

THE LIGHTED CROSS

BERWYN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

God CALLS Berwyn UMC to



2019

RALLY DAY/NEIGHBORHOOD FAIR *Rick Stoker*

Our Neighborhood Fair/Rally day will be held on Sun. Sep. 8, 2019 from 12n – 2pm. The event will be held on the front lawn of the church weather permitting. It will be held in Schieck Hall in case of poor weather.

This is a great time for BUMC to highlight all that goes on in and around our building. We will have tables from each of our church groups with members present to talk about what they do. We have invited outside groups who meet here in the church; Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, nursery school.

Please invite all your friends and neighbors to the picnic. Food at the picnic will include hot dogs with all the fixins, bbq pulled chicken sandwiches, pasta salad, fruit salad, macaroni and cheese and dessert. The picnic is free to all from the neighborhood. The price for BUMC members is \$10.00pp. Reservations will be taken on Sun. Aug. 25 and Sun. Sep. 1. Please make a reservation so we will have some type of idea of how many are coming.

Besides the picnic we will have pony rides, bouncy house for the kids, other kids activities and music.

This promises to be a very exciting day so pray for sunshine, bring your friends and just have an all around good time.



September 8

Fall Worship Schedule Resumes; Neighborhood Fair

September 28

Steak Fry

October 12

Fall Fest

October 19

Trunk or Treat

November 3

Harvest Dinner

December 1

Advent Begins

December 22

Christmas Cantata & Brunch

December 24

Christmas Eve Service

COMING UP

Fall Worship Schedule resumes September 8
8:30am & 10:30am

Laity Sunday will be observed on October 20

November 3 – Harvest Dinner after 10:30am service

December 22 – Choir program of Lessons and Carols
at the 10:30am service, followed by the Holiday Brunch.

There will be no 8:30am service that day.

December 24, Christmas Eve 7pm
A family-style, candlelight service

Join Us For Worship

8:30 am Worship

10:30 am Traditional Worship

Communion is observed on
the First Sunday of the Month

PASTOR LETTER *Pastor Rodney*

*“O Come, let us sing for joy to the Lord; Let us shout joyfully to the rock of our salvation. Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise! For the Lord is a great God, and a great King above all gods.”
Psalm 95:1-3*

We have so much to be grateful for in this life every single day. However, the reality is that sometimes constant life demands, struggles, and worries give more room to defeat than to a heart of gratitude. Often, we are so weighed down by our schedules and the pressures of life that we forget to simply pause and give thanks for all that God has done and continues to do in our lives.

Sometimes it really is a sacrifice to offer praise and thanks because we may not feel like it amid our struggles and weariness. Perhaps, we feel like God has let us down because God seems distant or we think God does not really care about what is troubling us. Perhaps painful life occurrences and losses might have recently sent us spiraling.

However, there is something that can make a lasting difference. We have a choice, every day, to give thanks to God. With a heart of thanksgiving, we realize that no matter what we face, God does not just work to change our circumstances and help us through our problems. He changes us amid our circumstances. God changes our hearts. God's power, through hearts of gratitude and focused minds on God's awesome love, releases the grip that our struggles have over us. We are strengthened by God's peace and replenished by God's joy.

A thankful heart is powerful and vital in this world. Here are a few benefits of a thankful heart:

- It takes our eyes off our problems and helps us to focus our attention on God.
- It keeps us humble as we recognize our dependency on God.
- It helps us to remember and to reflect on the goodness of God's many blessings.
- It reminds us that God sustains us. Ultimately God is our Provider, and all blessings and gifts are graciously given to us by his hand.
- A heart of gratitude does not complain. It is impossible to be genuinely thankful and consumed with negativity and ungratefulness at the same time.
- It opens the door for continued blessings and invites God's presence.

Friends, may we be thankful to God for his amazing power and work in our lives. May we, with grateful hearts, sing praises to God for his goodness toward us and the blessing of life itself. God offers hope to us through difficult times and strengthens us for his purpose in our lives.

May we be thankful for God's mercy and grace and that he has given us his Son in death and resurrection that we may also die to self and walk in a new life. May God help us to set our eyes and our hearts on Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith. In doing so, may our spirits be renewed as we are filled with peace and joy. Our God has given us so much and, for that, we should be thankful.

May God Bless You Richly,

Pastor Rodney



MISSION MUSINGS *Carol Cherry*

I'm happy to share some updates as I transition out of leadership of Berwyn UMW. The response to the survey sent earlier in the year and the June brainstorming meetings show an interest in having the group meet 4-6 times a year. Joy Fuerst has kindly offered to be treasurer and Lee Paylor and Claudia Sharpless will be contact persons. Program resources and a subscription to Response Magazine will be available at the church. All interested women are encouraged to take a part in shared leadership.



Thanks to all those who donated a gift to United Methodist Women. We recently sent \$1000.00 to help the South District's UMW meet their pledge to national and international mission!

My gratitude to you all for your commitment to put faith, hope and love in action.

LAY LEADER LETTER *Lee Paylor*

In a Christian magazine I was reading, there was a story about a little boy carefully placing sugar cubes on the sidewalk in front of his house and he says, "Someone has to feed the ants."

On a familiar and often driven route, there's a house with magnificent garden or an awesome tree never noticed before. Perhaps we need to see things differently!

Seeing things through God's eyes is life changing and blesses us abundantly. May we strive each day to see all around us with "fresh" eyes and give God thanks.

"Open my eyes that I may see glimpses of truth thou hast for me...I wait for thee, ready, my God, thy will to see." *The Methodist Hymnal 454*

"Dear Jesus, in whose life I see all that I would, but fail to be, let thy clear light for ever shine, ...to guide this life of mine." *The Methodist Hymnal 468*



ADULT FELLOWSHIP STEAK FRY *Rick Stoker*

Our annual Steak Fry to kick off the fall season will be held on Sat. Sep. 28th in Schieck Hall at 6PM. You will have a choice of steak or chicken. The adult group will prepare the meat, we are asking each of contribute \$8.00 towards the cost of the meat. This year we are asking you to provide the extras. Appetizers, salad, sides and dessert. We will take reservations on Sun. Sep. 15 and 22. At that time you can let us know what you will help bring towards the meal.

After the meal Janelle Larson will present a program to us about her work through Penn State in Africa.

Please join us for food, fellowship and an enlightening program.



Fa la la la la la

Choir practice resumes
Thursday, August 29 at 7pm.
All singing abilities are welcome.



**TRUNK OR TREAT
2019
OCT 19 3PM-5PM**

WWW.BERWYNUMC.ORG

FREE event

ALL kids welcome



Let Kristine Adams,
kidl.adams@gmail.com,
know if you want to bring
your decorated car.

Ministry of the People is supported by the Staff

Pastor: Rodney Brailsford

Children's Coordinator: Cindy Shallcross

Lay Leader: Lee Paylor

Admin. Assistant: Veronica Mosley

Organist/Director of Music: Amy McLoughlin

Nursery Assist: Eliza Chumpitaz

Sexton: Roger Toro

Recordings of Sunday Services are available—Contact Jon Stockler, 610-348-3385 or JStockler@aol.com

A LOVE RENEGADES UPDATE *Paula Renneisen*

Do you want to be involved in spreading more LOVE in this world? Do you want to know what the Love Renegades are up to?

Sunday Service at New Life United Methodist Church

When: Sunday, September 15th
Time: 11 AM
Where: 2600 Bond Avenue
Drexel Hill, PA 19026

Prayer and Praise Rally for Peace

In follow-up to the October 2017 event hosted by New Life United Methodist Church, funding received from the Urban Commission of the Eastern Pennsylvania Conference of the UMC will be used to host the second rally for peace.

When: Saturday, September 28th
Time: 10 AM – 2 PM
Where: 69th Street Transportation Center
Upper Darby, PA

If you would like to receive further information regarding how to get involved, please contact Paula Renneisen (610.742.5862 or prenneisen38@gmail.com). There will be another Changing Racism Workshop held on October 18-20, 2019. Look for more information regarding our Thanksgiving Potluck Dinner in November.



Jane Harris

The end of summer is almost upon us and that means the nursery school will be returning after Labor Day to fill the hallways with laughter. We welcome our new families and returning families. In addition, the nursery school has a new director. Janet Wham, who was our director for ten years, retired in June. She will be sorely missed by all of us, her contribution to the nursery school was great. So, I would like to introduce myself, Jane Harris, as the new director. I have been working at the nursery school as a teacher for many years and I look forward to a happy and successful year. I would like to take the opportunity to thank the church for the continuing support and partnership. I look forward to meeting and working with many of you. I'm pleased to say, the nursery school is at capacity for the coming year, with a total of seventy-five students from age 2 years to 5 years for September. There may be tears at first from a few but we know the tears soon dry up and turn to smiles!

WAYS TO PRAY FOR OUR PASTOR

Veronica Moseley, our fearless Church Secretary forwarded this article to me this summer. Here are some ways we can pray for Pastor Rodney as he leads Berwyn UMC to our mission here in the community. The article is entitled *15 ways to pray for your pastor* by Joe Iovino. It can be found on umc.org.

Every pastor needs as much support as possible and one way we can support Pastor Rodney is by praying for him. I will share tips over the next few months. Here are a few areas to specifically pray for that author Joe Iovino suggests:

1. Spiritual lives

Our pastors' spiritual lives are important to their finding the wisdom, strength and guidance necessary to lead a church. Pray for your pastors' growth as a disciple of Jesus Christ, as the Holy Spirit works through them to serve your congregation and community.

2. Time management

With all of their responsibilities, United Methodist pastors need to become masters of their calendars. John Wesley knew this back in the 1700s. He instructed the preachers, "Never trifle away time." Pray for your pastors to use time wisely, including blocking out occasions for Sabbath rest, prayer, work and family.

3. Families

Speaking of families, it is important to remember that our ministers may also be a spouse, a parent, and a child to parents who have needs. Remember to pray for your pastor's family.





Our Mission Statement

God **CALLS** us to **Care, Accept, Love, Laugh and Serve**

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Fall Schedule Resumes September 8

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

Church Office: 610-644-5555
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www.berwynumc.org
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Follow on Instagram: bumcares

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