



October 2008

BERWYN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
INVITING NURTURING AND ENCOURAGING SERVICE

The Lighted Cross

SATURDAY, OCT. 11 — 9 TO 2

Come to the Fall Festival

Just 11 days until the Fall Festival, a fund raiser for BUMC. The money raised will support youth activities and defray the church mortgage.

Volunteers are needed to work at the booths on Festival Day. You do not need to work the whole day (9-2). Volunteers are also needed on Thursday and Friday to mark and sort flea market items and sort books. But first, we need you to collect your oldies-but-goodies and bring them to the Scout Cabin for us to get ready to sell (baskets, baby items, Christmas and Halloween decorations, kitchen wares, bikes, small pieces of furniture—you name it, we would like it).

Our baked-goods booth needs pies, coffee cakes, cakes and cookies. This is a great booth for anyone's sweet tooth.

A popular feature of the festival is the booth that sells used jewelry, evening bags, gloves and scarves. Some customers run to this area as the doors open. We also have a collectibles area that sells better flea-market-type items (in the past, a set of dishes has sold for \$300). This booth sells lamps, crystal, cut glass, violins, guitars and drum sets, and odds and ends.

Our book area sells used books (not National Geographics or encyclopedias), puzzles, tapes, CDs and records.

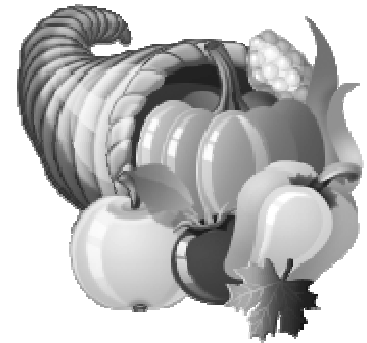
The Fair Trade coffee and tea used on Sundays will be sold by the Church and Society Task Force.

Lunch will be served in the Music Room from 11:30 to 1:30. Featured items will be chicken salad served either on a croissant or on multigrain bread, \$3.50; a heaping bowl of chili, \$3.50; hot dogs, \$1.50; and chili dogs, \$2. Also available will be a whole dinner for \$6, including choice of chicken salad or chili, pasta salad, beverage and dessert. Chili will be available for takeout at \$5 a quart. The lunchroom is a way to support the church and feed your family at a great price.

Our Silent Auction is a great reason to come to the Fall Festival. Just come and make a bid. Some of the items that will be auctioned are: time at a Florida vacation home, weekend in Stone Harbor, tickets to People's Light Theater, tickets to an organ concert at the Kimmel, babysitting, restaurant certificates, homemade pies, reading tutoring, and tickets for bowling. Merchandise and services for the Silent Auction are still needed; contact Carol Williams or Nancy Atchison.

Pumpkins will be available from the Reiter Farm in Narvon. Becky is a former member of our church.

Remember, it is people just like the members of our church who come to purchase at the Festival. Help us by bringing things for the event and come on Oct. 11 with family and friends. There will be activities for the children.



**VOICES FROM THE FINANCE
AND STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE**

Our spending habits reflect our values

Events of the past several months (and especially of the past several weeks) have highlighted the importance of good stewardship. The United States and the world are facing a housing crisis, a credit crunch, and the collapse of major financial institutions. Much of this was caused by unrealistic expectations and the desire to have “more.” What does this have to do with BUMC?

Roughly two-thirds of Jesus’ parables dealt with money – it matters! He cautioned us against greed and excessive debt and called us to share what we have been given. However, we can easily become caught up in the consumer society around us that encourages debt and living beyond our means. The Bible teaches us to spend wisely and give generously, while the culture in which we live encourages consumption. These values are in direct competition – one makes the other impossible.

As individuals or households, we all have to identify our priorities. We often make purchases without really thinking them through, but in practice our spending reflects our priorities. As in all areas of our life, we need to be intentional about how we use our financial resources.

A useful (and often eye-opening) activity for all of us is to keep track of our spending for a month. At the end of the month, we can review where our money is going and determine if that is an accurate reflection of our values. If not, we can make a conscientious decision to change. Though it may seem difficult, clearly identifying our values and goals can keep us on track.

Janelle Larson

August 2008	Actual	Budget	favorable (unfavorable)	% of budget	
Contribution Income	\$238,440	\$267,548	(\$29,108)	89%	
Other Income	\$31,449	\$27,544	\$3,905	114%	
Expense	\$295,906	\$303,096	\$7,190	98%	
gain(loss)	(\$26,017)	(\$8,004)	(\$18,013)		

BUMC members can help El Salvador students

We will have the opportunity to sponsor the education of students in El Salvador through our sister church, Roca Eterna, again this year. The academic year there follows the calendar year, so we hope to have the sponsorships in place by December for the school year starting in January. Annual costs of education for one year range from \$350 for upper-elementary to \$720 for university. You may sponsor a student on your own or contribute to a student’s education with others. More information will be coming – watch this space!

FROM THE PASTOR

Let us rediscover our spiritual gifts

ONE OF THE important emphases of the Protestant faith, particularly United Methodism, is that of the Priesthood of All Believers. We believe that the great Creator God endowed each and every one of us with talents, gifts and graces. We strongly urge the community of faith to recognize these gifts and to use them in the task of kingdom building.

I am confident that someone who took seriously this teaching of the church blessed your lives over the years. I know that my love of the Word of God came from the various Sunday School teachers who shared with me their insights and passion for the Scriptures. Many, in my home church and the subsequent churches I have pastored over the years, enabled me to grow my leadership skills. They served as my models and as faithful and dedicated witnesses to the One who had blessed them with the gifts they used in the leadership of the church.

Jim Tiede has been leading a workshop on *Rediscovering Our Spiritual Gifts*. I am aware that many of us are not able to attend the workshop. However, I think that all of us, as a faithful community, could and should do the inventory. So as to facilitate this I am hoping to dedicate the Sunday of Nov. 16 to our doing this inventory during the worship service. In lieu of the sermon, I would like us all to rediscover our spiritual gifts and offer them to the Lord for the task of kingdom building here at BUMC.

I have used this approach at several of the churches I pastored in the past, and it has worked well. There were many surprises as some folk had felt that they were not gifted at all prior to their completing the inventory. When I gave them back their results, it was priceless to see the expressions on their faces!

Most of us have inquiring minds, so perhaps a question that came to your mind is why are we doing this? We rediscover our spiritual gifts to reaffirm the various and wonderful ways in which God has blessed us, and it enables the church to encourage members to use their particular gift(s) to the glory and honor of God.

A person who takes this inventory may be an excellent teacher in the school district but in the church community may have the gift of choreography or planning social events. Traditionally we have had the concept that a school teacher would want to be a Sunday School teacher, but that may not necessarily be where God wants that person to serve in the kingdom. So this enables the leadership of the church to know best how to facilitate your service to God.

This is also a stewardship emphasis. In stewardship we are reminded that God has blessed us materially and spiritually and that God needs both the money we offer and our spiritual gifts so as to advance the work of Christ here on earth.

I am looking forward to Nov. 16, and I encourage all of us to be present at one of the two services so as to share in this exciting rediscovery of our spiritual gifts.

Blessing to you and yours!

Pastor Phil

CHURCH AND SOCIETY TASK FORCE

'The Fair Trade' documentary to be shown Oct. 4

At Berwyn UMC we will celebrate Fair Trade Month by showing "The Fair Trade" as our October feature in the "Movies that Make You Think" series. "The Fair Trade" will be shown at 6:30 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 4, along with selected short subjects, including "The Bee Movie" for children.

From <http://www.thefairtrademovie.com>: "In the innovative documentary 'The Fair Trade,' director Lauralee Farrer explores the murky territory between life, death, and the sustaining hope offered by abandonment to faith. 'The Fair Trade' is the story of a young woman's journey through paralyzing grief and her ultimate determination to exchange a death wish for a meaningful life."

We will be selling Fair Trade coffee, tea and chocolate at both the movie and at the Fall Festival. Look for the Fair Trade label when you shop. We will schedule a shopping night for fairly traded crafts at Exton Ten Thousand Villages before Christmas.

From <http://www.equalexchange.com/umcor>: "The UMCOR Coffee Project is an innovative way to reach out to small-scale farmers in the developing world while enjoying fellowship and an excellent cup of coffee. As Christians we can address a consumer dilemma by buying coffee that is fairly traded. United Methodist congregations that participate are helping small-scale farmers in Latin America, Africa and Asia earn a fairer share of income, obtain access to credit and technical support, and gain a trading partner they can trust, a fair trade organization called Equal Exchange."

From <http://www.transfairusa.org/content/certification/overview.php>: The Fair Trade Certified™ label guarantees consumers that strict economic, social and environmental criteria were met in producing and trading an



agricultural product. Fair Trade Certification is available in the United States for coffee, tea and herbs, cocoa and chocolate, fresh fruit, flowers, sugar, rice, and vanilla. TransFair USA licenses companies to display the Fair Trade Certified label on products that meet international Fair Trade standards.

Fair Trade Certification empowers farmers and farm workers to lift themselves out of poverty by investing in their farms and communities, protecting the environment, and developing the business skills necessary to compete in the global marketplace. Fair Trade principles include:

Fair prices: Democratically organized farmer groups receive a guaranteed minimum price and a premium for certified organic products.

Fair labor conditions: Workers on Fair Trade farms enjoy freedom of association, safe working conditions, and living wages. Forced child labor is prohibited.

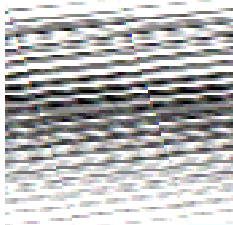
Direct trade: Importers purchase from Fair Trade producer groups as directly as possible, eliminating unnecessary middlemen.

Democratic and transparent organizations: Fair Trade farmers and farm workers decide democratically how to invest Fair Trade revenues.

Community development: Fair Trade farmers and farm workers invest Fair Trade premiums in projects like scholarship programs and quality-improvement training.

Environmental sustainability: Harmful agrochemicals are prohibited in favor of environmentally sustainable farming methods that protect farmers' health and preserve ecosystems.

Amy Dwyer



New acolytes are needed

We are looking for all youth in fourth through eighth grade interested in becoming an acolyte. The acolyte is responsible for assisting the pastor in the service by bringing in the light and also helping with the offering. Call Sue Denisevich at 610-296-9529 if you are interested. The new group will start in January.

Chapel at Methodist Home for Children is renamed in honor of BUMC's Bob Niles

Methodist Home for Children has honored its retiring chairman by renaming the chapel in the main building the Robert Olin Niles Chapel of the Four Orphans.

Bob Niles has been chairman of MHC since 2001. Before that, he was chairman of what is now Methodist Services for Children and Families, one of MHC's affiliated organizations.

In naming the chapel in his honor, the board adopted a citation saluting Bob for his service. The citation read in part:

“You have dedicated yourself to ensuring the good health and growth of this organization for over 20 years. With a singular blend of plain speaking, depth of analysis, perception and personal warmth, you have led Methodist Home for Children into a strong and positive future. ...

“You are recognized and respected as a person of unparalleled honesty and integrity; as one who guides his life by the highest ethical standards. You show respect for the dignity of all those with whom you have worked.

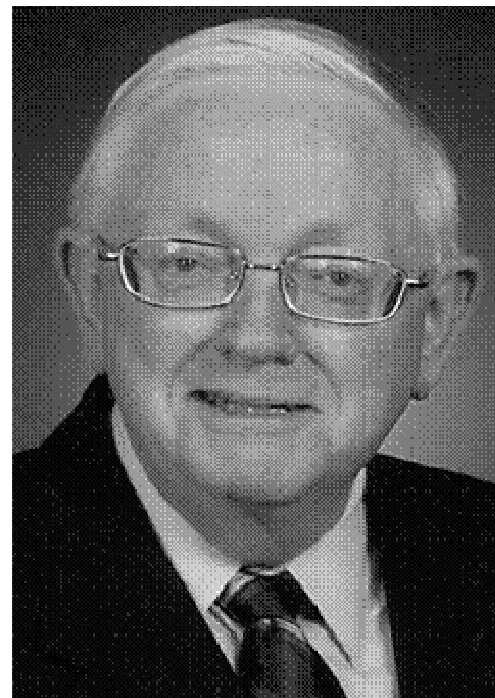
“You are a dedicated volunteer and philanthropist who has given generously of your time, expertise, and financial resources to make a difference in the lives of families and children in Eastern Pennsylvania.

“As a dedicated practitioner of John Wesley's beliefs, you have lived and led by the code, ‘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.’

“For showing us, always with the smile of an old friend, not only how to see the possibilities, but also how to make them a reality, we proudly honor you”

The Methodist Episcopal Orphanage was founded in 1879 by women of faith to care for children orphaned as a result of the Civil War. Today, Methodist Home for Children is a nonprofit child service and advocacy organization serving more than 2,500 people in Philadelphia, Montgomery, Delaware, Northampton, Carbon and Monroe Counties. MHC provides services through two corporations: Methodist Services for Children and Families (MSCF) and Methodist Family Services of Philadelphia (MFSP).

Dr. Angele Parker, chief executive officer of Methodist Home for Children, said, “In addition to being a steadfast supporter of Methodist Home for Children, Bob Niles has been a personal mentor and friend. His leadership style is thoughtful and inspiring, and his ability to carefully analyze opportunities and challenges has been an invaluable resource to our agency. With his guidance, Methodist Home for Children has become a leader in the social service industry in Philadelphia, providing top-quality services to women, children and families in need. We have truly been blessed by his leadership *and* friendship.”



Now you can go online to access BUMC's books

Something new has been added to the BUMC Library: Part of the library's collections may now be accessed online.

Simply go to the BUMC website (www.berwynumc.org), choose Resources, then choose Library Search. Here you will see an introduction to the library's online catalog. Click on BUMC Online Public Access Catalog (OPAC) and voila! — you are in the catalog. Items may be looked up by author, title, keyword and subject.

The BUMC Library is your source for inspirational books and audiovisual materials on the Christian life for all age levels — adult, youth and children. You are welcome to browse the collection either online or in person and borrow items by filling out the pocket cards and depositing them in the little box on the card catalog. Please return the borrowed items within 30 days.

BUMC's new online catalog includes all items that have been added to the library since 2006. The "old-fashioned" card catalog provides access to the collection up through 2005. Slowly the older items are being added to the new online catalog. To date, over 10 percent of the collection is online. The BUMC OPAC provides another way to access the items in our collection.

If you have any questions concerning use of the OPAC please contact Marge Smink, Librarian, at sminkm@comcast.net.

Memorial Garden discounts end on Oct. 15

The last day for pre-construction prices for the Memorial Garden is Oct. 15.

Questions and answers about the Memorial Garden appeared in the June issue of *The Lighted Cross*. You can read this feature by going to www.berwynumc.org, choosing Resources, and then choosing June 2008. The article is on Page 10.

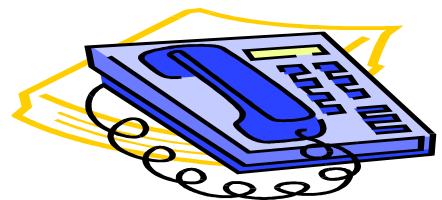
Information about the Memorial Garden also is available in the narthex or from the church office. Call Nancy Atchison at 610-644-2775 if you have questions.

The Lighted Cross

Next deadline: Oct. 15

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 will be published Nov. 1. Please submit your items by Oct. 15 to gene.foreman@verizon.net. There also is a mailbox in the church office.



Church Phone:

610-644-5555

Office E-mail:

officebumc@comcast.net

Church Website:

www.berwynumc.org

LENDING A HAND

October 5

Liturgist: Pastor Ponce

Ushers: Mike Benton, Ed Denisevicz,
Molly Denisevicz, Charles Parvin

Acolyte: Jeremy Borelly

Coffee Committee: Jan Polasky,
Cynthia Bushnell, Sondra Wilen

Story Time: Gina Phelps

Flower Delivery: Jane McDowell

October 12

Liturgist: Judy Kim

Ushers: Gene Foreman, Jim Spofford,
Doug Fuerst, Scott West

Acolyte: Emily Miccariello

Coffee Committee: Pattie Littlewood,
Eloise Levitt, Margi MacKenzie

Story Time: Brenda Hoffman

Flower Delivery: Margie O'Donnell

October 19

Liturgist: Nancy Atchison

Ushers: Claudia Sharpless, Scott Phelps,
Eloise Levitt, Sabastien Galvez

Acolyte: Andres Montaner

Coffee Committee: Claudia Gonzalez,
Jamile Toro

Story Time: Amy Dodds

Flower Delivery: Barbara Borst

October 26

Liturgist: Eloise Levitt

Ushers: Judy Fisk, Hal Craig,
Alan Hess, Tyler Borelly

Acolyte: Zachary Phelps

Coffee Committee: Romaine Rood,
Joanne Lare, Betsy Newman

Story Time: Wendy Wolov

Flower Delivery: Margi MacKenzie

Farewell, Spirit Café

The Spirit Café has closed for the season. Thank you to Sue Farina, Carol Williams and Judy Fisk for purchasing and serving snacks and drinks on a cart before and after worship services during the summer months.

Nursery School going on farm trips in the fall

Nursery School is off to a very good start. On opening day, we actually had more mothers crying than children! However, everyone has settled in nicely now.

We had a wonderful Back to School Night. The parents met in the Sanctuary for general instructions and then met in the individual classrooms with the teachers to learn more about the year's program.

The trips have been planned for the fall. All classes visit a farm. The youngest go only as far as the Pumpkin Farm in Mavern, while the older children venture as far as Highland Orchards and Varner's Farm. Five-Day will also visit Great Valley Nature Center twice during the year. We feel it is important to expand the walls of learning to the outside.

We incorporate that same theory within the school walls as we move the children for various classes such as Kids in Motion, music, Game Room and the playground.

Ann Eole

New member: Tom Pierce

Tom Pierce resides in West Chester and works at Villanova University, where he is the general manager of Dougherty Hall, the largest dining hall on campus.

He enjoys reading history-related books and seeking out local historical sites. He is a devout Phillies fan.

Tom has two grown children: Kathleen, who resides in Somers Point, N.J., and John, who lives in Lancaster County. John and his wife, Allison, are expecting his first grandchild in March.

Tom was previously a member of Beulah Baptist Church in Forestville, where he taught various age groups in Sunday School and served on the Deacon Board. The Bible passages most dear to Tom are John 14:1-6, which the Lord gave him the opportunity to read to his father in the hospital the night before he passed away.

Central District to help rebuild MidTown Parish

A special worship service at 4 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 19, at Wayne United Methodist Church will launch the Central District's mission project to rebuild MidTown Parish in Philadelphia. Every church in the Central District is invited to send a delegation to the service.

MidTown Parish lost its building at Seventh and Norris Streets a few years ago, when it was condemned and torn down. The congregation, which has been meeting at a nearby playground, wants to rebuild on its old site.

MidTown has a wonderful history of outreach and ministry that has touched lives and congregations for more than a century. As one example of the parish's history, the hymn "In the Garden" was written by the organist and choir director of MidTown, C. Austin Miles, and the choir there was the first ever to sing it.

At the Oct. 19 service, there will be great preaching, a mass choir, a signing choir, and more. The service will be an opportunity to learn more about Mid-Town's history and its vision.

MISSION MEMO

Consider becoming a Guardian Angel this year

Rally Day on Sept. 14 was a great success; many families came and enjoyed the opening of the Sunday School year. I hope that you will consider becoming a Guardian Angel this year for one of our students away from home, whether in college, graduate school or traveling. Please be in touch with the church office or Debbie Nemetz (610-688-3227) for information. Signup sheets for students and Angels are available.

Thanks to all who participated in the golf tournament that raised over \$10,000 for the Chelsea Campbell Charitable Trust. The Missions Committee donated \$500 from the Penny Jar to this fund, which provides money for children and young people whose insurance will not cover treatment for addictions.

The Bishop has issued an urgent request for flood buckets. Please help us in this timely mission to aid people affected by flooding after the two recent hurricanes in the United States and in the Caribbean. A five-gallon bucket with a resealable lid should be filled with the following *new* items: bleach (two 1-quart bottles or one 82-oz bottle); 5 scouring pads; 7 sponges; 1 scrub brush; 18 cleaning towels (reusable wipes); liquid laundry detergent (two 25 oz or one 50 oz bottle); 1 household cleaner (12-16 oz bottle); disinfectant dish soap (12 – 28 oz bottle); 50 clothes pins; clothes line (two 50 ft or one 100 ft); 5 dust masks; 2 pair latex gloves; 1 pair work gloves; 24-bag roll of heavy-duty trash bags, 33-45 gallon (remove roll from box before placing in bucket); 1 insect repellent 6-14 oz can (if aerosol, cans must have protective caps); 1 air freshener, 8 or 9 oz can (if aerosol, cans must have protective caps). This list is quite lengthy and there is no reason why several people or families couldn't join together to fill a bucket. Camp Innabah and West Lawn UMC are central drop-off points until Nov. 15. We can easily deliver them to these locations and will not need to pay a shipping fee for each bucket!

Our next night to serve dinner at Interfaith Hospitality Network will be Monday, Nov. 3. We need help preparing a meal and persons to host the evening between 6 and 9 p.m. Please call Betsy Newman (610-647-0643) if you can help.

Betsy Newman



Children and youth Sunday School teachers and assistants: From left, Jessica Simmons, Christa Clark, Sarah Polasky, Kristine Adams, Sondra Wilen, Sharon Meyers, Wendy Wolov, Kathleen West, Stephanie Borelly and Luis Montaner. Not pictured are Gina Phelps, Gina DeFlavia and Ryan Benton. *Photographs courtesy of Michael Benton.*

Sunday School enrolls 22

Sept. 14 marked the beginning of the new Sunday School year. Rally Day was *huge* success! To date, there are 22 children registered for children's Sunday School. Thank you to the teachers and assistants who have committed their time and Sunday mornings. We are still looking for one more teacher assistant for the Zone 1 class (pre-K and first grade). We need you for two weeks every month. Please let Jess Simmons know if you are interested.



Sunday School students are being introduced to their teachers, and getting ready to go to their classrooms.

Church honors 21 members for longtime service

At a reception after worship services Sept. 21, Berwyn United Methodist Church honored 21 members of the church who have been in the congregation more than 50 years.

Mary Townsend, who joined on April 8, 1928, and thus has been in BUMC for 80 years, is the church's member with the longest service. Faye Hoffman and Jane Ruoff both joined on Christmas Eve 1939, which gives them 69 years as of this Christmas Eve.

The others who were honored, with their length of service listed after their names:

Mabel Williams (68)	John Lamborn (52)
Catherine "Kit" Hughes (66)	Howard Robins (52)
Margaret Lewis (65)	Allan Weir (52)
Jane Blair (51)	Doris Clark (50)
May Dickenson (58)	Arthur Fennimore (51)
Joseph Townsend (58)	Florence Fennimore (51)
Don Hough (53)	Ruth Yohn (61)
Shirley Hough (53)	Gladys Walton (50+)
Jeanne Owens (53)	Mary Paxson (57)

WHAT'S GOING ON AT B.U.M.C.

ClubBerwyn will have its first event on Friday, Oct. 17. Bring your kids (grades 3-6) to Schieck Hall at 6:30 p.m. Pick up time is 8:30. Details will follow. Contact Jess Simmons with any questions.

The Gentle Yoga class has room for new members. The class meets on Tuesday evenings from 5:30 to 7 in the Music Room. A new evening session will begin in October and a 10 a.m. Saturday class is tentatively planned to start in January. The instructor, Francesca Meredith, is planning now for late fall and winter sessions. If you are interested, contact Francesca at fitnessentials@msn.com.

Our annual Harvest Dinner will be held on Sunday, Nov. 9, at the conclusion of the 10:30 a.m. service. The menu will feature roast turkey, baked ham, mashed potatoes, dressing and all the trimmings. The cost will be \$10 for adults, \$5 for children 6-10, and free for children 5 and under. Reservations will be taken at both services on Oct. 27 and Nov. 2. Hope to see you all there.

Every Communion Sunday, we will be collecting boxes of cereal or bottles of juice for REACT. As we gather at the Lord's table on Oct. 5, please take a moment to care for those in need. Baskets will be placed at the back of the church for your donation. For answers to questions, contact Betsy Newman at 610-644-2683. REACT is a Tredyffrin Township program providing food, shelter, clothing, transportation and guidance for those in need in the community.

The Thanksgiving Eve Service will be held at St. Luke's Lutheran Church in Devon at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 26. The Main Line Ministerium, composed of the pastors of the various denominations, decided to extend the service to all the churches in the area of Devon, Berwyn, Paoli and Malvern.