



September 2008

BERWYN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
INVITING NURTURING AND ENCOURAGING SERVICE

The Lighted Cross

Introducing... Jessica Simmons as our children's coordinator



Jessica Simmons, our assistant coordinator for youth since last fall, has been appointed to fill the newly created position of children's coordinator.

The position was proposed by the Staff-Parish Relations Committee and approved by the Administrative Board. Jess will continue to assist Ryan Benton in coordinating youth activities.

Janet Campbell, chair of the SPRC, said: "We have been blessed to have Jess working with our youth, and we now are doubly blessed to have her be a positive influence on our children. Jess brings excitement and such enthusiasm to her position, and we welcome her to our staff of Berwyn."

Jess was a religion major at the Lycoming College and worked as a youth coordinator at a local church there until she transferred to West Chester University. She will graduate from West Chester in December. Her major is elementary education and her minor is reading and religion.

Before joining BUMC last year to work in the youth program, Jess was a member of Grove United Methodist Church in West Chester.

Jess said: "After growing up in an active church and youth program all my life, it only seems right to have found my place at Berwyn, trying to shed a little light on today's youth and children. In the last year, I have allowed Berwyn to become my new 'home away from home,' and I have loved every minute of it. So when Pastor Phil approached me about taking on the children's coordinator position, I had to say yes.

"Accepting this new role only seems natural, as my love of children, and God are my two biggest passions. I have been around children all my life, from heading up the nursery, singing praise songs and being a youth leader at Grove, to continuing my education as an educator."

THE START OF A NEW CHURCH YEAR...

Wednesday Evening Bible Study begins, Sept. 10

Sunday School Rally Day, Sept. 14

Youth Group Campfire Kickoff, Sept. 14

Wednesday Morning Bible Study begins, Sept. 17

Adult Fellowship Dinner, Sept. 20

Sunday School classes begin, Sept. 21

VOICES FROM THE FINANCE AND STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

Setting a goal for giving to the church

Although charitable giving has always been an activity I take seriously, I have given little thought to how much I owe God. I felt blessed but was guilty of taking most blessings for granted. As I started to become more active in our church, I became more focused on how much I have and how little I have given back. It felt good to be giving more time in service to the work of the church, but I was still missing something. I knew that giving time didn't take the place of giving money for God's work. I also know that tithing is a biblical guideline, and I was far from giving my full share.

I began to wonder if tithing was an ideal that was realistic for me. After all, I am retired, live on a relatively fixed income, have an aging mother needing increasing financial help, and need to be sure I have enough to be secure as I grow older. My tendency toward pessimism was seeping through. Following much thought and prayer, as well as conversations about tithing with the pastor and others, I decided I was making excuses. I'd never reach any goal if I didn't try. So, why not set the goal of giving ten percent?

I began the journey and have moved closer to my goal each year. I now believe that I will make it. Some priorities in my life have changed, but I admit I haven't made any significant sacrifices. With the rising cost of everything, this year will be more difficult, but I will find a way to continue moving forward. The goal is within reach.

I have received an unexpected blessing on this journey. It came as a surprise. About two years ago I suddenly realized my long-standing worry about security for my old age was disappearing. Today it is simply gone. I believe firmly that this is another precious gift from God. The worry has been replaced by a stronger faith and trust in our Lord.

Rosalie Hart

Secretary, Finance/Stewardship Committee

Financial results through July 2008

July 2008	Actual	Budget	favorable (unfavorable)
Contribution Income	\$210,359	\$234,105	(\$23,746)
Other Income	\$27,256	\$25,610	\$1,646
Expense	\$256,497	\$265,542	\$9,045
gain(loss)	(\$18,882)	(\$5,827)	(\$13,055)

Adult Fellowship dinner is on Saturday, Sept. 20

The Adult Fellowship will have its "September kickoff" steak fry and chicken bake at 6 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 20, at Schieck Hall. Questions: Claudia Sharpless, 610-644-8928, or Sue Farina, 610-695-9008

FROM THE PASTOR

A mission team will help build in Honduras

IT IS ALWAYS great to get back into the swing of things here at the church after a time of rest and relaxation. Our Lord also needed time away to refresh and replenish his soul. I trust that each of us comes back inspired and reinvigorated, ready to continue in the service of the Most High.

I want to share with you that a mission team will be going to my hometown of Utila in Honduras from Jan. 26 to Feb. 7, 2009. We will be doing new construction on the Bryant Center, adding two rooms and a storage area. The cost of the trip is \$1,250 plus airfare. I have opted to leave it up to each one of us to obtain the airfare, as some of us may get discounts or use frequent-flier privileges. It would be best to use Continental, as there is a 5:55 a.m. flight to Houston that would enable us to catch the 9:10 a.m. flight to San Pedro Sula. On the return leg, we would take the 12:51 p.m. flight out of San Pedro to Houston. I will keep us updated as I glean more information on this trip. While vacationing in Utila this year, I made hotel reservations in faith that we would have a team going. Please let me know as soon as possible if you're interested.

As of Sept. 1 we have a new bishop: Bishop Peggy Johnson, who was a member of the Baltimore-Washington Conference. She was elected July 17 at the Jurisdictional Conference in Harrisburg. She was the pastor of Christ UMC of the Deaf; was actively involved in the United Methodist Congress of the Deaf since 1988; has supported a ministry effort for the deaf in Zimbabwe through her conference; and has been an adjunct faculty member at Wesley Theological Seminary. She received her bachelor's degree from Lebanon Valley College in Annville, Pa.; her master of divinity degree from Asbury Theological Seminary in Wilmore, Ky.; and her doctoral degree from Wesley Theological Seminary in Washington, D.C.

Bishop Matthews will be going to the Western and Central New York Conferences after having served four years as our Episcopal leader. The Philadelphia Episcopal Area held a Celebration of Ministry Event in Wilmington, Del., on Aug. 24 to say thanks and farewell to Bishop and Mrs. Matthews.

Let us keep our bishops in our prayers during this period of transition.

Be blessed and keep strong in the Lord now and always.

Pastor Phil

Wednesday Evening Bible Study resumes Sept. 10

"If you make my word your home, you will indeed be my disciples." —John 8:31

Disciple Four Bible Study, *Under the Tree of Life*, will resume on Sept. 10. Meetings will be held on the second and fourth Wednesdays through May at 7:15 p.m. in the Library. We will be focusing on second half of the 32-week study.

Scriptures include the Gospel of John, and Revelation. Please contact Nancy Atchison or Pastor Ponce if you are interested in joining us in this exciting adventure.

A six-week workshop will explore spiritual gifts

What is it...

That is given to each of us, but we may not be aware we possess?

That we received freely, but can have a priceless impact?

That comes to us naturally, but we often need to learn how to use?

The answer to all of these questions is our spiritual gifts. Spiritual gifts are not the talents, skills or interests that we cultivate. Rather, spiritual gifts, or *charismata* as they are frequently called, are those unique qualities or abilities that have been given to each of through the grace of God. However, unlike our talents or interests, we often are unaware of our spiritual gifts; they can lie dormant waiting to be awakened.

I would like to invite you to join me in a six-week workshop this fall to explore the nature of our spiritual gifts, how we can awaken them in ourselves and use them in service to God as part of our personal ministry to those around us. Using the book *Rediscovering Our Spiritual Gifts* by Charles Bryant, we will look into the meaning and scope of spiritual gifts, what spiritual gifts are and are not. We will also discuss the 32 spiritual gifts characterized by Bryant and take a survey that will help identify those spiritual gifts God has graciously given to each of us.

The workshop will be held during the church school hour beginning Sept 21. If there is enough interest, I am also willing to run the workshop Sunday evenings for those people who are not able to attend the Sunday morning class.

I look forward to taking this journey together as we explore the nature our spiritual gifts, the role they play in our lives and how we can use these gifts to deepen God's presence in our lives and in those around us. Please contact me either by phone or email to let me know if you will be attending this workshop and which time you would like to attend.

Jim Tiede

610-293-9293

tiedes@comcast.net

Deadline extended for Memorial Garden discounts

The deadline for pre-construction pricing for the Memorial Garden has been extended. Members and previous members who complete the application process before Oct. 15 are eligible for the lower pricing as follows:

Members/previous members – \$1,500 for a single niche and \$500 for second person prior to Oct. 15, 2008; thereafter, \$2,500 for a single niche and \$500 for second person. Nonmembers with Memorial Garden Committee approval – \$2,500 for single niche and \$500 for second person prior to Oct. 15, 2008; thereafter, \$3,000 for a single niche and 500 for second person. For the scattering garden, with name on a memorial plaque on the wall – \$750 per person. In addition, a one-time fee of \$350 per person will be charged at the time of death. This one-time fee will pay for continuing maintenance of the garden and for engraving the granite face plate of niches or the brass nameplate on the memorial plaque for those whose ashes are scattered.

Beginning in September , a member of the Memorial Garden Committee will be available to answer questions after both services. Please contact Nancy Atchison or the church office if you have questions.



Our Appalachian Service Project team

Twelve people from Berwyn United Methodist Church traveled to Clinchco, Va., in July for a week of service and home repairs as part of the Appalachian Service Project. Youth coordinator Ryan Benton said: "We all had a wonderful time with the staff, the other churchers, the families we were serving, and each other. Your generous contributions to this trip made it possible." Members of the team, in addition to Ryan, were: Mike Benton, Scott Campbell, Graham Campbell, Lia Cambell, Drew Garrison, Jen Lang, Alex O'Donnell, Karis Ponce, Marge Smink, Cason Walker, and Fredy Tuez-Chumpitaz.

WEDNESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

A focus on Ecclesiastes, Galatians and Ephesians

This is to extend a very special invitation to join us for Bible Study on Wednesday mornings in the parlor, from Sept. 17 through May 20. We will begin at 11:30 a.m. with a brown bag lunch afterward.

The books of the Bible that will be the focus of our studies are Ecclesiastes, Galatians and Ephesians. In the study of Ecclesiastes we will focus on eating, drinking, enjoying work, the rhythm, the dependability and the order in life and in the universe. Also, we will look at how good friends make life easier; keeping our vows, enjoying possessions and monetary gifts; accepting mystery and incongruity; that all people and all deeds are in God's hands; that death is inevitable; that we are to do our tasks with joy and enjoy life; we are to be generous; sow generosity; trust God and live now.

The study of Galatians will invite us to delve into the authenticity, the superiority and freedom of the gospel. It would also invite us to try to understand the concepts of law, faith, freedom and the Holy Spirit.

When I introduced the Wednesday Morning Bible Study, we began with the study of Ephesians. At that time I used the method of in-depth Bible Study. This method involves looking at words, phrases, sentences and paragraphs and plumbing the depth of what they are saying to us. Consequently, we did not complete the study of Ephesians. Quite a few of the attendees suggested that we should complete this study now that we are doing a study of chapters. In this study we will concentrate on the unity of Christ and the Church, the body of Christ, God's purposes, Christ the center of all things, the living church, the new family and Christian conduct.

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 come and join us. We will love to have you with us.

Yours in Christ, *Pastor Phil*

ETC CLASS

A new format (9:12 to 10 a.m.) begins Sept. 21

After a potluck dinner/planning session at the Cherrys' in late June and another session at church with Steve Cherry, Amy Dwyer and Claudia Genuardi in July, ETC (Every Topic Considered) is set to resume in September. In the spirit of the book *Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations* and its suggested practice of "radical hospitality," we are making a few changes that we hope will make our class more inviting to those who have been unsure or reluctant to participate in the past. We also want to make the class more accessible to those who have had time conflicts with choir.

First, we are going to change our meeting time on Sunday morning. Active class discussion will begin promptly at 9:12 a.m. Class will end at 10 a.m. Fellowship will be after class at 10 a.m., prior to the 10:30 a.m. worship service. The reason for this change is that many of the current class members participate in the choir and have missed much of the discussion portion of the class over the past year. This adjustment will allow all of us to benefit from the input of the entire class.

Second, we are offering a way to help people keep in touch with what is going on in class when they are unable to attend. Amy found a website called 7villages.com. That website is a host to groups that want to have discussion threads. It seems like a natural fit. All you need to do is go to the website, join up and then join the ETC Sunday School Class Village. We will have posts about the current class topics, and once you sign up, you can participate in further discussion by posting responses to the topics that interest you. We suggest that you check the site once each week so that you can keep up to date — even when out of town! You could also start a new discussion on any topic of interest to you. On Rally Day, Sept. 14, we will be in the library to help you join the website and get familiar with how it works.

Third, class begins on Sept. 21 at 9:12 a.m. For the first seven weeks, we will be working with an exciting series called "Simply Enough" from simpleliving.org. Tony Campolo and Shane Claiborne have created this program to "equip people of faith to challenge consumerism, live justly and celebrate responsibly." Each weekly session will begin with a short video, followed by discussion. There are scripture references for each segment.

Finally, we ask that you welcome others to attend class. We want to be open to new people joining us and seeing what we are all about. See you soon!

Amy Dwyer, Steve Cherry, Claudia Genuardi

The Lighted Cross

Next deadline: September 18

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 will be published Oct. 1. Please submit your items by Sept. 18 to gene.foreman@verizon.net. There also is a mailbox in the church office.



Church Phone:

610-644-5555

Office E-mail:

officebumc@comcast.net

Church Website:

www.berwynumc.org

LENDING A HAND

September 7

Ushers: John Ku, Bob Borst,

Will Bushnell, Carl Bushnell

Coffee Committee: Margie O'Donnell,

Barbara Hall, Darlene Spofford

Story Time: Kathleen West

Flower Delivery: Margi MacKenzie

September 14

Liturgist: Kate Walker

Ushers: Jacque Leiser, Jack Campbell,

Jon Stockler, Alice Nicholas

Coffee Committee: Sue Farina,

Pam Smith, Pam Benton

Story Time: Gina DeFlavia

Flower Delivery: Judy Fisk

September 21

Liturgist: Amy Dodds

Ushers: Don Young, John McDowell,

Peh Ku, Pete Tillett

Coffee Committee: Marge Smink,

Donna Pitz, Amy Dwyer

Story Time: Janelle Larson

Flower Delivery: Jane McDowell

September 28

Liturgist: Ryan Benton

Ushers: Bob Fisk, Nagle Bridwell,

Judy Dunn, Margie O'Donnell

Coffee Committee: Stephanie Borelly,

Sally Robie, Carol Williams

Story Time: Sondra Wilen

Flower Delivery: Barbara Borst

Texts of summer sermons

Two members of the congregation, Luis J. Montaner and Carl Linsench, delivered excellent sermons during the summer — Luis on July 27 and Carl on Aug. 10. For the benefit of those who may have been traveling and unable to attend the services, the texts are posted at <http://www.berwynumc.org/>.

NEWS ABOUT B.U.M.C.

Commendation. Berwyn United Methodist Church has received a Great Commission Commendation from the Eastern Pennsylvania Conference. The commendation thanks our congregation for “its commitment to make and nurture followers of Jesus Christ as evidenced by baptisms, professions of faith, and reaffirmations of faith in 2007.”

Small-group get-togethers. The BUMC Supper Club is forming now. Once a month, or so, adults of the church get together in groups of eight to 10, couples and singles, to have fun, get better acquainted and enjoy fellowship. It doesn't have to be supper; it could be breakfast, brunch, a picnic, a barbecue, a play, or playing a game – whatever the group would like to do. If you would like to join, call Sally Robie, 610-644-6631. Groups will meet in October, November, December and January.

Charge Conference. The district superintendent, Dr. Gary George, will be coming to BUMC at 3:30 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 1, to conduct the Annual Charge Conference. The SPRC will meet with him at 3 p.m. The Charge Conference is the highest decision-making body of any local church, and a special invitation to attend is extended to all.

World Communion Sunday. On Oct. 5, as a faith community we will be celebrating World Communion Sunday. The guest preacher at both services will be the Rev. Arturo Razon of the Philippines. Rev. Razon taught veterinary medicine at a university in the Philippines before he answered the call to ministry. He is presently at Drew Theological Seminary completing his master of divinity degree.

Church and Society Task Force. We will meet from 4:30 to 5:45 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 7. We invite you to join us as we discuss “Movies that Make You Think,” Earth Day Celebrations/work, Bread for the World (advocacy work), Peace with Justice Sunday plans, Fair Trade, and other topics. Let Amy Dwyer know you will be coming: perthenia@mac.com.

Lydia Circle — United Methodist Women. Our first meeting of the year will be our traditional salad potluck supper at 6 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 7. We would love to have new folks join us as we become a community of women whose purpose is to know God and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ; to develop a creative supportive fellowship; and to expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church. Childcare will be available.

FROM THE ORGAN BENCH

Choir members wanted; rehearsals begin Sept. 11

Come and sing unto the Lord! Choir rehearsals start on Thursday, Sept. 11, at 7:30 p.m. We need new singers! If you have a huge sense of humor and you love to worship God through music, this is the place to be. We have some exciting new things happening this year. On Dec. 14 we will present a choral cantata with narrator, harp and organ, titled "Glad Tidings of Great Joy." On Good Friday we will again be doing DuBois' "The Seven Last Words of Christ." Mark your calendar and give the choir a try.

With the new program for Christian Education starting this fall, the Cherub Choir and Children's Choir will be disbanded. Instead, all children through sixth grade will meet in the Music Room for singing as part of the Sunday School program. You will be getting more details about this later. I'm excited!

I want to thank the many talented people who presented beautiful musical offerings this summer: Paul Polasky, Brian Walker, Scott Campbell, Sandy Larkin, Molly Denisevich, Sue Denisevich, Bob Smink, Carol Williams, Janet Campbell, Barbara Emery, Zoe Ponce. Guest musicians included Ruth Bullwinkle, solo handbells; Lindsey McQuiston, harp; Carole Estornell, soprano; Mixolydian, the choral group directed by JoEllen Beck.

Please keep the BUMC music program in your prayers as we move forward to grow and enrich our offerings to God.

Blessings, *Judith A. Lang*, Music Director

MISSION MEMO

Outreach programs continued over the summer

Welcome back after what I hope was a summer full of fun and relaxation. The mission work of the church has continued throughout the summer, including a mission trip for our Youth to Appalachia and an evening of support for the work of Interfaith Hospitality Network at St. Thomas Church in Villanova. We provided a picnic supper for two families.

We will continue the Guardian Angels program for our college youth this year. The program provides each student enrolled by their parents with a secret "Angel" who sends cards and small items and keeps the student in his or her prayers during the college year. We have a group who have been very active in the program. I would like to encourage other members of the congregation to join in the fun. One of our members told me that she and her family worked together to support a student several years ago. When the young woman recently had a child, her children were so excited for her, and felt very close to her and her new child. The items mailed to students do not have to be expensive; a picture drawn by a small child can be very uplifting. Signup forms for students, including graduate students and those living overseas, and for "Angels" will be available at Rally Day on Sept. 14.

The Interfaith Hospitality Network program provides a residence for families who have lost their homes, while they receive training so they may enter the workplace with a better job. We have supported this program, which provides free housing in churches on the Main Line, for over ten years. Because of our concern for the homeless, we are working with Amy Dwyer to provide an evening at "Movies That Make You Think" when we can get more information about homelessness in general, and more information about the program we have been supporting. The date and time will be announced.

Please continue to support the work of the Methodist Mission at Cookson Hills, located in the poorest county of Oklahoma. We collect Campbell soup labels for the mission in an envelope posted on the Missions Bulletin board. We will also continue to use the Penny Jar to support Tamara Phiri and other projects for children.

Betsy Newman

CHILDREN'S PROGRAM

A new 'Rock Solid' curriculum for Sunday School

Sunday School will mark the beginning of the new year at Rally Day on Sept. 14. Join us in Schieck Hall at 9:15 a.m. for food, music, games and more. We'll have an introduction to the Sunday School program for the year, meet the teachers, and see the refurbished classrooms. All kids (age 4 through 12th grade) are welcome!

This year, the children's program is starting a new curriculum called "Rock Solid" that makes teaching easy. As children's coordinator, I will gather supplies, review curriculum, and help teachers. Since beginning my ministry July 1, we have already reorganized the Sunday School supplies and have a fresh stock of glue, scissors, paper, and anything else the teachers may need.

The curriculum is a new program by the authors of our old "Exploring Faith" program. The new material offers fun and exciting ways to present the Gospel — using drama, crafts, and other engaging activities that students can relate to, helping them to build their biblical knowledge on something solid: faith.

Would you consider joining me in sharing the love of Jesus with our elementary school children? The Conference requires us to have at least two adults in each Sunday School classroom on a given Sunday. The ideal is to have one main teacher, and one assistant throughout the year. Substitutes will be called on if a teacher needs a Sunday off. I'm looking for two to three teachers for pre-K through first grade, and two to three teachers for second through fourth grades. I would love to have you on board!

Classes will begin Sept. 21, when students in pre-K through sixth grade will gather in Schieck Hall. The children will enjoy music with Judith Lang in the Music Room before moving to their respective classrooms.

Jessica Simmons, 610-764-0718, jsimmlove@hotmail.com

YOUTH PROGRAM

Campfire Kickoff is Sept. 14; CROP Walk, Oct. 5

CROP Walk 2008 will be held Sunday, Oct. 5, from noon to 3 p.m. In the past, many of you have given generously to CROP walk. Last year we raised almost \$900. Church World Service divides all the contributions between local food pantries and global outreach initiatives.

This year, I would love for you to consider not only supporting us financially, but also walking with us. The walk is in Downingtown, on a beautiful, wooded stretch of the Struble Trail. The total walking distance is five miles up and back, though you can turn around whenever you need to.

Last year, the Downingtown walk was the fourth largest in Pennsylvania. Will you walk and help make this year the largest? Sign up information can be found on the bulletin board in the hallway outside the sanctuary.

Youth Group Events. We will have a Campfire Kickoff from 5:45 to 8 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 14. We will meet in the back yard of the church, near the Scout Cabin and new outdoor chapel. There will be dinner, S'mores for dessert, fun around a campfire, and a few surprises. Don't miss out.

Sunday, Sept. 21, 5 to 8 p.m.: *Sanctus Real Concert.* Tickets are \$15 and must be reserved through Ryan by Sept. 16. Listen to samples and watch video on the youth page of the website.

Monday, Sept. 22, 7:30 to 8:30 p.m.: On certain Monday nights, two new groups will meet – *Girls and the Gospel Bible Study* and *Guys S² (Sports and Scripture)*. Other meetings are Oct. 6 and 20.

Sunday, Sept. 28: 5:45 to 8 p.m. *Hole in the Wall.*

Please note: Youth fellowship meetings are for youth in seventh through 12th grades. Fifth and sixth graders are encouraged to participate in the all-new Club Berwyn, tailored specifically to their age group. Watch for news about Club Berwyn.

Ryan Benton, 610-308-4309, rpbenton@gmail.com

The Fall Festival: Saturday, Oct. 11, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The Fall Festival is just five weeks off. Starting Sept. 7, the Scout Cabin will be open on Sunday mornings between 8:30 a.m. and noon to receive your donated items. Call the church office if Sunday morning is not convenient to you.

Books, records and tapes should be placed in Schieck Hall in the large boxes provided. Jewelry can be placed in the gold box just outside the Sanctuary. If you need help in bringing something to the church, please call Brian and Kate Walker at 610-644-1357.

We are unable to accept clothing, child car seats and cribs, large pieces of furniture, sets of encyclopedias, and televisions.

The Silent Auction is looking for your services, vacation homes and more. Please contact Nancy Atchison at 610-644-2775.

We need a publicity chairman. Please contact Judy Fisk at 610-644-2269 about this important position. We need to get out the news about our Fall Festival.

Following is the list of chairmen of our booths. If you are able to help during the Fall Festival, contact a chairman. Your help will be appreciated.

Chairman: Judy Fisk.

Co-Chairman: Janet Campbell.

Vice Chairmen: Brian and Kate Walker.

Chairmen of Booths:

- Books – Marge Smink; Sally Robie, co-chairman.
- Jewelry – Stephanie Borelly; Cindy Shallcross, co-chairman.
- Baked Goods – Janet Campbell.
- Luncheon – Rick Stoker.
- Money Changers – Ruth Rumiano and Rosalie Hart.
- Flea Market – Brian and Kate Walker; Claudia and Dick Sharpless, co-chairmen.
- Fair Trade Coffee – Amy Dwyer.
- Collectibles – Judy Fisk.
- Silent Auction – Nancy Atchison; Carol Williams, co-chairman.
- Games – Ryan Benton.
- Setup (Wednesday Night) – Jack Campbell and Steve Cherry.
- Cleanup (Saturday) – Mike Benton.

We need markers and sorters for the Flea Market on Thursday and Friday, Oct. 9 and 10, during the hours of 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. If you can give a few hours during this time, it would be appreciated.

Methodist Home for Children will have Founder's Day dinner

The Methodist Home for Children invites you to attend a celebration of its 129th birthday. At 6 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 15, there will be a Founder's Day dinner with silent and live auctions at Merion Tribute House in Merion Station.

For ticket information, please contact Molly Clark Davis at Methodist Home for Children: 215-877-1925, ext. 310, or mclarkdavis@methodistservices.org. All money raised will go directly to the programs and services provided by the Methodist Home for Children to children and families in the Eastern Pennsylvania Conference.

Book Club will discuss ‘Tom Sawyer’ on Sept. 17

The BUMC Book Club will meet at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 17, to discuss *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* by Mark Twain. Claudia Sharpless is discussion leader; Nancy Atchison (610-644-2775) is the hostess.

Everyone is welcome. Please RSVP to the hostess if you plan to attend.

The remainder of the Book Club’s schedule is as follows (all meetings at 7:30; remember to RSVP if you plan to attend):

Oct. 15: *Team of Rivals: The Political Genius of Abraham Lincoln* by Doris Kearns Goodwin; Marge Smink, discussion leader and hostess (610-359-5445).

Nov. 19: *Pursuit of Happyness* by Chris Gardner and Quincy Troupe; Romaine Rood, discussion leader; Margi MacKenzie, hostess (610-647-4091).

Jan. 21: *Snow Flower and the Secret Fan* by Lisa See; Sally Robie, discussion leader; Betsy Lang, hostess (610-644-8259).

Feb. 18: *The Other Boleyn Girl* by Philippa Gregory; John Edinger, discussion leader; Claudia Sharpless, hostess (610-644-8928).

March 18: *Inheritance of Loss* by Kiran Desai; Betsy Lang, discussion leader; Ann West, hostess (610-687-0222).

April 15: *Waiting for Snow in Havana* by Carlos Eire; Nancy Atchison, discussion leader; Sally Robie, hostess (610-644-6631).

May 20: Book and discussion leader to be announced; Romaine Rood, hostess (610-647-3534).

Contact Marge Smink at 610-359-5445, 610-613-9797 or sminkm@comcast.net for additional information.

45 children attend Vacation Bible School at BUMC

The halls and sanctuary sparkled and glowed on July 7-11 with objects from “outer space” as the Cosmic City Vacation Bible School proclaimed the wonder of God’s creation. Forty-five children enjoyed biblical drama, story-telling, crafts, music and games and a “kid friendly” supper.

God provided a volunteer staff who were willing and dedicated to teaching our children about God. Many thanks to all those who helped (team leaders’ names are in italics):

Story-telling/drama: *Janet Campbell*, Christine Adams.

Crafts: *Amy Dwyer*, Amy Dodds, Jen Cutler.

Music: *Nancy Atchison*, Molly Denisevich.

Games: *Ryan Benton*, Jeremy Borelly, Jacob Nemetz.

Kitchen Crew: *Judy Fisk*, Wendy Wolov, Cindy Shallcross, Sondra Wilen, Gina DeFlavia, Debbie Nemetz, Sue and Steven Denisevich.

Guides: Karis Ponce, Cason Walker, Kim Atchison, Darlene Spofford, Molly Atchison, Jefferson Toro, Roger Toro.

Program Skits: Molly Atchison, Jeremy Borelly, Jack Wolov, Ryan Benton.

Floating Volunteers: Tom Atchison, Jim Spofford.

Nancy Atchison, Ryan Benton, Janet Campbell, Karis Ponce, Directors

Nursery School ready

The halls and some rooms have been painted, the entire school has been cleaned, the rugs were sent out for cleaning, new toys were purchased, the playground was mulched – plus, teacher wish lists have been fulfilled. What are we missing? Of course, the children!

The staff will meet the day after Labor Day, and the parents will be joining us for Orientation on Sept. 8 with the children arriving the following day.

It is always exciting to begin a new school year. We will, of course, see the gamut of emotions – from the children and the mothers. Within two weeks, all will be calmer, routines will have been introduced, and the fun will begin for everyone. Best of all, the parents will find they have some special “just for me” time. Another year will have begun.

Ann Bole, Director

Introducing a new member

As a new member of BUMC, I am pleased to introduce myself.

I was born in South Korea and lived there until the age of one, when my family moved to Rochester, N. Y., for my father’s medical training. Judy is not the name given to me at birth. When I became a naturalized citizen, my parents allowed my sisters and me to choose our own English names. I chose Judy because as a young child, I read many of Judy Blume’s books.

I attended Yale University and State University of New York/Buffalo medical school. I am a dermatopathologist at the Institute for Dermatopathology (part of DermPath Diagnostics of Ameripath), now in Conshohocken but soon to be in Newtown Square. I also am an adjunct instructor at Jefferson.

I would like to thank Judy Fisk, Pastor Ponce and Anne Ponce, who made me feel very welcome.

Judy Kim

‘Fair Trade’ film on Oct. 4

The Church and Society Task Force will show *The Fair Trade* in the Sanctuary at 6:45 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 4. *The Fair Trade* is a documentary film by director Lauralee Farrer telling the story of a successful fair trade entrepreneur, Tamara Johnson. More information: <http://www.thefairtrademovie.com/>

NEW BOOKS IN THE LIBRARY

Knitting into the Mystery by Susan S. Jorgensen and Susan S. Izard (247.21 Jor): Pat White, coordinator of the Prayer Shawl Ministry at BUMC, donated this book to our church library. It is an instructional and inspirational book dedicated to this amazing outreach ministry of love and compassion. Chapters describe the history of the ministry, instructions on choosing yarn, needles and patterns, contemplative knitting, giving away a shawl, receiving and wearing a shawl, stories of witness, and prayers for the seasons of life. If you are curious about the Prayer Shawl Ministry, read this book and your questions will be answered. All knitters and prospective knitters – this is a must read!

Philadelphia Murals and the Stories They Tell by Jane Golden, Robin Rice and Monica Yant Kinney (751.73 Gol): This beautifully illustrated book describes the development of the Philadelphia Mural Arts Program, which began in 1984 when Jane Golden, an established mural artist, was hired by the Philadelphia Anti-Graffiti Network to develop a youth art program to challenge the city’s graffiti problem. The Mural Arts Program has become the outstanding public art project in the United States with over 2,000 murals adorning the city’s walls in many different neighborhoods. The book takes the reader behind the scenes to show how the murals are made and how each project requires diplomacy and consensus-building as well as paint. Celebrate with the artists and neighborhoods as each mural defines its location with dramatic design and beauty. Ann West donated this book in honor of Pat White.

The Mystery of the Dead Sea Scrolls by Hagit Allon and Lena Zehavi (J 296.1 All) Junior: Daniel (age 11) wants to be a detective but is not having much luck until he is assigned a project on the Dead Sea Scrolls. His eyes are opened to deeper mysteries than burglaries. Daniel’s assignment leads him to the Shrine of the Book at The Israel Museum and on to Qumran in the Judean Desert, where an archeologist shows him the place where the scrolls were found. This book gives young readers a feel for life in Israel today and the significance of the country’s most important archeological find.

Brother Juniper by Diane Gibfried (J FIC Gib) Pre-School: Brother Juniper lives with Father Francis and seven other brothers in Assisi. He’s a most generous brother who has been known to give away the robe off his back! With his kind heart and simple ways, he worries the other friars when they leave him alone to look after the church. Upon their return, his generosity reminds them what it means to truly care for a church. Help your preschoolers read this book, enjoy the illustrations and learn the end of the story. This book is inscribed by the author, “To the children of Berwyn United Methodist Church Library. Remember you have many gifts to share, like Brother Juniper. Love, Diane Gibfried.”

Marge Smink, Librarian

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