



BEAVER BLESSINGS

AUGUST 2022



RECONCILING MINISTRIES NETWORK

"Welcoming all with God's love, serving all in God's name as we all grow in faith together"

Beaver Memorial United Methodist Church · 42 South 3rd Street · Lewisburg · PA · 17837

www.beavermethodist.org · (570)524-0809



Sunday Morning Worship Services - 10:30 am
New Beginnings Adult Sunday School Class - 9:00 am

From Pastor Sue's Desk

Daily devotionals are a positive way to start or end the day. I receive a few devotionals daily and weekly in my email inbox. One of the authors is a UM colleague named Steve Garnaas-Holmes. This is a slightly adapted version of something he wrote about seven years ago that I still find relevant and meaningful, focusing on gratitude:

O God, let us be grateful for the Gift, the Mystery, and the Presence that you are in our lives. Let us be grateful for the marvel of Creation and our belonging in it, for our stewardship of all that exists upon land, in the sea and in deep space. Let us be grateful for the love we have received, known and unknown, and like a river that never runs dry may our hearts overflow. Let us be grateful for the wonder of our flesh, our body's working and its wisdom, for sight and touch, for taste and sound. Let us be grateful in times of tragedy and hilarity, when we are struggling or confused, when we are healthy and when we are ill. In our grief we give thanks for what was treasured; in our pain we rejoice for heart and nerve. In our darkness may we be already grateful for what will one day be disclosed to us. Help us remember that in each affront there is a blessing, in every disappointment hides a gift, so that we can say "Thank you" and seek your grace. Even our woes are part of the great Gift, the mystery of Life. Every moment we are held in your love, accompanied by you and blessed. O Generous One, You Who Are, for you and for your giving of yourself we flow with gratitude. Amen.

Expressing gratitude to God each day can help keep us centered. Expressing gratitude to others is uplifting for them, whether it be for something very specific or a general gratefulness for who they are as one of God's beloved children. Think of how it makes you feel when someone expresses their appreciation to or for you. For about five years I was doing a 'Thankfulness' post on my personal Facebook page. I often got positive feedback from friends about these. At some point I got out of the habit as things in my life got so much busier with my former job changes and then COVID hit. Sometimes one of these Thankfulness posts shows up on my FB feed as a memory and it reminds me that even if I don't post something daily like I once did, I still find something to be thankful for each day. I encourage each of you to express your gratitude to others as often as you can. **And I want to express my gratitude for each and every one of you who are part of this community of faith!**

AUGUST SPOTLIGHTS:**Nancy and Larry Shinn**

On April 22, 2022 the Berea College Board of Trustees and special guests held a Rededication Ceremony of the Deep Green Residence Hall as the Larry D. and Nancy L. Shinn Residence Hall at Berea College.

The Larry D. And Nancy L. Shinn Residence F Hall, formerly known as Deep Green, when completed in 2013, it was the first residence hall in the world to earn the Living Building Challenge Petal Certification by the International Living Future Institute. It also received the highest score for a residence hall by the U.S. Green Building Council, earning it LEED Platinum Certification. Through special design efforts and using sustainable and conservative construction methods, the building received several other awards, including the Forest Stewardship Council's Whole Project Certification by Rainforest Alliance, the 2014 Best Use of Green and Sustainable Design/Construction by On Campus Student Housing Business, the 2014 Merit Award and Green Project by ENR Midwest, and other regional sustainability awards and mentions.

This remarkably sustainable building was chosen to bear the Shinn name as a tribute to Larry and Nancy Shinn's tenure at Berea College and their legacy, not only in service to Berea students, but also in advancing Berea's commitment to sustainability. During Larry's eighteen-year presidency, more than two dozen green buildings were renovated at a cost of \$141 million. Among those buildings were the first LEED Silver Building (Lincoln Hall) in Kentucky and the first LEED Gold hotel (Berea's Boone Tavern) in a several state area. The results of these building renovations and a new gas-fired heat plant reduced Berea College's energy consumption by 50%.

The Deep Green Residence Hall was the last building designed during Larry's presidency and the construction was completed under his successor the year following his retirement in 2012 making this renaming very special for Larry and Nancy. This project along with earlier projects have provided benchmarks for sustainable design and construction on campus. Not only have these ecological building designs guided Berea in energy efficiency and water conservation efforts, but also how to get closer to carbon neutrality when constructed; how to design buildings that take advantage of natural light and enhance indoor air quality; how to reduce annual maintenance costs and increase occupant health and wellness. The LEED Certification program measures all of these factors and more.

The Larry D. and Nancy L. Shinn Residence Hall as a LEED Platinum building was in a very real sense the culmination of Berea's environmental building efforts for the previous 15 years. And this environmental legacy has helped to guide Berea to six LEED Gold and two LEED Silver Certified buildings since 2013. Finally, this is the first building on Berea's campus bearing the name a president and his wife—a clear acknowledgement of Nancy's legacy as the First Lady of Berea College.

Welcome our new pianist – Ryan Hill

Ryan Hill is a pianist/musician originally from Bethlehem, Pennsylvania. He currently studies music education at Bucknell University, and will be a junior this year. Ryan is involved with many ensembles at Bucknell including the jazz band, piano studio, and symphonic band to name a few. Ryan will begin when he returns to Bucknell towards the end of August.

Jan Bender

On Friday, July 8th Jan Bender received the 1st Annual Chairman's Award by Asbury Riverwoods Foundation for her outstanding contributions in service to Asbury and affiliated organizations. An appreciation luncheon was served to society members, Jan and her family.

AUGUST FEATURES:**Volunteers needed for FREE Hospice of Evangelical Volunteer Training**

September 21, 2022 8:30am-4pm Hospice of Evangelical 235 Hospital Drive, Lewisburg

Are you searching for a volunteer experience that is gratifying and emotionally meaningful? Hospice of Evangelical has the opportunity you're seeking and all the training you need! No healthcare experience needed - just a caring heart and time to fill lives with hope and joy.

The Hospice of Evangelical Team has specially trained, caring volunteers working alongside staff providing friendly visits, vigil care for families, patient care, as well as bereavement support to patients and their families facing a life-limiting illness. Certified pet therapy and music support volunteers are always welcome. There are also volunteer opportunities for office support.

Training is limited to 8-10 participants. More specific details will be provided closer to the training date. For more information or to request an application, call the Volunteer Liaison at 570-522-2955.

What is meant by the term 'image of God'?

Great question! Humans are created in the image of God (Genesis 1:27), which means we were created good. We are made to be in a close relationship with God — to love God and love our neighbor, who is also created in the image of God. It also means God gave us some responsibility to be God's representatives in the world, to be the caretakers of God's creation.

In an early sermon called "The Image of God," John Wesley describes pre-fall humanity as having "an unerring understanding, an uncorrupt will, and perfect freedom" and God gave "the last stroke to the image of God in man, by crowning all these with happiness."

Happiness is part of the image of God!

Sin then enters, distorting that image in us, but it is still there. Wesley writes, “The instrument being now quite untuned” — God’s image is still there, but we are not in tune with it. God restores that image in us through God’s sanctifying grace.

The Rev. F. Belton Joyner Jr. offers similar insight in “United Methodist Questions, United Methodist Answers.”

“Genesis 1:26 indicates that God created humankind in God’s own image so that humans would have dominion over the rest of the created order. Being created in the image of God means, first, having responsibility as stewards of creation.

“Genesis 1:27 spells out that when God created humankind in God’s image, God created them male and female. Being created in the image of God means, second, that we are created for relationships.

“Genesis 1:26 says that God created humankind to be in God’s likeness, to live in the moral life of God. Being created in the image of God means, third, that we are intended to be in relationship with God and God’s values.

“In his sermon ‘The New Birth’ ... John Wesley used three phrases to mark these dimensions of being created in the image of God: natural image (we are spiritual beings with freedom of will); political image (we are governors of the created world and engaged in relationships with others); and moral image (we are intended for holiness and righteousness).

“... this perfect image, this unbroken reflection of God, was shattered by human sin. It took the perfection of Jesus Christ to restore the image.

“To be in the image of God is not to be God. To be in the image of God is to be free to obey God. United Methodists take with great seriousness all three implications of being in God’s image: natural image (we invite persons to be in relationship with God); political image (we invite persons to care for the environment and to care for personal relationships); moral image (we invite persons to live lives of personal and social holiness).

“All persons are created in the image of God, even those we do not like, those we do not respect, and those whom we actually fear. That image is broken in all humankind, including those whom we enjoy, those whom we honor, and those who are ‘on our side.’

“Do United Methodists always live in perfect reflection of God’s love, God’s justice, God’s image? Of course not. But the God who created humankind in God’s image is still at work to restore us all to that image.”

Are you an Amazon shopper?

Did you know that when you shop using AmazonSmile, Amazon will donate a half-percent of each purchase to a charity you choose? Now that you know, why not choose Beaver Memorial United Methodist Church Lewisburg?

AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way for you to support BMUMC and it comes at zero cost to you. It's a donation made by Amazon in your honor. You just have to select us at [smile.Amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) and use smile.Amazon.com instead of Amazon.com whenever you shop.

At [smile.Amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com), you will find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com, with the added bonus that Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price to Beaver Memorial.

Here's how to get started:

1. **Visit smile.amazon.com.** It's just like shopping on the regular site.
2. **Sign in.** You can use your existing Amazon credentials. If you don't have an account, you can create a new one.
3. **Start shopping.** After you've chosen us as your charity – Beaver Memorial U M Church-- your shopping experience will be the same as it is on the Amazon website. Remember, purchases on the main Amazon.com site **do not** support us so please bookmark [smile.Amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) for the future.

BEAVER MINISTRIES AND OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE

Beacon Free Shop

Did you know that the Beacon Ministries Free Shop provides items that are not covered by state run benefit programs, such as SNAP and Welfare? Community members with financial needs cannot use their state benefits for toilet paper, laundry detergent, dish soap, feminine hygiene, toothpaste, deodorant, shampoo, etc. as these items are not deemed necessities by the state. These people are dependent on programs such as Beacon to help satisfy their needs.

Last month, a customer expressed his gratitude to Beacon volunteers for his personal hygiene items. This allowed him to buy gasoline to drive to Danville for an important medical appointment. Without Beacon he would have to choose between gasoline and personal hygiene necessities.

Through generous donations from Beaver members, and the Lewisburg community, we can continue to offer these items each month. Please remember Beacon in your church offerings (indicate BEACON in the memo), or drop items in the basket near the Church Office. Questions can be directed to Christy Brouse at 570-238-5707 or beacon@beavermethodist.org.

Union County Giving Closet

This is a new ministry being housed at First Presbyterian Church, providing new and gently used clothing for children aged newborn through Grade 12, whose families are enrolled in the Eastern Union County Food Bank Program. They are looking for monetary contributions and donations of clothing/shoes/reusable bags/gift cards to local stores and also need volunteers. You can email them at ucgivingcloset@gmail.com or call 570-524-4419.

New Beginnings Adult Sunday School Class

Our next book is Misreading Scripture with Western Eyes (Removing Cultural Blinders to Better Understanding the Bible) by E Randolph Richards and Brandon J. O'Brien.

What was clear to the original readers of Scripture is not always clear to us. Because of the cultural distance between the biblical world and our contemporary setting, we often bring modern Western

biases to the text. Getting beyond our own cultural assumptions is increasingly important for being Christians in our interconnected and globalized world. Learn to read Scripture as a member of the global body of Christ.

You are welcome to join our discussion. The New Beginnings Adult Sunday School Class meets at 9AM in the parsonage. If you are interested in joining the conversation please contact Travis Curry (traviseccurry@yahoo.com). The book cost \$12.71.

Join Our Tech Team!

If you would be willing to learn how to use the cameras on Sunday mornings, please let one of the tech team (Nick Persing, Todd Fogle, Nate Morgan or Tim Taylor) know. They will train you and promise it is not difficult. Help us keep connected with those who are not able to join us in person on Sunday mornings.

Musicians/Vocalists Wanted!

If you would be willing to provide special music on occasion for Sunday worship, please let Pastor Sue know. We want to have a nice variety: vocal, instrumental, and combinations of those – we know there is talent among us. We are also looking for additional choir members!

We Have Convenient Methods of Giving!

Mail to Beaver Memorial at 42 S. 3rd St. Lewisburg, 17837
drop into our Drop Box outside the office door or
go to our website: www.beavermethodist.org and click on “Giving”.
Thank you!

EVENTS

Music In the Park Is Back! Beginning Wed. July 6 and continuing through Wed. Aug. 10, each week will feature local musicians at Hufnagle Park in Lewisburg. All concerts begin at 7:00 pm. There is no cost to attend, but donations to the Lewisburg Arts Council are welcome! For the lineup of musicians, please go to, <https://lewisburgartscouncil.com/#music>.

LIVE! FROM LEWISBURG: INTO THE LIGHT SERIES FOR AUGUST

August 25th: Danny O'Neill, performing at St. Paul's United Methodist Church. The concert begins at 7:00 pm and doors will be open at 6:30 as folks begin to gather. For more information on where/when additional concerts will be held, please go to: <https://www.communityzonelewisburg.org/live-from-lewisburg.html>

WESLEY FOREST RETREATS

Wanderwomen: Backpacking - Adventure

This is a backpacking trip led by women, for women. An event for the first-time backpacker and the novice adventurer. Gain confidence as you learn lessons in Leave No Trace, tips on gear, and how to confidently prepare for an outdoor adventure in God’s inspiring creation. This trip will take place in the Loyalsock State Forest with a night of base camping at a State Forest cabin, followed by an overnight on the trail. All minors must be accompanied by an adult.

Leaders: Beth Jones & Emily Sliski

September 9-11 Female Ages 12+ \$115* (*includes all backpacking gear and food) no early bird

Starts: Friday 7:00 pm; Ends: Sunday 3:00 pm

AT BEAVER MEMORIAL UMC			
Event	Day/Date	Time	Location
New Beginnings Adult Sunday School	Sundays	9:00 AM	Parsonage dining room
NA Meeting	Mondays / Wednesday s	7:00 PM	2 nd Floor Parker Bldg.
Leadership Team Meetings	3 rd Tuesdays of the month	6:00 PM	Parsonage dining room
AA Meeting	Saturdays	7:00 PM	2 nd Floor Parker Bldg.
IN THE COMMUNITY			
Event	Day/Date	Time	Location
Pub Theology	3 rd Thursdays of the month	6:00 PM	Bull Run Tap House

BMUMC Staff includes:

Position	Individual	Position	Individual
Administrative Assistant	Mindy Moore	Treasurer	Shirley Brough
Custodian	Greyson Leshner	Youth Group Director	Mindy Moore
Choir Director	Brooke Persing	Pianist	Ryan Hill
Busy Beaver Day Care Director	Charlene Reigle	Kinderfolk Preschool Director	Julia Umstead
Video Team	Nick Persing, Todd Fogle, Nate Morgan, Timothy Taylor		
Leadership Team	Martha Root - croot@bucknell.edu Rev. Sue Jamison - sjamison@susumc.org Ralph Hibbs - rhibbs@windstream.net Larry Shinn - shinnl@berea.edu Nancy Shinn - shinnn@berea.edu Patty Johnston - hoodj1973@ptd.net David Deibler-Gorman - dgorman@windstream.net Gabrielle Taylor – taylorfamily@ptd.net Travis Curry – travise Curry@yahoo.com		

- Submit content for the newsletter to lornawcurry@yahoo.com by the 18th of the month prior to the newsletter.