

BEAVER BLESSINGS

March 2024



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

Beaver Memorial United Methodist Church · 42 South 3rd Street · Lewisburg ·PA · 17837 www.beavermethodist.org · (570)524-0809



<u>Sunday Morning Worship Services - 10:30 am</u> <u>New Beginnings Adult Sunday School Class – 9:00 am</u>

<u>From Pastor Sue's Desk:</u>

In the fall of 1976, when I was in my first year of college, I was appointed to the Governing Board of the National Council of Churches of Christ as a member of the United Methodist Church delegation. At the time, I was the youngest person to ever serve on the board. I served on that board for 6 years, taking me into my first two years of Seminary. It was an amazing and very educational experience. I met some of the most wonderful women who served as mentors to me. Some were United Methodist, and some were of other denominations, some were clergy and some were laity. To be fair, there were also some very supportive men. They all encouraged me to be a strong leader, and some urged me to explore the call to ordained ministry. As part of this experience, I also got to attend a few meetings of the Women's Division of the UMC. Again, I was able to experience the leadership of amazing, brave and powerful women, most of whom were laity. I am still in touch with some of those who I met during those formative years.

I share this because March is Women's History Month. I am so proud to be part of a denomination that has fostered the leadership of women in so many ways. Here is just a small piece of that history, which includes all of our predecessor denominations (which are abbreviated after first use):

1787: Despite objections of some male preachers, John Wesley authorizes Sarah Mallet to preach as long as "she proclaimed the doctrines and adhered to the disciplines that all Methodist preachers were expected to accept."

1827: Isabella Bomefree, a slave who later changes her name to Sojourner Truth, is emancipated when slavery is abolished in New York State. That same year, she co-founded Kingston Methodist Church (MC). In 1843, she feels 'called in the spirit' and begins to travel and preach. She becomes involved in the abolitionist movement, and her public speaking combines her religious faith with her experiences as a slave.

1849: Charity Opheral is granted a preacher's license by the United Brethren (UB) Church.
1851: Lydia Sexton is recommended as a "pulpit speaker" by the UB General Conference.
1866: Helenor M. Davisson is ordained deacon by the North Indiana Conference of the Methodist Protestant (MP) Church, making her the first ordained woman in the Methodist tradition.
1869: Margaret Newton Van Cott is the first woman in the Methodist Episcopal (ME) Church to receive a local preacher's license.

1870: Isabella Thoburn and Clara Swain leave for India where Thoburn launches a college in Lucknow that bears her name. Dr. Swain begins medical work in Bareli, and a hospital is later named in her honor.

1873: Anna Howard Shaw acquires a local preacher's license in the ME Church.

1875: Pauline Williams Martindale is ordained an Elder in the MP Church.

1876: Anna Oliver, the first woman to graduate from an American seminary, receives a Bachelor of Divinity degree from Boston University School of Theology.

1880: Anna Howard Shaw and Anna Oliver are refused ordination rights by the ME General Conference. Shaw joins the MP Church and is ordained in the New York Annual Conference.

1888: The denomination establishes a deaconess program for laywomen. Deaconesses serve the church in any capacity not requiring full clergy rights in ministries of love, justice and service. **1889:** Ella Niswonger is the first woman to be ordained in the UB Church.

1892: Anna Oliver and Amanda Berry Smith share a pulpit in a New Jersey church. The MP Church is the first to seat women as General Conference delegates.

1894: Minnie Jackson Goins of Kansas becomes the first African American woman to be ordained Elder in the UB Church.

1920: The ME Church grants women the right to be licensed as local preachers.

1922: Eighteen women are seated as the first female lay delegates to the General Conference of the ME Church.

1924: The ME Church grants women limited clergy rights as local Elders or deacons, without conference membership.

1932: Mildred Moody Eakin is made a full professor at Drew Theological Seminary.

1946: The UB and Evangelical Churches merge to form the Evangelical United Brethren Church (EUB).

1955: The Philippines Central Conference receives permission from the Methodist Judicial Council to ordain a woman as a local deacon. Paula Mojzes is appointed acting superintendent in Serbia-Montenegro & Macedonia Provisional Conference of the MC two years before she is ordained deacon. **1956:** The MC grants full clergy rights to women. Maud Keister Jensen is the first to receive such rights.

1958: Antonia Wladar is the first woman to be ordained in the Central European Conference. **1959:** The Rev. Gusta A. Robinette, a missionary in the Sumatra (Indonesia) Conference, is ordained and appointed superintendent of the Medan Chinese District, the first Methodist woman to hold that position.

1961: Julia Torres Fernandez becomes the first Hispanic woman to be ordained Elder in the MC. **1967:** Margaret Henrichsen is the first American woman to be appointed district superintendent. **1968:** The Methodist and the EUB demoninations unite to form The United Methodist Church (UMC). The merged church affirms full clergy rights for women. The Women's Division successfully petitions General Conference to create a study commission to document the extent to which women are involved in all structural levels of the denomination. Teressa Hoover becomes the first African American woman to serve as a top staff executive for The UMC. She would go on to lead the Women's Division for 22 years. Kathryn Mowrey Grove becomes the first laywoman elected to the UMC Judicial Council (our denominational version of the Supreme Court).

1971: Cornelia Mauyao is the first woman ordained an Elder in the Philippines Central Conference. **1972:** General Conference creates the Commission on the Status and Role of Women. Barbara Ricks Thompson is elected president.

1973: The new commission elects the Rev. Nancy (Nan) Grissom Self and Judith Learning Elmer as executive secretariat, the first two-person secretariat in the denomination.

1976: General Conference makes the commission a permanent agency. Clergywomen delegates are elected for the first time.

1979: Mutombo Ilunga Kimba is the first woman ordained Elder in the Congo, the Africa Central Conference.

1980: Marjorie Matthews is the first woman to be elected bishop of the UMC.

Three women, Anita Araya, Donna Morissette and Hazel Decker, and three men deliver the first laity address to General Conference.

1982: Mamie Ming Yan Ko, California-Pacific Conference, and Mochie Lam, California-Nevada Conference, become the first Chinese American women to be ordained Elder.

1983: Colleen Kyung Seen Chun of the California-Pacific Conference becomes the first Korean American woman to be ordained Elder.

1984: Leontine T.C. Kelly is the first African American woman to be elected Bishop.

1985: Barbara Ricks Thompson is elected top staff executive of the UMC Commission on Religion and Race.

1989: Lois V. Glory-Neal of the Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference becomes the first Native American woman to be ordained Elder. In 1992, she became the first Native American district superintendent.

1990: Lydia (Lidia) Istomina made history as the first woman pastor in the former Soviet Union, marking a resurgence of faith after 70 years of atheism. In 1990, she founded the first UMC in Russia. By September 1991, Bishops William Oden and Hans Vaxby officially appointed Istomina to serve the church she initiated, acknowledging her pivotal role in reigniting spiritual life in post-Soviet Russia. **1994:** Barbara Boigegrain is elected top staff executive of the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits. Judith Weidman is the first woman elected top staff executive of UMC Communications. **1995:** Sandra Lackore becomes the first woman elected top staff executive and treasurer of the UMC Council on Finance and Administration.

1996: First Lady Hillary Clinton speaks to General Conference in Denver. She is a lifelong UMC member. She and President Clinton attended Foundry UMC while in Washington. Bishop Judith Craig becomes the first woman to deliver the Episcopal address to General Conference.

2001: Karen A. Greenwaldt becomes the first woman elected to serve as chief executive for the General Board of Discipleship.

2002: Bishop Sharon Brown Christopher becomes the first woman to serve as president of the Council of Bishops.

2003: Linita Uluave Moa becomes the first Tongan woman to be ordained Elder.

2004: Minerva G. Carcaño becomes the first Hispanic woman Bishop.

2005: Rosemarie J. Wenner becomes the first European woman Bishop.

2007: Erin Hawkins is elected top executive of the UMC Commission on Religion and Race. **2008:** Joaquina Filipe Nhanala becomes the first African woman bishop, and the 19th woman elected to the episcopacy. Liberian President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf speaks to General Conference in Fort

Worth.

2011: Liberian President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, a UMC member, and two other women were awarded the 2011 Nobel Peace Prize for their work on women's rights. Johnson Sirleaf was elected to a second term as president of Liberia.

2012: General Conference delegates vote to make United Methodist Women a separate organization rather than a part of the Board of Global Ministries.

2019: UMW celebrates 150 years since eight denominations came together and began women's missionary societies. In 1869, the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society first organized in Boston in response to a lack of women's health care in India.

MARCH FEATURES

Mission Central est. 2002

Is Mission Central UMCOR?

No, Mission Central is its own 501c3 organization. We are not run by the United Methodist Church or UMCOR. We were started by the United Methodist Church, but we are ecumenical in nature, working with all those, no matter who they are.

How is Mission Central Funded?

Mission Central is funded almost entirely by contributions from individuals, churches and corporate sponsorships. We receive some private grants as well. We do not receive money from the government or from the United Methodist Church. When you give to UMCOR, you are not giving to Mission Central because we are separately funded organizations.

Mission Central is an UMCOR Affiliate Warehouse. What does that mean?

Mission Central has committed to being a part of the UMCOR Relief Supply Network. There are eight warehouse in the relief supply network. UMCOR Sager Brown is the only warehouse owned, funded, and operated by UMCOR. We pledge to build, verify, collect, warehouse and ship UMCOR kits at our own expense. The network works together in times of disaster to resource kits. Mission Central is ready to send supplies where there is a need. Again, this is at our expense.

We are stronger together - if one of us is down, the others are there to help with supplies, but no money is exchanged. For example, during COVID, UMCOR Sager Brown closed in March 2020 and didn't reopen until June 2023. During that time, they sent some of the supplies they had on hand to our location since we remained open and continued to operate to keep up with the increased demand around the world and domestically. When supplies were completed, we would send them where inventory was needed.

When do UMCOR kits get sent?

When a request is put into UMCOR, the kits are sent. UMCOR kits are sent only within the U.S. and mostly in response to disasters.

What are UMCOR kits?

In 2018, UMCOR decreased to three kit types: Cleaning Kit (Flood Bucket), Hygiene Kit, and School Kit. At the end of 2023, they discontinued with the School Kit due to a lack of requests during a disaster. They instituted a disposable Feminine Hygiene Kit instead.

All other kits we talk about are Mission Central kits that we distribute both nationally and internationally. These are completely separate from UMCOR.

Who decides what is an UMCOR kit?

UMCOR decides what is in their kits and often works in collaboration with Church World Services. The items in these kits do not change and are not under our discretion.

Should I give money to Mission Central or UMCOR in a disaster?

During international disasters, UMCOR sends relief in the form of monetary grants. UMCOR no longer ships supplies internationally because shipping can be expensive and not as immediate. Because of the way UMCOR is set up, this is the best way for them to steward your donation. Mission Central, alternately, ships supplies both in the U.S. and internationally because we do not pay for shipping. We work with partners to receive information on the requested items needed for a disaster. Many times, these are items they are unable to find near the disaster site. Mission Central lets you know what the needed items are, and you can purchase them or send monetary donations to us to facilitate this process.

If you want to give requested, needed supplies in a disaster, Mission Central is your choice - whether you want to donate supplies or money. If you want to assist in sending monetary help to the disaster, then give funds to UMCOR.

Every dollar donated to a disaster through Mission Central will be spent towards that disaster. We want to steward your resources well and make sure you are given the proper information to give where is most appropriate for you so that we can all work together to send hope and empowerment in times of crisis around the world and around the corner.

Mission Central has been serving in mission since 2002; Connecting God's Resources with Human Need

ON THIS DAY - The Methodist Building Cafeteria To Integrate

On February 21, 1947, the process began to serve everyone at the Methodist Building Cafeteria on Capitol Hill no matter the color, race or creed.

General Board of Church and Society February 21, 2024



The Methodist Dining Room in 1947, which is now the United Methodist Building Conference Room Two and Three (photos from GCAH and GBCS)

Connecting African American History Month and a Methodist milestone for social justice

For a century, social witness and justice seeking has been the watchwords for the work of Church and Society on Capitol Hill.

Unfortunately, there have been times when we as an agency neglected and participated in acts of injustice and racism in our own house. For this, we repent and pray for forgiveness.

From the earliest days, The Methodist Building operated a cafeteria for people who were Church and Society employees, staffers on Capitol Hill. Senators, House Members, Methodist people from around the world, tourists and visitors.



This cafeteria was officially segregated until February 21, 1947 when the agency began the process of changing the cafeteria's segregation policy, becoming the only integrated cafeteria on Capitol Hill in 1947.

As one might expect, the building cafeteria manager received numerous negative letters for the buildings' integrated service policy. However, many messages like the letter here, welcomed and honored the new change, (letter from the files of the UMC General Commission of Archives and History).

In 1947, Bayard Rustin and civil rights leaders worked with Methodist agency to end The Methodist Building Cafeteria segregation

Bayard Rustin a civil rights activist (photo on left from Time Magazine article) and the great architect of the March on Washington, along with his colleagues were instrumental in desegregating the dining room in The Methodist Building. Throughout 1947, with Ruskin as its Chairperson, a committee of citizens made up of pastors and leaders from around the country worked tirelessly delivering proposals and organizing protests opposing segregation in D.C. coffee shops and cafeterias.

The Rev. James Cannon, Pastor of Asbury Methodist Church in D.C. was among the members of the citizen committee seeking an end to the practice of refusing service to black people in D.C. cafeterias. During a committee meeting held July 24, 1947 at Asbury Methodist Church, Rustin reported, "was

the successful breaking down of the practice of not serving colored persons in The Methodist Building Cafeteria, 100 Maryland avenue NE." as written in the Washington Evening Star, July 25, 1947.

Rustin's legacy to end segregation also includes partnering with A. Philip Randolph in the early 1940's to oppose racial discrimination in the military and defense employment. Rustin continued to organize the Freedom Rides, the work of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) and strengthen Dr. Martin Luther King's voice as he worked to organize the 1963 March on Washington.

The United Methodist Building continues to be a faith-based, strategic space and vital gathering place for social witness and the pursuit of justice and peace.

United Methodist Building Anniversary Resources

To purchase the 2024 United Methodist Building historical book written by Dr. Jessica M. Smith, For Justice and Enduring Peace: One Hundred Years of Social Witness, visit Cokesbury Publishing. To watch our video, "Celebrating 100 Years of Social Witness," and for more information on the year of celebration, go to our 100th Anniversary webpage.

GETTING TO KNOW YOU



My name is Julia Umstead and I am the Director of Kinderfolk as well as the lead Pre-K teacher. I have lived in Lewisburg since 2015 with my husband and our daughter, a Kinderfolk alum. I graduated from Pennsylvania State University in 2004 with a B.S. in Rehabilitation Services and in 2010 with my M.Ed in Adult Education. I was a preschool teacher from 2005-2011 at the Bennett Family Center at Penn State University. In my years at the Bennett Family Center, I had the opportunity to mentor early childhood university students and spent my time acquiring extensive early childhood development education.



My name is Charlene Reigle and I became the director of Busy Beaver on June 1, 2020. I have worked at Busy Beaver since March of 2015. I taught in every classroom at the center and eventually became the assistant director in July of 2018. I still taught in the Crawler and Preschool Classrooms for an additional year and three months before moving into the Interim Director Position at the end of September 2019. While serving the Interim position I experienced much more than I ever realized here at Busy Beaver. Seeing children come and go and directing through my first pandemic/closure was definitely an eye opening time for me. My love for the staff and children here grew with each passing day and I knew just where my path

was leading me to. When the director position was offered to me, I knew BBDCC was where I needed to be.

I graduated from Shamokin Area Jr/Sr High School in 2003 and worked right out of high school. I later went to College to obtain my degree in Business Management. Even though I had a love for office work, my heart always took me back to working with children. It led me back to school again and I obtained my degree in Early Childhood Education.

I have a wonderful husband, Jeff and three children; Greyson, Madeline, and Raelyn! Together we live here in Kelly Township in Lewisburg and share our home with our three fur babies, Kyle, Tessa, and Charlie. We also have a flock of 25 chickens!

SUMMER CAMP: Building authentic connections in Christ, community, and creation

We're very excited to share our Summer 2024 programs with you. Real Summer Fun. New Experiences. Expand Your Faith.

Below you will find a listing of all of Wesley Forest summer programs. If you don't see the program you're looking for, or have any trouble please call our office at 717.766.7395 or email camps@susumc.org

DATE	EVENT	GRADE /AGE	DATE	EVENT	GRADE/AGE
Jun 16-20	Special Friends	Ages 15 -40	Jul 14-19	Messtival	Grades 3-6
Jun 21-24	Post Grads	Ages 18-25	Jul 14-19	Create!	Grades 7-12
Jun 23-26	Spark Mini Camp	Grades 1-4	Jul 21-26	Awesome Elem	Grades 3-6
Jun 23-28	Glow Elem	Grades 3-6	Jul 21-26	Venture	Grades 7-12
Jun 23-28	Shine Jr/Sr	Grades 7-12	Jul 28-30	*Wacky Mini	Grades K-2
Jun 23-28	Fishing Adv	Grades 5-10	Jul 28 – Aug 2	Wacky Week	Grades 2-6
Jul 7-12	Camp Splash	Grades 3-6	Jul 28 – Aug 2	Ignite	Grades7-12
Jul 7-12	Soaked	Grades 7-12	* New this year		

Reasons to Send Your Child to Our Camps

- Grow in faith Campers often remark that at camp they feel closer to God.
- Spend their day being physically active Camp is action!
- Make true friends Everyday, camp creates friendships.
- Reconnect with nature Camp get kids back outside.
- Learn social skills Camp builds teamwork.
- Have time for unstructured play At camp we play!
- Grow more independent Camp helps kids develop who they are.
- Develop life-long skills Camp expands every child's abilities.
- Unplug from technology Camp is real!
- Gain resiliency Camp helps conquer fears.
- Experience success and become more confident Camp teaches kids that they can.

BEAVER MINISTRIES AND OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE

Beacon Free Shop

Three inches of overnight snowfall didn't stop the mighty Beacon Free Shop on Saturday, February 17, 2024. Eighty-five households, with 217 individuals, were provided personal hygiene and household items. Thanks to all volunteers who assure the distribution runs like a fine oiled machine. Each volunteer takes their duties seriously, and it shows.

Beacon has registered to participate in the Raise the Region 30-hour online giving campaign. From 6pm, March 13 to midnight, March 14, donations can be matched or 'stretched' by local business sponsors. Since this is an online campaign, gifts from beyond our local area can donate. Tell your friends and family about the works of Beacon Free Shop, and how they can help to allow the mission to continue. More information will be printed in the church bulletin as the time nears.

Next Beacon Free Shop will be held Saturday, March 16, 2024 from 10am – 12noon.

For additional information contact Christy Brouse at 570-238-5707 or <u>beacon@beavermethodist.org</u>.

New to You Shop

Sixty-three individuals or families came to our February give-away, with a total of 151 household members being served. Again, linens were the most popular items. We had no towels left after the event at all, so if you are cleaning out your linen closet, please keep us in mind. Many people expressed their thanks for this ministry, so I think we can consider our newest outreach a success! Volunteers from both Beaver and First Baptist continue to come out to help. We are so grateful for the many hands that make set-up and clean-up go quickly. It took less than an hour to put everything back in the storage room on Saturday. We also bagged most of the winter clothing and took it to Community Aid so they could make it available while the weather is still cold enough to those in need of warm attire.

Our next event will be in May, the 17th for set-up and the 18th for the event and clean-up. Donations may also be brought in Sunday the 12th before or after worship or on Friday afternoon during set-up. Please restrict donations to seasonal clothing, kitchen items and linens. (Remember, no knives, underwear, shoes or children's clothing. Also, no electronics, toys or anything else not specifically requested.) A sign-up sheet will be in the sanctuary about 2 weeks before.

If you have any questions, please contact Patty Johnston at 570-523-3132 or hoodj1973@ptd.net.

United Youth Group

For the month of March we will be meeting at St. Paul's United Methodist Church. On the 3rd we will have one of our Movie Nights. We will be watching the DreamWorks movie, <u>Prince of Egypt</u>. On the 10th it will be a Games night. On the 17th we will talk about Being Created to Be Authentic. These gatherings are for all youth in 6th through 12th grade, and they run from 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm. Bring your own dinner/snack and beverage.

UYG Up-Coming Mission Trip to Washington DC - We will be taking a group of 9 youth to Steinbruck Center at Luther Place Memorial. We will leave on Wednesday, April 10 and return on Monday, April 15. We ask for your prayer support as we walk alongside various ministries that are helping the homeless and folks with food insecurities.

- Charlene Rineer 717-880-2872

Busy Beaver

March is looking like an exciting month! We are very excited to welcome spring here at Busy Beaver. That means we will be having a lot more outdoor time and visits to the park and the playground!

This month we will celebrate St. Patrick's Day. The children love to set Leprechaun traps and see if they can catch the leprechaun. We will have shamrock cookies and juice boxes to celebrate. We also will be having our annual easter egg hunt on Wednesday March 27th. Each classroom hides Easter eggs, weather permitting outside on the playground and the children have the opportunity to find eggs. If the weather does not cooperate, we will hide the eggs inside for the children.

Busy Beaver would like to send a huge thank you to the LT and Pastor Sue for the wonderful cards of appreciation for staff. They really enjoyed receiving them.

- Charlene Reigle Director, Busy Beaver

Kinderfolk

We were very pleased last month for Phil to tell us we were having an early spring! The spring bulbs are starting to poke out of the ground and the days are getting a bit warmer. The children have really

BEAVER BLESSINGS

enjoyed our lesson line-up of "letters of the week". This month, we will be introducing the letters P, L D and B. During the month of March, we will be exploring the natural progression of spring and hopefully we will be getting a visit from a very tricky leprechaun! Finally, we are very excited that we are already looking ahead to next year for Kinderfolk enrollment. We have been receiving calls and emails from the public and past Kinderfolk families on our availability for the 2024/2025 school year. We still have a few openings for our morning M/W/F class, and our afternoon Pre-K class is filling up fast.

- Julia Umstead Director, Kinderfolk Preschool

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

AT BEAVER MEMORIAL UMC							
Event	Day/Date	Time	Location				
New Beginnings Adult	Sunday	9:00 AM	Fellowship Hall				
Sunday School							
NA Meeting	Monday	7:00 PM	Fellowship Hall				
NA Meeting	Wednesday	7:30 PM	Fellowship Hall				
Leadership Team Meetings	3 rd Tuesday of the month	6:30 PM	Fellowship Hall				
AA Meeting	Saturday	7:00 PM	Fellowship Hall				
Beacon Shop	3 rd Saturday of the month	10:00 AM	Beaver Memorial UMC				
IN THE COMMUNITY							
Event	Day/Date	Time	Location				
Pub Theology	3 rd Thursday of the	6:00 PM	Bull Run Tap House				
	month						
Soup and Scripture	Wednesday	Noon	Christ's Evangelical Lutheran				
			Church				

BMUMC Staff includes:

Position	Individual	Position	Individual	
Church Administrator	Tiffany Heimbach	Treasurer	Shirley Brough	
Custodian	Jim Gulden	Youth Group Director	Charlene Rineer	
Choir Director	Brooke Persing	Pianist	Ryan Hill	
Busy Beaver Day Care	Charlene Reigle	Kinderfolk Preschool	Julia Umstead	
Director		Director		
Video Team	Nick Persing, Todd Fogle, Deena Eberhart, Timothy Taylor			

Submit content for the newsletter to <u>tlcinhisservice@yahoo.com</u> by the 18th of the month prior to the newsletter.