

# THE LIGHTED CROSS



## September 2023 Issue:

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## Upcoming Events

Sept 16—Church Retreat

Oct 14—Fall Fest

Oct 28—Trunk or Treat

## UPDATE ON BUMC FOOD SECURITY,

### EXPANDING OUR REACH INTERNATIONALLY by *Janelle Larson*

The last several years have seen a reversal of progress toward food security globally, due to the effects of covid-19, Russia's invasion of Ukraine and climate change. An estimated 800 million people are undernourished (that's roughly one in ten), and more than one in five children is severely malnourished, leading to stunted growth. At Berwyn UMC we're helping to address food insecurity in our community through our food pantry, serving dozens of families and individuals locally.



Berwyn UMC has had a long-standing collaboration with the Children and Youth Empowerment Centre (CYEC) in Kenya, supporting them in the life-changing work they do with highly vulnerable young people. More than 150 children and youth are under their care, and many more are touched by their outreach activities in Nyeri and surrounding communities. The CYEC has also seen an uptick in hunger in their community, and they've responded by sharing their very limited resources with local families in need.

BUMC has expanded our impact on food insecurity beyond our local community in a meaningful way by building on our partnership with the CYEC. With our support, the CYEC has established a food bank for those facing hunger in their community. To start, community health workers identified three families experiencing extreme hardship. The heads of these families receive food from the food bank, and in exchange, they are working on the CYEC's agricultural land to produce more vegetables for the food bank, increasing sustainability.



Our support enables these families to feed their children while contributing to the program, building their agency and sustainability. Thank you!

## A NEW SCHOOL YEAR,

### A FRESH OPPORTUNITY TO FOLLOW GOD'S CALL

Dear Beloved Church Family,

As we step into September, the changing of seasons becomes a vivid reminder of life's natural cycles and our need for adaptation, as noted in the book of Ecclesiastes 3:1: 'For everything, there is a season and a time for every matter under heaven.' It serves as a poignant metaphor for our lives. In our culture, the beginning of a new school year carries more significance than the calendar's transition from December to January. It's a season filled with excitement and anticipation as students of all ages embark on fresh educational journeys. The flexibility of our schedules during this period allows us to ponder the profound question: What does this season of change mean for us as a faith community?

#### A Season of Renewal

Top of Form

Standing on the threshold of a new school year is akin to opening a fresh chapter in our lives. Much like the turn of a new calendar year, it's a time when we are presented with the opportunity for resolutions and fresh beginnings. It's a moment that invites us to pause, reflect, and contemplate how to draw nearer to God and heed His call in the months ahead.

Whether we're examining our individual calendars or the schedule of our church, it's a chance to scrutinize where we invest our precious time and energy. It's an opportunity to ask ourselves if our choices honor God's purpose and align with our calling from Him to be the people and church that our families, partners, and community need. When we honestly answer these questions, we are granted the precious gift of making changes before the wheels are set in motion, and everything feels unalterable.

#### Following God's Call

While this time of year may offer a more vivid opportunity to make these evaluations and adjustments, let us remember that each day presents a fresh chance to heed God's call. Just as students embark on their educational journeys, we, too, have the opportunity to nurture our spiritual growth and strengthen our connection with God. Whether you're a student, a parent, an educator, or simply a member of our faith community, know that you have a unique calling and purpose in this season.

## Our Guiding Mission

Every change we undertake as a faith community is deeply rooted in our unwavering commitment to being a place of welcome and transformation. Our church is a sanctuary where doubts find a voice, questions are not met with pat answers but are instead engaged, and we courageously wrestle with the profound mysteries of our faith. Our mission is to forge a community where those within the church, those who have departed, and those who have never set foot inside a church can travel together on our faith journeys.

### Intentional Reflection and Action

In recognition of this significant time of transition in our calendar, we are taking intentional steps as a church community. On **September 16th, from 8:30 AM to 11:30 AM**, we will gather at Schieck Hall for a church retreat. This retreat is not merely an event on our calendar; it is a deliberate effort to reflect upon where we are as a church, our denomination's stance on human sexuality, and the possibilities that lie ahead. It's an opportunity to engage in meaningful conversations about our faith and challenges as we journey forward.

At this retreat, we will explore:

- The Current State of the Church
- The Current State of the Denomination on the Issue of Human Sexuality
- Our Future and What It Can Be
- The Challenges We Face in Getting There

We encourage all church family members to attend, as your input and insights are vital to our collective journey.

May this school year bring about growth, renewal, and a deepening of faith for us and our entire church community.

Register Online By 9/13/2023 at

**[www.berwynumc.org/2023FallRetreat](http://www.berwynumc.org/2023FallRetreat)**

Or Call the Church Office and Speak to Veronica.

Your Fellow Servant of Christ,  
Pastor Kevin

## HOW TO CROCHET A PRAYER SHAWL *by Marjorie Slink*

Eliana Rutledge, Pastor Kevin and Rebecca's daughter, has just completed fourth grade at Beaumont Elementary School. During the school year each fourth grader was required to create a PAL (Personal Achievement in Learning) project, using research and presentation skills. The presentation included a poster board display of the project as well as a video of the student describing the poster and explaining what was learned about the subject. Each class watched the videos of their classmates. The poster boards were set up in the cafeteria where the fourth graders stood and answered questions from other students and from parents.

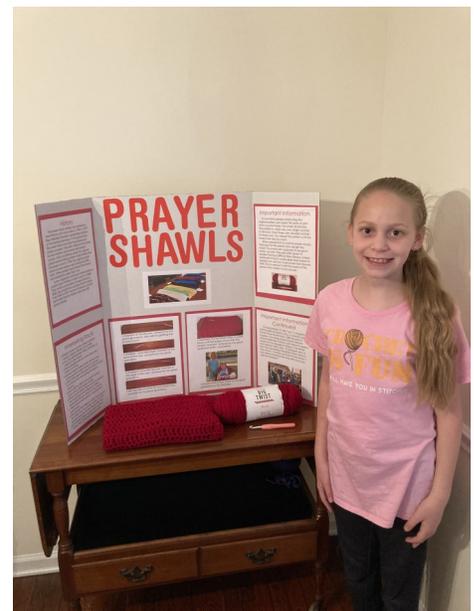
Eliana's PAL project was "How to Crochet a Prayer Shawl." She knew about the Prayer Shawl Ministry at BUMC and wanted to learn to crochet and make a prayer shawl herself. This industrious young lady began her project by reading a book, *Knitting into the Mystery: a Guide to the Shawl-Knitting Ministry* by Susan Jorgensen that was in the BUMC library; she also looked at websites for more information. Her crochet instructor was Eliza Chumpitaz, church member who has crocheted many beautiful prayer shawls for our ministry.

The three-part poster board that Eliana constructed contains much valuable information including the history of prayer shawl ministries, patterns and supplies for the shawls, the process of praying for the recipients while crocheting or knitting, interesting facts about prayer shawls, and photographs of shawls, recipients, and Eliana's process of crocheting the shawl. To quote:

"I chained on 54 stitches. I prayed for my great grandma who will be getting the prayer shawl. I chained 1 and did single crochet to the end of the row. I prayed for my great grandma. I chained 3 and did double crochet to the end of the row. I prayed for my great grandma. I did double crochet for two more rows. I prayed for my great grandma.

I repeated the last three steps multiple times until the prayer shawl was the length I wanted. I prayed for my great grandma while I crocheted. I showed the prayer shawl to my great grandma on her birthday. When my PAL project is finished, I will give my great grandma the prayer shawl for her to keep. Then I will make more for other people."

Thank you, Eliana, for sharing the story of your heartwarming PAL project with your BUMC family.



July 19, 2023.

Elkton, Maryland.

Dear friends,

*'Blessed are those whose strength is in you, who have set their hearts on pilgrimage' Ps.84.5*

My career at Patan Hospital began and ended with a diabetic diet sheet. In 1998, Mark contacted United Mission to Nepal's Nutrition Programme for help in delivering correct dietary information for his diabetic patients at the hospital.

I had joined UMN the previous year and was still struggling with my new role in community nutrition. So I was thrilled to take on this task which drew on my primary training in and love for clinical dietetics. Leaving our homey offices

near the heart of Kathmandu to venture into the hospital corridors for meetings with then-medical director "Dr. Mark", I had no idea of this project's greater outcome. 2 years later, 800 hospital staff and other friends joined us on a large school field to celebrate 6 months of our marriage with a repeat wedding ceremony and Nepali-style wedding feast.

While continuing to work as a nutritionist for UMN, my new identity as "Mrs. Mark" allowed me to work periodically with the kitchen staff at Patan Hospital on nutrition supplements for malnourished patients or those needing tube-feeding. Without access to Ensures and similar Western products, we developed "Paustik Sanjiwani" (translation:

"nutritional rejuvenation") a sweet, vitamin-supplemented milk that was tasty to drink and easy to pass down a feeding tube in an unconscious patient. More than two decades on, Patan Hospital is still renowned for its Paustik Sanjiwani, with doctors from other hospitals sending families to buy it each morning for their relatives.

When the boys arrived in our lives, my relationship with Patan Hospital reduced to brief interactions with the kitchen staff when we ate as a family in the hospital dining room on Mark's nights-on-call. Soon even that came to an end as Mark left the hospital to start working for the Nick Simons Institute. UMN's former Nutrition Programme converted

into an independent not-for-profit organisation (NPCS) and I became their nutrition advisor, helping with project management, training activities and donor relations. Seven years ago, with Patan Hospital being run by a medical school that Mark re-joined as professor and consultant, I again had the opportunity to work in clinical dietetics.

Starting with a couple of visits each week to advise on improving nutrition care through hospital systems, the role grew into a full-time job as we began to provide dietetic services directly to patients. By the time of our decision to move to the US, the hospital work had become my main focus, even as I continued to support NPCS.

Our final months in Nepal took on the momentum of a gradually accelerating juggernaut. We started with one or two dinner invites a week from long-term Nepali friends and colleagues. I wrote lists: lists of projects to be finished at the hospital, lists of 'stuff' that needed to be removed from our apartment, packing lists of items for shipping to the US, lists of activities we wanted to do to end our family's time in Nepal well, lists of paperwork for collection in Nepal and paperwork that for completion in the US - pages of lists! I began to tick off the smaller tasks. The juggernaut began to speed up. Mark was working through with his own set of tasks: editing medical protocols for the hospital to publish as a handbook; confirming temporary housing and the purchase of a car in the US; contacting support churches for visits in the autumn; completing the many requirements for our sweet dog Bella to travel with us. Benjamin was busy studying for his final A-level exams, preparing as head boy for his graduation ceremony, and playing one last tournament with his basketball club team.

For several years I have been keenly aware of the need for a more sophisticated diet sheet for the small number children who suddenly develop type I diabetes and are dependent on carefully managed insulin injections balanced with their food intake to live normal healthy lives. Occasionally taking up the project, I would soon be distracted by more pressing issues as I juggled seeing increasing numbers of patients with urging administration to formalise the service and replace the half-hearted health assistants I was supervising with qualified dietetic staff. In 2019 we left a prayer request with supporting churches for the hospital to hire Nepali trained dietitians.

*Continued next page*

We recruited the first in 2020 and in May 2022 the Department of Nutrition & Dietetics was formally established with 3 dietitians besides myself. In May of this year, our fourth dietitian joined us.

The need for detailed guidance on the carbohydrate content of Nepali foods became more pressing as, with increasing levels of overweight, the hospital saw a dramatic rise in the number of women experiencing diabetes during pregnancy. With less than one month to our departure, I realised there was no more room for procrastination.

Reluctantly I stopped supervising patient reviews with my team, handing over responsibility to the very capable Prakriti, who would soon take my place as Head of Department. For 2 weeks I cycled early each morning into the city centre to sit with a graphic designer as we wrestled tables of food lists and portions into a readable format on a large patient handout. Brief visits to the hospital were confined to urgent consultations on the final stages of a number of projects. At night the meals and farewell events increased in frequency, and our heads began to spin at the extent of the expressions of love and appreciation. Who were we, sitting at the centre of this vortex of photo calls, cake-cuttings, tokens of love, certificates and speeches? Any free time was spent sorting items with increasing haste into 'going to the US on a ship', 'going to the US in our suitcase', 'needs a new home', and 'bin'.

With just 3 days till the shippers were due at our apartment, I was standing in our small office surrounded by piles of large plasticised posters ('flexprints'), trying to match them to an inventory of wards that had requested nutrition information for display to their patients. Prakriti was joining me to deliver them and to be formally introduced as head of department to the ward in-charges. It was supposed to be my final day at the hospital, but I would have to return the following week to complete handover. Besides, although we'd already had a farewell dinner, my staff wanted to go out one more time together for 'snacks and sweets' after work! A phone call came from the stores department downstairs: the newly printed diabetic diet sheet, with its detailed tables of carbohydrate food exchanges, had just been delivered. Thrilled, I raced downstairs and collected 5 copies, one for our noticeboard, three for the consultants who had helped me, and the last for my file for the US.

My time at Patan Hospital was coming to a close.

The following week was one of intense activity and emotion. It started with a party we organised for a variety of neighbourhood folks, friends and work colleagues, people we wanted to thank for their kindness during our lives here.

Then a final push to be ready for the 'pack out', an impressive blur of paper, plastic wrap, boxes and tape that reduced our family's possessions to 61 packages for the journey by sea to New Hampshire, expected arrival sometime in October. A brief pause to appreciate that achievement, and we hurtled into our 3 most significant farewell events: a lunch at the nutrition office where I have worked for 26 years, a dinner (with drinks, dancing and speeches) with all the senior staff and leadership of Patan Hospital, and a farewell service and 'love feast' with our Nepali church...all in the space of 24 hours. I confess to being quite numb by the end of it all.

It was our last day in Nepal. The first van arrived at 7.45 am to collect the cane beds we had 'camped' on for the last week. The goal was to empty the apartment by midday; in fact the last items only left at 7.30pm. The day was punctuated with phone calls and visits from friends taking one last chance to say goodbye, bearing more gifts to squeeze into our luggage: boxes of dense Asian sweets, handmade felt slippers, ceremonial scarves, jars of spicy Nepali pickle, and other delicacies guaranteed to make a US customs officer's eyes water! As I worked at clearing, clearing, clearing (and still stuff remained on the floor, in the corners, seeping out from who knows where!), Mark raced around on last-minute errands before a final interview for a Christian TV station. Benjamin zig-zagged the city from school friends to basketball team-mates to church buddies to more school friends for a series of emotional farewells. At 9.45pm the parents of Zachary's closest school friend arrived promptly with their car (with a large enough trunk for Bella's crate) to take us to the airport and the son of Mark's oldest friend from Amp Pipal pulled up for a final goodbye.

I plunged into the shower, Mark swept up the final debris for a local shopkeeper to distribute amongst neighbours, and Benjamin began ferrying his bags down the stairs. Having shuffled ourselves, our luggage and our nervous dog through initial security at the airport entrance, we were unexpectedly met inside at check-in by Dr. Bishnu, one of Mark's earliest colleagues in Nepal.

*Continued on top of next page*

Using a connection for a security pass, he was a warm, gentle presence with us that late night as we pushed our exhausted selves through final departure procedures.

I write now from the aptly-named Oasis House where we arrived just a week ago, not-so-fresh off the long-haul flights to Philadelphia. Initially a stark contrast to the air and light of our emptied Kathmandu apartment, we appreciate this shady home nestled in the dense leafiness of surrounding forest, unseen birds calling out into the heat and humidity.

The beds freshly made and kitchen stocked with essentials, we have landed. In the coming months, we will all be students: Zachary in his final year at Swarthmore, Benjamin in his first year at Haverford, Mark to become a local licenced pastor and I to take a dietitian registration exam. We look forward to meeting many of you during church visits in that period. The journey continues, and we appreciate your prayers and support.

Sincerely,  
Deirdre, Mark, Benjamin and Zachary.



### SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Contact church office  
to update Birthday information

- 2 Jack Campbell
- 3 Spencer Zubey
- 8 Jeremy Borelly
- 12 Luis Montaner
- 18 Fred Levitt
- 20 Donald Littlewood
- 23 Lee Paylor
- 26 Isabel Adams
- 27 Jennifer Cutler



Summer is winding down and that means the children of BUMNS will soon be returning. We look forward to September when the hallways will be full of children's laughter, and maybe a few initial tears, once again. The school has been cleaned and the bathrooms repainted and we will be welcoming back old friends and some new ones too. School will begin for the children on September 12 th but the staff will be busy before then making their classrooms look bright and inviting. We do still have a few openings, if you know anyone looking for a nursery school, please ask them to contact us at [director@bumns.org](mailto:director@bumns.org).



### UPDATE FROM BSA TROOP 181 by Debbie Bellew

Troop 181 had a busy summer with our annual week at Camp Horseshoe, at which our scouts earned over 50 merit badges, and a "high adventure" trip canoeing in upstate New York (pictured). Our school year meetings will resume Tuesday August 29 at 7pm at Berwyn United Methodist Schieck Hall. New scouts from 6th grade and up are welcome! Please stop by at 7 PM on most Tuesdays and reach out to [joinpaoli181@gmail.com](mailto:joinpaoli181@gmail.com). We are planning a fundraising car wash and also a campout on the church grounds in September. Several of our boys have service projects planned as they pursue Eagle Scout. It will be a busy school year!



Dear BUMC family,

I can still remember where I was when I received the call from Mrs. West asking me if I would be willing to lead the prayer chain. This request came at just the right time in my life. I looked upon it as a calling from God, a reassurance that He could use me. It has been truly a blessing to be part of the prayer chain for the last several years and to do God's work.



In this season of my life, I feel that the prayer chain has taken a backseat to other areas, particularly college and it deserves better. After prayerful consideration, starting September 1 st the coordinator of the prayer chain will be Janet Campbell. She can

be reached by phone: 610-647-8291 or email: [jack.campbell@verizon.net](mailto:jack.campbell@verizon.net). I want to thank Mrs. Campbell for agreeing to do this wonderful ministry.

In using the prayer chain, we lift your concerns to God and each other. We pray for all requests received. Requests from our BUMC family, are kept confidential and sent out only with permission.

Many years ago, the prayer chain was started by Elaine Clayton as a telephone chain which eventually turned into an email prayer chain. The people who attend church and want prayer, should write their request on a pew card. And put their card in the collection plate or give it directly to the Pastor. You can also email prayer requests to [prayerrequest@berwynumc.org](mailto:prayerrequest@berwynumc.org) or contact the church office. The prayer chain is open to everyone. You are welcome to join in this wonderful ministry at BUMC.

God bless,

Marsha Williams



The annual BUMC Fall festival is right around the corner - 10/14 to be exact!! We need volunteers to help with set-up, sales and clean-up.

Currently we are collecting knick-knacks, wooden furniture, lamps, books, jewelry and kitchen odds & ends (pots, pans, etc.). If you have any questions please feel free to reach out with any questions!

If you would like to contribute to the Bake sale - please contact Cindy Shallcross to volunteer or donate baked goods. Cindy's contact information is [cbcampbell30@netscape.net](mailto:cbcampbell30@netscape.net) or 610-644-4653



Pantry

Open

Tuesdays 9am to noon

SEPTEMBER PANTRY  
NEEDS

Sardines (canned)  
Spam  
canned salmon  
flour (21b)

To keep up with local, national and global church news follow:

**BUMC Newsletter:**  
The Lighted Cross

 BUMCservice

 Bumcares

 Berwyn UMC

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

**Eastern PA Conference website:**  
[www.epaumc.org](http://www.epaumc.org)

**UM News website:**  
[www.umnews.org](http://www.umnews.org)

\*To share church events and member news in *The Lighted Cross*, please submit them via our website [www.berwynumc.org/media-resources](http://www.berwynumc.org/media-resources).

\*To include items in the church bulletin, email the church office at [Office-bumc@comcast.net](mailto:Office-bumc@comcast.net).

## TRUNK OR TREAT TIME—JUST LOOK AT THE SUPERMARKETS!!

School is about to begin and stores are being over run by Fall/Harvest/Halloween décor and candy! I know it seems early, but please mark your calendars for **October 28 3pm to 5pm for 2023 Trunk or Treat.**

Consider signing your trunk up for this fun, free community event open to all ages and abilities. The kids look forward to this event every year. I know the parents appreciate that we host this each year.

If you are interested in decorating your trunk or being a “host” and greeting everyone as they come, please email Kristine Adams at [kidl.adams@gmail.com](mailto:kidl.adams@gmail.com). Any questions? Send me an email or catch me at worship on Sundays.

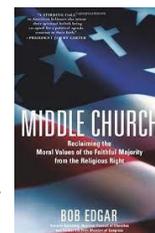


## BUMC LIBRARY BOOK RECOMMENDATIONS *Marjorie Smink*

Each book for the next several months comes from the library of Rev. Dr. William T. Cherry, father of BUMC member, Rev. Steve Cherry. Bill Cherry passed away in 2020.

### **Middle Church: Reclaiming the Moral Values of the Faithful Majority from the Religious Right** by Bob Edgar, c2006 [277.3 Edg]

Bob Edgar, general secretary of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA (the leading U.S. organization in the movement for Christian unity) is an ordained elder in the United Methodist Church – and the author of this book. He has been a pastor, teacher, college chaplain, Claremont School of Theology president, and six-term member of the U.S. House of Representative from the Seventh District of Pennsylvania. Edgar contends that the radical religious right has placed the wrong issues (opposition to gay marriage, abortion, and stem-cell research) at the forefront of the moral agenda for America. The moral issues that are central to America’s faithful majority (Middle Church) are peace, poverty, and planet Earth. Middle Church is the place where people of faith – Christians, Jews, Muslims – can come together and replace tolerance, social justice, and love at the top of our country’s political agenda.



## FACILITY ENHANCEMENT AND MAINTENANCE TEAM *Pastor Kevin Rutledge*

As you may be aware, Berwyn Church has been grappling with facility needs, and while our leadership team has made commendable efforts, the increasing demands on their time have created a need for a specialized team. Some of our dedicated leadership members have taken on property projects, but the dual responsibility of leadership tasks and property management has proven to be quite challenging.

To address this, I am spearheading the formation of a distinct Property Management Team. Previously, this role was fulfilled by the trustees, but shifting fiduciary responsibilities to our leadership team has left the property management aspect under-resourced.

By joining the Property Management Team, you will be part of a transformative effort to ensure our church facilities provide a warm and welcoming environment for everyone who walks through our doors. If you have gifts of organization, project management, juggling multiple projects, or have knowledge of facility maintenance, you would be a good fit.

Feel free to contact me by phone at (610) 496-4826 or email [kevin.rutledge@berwynumc.org](mailto:kevin.rutledge@berwynumc.org) whenever you're ready to talk about this serving opportunity and your place in it.

### **Facility Enhancement and Maintenance Team**

Description: The Facility Enhancement and Maintenance Team plays a pivotal role in overseeing our church property's comprehensive care, improvement, and strategic management. This team operates behind the scenes, working collaboratively with contractors, volunteers, and various trades to ensure that our church facilities remain well-maintained, aesthetically appealing, and efficiently functional.

#### **Roles and Responsibilities:**

##### **Maintenance:**

- Are the point people to receive facility needs requests, evaluate the proper path forward to address the needs, and the timeline and budget needed to move forward.
- Develops a comprehensive maintenance schedule outlining tasks, frequencies, and responsibilities.
- Coordinates with contractors and volunteers to execute planned maintenance in a systematic manner.
- Ensures maintenance tasks align with the church's goals and budget

##### **Improvement:**

- Work with the leadership team to determine facility needs as they relate to the mission and ministry of the church.
- Offer suggestions on ways our facility might be improved for the sake of the church's ministry and mission, including Safety, Hospitality, and Utility.

##### **Efficiency:**

- Regularly assesses facility operations to identify inefficiencies and areas for streamlining.
- Recommends innovative solutions to enhance energy efficiency and reduce operational costs.
- Monitors and reports on the impact of efficiency initiatives.

##### **Benefits of Joining:**

- Opportunity to influence the church environment positively by overseeing strategic improvements.
- Utilize management, planning, and coordination skills to contribute to the church's growth.
- Play a vital role in creating a welcoming and functional space for worship, fellowship, and community activities.

The Facility Enhancement and Maintenance Team serves as the backbone of our church's physical infrastructure, ensuring that our facilities reflect our values and aspirations. If you have a passion for facilities, organization, and improving the spaces where our faith community gathers, consider joining this impactful team.

**Our Mission**  
Worshipping God  
Serving Jesus  
Loving Others

**Our Vision Statement**  
We are a diverse community of socially conscious believers affirming our faith in Jesus Christ through action.

*Ministry of the People is supported by the Staff*

Pastor: Kevin Rutledge

Lay Leader: Amy Dodds

Sexton: Over Caicedo

Admin. Assistant: Veronica Mosley

Organist/Director of Music:

Nursery Assist: Eliza Chumpitaz

## MYSTERIES OF MEDICARE:

### HELP PAYING FOR MEDICARE PART B & PART D

If you have monthly income below about \$3460 if married, or \$2790 if single, you may be eligible for one or more of the following programs that help pay for Part D (prescription drug) coverage and in some cases Part B (medical) coverage:

- Low-Income Subsidy (LIS), also known as Extra Help, reduces the cost of prescription drug coverage by reducing or eliminating Part D plan premiums, deductibles, and copays. It also eliminates the “donut hole.”
- The Medicare Savings Program (MSP) pays the Medicare Part B premium, and applicants in the lowest income and resource categories also get help with Part A and Part B deductibles and copays. Those eligible for any level of MSP are also automatically enrolled in LIS.
- LIS and MSP have resource as well as income limits. For Pennsylvania residents with low income, but with resources too high to qualify for LIS or MSP, the PACE/PACENET program helps pay prescription drug costs. This program has a very broad formulary, low copays, and no donut hole.

To find out more about these programs and your eligibility and how to apply, contact a PA MEDI counselor by calling your local senior center, or the PA MEDI Helpline at 610-344-5004, Option 2, or by email to [smilam@chesco.org](mailto:smilam@chesco.org). PA MEDI is Pennsylvania’s statewide program of free insurance consultation under the auspices of the Chester County Department of Aging Services and the State Health Insurance Assistance



### CHURCH WEEKLY E-NEWSLETTER UPDATE

*Thank  
you!*

John Paylor, our faithful editor of the weekly e-newsletter, is stepping down after 11 years of faithful service. Don’t worry, the e-newsletter will continue. Soon you will be receiving it from the church’s email account.

Please take a moment and thank John Paylor for all of his faithful service to Berwyn United Methodist Church.

## 2nd MILE GIVING *Pastor Kevin Rutledge*

At the heart of our congregation lies a collective desire to be a beacon of hope, love, and support. Our annual budget, caters to our day-to-day needs, enabling us to provide a welcoming space for worship and fellowship. Yet, we all know that there are dreams and aspirations that stretch beyond our current financial means.

This is where 2nd Mile Giving comes into play. It's an opportunity for each and every one of us to step up, to go the extra mile beyond our regular tithes and offerings, and to participate in funding these extraordinary endeavors. It's a chance for us to collectively support specific ministries and needs that lie outside our typical budget but hold immense promise for our church and the broader community.

Here's the beauty of it: 2nd Mile Giving is not an obligation; it's an invitation. It's an invitation, for those who wish to go further to support specific ministry needs. It's an opportunity to make a lasting impact on the lives of those we serve and on our own spiritual journey.

Here are a list of 2nd Mile Giving Opportunities and how to give to them. When making a 2nd mile gift, use the Memo value on your check or envelope with the amount.



### **Replacement Commercial Refrigerator**

Goal: \$2,600.00 Raised: \$2,050.00

Memo: *Kitchen Refrigerator*

We urgently seek funds to purchase a much-needed commercial refrigerator, valued at \$2,500, critical for our kitchen's proper functioning and to pass the health department inspection. With our current refrigerators breaking down in the last six months, we must act promptly. A functional commercial refrigerator is essential to meet health department standards, allowing us to expand our food ministry and touch more lives within the community. Your contributions will play a vital role in securing the new refrigerator and ensuring the continued success of our food ministry.



### **New Children's Ministry Initiative**

Goal: \$2,500.00 Raised: \$0.00

Memo: *New Children's Ministry Initiative*

We are thrilled to introduce an exciting fundraising opportunity to establish a new, monthly children's ministry focused on nurturing the spiritual growth of preschool through elementary kids. This initiative, similar to Vacation Bible School (VBS) but with added benefits of meals, engaging Bible lessons, music, crafts, and games, aims to inspire young hearts and empower parents. By creating a safe and nurturing space, our dream is to instill lasting values and principles in the lives of our children while providing parents with well-deserved free time. As this is a new ministry goal, we seek support from our compassionate community and generous supporters to turn this vision into reality and create a nurturing environment for our children's faith development.



### **Camera for Sanctuary and Live Stream**

Goal: \$2,500.00 Raised: \$0.00

Memo: *Camera for Sanctuary*

Over the past year, we have enhanced our sanctuary with visual technology and improved audio, allowing us to livestream our services for a wider audience. However, to further improve the livestream's quality and engagement, we aim to acquire a Pan-Tilt-Zoom Camera. This advanced camera will enable us to zoom in on specific parts of the sanctuary, creating an immersive experience for remote viewers. Additionally, the camera will provide high-quality footage, allowing us to share compelling snippets of our services and sermons on social media and other platforms, expanding our outreach and touching more lives with our messages of faith, hope, and love. We are seeking the generous support of our congregation and community to make this vision a reality and enhance our worship journey for all seeking solace, connection, and spiritual growth.

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## **French Toast muffins**

**(served at the Fathers Day Breakfast)**

1 loaf brioche bread (cubed)  
6 eggs  
2 cups milk  
1 T vanilla  
3 T Brown sugar  
1 T cinnamon  
1/2 tsp of salt ( I didn't add it and it was fine)

Topping:

2 T cold butter  
4 T brown sugar  
1 T Sugar  
1/2 tsp cinnamon

Mix the ingredients together and then add the bread to the mixture.

Spray the muffin tin with non-stick spray and add the bread mixture to the muffin tin.

Sprinkle on the topping.

Bake at 350 for 20 min

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## Our Mission

Worshipping God

Serving Jesus

Loving Others

## Our Vision Statement

We are a diverse community of socially conscious believers  
affirming our faith in Jesus Christ through action.

## Worship Schedule

Sundays	10:00AM	In Person Worship in Sanctuary
	10:00 AM	On-Line Worship on Facebook Live/ Church Website/YouTube

Subscribe to our channel on YouTube: Berwyn UMC

Follow on Instagram: bumcares

Like us on Facebook: Berwyn UMC

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