



October 2011

BERWYN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
INVITING NURTURING AND ENCOURAGING SERVICE

The Lighted Cross

SATURDAY, OCT. 8 — 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Fall Festival and Flea Market

It is almost that time again.

Time for our *fabulous, fun, fantastic fundraiser*.

And we can still use your help.

We need your help to set up on Thursday and Friday, day and night.

Do you still have that special something to donate to Collectibles? Call Judy Fisk.

Do you have that box of fleas in your garage or car ready to drop off? Kate and Brian Walker are here.

Do you feel like baking some goodies for the Bake Table? Bring them to Janet Campbell.

Silent Auction items? Use your imagination and call Carol and Gene Williams.

Books are needed for the Book Table. Bring a book, buy a book; it's a win-win for you.

Is jewelry cluttering your jewelry box? Stephanie Borelly and Cindy Shallcross are waiting to polish and de-tangle.

Pumpkins and gourds and mums are ready for the Reiter family to load in their truck.

The Children and Youth Empowerment Centre has treasures from Kenya and Peru for you.

Come for lunch. Buy some popcorn from our own Boy Scout troop.

Come and learn about our Nursery School.

The Evangelism Committee has one of our wonderful BUMC bags for you.

Can you give us some time to take tables down at 2 o'clock?

We won't forget the children. There will be games and activities and a Moon Bounce.

On Saturday, Oct. 8, we need you to come and join in the fun. Celebrate this day with your church family!

Dr. Anita Adams Powell is installed as our new district superintendent



*Bishop Johnson (left) and Dr. Powell
at the service at Berwyn UMC.*

The Rev. Dr. Anita Adams Powell was installed as superintendent of the United Methodist Church's 73-church Central District in a service of powerful music and solemn vows on the afternoon of Sunday, Sept. 18, at Berwyn United Methodist Church.

Bishop Peggy A. Johnson of the Eastern Pennsylvania Conference led the covenant service in which Dr. Powell pledged to fulfill her new duties of shepherding churches in a geographical area that stretches from the heart of Philadelphia to the Reading area in Berks County. The district, one of six in the conference, includes Philadelphia's Main Line suburbs.

Dr. Powell began her career in the ministry in the American Baptist Church. After she joined the Eastern Pennsylvania Conference of the United Methodist Church, she served as associate pastor of West Chester United Methodist Church. More recently, she was the founding pastor of the United Methodist Church of the Open Door in Kennett Square. She assumed her district superintendent duties on July 1.

Dr. Powell addressed the 170 people in attendance on the topic "Seeking God's Plan for Our Future." Her text was Jeremiah 29:11-14, in which God tells the Jews: "For I know the plans I have for you ... plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future [New International Version]."

Dr. Powell said that by encouraging the Jews in their exile in Babylon, God showed He "wants us to adjust and keep on doing what we can do." Times may be difficult, she said, "but now is the time to come together. Now is not the time to sit back. God is a God of today, a God of right now. For such a time as this, God has called us to a time of action."

Representatives of churches in the Central District, including the host church, participated in the service. The Rev. Philip Ponce, pastor of Berwyn UMC, gave the welcome and opening prayer. Berwyn's Chancel Choir sang, and the prelude featured Carol Cherry on piano, the Rev. Steve Cherry on trumpet, and Judith Lang on organ.

The Rev. Tracy Duncan of St. Matthew's UMC of Trevoise played a piano medley whose main theme was the hymn "Blessed Assurance." Other vocal music was provided by a praise team from The Church of the Open Door at Kennett Square and by the Rev. Lydia Munoz of Plumblin Fellowship at Narberth UMC, accompanied by the Rev. Irving Cotto, director of congregational development for the Eastern Pennsylvania Conference.

The covenant service was concluded by the presentation of "signs and symbols of the ministry of the superintendent." Representatives of district churches brought gifts for Dr. Powell that included a stole, a Bible, baptismal water, bread and cup, a towel and basin, a hymnal and Book of Worship, a Book of Discipline, and a globe.

After the service, Berwyn UMC hosted a reception in Schieck Hall. Preparations for the reception were organized by the church's Membership and Congregational Care Committee, led by Carol Williams.

PASTOR'S WORD

In our electronic era, consider the P-POD

The “in” thing nowadays is to have an iPhone, iPad or an iPod. Anywhere you go, you see people with one or another of these gadgets. They have become very much a part of our lives as they keep us connected to one another and updated with music, entertainment and the wider world.

As important as these gadgets may be to our lives in this modern age, I am thinking that Jesus invites us to have a P-POD. One of the things that Christians have stressed down through the ages is that Jesus invites us to be in partnership with him. As he called his disciples, saying, “Follow me and share in my life and ministry,” so he calls us today to be engaged in the ministry that the church offers to the world. In this modern era, Jesus continues to invite us into partnership with him. In partnership with Jesus we are called upon to use our P-POD:

P = We are to have *Passion* for the things of God, for the work of Christ, for the well-being of our church, for the souls of others, and for the transformation of the world. We are passionate in some way or the other, and this is the time when we should be passionate about making our community and the world a better place.

P = We are to have *Pride* in who we are, in what we are, and in what we have to offer. There are those of us who are reluctant to use the word *pride* in any context, for we know how destructive it can be if it is the kind of pride that focuses on self. The pride we need to have is in the ways in which God has enabled us to be engaged in ministry, the many lives that have been changed through Christ in this place, the ways in which many around the world have experienced the gracious love of Christ as a result of our generosity and kindness. We take pride in maintaining the church, the body of Christ, so that those who enter may feel the ever-powerful presence of Christ in this place.

O = We are to seek *Opportunities* for the greater good. An exciting aspect of Jesus’ ministry is how he went from place to place seeking new opportunities for good. Even when his disciples suggested that he stay in a particular place a while longer, he indicated the importance of seeking new opportunities so that the kingdom of God may grow from strength to strength. In these days, we are invited to continue modeling this aspect of Jesus’ ministry. We need constantly to seek new opportunities so that the work of God will grow numerically and spiritually.

D = We are to embrace *Differences*. Anywhere you look, you will see differences. There are different flowers, trees, animals and human beings. There are differences in tastes and languages, in likes and dislikes, in style and fashion, in music, in the people we relate with, with the talents and gifts we have, with the perspectives we have on life and the world. The wonderful thing about being in partnership with Christ and the church is that we have an opportunity of pooling all these differences together for the greater good of the work of God here on earth. From the beginning, Jesus’ disciples were a diverse group; still they were able to transform the world through the power of the Holy Spirit, and their willingness to use and embrace their differences in the work they did for Jesus.

Whether we know it or not, we are passionate people who can have pride in our accomplishments, who continue to seek opportunities for the greater good, embracing and pooling our differences in order to transform our community and the lives of others and the world. As we journey through the rest of this year, let us be conscious of our partnership with Jesus, using our P-POD for great good and for the glory and honor of God. Blessings!

Pastor Phil

MISSION AND VISION STATEMENTS

What we are ... and what we can be

Berwyn United Methodist Church has adopted a Mission Statement to provide a guide and set a direction for us, to state why we exist and where we propose to go. Do you remember what it is? Can you quote it from memory?

Our Mission Statement appears on the front of our Church Bulletin every Sunday. How often do you read it? It is on the front of our Church Directory, and appears in abbreviated form on the masthead of this newsletter. How often do you notice it, and when do you ponder what it means for us – for you?

“God calls Berwyn UMC to be a community of Christian believers that: Invites ~ Nurtures ~ Encourages Service.” Now it sounds familiar.

Our Mission Statement is supported by a five-part Vision Statement, which sets out how we will achieve our Mission. You will remember that some months ago Pastor Phil gave us a series of sermons on our Vision Statement. He stated its five parts in catchwords that capture the meaning of each part, and led us to understand what our church should be about. Today I will revisit the first part of this Vision Statement, to which Pastor Phil gave the catchword *“Embracing Seekers.”* In future issues of The Lighted Cross, the other parts of the Vision Statement will be emphasized.

“Embracing Seekers” means that we are a church that welcomes newcomers. We plan worship services that are attractive and non-threatening to visitors. We sincerely greet visitors as friends. We make our church building and programs attractive and meaningful for children and youth. We ensure that we reach adults at all stages of their lives: singles, couples, young families, older adults. We offer support and guidance for spiritual growth that is meaningful to people regardless of their progress on the road to spiritual maturity. We establish support ministries where we see a need. We provide opportunities for service by our members to our congregation and to the community at large.

Do you see Berwyn UMC described in these statements? I think you do. And I think you see where we could do a better job. That’s the purpose of a Vision Statement: It looks always into the future, and sees not just what we are, but what we can be.

John Paylor

The above article is the first in a five-part series on our Mission and Vision Statements. Subsequent parts will be contributed by other members of the Leadership Advisory Team.

The Alpha Course is under way

The Alpha Course, a major study of basic Christianity, is a new program at Berwyn United Methodist Church beginning this fall. The initial session of the course was an introductory dinner held on Wednesday, Sept. 14, with 36 in attendance, including some of our church members and friends from the greater community. The course is continuing on every Wednesday evening (except Thanksgiving week) until Dec. 7. There will also be a special weekend session on Nov. 4 and 5, when we will join with other local churches that are offering the course.

The group meets at 6 for dinner, watches an instructive video on an aspect of Christianity with the very entertaining Nicky Gumbel, senior pastor of Holy Trinity Brompton Anglican Church in London, then has group discussions about the talk. Nicky Gumbel developed the Alpha Course into its present format, and the course is now given all over the world in many churches of all denominations.

As we enter October, three weekly meetings have been held. While it is possible to join the group at any time, it is not recommended to join the course after the Oct. 5 meeting. Instead, for those who were unable to join us but who are interested in Alpha, we intend to offer the course again next year. In addition, other nearby churches may offer a course beginning in January.

LAY LEADER'S LETTER

God is asking for your time

“Don't say you don't have enough time. You have exactly the same number of hours per day that were given to Helen Keller, Pasteur, Michelangelo, Mother Teresa, Leonardo da Vinci, Thomas Jefferson, and Albert Einstein.” (Unknown)

So often, I feel myself becoming overwhelmed by things that need to be accomplished and the time frame in which to do them. When that happens, I know I need to pause, gather my thoughts, write myself a list, refer to the calendar, and thank God for the gifts I have already been given.

How many times do we say or hear these phrases “I don't have enough time, I don't have time to do that, I don't have the time to get to church today, I won't have any time to help with that. I don't have time to thank God; I don't have time to pray.”

I thank God every day for the life I am blessed to have. I thank God for the special times we have with our family. I love all of the special moments we have shared with our daughters and now our sons-in-law. I treasure the time with our grandsons and granddaughter. I know God led my hand and my heart as we shared time with our grandmothers and our mothers. And I know God is with me as I spend time with my father.

I know that God is always in charge of my time. When I think a day cannot get any more full, and I am suddenly diverted to do something God has decided He needs for me to do, I surrender. I find the time to do as He has bid.

Things as simple as a smile, a comment, a touch of a hand, a kind word, a listening ear – they do not take much time, but they mean so much to someone.

The best thing to spend on people is your time. God is asking you for your time.

Janet K. Campbell



Rally Day launches a new year of church activities

On Sept. 11, we kicked off our church year. We started the day with a light breakfast, fellowship, K-6th grade Sunday School registration, and tables with information for everyone to peruse. We took part in a remembrance ceremony led by Sarah Baker to celebrate the heroes and to remember those we loved and lost on Sept. 11, 2001.

After the 10:30 service, we enjoyed lots of wonderful dishes at our Second Annual All-Church Potluck Lunch. About 60 from our congregation brought delicious food to share. We enjoyed each other's company and learned about the fun activities we have happening at BUMC. There was a Moon Bounce for the children.

Many stayed after lunch to hear about the wonderful work Janelle Larson and her Penn State students have been doing in Kenya.

Thank you to the following groups for providing information tables: DART, Book Club, United Methodist Women, Shared Bible Study Sunday School Class, Alpha Course, Prayer Shawl Ministry and Flower Committee.

And thank you to everyone for making Rally Day a success!

Sarah Baker

WORSHIP COMMITTEE

Save these fall and holiday dates

Welcome, fall! The Worship Committee is getting back to work, and we have some wonderful events coming up.

Join us Sunday, Oct. 2, for World Communion Sunday. On this day, Christians around the world celebrate the sacrament of Holy Communion – our common bond regardless of where we live and what language we speak.

The holidays are not far away. Advent will begin Sunday, Nov. 27. We will continue our tradition of having special readings every Sunday in Advent. If you, your family or your small group would like to volunteer for a Sunday, contact Kristine Adams.

Once again the Worship Committee will sponsor a Food Drive. Starting Nov. 6, please bring canned and nonperishable foods to church so we can help the hungry and needy in our area.

Be on the lookout for order forms for our Christmas Poinsettias. We will start collecting orders Nov. 1.

We will have our annual Hanging of the Greens on Dec. 4 at 3 p.m. Dinner and singing will follow. Bring the whole family for this glorious activity.

Be sure to keep Dec. 18 open, as that will be the date for this year's Christmas Cantata, followed by the Christmas Brunch.

This year, Christmas Day falls on Sunday. We will have one service Dec. 25 at 10 a.m., and it will be a Blessing of the Toys.

We hope that you will put these on your family's calendar and join us to celebrate our faith together.

Kristine Adams

Co-chair, Worship Committee

FLOWER COMMITTEE

Do you enjoy flowers?

... Then you would be the perfect person to join the Flower Committee. We are looking for flower lovers who want to share their passion for God's beauty with the congregation.

What would I have to do as a member of the Flower Committee?

Actually, very little. Each week, one of the committee members chooses flowers from a local supplier, like a supermarket, and arranges them in vases supplied by the church. And the best part is that God supplies the beauty; you only need to supply a little bit of time.

Do I need to have experience arranging flowers?

No – you just need a love for flowers and a desire to share them with our community.

I am interested in joining. Whom should I contact?

Sarah Baker at 610-247-7647 or SayreNicole2004@yahoo.com

How can I purchase flowers for a special occasion?

All you have to do is sign up in the Narthex and pay \$15 for each arrangement. Since there are only two arrangements each Sunday, be sure to sign up early.

MEMBERSHIP/CONGREGATIONAL CARE COMMITTEE (MECCA)

Offering love and encouragement

We're approaching the end of another calendar year. Looking back, we've accomplished a great deal. We've lived up to our mission: "...to reach out to the congregation with love, care and encouragement and to partner with the Evangelism Committee to reach out to the community."

We contacted the homebound through cards, calls or visits. We sent hundreds of cards and notes to congregants who are recovering at home.

We cheered people up with a bouquet of flowers from the altar and sustained them through the services with our Hospitality Hour and Spirit Café.

We sent a meal to Interfaith Hospitality in August and plan to learn more about this program through the Missions Committee so we can help.

We are supporting the Alpha Course by providing desserts for all the meetings.

We're getting BUMC note cards printed for sale at the Fall Festival and throughout the year and are considering a memorial plate in 2012.

We energized the congregation with a "call to arms" in support of the District Superintendent's Installation Reception on Sept. 18, and everyone rose to the occasion by providing desserts, flowers, kitchen and cleanup help and serving as hosts and hostesses for the superintendent and her guests.

Wow, what are we going to do next year? You'll have to wait and see – or better yet, become one of us and share the care.

Carol Williams

MECCA Chair

FINANCE COMMITTEE

A little church with big ministries

What a great church is Berwyn United Methodist! It has a beautiful, prominent building and campus on Waterloo Avenue, which constitute a base for many services and ministries. Through a great array of programs, BUMC provides ministries of nurture, outreach and mission to its members, to those who grieve or have medical concerns, to those in need of spiritual or social guidance, to the community at large and to the world.

How can one little church have such broad impacts? It is possible because of the dedication and faith of all of its members, working together. About half of our active membership serve on one or another committee, seeing that the work of the church is accomplished. Many others work in quiet ways, some in ways that no one else will ever know, to bring the love and peace of Christ to our church family and to our communities.

When persons become members of a United Methodist Church today, they are asked to be Christ's representatives in the world and to faithfully participate in the ministries of the United Methodist Church by their prayers, their presence, their gifts, their service, and their witness. Berwyn is blessed that its members take these requests seriously.

We will soon be starting our annual Stewardship Campaign, when we will all assess our support of our church by our gifts. The gifts of its members are a critical factor in the success of our church, for without sufficient financial support, BUMC cannot sustain its many ministries. I am sure you will seriously consider your support of your church by your gifts, and will ensure that your gifts make a significant contribution to enable BUMC to fulfill its ministries to its broad constituencies during the coming year.

John Paylor

For the Finance Committee

DRUG/ALCOHOL RECOVERY TEAM (DART)

Helping parents raise their children

DART, the church's drug and alcohol recovery team, again is co-sponsoring a series of meetings to counsel parents as they confront the problems of growing children. There are seven meetings, all at 7 p.m. on Tuesdays at Berwyn United Methodist Church and facilitated by social worker A. Michael Blanche. The public is invited.

The first meeting, Tuesday, Sept. 27, is focused on healthy stress management. Blanche is leading a discussion that includes how to help "the overscheduled kid" and how to define goals and avoid burnout.

The second session, Oct. 25, will deal with impulsivity and ADD/ADHD.

The third session, Nov. 22, will cover ambivalence and the unmotivated child. Parents will be shown how to encourage change in their children's lives and to understand factors that motivate or arrest their development.

Subsequent meetings will be on Jan. 24, Feb. 28, March 27 and April 24. The topics for those meetings have not been determined.

Co-sponsoring the series with DART are the E. Chelsea Campbell Memorial Foundation and Area Residents Caring and Helping (ARCH).

DART is a ministry that provides education, referral assistance and recovery support to members of the congregation and the outlying community.

Gail Campbell

PRAYER MINISTRIES

Intercessory prayer: a gift

Intercessory prayer is a gift that we can give to others. There are many ways to love one's neighbors, friends, and family; however, it seems that the gift of intercessory prayer has got to be one of the greatest and one of the most powerful.

Many of us participate in such prayers during the day when we hear the siren of an ambulance or the horn of a fire truck. Our prayer may be as simple as "Please God, be with those in need." Many intercessory prayers are those that are said in the wakeful moments of the night when we think about the needs of our family and our friends and our world. Bowing your head and saying a blessing before eating a meal often becomes, along with a prayer of thanksgiving, an act of intercessory prayer.

Berwyn United Methodist Church offers each of us an opportunity to be a part of an intercessory prayer network. Right now there are more than 20 people who participate in this ministry. If you want to become a part of this important ministry, all you have to do is call Veronica 610-644-5555 and give her your name. That means that when there is a prayer request, you will be contacted via e-mail .

Prayer chain

Do you or someone you know want the prayers of the congregation? Just call the church office, 610-644-5555, or Ann West, 610-687-0222. When a name is placed on the prayer chain, the information is put in the Sunday church bulletin and the weekly e-newsletter. The Prayer Chain Ministry does have a policy that we do not put someone within the church family on the prayer chain unless we are asked directly by that person or a member of the family.

Prayer shawl ministry

Summer is over, and it's time to start knitting or crocheting again. The group is always looking for new people to join with us in this important ministry of making prayer shawls. Our fall meeting is at 7 p.m. Monday, Sept. 26, in the Library. You may call Pat White at 610-644-8786 or Ann West, 610-687-0222, for more information.

Ann West

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

Spreading the good news

The Communications Committee helps to keep the congregation informed about church activities and also spreads the good news in the larger community about the work being done by Berwyn United Methodist Church.

The committee communicates within the congregation through The Lighted Cross, published monthly except in July and August; an e-newsletter distributed each Friday; the Sunday worship bulletin; church bulletin boards and posters; and occasional recorded telephone announcements.

Other media are used to communicate both internally and externally. The church's website (berwynumc.org) is regularly updated, and it archives issues of The Lighted Cross. The sign on the church's front lawn promotes major events. Special mailings and fliers are sent out occasionally.

Ann West directs the church's publicity and advertising efforts. We have a weekly ad in Main Line Suburban Life and a listing in the Yellow Pages' Western Main Line Edition. Ann regularly produces news releases about church activities for local print and online media. We buy advertisements for special events.

The weekly e-newsletter now is one year old. It is intended to be "a quick read" for busy people to inform them about Sunday services, the prayer list, and church events. If you are not on the mailing list and would like to receive the newsletter, inform the church office.

Barbara Hall oversees the mailing list for the daily eDevotionals. The church has a subscription that enables members to receive the eDevotionals free. You can start your day with a carefully selected piece of scripture and a prayer – or end your day with a quiet moment and this special devotion. If you would like to receive the eDevotionals, send your e-mail address to barbarahall@hotmail.com

The Communications Committee is always looking for new members who can help carry out our multimedia program. The church is on Facebook, and the committee is especially interested in improving its reach to the larger community through electronic media.

Gene Foreman

Chair

Stewardship Sunday is Nov. 6

Sunday, Nov. 6, is Stewardship Sunday at Berwyn United Methodist Church. As the date approaches, the church will send out pledge cards to be returned during the worship services on the 6th.

Keith Fritz, stewardship coordinator, asks you to be in prayer for our church and its missions during this time. Your gifts pay for the church's missions and for our outreach to many people, and it is only through your generous giving that we are able to help others. It is for the love of our Lord and the love of others that we, the hands and feet of God, give to spread His word and affect the lives of others.

The Lighted Cross

Next deadline: Oct. 20

The Lighted Cross is published monthly (except in July and August) 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. Your submissions may have to be edited for length. The next issue is scheduled to be delivered by postal mail by Nov. 1, and an electronic version will be available earlier on the church website. Submit your items to gene.foreman@verizon.net or use the mailbox in the church office.



Church Phone:
610-644-5555

Office E-mail:
officebumc@comcast.net

Church Website:
berwynumc.org

Office Hours:
Mon-Fri, 8:30 a.m.-2 p.m.

CHURCH STAFF PROFILE

Veronica Mosley, administrative assistant



Many of you have heard my voice or received an e-mail from me over the past nine years. Some of the members of BUMC I see weekly or monthly: the Monday counters, the morning Bible study group, the bulletin helpers, the Friday volunteers, the Lighted Cross crew. Or maybe I encountered you at a Lenten Lunch or during a worship service when I had the privilege to speak to the congregation.

I have been a resident of Lansdowne for over 25 years. I am the youngest of five and grew up in the Philadelphia area until I moved to Yeadon to live with my godparents. I believe my move to Yeadon was orchestrated by God. I graduated from William Penn High School, but more important, I met my husband-to-be in the 10th grade at William Penn.

After graduation I went to Fort Valley State College, in Fort Valley, Ga., where I studied business administration. After Fort Valley, I returned to Pennsylvania and married my high school sweetheart, on Nov. 21, 1986. John and I were blessed with two children, John Jr. and Dwenda. After a hard first grade with John Jr., my husband and I decided to home-school our children. We did so until they graduated from high school. It wasn't always easy, but I really enjoyed the bonding and the time I spent with them in those formative years. That is one decision I will never regret.

John Jr. graduated from ITT Technical Institute with a degree in computer engineering and started his own landscaping company. Dwenda is a second-year senior at Slippery Rock University. Her majors are dance and multimedia communication, and her minor is theater. We are very proud of both of our children and look forward to what the future holds for them.

In both of the homes where I lived, we believed in going to church on Sunday. However, I realized that I truly gave my life to the Lord at the age of 24 when I accepted Jesus Christ as my personal Savior. This is another decision I will never regret. With all my heart I believe I am the person I am today because of who God is in my life and, with Him, I was able to parent my children and teach them the ways of the Lord. Also, having the Lord in my life made me a better wife to my husband, John. We will celebrate 25 years of marriage in November, and it gets better and better. Don't misunderstand, marriage is not a picnic all the time, but knowing it is centered in Christ makes it sweeter and sweeter.

I began working part-time at BUMC in 2002 as the administrative assistant, and my plan was to work as a temporary for a few years. I wouldn't exactly call nine years temporary! It has been a joy and a pleasure working here.

I have seen many changes over the years and people have come and gone, but BUMC maintains its commitment to the Lord. Your Mission Statement speaks loud and clear about the fabric of Berwyn United Methodist Church. Since I've been here, each year I feel *invited* to be a part of the family. I have been *nurtured* by the word, by the spirit and mostly by women whom I consider to be my "work moms" – women who freely share their wisdom and encouragement. The leadership here *encourages* me to use and share my gifts with the congregation and visitors. I am grateful for the BUMC family, and I hope I have made an impact on this ministry as much as it has made an impact on my life.

To God be the glory in the days and years to come. One of my life scriptures is Galatians 6:9-10: "Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers." BUMC, don't become weary because of all the good you are doing. Continue your journey of faith, continue to do good to all people, those who belong to BUMC and those outside in the community. Berwyn United Methodist Church is a great place to work and worship. May God continue to lead and guide you in the way He wants you to go.

Veronica Mosley

Youth studying ‘Life Through Music and Movies’

Another summer has come to a close, but the fun is just starting. Sure, it means back to school, but even better, it's the start of Youth Group 2011-2012. We're doing things a little differently this year. The few changes, I believe, will improve the BUMC youth-group experience. I am very excited about a new year and all the great things we have planned. Get ready for youth group like never before!

Both music *and* movies speak loudly to kids. We can ignore that, or we can respond to the culture as Paul did in Acts 17 and use it to open doors. In our Anthem PM sessions, we'll discuss through the lens of scripture the current, relevant issues that many of today's musicians and movies cover. Enter the "Life Through Music and Movies" series that will run throughout the 2011-2012 youth year.

We'll also discuss the "Future Skills" series created by a Christian curriculum company called Flood. "Future Skills" explores the importance of having discipline in our lives in the areas of goal-setting, decision-making, dating, life purpose, a career and more. Topics include: "Narrow Focus," "Taking Control," "Will of Fortune," "The Heart of the Matter," "The Dating Game" and "The Plain Facts."

The "Destined to Win" series is another amazing tool for teaching youth the importance of things like knowing our destination and the direction we are heading in. Those are essential to planning any journey; why should the Christian journey be any different? Topics include: "Put On Your Running Shoes," "Cross Training," "Crossing the Goal," "Staying in Your Lane and on Track" and "A Trophy or Atrophy."

The youth group will take two trips: the Second Annual Pumpkin Patch/Fall Event on Oct. 23 and the Second Annual Christmas Sleigh Ride on Dec. 11.

Chris Padot

What's going on at Berwyn United Methodist Church

Harvest Dinner. The dinner will be held after the 10:30 service on Nov. 13. The menu will be traditional Thanksgiving fare with turkey, ham, mashed potatoes, dressing and the rest of the goodies. You can make reservations before or after services on Oct. 30 and Nov. 6, or you may call the church office. The cost is \$10 for adults, \$5 for children 5-10, and free for children under 10.

Book Club. The club will meet at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 20, at the home of Margi Mackenzie. Marge Smink will lead a discussion of Tracy Kidder's "Mountains Beyond Mountains." Everyone is welcome. RSVP to Margi at 610-647-4091.

Guardian Angels. If you would like to be a Guardian Angel or sign up your college student to be a part of this Berwyn United Methodist tradition, pick up a Guardian Angel form on the information table in the Narthex. Students will be assigned a secret Guardian Angel who will be a source of encouragement throughout the school year. Contact: Cynthia Bushnell at 610-935-9552 or Cynbush57@verizon.net.

Nursery School. The school welcomes two new staff members: Mirilee Van Dame and Erika Yablonovitz, who will be aides. In January, Erika will teach the 2-Day class. The school's management team is planning a series of coffees this fall. The coffees provide the opportunity for parents to meet one another in a social atmosphere. During October, all of the classes will be going on field trips. The 5-Day classes will travel to Highland Orchards; the 3-Day classes will visit Milky Way Farm for pumpkin picking; and the 2-Day classes will go to the pumpkin patch at Sugartown Strawberries.

Paoli Troop 181. The troop, which meets at BUMC three Tuesday evenings a month, spent a weekend in September on the Gettysburg Heritage Trail. On these monthly field trips, the Scouts have opportunities to work on their rank advancements or merit badge requirements with cooking, camping and hiking activities. The troop's annual summer camp was July 24-31 at Camp Horseshoe. The camp offered skill-building activities along with kayaking, mountain biking, archery, swimming and rifle shooting. At camp, 18 scouts advanced in rank, and the group completed 153 merit badges.