



March 2012

BERWYN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
INVITING NURTURING AND ENCOURAGING SERVICE

The Lighted Cross



Our Lenten Journey

Lenten Lunches

At 12:30 p.m. on each of six Wednesdays, there will be a Lenten Lunch in Schieck Hall. At each lunch, a speaker will share a theme to help us meditate and prepare our hearts and souls to embrace and appreciate the great sacrifice of our Lord. Trinity Presbyterian Church, Great Valley Baptist Church and Paoli Baptist Church will partner with us. Please extend a special invitation to your friends, neighbors and families to attend these lunches.

Feb. 29 – Lenten Lunch speaker: Sameh Bakheet, youth director of Trinity Presbyterian Church.

March 7 – Lenten Lunch speaker: John Loring, pastor of Great Valley Baptist Church.

March 14 – Lenten Lunch speaker: Peggy Clark, interim pastor of Trinity Presbyterian Church.

March 21 – Lenten Lunch speaker – John Draper, pastor of Paoli Baptist Church.

March 28 – Lenten Lunch speaker: Pastor Phil.

April 4 – Lenten Lunch speaker: Victor Wilson, pastor of St. John's Presbyterian Church.

Holy Week

April 1 – Palm Sunday. Holy Communion and the telling of the Passion Story.

April 4 – Lenten Lunch (see above).

April 5 – Holy Thursday.

April 6 – Good Friday service at 7:30 p.m. The Chancel Choir will present special music based on The Seven Last Words of Christ. Again joining the choir will be Elizabeth Mendoza, cellist, and Kathy Murphy, flutist. Judith Lang, our director of music, will accompany the choir on organ. Rehearsals will be held from 1 to 3 p.m. on the following Sundays: March 4, 11, 18 and 25, and April 1 (dress rehearsal).

April 7 – Gloria Saturday: 10 a.m., continental breakfast and Easter Egg Hunt.

April 8 – Easter Sunday: In services at 8:30 and 10:30, we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ.



We will host a second Alpha session this fall

Berwyn UMC's first Alpha course last fall was deemed to be very successful, so the Evangelism Committee has decided to repeat the course in fall 2012. Alpha is a program that is designed to be run on a regular basis – once, twice or three times a year.

Last year, Alpha at Berwyn reached a total of 45 persons, with 27 participating in a significant number or all of the sessions. We reached eight people who did not have a previous connection to Berwyn Church.

This fall's session will begin in September with an introductory dinner and will run through about the first week of December. We plan to offer the course on Thursday evenings so as not to conflict with choir practice, which now is on Wednesdays. The course will provide an opportunity to experience Alpha for those who could not attend last year, and for all of us to invite our friends and neighbors.

I want to publicly recognize all those who made the program possible last year.

An Alpha evening begins with a meal, and a very special thank-you goes to those who so unselfishly gave their time and efforts to prepare meals for the introductory dinner and the 10 other sessions: Rick Stoker, Claudia Sharpless, Dick Sharpless, Jan Polasky, Judy Fisk, Debbie Nemetz, Sue Denisevich, Sue Farina and Donna Pitz. Also to the members of the Membership and Congregational Care Committee, who provided all our desserts. If I have missed anyone, I apologize.

At each meeting we watch a video, then have a group discussion. Thanks are due to the group leaders and helpers who made this part of the program successful: Chuck and Elaine Parvin, Tom and Kay Pierce, Keith and Ellen Fritz, Linda Shriver and Kristine Adams.

Kay also provided our keyboard music. Others who were essential to the successful program were Brian Walker, song leader; Joy Fuerst, guest registration; Ann West, publicity; Jon Stockler, technical support; and Karis Poncé, child care.

If you would like to be a helper with Alpha this fall, please let me know.

John Paylor

ASP to benefit from fundraiser dinner with fire company

The Berwyn Fire Company and Berwyn United Methodist Church will host a dinner fundraiser at 6 p.m. Saturday, April 21, in Schieck Hall. The Fire Company is raising money to buy an ambulance, and the church is raising money for the youth trip to Kentucky this summer for the Appalachia Service Project.

Tickets are \$12 for adults and \$8 for children 12 and under, with a maximum cost of \$40 for a family. Tickets can be obtained from Veronica Mosley at the church office, 610-644-5555 or office@umcberwyn.com.

A delicious Italian dinner is planned. The menu: salad, bread (plain and garlic), spaghetti with marinara sauce, spaghetti with clam sauce, spinach lasagna, meatballs sausage and peppers, coffee, tea, lemonade, and a variety of homemade desserts.

The ASP destination for the week of July 1-7 will be somewhere in Kentucky. The mission trip offers an opportunity for youth and adults to provide home construction and repairs for people in need. At the same time, they gain greater perspective from the lives of those they meet.

The church plans to send three crews, each composed five youth, an adult male and an adult female. Each of the adults must be 25 years old or older. Keith Fritz, leader of the group, is signing up more youth members, and he needs more adult men and women to volunteer to help.

PASTOR'S WORD

A learning curve for pastor and congregation

JESUS SPENT 40 days in the wilderness preparing for his transition from assisting in the family business to being about his Father's business. Jesus knew that this change would come. He realized that he needed to be ready for whatever he was to face.

In the wilderness he had to make decisions, and he mapped out clearly the choices that he knew would further the work of God. He took time to learn about himself, the strengths he possessed, his competences and abilities to handle any challenges that would come his way. In this learning experience Jesus knew he could rely on the spiritual nurture and strength that he possessed.

Just as Jesus experienced a learning curve during those 40 days, so it will be for the new pastor. Can you imagine with me the many things that Gary, our new pastor, will have to learn?

For starters, he will need to learn the names and faces of parishioners. He will need to learn the distinctive ways in which ministry is done here at BUMC. He will need to learn the abilities of each parishioner, as not too long after he arrives, the process of nominations begins. He will need to know the core values we hold dearly. He will experience the ups and downs of attendance during the summer.

I could go on and on – indexing the many things that a new pastor has to learn in coming to a new church – but this gives you an idea.

The exciting thing is that the congregation is on a learning curve as well. You will be learning to adapt to the new way that worship is conducted and the new methods of preaching and teaching. Each pastor has his or her unique style and relational skills. You will learn his special way of managing the affairs of the church. You will discover for yourself the strengths/gifts that he possesses to take our church to the next level.

You will need to remember that he values your partnership and cooperation, for as pastors we are all aware that we cannot do the work of God singlehandedly. The learning curve is an exciting experience once you have an open mind and are willing to see the great future God has for this church under the leadership of a new pastor.

The most important ingredient in the learning curve experience is patience. The pastor needs to be patient with himself, for it takes time to learn all that has to be learned. The members need to be patient, giving the benefit of the doubt to the one who has the most to learn, namely the pastor. You have one family to get to know; the pastor and his family have over 100 families to get to know, plus all other matters related to the functioning of the church.

Another thing to remember is that it is better for the pastor to hear something more than once than not at all. Don't assume that someone may have told him already. Tell him anyway.

I am confident you will draw upon your strength and nurture to make this transitioning experience one that would enable the work of Christ to grow from strength to strength in this place. God gives wisdom and knowledge to learn. My prayer for you is that this transition will be meaningful and blessed. Keep strong in the Lord. Keep the faith and proclaim it in your lives.

Have a Holy and blessed Lent!

Pastor Phil



Rev. Gary Jacobella

AD BOARD = ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL

A change in name and a change in focus

The church's Administrative Board voted Feb. 7 to change its name to "Administrative Council" and to streamline the format of its meetings.

Jim Tiede, chair of the Leadership Advisory Team, presented the team's recommendations for the Administrative Council meetings:

- Each meeting should highlight two of the five themes identified in the Strategic MAP (Ministry Action Plan).
- The agenda of the Administrative Council should be future-focused – that is, focused on what committees, work groups, and teams are planning to do, rather than on what has happened in recent months.
- Committees should look for ways to work collaboratively on activities.
- At least a week in advance of each Administrative Council meeting, committees should send a summary of their activities to the council's secretary. These summaries would be circulated before the meeting and could be discussed at the meeting if appropriate.
- The council should place emphasis on evaluating the success of programs and activities so we can learn from our experiences.
- The review of minutes at Administrative Council meetings will become a review of action items from the previous meeting.

After Jim's presentation, the Administrative Board voted to accept the advisory team's recommendations.

Model agenda for Administrative Council meetings

Opening Prayer

Review of Action Items from Previous Meetings

Activities/Plans for Addressing Theme 1.

Activities/Plans for Addressing Theme 2.

Reports from Finance Committee and Trustees

Other Business

Re-cap of Action Items

Close

Recommended themes for Administrative Council meetings

February – Embracing Seekers, Empowering Others.

April – Empowering Others, Changing Lives.

June – Changing Lives, Balanced Creativity.

September – Balanced Creativity, Social Responsibility.

December – Budget.

Church members who have questions about the changes are invited to contact Bob Borst, chair of Administrative Council; John Paylor and Janet Campbell, Lay Leaders; or Jim Tiede.



On the scaffolding, Rick Stoker (foreground) and another volunteer work with roof blocks



Claudia Sharpless straightens steel rebar

Mission trip to Mexico

First off, I want you to know that the project we were working on was completed on time and on budget. We were building a community center/hurricane shelter for the Iglesia Evangelista Presbiteriana (Presbyterian church) in the village of San Alfredo, just northeast of Cancun. The church and community center are on high ground and will now be a shelter from hurricanes and floods.

Our motto for the project was “Choose to Serve.” And that is just what the hundred or so volunteers did. We chose to spend our time and money to go there and serve these people. We worked much harder than we would have at home – but we did it with smiles on our faces and warmth in our hearts.

The building has four main support beams, and each required eight tons of concrete that we carried by bucket. The 33 T-beams each weighed about 275 pounds, and they had to be lifted by hand. The job took 2,000 roof blocks, each weighing about 40 pounds. Wow!

While some of us were at the work site, others from our group were back at the hotel sewing seven to eight hours a day, making hospital gowns and baby quilts.

Your team: Luis and Javier Montaner, Paul and Jan Polasky, Nancy Atchison, Dick Rood, Claudia Sharpless, Judy Edinger, Rick Stoker, Carolyn Shaw and Mary Black.

Rick Stoker



Sewing in Mexico on the mission trip

Several members of BUMC aided residents of the village of San Alfredo, just northeast of Cancun, by sewing hospital gowns and baby quilts. Judy Edinger, at left, was one of the team that visited in January. In addition to sewing the finished products, members of the group adapted patterns and cut out material.

Mission to Guatemala: Building 3 new classrooms

Eleven years ago, a Volunteers in Mission (VIM) team led by Norris Allen of Tennessee built a school in La Toma, Guatemala, a rural community of about 500 families. The school houses a total of 625 children. From 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., it functions as a primary school. From 1 to 6 p.m., it becomes a middle school. Children have been turned away because the school could not accommodate any more.

Six teams from the Tennessee Conference are going to La Toma this year to build three more classrooms. In January, Brian Walker and Pastor Phil joined the first of the six teams. The 21 members of this first team put the walls up for the building expansion.

Another mission of this group is to offer scholarships to 30 students who otherwise could not go to school. The income of most families in La Toma comes from cutting cane, and these families typically live on \$32 a week.

To maintain their scholarships, these 30 students were required to meet with the team's representatives and provide a copy of their school reports. While the team was there, 70 additional applicants seeking scholarships were interviewed. From this number, 20 applicants were selected as candidates for scholarships. However, even these top 20 candidates cannot be guaranteed scholarships because funding of \$400 a year must be sought for each additional recipient, and that is not an easy task.

The generosity of this team was just incredible! Soon after our arrival, the team was welcomed by the staff and students of the school. In conversation with the staff, the visitors learned that many of the children do not have supplies. They come to school empty-handed because their parents do not have money to buy the supplies. An offering was taken among the team, and we were invited to donate some of the money we had brought to buy souvenirs. The offering produced enough money to buy a whole year's supply of books, pencils and the other materials the children will need.

The team took another offering, this time to buy water filters for the homes in La Toma. Enough money was raised to buy 112 filters and to order 45 more, which will be delivered in mid-March. On Jan. 28 filters were distributed to 112 families in La Toma. The goal is to ensure that every home has clean drinking water. Also on that Saturday, we visited the local orphanage, which houses 23 girls and those who care for them. We all shared in a meal, and the team made useful donations to the orphanage.

The Tennessee Conference has made a significant difference in the lives of the people in La Toma.

Pastor Phil

LAY LEADER'S LETTER

Take an extra step for the children in your life

We have heard so much lately about the sadness and the cruelties surrounding so many children, and we cannot fail to be affected.

We have tried to comfort children less fortunate than our own by collecting school supplies and giving them to needy children in Philadelphia. We have donated coats and hats and mittens for children who may not have anything to keep them warm. At Christmas, the toys and books piled up under the tree to be taken where they were needed. We contributed for crayons and craft supplies to send with our mission team to Mexico. Construction of a school in Guatemala is farther along because of help from our mission team from Berwyn. Our very own Berwyn United Methodist Nursery School, full of happy, bouncing children, who always share in our outreach projects, has collected more than 40 pairs of flip-flops to send with Janelle Larson to Kenyan children in May.

We have been called on to go that extra step for the children, and we have responded.

Jesus loves the little children, all the children of the world.

We try so hard to help the children of the world. Have we gone that extra step to give "our" children the gifts of God? We all have children in our lives: our own, our grandchildren (maybe even "great-grand"), nieces, nephews, or perhaps the little boy who waves at you as you drive by in the morning.

Each of us has and has had an influence on "our" children as they have heard us pray in church. If children learn by example, have we done our best? Do they only see us pray at church? Can we teach more as we walk out of these doors? We are giving; we know prayer works. God is everywhere, every day, every moment.

I believe that children are our future/Teach them well and let them lead the way.

Let us help ALL the children learn about God. Can you share something in our Sunday School classes? Can you do a chapel time for the Nursery School? Vacation Bible Camp is coming. We are collecting YOUR GIFTS for the children in our lives.

It's time to go that extra step.

Janet K Campbell

Berwyn and Paoli men's groups talk about sharing

The men's fellowship groups of Berwyn and Paoli UMCs are considering ways that they might share trips and outreach projects.

Three members of the Paoli men's consortium attended the monthly men's breakfast in Schieck Hall on Feb. 11, responding to an invitation extended by Paul Polasky.

The visitors invited members of BUMC to join them on a trip to Cabela's store in Hamburg, Pa., on Feb. 25. They also are considering a trip this summer to Grandview Speedway at Bechtelsville, Pa. Both groups will try to identify other excursion destinations.

Those attending the Feb. 11 meeting also discussed local mission opportunities, helping in such endeavors as the Valley Forge UMC's cemetery project, T/E Cares, and Foundation for Learning in Tredyffrin/Easttown (FLITE). Also mentioned was the possibility of hosting a Christian seminar for men.

Both groups made it known that anyone is welcome to join either group for meetings any time. The BUMC men meet at 8 a.m. on the second Saturday of each month at Schieck Hall. The Paoli

Youth preparing for 30-Hour Famine in April

Members of Anthem, the BUMC youth group, are creating their personal fundraising pages on World Vision's website in preparation for their 30-Hour Famine on the weekend of April 27.

The youth will be raising money to combat worldwide hunger. The 30-Hour Famine includes an overnight stay at the church with time spent on learning about hunger around the world, prayer, games, and movies. There also will be blocks of time for homework and community work.

Anthem will go bowling March 18 at Playdrome Devon Lanes.

Lenten Fair in Schieck Hall: food and crafts

On Feb. 26, everyone was invited to a Lenten Fair in Schieck Hall during the Sunday School hour.

The fair, sponsored by the Adult and Children's Councils, was to begin with a breakfast of pancakes, bacon, sausage, and eggs. Afterward the children were to take part in Lenten crafts.

Donations were to be gathered for the children's Heifer Project goal of a Gift Ark.



Read-In draws literary enthusiasts

Children of BUMC gathered in their pajamas for a Read to Feed Read-In on Feb. 12. After breakfast goodies and hot chocolate, they snuggled on pillows and cushions for some comfy-cozy reading. The Read-In marked the halfway point in the Heifer Project's Read to Feed reading incentive program. In the photo: (front) Sabrina and (back, from left) Tanner, Sofia, Heidi, Henry, Owen, Katie, Kelly, Campbell and Javier.

Reading program ends March 4

In the Heifer Project's Read to Feed program, children enlist sponsors for each book they read over a six-week period ending March 4. Money raised from the sponsors' contributions are applied to the goal of a Gift Ark. Children of any age are encouraged to participate (even if children are too young to read on their own, they can still participate; a book that is read to them can count toward

Gloria Saturday Easter Egg hunt

Children in preschool through sixth grade are invited to a continental breakfast and Easter Egg hunt on the lawn at 10 a.m. Saturday, April 7. After the hunt, there will be a short program about the symbols of Easter. There will be lots of fun and prizes. In the event of rain, the hunt will be indoors. Donations of filled plastic eggs and prizes may be dropped off in the box in the Narthex.

FROM THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

A season for giving up ... and for reflecting

Lent is a time we focus on our relationship with God, with others, and perhaps with ourselves. We often think of it as a time to give things up, but it is also a time to reflect and add behaviors and practices.

To quote Eugene Cho:

... I don't want to think of Lent as a season of giving up things but rather a season of more deeply giving in or giving to:

- *In what way am I more compelled to give in to the ways of God?*
- *How am I more deeply giving in and giving to — to my neighbors, family, church, strangers, etc.?*
- *How am I more deeply giving or growing in stewardship, generosity, my convictions, etc.?*
- *How am I more giving in to the ways of Christ? How am I more giving in to mercy, justice, and humility?*

Here's an alternative invitation for Lent — whether you give up something or not: Give yourself more fully to Jesus and the kingdom of God.

Our church has been very frugal the past several years, and our budget for this year is a 2 percent reduction from the 2011 budget. So far in 2012, we have been blessed with regular giving, and we are on budget. In this time of Lent, we can reflect on our ability to share what we have been given, and consider how we can give radically, sacrificially and completely.

Janelle Larson

World Day of Prayer in Bryn Mawr on March 2

The local World Day of Prayer service will be held at Saints Memorial Baptist Church, 47 S. Warner Ave., Bryn Mawr, at 11 a.m. Friday, March 2.

Christian women in more than 170 countries and regions come together on the first Friday of March to observe a common day of prayer. Everyone is welcome to the service.

United Methodist Women support World Day of Prayer, as our goals are very similar. Please join us as we pray to address the injustice of Malaysian women, this year's emphasis.

BUMC's United Methodist Women will meet at 1 p.m. Saturday, March 3, at the home of Yamile Hernandez de Toro, 103 Felton Ave., Collingdale. We will meet at the church at noon to carpool. Maria Circle will report on the World Day of Prayer service.

And thanks to Maria Circle for the wonderful salsa dance event at Schieck Hall on the evening of Feb. 11. Thanks also to Luis Montaner for patiently teaching us some dance steps. We are overwhelmed by the generous donations — a total of \$1,455.35. We will report later on how the ADDA Foundation in Colombia will put the money to use.

Card of Thanks

Mabel Williams and her family are grateful for the love and support she has received from the members of BUMC, expressed through their prayers, cards and flowers. Mabel looks forward to resuming her attendance at the 8:30 service.

More than 40 hear advice on boundary setting

On Tuesday, Jan. 24, more than 40 people met at Trinity Presbyterian Church (our church had a power failure) to experience “An Evening With Ann Smith: Boundary Setting With Your Teen.”

What an experience it was! Ann, the executive director of Breakthrough at Caron Institute in Wernersville, Pa., led the parents through a discussion of the challenging task of setting good boundaries for their children. She talked about managing disrespectful attitudes, understanding irresponsible behaviors, and establishing limits while trying to keep family relationships healthy. Parents spoke freely of their difficulties in working with their children. Many of us went home with heavy hearts, feeling the pain of many of these parents.

The next of these monthly sessions sponsored by DART (Drug/Alcohol Recovery Team), was scheduled for Feb. 28 in the BUMC Parlor. The topic was “A Framework for Raising Children.”

Two more sessions are planned, each at 7 p.m. in the Parlor:

Tuesday, March 27 – “Social Norming and Parenting Structure.” This session will offer a framework for support in raising teens.

Tuesday, April 24 – “Teen Mental Health Issues,” with Louis Bevilacqua.

If you have never attended one of these sessions, plan to do so. Each session offers powerful information for parents of children of all ages as well as for grandmothers and grandfathers. There is something in each session for all of us. I hope to see you there.

Ann West

When you do spring cleaning, remember Fall Festival

Now is the time to think about spring cleaning. While you are in cleaning mode, don't throw items away (OK, maybe those old sweat socks with the holes in them). What you consider junk may be a treasure to someone else.

The Fall Festival wants to sell your discards on Saturday, Oct. 13.

We will announce times that you can drop off your items at the Scout cabin. If you need help with transporting items, let us know. And please extend the invitation to your friends and neighbors – we are equal-opportunity treasure acceptors. We want to keep this process neat and orderly. Both of us know the church grounds crew personally and are aware that they like a tidy work area (smile).

Finally, we are still need of chairpersons and worker bees. If you are interested, contact us: Cindy cbcampbell30@netscape.net or Stephanie stephanie.borelly@ibsdm.com.

The year is flying by for the Nursery School children

It doesn't seem possible that the children of Berwyn United Methodist Nursery School will be celebrating their 100th day of school soon. Teachers are preparing for conferences at which parents will be given an evaluation of their children's progress.

The 5-Day children ventured to the Great Valley Nature Center for maple sugaring. This is a favorite trip among the children, as they “tap” maple trees and taste authentic maple syrup.

In March we will support BUMC's Lenten food drive and T/E Cares' clothing drive.

The school parents have often mentioned how they look forward to reading the weekly slogan on the church's lawn sign. Thank you, Kate Walker, for your creative, thought-provoking signs.

Janet Wham

Brief items of interest to members of BUMC

“Hosanna” Study: In March the Shared Bible Study Class will study “Hosanna: A Spiritual Journey Through Holy Week” by Carol J. Miller. This book invites us to explore the main texts in all four Gospels and in Paul’s writings that deal specifically with the last week of Jesus’ life and with the resurrection. Join us on this spiritual journey through Holy Week. Books are available now in the Shared Room, next to the Pastor’s Study. We meet Sundays at 9:20. All are welcome. Bring your Bible and your coffee.

Vacation Bible Camp: This year’s camp will be June 24-28, from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m. each day. A light supper will be provided. The camp is for ages 4 through grade 5. The theme is “Operation Overboard – Dare to go deep with God.” Daily themes, based on Bible stories, are: Depend on God, Dare to Care, Claim Jesus, Choose to Follow, and Change the World. In addition to learning Bible stories, the children will participate in crafts, science games and music.

Methodist Night at the Phillies: The Arizona Diamondbacks will provide the opposition at 7:05 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 4. Tickets are \$30 each, and part of the proceeds will benefit United Methodist Ministries. To order: nancy_atchison@verizon.net.

Online Calendars: Through the efforts of the Communications Committee, selected BUMC events are now listed in two online calendars serving our area. The first is a listing of Christian events on www.havaguday.com; click on “The Community Calendar.” The second is Main Line Neighbors/West Edition: <http://www.mainlineneighbors.com/west.htm>.

In the Church Library: Resources for parents and teachers

Inspire Your Kids to Greatness: How Parents Can Nurture God’s Next Generation by Jerry Johnston, c1993. [248.845 Joh]: This book is written for parents who want to pass their faith and values on to their teenaged children. According to the author, the key is inspiration. Strategies that parents can use to build or rebuild good relationships are offered as well as suggestions for instilling foundational beliefs and values. In addition, simple steps to improve communication between parents and teens are provided. Parents ask how to make sure that parent-teen relationships remain healthy. Teens need to be assured that their parents not only love them but will always be there to encourage and support them.

Teaching Kids to Love the Earth by Marina Lachecki Herman, et al. c1985. [508 Her]: Authored by four professional naturalists, this book includes a collection of earth-caring activities to be used with children of all ages. The authors use excerpts from their Sense of Wonder Workshops, which emphasize curiosity, exploration, discovery, sharing and passion about our earth. The projects have been developed and field-tested at environmental learning centers, schools, camps and nature centers. Explore the natural world with your own family or class.

Wonderful Ways to Love a Child by Judy Ford, c1995. [306.874 For]: Parenting expert Judy Ford wrote this guide for parents who want to put their love into action to give their children the best start in life. Using inspiration and psychology, the author shares important tools of parenting that will strengthen the family. Ford’s guidance and reassurance are confirmed with true stories from parents who have used this advice.

Marge Smink

The Lighted Cross

Next deadline: March 14

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 is scheduled to be delivered by postal mail by April 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 church office.



Church Phone:
610-644-5555

Office E-mail:
officebumc@comcast.net

Church Website:
berwynumc.org

Office Hours:
Mon-Fri, 8:30 a.m-2 p.m.

Bring a Guest to Church on Easter, April 8

Easter is a joyous time to bring a guest to church. As regular church attendees, we often take for granted the special experience within the walls of our church during Sunday worship. We encounter people every day who may desire to experience or re-establish the spiritual connection afforded by participating in a worship service. Help someone nurture his or her spiritual needs. Reach out to those whom you care for the most, who need an invitation or encouragement. This Lenten season, let's support each other as we embrace our neighbors, family members, friends and acquaintances who may be seeking the meaningful Easter experience at BUMC.

Between now and Easter on April 8, we are asking members of the Berwyn congregation to pray:

- Pray that each of us may find, encounter and invite those in search of spiritual renewal.
- Pray for the courage to reach out to friends, family, co-workers and acquaintances to connect them with Jesus, one person at a time.

Worship is one of many ways to introduce guests to Berwyn. Additionally, our church has many other opportunities for sampling the life of our community. You can invite a guest to any of a large number of church activities, for example:

- Lenten Lunches
- Holy Thursday and Good Friday services
- Gloria Saturday breakfast and Easter Egg hunt – perfect for the kids!
- DART Parenting Seminars
- Men's Breakfasts and Women's Circles
- Supper Clubs

Use the Lenten Season this year to invite newcomers to seek a relationship with Christ.

Evangelism and Nurture Committee

Easter Lily Orders & Landscape Fund

Orders are now being taken for lilies to beautify the church sanctuary for Easter morning services.

Contributions may be made to the landscape fund for beautification of the church grounds.



Please use the appropriate order form(s), which are available in the Narthex. Make checks payable to BUMC. Indicate on your check whether it is for Easter Lilies or the Landscape Fund. Send or bring your order to the church office. The deadline for ordering lilies is March 5.

MISSION MEMO

We're preparing to Feed the Five Thousand

A favorite mission project for Lent returns as we Feed the Five Thousand. Please join us as we fill bags with food to feed a family of four for approximately three days. The filled bags will be delivered to United Methodist Neighborhood Services on North Broad Street in Philadelphia.

How can you help?

- This year we are going to assume that you can provide your own boxes or paper shopping bags, or donate cloth bags that can be used again and again by the clients of UMNS. Recycle your used brown paper shopping bags with handles from the local stores; if you have extras, bring them in to share.
- Take the following list (there are more copies on a table in the Narthex) and purchase the food recommended by UMNS: a box of cold cereal (Cheerios or Total); a 64-oz. plastic bottle of juice (apple, grape, V-8, or orange); a 28-oz. jar of peanut butter; a 1-pound bag of rice; four 14-16-ounce cans of fruit packed in juice (peaches, pears, applesauce, oranges); a 1-pound bag of dried beans; a 12-ounce can of tuna; a can of Spam or 12-ounce can of white chicken; a family-sized macaroni and cheese dinner; a 28-ounce can of pork and beans; four 14-16-ounce cans of vegetables (corn, green beans, carrots, tomatoes); a 1-pound box of spaghetti; and a 28-ounce jar or can of meat-flavored spaghetti sauce.
- Return your filled bag to the Narthex by Sunday, March 25.

Your filled bag will provide an Easter gift to a struggling family and help us meet our goal of donating 114 bags this year. Thank you.

Easter Offering: The special offering at Easter will support our youth on their Appalachian Service Project trip to Kentucky on July 1-7. For decades, teams of youth from our church have repaired homes of low-income families in rural Central Appalachia. The goal of ASP is to make homes warmer, safer and drier, while offering transformational experiences for volunteers and homeowners alike. Show your support for our youth by giving generously to the Easter offering.

Peru Fund: The Peru Fund Bake Sale was a sweet success this year as members flocked to church and stood patiently, elbow to elbow with Boy Scout Troop 181, to buy their favorites. The sweets came from the best bakers in the church, who brought in their desserts for a sale to support the Peru Fund. More than \$400 was raised. Thanks to all who baked, bought, and donated money.

Donna Pitz

Our Mission Statement

God calls Berwyn UMC to be a community

Of Christian believers that:

Invites ~ Nurtures ~ Encourages Service

Sunday Morning Worship

8:30 AM	Early Worship
9:15 AM	Sunday School for all Ages
10:30 AM	Worship

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

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