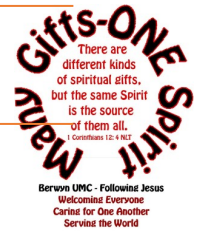




THE LIGHTED CROSS

BERWYN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



March 2016 Newsletter

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Look Ahead!

Feb 28—Feed the 5000

March 13—Mission Pi Day
Bake Sale

March 24—Holy Thursday
7:30pm

March 25—Good Friday
noon to 9pm Way of the
Cross

March 26—Egg Hunt &
Breakfast 9:30am

March 27—Easter Sun-
day Sunrise service 6:45
am; 8:30am; 10:30am

Were You There When They Crucified My Lord? *Gary Jacabella*

Every follower of Jesus shares in the death of Jesus. “This is what we know: the person that we used to be was crucified with him in order to get rid of the corpse that had been controlled by sin” (Romans 6:6 CEB).

Our faith is about unity with Christ, sharing his death, becoming part of his body. Going to the cross with Jesus is crucial. That’s why our “remembrance” of Jesus death involves an entering in. Jesus gives us means of grace or sacraments so that we can be at the table with our Lord, so that we can be at the cross.

We’ll go deeper into these realities when the worship series for Lent culminates with the Lord’s Supper on Easter.

The First Lord’s Supper was on what we now call Holy Thursday, “the night when Jesus gave himself up for us.” Our Service of Worship for Holy Thursday is carefully prepared so that we who are united together as the Body of Christ can be there as one body when our Lord is crucified.

On Holy Thursday, more so even then on Christmas Eve, we want to engage the whole person. In the Hebrew understanding the instruction to “Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your being, with all your strength, and with all your mind” was not a way of separating the human person into parts. It was poetry based on rhythmic parallelism or repetition as much as to say, “Love the Lord your God with everything you are, with everything you are, with everything you are, with everything you are.” Love engages everything. Worship engages everything.

The music, sights, sounds, tastes and emotions of Christ’s Crucifixion break our hearts.

“The earth did tremble . . .

The skies were clad in mourning . . .

The clouds dropped tears . . .

The world’s foundation loosed, to lose their founder;

The impatient temple rent her veil in two,

To teach our hearts what our sad hearts should do:

Shall senseless things do this, and shall I not melt one poor drop to see my Savior die?

Drill forth my tears and trickle one by one till you have pierced this heart of mine, this stone.”

Frances Quarles, 1592-1644

Jesus prophesied on Palm Sunday, “If my followers are silent, the stones will cry out.” Well the stones did cry out, just as Frances Quarles reminds us. Don’t hold back. Let’s join together and be united in seeing what no one ever expected to see. “He will startle many nations. Kings will be shocked by his exaltation, for they will witness something unannounced to them, and they will understand something they had not heard about” (Isaiah 53: 15 NET).

You can be there Holy Thursday, March 24, 7:30 pm.

MISSIONS UPDATE

Jeff Barger

The **PI Day Bake Sale** will take place on Sunday March 13th. The tasty treats for sale will be pies, cakes, cookies, brownies, and breads (Bernie's famous bread!) Everything is made by the expert bakers of the congregation. Proceeds will help in creating a community vegetable garden in honor of Donna Pitz. The bounty will be donated to local food banks.



February 28th 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 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.



The **Easter Offering** this year will be donated to the Appalachia Service Project (ASP).

CHILDREN NEWS

Cindy Shallcross

On Sunday February 7th, about 50 members joined in fellowship and enjoyed a delicious Lenten Breakfast prepared by Rick Stoker and his busy bee crew! There were plenty of pancakes and sausages for everyone, along with hash and eggs! No one left with an empty belly that is for sure!

Meanwhile, the 13 kids enjoyed their time making their pretzels! It has become a favorite activity each year to kick off the season of Lent. The pretzels were baked, and the scent wafted its way throughout the church. Still hot, fresh out of the oven, the pretzels were gobbled down! Several Valentine cards were created to wait for Valentine's Day as it approached. Other Lenten crafts were available to make, but I think the pretzels were the real winners of the morning!

Gloria Saturday will be March 26th beginning at 9:30 with a continental breakfast and coffee. The hunt itself will begin at 10:00 followed by Pastor Gary sharing the Lenten Story through the special eggs collected. You will not want to miss this egg-citing event! Pass the word to family, friends and neighbors to join in on the fun at our annual Egg Hunt!

I am looking for plastic egg donations, candy to fill the eggs, and prizes for the kids to choose from. A green box will be in the narthex to collect your donations during the month of March!



LAY LEADER LETTER

Janet K Campbell

IT SNOWED! After all of the predictions for blizzard conditions, wind and freezing temperatures, it happened. Stores were depleted of milk and bread and eggs, (the perfect French toast weather!). Weekend activities were cancelled and travel restricted. Flashlights were at the ready and wood placed at the hearth anticipating the worse. We all buckled down for a snowy weekend. It began to snow just as predicted. Accumulating snow, bitter cold temperatures, blustery winds and gloom.

By late Saturday evening the storm had left us. Just before midnight, I looked out the back door expecting to see the world consumed in DARKNESS. The full moon was reflecting on the sparkling snow. The light of the orb danced the shadows of tree branches across the brightness of the white crystals. Instead of dreariness and despair, our world was ILLUMINATED! The RADIANCE of the scene surprised me at first.

On Sunday morning, in the sunshine, the world was glowing. ENFOLDED by snowy brightness. Almost 30 inches of snow covered everything. The sun on the sparkling landscape was RADIANT. Even the inside of our house was gleaming from the reflection of the outside glow.

On the following Sunday, opening the hymnal on that day helped me relate to what had happened the week prior.

"SHINE, JESUS, SHINE" "Lord the light of your love is shining, in the midst of the DARKNESS, shining" "Let there be light" "...from the SHADOWS of your RADIANCE" "As we gaze on your royal BRIGHTNESS" "Consume all my DARKNESS. Shine on me, shine on me" "We are singing for the Lord is our LIGHT"

With all of the darkness in the world, there still is LIGHT and GOD is our LIGHT. He is with us even in darkness.

IN THE MIDST OF DARKNESS
...SEND FORTH YOUR WORD, LORD,
AND LET THERE BE LIGHT

2nd (ANNUAL) ESTATE ART AUCTION

Gene & Carol Williams

Please keep the Estate Art Auction in mind as you Spring clean and de-clutter your home in the coming months. We are targeting a September 2016 date but will begin collecting art work very soon for the auction. Last year we had over 40 varied art items to auction as well as many other pieces for direct sale and we're hoping to top that number this year. We need your contributions to do that. Look around your house, attic, closet and basement. Are you downsizing? What would you like to donate? Are you looking for a change to your present décor? 100% of the profit (\$1,987.00) from last year's art auction went to BUMC outreach programs. We will be using the same format as last year in that you will receive a tax donation letter from the church for the estimated appraised value of your donation.

We look forward to your donations and any questions. Thank you for thinking of BUMC as you Spring clean.



Thanks for all the many calls, cards, hugs and condolences to me and my family at this difficult time of the death of my daughter. It helps to have a loving church family. Nancy

 **SAVE THIS DATE!**

Our Dates with Interfaith
Hospitality Network in 2016
July 4, August 29 & October 10

MUSIC DEPARTMENT

Judith Lang

This year Holy Week begins with Jesus' entrance into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday, March 20 and includes the Choir's presentation on Holy Thursday. This year the choir will present "Tenebrae – A Service of Darkness" composed by Hal H. Hopson for choir and congregation on Thursday, March 24. And of course, Holy Week concludes with Christ's resurrection on Easter Sunday, March 27. We will celebrate Easter with Enter with Praise at the 10:30 am service. We will have an orchestra composed of members' who will share their instruments and talents with all of us. Rehearsal will be Saturday, March 26. Please see Judith Lang for copies of music.



Hope the holidays are going well for you guys and early Happy New Year.

I had called the other day and left a message to thank you and your congregation for your terrific end of the year donation to Tredyffrin and Easttown Care. You guys are the best!

The members of the Berwyn United Methodist Church have shown yourselves to be among our elite donors, and we pledge to be good stewards of your generosity to improve the lives of our neighbors in the community. I wish everyone could be like you.

Thank you once again for your exceptional gift.

*Take care,
John / Jump Dautrich T&E cares*

Next deadline: March 9, 2016 for April 2016 issue

Please submit items for The Lighted Cross to kristineadamspc@verizon.net by the end of the day March 9. 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.

DON'T FORGET TO BE PRESENT

Kristine Adams

We are nearing the end of our Lenten Journey this month. We began with Ash Wednesday and our journey culminates with Easter Sunday. The last week of Jesus' life is referred to as Holy Week. Holy Week begins on Palm Sunday, March 20. This is Jesus' triumphant return to Jerusalem. He is welcomed and praised. He receives a hero's welcome of sorts. And yet, just a few days later, he is betrayed by one of his disciples, convicted in a mock trial and executed in one of the most brutal forms possible. We celebrate the last 24 hours of Jesus' life with our Holy Thursday or Maundy Thursday service. This year we will have a Holy Service on March 24. Our adult choir will present "Tenebrae – A Service of Darkness." This is a musical interpretation of Jesus's betrayal and crucifixion and the grief and mourning of those who followed Him.

Holy Thursday and Good Friday are the cornerstones of our faith. We celebrate communion the first Sunday of each month which is in fact a re-enactment of the Last Supper. It is important to remember the events that led up to that Passover meal which led Jesus to encourage his believers to share bread and wine with each other to remember him. Christ's death is payment for our sins. He died so that we could have an open, free relationship with God.

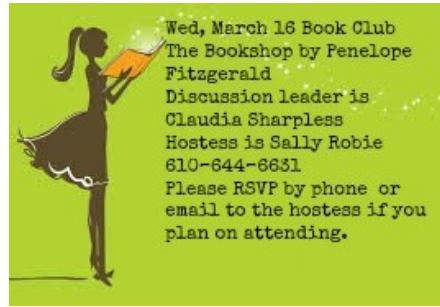
It is important to remember this fact and to be present in that final moment of Christ's death. In order to fully enjoy the miracle of the Resurrection we have to first experience the grief and sadness of Holy Thursday and Good Friday. I encourage each of you to mark this date on your calendar and invite a friend or two to come with you.

4th Annual Gretna Gritty

May 7, 2016 @ Gretna Glen Camp & Retreat Center

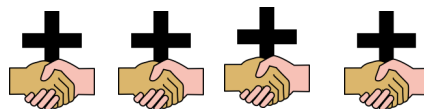
The Gretna Gritty is a 5k mud run for runners aged 12 and up, with 19+ obstacles set in the beautiful, rugged terrain of the Mt. Gretna area. Participants can expect to encounter mud, water, fire, rocks, earth, and climbs that excite the mud runner in us all! There are Competitive, and Non-Competitive Options, as well as Team Options for the Gretna Gritty and Walk-A-Thon. All participants can expect lunch, medals, special promotions, a sweet Gretna Gritty t-shirt, and memories to last a lifetime!

<http://www.gretnaglen.org/about-us/get-involved/gretna-gritty-mud-run>



FLOWER VOLUNTEERS

- 6
- 13 Jane McDowell
- 20 (Palm Sunday) Romaine Rood
- 27 (Easter) None Needed



NARTHEX GREETRS

- 6 Judy Fisk
- 13 Jane McDowell
- 20 (Palm Sunday) Romaine Rood
- 27 (Easter)



March NEWS 2016

One of BUMNS students has been diagnosed with Juvenile Arthritis. The children learned that Emily lives with pain every day. During the month of February, the children of BUMNS saved pennies. The pennies were counted at the end of the month and donated to the Arthritis Foundation in Emily's name. The children were told that the Arthritis Foundation researches many different ways to help Emily. Outreach programs at BUMNS teach our children that helping others brings many rewards.

The children will celebrate Dr. Seuss' birthday during the first week in March. Of course, 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 played. 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 10th and 11th. 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.

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
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 ShallcrossLay
Church Phone: 610-644-5555
Office E-mail: officebumc@comcast.net
Church Website: www.berwynumc.org
facebook: www.facebook.com/Berwyn UMC

NATIVE AMERICAN / ENVIRONMENT – ADULT COLLECTION

How to Rescue the Earth Without Worshipping Nature by Tony Campolo, c1992 [363.7525 Cam]

“Being concerned about the environment is a biblically mandated command, and acting to rescue creation...is a Christian obligation,” according to Campolo. The author builds a case for Christian environmentalism and calls on Christians to accept responsibility to correct our polluted earth. He suggests practical ways for churches and individuals to address environmental issues and recommends taking an environmental audit to measure each church’s response to conservation. Key Christian outreach organizations that work to preserve the environment are identified.

I Heard the Owl Call My Name by Margaret Craven, c1973 [FIC Cra]

From the New York Times bestseller list in the 1970 comes Margaret Craven’s story of a young Anglican vicar named Mark Brian who has not long to live. He learns the meaning of life when he is sent to a First Nations parish in British Columbia to live among the Kwakiutl Indian tribe. Mark is about to be recalled by his bishop when he hears the owl call his name, which foretells imminent death according to Kwakiutl belief.

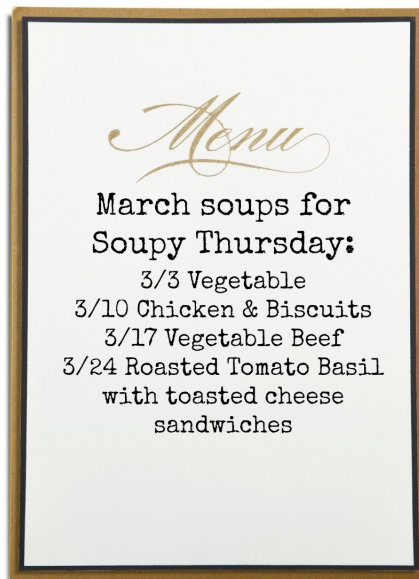
NATIVE AMERICAN / ENVIRONMENT – CHILDREN’S COLLECTION

Grandfather Four Winds and Rising Moon by Michael Chanin, c1994 [J FIC Cha] Reading level: Primary

This is a story of the interconnectedness of people and the natural environment told in the Native American tradition. The wisdom of a grandfather is passed on to his son as he highlights the values of courage, gratitude and generosity.

Old Turtle by Douglas Wood and Cheng-Khee Chee, c1992 [J FIC Woo] Reading level: Pre-School / Primary

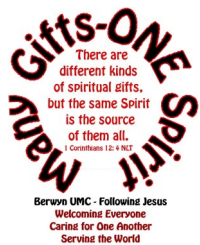
This book was the focus of Pastor Gary’s children’s sermon on Sunday, July 19, 2015. Long ago, the animals, rocks, waters and trees of the earth began an argument about God. Is He a wind who is never still? Is He a rock that never moves? Is He high above or here among us? Venerable Old Turtle quietly answered: God is all of these things. This book is a fable about ecology, peace and the interconnectedness of all beings. It is an eloquent plea for understanding between people and nature.



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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 |

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