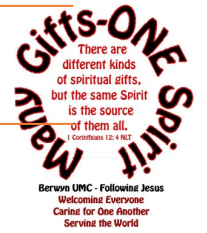




THE LIGHTED CROSS

BERWYN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



October 2016

Newsletter

Mark Your Calendars:

- Oct 8—Fall Fest
- Oct 10-14 Portrait sessions
- Oct 22—Trunk or Treat
- Oct 23—Cantata rehearsal begins
- Nov 6—Harvest Dinner @ noon, reservations required
- Dec 11—Choir Christmas Cantata & Brunch, reservations required

Join Us For Worship

8:30am Early Worship

9:15 am Sunday School for All Ages

10:30am Worship Service with Choir

Communion is observed on the First Sunday of the Month

Greeters: 2 Judy Fisk; 16 Romaine Rood

Flowers: 2 Carol Williams; 9 Lee Paylor; 16 Barbara Borst; 23 Judy Edinger; 30 Barbara Mekenney

SAY CHEESE! *Kristine Adams*

Smile for the camera! It's time for a new Church Pictorial Directory. Once again, Life Touch will be taking portraits and putting together the directory for us. Portraits will be done by appointment the week of October 10-14. You can sign up for your appointment time after church on Sundays or by going online to <https://www.securedata-trans14.com/ap/berwynunitedmethodistchurch/index.php?page=10>. Available appointment times will be between 2p and 9pm. Life Touch will give us \$5 for every portrait taken and each family that gets their portrait taken will receive a complimentary 8 x 10. You will get to choose which pictures you want to order that day and payment will be made at that time as well. Life Touch has several poses for you to choose from and they encourage you to bring props and even your pets for the session. The portrait sessions are also available for friends and family as well. So if you know anyone who was thinking of getting their portraits done, share with them our registration information and we still get credit for their session too. If you would like to volunteer to sign people in the week of October 10th please see Kristine Adams or any member of the Communications Committee.

TRUNK OR TREAT 2016! *Kristine Adams*

For the second year, Community Action Team (CAT) will be hosting a Community Trunk or Treat event. This year's event will take place **Saturday, October 22, 2016 from 3pm to 5pm** in the church parking lot. This free event is open to all children in the community. Please let your friends and family know and invite them to attend. Last year's event was well attended and received by about 60 kids. We had 8 cars decorated and several volunteers to hand out candy to the costumed kiddos. This year we will have Teal Pumpkin stations for our friends who have severe food allergies. We will have non-food goodies to fill their trick or treat bags. If you are interested in decorating your Trunk or helping to greet families as they arrive, please see Kristine Adams or you can email her at kidl.adams@gmail.com.



CHILDRENS' PROGRAM *Cindy Shallcross*

RALLY DAY happened on Sunday September 11! It was nice to get the kids back together and hear about their summer of fun! All of them spent some time in the waves by the sea, and others sharpened their sports skills in camp! Adventures of traveling near and far have given some great memories! All of them had a FUN summer!

As a part of RALLY DAY, we assembled 9 School Bags! There is a plethora of school supplies ready to be packed into newly sewn bags. (We are in need of bag makers, please HUB group to volunteer.) We also made our own stepping stone with our hand prints, concrete and various pebbles! Keep a look out for our one-of-a-kind creations on the church grounds!

We are off to a good start!

MUSIC *Judith Lang*

Choir Rehearsals have started, but it is not too late for you to join us.

Thursday evenings from 7:30-9:00. We have a seat for you!

Christmas Cantata Rehearsals begin on Sunday, October 23 from 12:30-2:30.

You do not have to be a member of the Choir to sing in the cantata. We will be doing a collection of special readings and selected anthems. Come and sing this beautiful music of the season.

Calling All Instruments (trumpets, saxes, clarinets, flutes, cellos, violins, etc.): a special **Enter With Praise** on October 2 will include all instruments playing traditional hymns. Please let Judith know what music you will need. Rehearsal will be October 1 at 3:00.



CHURCH-WIDE STUDY: THE BIBLE & HUMAN SEXUALITY

Pastor Gary will lead this 6-part study on Tuesday evenings this fall: Oct 18, 25, Nov 1, 15, 22, 29. We will meet in the Music Room from 7-8:30 pm. The text *The Bible and Human Sexuality, Claiming God's Good Gift* will be used as a resource but attendees do not have to purchase it. It is available from Cokesbury and a Kindle version can be found on Amazon. See Carol Cherry or Pastor Gary for more information and to mention your interest.

SBS (SHARED BIBLE STUDY)

Elaine Parvin

The SBS (SHARED BIBLE STUDY) is beginning a six week study on BECOMING A GOOD SAMARITAN, using study materials by John Ortberg. We welcome you to join us for fellowship, fun, some serious Bible study, and a chance to grow your faith and Biblical understanding. You will find our class is just right for you whether you are new to the Bible or are a serious Bible student. The study materials can be purchased on line at Amazon Kindle. See John Paylor, Mike Benton or Elaine Parvin if you have questions. We meet Sunday mornings in the Library at 9:15. Grab a cup of coffee and check us out!



UMW Fall Retreat *Carol Cherry*

Plan to spend Saturday October 15 in a creative supportive fellowship time with United Methodist Women studying the Beatitudes and resting by the NJ shore. We're grateful to Debbie Nemetz for hosting at her home in Little Egg Harbor, NJ. The main program will be on Saturday, with the option to arrive Friday and depart on Sunday for those who choose to stay longer. Carpooling will be available. Please talk to Debbie or Carol Cherry about your interest in attending.



Our dearest THANK YOU! to Pat White, Ann West and the entire Prayer Shawl group for Lorin Aubrey's beautiful baby blanket! The array of color throughout beam with the love that went into making it! It is so soft and she loves being snuggled in it! Thank you very much!

With love, Cindy, Brett and Lorin

FAITHFUL STEWARD—MECCA

This month, our church highlights **Rick Stoker** as Faithful Steward. If you have ever had a meal at BUMC, you have probably seen Rick's smiling face! Rick has organized, shopped for, and prepared all our Church Suppers, Christmas Brunches, Harvest Dinners and Soupy Thursdays. With Rick's guidance, the Kitchen Committee keeps our kitchen in ship shape, ensuring we always receive certification from Chester County.

Rick also heads the Adult Fellowship Committee, planning and executing all church adult activities. His tireless energy is amazing! If you see Rick, please thank him for all he does for BUMC! We are truly fortunate to have Rick as a Faithful Steward!!

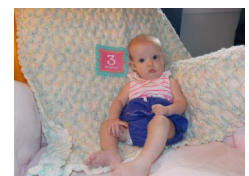


MISSION UPDATE *Jeff Barger*

The Mission's Committee would like to thank everyone who donated school supplies and toiletries to Mt. Zion's Community Outreach Program. I'm sure the children are very appreciative of your gifts. By having the supplies at the beginning of the semester it will give them the confidence and initiative to want to learn and do well.

Your donated toiletries will help a homeless person with his or her hygiene needs. More importantly I hope, they will feel that someone cares.

Don't forget the holiday season is coming up. Be on the lookout for all the sales on toys, children's outerwear and gifts for mom's. Donations will be distributed to Methodist Home for Children, United Methodist Neighborhood Services and, Mt Zion Community Outreach Program.



PASTOR'S THOUGHTS

Gary Jacabella

Back in 1985, Richard J. Foster wrote a book entitled, "Money, Sex and Power". It was a sequel to his classic book, "Celebration of Discipline". A later edition of the book used the title, "The Challenge of the Disciplined Life" but it's the original title that best describes our Worship Themes for Fall 2016.

Our Worship Themes leading up to Advent are based on two books that two different groups of people in our congregation want to discuss, "The Bible and Human Sexuality" by Ellen Brubaker and "Defying Gravity" by Tom Berlin. We already have Group meetings scheduled to discuss the first book on October 18 and 25, November 1, 15, 22, and 29. The second book will be part of our Fall Stewardship focus in Worship October 16, 23, 30 and November 6. Human sexuality will be the theme for other Sundays leading up to Advent.

It seems that some people get nervous when we talk about money in the church and some people are surprised when we talk about sex in the church. I think there is an expectation that discussions about money will make people feel guilty and that sex is just a taboo subject not for conversation in church.

(Cont next column)



However, God is all about life and living life to the full. God gives us life. Jesus is light for our lives and God's Spirit is God's power for living. As Richard Foster's book title suggests, money has to do with power and sex has to do with power. Both money and sex have power to take over our lives and run us down. God Spirit also has to do with power, power that brings healing and wholeness so that what's life giving about money and sex can actually be enjoyed by people set free by Jesus' love.

Sadly, many people have seen both money and sex identified as wicked and unredeemable by some religious sects both Christian and others. The ascetic denial of all things material is well known because well-known and philosophies teach that the highest and best way to live involves taking vows of poverty and chastity. In their way of thinking, sex and money should hardly be used at all because they lead people away from the "spiritual" life, which is the superior life.

Ascetic forms of religion see a huge divide between what they consider "spiritual" and what they consider "material". Spiritual lifts us up. Material drags us down. The body is often seen as a prison we need to escape along with the world in which we live. These ideologies say teach that we really are not material, we are truly spiritual.



BOOKS FOR FALL WORSHIP SERIES

You can purchase these print or e-books at cokebury.com or at your favorite book seller.

*"Defying Gravity: Break Free from the Culture of More" by Tom Berlin, Abingdon Press.

*"The Bible and Human Sexuality: Claiming God's Good Gift" Study Participants' Guide by Ellen A. Brubaker Burton and M. Garlinda, United Methodist Women.

The Bible disagrees. In the Bible, the earth is our home and people are bodies forever. There is such a thing as human weakness but that problem doesn't get fixed by escaping the earth and the body. Human weakness gets help from God's strength. So the contrast in the Bible is not between a wicked material world and a good spiritual world. The contrast in the Bible is between people who live by human strength and people who live by God's strength. We can live by God's strength and enjoy God's good creation. It's true that wealth and sex can take over and enslave us but we don't win by escaping the earth and body. We win by letting God's healing and reconciling power put wealth and sex in their place so they are working together with God who creates rather than working with selfishness that destroys.

The author of "The Bible and Human Sexuality" admits that she was surprised to find the biblical book "Song of Songs" in the Bible. That surprises me.

Song of Songs is often seen as a commentary on the Genesis story of creation where the man sings when he first meets the woman, "This one finally is bone from my bones and flesh from my flesh".

Song of Songs compliments the Genesis story by opening with the woman singing, "Your loving is sweeter than wine! Your fragrance is sweet; your very name is perfume".

These songs are consistent with the positive attitude towards God's Creation and Gift of Life found throughout the Bible.



HARVEST DINNER *Rick Stoker*

Are you starting to look forward to turkey, dressing and the trimmings? Well, you are in luck. Our annual Harvest dinner will be held on Sun. Nov. 6, 2016 in Schieck Hall immediately following the 1030 service. Cost is \$10pp for adults, \$5.00 for children 5-10 and free for children under 5. Reservations are required for this dinner. Reservations will be taken on Sunday Oct. 23 and 30 or call the office by noon on Wed. Nov 2. We look forward to seeing you all there for a great meal and good fellowship.

Christmas Brunch: Sun. Dec. 11, 2016

Review of Eastern PA Conference June 16-18, 2016 *Judy Fisk*

The delegates from our church were Gary Jacabella, Clergy Delegate; Kristine Adams, Lee Paylor, John Paylor were Equalizing Delegates and Judy Fisk was the Lay Delegate. Clergy and Lay have equal representation; meaning there are the same number of clergy and lay delegates. There were almost 900 delegates at the conference.

This year the EPA conference was held at the Marriott Hotel's Convention Center in Lancaster. For those of us who commuted it was 104 miles each day. Next year's conference will be in June, but only 9 miles away at the Oaks Convention Center.

The 2016 Resolutions included clergy housing and retirement programs, discontinuance of four churches, health care for all children, full inclusion of the LGBTQIAA members, computer safeguards, safe sanctuaries, advanced specials and alternative Fair Voting for delegations. After much discussion and many amendments some groups were asked to meet and come before the body at the adjourned session with new resolutions.

Most importantly, Pastor Gary was reassigned to Berwyn UMC.

The Adjourned Session – October 1, 2016 will be considering and voting on:

- *A redistricting proposal – to reduce the number from 6 to 4 and save \$400,000.
- *A revised safe sanctuaries policy
- *A new computer network and internet policy
- *A report on the committee to evaluate Fair Voting methods for electing members to delegations and committees.
- *An annual comprehensive funding plan for clergy and safe benefit obligations
- *To ratify the 2017 Conference Budget
- *A new apportionment formula for funding ministry

The October 1, 2016 session will be at Bethany UMC (Macungie Campus).



PAPER GOODS COLLECTION

Starting Sunday, November 6th, BUMC will once again be collecting paper products that will be donated to a local food bank. Did you know that toilet paper, tissues and paper towels are not qualified items for those on public assistance? Next time your grocery store is offering a Buy One Get One or 10 for \$10 grab an extra of the following and donate:

- *Paper towels
- *Toilet paper
- *Tissues
- *Napkins



Northeastern Jurisdictional Conference

article submitted by Judy Fisk with information taken from John Coleman's article in The News Spirit

The NEJ Conference took place June 11-15 in Lancaster, PA. I was privileged to be part of the Welcoming Committee on the first afternoon. This is a much smaller conference than the EPA. History was made by the NEJ as they chose two new bishops – African American Women. This is the first time since 2000 that a woman of color has been elected. Thirteen diverse candidates sought the office of bishop. The NEJ has never had a Latino bishop.

Much of the NEJ time and energy was spent on the question of church trials and their cost as well as the LGBTQIAA community (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transexual, Questioning, Intersexual, Asexual, and Ally). The condition of the conference was received.

This is also the time for Bishops to be re-assigned. Our Bishop, Peggy Johnson, was reassigned to the EPA area. There is an expected realignment of episcopal areas within our NEJ area at the 2020 General Conference. This would possibly join with Greater New Jersey and the Peninsula – Delaware Conference would join with Baltimore-Washington Conference.

We have the right 'stuff'

Now we just need shoppers to purchase it!

And **YOU** can help!

There will be flyers for the Fall festival located in the Narthex. Please take a few and give them to your friends and neighbors.

Hang one up in the break room at work... Let's get the word out about the Fall Festival!!!!

FALL FESTIVAL & FLEA MARKET

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 8TH

9 A.M. TO 2 P.M.

RAIN OR SHINE

COLLECTIBLES

BOOKS ~ BAKED GOODS

FLEA MARKET TREASURES & FURNITURE

BERWYN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

140 WATERLOO AVENUE

BERWYN, PA

If you are interested in working in a specific booth here are the people in charge.

Please contact them and let them know you are interested!!!

Books – Joy Fuerst Collectibles – Judy Fisk Bake Table – Janet Campbell Silent Auction – Cindy Shallcross

Flea Market – Stephanie Borelly Lunch/Kitchen – Keith Fritz Menu – hotdogs, chips, apple, beverage and a cookie...

There are a lot of opportunities to volunteer. If you have a few moments to spare – come and assist.

There are always items that need priced, books that need to be stacked and shelves that need to be stocked.

Whatever your specialty, we have just the right spot for you! We need **everyone's** help to make this a success!!!!

If you still have big items, for the Flea Market, that you want to donate please contact me – Stephanie Borelly - I will come and pick it up!!!



Ministry of the People is supported by the Staff

Recordings of Sunday Services are available.

Contact Jon Stockler at

610-348-3385 or

JStockler@aol.com

Pastor: Gary Jacobella

Lay Leaders: Janet Campbell & David Adams

Admin. Assistant: Veronica Mosley

Organist/Director of Music: Judith Lang

Nursery Assist: Eliza Chumpitaz

Children's Coordinator: Cynthia Shallcross

Church Phone: 610-644-5555

Office E-mail: officebumc@comcast.net

Church Website: www.berwynumc.org

facebook: www.facebook.com/BerwynUMC

WHAT IS YOUR PREFERRED METHOD OF GETTING CHURCH NEWS & UPDATES?

Over the past year the Communications Committee has been working on finding new ways to promote and advertise all the wonderful activities and services BUMC offers. We have come up with the following survey to see what is the best/favorite way you would like to receive updates from the church.

Please fill out the survey and return to the church and place it in the box marked Surveys. You can also mail the survey back to the church if you prefer.

Circle or write in your answer in space provided.

1. What social media do you use regularly?

Facebook

Twitter

Instagram

YouTube

Snap Chat

Periscope

Pinterest

Vinio

Other: _____

2. What device(s) do you use?

Smart Phone—Android

Smart Phone—Apple

Tablet

Laptop

Desktop—PC

Mac Book

Other: _____

3. How do you prefer to receive information regarding events, worship services, classes, mission projects for BUMC? Circle all that apply.

Sunday bulletin

The Lighted Cross

Church Facebook page—Berwyn UMC

Automated Phone Tree

Personal Phone Call

E-newsletter

Text

Church website—www.berwynumc.org

Other: _____

4. Do you read a newspaper on a regular basis?

Yes

No

5. If yes, which newspaper(s) do you read?

6. How would you like to receive The Lighted Cross?

Paper copy through the mail (Please include the mailing address you want to receive The Lighted Cross)

PDF file on the church website

Emailed (please fill in the email address we should use)

Any other suggestions for getting information distributed to members and the community?



Christmas Poinsettia Orders & Discretionary Fund

As we approach this Christmas season and the celebration of the birth of Christ, we are making available an opportunity for you to help beautify the church sanctuary with poinsettias which you may take home to enjoy or donate to a shut-in of the church. The poinsettias are from and benefit the greenhouse at the Devereaux Foundation in Devon.

Deadline for Poinsettia Orders November 30th

Please use the order form below. Make checks payable to BUMC.

Send or bring your order to the church office.

ORDER FORM FOR POINSETTIAS

I / We wish to purchase _____ poinsettias @\$8.00 each. Check Total \$ _____

Name _____

In Memory/ Honor/ Celebration of _____

(Please circle)

Leave my plants for giving to the sick or shut-in _____

Take my plants home after Christmas Eve service _____

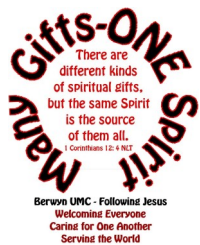
DONATIONS FOR PASTOR'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

(To assist people in need)

I / We wish to donate \$ _____ the Pastor's Discretionary Fund.

Name _____

In Memory / Honor/ Celebration of _____



Our Mission Statement

God calls Berwyn UMC to be a community

Of Christian believers that:

Invites ~ Nurtures ~ Encourages Service

Worship Schedule

8:30 AM	Early Worship
9:15 AM	Sunday School for All Ages
10:30 AM	Traditional Worship with Choir

Like us on Facebook: Berwyn UMC

www.berwynumc.org

Email: officebumc@comcast.net

Fax: 610-644-7890

Church Office: 610-644-5555

Berwyn, PA 19312

140 Waterloo Avenue

Berwyn United Methodist Church

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