



BEAVER BLESSINGS

October 2024



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 - 11:00 am
New Beginnings Adult Sunday School Class – 9:30 am

From Pastor Sue's Desk:

One of my all-time favorite comic strips was Kudzu, written by Pulitzer Prize winning editorial cartoonist Doug Marlett. It ran from 1981-2007, and ended when, sadly, Marlett was killed in a car accident. The main character in the strip was the Rev. Will B. Done. In one particular strip, he is at the pulpit reading the passage that contains the Lord's Prayer, and he says: "Give us this day our daily low-fat, low-cholesterol, salt-free bread." In the next frame he says, "I hate these modern translations!" And I'm still waiting for someone to invent a no-calorie bread!

And perhaps these rules for dieting will become reality someday (edited from Homiletics):

- If you eat something and no one sees you, it has no calories.
- A diet drink and a candy bar cancel out each other's calories.
- If your companion eats more than you do, your calories don't count.
- Breaking cookies into pieces drains the calories out.
- Foods eaten at movie theaters do not have calories because they are part of the entertainment package.
- Food licked off eating utensils have no calories, provided you are in the process of preparing something.
- Foods that have the same color have the same number of calories.
- For every burp, subtract 25 calories.

And from a recent Garfield comic strip: Diet Tip – the louder you chew the more calories you burn. crunch, Crunch, CRunch, CRUnch, CRUNCh, CRUNCH!

Ok, we know these are just for fun. And we know we must eat to survive. And just as we need nourishment for our body, we also need nourishment for our spirits. Jesus, the bread of life, is just what we need for that nourishment. Through his life and teaching, Jesus reveals who God is and shows us how we are to live. He then sent the Holy Spirit to be present with us. When we feed on the teachings of Jesus, we are given nourishment for our journey through life. We are given courage and hope to live in this time and place, with a renewed sense of purpose and the trust that God is with us each step of the way. Just as physical bread provides our bodies what they need, this spiritual bread provides our spirits what they need. Let us continue to learn and grow together as we seek to share the bread of life with others.

OCTOBER FEATURES

➤ Why United Methodists observe Children's Sabbath

Author's note: The United Methodist Church recognizes Children's Sabbath on the weekend of the second Sunday in October (October 12-14, 2018). The ecumenical date, traditionally the third weekend in October (October 19-21, 2018), normally conflicts with Laity Sunday.

On the second weekend in October, The United Methodist Church recognizes Children's Sabbath, a time to reflect on God's gift of children, and ways congregations and individuals can renew their commitment to care for, protect and advocate for all children.

The Children's Defense Fund has led and organized The National Observance of Children's Sabbath since 1991. This ecumenical celebration brings together people of all faiths to address the needs of children.

"United Methodists have historically been strong supporters of the Children's Sabbath," reports Melanie C. Gordon, Director of Ministry with Children at Discipleship Ministries.

"The focus for Children's Sabbath is to look deeply at the needs of children, those local and worldwide, and pray for them," shares the Rev. Leanne Hadley, founder of A Time for Children that coaches United Methodist congregations in developing ministries with children. "The goal is to recognize the needs of children and pray; and during the prayer time, to discern where God might be calling us as the church and as individuals to act."

Gordon adds, "Children's Sabbath allows us the opportunity to take a fresh look each year at the needs of children in the neighborhoods where we worship, work, and live; and then discover ways to address or meet those needs as people of God."

Information and action

"People want to think of childhood as a carefree time of joy and happiness," Hadley reports, "but the reality for kids today is very different. They have needs. They suffer. They worry. They need their emotions to be noticed and prayed for. That is what the Children's Sabbath is all about."

United Methodists and our predecessor bodies have a long history of ministering to the needs of children. John and Charles Wesley's Holy Club taught the poor children of Oxford. John Wesley founded, led and wrote curriculum for the Kingswood School that grew out of the ministries of the New Room in Bristol, England. United Methodist-related Otterbein University and Albright College are named for Jacob Albright founder of the Evangelical Association and Philip Otterbein of the United Brethren in Christ, predecessor bodies of The United Methodist Church.

"Works of mercy are part of our history as Methodists," Gordon says, "and continue to be a central part of how we address justice issues in our world. This aligns with the purpose of the Children Sabbath—advocating for the quality care of all children."

Churches are encouraged to raise awareness of children's issues and to provide opportunities for congregations and individuals to develop and participate in ministries that benefit the children of their community and congregation.

The National Observance of Children's Sabbaths® Manual available from the Children's Defense Fund, shares examples of ways congregations have observed Children's Sabbath in the past.

Coral Gables (Florida) United Methodist Church hosted an afternoon lunch that featured a speaker from a neighborhood children's initiative organization. St. Matthew's United Methodist Church in Metairie, Louisiana, invited a local school principal to be a guest speaker.

Chester (Virginia) United Methodist Church donated loose change. The money was used to support the church's ministry that provides meals for children in poverty.

Amity United Methodist Church in Chapel Hill, North Carolina, began a book drive on Children's Sabbath that continued through the spring. Elementary-aged children in the community received the donated books to read during the summer.

Special worship

"The other part of the Children's Sabbath," Gordon continues, "is planning a worship service that lifts up the needs of children in our communities, and to honor the lives of children as a gift from God."

The Children's Defense Fund provides worship resources for congregations. "The resources and liturgies, while often sad and even somber," notes Hadley, "are very respectful of children as whole people with needs and rights."

Hadley encourages United Methodists also to, "Look at the needs of the children in the community and take one action. Can you imagine each United Methodist church doing one thing? We could make a huge impact in the lives of children."

"In addition to providing the children food, tutoring, and other resources," she continues, "we can be prepared and trained in the best ways to pray with children, to listen deeply to them, and to create sacred spaces where they can experience God. Faith is the greatest gift we can offer. Children need the hope and healing only God can give them."

Find out what your congregation is doing to recognize Children's Sabbath and get involved. If you are not part of a United Methodist church, find the one nearest you using Find-A-Church. Learn more about Children's Sabbath from Discipleship Ministries.

United Methodist Women, the General Board of Global Ministries, the General Board of Church and Society, and Discipleship Ministries of The United Methodist Church all endorse Children's Sabbath.

*Joe Iovino works for UMC.org at United Methodist Communications. Contact him by email or at 615-312-3733.

➤ What is World Communion Sunday?

Unity is a common theme in Scripture. 1 Corinthians 1:10 urges us to live in harmony together and be of one mind, and 1 Corinthians 12:12-27 shows us that we are all different parts of the same body. In Philippians 1:27-28, the apostle Paul admonishes us to stand united and contend for people's trust in the good news in our effort to live a life worthy of the Gospel.

In the spirit of Christian unity, many church leaders observe World Communion Sunday.

World Communion Sunday is a special holiday on the Christian calendar and provides an opportunity for believers worldwide to come together in unity and celebrate their shared faith. This article will cover the historical background of the movement, relevant Scripture and songs you can share with your members, and how to celebrate this powerful holiday!

What day is World Communion Sunday?

World Communion Sunday is an ecumenical celebration observed by many different Christian denominations on the first Sunday in October every year. The goal of World Communion Sunday is to promote unity and cooperation among Christians of all denominations and traditions. The emphasis is on the Eucharist, which binds us together in faith.

The meaning of World Communion Sunday is to promote and celebrate our oneness in Christ with all of our Christian brothers and sisters around the world. The celebration encourages harmony and partnership across church traditions and denominations.

World Communion Sunday (originally called World Wide Communion Sunday) was started in 1933 by Dr. Hugh Thomson Kerr, pastor of Shadyside Presbyterian Church PCUSA, to promote unity and cooperation across Christian denominations.

Kerr's son, Rv. Dr. Donald Craig Kerr, pastor emeritus of the Roland Park Presbyterian Church in Baltimore, shared that the celebration began as an attempt to bring churches together, but did not take off right away. It wasn't adopted by the Presbyterian Church (US) until 1936. In 1940, the Department of Evangelism of the Federal Council of Churches (the predecessor of the National Council of Churches) promoted the celebration to churches worldwide, making the observation widespread.

Today, World Communion Sunday is celebrated by Christians around the world, transcending denominations and languages.

UMC bishops in Africa issue statement on state of the Church

We, the bishops of The United Methodist Church (UMC) in Africa, make the following statement to our brothers and sisters in Africa and the UMC as a whole.

Isaiah 43:19: "Behold, I am doing a new thing."

We support the decision of 2020/2024 General Conference to approve the Worldwide Regionalization of the Church, which allows Africa and other areas of the Church to make decisions that will best support outreach and ministry efforts in our own specific settings. Regionalization will allow us to draft and publish our own regional Book of Discipline, hymnals, books of worship and other liturgical resources. Regionalization will allow setting requirements for ordination and licensed ministry with respect to our needs and resources and set standards for lay membership. Regionalization will allow us to develop practices around marriage ceremonies, funerals and other rites that align with cultural contexts and laws in each of our countries in Africa. We, therefore, urge our annual conferences to support Regionalization and ratify the constitutional amendments related to Regionalization.

We call for continued education on Regionalization from our context and as related to our needs and resources. That is why we urge our own people to be key players in conducting the training and providing resources in our languages and perspectives.

We will remain in The United Methodist Church, and we urge our members to join us in our stance in staying in The United Methodist Church and will continue to be shepherds of God's flock in this worldwide denomination. We will continue to do ministry in our context in Africa.

We condemn those who are working for the Global Methodist Church while claiming to be members of the UMC and we urge them to withdraw from the UMC. We call upon them to go in peace and do it respectfully. Our polity does not allow a person to be a member of two denominations. Therefore, we will take disciplinary action on those working against the interests of the UMC. This means but is not limited to being disloyal to the UMC or undermining the ministry of the Church and its leaders.

We also castigate those who come from outside Africa to coerce and harass members of our churches. We chastise groups such as Wesleyan Covenant Association (WCA), its related organizations and its Africa Now Initiative for providing misinformation about the UMC. We do not consider WCA as a forum of the UMC in Africa.

We continue to pray for peaceful episcopal elections and smooth transition in the following episcopal areas: East Angola, East Congo, Mozambique, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, South Congo, Zimbabwe; and the new episcopal areas in Burundi and Congo.

Our God of hope is giving us nine bishops to be elected in Africa in the next few months. We are urging that the nine bishops that will be elected and the continuing bishops to be strong leaders who will stay in The United Methodist Church.

We call upon The United Methodist Church in Africa to move forward and focus on the ministry of making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. We have a mission field which is rich for evangelism. Matthew 28: 18-20

Approved on this 5th day of September 2024 by bishops who were in attendance during the meeting at Africa University in Mutare, Zimbabwe.
Source Susquehanna Conference Website

➤ **October Backpack Adventure to Worlds End State Park October 16th - 17th 2024**



Canyon Vista/Double Run Loop Backpack Embark on an unforgettable autumn backpacking trip in the mountains of PA as we immerse ourselves in the beauty of fall colors and flowing streams. This 5-mile loop is appropriate for beginner backpackers. We will meander up the East branch of Double Run stream and make camp next to graceful Neeneha Falls. The following day we will take in the sweeping views from Canyon Vista, overlooking Worlds End State Park then return to the park via the Loyalsock Trail. All backpacking equipment and food is included. Cost is \$225. Wednesday – Thursday October 16th - 17th 2024. Email deepgreenjourney@gmail.com for additional information.

➤ **You're invited to St. John's UCC's 200th Anniversary Celebration**

Sunday, October 20, 2024 Worship Service at 3 p.m.
Banquet at 5 p.m. at Silver Moon Banquet Hal

We've been celebrating in a variety of ways through 2024. Our final celebratory event going to be the "biggest event" of our celebrations. We hope you can join us. The worship service will be a celebration of 200 years of ministry with guest preacher, Rev. Sally Dries. Included in the day will be former pastors and "sons and daughters" of the church. The new 200th Anniversary Anthem, especially created for the day will be a part of the service. Authorized Clergy are invited to robe and wear a red stole for worship. Please RSVP to Todd at 570-523-0162 or stjohnsucc@ptd.net by October 1st. We hope you can join us! From the 200th Anniversary Team!

➤ **Cluster Charge Conference**

This year's cluster charge conference will be held November 11th at 6 PM (location TBD). The charge conference is a time where pastors and leaders from the United Methodist churches of our cluster get together to worship, share in ministry, and conduct administrative business of the church. The cluster charge conference is open to all members of the Lewisburg Charge (Beaver Memorial UMC and St. Paul's UMC) but is non-mandatory! If you have any questions, please ask Pastor Sue or Pastor Ethan.

BEAVER MINISTRIES AND OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE

Beacon Free Shop

Beacon Free Shop was held Saturday, September 21 and provided personal hygiene products to 88 households, consisting of 209 individuals. 21 of the households were new, never visiting Beacon before. As always, thanks to the 16 volunteers who made sure the distribution of 770 items ran smoothly.

In April 2024, First Quality Products of Lock Haven generously donated a one year's supply (7,000 rolls) of toilet paper to Beacon. They asked that we pick up one-half of the donation then (in April), and the remainder in six months. The six month mark is approaching, and we have used most of the first 3,500 rolls. Christy Brouse will work with First Quality to set a date to pick up the remainder. We will need volunteers to help unload the truck when we return from Lock Haven. Stay tuned for more information on this fun event.

Next Beacon Free Shop will be held Saturday, October 19, 2024 from 10am – 12noon. Interested in volunteering? Contact the Church Office, or Christy Brouse at 570-238-5707.

New to You Special Toys Day and November Regular New to You Day

We're holding a special Toy Day in October. It will be only for toys, children's books, games, puzzles (all ages) and any other items geared to children. (For example, I have a Care Bears suitcase I'm bringing.)

Please wash any stuffed animals and wipe down other toys, if possible. Donations can be brought on Sunday, October 13 after worship or that Friday during set-up, October 18. The 19th is the event from 10:00-noon during Beacon Shop hours. Clean-up will start immediately after. We will be taking any remaining items to Community Aid.

A sign-up for volunteers for set-up, during the event and clean-up will be available in the sanctuary on September 22, or you can call, text or email me to volunteer: 570-713-4659 and hoodj1973@ptd.net.

Our next regular New to You for adult clothing, linens and kitchen items is November 18.

Busy Beaver

It's so hard to believe that the month of October is upon us! This month is a huge month for Busy Beaver as it is our DHS inspection month as well as our STARS renewal. We are currently working on increasing the Program to a Star 4 facility! We must have all our indicators in before October 29th. We are very hopeful to move up this year!

Thank you to everyone who ordered Apple Dumplings and Whoopie Pies! We greatly appreciate your support. In the month of October, we will be having our Halloween Parade and Party as well as our Pumpkin decorating with donuts and apple cider. It is also fire safety month, and the older children will be paying a visit to the fire station.

Looking ahead: We are getting excited for our annual Thanksgiving dinner this year! Last year we had a huge turnout with over 100 guests. We will also be selling Gertrude Hawk Candy again this year before Christmas.

Charlene Reigle Director, Busy Beaver

United Youth Group

The UYG started off in September with a dinner, a games' night, and the first of the remix lessons. October has a lot of different activities on the schedule. On Sunday, the 6th, we will be meeting at St. Paul's United Methodist at 1:45 pm for the walk to feed the hungry. Afterwards we will participate in an interactive journey. On October 14th all the youth are invited to participate in a mini mission Monday at Christ's Lutheran. We will be tying fleece blankets for Project Linus from 6:30 pm to 7:30 pm. That will take place in their up-stair's classrooms. We will also participate in a murder mystery event on October 20th. We will meet at 1:30 pm at St. Paul's to carpool to the event. Then the next Remix lesson will be on October 27 from 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm. For that you need to bring your dinner and your Bible. All 6th through 12th graders are invited to join us for all these activities! For additional information please contact Charlene Rineer 717-880-2872

Altar Flowers

If you enjoy the beautiful flowers displayed on the altar each Sunday, please consider signing up to sponsor altar flowers. You can use the signup sheet on the cabinet in the narthex entry way or contact the church office for available dates. We are requesting one vase per week at the cost of \$45.

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, or Deena Eberhart) 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 Brooke Persing know. We want to have a nice variety: vocal, instrumental, and combinations of those – we know there is talent among us. Vocal Choir rehearsals are held October through May, usually on Wednesdays at 7:00PM in the Choir Room on the lower level.

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 School	Sunday	9:30 AM	Hall of All Peoples
Choir Practice	Wednesday	7:00 PM	Choir Room
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
Dinner by the River	1st Thursday of the month	5:30 PM	1 st Presbyterian Lewisburg

BMUMC Staff includes:

Position	Individual	Position	Individual
Church Administrator	Tiffany Heimbach	Treasurer	Shirley Brough
Custodian	Jim Gulden	United Youth Group Director	Charlene Rineer
Choir Director	Brooke Persing	Accompanist	Sabastian Stewart
Busy Beaver Day Care Director	Charlene Reigle		
Video Team	Nick Persing, Todd Fogle, Deena Eberhart, Timothy Taylor		
Leadership Team	Martha Root - croot@bucknell.edu Rev. Sue Jamison - sjamison@susumc.org Rev. Ethan Shearer - eshearer@susumc.org Ralph Hibbs - rhibbs@windstream.net Patty Johnston - hoodj1973@ptd.net David Deibler-Gorman - dgorman@windstream.net Gabrielle Taylor - taylorfamily@ptd.net Heidi Gilmore - heidiegilmore@gmail.com Kathy McKibben - klmckibben@gmail.com Chuck Root - croot@bucknell.edu Nick Persing - persing191983@gmail.com Travis Curry - travise Curry@yahoo.com		

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