



March 2014

BERWYN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
INVITING NURTURING AND ENCOURAGING SERVICE

The Lighted Cross



(caption: Regina Robinson, Sue Denisevicz, Elaine Wright. Sue and Elaine are TE School District coworkers)

Berwyn UMW were delighted to welcome Regina Robinson and Elaine Wright from Range Memorial Church of God in Christ in Chester to our February meeting. They shared their church’s mission and youth ministry. Regina spoke of her experience directing Vacation Bible School over the past 7 years. Mission Committee’s Bake Sale was a sweet success this year. The sale raised \$345 and will go to support Range Memorial Church of God in Christ Vacation Bible School program for food and supplies. Many thanks to all the great bakers who brought their “goodies” in for sale and those bought these tasty treats.

Range Memorial appreciates our support and we look forward to a continued relationship.

United Methodist Women are happy to help sponsor the Living with Dying series on Sunday evenings in March. Therefore we will not have a regular March meeting to allow more time to participate in the series.

Carol Cherry & Jeff Barger

PASTOR'S THOUGHTS - Living with Dying

According to the 18th century poet, Thomas Gray, “The paths of glory lead but to the grave” (*Elegy Written in a Country Churchyard*). The New Testament turns that idea on its head by suggesting that the paths of death lead to glory. The New Testament compares the labor of dying to the labor of giving birth.

“For we know that the whole creation groans and suffers together until now. Not only this, but we ourselves also, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we eagerly await our adoption, the redemption of our bodies” (Romans 8: 22, 23 NET).

The glory we need to be born into is the glory of becoming like Jesus. The process goes on all through our living. God decided that we would be “conformed to his Son” (Romans 8: 30 CEB).

Jesus teaches us to trust that dying leads to new life not just at the end of our journey through this present age but over and over again as we lose our lives in order to find new or true life. “All who want to save their lives will lose them. But all who lose their lives because of me will find them” (Matthew 16: 25 CEB).

What Jesus describes as true for us was also true for him. Jesus became what he is by dying. “He emptied himself” (Philippians 2:7 CEB). “Don’t be afraid. I’m the first and the last, and the living one. I was dead, but look! Now I’m alive forever and always” (Revelation 1: 17, 18 CEV).

Followers of Jesus can’t avoid having practice in dying. The new life in the Spirit, the new life of freedom to live for God is born in us when we surrender or empty ourselves. Our decision to follow Jesus is a baptism into death.

“We were buried together with him through baptism into his death, so that just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too can walk in newness of life” (Romans 6 4 CEB).

Newness of life can’t grow and live in us without a dying. So when we face death at the end of our journey in this age, we can remember, “I’ve done this before. I died to something old before so that I already know that my ‘life is hidden with Christ in God’” (Colossians 3:3 CEB).

There are good temporary things that must come to an end so that the best unfailing and perfect things can shine over all.

“Love never fails. As for prophecies, they will be brought to an end. As for tongues, they will stop. As for knowledge, it will be brought to an end. We know in part and we prophesy in part; but when the perfect comes, what is partial will be brought to an end” (1 Corinthians 13: 8 – 10 CEB).

We often weep at endings such as moving days or graduations. Even while we are weeping at endings, we would never want our tears to hinder the new life that is coming out of the ending.

Letting go is required of all those who really want to live. The apostle Paul was so skilled at letting go that he was able to sing out, “living is Christ and dying is gain” (Philippians 1:21 NET).

Pastor Gary Jacobella

LAY LEADER LETTER

NO POWER! WE HAVE NO POWER!

To so many the recent power outages of February are (hopefully) a distant memory. Freezing cold, snow, ice, slippery roads, trees down across roads and across cars. Transformers popped as tree branches crashed down upon them pulling out connections to the outside world. The news coverage was unceasing. Destructive, horrible, cold, no heat, no food, no hotel rooms, packed restaurants. Power out from Wayne to Malvern and all surrounding areas. Caravans of trucks coming in from Canada, Illinois, New Jersey and more all here to restore our power and connections while we huddled around our fireplaces trying to keep warm... wrapping ourselves in blankets and extra clothes. Power stations available so we could charge our electronics when plugging in at home would not work. Trying to reconnect us. Complaining! Anxious! So many blaming others for the state of affairs. Why? Give me a date and time! Restore my power NOW! We don't always get our answers immediately. It takes time to remove the trees from the roads and the wires. It takes time to replace transformers and repair the wires and cables.

So many things out of our control. People were trying to help. Beds and showers offered and accepted. Warm food given out. As soon as a family had heat, electricity and electronics were charged, the word went out, "our home is charged, come on over". Families moving in with families, friends moving in with friends. Electric outlets utilized in homes with power....to charge us back up. What a busy week! As long as we are charged we are not alone.

We have faith! We have prayer. We are charged! Imagine if all of this assistance came to those who needed FAITH and BELIEVING in their everyday lives. It does take time, as the need is not as obvious as power outages and tree branches on top of cars.

We have FAITH and we have PRAYER. We are CHARGED!

Janet K Campbell

BUMNS

March will be a busy month for the nursery school. We will celebrate Dr. Seuss' birthday, the 100th Day of school and St. Patrick's Day. Conferences with parents will be held on March 13th and 14th.

On Wednesday, March 5th, the school will sponsor a Mini Boutique from 9:15-11:30. We invite church members to stop by and shop at our boutique. The following vendors will participate: Thirty-One Bags, Stella and Dot, Tastefully Simple Foods, handmade belts and bags. All monies raised will benefit the children of the school.

The 5 Day children count the number of days they are in school. On the 100th Day they celebrate with a pizza party. The children partake in activities relating to the number 100. They jump 100 times, read 100 words, and glue 100 objects onto a piece of paper.

St. Patrick's Day is a favorite with all of the children. The children love arriving in school to see what mischief the leprechaun has done. He is a tricky fellow who loves to turn chairs upside down, takes books off of shelves and even turned the children's milk green.

We are all looking forward to spring.

Janet Wham

ENDOWMENT FUND

The Endowment Fund had a great 2013. The investments, managed by the Mid-Atlantic United Methodist Foundation, grew by \$7,173.52.

By the rules governing the Endowment Fund, half of this (\$3,586.76) should be added to the principle and the other half made available to fund projects within the congregation. There's a short application available from the church office if you have a specific project that could benefit from these funds.

It's easy to add to our Endowment Fund as well. Committee members are open to speaking confidentially with you about the benefits of planned gifts.

"Do all the good you can, in all the ways you can, as long as you can." -- John Wesley

David Adams for Endowment

NOTES FROM THE MUSIC DIRECTOR

Many thanks to the BUMC congregation for the generous thank you gift that I received! I so appreciate that many ways in which you show your support to me and the Music Ministry.

GOOD FRIDAY AND EASTER CHOIR rehearsals begin on Sunday March 9th from 1:00-3:00. This year we will be presenting "Tenebrae" by Hal Hopson with string quartet and oboe. Please consider singing with us for this moving worship experience. Judith

Judith Lang



MISSIONS

The Missions Committee would like to extend a heartfelt "Thank You" to our generous congregation. The Alternative Gift Giving Program for 2013 received \$1,970! The following Missions have benefitted from our program: The Children and Youth Empowerment Center in Kenya, Heifer International, Roca Eterna, The Peru Fund,, T&E Cares, Discovery Service Project, and The Methodist Home for Children. A list of donors was sent to each charity, and a lot of these worthy causes have already sent a thank you note in response. Please take a look at the "Mission Board" in the hallway for their correspondence. Thanks again for making the Alternative Gift Giving Program a success in 2013.

Kelley Hogan

THE BOOK CLUB SCHEDULE 2013-2014

	<u>Reviewer</u>	<u>Host/Hostess</u>
March 19, 2014	John Edinger	Betsy Lang 610-644-8259
	<u>Master of the Mountain: Thomas Jefferson and His Slaves</u> by Henry Wiencek	
April 16, 2014	Nancy Atchison	Ann West 610-687-0222
	<u>Defending Jacob</u> by William Landay	
May 21, 2014	Chuck Parvin	TBD
	<u>The Great Divorce</u> by C.S. Lewis	

Note: Ash Wednesday is Mar 5, 2014 and Easter is April 20, 2014

Betsy Lang

THANK YOU

Saying "thank you" to the people of Berwyn United Methodist Church is not easy. Each of you have been so kind and generous for the past 30 years to the Chumpitaz family and the community of Azpitia, Peru. Since Susan Burriss, a newly graduated nurse, went to Azpitia to work for 6 months for 10 communities as a public health nurse, Berwyn Methodist has had a connection with that small Peruvian town. Many of you have contributed through the years to the projects that were benefitting the Peru Fund. When my son and I came to Berwyn in 1990, I remember with excitement, decorating the bags for my first experience at the Peru Christmas Cookie Sale. The Christmas Sale later became known as the Valentine Bake Sale. Countless lives in Peru have been touched and helped by the generosity and prayers of the people of Berwyn United Methodist Church. Fredy and I send you many, many blessings and thank you's for your wonderful outpouring of love and care to the families in Azpitia, Peru.

Eliza and Fredy

B.U.M.C YOUTH NEWS

Happy February Everyone,

How many of you are ready for spring???? I am starting to think that I am January has been a fun month filled with the hoagie/chili fundraiser and the Super Bowl party. Oh yes, you can't forget the lovely shoveling and multiple days of power outages. Hopefully this month will be a month filled with warm temperatures and less snow.

I am so glad that each and every one of you made the hoagie/chili sale such a success. Due to your sales, we raised \$625 toward our Appalachia Service Project this summer. The youth spent some of their afternoon preparing the hoagies and serving out chili. Thank you to everyone whom helped out. Also a special thanks to Rick Stoker for his help in making this happen. Due to Javier Montaner making the most amount of sales he won \$50 due to his efforts. Great job Javier !!!!!!!



Despite what seemed to be a lack of effort by the Bronco's, we had a great Super Bowl party. We got the chance as a youth group to go to Keith Fritz's house to enjoy the Super Bowl. The youth got a chance to fellowship and enjoy some great food!! The game might have been a waste at times, but at least we had some good laughs during the commercials. Thank you Keith for your hospitality and man what a great time we had!!



Lastly, great news for the Appalachia Service project ...As a youth group we will be going to West Virginia. We will be going July 20th to July 26th. There will be more fundraiser to come including such items as car washes and a spaghetti dinner. The best part of this missions project is that youth outside of our church will be coming with us. For those of you whom do not know what ASP doesThey help out low income persons. Normally there are home improvements to be done and or landscaping. This helps people less fortunate and gets to make teamwork possible. Feel free to look at ASP web-site : <http://www.asphome.org>. It is a great ministry where the youth get to be the hands and Feet of Christ. Hope everyone enjoys the snow and has a great month of February. God bless,

Edward A. Moyer

Edward (Ed) Moyer Youth Director of B.U.M.C

FINANCE

The Finance committee is pleased to report that BUMC closed out the 2013 budget year positive by \$118. This is really exciting news considering the \$60K deficit with which we started the year based on the 2013 budget. We thank you, our church family, for the tremendous effort you made to reach beyond what you had pledged to give even more generously. Your gifts and offerings resulted in \$40K more income than initially pledged. In combination to the almost \$20K saved throughout the year, we were able to come up and over the anticipated gap of income and expenses.

In addition to your generosity in supporting BUMC's ministries, committees, staff and church operations, we also saw generous giving of \$10K to the Trustee's newly designated fund that has allowed key repairs to our building upkeep through Bricks, Shingles and Panes.

For many of us on the Finance committee, seeing the response to our request for help was no surprise. Your generous nature and love for the work of BUMC is well understood. But we want to be sure you are aware of how much we appreciate your support and feedback as we continue to work together to extend the influence of our church among our own members and into our community.

As we move into 2014, we are facing another deficit budget of over \$65K, but we are very hopeful that through your continued commitment and our careful management of the gifts you share, we will be able to see a similar positive result by the end of this year. Together, we can accomplish the mission of this church.

The Finance committee asks that you remember to:

Continue you your faithful giving

Share with your friends and neighbors the great facilities we have available

- Weddings
- Birthdays
- Club Meetings

Support the ministries throughout the year

- Special Music Events
- Youth Fund Raisers
- Fall Festival

Respectfully submitted by

Ellen Duffie-Fritz, Finance Committee Chair

MARK YOU CALENDARS

Upcoming Events:

Sun. March 9 – Sunday School Lenten Fair and Pancake breakfast 9:15-10:15 in Schieck Hall

Sat. April 5 – Pasta Dinner to benefit Berwyn Fire Co. and ASP trip

Sat April 10—Gloria Saturday Continental Breakfast & Easter Egg Hunt 9:30 am

Sun. May 18 – Adult Fellowship Progressive Supper

July 13—17—Vacation Bible Camp

SPRING HIKE

The snow will melt away...really. In anticipation of that, another hike has been scheduled for Saturday, March 22 starting at 9am. Our location of choice will be Evansburg State Park (just off of Route 29 near Collegeville.) We will meet at the Nature Center off Mayhall Road. Please invite your neighbors, co-workers and friends! This is a great event to connect with our extended family.

David Adams



FEED THE 5000

Sunday March 30th will begin the collection of food for our annual Feed the 5000 drive. The groceries will be delivered to the United Methodist Neighborhood Services in Philadelphia and be distributed to families in need. Our donations are especially needed this year since the Food Stamp Program has been greatly reduced.

This year we ask you to pack your groceries in the heavy duty store bought bags that are available at check-out for about \$1.00. This makes them easier to transport without breaking and for the recipients to carry home as many of them do not own cars.

Each bag will feed a family of four for a week. There will be a list of groceries to fill one bag available in the Narthex. The last day of collection will be Palm Sunday.

Thank you everyone for your generosity and support in this endeavor to help so many families that are in need.

Jeff Barger



BOOK / MEDIA SUMMARIES FROM CHURCH LIBRARY

ADULT

An American Awakening: From Ground Zero to Katrina the People We Are Free to Be by Courtney Cowart, c2008, published by Seabury Books. [277.3038 Cow]

An American Awakening is a riveting memoir of an unusual journey by Courtney Cowart, a theologian who witnessed the two greatest catastrophes in recent American history, the 9/11 tragedy at the World Trade Center and the devastation of Hurricane Katrina. The book describes how the author actively participated in the healing of both. It reveals Cowart's role in the Ground Zero recovery ministry at St. Paul's Chapel, "The Little Church That Stood," across the street from the World Trade Center. The story presents the spiritual commitments made when the author's life was spared on 9/11, and how these commitments eventually led her to answer the call to serve in New Orleans. It describes Cowart's experience in post-Katrina New Orleans as director of the Office of Disaster Response for the Episcopal Diocese of Louisiana, a post she accepted after her life-changing experience at Ground Zero. She is probably the only American spiritual leader called to a sustained, front-line role in both the 9/11 and Katrina disasters, and this is the first and only memoir of that dual experience.

Living Faith by Jimmy Carter, c1996 published by Times Books. [248.4861 Car]

In this rich and very intimate spiritual autobiography, the former president shares his living Christian faith. Carter's deep faith is rooted in his family and community, and he traces the growth and development of his faith through his career in the Navy and various political offices, and through his work with Habitat for Humanity (which builds housing for poor Americans) and the Carter Center (an international peacemaking organization). Carter also discusses the impact that Soren Kierkegaard and Reinhold Niebuhr have had on his life. With engaging humor and self-effacement, Carter shares his personal stories of the lessons of faith he has learned as a son, husband and father. In addition, he shares his sense of justice and the ways his faith has affected his actions and personal lifestyle. Carter's book is an enjoyable look into the life of a man engaged in living out his faith in the public eye.

CHILDREN

Aki and the Banner of Names: and Other Stories from Japan by Atsuko Goda Lolling, c1991, published by Friendship Press. [J FIC Lol] Reading Level – Primary (ages 6-9)

Nine year old Aki lives in Japan and is a good student. Her mother tells her stories that were passed down from her grandparents – about living in Hiroshima when the atomic bomb was dropped on that city in 1945. The stories make Aki want to do something to prevent people from having to live through war again. She draws a picture about peace and sends it to an international children's organization. The result of her effort is a story about love and commitment which takes Aki around the world to spread her message. Based on a peace journey, this is a true story.

YOUTH (YOUNG ADULT)

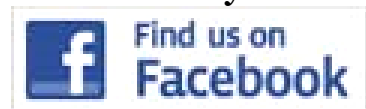
Cracks in the Ice by Deanna Klingel, c2012, published by Write Integrity Press. [Y FIC Kli]

Gina Mangalli, niece of a mafia don, has dreams of Olympic gold as a figure skater. When tragedy strikes and her dream is destroyed, Gina plunges into despair. Lamenting a bad decision and carrying the burdens of guilt, Gina finds God's love is still there for her through the help of two people who love her. Hope is restored and Gina learns a new kind of victory.

*Sign up to greet visitors and members
or to deliver flowers to the ill and home bound.*

<u>Narthex Greeter</u>		<u>Flower Delivery</u>	
March 2	Judy Fisk		Carol Williams
March 9	Maxine Jex		Maxine Jex
March 16	Sue Farina		Sue Farina
March 23	Jane McDowell		Jane McDowell
March 30	TBA		TBA

Did you know BUMC is on Facebook? Like us and help spread the word of all the events happening at church! Go to www.facebook.com and in the Search section type in Berwyn UMC. Help expand our online community.



REMINDER

From the office: The HIPAA Law prevents hospitals from calling the church./ If you are aware of anyone in the hospital, please contact the church office 610-644-5555 or Pastor Jacabella at 484-318-6389.

The Lighted Cross

Next deadline: March 12

Our mission is 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. Submit items to

kristineadamspc@verizon.net by the end of the day March 12. 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.

Ministry of the People is supported by the Staff

Pastor: Gary Jacabella

Lay Leaders: Janet Campbell & David Adams

Admin. Assistant: Veronica Mosley

Organist/Director of Music: Judith Lang

Nursery Assist: Eliza Chumpitaz

Sexton: Roger Toro

Children's Coordinator: Cynthia Shallcross

Youth Coordinator: Ed Moyer

Recordings of Sunday Services are available. Contact Jon Stockler at 610-348-3385 or JStockler@aol.com

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.



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

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