



September 2011

BERWYN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
INVITING NURTURING AND ENCOURAGING SERVICE

# The Lighted Cross

## Coming to Berwyn: The Alpha Course

By John Paylor, *Lay Leader*

Something new and exciting is happening at Berwyn this month. We will be conducting an Alpha Course, starting with an informational dinner on Sept. 14 and continuing on Wednesday evenings until Dec. 7.

You may have heard of Alpha, or seen signs at other churches in our communities. Now it is here at Berwyn.

Alpha is a course in basic Christianity that, while designed for new Christians or people who have not had a connection with the Christian faith, is just as helpful for church members who are very familiar with the Christian Church. I hope each of you will be able to participate, and will invite your friends and neighbors to join you.

Alpha for Berwyn has been put together by a team working for over a year under the Evangelism and Nurture Committee. Last summer, several of us attended an Alpha instructional meeting, and in the fall Mike Benton, Nancy Atchison, Tom Pierce, Elaine Parvin, Kristine Adams and I each attended a full Alpha Course at different churches, to learn more about Alpha and to be able to bring the program here. Many others in our congregation are also working on this program for Berwyn.

Each evening includes a meal, which will be prepared by Rick Stoker and his dedicated teams of food preparers, so we know the food will be excellent.

Those of us working on bringing Alpha to Berwyn sincerely believe it will make a difference in the life of our church, and in the lives of those who attend. I urge you to plan to participate in this new program. You may register for the course electronically on our website. Or you could fill out a registration form on Page 2 of this issue of The Lighted Cross or on one of the brochures, and then give the form to the Church Office.

For more information on what Alpha is, how it got started and what is contained in the program, talk to one of those mentioned above, look at the information on our website, [www.berwynumc.org](http://www.berwynumc.org), or check the Alpha website, [www.alphausa.org](http://www.alphausa.org).

If you are still not certain, plan to attend the informational dinner on Sept. 14 and then make up your mind about participating in the full course.

Is there more to life  
than this?



# Start the church year with Rally Day on Sept. 11

Please join us for Rally Day on Sept. 11. We will kick off our church year by gathering together in Schieck Hall at 9:15 a.m. for a light assortment of breakfast goodies. We will have Sunday School registration for pre-K through sixth graders, and will hear brief presentations about our Youth and Adult Sunday School classes. Afterward we will head to our Sunday School classrooms.

Immediately after the 10:30 a.m. service, we will have our Second Annual All-Church Potluck Lunch. *Everyone* is invited. We will learn about all of the different activities and groups we have at BUMC. There will be a Moon Bounce for the kids. We ask that you bring a dish to share according to the beginning letter of your last name: A-H, appetizer/salad; I-P, main dish/entrée; Q-Z, dessert.

Church groups needing tables to display their materials should contact Sarah Baker so that she can make sure everyone has a table: [sayrenicole2004@yahoo.com](mailto:sayrenicole2004@yahoo.com) or 610-247-7647.

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## Alpha introductory dinner is Sept. 14; will you be there?

*Plan now to attend the Alpha Introductory Dinner at 6 p.m. on Sept. 14 and invite your friends and neighbors to join you. Dinner will be followed with a video introduction to the Alpha Course. There is no commitment to join the full Alpha Course, which will run on Wednesday evenings until Dec. 7, plus a one-and-a-half-day session on November 4-5. Each Alpha session begins at 6 p.m. with a light meal and ends promptly at 8:45. No reservation is necessary, but it will help us plan the dinner and course if you will fill out the form printed below.*

### Registration Form

Please complete this form and let us know if you are coming to the Fall 2011 Berwyn Alpha Introductory Dinner or Course [check one or both].

I plan to attend the Introductory Dinner on Sept. 14.

I plan to attend the Alpha Course beginning Sept. 21.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_

It would be helpful to have an indication of your age. We form small groups partly on the basis of age.  15-20  21-35  36-50  51-65  over 65. If you would like to be grouped with someone else, please indicate name here \_\_\_\_\_

I request Child Care. Ages of children \_\_\_\_\_

*Please return the Registration Form to the Church Office.*

## PASTOR'S WORD

# The transforming effect of the Holy Spirit

**O**N JUNE 14 we celebrated the coming of the Holy Spirit to the disciples of Jesus during our Pentecost celebrations. The power of the Holy Spirit in the lives of the apostles turned them from fearful, cringing people to confident and fearless individuals, willing to put their lives on the line to ensure that the ministry of Christ continued throughout the world.

I wonder how many of us have examined our lives since that Pentecost celebration to see the transforming effect of the Holy Spirit in our lives in this day and age. I was thinking that many of us may not be fully aware that as faithful followers of Jesus we have the power and strength of the Holy Spirit in our lives. The Holy Spirit is with us and around us at all times and in all places (John 14:17). For me, it is comforting to know that I have a power within and around me that is greater than the power of this world (1John 4:4).

Over the centuries the followers of Jesus have been very much aware of the power that is within them. This awareness led to the preaching of the gospel around the world, with multitudes coming to know the love and the saving grace of Jesus.

The power of the Holy Spirit enabled them to confront hardship, hunger, persecution and even death. Through it all, they were conscious of that power that enabled them to do all things through the Christ who loved them and gave to them supernatural and super human power to be more than conquerors (Romans 8:36-39). The world has not been the same since the coming of Jesus and the empowering of the apostles and all God's people through the Holy Spirit.

September is an important month for us as a community of faith, as we are aware of the excellent work of ministry that God call us to. We are aware of Christ's claim on our lives to minister to the children and the youth, to worship, to sing and pray, to reach out to the community, to share our faith with others, to assist others in coming to experience in their own lives the saving grace of Jesus. Any one of these can be daunting and overwhelming to us if we thought we had to do ministry in our own strength. We need to remind ourselves this September that there is a power within us that it greater than the power of this world. It is the power of the Holy Spirit that will enable us to experience effectiveness in all that we do in the name of the Lord.

My prayer is that you would experience forever that joy unspeakable and full of glory (1 Peter 1:8) that comes through knowing that the power of the Holy Spirit is with you at all times and in all places. May the power from on high be your portion this day and always!

*Pastor Phil*

# Fall Festival and Flea Market:

## Saturday, Oct. 8 — 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

It is that time again! Our Scout cabin is filling up. Plans are being put together. Signs and posters are being prepared. And ideas are swirling...

It is only one month away. A great effort by our church family and community will make this a grand day. The proceeds from just this one day go to benefit our church missions, the youth program, and so many aspects of our church.

Following are some of the people who are helping:

*FLEA MARKET* – Kate and Brian Walker have taken over this job for one more year. It is time to gather all of your attic treasures and bring them to the Scout cabin.

*SILENT AUCTION* – Carol and Gene Williams will be collecting silent-auction items from the community and from our church family. Use your imagination and your skills to put together a Silent Auction item or service. Landscaping? Tutoring? Cleaning? Car detailing? Vacation home? Sports tickets? Anything goes!

*JEWELRY* – Stephanie Borelly and Cindy Shallcross will collect your jewels and gems...shine them up and display them beautifully. Watch for the “gold box” in the Narthex ... coming soon.

*BOOKS* – Books, records, tapes, CDs, VHS cassettes and DVDs can be placed in the large boxes that will soon be placed in Schieck Hall. Please, no textbooks or encyclopedias.

*COLLECTIBLES* – Judy Fisk is waiting for your treasures. Please call her with anything you think should be given that special touch.

*BAKED GOODS* – Sweet tooth? Our table is quite popular, and we need you to help fill the tables. Look for Janet Campbell to be wearing the apron



*PUMPKINS AND GUORDS* – The Reiter family (Becky, Darryl, Abby, Albert, Adrianna and Alias) are busy in the pumpkin patch and readying for our sale day.

*LUNCH* – Enjoy a good meal between your trips to put your treasures in the car. Donna Pitz and crew will be ready for you.

*CYEC* – Janelle Larson and group will once again offer us a chance to help the children of Kenya and our family in Peru.

*EVANGELISM* – Mike Benton and his committee are preparing to welcome our shoppers and offer them a Berwyn United Methodist shopping bag.

*CHILDREN AND YOUTH ACTIVITIES* – Kids, get ready for some fun while Mom and Dad shop.

*BUMNS* – School director Janet Wham and volunteers will have a table to display information about our Nursery School.

*BOY SCOUTS* – The church-sponsored troop will be here to sell popcorn and help with ushering treasures to your car.

We need all of us to make this day as special as can be. We need help to set up, take down, price, sell, donate, bake, cook, volunteer. Join us on this fun day. Call Janet Campbell to volunteer.

# A look at the church's finances for January-July

Welcome to fall! I hope you have had an enjoyable, safe and relaxing summer. I've often said that summer is a time for recreation (fun and relaxation) and re-creation (recharging our batteries and reflecting on how we can best use the talents and gifts we've been blessed to receive).

Although things have slowed down a bit at church over the summer months, it still has been a busy time. We have had baptisms, memorial services (sadly), the church picnic, Vacation Bible Camp, some special music, and two multi-sensory/blended services. All of these terrific summer programs are due in great part to your wonderful generosity that provides the funding for the staffing and programs that make these events possible.

Summer has also been a busy time in terms of the church's finance activities. Below you will see a summary of our budget status through the end of July. Income is down, as it frequently is over the summer when people are gone on vacation. Hopefully we will catch up over the next few weeks. On the good news side, our expenses have been less than we anticipated, thanks in a large part to the wonderful leadership demonstrated by all the committee chairs. We continue to be blessed with amazing leadership in all of our committees, groups and teams, and I thank them for being such great stewards of the church's finances.

I am also very pleased to announce that Keith Fritz has volunteered to lead this year's Stewardship Campaign. I greatly appreciate Keith's willingness to take on this important role. Stewardship Sunday will be Nov. 13; you will be hearing more about this from Keith in the coming weeks.

Finally, I'd like to acknowledge the wonderful work done by Finance Treasurer Brian Walker and Finance Secretary Betsy Newman. They do a tremendous amount of work behind the scenes that is key to our ability to effectively manage our church's finances. Be sure to say "thanks" to them next time you see them.

*Jim Tiede*, Finance Committee Chair

	Jan - Jul 11	Budget	\$ Over (Under) Budget
<b>INCOME</b>			
Contributions	216,672.00	235,000.00	(18,328.00)
Mortgage Fund	2,995.00	0.00	2,995.00
Facility Income	25,149.01	26,789.00	(1,639.99)
Other Income	1,579.03	1,204.00	375.03
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>246,395.04</b>	<b>262,993.00</b>	<b>(16,597.96)</b>
<b>EXPENSE</b>			
Administration	27,847.51	30,457.00	(2,609.49)
Committees	108.08	1,775.00	(1,666.92)
Communications	1,475.92	1,541.00	(65.08)
Connectional Ministries	25,455.81	25,417.00	38.81
Education	499.16	2,826.00	(2,326.84)
Facilities Operations	64,447.06	62,332.00	2,115.06
Local Ministries	91,939.89	94,499.00	(2,559.11)
Membership & Congregational Care	104.32	525.00	(420.68)
Mortgage	35,498.12	40,831.00	(5,332.88)
Music	16,858.13	18,459.00	(1,600.87)
Worship	1,561.70	1,463.00	98.70
Youth	2,334.38	1,666.00	668.38
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>268,130.08</b>	<b>281,791.00</b>	<b>(13,660.92)</b>
<b>Net Ordinary Income</b>	<b>(21,735.04)</b>	<b>(18,798.00)</b>	<b>(2,937.04)</b>

# Book Club schedules 8 meetings and 8 books

The BUMC Book Club has announced its selections for the 2011-12 year. Following are the books and the meeting dates (all meetings are at 7:30 p.m.):

Thursday, Sept. 15 – *Cutting for Stone* by Abraham Verghese; Ann West, discussion leader; Polly Kimes, hostess (610-788-2121).

Thursday, Oct. 20 – *Mountains Beyond Mountains* by Tracy Kidder; Marge Smink, discussion leader; Nancy Atchison, hostess (610-644-2775).

Thursday, Nov. 17 – *The Good Earth* by Pearl Buck; Nancy Atchison, discussion leader; Sally Robie, hostess (610-644-6631). This is the club's annual selection from the classics.

Thursday, Jan. 19 – *The Wizard of Lies: Bernie Madoff and the Death of Trust* by Diana B. Henriques; Alan Hess, discussion leader; Barbara Mekenney, hostess (610-644-2469).

Thursday, Feb. 16 – *The Book Thief* by Markus Zusak; Betsy Lang, discussion leader; Ann West, hostess (610-687-0222).

Thursday, March 15 – *The Paris Wife* by Paula McLain; Sally Robie, discussion leader; Betsy Lang, hostess (610-644-8259).

Thursday, April 19 – *Bossypants* by Tina Fey; Liz Young, discussion leader; Edinger/Foreman, hosts (610-687-4526).

Thursday, May 17 – *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks* by Rebecca Skloot; Gene Foreman, discussion leader; Marge Smink, hostess (610-359-5445).

Everyone is invited to Book Club meetings. RSVP to the host/hostess by phone or e-mail each month if you plan to attend. Further information: Marge Smink (610-613-9797) or Nancy Atchison (610-644-2775).

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## Adult Fellowship will have its annual steak-fry Sept. 24

The annual BUMC steak-fry will be at 6 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 24. The Adult Fellowship Committee welcomes all newcomers and old-timers to enjoy a good meal and a fun social get-together.

The menu will be appetizers, choice of steak or chicken, potatoes, a vegetable, green salad, dessert and drinks.

There will be signup rosters in the Narthex on Sundays, Sept. 11 and 18.

The cost is \$10 a person. It will be collected at time of signup, or you can e-mail your reservation to Veronica Mosley at the Church Office and pay the tab on or before the 24<sup>th</sup>.

Anyone willing to have a hand in making this event happen (set-up, cooking, cleanup) should contact Paul Polasky at 610-608-6112 or [papolasky@yahoo.com](mailto:papolasky@yahoo.com).

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## Wednesday Morning Bible Study: the Book of Job

For the 2011-2012 Wednesday Morning Bible Study, we are embarking on a new adventure, and it will be a learning experience for us all as we study the Book of Job in the NIV Study Bible.

We know that God's Holy Spirit is our teacher and guide, and we trust in God as we study. This will be an exciting time as we study the word of God; as we grow and mature in our faith; as we expand our knowledge of the Bible; and as we apply the word of God to life and daily living.

Please join us at our meetings at 11:30 a.m. Wednesdays, starting Sept. 14 and continuing through May 16. We will love to have you with us. Please bring a bag lunch so that we may have table fellowship afterward.

## VACATION BIBLE CAMP

# 29 children visit BUMC for five days in July to learn and play



During the week of July 24-28, twenty-nine children from Berwyn United Methodist Church and the community played, laughed, created, and learned about God's recipe for us during our annual Vacation Bible Camp.

This year's theme was "Shake it Up Café: Where Kids Carry Out God's Recipe," and we learned about the secret ingredients God has for living our lives through Bible stories that tell about different celebrations. Each afternoon, we explored a different story. We listened to the story in our Bible-storytelling room, created a story-related craft, played games, and learned three new songs. We had a special science activity each day that related to our stories. Each day we enjoyed a delicious meal, prepared with loving hands by our Shake it Up Café staff, and we had lots of fellowship.

We continued to raise money for the Heifer Project. We raised \$382, which will be added to our previous total. Our goal this year is to raise \$5,000 to purchase a Gift Ark. Through Heifer International, individuals purchase food-producing animals for families in need in an effort to help end hunger. A Gift Ark is a collection of 15 kinds of animals (two of each) that will go to 30 deserving families. We will collect money throughout this year in Sunday School, as our children are really excited about buying a Gift Ark.

Shake it Up Café wouldn't have been such an amazing success without the help of our wonderful volunteers. Thank you so much for all of your hard work and input.

DIRECTOR – Sarah Baker.

STORY TELLING – Janet Campbell, Kristine Adams, Katie DeFlavia.

CRAFTS – Jen Cutler, Sharon Meyers, Elizabeth Cutler.

GAMES – Andy Cutler, Ben Cutler, Jim Spofford.

MUSIC – Nancy Atchison, Charlotte Duffie-Fritz.

FOOD – Judy Fisk, Kathy Lewis, Debbie Nemetz, Barbara Mekenney, Toni Kelly, Stephanie Borelly.

GROUP LEADERS – K&1 – Karis Poncé, Sue Farina, Jacob Nemetz; K&1 – Darlene Spofford; 2&3 – Brittany Duffie-Fritz; 2&3 – Paul Polasky, Jeremy Borelly.

SCIENCE- Andres Montaner, Javier Montaner.

DECORATIONS – Christa Fisher, Sarah Baker, Jeremy Borelly, Janet Campbell, Nancy Atchison.

AUDIOVISUAL COORDINATOR, TECHNOLOGY – Sarah Baker.

*Sarah Baker*

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## Anthem youth group is planning a busy fall season

Hello, church family. As the summer winds down, my thoughts are bringing me to all of the awesome, exciting things planned for the new year. In July, I and several Anthem youth went on our second summer paintball trip. Again they tried to take me down. And the welts on my body showed that they succeeded. Though the welts have subsided, I'm still trying to get stain splotches out of my clothes. Can I borrow some stain remover, anyone?

The goal of the paintball trip was to keep Anthem energized for an exciting fall. We begin on Sept. 11 at 9:15 a.m. for Anthem AM (a.k.a. Sunday School) and at 5:30 p.m. for Anthem PM (youth group). If you know any 7<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> graders, encourage them to join us. This fall we'll be holding more community service car wash fundraisers, taking our second annual hayride at the pumpkin patch, and discussing some of the tougher questions about the Christian faith. See you soon.

*Chris Padot*

## VOICES FROM THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

### Focusing on blessings rather than problems

As I write this in August I am dizzy from watching the ups and downs of the stock market – more downs than I like. I think of the hard year many have experienced due to layoffs, serious illnesses and other difficulties that created unexpected expenses. I wonder about the effect of the economy on our church. I worry about our future. Problems rather than blessings have become my focus. Then I remember something I wrote for The Lighted Cross about four years ago.

At that time I was working toward my goal of tithing. The more I gave, the less I worried. It was becoming easy to follow the caution Jesus gives us to “not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself.” The journey to tithing was helping me put God first. I was thankful to be able to give and was experiencing the joy of giving. Faithful participation in worship service on Sunday also kept me centered in God and seeking His will. Now I find I’ve lost ground. I’ve fallen behind in my giving, and I haven’t been present in church for months.

The approach of the fall season and the beginning of the church year is a good time to assess our faithful dependability. I know I need to become more purposeful in my efforts to strengthen my faith, catch up on my pledge payments and get back to church. Perhaps some of you can also identify ways to strengthen your spiritual life.

Through our members and the Grace of God, BUMC experiences many blessings. Our financial secretary assures me most of you have done a better job than I in keeping up with gifts and pledges. Some of you have touched the lives of many in our congregation this summer through your personal testimonies (I know because many told me what I had missed on Sunday). I continue to be the grateful recipient of care and support from a generous church family. You do a terrific job of sharing God’s love with others in and through the church. Thanks be to God.

*Rosalie Hart*

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## Cards of Thanks

**From Carol Williams:** Many thanks to all the volunteers who hosted this summer’s Spirit Café. I hope it was fun to serve and socialize with our church members and visitors in a relaxed atmosphere under the eaves (so to speak). It’s a great welcoming invitation to all those coming to worship, and it’s well received by everyone. Many thanks, again, to Janet Campbell, Sue Denisevicz, Sue Farina, Andrew French, Maxine Jex, Barbara Mekenney, John Paylor, Donna Pitz, Anne Poncé and Kate Walker. See you next year “under the eaves.”

**From Jean Brownfield:** A big “thank you” to the church reception group that handled the refreshments (especially cookies) for Bill’s memorial service – friends Nancy, Pat, Ann, Maxine, Helen, etc. The service and reception were perfect in every way. My daughters and I send our best.

**From Gene Foreman:** Thanks to all for your prayers and kind expressions of support as I undergo chemotherapy for lymphoma. I expect to complete my treatment in late September.

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## Nursery School begins its new year on Sept. 13

The Nursery School will open its doors on Tuesday, Sept. 13. The staff looks forward to greeting new and returning families. Our enrollment has increased over the summer. Thank you to Kate Walker for her messages announcing Nursery School openings on the church’s lawn sign.

On Monday, Sept. 12, the school will host an open house for the parents. Janet Campbell will welcome the families again this year. Janet has also volunteered to teach a chapel time for the children on the second Friday of each month. Many thanks to Janet for her support and guidance.

The staff is anticipating a year with a creative curriculum, field trips to farms and nature centers, and outreach programs presented by the Easttown Library, Great Valley Nature Center and other institutions.

## What's going on at Berwyn United Methodist Church

**United Methodist Women** will have their first meeting of the fall on Sunday, Sept. 11. The group will join in Rally Day and the All-Church Potluck Lunch, then gather in the library to hear Janelle Larson give an update on her recent trip to Kenya. Everyone is invited.

**Choir rehearsals** will begin Wednesday, Sept. 7, at 7:30 p.m. Rehearsals will be on Wednesdays this year, as this is the evening that works better for several members. We are looking for new singers, young and old. Join the fun, fellowship, and music-making. Come early on the 7th and enjoy light refreshments – and then sing for joy to the Lord. If you have any questions, contact Judith Lang.

**The Shared Bible Class** will resume its study of the Psalms on Sunday, Sept. 18. Bring your Bibles and join us for a discussion of this wonderful poetry. All are welcome. We meet in the room next door to the Pastor's Study at 9:20 a.m.

**Save these dates** to enjoy meals with your church family: Sunday, Nov. 13 – Harvest Dinner. Sunday, Dec. 18 – Christmas Brunch, after a special choir presentation at the 10:30 service. Rick Stoker will announce details for these events later.

**The Men's Fellowship** will have its first breakfast meeting on Saturday, Nov. 12. Paul Polasky urges all members of the group to lend a helping hand for the Fall Festival and Flea Market on Nov. 8; members should contact event chair Janet Campbell for assignments.

**Biblical storyteller** Tracy Radosevic will take a tour group to Greece and Turkey on May 18-29, 2012, to trace the journeys of the Apostle Paul. Information is available in the Church Office.

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## New District Superintendent to be installed Sept. 18

Anita Adams Powell will be installed as the District Superintendent of the Central District of the Eastern Pennsylvania Conference in a service at 4 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 18, at Berwyn United Methodist Church.

Dr. Powell began her career in the ministry in the American Baptist Church, where she was licensed and ordained. Later she joined the Eastern Pennsylvania Conference of the United Methodist Church, where her orders were recognized and she became an elder in full connection.

Her ministry in the Eastern Pennsylvania Conference includes service as associate pastor of West Chester United Methodist Church and as the founding pastor of the United Methodist Church of the Open Door in Kennett Square.



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## *The Lighted Cross*

**Next deadline: Sept. 16**

*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 Oct. 1, and an electronic version will be available earlier on the church website. Submit your items to [gene.foreman@verizon.net](mailto: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.**

## Explore these three new books in the church library

*The books are reviewed below by Marge Smink, our church librarian.*

*Jesus: a Novel* by Walter Wangerin Jr., published by Zondervan, c2005. [813.54 Wal] Donated by Pastor Phil. Walter Wangerin is considered one of the most gifted modern writers on the issues of faith and spirituality. In this book with vibrant language he sweeps away tradition and reveals Jesus as a man of flesh and heart. The author masterfully develops the relationship between Jesus and his mother, as seen from her perspective. Wangerin switches back and forth between the viewpoint of Mary, Jesus' mother ("Mim"), and the disciple John (called "Beloved") to tell the story, which opens at the Feast of Passover in Jerusalem when Jesus is 12. A long narrative from Mary to Jesus in italics serves to fill in the details of her unexpected pregnancy, marriage, and the nativity of Christ. When Jesus returns to Nazareth to begin his ministry by reading in the temple, he is first warmly welcomed, then driven away by the hometown people. The reader feels Mary's pride in her son, and then her pain at his rejection. Wangerin imagines what Jesus might have looked like and what his mannerisms might have been as he challenged traditions and showed people the way toward a life of faith that no one had imagined. *Jesus: a Novel* is a masterpiece of epic scope.

*The Purpose Driven Life* by Rick Warren, published by Zondervan, c2002. [248.4 War] Donated by Pastor Phil. *The Purpose Driven Life* is a guide for Christians living in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Rick Warren takes the reader through a personal 40-day spiritual journey that will help him or her answer one of life's most important questions: "What on earth am I here for?" By learning God's purpose for one's life Warren suggests that stress will be reduced, energy will be focused, decisions will be simplified and meaning for life will be identified. This is a book of hope and challenge, a gift for those who want to know their purpose and fulfill their destiny.

*Chicken Soup to Inspire a Woman's Soul: Stories Celebrating the Wisdom, Fun and Freedom of Midlife* edited by Jack Canfield et al, published by Health Communications, Inc., c2004. [158.128082 Chi] Donated by Eloise Levitt. This inspiring collection of stories shares the life experiences of women who have spent much of their lives taking care of others and are now free to focus on themselves. They have discovered that midlife can be a time of self-discovery, transformation and happiness. This book celebrates the growing sisterhood of women who are embracing life and realizing that their best years are ahead of them. Chapters include "It's My Turn Now," "On Friendship," "Letting Go," "Taking Time for Love," "On Parenting" and "Across the Generations."

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## BUMC members going on mission trip to Mexico

Several church members have already signed up to travel to Mexico with Discovery Service Projects in January 2012. This year, Discovery will help build a dining hall/all-purpose building for a vocational training center near Playa del Carmen.

The project runs from Dec. 26 through Feb 5. You can go for as little as one week or stay the whole six weeks and see the project through to completion. The cost is \$1,200 for one week and \$350 for each additional week. This includes airfare, lodging, breakfast, lunches and three dinners, insurance, T shirt, and gratuities for the hotel and local workers (not included: four dinners, sightseeing, baggage fees, etc.). To attend with others from Berwyn, go Jan. 8-22. Details about Discovery are at: [www.discoveryserviceprojects.org](http://www.discoveryserviceprojects.org)

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## Golf event on Labor Day to benefit Chelsea's foundation

The 4<sup>th</sup> Annual "Celebration for Chelsea" Golf Classic will be held on Labor Day, Sept. 5, at Kimberton Golf Club. Registration and lunch are at 11 a.m., followed by the shotgun start at 12:30 p.m. and the awards banquet at 6 p.m.

The annual event benefits the E. Chelsea Campbell Memorial Foundation, which was created by Chelsea's family to support adolescents and young adults in the prevention and treatment of substance abuse. Details are available at [www.chelseamemorial.org](http://www.chelseamemorial.org).