



# THE LIGHTED CROSS

BERWYN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

### Inside this Issue:

- Pastor's Letter
- 2022 Graduates
- Stewardship Gift
- Save the Date opportunities
- Missions
- HUB update

### Calendar Highlights

- June 12 Pastor Rodney's last Sunday
- June 19 Father's Day
- July 31 5th Sunday Pancake Breakfast
- Aug 5-6 Laity Academy
- Oct 8 Fall Fest

**THERE WILL NOT BE A BUMC VACATION BIBLE CAMP THIS YEAR.**

**TO STAY UP TO DATE WITH OUR CHURCH EVENTS & THE GLOBAL CHURCH PLEASE FOLLOW ON SOCIAL MEDIA**

**FACEBOOK:** BUMCservice

**INSTAGRAM:** bumcares

**YOUTUBE:** Berwyn UMC

**WEBSITE:**

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

**WEBSITE:**

[www.epaumc.org](http://www.epaumc.org) (Eastern PA Conference of UMC)

**WEBSITE:** [umnews.org](http://umnews.org) (United Methodist News)

## LET'S CELEBRATE OUR GRADUATES!!

### HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES

**Cynthia Mekenney** is graduating from Penncrest High School and will be attending Drexel University to study Computer Science in the fall.

**Sofia Montaner** is graduating from Conestoga High School on June 7 and will be attending Penn State (University Park) to major in Communication Arts and Sciences.

**Tanner Wolov** is graduating from West Chester East High School and will be attending Purdue University to study Biochemistry.



### UNIVERSITY GRADUATES

**Wilson Dodds** was graduated summa cum laude from Temple University's Fox School of Business with a BS in Statistical Science and a minor in Math. Wilson will begin employment as a data analyst at Wells Fargo in Charlotte NC.

**Javier Montaner** was graduated from Penn State University with dual majors in Physics and Computer Science, and minors in Philosophy, Math, and Cybersecurity. He will be going to the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign for a PhD in Physics.

**Michael Robie**, son of Kris and Bob Robie, grandson of Sally Robie, is graduating with a BS in Business Administration with a specialty in Marketing from Kutztown University.

**Emma Robinson**, granddaughter of Peggy Robinson, was graduated from University of Richmond with a BA in Healthcare Studies. She is moving to Austin, TX and will begin a job at CVS Corporate.

**Allison West** was graduated magna cum laude from Florida State University. She will be continuing at FSU in the fall to earn a Masters.

**Campbell Wolov** was graduated from the University of Maryland in December 2021 with a degree in Marketing. He is working in marketing at a graphic design system company.

Dear Berwyn Family,

As I write my final Lighted Cross letter to you, I am reminded of these words from Ecclesiastes:

*There is a time for everything,  
and a season for every activity under the heavens:  
A time to be born and a time to die;  
A time to plant and a time to harvest;  
A time to kill and a time to heal;  
A time to tear down and a time to build up;  
A time to cry and a time to laugh;  
A time to grieve and a time to dance;  
A time to scatter stones and a time to gather stones;  
A time to embrace and a time to turn away;  
A time to search and a time to quit searching;  
A time to keep and a time to throw away;  
A time to tear and a time to mend;  
A time to be quiet and a time to speak;  
A time to love and a time to hate;  
A time for war and a time for peace.*

- Ecclesiastes 3:1-8

Over the past three years, we have experienced a great deal together, much of which was unexpected! I remember the life milestones we went through together – the joy and the grief. I remember the weddings, the funerals, the babies who were born into your families, and the graduations. I remember the brunches, fall festivals, Bible Studies, Lessons and Carols, Candlelight Christmas Eve Service, 5th Sunday Pancake Breakfasts, Soupy Thursdays, and joyous Easter celebrations. I remember the singing, the worship, the praying, the preaching, and the fellowship and friendship. I remember how the pandemic turned our lives and congregation seemingly upside down and how we stayed strong in our faith to overcome the disruptions it caused - I remember it all!

There was some tearing down of old ideas and ways of doing things and the emergence of new ideas and ministries! There were some disagreements and some resolutions. There was some understanding and some forgiving. We developed a Food Pantry in our church and collected donations to stock it fully! We collected an abundance of coats for the Coat Drive every year. You demonstrated your immense generosity by donating Christmas gifts to children in need through Methodist Services and Mt. Zion United Methodist Church. We have laughed together and cried together. We have grieved and rejoiced together, and we have eaten way too much at memorable brunches! We funded and purchased an upgraded audio-visual system, which Zeo Systems will install in our sanctuary this month!

Through it all, we have loved each other and grown together while experiencing the goodness and wonder of Christ's grace, mercy, and eternal love! The Lord has been by our side and never failed to show us that God will make possible what we think is impossible.

As we reflect on the last three years and prepare to say goodbye to each other, I remain firm in my belief that God calls a pastor at a particular time, with a particular purpose, to a particular place, to a particular group of people and community. I am so proud of all we have accomplished together! My covenant with The United Methodist Church was always to serve you as an itinerant pastor. My commitment to itinerancy includes following God's calling for my ministry and preparing you for a new pastor who has also been called to Berwyn UMC at a particular time for a specific purpose. Let us not forget God's divine plan and that God is working in our congregations and lives. Let us hold firm in our faith that God will continue to work in this church to ensure it continues to fulfill its purpose and glorifies Christ.

*Continued on next page*

When Jesus prepared to leave his disciples, he shared three promises:

First, Jesus promised to make a home in his disciples' hearts. *"My Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them."* - John 14:23.

Then, Jesus promised the disciples that they would be filled with a spirit of comfort and courage. *"The Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you."* - John 14:26

Lastly, Jesus promised to sustain his disciples with true peace. *"Peace I leave with you, my peace I give you."* - John 14:27

So, as Mary Lindberg says in her book, *The Grateful Exit: A Pastor's Journey from Goodbye to Hello*, "We'll open the gifts Jesus gave us—a home in him, the courage to move on, the peace that will get us through many unknowns. And we'll trust that God is staying with those we love for many more seasons."

I hope you know and remember that each of you will always be a part of me, and I will always be a part of you and this congregation. Thank you for the love, kindness, patience, grace, mercy, and generosity you have shown Lauren and me! Berwyn UMC is a special place, and you are a wonderful group of people we will never forget.

I will continue to pray for this congregation as you experience this time of transition and begin a new season. May you continue to grow in faith, hope, and love, worshipping the Lord with your whole self, and remember to do everything for the glory of God!

I thank God for you,

Pastor Rodney



**The NEW by Steve Cherry, Finance**

The May issue of Lighted Cross included the 2022 Narrative Budget, a **NEW** form and a visual snapshot of how the various ministries and missions are funded. Since typical budgets cause most people to glaze over (though not so much for fussy budget wonks like a Finance Team Chairperson), a visual helps to highlight our financial ministry and stewardship. You may re-review the Narrative Budget on [www.BerwynUMC.org](http://www.BerwynUMC.org) website. There are those whose ongoing support provides a foundation for the congregation's operation. To these persons we offer deep ongoing thanks. But increasingly, we find that continuing with the programming we appreciate and expect requires special designated giving.

Stay tuned for installation of a **NEW** audio visual system for sanctuary, expected to be completed in 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of the year. This will allow not only for improved sound, but includes two video monitors for posting hymn lyrics and visual augmentations for worship. This has been made possible through generous donations from friends and members of BUMC as well as the Annual Conference. This capital project is paid for outside the operating budget.

In the same way, promoting special ministries and emphasis. It's clear that, though this may seem to be **NEW**, stewardship and fund raising is needed throughout the year.

Support of three special funds are suggested for your attention:

*CHOIR FUND*, to support program & music, for special music

*MISSIONS FUND*, for mission outreach, that sponsored by Annual Conference as well as the BUMC Food Pantry.

*TRUSTEES FUND*, for property upkeep and lawn care

Please use the format options below to make your stewardship gift.

----- *tear here* -----

**Stewardship Mode –There are multiple ways to give:**

**TEXT TO GIVE;** 844-967-2047.

**CREDIT CARD** (email to church office or you can donate in the upper right hand corner of [www.berwynumc.org](http://www.berwynumc.org))

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
CC# \_\_\_\_\_  
Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_  
CCV \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature \_\_\_\_\_

**CHECK** delivered/mailed to church office or worship  
140 Waterloo Avenue, Berwyn, PA 19312

DESIGNATION.	CHOIR FUND	\$ _____
	TRUSTEES FUND	\$ _____
	MISSIONS FUND	\$ _____

[ PRINT THIS, TO RETAIN AS A RECORD OF YOUR TAX DEDUCTIBLE GIFT ]



## HUB UPDATE

In May, Mission Central came and picked up several flood buckets, used computer supplies and gently used medical supplies. We appreciate your continued support and generosity to this program. Stay tuned for future activities.



# Save The Date



## STAY TUNED FOR MORE INFORMATION

**2022 Laity Academy**  
**August 5-6, 2022**

*In-Person*

**Location:** Cedarville UMC

A second, online-only portion will be held  
Sept. 30 – Oct. 1, 2021.



## SUMMER TRAVELING? MISSIONS HAS A REQUEST FOR YOU

If you are traveling this summer and staying at hotels or resorts, please remember to save the complementary toiletries. BUMC collects and saves the toiletries through out the year and donates them to Mt. Zion UMC in Phila. who distributes the toiletries to homeless shelters.

We will be collecting school supplies again this summer to donate to children in Phila. Mt. Zion distributes them to the children of families in their community.



Ministry of the People is supported by the Staff

Pastor: Rodney Brailsford

Lay Leader: Amy Dodds

Admin. Assistant: Veronica Mosley

Nursery Assist: Eliza Chumpitaz

Sexton: Over Caicedo

Organist/Director of Music: John Lewis

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



## 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
	10:30 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

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

Email: [officebumc@comcast.net](mailto:officebumc@comcast.net)

Fax: 610-644-7890

Church Office: 610-644-5555

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Berwyn United Methodist Church

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