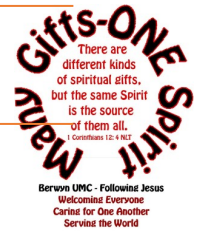




# THE LIGHTED CROSS

## BERWYN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



September 2016

Newsletter

### Mark Your Calendars:

- Sept 11—Rally Day & Church Picnic
- Sept 17—Steak Fry @ 6pm
- Oct 8—Fall Fest
- 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:** 4 Judy Fisk; 11 Jane McDowell; 18 Liz Young; 25 Jane McDowell

**Flowers:** 4 Eliza Chum-pitaz; 11 Jane McDowell; 18 Liz Young; 25 Lee Paylor

### PASTOR'S THOUGHTS

*Gary Jacobella*

Recently a couple of people asked me about the Apostle's Creed. This Creed is a concise representation of Christian beliefs that many of us have memorized because we repeated it in worship week after week on Sunday mornings.

N. T. Wright does a good job of pointing out the weaknesses of the Apostles' Creed in his book "How God Became King".

The Apostles' Creed doesn't tell the same story about Jesus that the New Testament Gospels tell.

The Apostles' Creed affirms a list of Christian doctrines that were disputed and denied by some church people at the time it was written. It focuses on the Trinity, the Virgin Birth, and the actual not merely spiritual death, resurrection and coronation of Jesus (among other things).

Because this Creed was born out of controversy it leaves out a significant portion of the Good News about Jesus. It's easy to find the gap in this Creed – "born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate". The Creed skips over Jesus' entire ministry of teaching, healing, making peace and justice and fighting evil. We don't learn anything about why Jesus died from the Apostle's Creed. We don't learn anything about the nature of God's Kingdom that Jesus established on earth. In fact, the Creed gives some people the mistaken idea that God's Kingdom is in heaven and not on earth. It sounds like we have to wait for God's Kingdom to come when Jesus "comes again". The impact and significance of Jesus ministry is lost. All the work Jesus did to establish God's Kingdom on earth is lost. During his lifetime Jesus invited people to join God's Kingdom. During his lifetime Jesus opened God's Kingdom to all people.

Better statements of faith are found in the prayers we use on the Sundays when we celebrate the Lord's Supper, prayers that are called "The Great Thanksgiving".

One brilliant advantage to The Great Thanksgiving is that these prayers are built on a basic pattern that can be adapted to each season of the year so that more of the our story with God can be told as we travel through the year. Here's a sample of a basic Great Thanksgiving.

Lord, our God we lift up our hearts and give you our thanks and praise!

Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth

you made us in your image, to love and to be loved.

When we turned away, and our loved failed, your love remained strong.

You set us free from captivity, promised to be our God,

and spoke to us through your prophets.

You sent your Son Jesus and filled him with your Spirit

to bring good news to the poor, release to the captives, liberty to the oppressed.

He healed the sick, fed the hungry, and ate with sinners.

By his suffering, death, and resurrection

you rescued us from slavery to sin and death,

Jesus promised to be with us always.

When we remember the mighty things you did in Jesus,

we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice.

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us,

so that we can be the body of our Lord Jesus

rescued by our Lord for the sake of the world.

By your Spirit make us one with Jesus, one with each other, and one in service to all the world,

until Jesus comes in final victory, and we feast at his eternal banquet. Amen.

(Pastor's Thoughts continued)

Because the Great Thanksgiving adapts to the season of the year, parts of it become familiar but it can't be memorized by mere repetition. That's why, rather than leaving your worship order in the sanctuary, it would be a good idea to take the order of worship home with you to review the prayers that it contains and to use them throughout the week. The prayers are designed to help us live our faith and help what we believe about Jesus to soak into our lives.



## THE FALL FESTIVAL

*Stephanie Borelly*

I can't believe it, the Fall Festival is only 2 months away!!! Where did the summer go??

As we get closer to the date, there will be sign-up sheets in the Narthex. So EVERYONE can sign up for times to volunteer – set-up, pricing, selling, clean-up.

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 help - (?)

The menu is still in the works....

There are a lot of opportunities to volunteer. Please make sure you sign up to assist.

We need **everyone's** help to make this a success!!!!

### Some pictures of last year's Fall Fest!



## OUTSIDE 9AM SUMMER WORSHIP SERVICE

Some pictures from this summer's outside worship services.

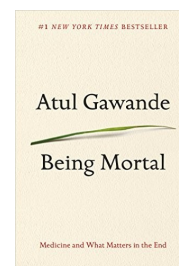


## BOOK SUMMARY – for LIGHTED CROSS (Sept 2016)

*Being Mortal* by Atul Gawande, c2014 [362.175 Gwa]

Atul Gawande tackles the hardest challenge of his profession. How can medicine not only improve life but also aid the process of its ending? Medicine has triumphed in modern times, transforming birth, injury, and infectious disease from harrowing to manageable. BUT in the inevitable condition of aging and death, the goals of medicine seem too frequently to run counter to the interest of the human spirit. Nursing homes, preoccupied with safety, pin patients into railed beds and wheelchairs. Hospitals isolate the dying, checking for vital signs long after the goals of cure have become moot. Doctors, committed to extending life, continue to carry out devastating procedures that, in the end, extend suffering.

Gawande, a practicing surgeon, addresses his profession's ultimate limitation, arguing that quality of life is the desired goal for patients and families. Gawande offers examples of freer, more socially fulfilling models for assisting the infirm and dependent elderly, and he explores the varieties of hospice care to demonstrate that a person's last weeks or months may be rich and dignified. Full of eye-opening research and riveting storytelling, *Being Mortal* asserts that medicine can comfort and enhance our experience even to the end, providing not only a good life but also a good end.



## GROWING OUR HUB MINISTRY by Deb Hazen

The Community Action Team has been busy reaching out into our community this summer. We are so excited to report that between May 11 and August 6, our HUB was able to partner with other churches in the area to connect \$13,174 worth of God's resources with human need. We delivered 819 kits (45 cleaning buckets, 84 birthing kits, 389 health kits, 47 layette kits, and 254 school kits) to Mission Central! We haven't even assembled the school kits that our VBC families so generously donated yet!

In addition to all of the kits, we've transferred an untold quantity of computer equipment, medical supplies, and medical equipment into the hands of those who can put these things to use.

It has been really exciting to see new faces from our own congregation joining us at HUB work parties. Elementary, middle, and high school students have contributed humor and needed muscle to our work. Long-time committee members have worked beside new volunteers and many hands have made the work lighter! Thank you!

We've got some ambitious plans this year. We'll continue to build the relationships that we've established with scout troops and local congregations. We're also reaching out to area homeschooling families, civic organizations, colleges, schools, and businesses.

**YOU are important to this work. We are all of us needed to:**

**Mine our contacts. You never know who you know that might be looking for a service project, able to donate, or willing to connect us with another partner.**

**Educate ourselves! Learn what it means to be a church entrusted with a Mission Central HUB. We'll be providing information throughout the year... so keep an eye out.**

**Get involved...shop, donate cash, prep materials, write thank-you cards, inspect kits, talk to your friends, sew school bags, cut fabric, help design promotional material, be a HUB ambassador and give talks for any organizational gathering that you normally attend, volunteer to work with outside groups who come in during the day, volunteer at Mission Central one morning...**

**How about a monthly middle-school gathering, or ASP team get-together? Does your office need a team-building activity? We can host it at BUMC or take a road trip to Mission Central!**

**Come up with new ideas and share them!**

We'll still be collecting kit supplies in-house, but our focus is changing from shopping for kit building events to keeping the HUB stocked year-round so that we can be a service center.

**YOU are important to this work. We are all of us needed, so:**

**Pick-up a shopping list at Rally Day and keep it handy when you are out and about. Better yet, ask for donations of supplies when visiting businesses.**

**Pledge a monthly dollar amount to the HUB so others can shop for you. Pledges should be directed to Gina DeFlavia and clearly marked "HUB."**

**Make the HUB central to your milestone celebrations. Plan a birthday, anniversary, new baby, or "thankful to be" celebration around the HUB. Have a long-standing committee member rotating off or stepping down? Make a gift of resources or time in their name to the HUB.**



**BOOK CLUB:** Book Club will be meeting Wednesday, September 21st at the home of Sally Robie. The book that will be discussed is *The Traitor's Wife: A Novel* by Allison Pataki. Sally will also be the Discussion Leader for the night. Please RSVP to Sally if you are able to attend.



### 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](mailto:officebumc@comcast.net)

Church Website: [www.berwynumc.org](http://www.berwynumc.org)

facebook: [www.facebook.com/BerwynUMC](http://www.facebook.com/BerwynUMC)

## LAY LEADER LETTER

Janet K Campbell

Welcome to September!!!  
Good bye summer. Every season has a special texture to it. Summer time (minus the humidity, please) and sitting on our backyard patio in the early morning or early evening are amazing times...Our own little piece of the world. We have counted between seventeen to twenty-five varieties of birds. Each bird species has its own unique place in this backyard world. The robins peruse the ground for worms, grubs and bugs, the sparrows are oft time seen grabbing something from midair. Have you ever seen a Tree Swallow and their acrobatic antics? An amazing sight! The Cat Birds take such care of their young, treating each baby to a special parent time. The moment the Cat Birds left to find other spaces, the Mockingbird and the Blue Jays returned and took over their squawking. The Hummingbirds keep to themselves (or are they too quick for anyone to catch them?). What a wonderful world in our backyard. No mosquitoes, the birds take care of that. Water splashing off the fish pond (home to 9 very fat goldfish) waterfall. Blue skies above, leaves gently being blown by a cooling breeze. Beautiful flowers and green lawn. No political jargon, no blasting music, no television, no killings, no anger no hate.

Thank you, GOD for this very special place. Wouldn't it be nice if everyone could take a moment and experience their own special heaven?



Janet Wham

Welcome to BUMNS 2016-2017 school year. A few improvements were made over the summer. Roger Toro painted two of our classrooms. The children created a mural which hangs above the landing door. The school looks bright, cheery and welcoming. BUMNS Parent Open House is being held on September 12th. The first day of classes will be on the 13th

BUMNS Parent/Teacher Board is planning a series of social events for the school families this year. These will include park play dates, Friday night dinners and an evening for Dads and one for the Mothers. The events provide the opportunity for parents to meet one another in a social atmosphere.

We are thankful for the tremendous support Berwyn United Methodist Church gives our school. Smiles, hugs and encouragement from church staff and members are always appreciated by the children and staff.

## ANNUAL CHURCH PICNIC

Our annual church picnic will be held immediately after the 10:30 Worship Service on Rally Day, September 11. Get ready for the new program year and enjoy good fellowship, hot dogs and other goodies with an old-fashioned picnic. We plan to offer your choice of indoor seating in Schieck Hall or outdoor seating on the lawn. A free-will offering will be taken.



### STEAK FRY

The Adult Fellowship's annual Steak Fry will be held on Sat. Sep. 17<sup>th</sup> beginning at 6pm. The event will take place under the tent on the Stoker's lawn (in case of very inclement weather it will be held in Schieck Hall). You will have a choice of steak or chicken. The meal will cost \$10.00 per person. Reservations will be taken on Sun. Sep. 4 & 11. You can also make a reservation by calling the church office, rsvp by noon on Wed. the 14<sup>th</sup>. This event is open to everyone in the church, you don't have to be an active member of Adult Fellowship to attend. We hope to see you all there.



## BUMC MUSIC SCHEDULE

A new year of music and singing is about to begin. Please consider joining our choir to sing and lead worship and make music to the Lord. Bring your instruments to play on Enter with Praise Sundays. Have your children join the Sunday School Choir which meets every Sunday at 9:15 am.

Here is the music schedule for the rest of 2016.

Please mark your calendars!

- First rehearsal: Thurs., Sept. 8, 7:30-9pm
- Enter with Praise rehearsal (all instruments): Sat Sept 10, 3-4pm
- Rally Day with Choir and Picnic: Sun., Sept. 11, 10:30 am
- First Cantata Rehearsal: Sun., Oct. 23, 12:30-2:30pm
- Sunday Cantata Rehearsal Dates: Oct. 30; Nov. 13; Nov.20; Nov. 27; Dec. 4
- Cantata Dress Rehearsal: Sat. Dec. 10, 10:00am-12:00pm
- Cantata and lunch: Sun. Dec. 11, 10:30am

Please join us. Don't miss the fun!



## SURF SHACK—CATCH THE WAVE OF GOD'S LOVE!

Cindy Shallcross

Vacation Bible Camp was a HUGE success! Our Surf Shack welcomed 41 “surfers” to explore God’s love! They were a part many activities throughout the week based on the following bible stories- Creation –God Creates-How majestic is your name throughout the earth! Psalm 8:1b, Miriam cares for Moses on the Nile – God Helps-Your help has made me great! Psalm 18:35b, Baptism of Jesus-God Loves-This is my son whom I dearly: I find happiness in him. Matt. 3:17b, Jesus Calms the Storm-God Calms-The God of peace will be with you.-Philippians 4:9b, Breakfast on the Beach-God Sends-Whom should I send, and who will go for us?-Isaiah 6:8.

The “surfers” loved making sand castles, shell necklaces, and shell magnets! Discovery Dunes was a splash of fun when the surfers experimented with everything WATER! Did you know there is water in licorice?! The older “Surfers” made root beer, then enjoyed root beer floats on Thursday! Our goal for the week was to collect school items to fill 50 HUB school bags! IWE DID IT! There are 50 school bags being assembled to send to students getting ready to go back to school. What a GREAT week we had!!!

Thank you to all of my Surf Activity Leaders, “Surfer” Guides, Chefs, and Baby Lorin Lifeguard!



## CHURCH-WIDE STUDY: THE BIBLE & HUMAN SEXUALITY

All are invited to attend this study led by Pastor Gary to be held for six weeks on Tuesday evenings this fall: Oct 18, 25, Nov 1, 15, 22, 29.

The text is *The Bible and Human Sexuality, Claiming God’s Good Gift*. It is available from Cokesbury for \$10. Marge Smink is happy to place a book order for anyone interested. Please email her at [sminkm@comcast.net](mailto:sminkm@comcast.net) or call at (610-359-5445). Deadline for the group order with payment is September 18. The Kindle version is available from Amazon for \$5.35.

Sexuality can be celebrated, or it can be exploited; it can draw us closer to the one we love, or it can divide whole communities of faith. Yet, we are called to be the beloved community of healing, wholeness, reconciliation, and love. Open your minds and hearts, and let’s wrestle together. For questions, contact Carol Cherry or Pastor Gary.



**SBS (SHARED BIBLE STUDY)** will resume its regular Sunday morning class at 9:15 on September 18 in the library. We share, pray, study and laugh together as we discern what God has in mind for each of us and for Berwyn UMC. Our Fall session will begin with 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. See John Paylor, Mike Benton or Elaine Parvin if you have questions, or to order study materials in advance. We hope to see you on September 18, the first Sunday after Rally Day!

## 10-Minute Short Movie & School Bag Construction Workshop with the HUB @ BUMC

Join us for a 10-minute video that will explain the scope and vision of Mission Central. Afterwards, we’ll learn how a school-kit bag is constructed. Bag kits will be available for anyone interested in sewing a few. Look for Heidi and Deb at table in Schieck Hall on Rally Day!



## Discovery Service Projects International Project

DSP announces its international project for 2017. From Jan. 7 – Feb. 11, 2017 DSP will return to the Children’s Home of the LAMB Institute outside of Tegucigulpa, Honduras to build a home. Long time DSP volunteers Steve and Debbie Buckner have retired early, sold their home and have moved to the Children’s Home to be grandparents in residence to all the children at the home. DSP will be building them a home to live in right on the campus of the home. Cost for one week is \$1350.00 which includes air, lodging, insurance and most of the meals.

\$1250. If you are a first time volunteer with DSP. For more info contact Rick Stoker or go to [discoveryserviceprojects.org](http://discoveryserviceprojects.org).

**Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!**



*Thank you for your pastor & MECCA Committee for their card and prayers. It is comforting to know you have thoughtful friends.*

Charlie Travis

## SERVICE AS A GUARDIAN ANGEL *Barbara Stockler*

The new school year is upon us, and some in our congregation are returning to college or other pursuits, while our rising freshmen are headed toward their first college experience. Heartfelt thanks to our 2015-2016 Guardian Angels, who connected with our young adults throughout the school year, ensuring they knew that their church had them top of mind at all times!

The Guardian Angel program was established by beloved late member Donna Pitz many years ago as a means for the congregation to reach out to college students and others pursuing post-graduate activities, many who were away from home and on their own for the first time. Guardian Angels are stealth experts: cards, notes, and gift packages -- sometimes containing practical items, but often containing silly stuff -- are sent *anonymously* throughout the school year. Identities are revealed in June. Please consider volunteering as a Guardian Angel for the 2016-2017 program year by contacting Barb Stockler at [barbara.stockler@wellsfargo.com](mailto:barbara.stockler@wellsfargo.com). From our high school graduate list, we welcome new students into the program, but should you know of a student or post-grad not on that list who could benefit from some targeted TLC, please pass on their name to Barb. Thanks!



## UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

SAVE the DATE for a fall RETREAT: Saturday, October 15. Debbie Nemetz will host at her home in Little Egg Harbor, New Jersey (also known as Mystic Island). We will

be studying The Beatitudes.



Come meet us!



Enjoy this view.



## BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION

Please remember to save box tops found on a lot of paper products, baking products, cereals, etc. to benefit a brand new Pre-K Program, led by Suzanne (Nemetz) Rainey in Keystone Central School District. There is an envelope on the bulletin board in the foyer. Thanks for your continued support.

## The HUB @ BUMC to Partner with Giant Food Stores *Deb Hazen*

Do you eat? Are you able to shop at Giant Foods at least once a month? The HUB will begin taking orders for Giant Food Stores "Cash for Causes" cards in September. 5% of the value of every card will be returned to the HUB to support our on-going ministry. Visit the HUB table at Rally Day for more information!

Did you know that Giant Foods supports Mission Central with donations of seasonal items? Giant clears their shelves of the football gear, summer picnic supplies, Easter grass and baskets, Halloween decorations, etc... and delivers these items to Mission Central. Mission Central then displays the items in their lobby "store." Items are free for use in ministry (e.g. VBS) or available for a minimum \$5 donation for any other use. One HUB representative that we met told us that she collects seasonal items from the store at Mission Central and takes them back to her church to sell, sending the proceeds back to Mission Central in support of their daily work! If anyone wants to coordinate a similar program at Berwyn...the HUB can help you make that happen!



## Our Mission Statement

God calls Berwyn UMC to be a community  
Of Christian believers that:  
Invites ~ Nurtures ~ Encourages Ser-

## FAITHFUL STEWARDS

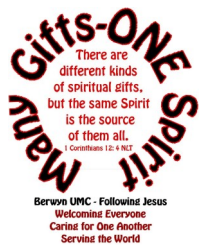
*MECCA Committee*

This month, we honor Bob Fisk as our Faithful Steward. The Fisk family began attending BUMC after moving here from Tacoma, Washington. Since then, Bob has served BUMC in many capacities. He first served on the finance committee and became chairman. Around that same time, Bob joined the ushering team and chaired that committee for many years.

When BUMC added its latest addition, Bob served as co-chair of engineers. Since Bob had been an engineer in his professional life, this was a perfect fit for our church, and we were lucky to have his expertise. During the last production of Bethlehem Inn, Bob played the part of one of the rabbis.

Outside of his work at BUMC, Bob has been a long time member of Alpha Sigma Chi fraternity and Lions International and is known for his love of Michigan football. His wife, Judy, thinks his blood may be maize and blue!!

BUMC is lucky to have Bob in our church family. We thank him for his faithful stewardship!



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9:15 AM	Sunday School for All Ages
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Like us on Facebook: Berwyn UMC

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Berwyn United Methodist Church

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