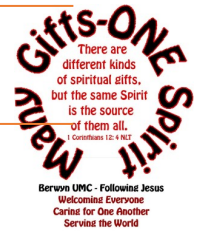


# THE LIGHTED CROSS

## BERWYN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



### March 2015 Newsletter

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One Week that changed the World  
Enter in through Prayer and Worship with  
Berwyn United Methodist

**Palm / Passion Sunday Celebration**  
March 29 - 8:30 am and 10:30 am  
Palm Procession - Passion Retelling  
"Look, your king is coming to you,  
humble and riding on a donkey"

**Holy Thursday - April 2 - 7:30 pm**  
"Tenebrae - A Service of Darkness"  
Composed by Hal H. Hopson  
for Choir and Congregation  
"The earth shook, the rocks split . . ."

**Good Friday - April 3 - Open Doors**  
Choose your time between noon and 9 pm  
To walk The Way of the Cross  
and/or the Labyrinth  
"They twisted together a crown of thorns"

**Gloria Saturday - Easter Egg Hunt**  
9:30 am with Continental Breakfast  
Welcome! Children of all ages and their families  
"Order the grave to be sealed until the third day"

**Celebrate Easter! Sunday, April 5**  
Sunrise Service 6:30 am - Outdoors on premises  
Worship and Lord's Supper - 8:30 am and 10:30 am  
Hallelujah Chorus sing-along at 10:30  
"I know that you are looking for Jesus who was  
crucified"

140 Waterloo Ave in Berwyn PA - 610.644.5555 - berwynumc.org



### Save the Date!

- March 8 Feed the 5000 begins
- March 21 UMW mini retreat
- March 29 Palm Sunday
- April 2 Holy Thursday service 7:30pm
- April 4—Easter Egg Hunt
- April 5—Easter Sunday
- April 10 & 11 Adult Council Dinner Theater Fundraiser

### Dinner and Theater

Berwyn UMC will team up with the Barn Playhouse to present a Dinner and Theater on the week-end of April 10 & 11. On both Fri. and Sat. evening the church will prepare a dinner in Schieck Hall to then be followed by a theatrical revue by the Barns Playhouse. The theater production will be held in the sanctuary. This event is a shared fundraiser by the 2 organizations.

The price for the event is \$25.00 per person and will include the dinner and the theater. Each evening we will serve up to 160 people family style in Schieck Hall. Then proceed to the sanctuary for the production. The production will consist of 2 acts with dessert served in the narthex and parlor during the intermission.

Reservations and payment are required for this event in advance. Please email or call Veronica in the church office to reserve your seats. We will have 20 tables of 8 so if you would like to be seated with someone please let Veronica know when placing your reservation. The tickets will be mailed to you as soon as payment is received in the office.

Rick Stoker is firming up the menu at this time but he is planning on Roast beef and baked chicken breasts as the meat. Times are not firm yet but believe the dinner will start at 6pm both evenings.

Please remember to make your reservation early as we hope to have sold out performances.

We will need lots of help to bring this event off. Help in the kitchen, waiting on tables, clean up, set up and more. If you are willing please let Rick Stoker or Nancy Atchison know. Expect to hear from one of us asking for your assistance.

See you at the theater in April.

## PASTOR'S THOUGHTS - Gary Jacabella

Most of you know that this year the trend of cutting the church budget became even more serious. A staff position was eliminated. The plan is to only pay 70% of Connectional Ministries, World Service Fund and General Church Fund and none of our "Fulfilling Our Covenant" Pledge. We are used to paying 100%. We still have plans on the table to cut other staff salaries after the first quarter. Some of our church ministry line items went to zero and others were greatly reduced. We will be relying more on volunteers for things like snow removal and youth activities.

Changes in the budget will result in change in the life of our church. The church has to adapt to the times in which we serve. Our church members who retire are going through change that affects the life of our church. Our church members who move are going through change that affects the life of our church. You are probably well aware of the changes that researchers are tracking concerning faith in America.

Some people are more comfortable with change than others. As a clergy family in the United Methodist Church, we have to be ready for change. When we move, we save the boxes. So, I cannot be a person opposed to change. I need to embrace it and look for the good in it.

Even when change is good or beneficial, it is stressful. One thing that will make change even more stressful is trying to pretend it isn't happening, trying to go along as if nothing has changed. Expecting things to stay the same after a budget has been cut is not helpful. It is not kind. We will have to let some things go.

Jesus compares his church to branches on a grape vine. The vineyard keeper is interested in seeing to it that the branches bear fruit. The vineyard keeper trims branches so that they produce more fruit. The trimming is good because the fruit is good. Jesus says his Father is the one going through vineyard making changes so that the branches bear more fruit. Jesus says he is the vine and that we will benefit from the trimming when we remain in him.

Can we do what Jesus instructs us to do? Adjust our focus so that we want the good fruit that God wants? Can we react to change by remaining in the vine, remaining in Jesus?

It could be that one of the best things that will come out of the changing trends concerning faith in America is that followers of Jesus will have to cling more tightly to the vine and draw all their life from Jesus.



During the month of February, the children of BUMNS saved pennies. The pennies were counted



at the end of the month. The money earned was given to the church to buy school kits for the HUB Outreach program.

March brings many activities for the nursery school. We will celebrate Dr. Seuss' birthday on March 2 by wearing pajamas to school. Favorite Dr. Seuss books will be read.

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 turn the children's milk green.

Parent/Teacher conferences will be held on March 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>. The teachers prepare evaluations for each child in the school. Teacher/ Parent communication can make the greatest difference in the life of a preschool child. The teachers at BUMNS are dedicated to support each student's growth and development.

We are all looking forward to spring.

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## CHILDRENS—Cindy Shallcross

**February 22- Lenten Fair-Fellowship of Breakfast, Pretzel Making, Crafts, and Spring Seed Planting!** Rick Stoker and his crew cooked up very yummy breakfast goodies for everyone to enjoy! The kids were able to make their annual Pretzel. Boy, did they smell good baking! They also were able to plant seeds to coax Mother Nature along to bring us spring with warm weather! They also took home a craft creation to remind them of Easter's coming!

**Our next Club Berwyn is tentatively scheduled for Friday March 13<sup>th</sup> from 6:30-8:30!**

**APRIL 4TH—Gloria Saturday EASTER EGG HUNT & BREAKFAST 9:30am/Hunt begins at 10 am**

**Parents and children are invited to come and enjoy a continental breakfast, a fun Easter Egg Hunt, storytelling and prizes! Bring a friend. For more information contact the church office or check us out on facebook: [www.facebook.com/BerwynUMC](http://www.facebook.com/BerwynUMC).**



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## March soups:

Soupy Thursday will continue through out March. The soups are:

3/5 – Cauliflower cheese, 3/12 – Chicken – n – biscuits, 3/19 – vegetable soup, 3/26 – chicken noodle

Take outs are available beginning at 5pm, \$5.00/QT, bread - \$3.00/loaf. Eat in is available beginning at 5:45pm. Free will offering.



## FINANCE UPDATE—*Betsy Newman*

Thank you to all of you who gave generously to the church in 2014, whether it was an occasional donation, a completed payment of your pledge, making an extra contribution at year end, giving to the Mortgage Rally, or whether you gave of your time which allows us to provide more services than if we had to pay for someone to do them. In the past year we were able to raise over \$16,000.00 in additional funds to pay our mortgage. That's a little more than 3 months payments. The Mortgage Rally will continue until September when the 60 weeks are complete. We hope that you will continue to support the campaign, and that we will raise even more money in 2015.

We have had several really positive things happen this year. Our mortgage was scheduled to reset in 2015 for a period of five years at a set rate (a rate which does not float). The new rate is lower than the old. Our new mortgage payment is approximately \$300.00 less per month, savings of over \$3,600.00 per year.

We have several new families worshipping with us. Some have come to us because their children attend our Nursery School and some have come to us from churches which have closed, including the Malvern United Methodist Church which closed in January and Ardmore. We have two new pledging units from new attendees.

The cost of snowplowing for 2015 has been donated. This is a very significant saving.

Pastor Gary and the Financial Secretary met with Dr. Powell the District Superintendent to discuss our financial position. She suggested that we look carefully at the way we reported the use of our funds to the conference to see if we could reduce the amount we pay monthly to the conference. Capital expenses can decrease the amount of our payment. We are making sure that this is done properly now and was done so in the past.

We are actively advertising the uses of our building to outside groups and have been successful in getting people interested in using the building. One new School group is scheduled to use Schick Hall and another group has been interested in using both Schick Hall and the Sanctuary, but we do not have a final decision from them.

Even with all these positive things we are not at the donation level that will allow us to operate without a deficit. We hope that you will prayerfully consider giving to the Mortgage Rally or to increase your level of giving for 2015.



## Letter from Mt. Zion Methodist Church:

Dear Jeff,

As always, the Christmas gifts and toiletries from Berwyn were absolutely beautiful and thoughtful: our Pastor Rev. Reginald A Monte, Gwyn Latimore and I cannot thank you and our friends at Berwyn enough for the special delivery. We always talk for months to come about the kindness that Berwyn shows to the people we reach out to at Christmas time.

Through the generosity of your members and friends at Berwyn, we were able to meet the following needs:

Mt. Zion's Food Ministry – Berwyn's unwrapped Christmas gifts, toys, and toiletries were disbursed to over 75 people who come weekly to Mt Zion for food and provisions on December 22.

Mt Zion's clients were so surprised to receive free gifts! Gratitude was written on each and every face.

Mary Jane Enrichment Center, Inc. – Christmas gifts, toys, and toiletries were given to over 35 residents including men and those that come by daily for food and warmth on December 22.

Mt Zion appreciates and thanks the members of Berwyn for your love and commitment to help us meet the needs of others. We couldn't have met so many needs without Berwyn's unwavering support year after year.

His Servants,

Cressa Morris and Gwyn Latimore

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## Mission Update—*Jeff Barger*

Our annual Bake Sale was a big success. Thanks to everyone who purchased the wonderful and tasty treats. And a special thank you to those who did the baking and who organized the affair. The donations will go to Mt. Zion's Food Ministry.

March 8<sup>th</sup> will begin the "Feed the 5000" food drive. Your donations will go to United Methodist Neighborhood Services who will distribute the bags of food to needy local families. We will collect up to Palm Sunday and deliver the bags that week. There will be bags and food lists available in the Narthex. If you are reasonably unable to buy the groceries yourself, you can donate the cost of the food and the Missions Team will buy them for you. Our goal is for 100 bags of food! Thank you in advance for your participation.

*Thank you for the staff Christmas Gift. Your gift was not just monetary, but the love and support I receive daily from the membership, leadership, and staff is priceless. I enjoy working for BUMC with the end goal to be a blessing to the ministry. Thank you for the gift and the opportunity to serve in God's field.*

*In God's Gracious Love,  
Veronica*

## International Mission trip report—Rick Stoker

Members of our congregation traveled to both Honduras and Costa Rica in the month of January to take part in mission work. We traveled as team members of Discovery Service Projects.

In Honduras we teamed up with Lamb, Latin American Bible Institute, which is headquartered in Tegucigulpa, Honduras. We worked with them for 3 weeks and were helping to build a new boys cabin at the children's home Lamb runs in San Buenaventura. At the present time there are 66 children at the home. All the boys currently reside in one cabin but because in the rise in number of boys it has become necessary to build another cabin to separate the older boys from the younger boys. Also, while there we got to tour the school Lamb runs, heard about the safe house for young girls trying to escape the sex trafficking trade and learned about Lamb's micro credit loans available to business owners.

We were teamed up with Rice and Beans ministries in Costa Rica again this year for another 3 weeks. This year we were starting preparations to build Sunday School classrooms at the Palmares UMC. Last year we helped them build a new sanctuary. The land here is very hilly so in preparation for the classrooms we had to level off the side hill and build a retaining wall to hold the hill back. This entailed lots of block laying, rebar bending and tying, placing rock behind the wall for drainage and mixing concrete. While there we also provided VBS 2 days for the local children who are still out on their summer break. Each after noon we went out into the neighborhoods and delivered bags of food to the needy. At each home we presented them with the gift of food and asked if we could pray with them.

Would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you who donated to the purchase of the food for the bags and to the children who decorated them. Over the 3 weeks we delivered about 800 bags of food and approx. 125 came from donations from BUMC. Thank you, we are blessed.



### Narthex & Flower Delivery

March 2015

<u>Flowers</u>		<u>Narthex</u>	
1 Carol Williams		1 Judy Fisk	
8 Barb Mekenney		8 Liz Young	
15 Liz Young		15 Liz Young	
22 Jane McDowell		22 Jane McDowell	
29 Barb Mekenney		29	

**Recordings of Sunday Services are available.**

**Contact Jon Stockler at  
610-348-3385 or  
JStockler@aol.com**

Ministry of the People is supported by the Staff

Pastor: Gary Jacobella

Lay Leaders: Janet Campbell & David Adams

Admin. Assistant: Veronica Mosley

Organist/Director of Music: Judith Lang

Nursery Assist: Eliza Chumpitaz

## Upcoming domestic mission trip

Discovery Service Projects will be running a 2 week domestic mission trip in late April. The trip runs for 2 consecutive weeks beginning Sun. April 19<sup>th</sup>. The work on this trip will be to help in the remodeling and rebuilding homes in the Crisfield, MD. area which were damaged in Super Storm Sandy. You can go for 1 week or 2. The cost for each week is \$200.00. This includes most meals, lodging in Asbury UMC, insurance, t shirt and construction costs. The supervising group on this mission is Volunteers in Mission of the UMC Northeast Jurisdiction. You would be responsible for getting yourself to and from Crisfield.

As of this writing Dick Rood and Rick Stoker are going the week of April 26. If you need an application or more info please contact Dick or Rick.



On Saturday, March 21 Berwyn UMW will host a mini-Lenten retreat with an emphasis on using prayer beads to enhance our prayer lives. Following the introduction to use of prayer beads by Pastor Gary on Feb. 8, we will meet to make a personal set of prayer beads, have a light breakfast of tea and breads and fellowship together. All are welcome to join us in the library from 9:30 – 11:30 am.

There will be no meeting in April but on Sunday, May 3 at our lunchtime meeting we'll discuss the book, *Shopping*, by Michelle A. Gonzalez, published by Fortress Press. The author suggests that how we shop is a reflection of what we value. Shopping also brings us instantly in contact with the many relationships and labor of people all over the world who have grown, harvested or crafted the food, clothes and other items with which we sustain and adorn our lives. You can order the book from United Methodist Women at <http://www.umwmissionresources.org/products/shopping> or the nook and kindle versions are available from Barnes & Noble and Amazon.



## Giving Card 2015

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

**\_\_\_\_ Yes! I/We will support  
Berwyn UMC in the year 2015.**

### Choose one

\$\_\_\_\_\_ each week for 52 weeks

\$\_\_\_\_\_ semi-monthly - 24 periods

\$\_\_\_\_\_ each month for 12 months

\$\_\_\_\_\_ as follows

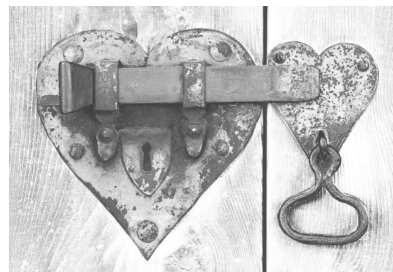
Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to give \$\_\_\_\_\_ to  
the Mortgage Rally

\_\_\_\_ I/We would like information on  
how to provide for Berwyn UMC  
through the Endowment Fund.

You can set up Electronic Funds  
Transfer at the Church Web Site  
[www.berwynumc.org](http://www.berwynumc.org) or by calling  
Betsy Newman.



Thank you for taking time to listen to  
God about giving to your church.

We pray giving will help us all make  
progress in our journey of faith.

Your pledges and contributions are a  
critical part of how we can make a  
difference in our congregation, our  
community and our world.

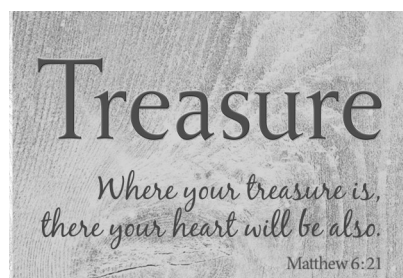
Please complete this Giving Card and  
return it during a Service of Worship.

You may also send your card to our  
Financial Secretary, Betsy Newman.

If you have questions please contact  
Betsy at 610-647-0643.

If you find the need, you may change  
your commitment at any time.

Berwyn United Methodist Church  
140 Waterloo Ave Berwyn PA 19312  
610.644.5555 [officebumc@comcast.net](mailto:officebumc@comcast.net)



Church Phone:

**610-644-5555**

Office E-mail:

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

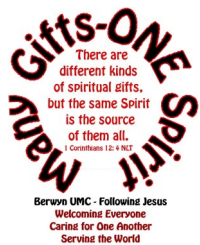
Church Website:

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

### Next deadline: March 11, 2015

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](mailto:kristineadamspc@verizon.net) by the end of the day **March 11**. The next issue is scheduled to be delivered by postal mail by March 1, and an electronic version will be available earlier on the church website.



## 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	Traditional Worship

Like us on Facebook: BerwynUMC

[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

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