Elementary and the rush is on to see which class turns in the most BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION. The winner gets a pizza party! Suzanne Nemetz Rainey teaches Pre K there and so far her class is ahead. Please check your pantries and cut out the little squares. The school gets 10 cents for each box top. General Mills cereals, Annie's, Scott paper and lots of granola brands participate. There is an envelope on the bulletin board in the hallway. Thanks for continuing to help.

## FAITHFUL STEWARDS *Liz Young*

This month, we highlight Claudia and Dick Sharpness as our Faithful Stewards. Claudia and Dick are longtime members of BUMC, and throughout the years, they have faithfully served in various capacities. Claudia had been a tireless worker for all Adult Council and fellowship functions. She is always ready to lend a helping hand in the kitchen. Claudia has made several mission trips to help those less fortunate in Latin America. Our church's beautiful landscaping and gardens are often tended by Claudia.

Dick has served on the Board of Trustees and has been an integral part of taking care of our church property. He is always ready to lend a helping hand or provide rides for those who may need it.

When you see Claudia and Dick around church, (probably helping out!) be sure to give them a big BUMC Thank You!



## SUMMER BIBLE STUDY

Faithwalk Community Bible Study will begin a new **Beth Moore Study, "Believing God,"** on June 13. The programs will be held from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at our church and will run through August 29. The bride of Jesus Christ in our generation is nearly paralyzed by unbelief. God is calling His bride to a fresh and lavish anointing of faith. This in-depth study examines the lives of Abraham, Moses and others as examples of persons who believed God. Books can be purchased the first night for \$25. Contact: Joanne O'Keefe, 610-745-2371, [jojoba53@aol.com](mailto:jojoba53@aol.com)

## **WE'RE STILL HERE DURING THE SUMMER!**

Join us for our Summer hours

Sunday, May 28 through Sunday, September 3  
9am Outdoor Chapel (*in the case of inclement weather, worship will be in Schieck Hall*)

10am Worship in the Sanctuary

## **6 TRUTHS TO ENCOURAGE YOU DURING PASTORAL TRANSITION** *By Ben Simpson*

*(Ben Simpson is a pastor of Eastwood Baptist Church in Bowling Green, Kentucky. This article was published on [www.9marks.org](http://www.9marks.org))*

Somewhere right now a church is losing its lead pastor. For whatever reason, this man is leaving, the church has moved into a time of transition, and the members feel like they've had the wind knocked out of them.

He has loved them, fed them, and protected them. He has doctored their wounds and rejoiced when they rejoiced. But now this man is moving away, and sadness and discouragement well up.

If your church is in this scenario, I simply want to hearten you with six biblical truths.

### **1. God will be with this church at all times.**

You are not forsaken. God is with your congregation. "I will never leave you or forsake you," (Heb 13:5). Pastors will come and go. Only God will never leave us. And the presence of God is more vital to the life of the church.

### **2. God is in control.**

God "works all things according to the counsel of His will" (Eph. 1:11). Do you believe that? This pastoral transition is not happening outside of the will of God. God is working this according to the counsel of his will. So the question is not, "Who is in control?" God is in control. The question is, "Will you rest in him by trusting him?"

### **3. God plans good out of this transition.**

It might not feel good right now, but God has promised that he works all things together for the good of his people (Rom 8:28). Is your church part of his people? If so, this transition is included in "all things"? Therefore, you can rest assured that good will come from it. That's how awesome God is: even those things that don't feel good are used for good. It might not be the good you have in mind, but it is good. Therefore, walk forward in faith.

### **4. It's okay to weep.**

While good will come out this pastoral transition, that doesn't remove the deep sadness. Losing your pastor hurts. I'm reminded of how the Ephesian elders wept at Paul's goodbye: "And when he had said these things, he knelt down and prayed with them all. And there was much weeping on the part of all; they embraced Paul and kissed him, being sorrowful most of all because of the word he had spoken, that they would not see his face again. And they accompanied him to the ship" (Acts 20:36-38).

I believe the Ephesians knew that God would be with them, that he was in control, and that he was going to bring good out of this transition. Nevertheless, they wept. And it's okay to weep. It's actually a way of saying thank you to both God and your pastor.

### **5. Ministry must go on.**

Notice what the Great Commission does not say, "Go therefore and make disciples . . . if you have a pastor."

One church that I used to work with lost their pastor. When I'd call their lay leaders about a ministry opportunity, their answer was always, "Well, you see, we just don't have a pastor right now." They had forgotten that ministry must continue in the interim. The Great Commission doesn't include any conditionals.

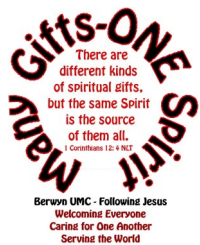
Does ministry become a bit harder without a pastor leading? Probably so, but if he was a good pastor, he will have obeyed Ephesians 4:11-12 by equipping the saints for the work of the ministry. In the interim, you and the lay leadership of the church must make sure ministry continues. Get to work!

### **6. The church must not scatter.**

Jesus promised the flock would scatter at his crucifixion (Mat 26:31). For a season, that's exactly what happened. The same often happens in churches during pastoral transition. Because "their" pastor is no longer there or ministry begins to lag, folks trickle out. Some reasons for going might be legitimate, but this may also be the time in which the congregation should most strongly gather together for support and encouragement.

Recognize the temptation to scatter and work more diligently to stay bound together in unity and love. This will be a season of testing for you. I know you didn't ask for it, but with God's help, you'll endure it.

For churches currently in this situation: May the interim bring blessings you never expected, and I pray that God provides a new pastor for your church soon.



## Our Mission Statement

God calls Berwyn UMC to be a community

Of Christian believers that:

Invites ~ Nurtures ~ Encourages Service

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

- 9:00 AM      Worship in Outdoor Chapel  
*(in Schieck Hall in case of inclement weather)*
- 10:00 AM    Worship in Sanctuary

Like us on Facebook: Berwyn UMC

[www.berwynumc.org](http://www.berwynumc.org)

Email: [officebumc@comcast.net](mailto:officebumc@comcast.net)

Fax: 610-644-7890

Church Office: 610-644-5555

Berwyn, PA 19312

140 Waterloo Avenue

Berwyn United Methodist Church

PRESORTED STANDARD  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
PERMIT NO 701  
SOUTHEASTERN PA