



November 2007

BERWYN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
INVITING NURTURING AND ENCOURAGING SERVICE

The Lighted Cross

Consecration Sunday

Congregations that approach financial stewardship from a biblical perspective do not view the money Christians give to their church merely as a way to pay its bills. Rather, such congregations see financial contributions as a way to help people grow spiritually in their relationship with God by supporting their church's mission and ministry with a percentage of their incomes.

Our congregation's finance committee has selected the *New Consecration Sunday Stewardship Program* as a way to teach the biblical and spiritual principles of generous giving in our stewardship education emphasis this year.

New Consecration Sunday is based on the biblical philosophy of the need of the giver to give for his or her own spiritual development, rather than on the need of the church to receive. Instead of treating people like members of a social club who should pay dues, we will treat people like followers of Jesus Christ who want to give unselfishly as an act of discipleship. *New Consecration Sunday* encourages people toward proportionate and systematic giving in response to the question, "What percentage of my income is God calling me to give?"

During morning worship on Consecration Sunday, we are asking our attendees and members to make their financial commitments to our church's missionary, benevolent, and educational ministries in this community and around the world.

Every attendee and member who completes an *Estimate of Giving Card* does so voluntarily by attending morning worship on Consecration Sunday. We urge people to attend who feel strongly opposed to completing a card. The procedure is done in such a way that no one feels personal embarrassment if he or she chooses not to fill out a card.

We will do no home solicitation to ask people to complete cards. During morning worship our guest leader will conduct a brief period of instruction and inspiration, climaxed by members making their commitments as a confidential act of worship.

We will encourage participation in Consecration Sunday events through the Consecration Sunday team and governing board members. Since we will make no follow-up visits to ask people to complete their cards, we will make every effort to inform, inspire, and commit everyone to attend Consecration Sunday worship.

Thanks in advance for your enthusiastic participation in Consecration Sunday events.

Bob Borst - Administrative Board Chairperson

STEWARDSHIP

The membership liturgy for United Methodists asks members to “**uphold the church by your prayers, your presence, your gifts, and your service.**” This is ancient stewardship talk based on centuries of understanding how we respond to God as participants in the church of Jesus Christ.

There are indications of **private, public and group prayers** for general and specific matters known to the people of the congregation. **Participation in worship, fellowship and educational experiences**, afford the people of the congregation opportunity to come together, in powerful moments where much more is known and accomplished than would be the case individually. Our **gifts and generosity** allow for the transfer of value, where both parties are blessed: the giver as well as the recipient. **Service** is an in-kind gift, where one reaches out to help with expertise or sacrifice.

The Fall Festival, a tradition at Berwyn, depends on dedicated service and organizational prowess, in order to benefit the congregation. In fact, the Fall Festival involves all four forms of stewardship. On October 13th many were, without a doubt, praying for participants and the event. The presence of workers is essential because ‘many hands make light work.’ Gifts of goods and talent make the event possible. Service is illustrated by the untold hours given by the coordinators and the workers. In the same way, members in Christ are expected to participate in the life of the church in all the above ways too. Surely, some excel in one more than another. But one should not be a substitute for another.

The Finance committee is charged with a focus on financial stewardship. One of our goals is to promote the notion that all church members are invited and expected to participate financially at one level or another. 100% of members as donors is the challenge. We are not there yet. As you read on the front page, on November 18th With regard to Financial stewardship, we will be challenged to “move up one step.” Stay tuned.

The financial results for September 30, 2007 (the 9 months of 2007) are as follows: Contributions are behind budget by \$27,643; over all, income is behind budget expectations by \$33,559. Expenses were better than (less than) budget expectation, by \$19,095. The net ordinary income is a -\$22,266 meaning that since the beginning of the year, we’ve spent this much more than we’ve received in income. Our treasurer has compared our 07 to the corresponding period of 2006. We were \$11, 933 behind in cash flow in 2006; actually better than 2007.

Steven Cherry, Finance Chair

Our New Editor

In November, Gene Foreman will take over as editor of *The Lighted Cross*; the December issue will be his first. Gene has retired twice: first, in 1998, as managing editor of *The Philadelphia Inquirer*, a position he had held for 25 years. His second retirement came in 2006 when he retired as the Larry and Ellen Foster Professor in the College of Communications at Penn State.

Currently, Gene claims his main job is to drive his many grandchildren to soccer games! Gene is working on a journalism ethics textbook to be published by Blackwell in the summer of 2009. In October, Gene traveled to China to be an adviser to Hong Kong Baptist University's first Pulitzer Prize winner's journalism workshop. Six winners of America's top journalism award will be in attendance at this workshop.

Gene and JoAnn Foreman and their children, Harry, Valerie, Susan, Jo, and Nell Rose, joined BUMC in 1973. The Foremans became very involved in taking foster children into their home. They adopted three of their foster children: two sisters, Michelle, Rebecca, and then, Kyle. Our church is truly blessed to have the Foreman family as a part of our church family.

Many thanks to Sue Tiede for a job well done. Sue has served as the editor of the *Lighted Cross* for the past four and a half years.

Special Thanks

The Trustees wish to thank Roger Toro, our sextant, for his diligence in watering the recently planted trees, the annual flowers at the entrance to the Sanctuary and Schieck Hall, and especially our new Heritage river birch trees. This extra effort has had an exciting effect on our Church's appearance this year.



Handbell Choir

The Handbell Choir will begin rehearsing on Sunday, September 23 in the Library, right after the 10:30 service. Anyone interested in being a “ding-a-ling” is welcome to join us.



We will rehearse about 2 Sundays a month until December. You do not have to be able to read music (or carry a tune, for that matter!). Come join us – we have a lot of fun making joyful noise.

JoEllyn Beck

UPCOMING SPECIAL EVENTS....

This is a busy time of year, but we hope you will mark your calendars now so that you can join in the fun and fellowship of the events listed below:

Annual Harvest Dinner

Sunday , November 4th at 12 noon

Roast turkey, baked ham and all the trimmings

\$10/adult, \$5/child 5-10, under 5 free

Soupy Thursday

Beginning Thursday, November 29th

Take outs available from 5PM - 7PM \$5/qt.

Eat in Schieck Hall from 6PM - 7:15PM, \$3/pp.



Advent Fair and Pancake Breakfast

Sunday, December 2nd 9AM - 10:15AM Sun. Dec. 16 noon

Holiday Brunch

Join us for brunch after the special Christmas music presentation by the choir

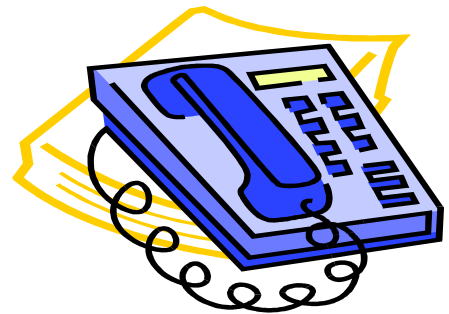


Lighted Cross Deadlines

The next Lighted Cross will be published on December 1st. If you would like to contribute something to the next edition, please email your article to Gene Foreman at

gene.foreman@verizon.net

by November 15th. There is a mailbox in the church office for Lighted Cross articles as well.



Church Phone

610-644-5555

Office email:

officebumc@comcast.net

Church Website:

www.berwynumc.org

Mission Memo



Thank you so very much for your generous contributions to the special collection we took in September to benefit the people of Peru who suffered during an earthquake. We will send \$700 dollars to the community where Eliza Chumpitas' family lives, and an equal amount to UMCOR. The gift to the village will allow them to work on opening the irrigation canal that provides water to their fields. UMCOR will use the funds to help repair damaged Methodist churches and parsonages.

We will not be filling shoe boxes for Operation Christmas child this year. The committee voted to work with a church in Philadelphia, which provides services to children. The Sunday School children and the Nursery School will be working together on this project. We hope to contribute to programs they already have in place. The complete details will be available soon and we will be providing information to the students. Mt. Zion United Methodist Church is located on North 11th St in Philadelphia. They provide local shelters with Christmas gifts for children. Their Girl Scout troop has collected new blankets for the homeless and newborn baby items for area shelters. The church also operates a teen lounge and computer lab available to local students after school.



We continue to work with Interfaith Hospitality Network providing food and friendship to the families who stay at St Thomas Church in Villanova while they learn new job skills. Special thanks to Debbie Nemetz and Jacob, Ruth Frey, Jan Polaski, Claudia Sharpless, Pam Smith, Claudia Genuardi, Amy and Jim Dwyer, Gail Campbell and Joe Newman who have been so helpful to this mission Project

Our Thanksgiving offering will be given to support our commitment to our sister church Roca Eterna in El Salvador. We have pledged \$100 per month to support this church. Please use the Thanksgiving Offering Envelope provided in your box of envelopes.

Betsy Newman

FLEA MARKET SUCCESS!



Many thanks to everyone in the church who supported to the BUMC Flea Market on October 13! Whether you cleaned out your closets to donate treasures, donated your services to the silent auction, shopped or helped to price, set up, cleanup or worked on the day of the event, it would have not been a success if it had not been for all of you! Preliminary reports indicate that we have profited approximately ---\$6,800. Ten percent of the money will be donated to Appalachian Service Project, ten percent to youth ministry and the balance to mortgage reduction.

Particular thanks to all the committee chairs:

Publicity - Elaine Niles - newspaper; Nancy Atchison- “Berwyn Best” liaison

Books - Marge Smink

Fair Trade Coffee - Amy Dwyer

Jewelry - Stephanie Borelly

Collectibles - Judy Fisk

Bake Table - Janet Campbell

Lunch - Rick Stoker

Crafts - Helen Landeck and Crafty Persons

Money Collection for Flea Market - Rosalie Hart and Ruth Rumiano

Flea Market - Claudia and Dick Sharpless, Kate and Brian Walker

Silent Auction - Carol Williams and Nancy Atchison

Set-Up - Steve Cherry and Jack Campbell

Clean-up - Mike Benton

Sincerely,

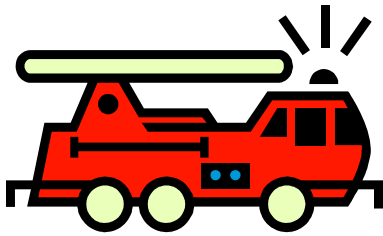
Nancy Atchison, Janet Campbell and Judy Fisk

General Facilitators

NURSERY SCHOOL BEGINS A NEW YEAR

We are back! By the second week we were all smiling and happy that the tears were past. Some of our youngest ones had some separation anxieties and some of our Mothers did too. However, with everything settling down, we are all on the right path again. All the children seem to be especially enjoying their school year.

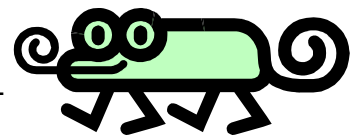
We have just finished our room coffees. Our Homeroom Mothers organize the coffees which give the parents a chance to get together and get to know the other parents in the class. Each teacher has a chance to visit the coffee also.



Trips are starting too. We have farms for all the children to visit. The youngest children stay closer to school while the oldest visit a bit farther out. A special treat was when the Berwyn Fire Company came to the school with their big fire engine. We have also planned a visit to Great Valley Nature Center for some of our classes. Halloween parades and parties rounded out a busy month. We are definitely off to one of the best beginnings of any school year yet!

“Lizard Brains” and Addiction

The Drug and Alcohol Recovery Team invites you to save **November 11th** to hear Dr. Joseph A. Troncale, M.D., the medical director of Caron Treatment Centers in Wernersville, PA.



Dr. Troncale will be talking about the relationship of the brain and addiction. His topic is “Lizard Brain, Addiction as a Brain Disease”. Plan to join the Adult and Youth Church School for a cup of coffee and a donut at 9:15 in the church library. There will be time for questions and answers.

Dr. Troncale will be the guest speaker at the 10:30 worship service. The title of his sermon is: “Why Jesus was Counterintuitive”. There will be a lunch in Schieck Hall following the 10:30 service.

Lending a Hand in November

Liturgists

November 4

November 11

November 18

November 25

Acolytes

November 4
Jeremy Borelly

November 11
Victoria Phelps

November 18
Sarah West

November 25
Asa Walker

Ushers

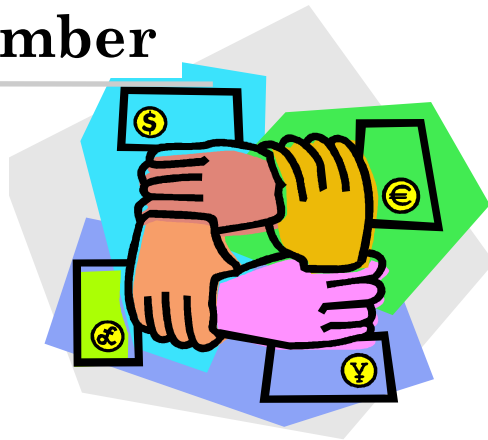
November 4
Richard Sharpless
Pat Anderson

November 11
John Edinger
Ted Jex

November 18
Bob Niles
Al Froy
Holly Dillon
Gene Williams

November 18
Brian Dunn
Vic Burriss
Luis Montaner
Rachel Burriss

November 25
John Ku
Bob Borst
Will Bushnell
Carl Bushnell



Story Time Volunteers

November 4
Amy Dodds

November 11
Sondra Wilen

November 18
Debbie Nemetz

November 25
Holly Dillon

Scout Project Beautifies our Church

The BUMC Trustees and the BUMC Nursery School wish to thank Eric Dixon, candidate for Eagle Scout from our resident Boy Scout Troop 181, for improvements made to the west side, lower level, of the Educational Building.



Eric, with his father's assistance, designed, and procured flagstone and sand to provide an attractive and functional secondary emergency exit from the lower level west side classrooms. He then organized and guided troop members in digging a foundation, and setting and leveling the stones for proper drainage. The Scouts also dug holes for three new 'Heritage' river birch trees, and then mulched the area, with help from our own Jack Campbell and his wonder truck!

Other November Dates



Thanksgiving Eve Union Service

Wednesday November 21st

7:30PM

The speaker is Father Trader of St. Monica's Roman Catholic Church

Bible Study

Wednesday November 7th

Mark 8

Wednesday November 14

Mark 9

Wednesday November 28

Mark 10

all of these sessions are at 11:30 AM - Bring your bag lunch !