



THE LIGHTED CROSS

BERWYN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

God CALLS Berwyn UMC to



Care Accept Laugh Love Serve



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- Save the Date—Fall Fest
- Love Renegade Update
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Calendar Highlights

- May 12 Mother's Day
- May 19 Progressive Dinner
- May 22 Book Club
- May 26 Summer Worship Schedule Begins
- May 27 Memorial Day

Join Us For Worship

- 8:30 am Worship
- 9:15 am Sunday School
- 10:30 am Traditional Worship
- Communion is observed on the First Sunday of the Month



Summer Worship Schedule begins
May 26, which is Memorial Day
weekend.

8:30 a.m. in the outdoor chapel
10:00 am in the sanctuary



Mark your calendars - and plan vacations
accordingly!!!!

BUMC Fall Festival

Oct 12th

9AM - 2PM RAIN or SHINE

While you are 'Spring Cleaning' -

please remember the Fall Festival!

We accept Flea Market goods, Collectibles
and book donations.

Everything can be placed in the Scout Cabin.

LOVE RENEGADES UPDATE *Paula Renneisen*

Want to know what the Love Renegades are up to?

The partnership between New Life United Methodist Church and Berwyn United Methodist Church was recognized by the Urban Commission of the Eastern Pennsylvania Conference as an Urban Alliance.

The Eastern Pennsylvania Conference includes some of the most historic population centers in the country, including Philadelphia, Chester and Reading. Since its founding in 1784, the Conference and its predecessors have been fully committed to working in ministry in each of our urban centers. In 2012, the Annual Conference adopted a Comprehensive Urban Ministry Strategic Plan which had been designed and proposed by the Urban Commission. The Plan presents a broad outline for a forward direction in Conference urban ministry. [excerpt taken from epaumc.org/Urban Ministry]

In furthering our knowledge and understanding, four representatives from the Love Renegades, including Yattah Jones, Barbara Mekenney, Paula Renneisen, and Keima Sherriff, attended the recent “Changing Racism” workshop on Friday, April 5 – Sunday, April 7th. Facilitators included a cross-racial, cross-gender team of two leaders from Visions, Inc. (www.visions-inc.org).

The workshop focused on learning concrete strategies for:

- Developing skills for addressing and changing attitudes and behaviors that perpetuate bias, discrimination, and other obstacles to equity
- Understanding the personal costs to everyone of system of privilege and disadvantage
- Recognizing institutional racism and other forms of systemic oppression and discrimination that affect members of historically excluded groups
- Changing dysfunctional intra-racial and interracial behavior that undermine effective partnerships
- Learning to acknowledge and interrupt the subtle (and often unintentional) dynamics that play out between “modern” forms of oppression and “internalized oppression”

The weekend was a very powerful and eye-opening experience, providing a new way of looking at the world based upon how people identify racially, ethnically, and culturally. Attendance at this meeting was very useful in building a foundation in which to continue having discussions to bridge gaps experienced in our churches. If you would like to receive further information regarding the workshop, please contact Paula Renneisen (610.742.5862 or prenneisen38@gmail.com). There will be another Changing Racism Workshop help on October 18-20, 2019.

A special THANK YOU to Yattah Jones for working with Dr. Anita Powell to complete the grant application from the Love Renegades. Tuition for the workshop was facilitated by grant funds received from the Urban Ministries Urban Alliance Fund.



PROGRESSIVE SUPPER *Rick Stoker*

The Adult Fellowship's annual progressive supper will be held on Sunday May 19, 2019. You do not need to be a regular attendee of our events to participate, this event is open to all within our church family.

The evening will start off at 5PM with appetizers at the home of Rick and Penny Stoker. Next, we will proceed to the home of Jim and Darlene Spofford for the main course. We will culminate the evening with dessert at the home of Judith Millsaps and Andy Robbins.

You do need a reservation for this event but there is no charge. However, you may be asked to help with supplying an appetizer, part of the main course or a dessert. Reservations will be taken in church on Sunday May 5 and May 12 or you can always call the office with your reservation.

We highly recommend that you carpool with others to the various houses. We hope to see you all there.

The Mission Committee thanks everyone for their support of the *Feed The 5000* event.



P2J (Pilgrimage to Jerusalem) *Stephanie Borelly*

Thanks to all who participated! We are tallying up mileage and donations. Totals will be posted in the June issue of *The Lighted Cross*. If you have miles to post or wish to make a financial contribution please contact Stephanie at Johnborelly@comcast.net or you can call or text 610-299-6254.



BREAKFAST WITH THE BUNNY & EGG HUNT

Cindy Shallcross

April 13th was a wonderful morning for a pancake, eggs and sausage breakfast with the Easter Bunny. There were about 100 guests young and old who came to enjoy the festivities. The foods Rick Stoker and his crew made and served were delicious and everyone filled their bellies. The Easter Bunny was a huge hit with the kids. They loved hugging and posing for pictures with her. She even told me before

she left that she looks forward to coming next year. Baskets and bags were filled with many colorful eggs found during our indoor egg hunt./ Even though there were 800 eggs hidden, you may still find one or two in either the parlor, library or sanctuary. Pastor Tim used special eggs with symbols hidden inside to share the Easter Story. The day was well enjoyed by all who came. A HUGE Thank You to Rick's crew, my egg hiders, the Easter Bunny, and Pastor Tim for making this year's Easter festivities one to remember and strive to outdo next year!



LAY LEADER'S LETTER *Lee Paylor*

Recently I took a fabric collage workshop. We were each creating a scene of our own choosing. The collage means you are creating a piece with cut out shapes of fabric or paper overlapping each other. We are collage pieces ourselves – wife/husband, mother/father, sister/brother.....all at the same time.....and we are teachers, secretaries, medical workers, volunteers, salespersons. The fabrics are fused (glued) to a foundation. Our foundation is, we are each, a child of God. Everything else that we are is built on this. Let us remember to see each person as a child of God.

“I sing a song of the saints of God, patient and brave and true... You can meet them in school, on the street, in the store, in church, by the sea, in the house next door, they are saints of God,...and I mean to be one too.”

Methodist Hymnal 712



MAY BOOK CLUB

The meeting date has been changed from May 15 to May 22. Note the change!

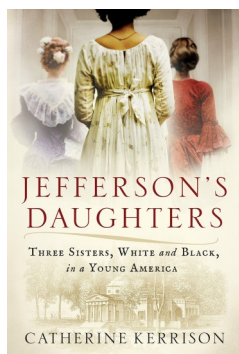
Wednesday, May 22

Discussion leaders: Sally Bridwell and Marge Smink

Hostess: Marge Smink 610-359-5445

Book: *Jefferson's Daughters: Three Sisters, White and Black in a Young America*

by Catherine Kerrison



Janet Wham

After more than 30 years of teaching, including 10 years as Director of Berwyn United Methodist Nursery School, I will be retiring. The decision does not come easily. I have thoroughly enjoyed my years with the school and the church. I promised myself that I would retire at age 65 and I have reached that milestone. My retirement will become effective on June 7, 2019.

I appreciate the generous support, understanding and guidance Veronica and the church has given me over the years. Berwyn United Methodist Church is blessed to have a wonderful congregation.

Jane Harris will assume the role as Director of the Nursery School. Jane has been by my side these past 10 years as the Assistant Director. Jane has taught at the school for over 20 years. Jane is well liked and respected by the parents of the school. Under Jane's direction, BUMNS will continue to provide an excellent preschool education.

I am sad to say good bye. I hope the friendships in the school and church will continue. The past years have been some of the best in my life.



Ministry of the People is supported by the Staff

Pastor: Tim Duchesne

Children's Coordinator: Cindy Shallcross

Lay Leader: Lee Paylor

Admin. Assistant: Veronica Mosley

Organist/Director of Music: Amy McLoughlin

Nursery Assist: Eliza Chumpitaz

Sexton: Roger Toro

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

Grace and peace saints,

Today I want to take a moment to talk about the stories that make up all of our lives. If we look back over time the human race has had six primary stories of organizing our lives and holding on to our stuff.

The first story that evolved was the *domination* story: “we” would rule over “them”. This oppression provoked the emergence of a *revolution* story, often expressing itself as revenge, one form of domination replaced with another.

Another typical manifestation was the *purification* story, in which all the troubles of a powerful group were blamed on a minority, who would be excluded or even exterminated. The pain of this story was so great that some people began to define themselves by what they had suffered, a *victimization* story, which some aggressively maintained.

Others simply withdrew, believing in the righteousness of their own group, called to an *isolation* story in a wilderness or a promised land, where the domination cycle would begin over again.

And the people who perhaps thought themselves to be the smartest of all just retreated into trying to possess as much as they could: living by an *accumulation* story which pretended that happiness comes from having stuff, and doing our best to keep it.

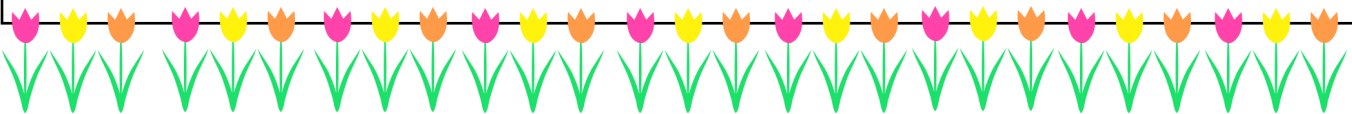
Which of these stories seems most like your life?

Can you see how a world built on such stories can only be one in which we fight each other? Can you see how, in such a world, peace is impossible? Can you see how, now that humans have the power to wipe ourselves out, we need another story?

Fortunately, there is a seventh story, one evoked in many wisdom traditions. The one that I know best emerged about 2,000 years ago, when a poet-craftsman started teaching a bunch of Middle Eastern peasants the meaning of love. The poet (Jesus) radically interrupted the six stories, saying that instead of getting stuff and keeping others from getting stuff, you can’t actually possess stuff for yourself alone in the first place. Instead of building walls, you are invited to show the same kindness toward your neighbor as you would want them to show to you, to celebrate his joys, to grieve her losses. Even more provocative: instead of defeating enemies, you are asked to love them. This story is called the reconciliation-liberation story.

What changes in your life would you need to make in order to live more fully into this Seventh story?

Easter Blessings to all,
Rev. Dr. Timothy Duchesne



SCENES FROM EASTER





Our Mission Statement

God **CALLS** us to **Care, Accept, Love, Laugh and Serve**

Worship Schedule

- 8:30 AM Early Worship
- 9:15 AM Sunday School
- 10:30 AM Traditional Worship with Choir

SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Begins May 26

- 8:30 AM Worship in Outdoor Chapel
- 10:00 AM Traditional Worship in Sanctuary

Follow on Instagram: [bumcares](#)

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www.berwynumc.org

Email: 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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