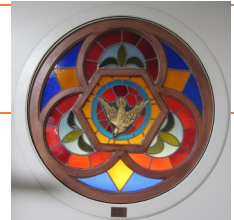


THE LIGHTED CROSS

BERWYN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



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- Feed the 5000
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Calendar Highlights

- **May 3** Kitchen Clean Up
- **May 8 & 9** Trinity Pres Food Drive
- **May 20-22** Annual Conference

TO STAY UP TO DATE WITH OUR CHURCH EVENTS & THE GLOBAL CHURCH PLEASE FOLLOW ON SOCIAL MEDIA

FACEBOOK: BUMCservice

INSTAGRAM: bumcares

YOUTUBE: Berwyn UMC

WEBSITE:

www.berwynumc.org

WEBSITE:

www.epaumc.org (Eastern PA Conference of UMC)

WEBSITE: umnews.org
(United Methodist News)



FEED THE 5000 UPDATE

I want to thank everyone who donated groceries to the Feed The 5000 drive. It means so much to the people who struggle to feed their families on a daily basis.

The Mission Committee thanks everyone for their support in helping us be such a success in helping others regionally, nationally and internationally. We look forward to continuing to support the causes we have over the years and welcome all volunteers to help us continue our Mission work. If you are passionate about one of our missions please volunteer. Remember The Children International program is an ongoing event, so make your donations to the penny jar to help our child, Florence, in Zambia.

Love and peace to you all,

Jeff Barger



TROOP 181 UPDATE -

EAGLE SCOUT ACTIVITY *Mary Ostien*

Our Troop has been very active with archery events, weekend hikes, preparing for a trip to New Mexico, leadership training and several Eagle Scout projects. There are two I'll share this month- Luke Morris and Jonas Walton.

Luke is a junior at Conestoga High School; his Eagle project was to create an outdoor worship space for St David's Episcopal Church in Devon. The church initially requested a path that was part of an existing project started by two other scouts from Troop 181. However they decided during the pandemic to alter the space and use it for outdoor worship. Luke and several scouts and parents were able to build a 250 ft. path, shaped a little bit differently than the original path, to accommodate the space. The church provided the materials, wood beams and wood chips, saws and extra shovels to assist Luke and our scouts in creating their new outdoor space. Thankfully the weather cooperated and they were able to complete the project in one week-end!



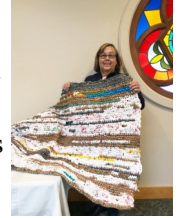
Jonas Walton is a junior at Conestoga High School; his Eagle Scout project was to create a sandbox at Johnson Park in Berwyn (behind Eastown Library). This was no easy feat as it needed to be dug out and leveled, then a drain pipe was installed and stone and then the sand. The sandbox is huge and will be lots of fun for kids to play in versus the volley ball court sand! We had a dozen or more scouts and parents there helping to shovel stone and sand to make this sandbox another fun project completed by our Troop to enhance our community! We are so proud of our scouts and all they do for our community!



We welcome all interested in visiting or joining our Troop to stop by a meeting. For additional information please contact our Scout Master Sean Kim 484-318-3087 or Recruiting Coordinator – Mary Ostien 484-241-1280

HUB UPDATES *Joy Fuerst*

While most HUB group activities were on pause during the past year, some dedicated crafters turned single-use plastic bags into sleeping mats for those living on the streets in Philly. It all started during the pre-pandemic 2020 MLK Day of Service. A group of four Cleona HUB members traveled to Berwyn to train our participants how to make PLARN (PLastic yARN) from single-use plastic bags. On that day many bags were flattened, cut, and knotted into long lengths of PLARN.



Laurel Adams was one of the attendees, and she learned how to use her crochet skills to construct the PLARN into sleeping mats. A bit of YouTube instruction was enough to get Nancy Atchison and her friend Diane on the right track (Laurel also referred to YouTube... you can learn how to do most anything on YouTube!), and more mats were made. Would you believe that to date, over 20 sleeping mats have been completed?



Here are some numbers to consider: each mat is approximately 3' x 6'; 700-1000 single-use plastic bags are required to construct each mat; from bag collection to mat completion, approximately 2 - 2½ months elapses. A large number of individuals have helped collect plastic bags, including Nancy's neighbors at Shannondell, as well as prepare the bags into PLARN.

As the efforts had initiated toward making PLARN and constructing sleeping mats, the reality of the pandemic settled in. Around this time, Gina DeFlavia became aware of St. Miriam's (Flourtown, PA) Homeless Ministry and the heightened need created by the pandemic. In addition to providing food and hygiene items for St. Miriam's Blessing Bags, Gina delivered the earliest completed PLARN sleeping mats. Additional deliveries of the PLARN sleeping mats have continued, and St. Miriam's volunteers refer to our PLARN experts as the "Mat Ladies."

These sleeping mats provide some much-needed comfort to those who usually have little to nothing between their tired bodies and the sidewalk as they sleep each night. We are thankful for each person who has contributed to this project, especially those who have used their crochet skills to make the final product - a true labor of love.

Would you like to support this ongoing project?

We are in constant need of single-use plastic bags in good condition (clean, without food or other residue) that would otherwise be discarded... please don't increase your consumption of single-use plastic bags for this purpose – we are looking to re-purpose bags that are already in circulation!

Happy Mother's Day! Mother's Day is a holiday that is celebrated all around the world in different ways, in different cultures and, depending on the country, at different times of the year. Of course, here in the United States, Mother's Day is always celebrated on the Second Sunday of May and has been since President Woodrow Wilson signed a proclamation which officially declared it a holiday in 1914.

What is so wonderful about the worldwide tradition of this holiday is that, despite cultural, religious, and geographic differences that divide our societies, most cultures around the world recognize the profound importance of motherhood. So, on this day every year, we honor all mothers – biological mothers, adoptive mothers, aunts, mothers-in-law, foster mothers, grandmothers, stepmothers, those who have been “like a mother” to us, and spiritual mothers.

These women all have a special place in our hearts and our lives – on this day we honor them especially and pray for them. On this day, we also remember and pray for those women who wish to become mothers but, for whatever reason, are unable to do so. We pray for healing for those who have a strained relationship with their mothers or those mothers who have a strained relationship with their children. In a particular way, we take time to remember and pray for those women who have lost their children and especially, we remember fondly and pray for our deceased mothers.

This day reminds us not only to give thanks to God for the mothers in our lives but also to examine more closely all they have done for us throughout our lives. Motherhood is a vocation, a calling from God, to nurture, develop and love their children. While it is ultimately a rewarding vocation, there is no doubt that it can be challenging to be a mother. Many mothers also work outside the home to provide for their family. We admire and thank mothers for living out the vocation of motherhood in a remarkably busy and demanding life.

Ideally, the love of a mother should be the ideal form of love – one that puts us at ease. With a mother's love, everything is somehow easier; the troubled, worried, and saddened heart, worn-out by the storms in our life, finds new hope, strength, and resilience through a mother's love – able to continue through life fresh with courage! As Christians, we have the comfort of knowing that when our earthly mother leaves us, we are never left without the love of our eternally loving God.

Our loving God is a compassionate, patient, unending and understanding model for all mothers throughout their joys and challenges. We thank God for all the women who have graciously accepted the vocation of motherhood and given themselves so selflessly and generously to living out this vocation with a living and full spirit! Motherhood is not, by any means, an easy calling, but we believe that with God's example of unending love, it is possible and wonderfully rewarding.

I hope you have a joyous Mother's Day holiday knowing that, as a family of believers, we are united by our prayers for each other and bonds of love! To all of you who are mothers, I thank God for you and the selfless commitment you make daily to your families. I pray for your continued strength and knowledge of God's guidance in your calling as a mother.

Blessings,

Pastor Rodney





UPDATE by Jane Harris The nursery school year has flown by, it is almost the end of our school year. Spring is a time of renewal and new growth so in April we welcomed some chick and duck eggs and the children loved observing the hatching process and watching the chicks and ducklings grow. The ducklings were a particular favorite. We will also be observing caterpillars as they turn into butterflies. We will be celebrating our 5 Day children as they prepare to leave us and continue their journey to kindergarten by holding an outdoor graduation for them. This year has been difficult at times but also hopeful and happy. I am so grateful for all the kindness and support we have received and the flexibility of everyone involved with the nursery school. We would like to wish everyone a safe and good summer and look forward to returning in September.

EASTERN PA CONFERNECE EVENTS



Every Tuesday at noon the Eastern PA Conference hosts a Conference Wide Weekly Prayer Meeting. Meeting is open to all. The zoom link for the meeting can be found at www.epaumc.org/conference-calendar/conference-wide-prayer-meeting-2/2021-5-04/.



UNITED METHODIST DENOMINATION UPDATES

Kristine Adams will be answering questions and offering updates on General Conference 2020 and the issues surrounding GC and the denomination on May 19 at 7pm at Paoli United Methodist Church. All are welcome.

The Eastern PA Delegation Team for General Conference & Northeast Jurisdiction Conference continues to meet on a regular basis. If you have any questions or concerns regarding The United Methodist Church, please call or email Kristine Adams, Alternate Delegate to Northeast Jurisdiction Conference & Lay Delegate to Eastern PA Annual Conference. Kristine's email is kidl.adams@gmail.com and cell phone is 484-574-4457.



Ministry of the People is supported by the Staff

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| Pastor: Rodney Brailsford | Children's Coordinator: Cindy Shallcross |
| Lay Leader: Amy Dodds | Sexton: Over Caicedo |
| Admin. Assistant: Veronica Mosley | Organist/Director of Music: Amy McLoughlin |
| Nursery Assist: Eliza Chumpitaz | |

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



Dear friends at BUMC,

Thank you for your love and support during my most recent (and hopefully last!) surgery for head/neck cancer. Your heartfelt messages, cards, and especially your prayers all brightened my day and helped lead to a successful recovery. I am back at work but trying to take it slow as I continue to heal. I wish you all a beautiful and healthy spring! Thank you again.

Stay well,

Love, Amy Dodds



Pastor Rodney announces that Pastor's Bible Study will resume on Wednesday, May 5, at 7:00 p.m., via Zoom, with a study of Jesus' Twelve Disciples. By examining the selection and lives of Jesus' original 12 disciples, we will learn how Christ can work through us and move

even the most doubting of us to be empowered witnesses of his grace and forgiveness. This promises to be a beneficial and engaging study for each of us! This six-week study will meet every Wednesday from May 6 through June 16 (except May 26). The recurring zoom link can be found in the recent e-newsletter or you can email the office for the link at officebumc@comcast.net.



Guardian Angels: Each year members of our congregation act as anonymous guardian angels to our college students throughout the academic year, sending them notes and goodies to let them know they are in our thoughts. Now is the time to unmask and thank our angels! Our heartfelt thanks go to Nancy Atchison, Jack and Janet Campbell, Amy Dodds, Lee Paylor and Barb Stockler for their service as guardian angels this year! Our especial thanks go to Barb Stockler who as acted a coordinator for this program for the past few years! Barb is now ready to hand this program off to a new coordinator. If you are interested in serving in this way, please contact Barb for more information.

FOOD DRIVE

Sponsored by
Trinity Presbyterian
Church
640 Berwyn Ave
Berwyn

Our neighbor Trinity Presbyterian
Church is hosting a Drive-through
Food Drive in May.
Collection will be
Mother's Day Weekend
Saturday, May 8, & Sunday, May 9,
12 noon - 4:00 p.m.
Tell your friends & family!

Do all the good you can,
by all the means you can,
in all the ways you can,
in all the places you can,
at all the times you can,
to all the people you can,
as long as ever you can.

Mission & Vision Survey

Online Survey

Thanks to all who participated in our Congregational Meeting on April 25. Whether or not you were able to participate, you are urged to complete the Mission and Vision Survey sent out by Pastor Rodney and return your answers by May 15.



Our Mission Statement

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

Worship Schedule

Sundays 10:30 AM

On-Line Worship on Facebook Live/
Church Website/YouTube

Subscribe to our channel on YouTube: Berwyn UMC

Follow on Instagram: bumcares

Like us on Facebook: Berwyn UMC

www.berwynumc.org

Email: officebumc@comcast.net

Fax: 610-644-7890

Church Office: 610-644-5555

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