

THE BEACON

The Broad Street United Methodist Church Newsletter

The Pastor's Corner

Grace and Peace to you from God the Father and our Lord Jesus Christ!

The Bible Study on Romans has begun, and as I read Paul, many questions always surface. There is one question in particular that has emerged in response to Romans 1:16-18:



For I am not ashamed of the gospel; it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who has faith, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. For in it the righteousness of God is revealed through faith for faith; as it is written, "The one who is righteous will live by faith."

If I had to say the gospel as succinctly as Paul, what would I say? If someone were to ask you what the gospel is, what would you say? If you were to express the gospel, you might, like Paul, say something about salvation. I find it fascinating that Paul says nothing about an afterlife or going to heaven when he articulates the gospel. It seems that he is making a connection between righteousness and salvation—as if

"The good news isn't that we have to wait to live righteously and participate in salvation until we die. The good news is that we can seek and pursue justice right now"

- Pastor James

becoming righteous is connected to salvation. John Wesley says something similar:

By salvation I mean, not barely (according to the vulgar notion) deliverance from sin, but a restoration of the soul to its primitive health, its original purity; a recovery of the divine nature the renewal of our souls after the image of God in righteousness and true holiness, in justice, mercy, and truth.

When we share with others what we believe the gospel is, do we forget that the gospel means the possibility to become righteous right now? The good news isn't that we have to wait to live righteously and participate in salvation until we die. The good news is that we can seek and pursue justice right now. We can love God and neighbor, right now, because God is actively seeking for our transformation to live a life of faith in the same manner our Lord and Savior did. As Methodists, we call this pursuing perfection.

This month, I invite you to reflect on what you believe the gospel is.

In Christ,
Pastor James



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Broad Street UMC Hoagie Sale

\$10/hoagie *includes a bag of chips and a bottle of water*

Payment in advance is required.

Order deadline is Monday, Sept. 18, 2023



Scan the QR code to order.



Our first two hoagie sales were very successful thanks to everyone who purchased hoagies. We’re hoping that this next sale will be equally successful. The order deadline is Monday and hoagies can be picked up Friday, September 22nd or Saturday, September 23rd from 11:30AM to 1:00PM. Use the QR code above (scan it with your phone) or the order form below to place your order for next week.

The sale is coordinated by the Girls of Grace. We will be meeting at 10AM on Friday to put the Friday hoagie orders together and then we’ll be there earlier for the yard sale on Saturday and will put together the Saturday orders at 10AM Saturday.

Name: _____
Email: _____
Phone #: _____

Please indicate the number of each type of hoagie:

| | |
|----------------|-----------------------|
| Italian _____ | Ham & Cheese _____ |
| American _____ | Turkey & Cheese _____ |
| Cheese _____ | Tuna _____ |

Choose a day you will pick up:
___ Friday ___ Saturday

Hoagies should be paid for when ordered. You can pay with cash or a check made out to the church or you can pay on PayPal at paypal.me/BSUMC.

OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE

We received the a note from the Chaplain in the Spiritual Care Department of Virtua Health. The cover letter included the following:

“We are recruiting volunteers to assist the Chaplain throughout Virtua Health Hospitals in Burlington and Camden Counties. We are happy to welcome lay spiritual visitors into the hospital this time to come and spend time with our patients listening and praying with them upon request.

Following a training and orientation period, these volunteers are assigned to specific times and hospital units according to their availability. Through their friendly visits they offer compassion and support. Virtua has a wonderful family of volunteers. We invite members of your congregation to join us a Volunteer Chaplain Aides.”



VOLUNTEER CHAPLAIN AIDES are needed throughout the Virtua Health System in Burlington and Camden Counties. There are openings for trained lay visitors every da of the week. Following a training and orientation process, an Aide may donate two to four hours each week to visit patients, offering them compassion and spiritual comfort.

To find out if volunteering is for you, please call or email for an information package with details of the training and the process to become a volunteer at any of our facilities. The orientation class is Mondays October 2nd and October 9th from 8am to 5pm.

For more information about volunteering at Virtua Burlington, Virtua Marlton, Virtua Mt. Holly and Virtua Voorhees, please contact Chaplain Marge McGinley, at 609-914-6365 or email mmcginley@virtua.org

LAY SERVANT MINISTRIES

A United Methodist Lay Servant is an active member of a local church or charge who is ready and desirous to serve the Church by leading, caring and communicating. Lay Servants take courses to become first a Basic Lay Servant, then a Certified Lay Servant and finally a Certified Lay Speaker.

The Annual Conference is offering the Basic Lay Servant class this fall as well as two options for Certified Lay Servants who need to complete their recertification (*Leading Worship* and *UMC History & Polity*). You can read more about the classes [here](#) on the GNJ website.

Our own Rev. Dr. Helen Rainier is teaching one of the *Leading Worship* classes and it will be held in person here at Broad Street UMC, so if you have completed the Basic Lay Servant class and want to continue on to become a Certified Lay Servant, or if you are already a Certified Lay Servant and need a class to keep your certification (once every three years), you can take the class right here at BSUMC.



Held on the same day as the annual E. Union Street community yard sale, our Girls of Grace Church Yard Sale has been a successful fundraiser for many years.

If you have items to donate, you can bring them to the church gym on the following days/times:

Sunday, 9/17/23 before Sunday School or worship
Monday, 9/18/23 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM
Friday, 9/22/23 9:00 AM - Noon

If you would rather rent a table and sell your own items, see Cindy Borgstrom to pay for a table.

Come and shop some of our amazing items on Saturday, 9/23/23 from 9:00AM through 2:00PM. We will have a few hoagies for sale (not pre-purchased) and you can pick up your pre-purchased hoagies from 11:30AM - 1:00PM.

Thanks for your support!



The United Women in Faith have Boscov's Friends Helping Friends 25%* Off Shopping Passes available for sale for \$5 each. The pass is valid on Wednesday, October 18th, in-store only (not valid for online shopping). 100% of the money raised through the sale of these tickets will go to help the [Neighborhood Center](#) in Camden this year. See any UWF member for your shopping pass.

*some restrictions apply and not all merchandise is 25% off



Last year we sent 13 boxes to
Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child.

Our goal this year is 20 boxes.

September: Wow Gift

The September item is a "Wow" gift (doll, deflated soccer ball with pump, jump rope, etc.). A collection box is in the library on the book shelf on the wall opposite the outside door. Please see any Girls of Grace member if you have questions.

When purchasing items, remember that we are buying for children (for sizes of socks, flip flops, etc.). The Girls of Grace are coordinating the collection. Please see any member if you have questions.

As a reminder, our previous months' requests were:

April : toothbrushes, washclothes

May: brushes, combs, hair accessories

June: soap, socks

July: flip flops, sunglasses

August: school supplies

September: "Wow" gift (doll, deflated soccer ball with pump, jump rope, etc.)

October: donations towards postage to mail the boxes

We still need some items from the prior months and we are collecting them and the current month's item from now through the end of October. Please bring any donations in and put them on the bookcase in the library behind the table (across from the door to the outside). There is a box there to collect them.

For more information about any of these stories or upcoming church activities, please visit our website:

www.broadstumc.org

Previous editions of this newsletter can be found at this [link](#).

You can also follow us on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/BSUMCBurlington>

We're on Twitter:

<https://www.twitter.com/BSUMCBurlington>

and on Instagram:

https://www.instagram.com/bsumc_burlington/

Mark Your Calendars for these Upcoming Events



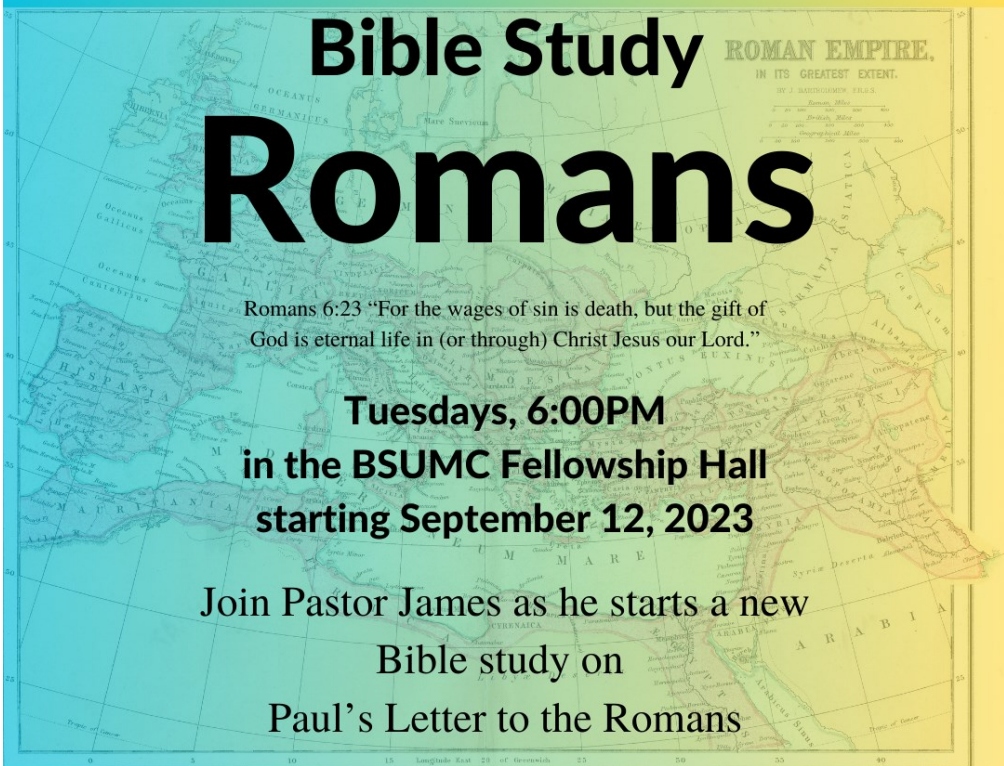
We have a lot of activities coming up during the rest of the year. Mark your calendars now to be sure you don't miss any of them. Click on the link below to go to our website page that includes more information about most of these events.

| | |
|----------------------------|---|
| Monday 9/18/23 | Girls of Grace Meeting 1:00 PM |
| Monday 9/18/23 | Drop-off items for yard sale 1:00 PM—2:30 PM |
| Tuesday 9/19/23 | Bible Study - Romans 6:00 PM (every Tuesday except Oct. 10) |
| Friday 9/22/23 | Drop-off items for yard sale 9:00 AM—Noon |
| Friday 9/22/23 | Hoagie Making 10:00 AM |
| Friday 9/22/23 | Pick up Friday Hoagie Orders 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM |
| Saturday 9/23/23 | Girls of Grace Annual Yard Sale 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM |
| Saturday 9/23/23 | Hoagie Making 10:00 AM |
| Saturday 9/23/23 | Pick up Friday Hoagie Orders 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM |
| Saturday 10/7/23 | Blessing of the Animals Service Outside in our side yard, weather permitting |
| Tuesday 10/10/23 | Annual Church Conference 6:00 PM |
| Wednesday 11/22/23 | Set up for the Thanksgiving Breakfast All youth are invited to come help prepare for the breakfast. |
| Thursday 11/23/23 | Annual Thanksgiving Breakfast 8:00 AM This annual tradition is a fundraiser for our church scholarship fund. |
| (Black) Friday 11/24/23 | Gerald Dickens performs <i>A Christmas Carol</i> 2 performances: 1:00 PM and 7:00 PM |
| Saturday 12/2/23 | Annual Girls of Grace Christmas Tea 12:00—3:00 Musical Entertainment for the Christmas season |
| Sunday 12/10/23 | Advent Covered Dish Supper Time will be announced closer to the date |
| Tuesday 12/12/23 | Bus Trip to Sight and Sound Theater to see <i>Miracle of Christmas</i> See web page or Susan Curlett for more information |
| Sunday 12/17/23 | Blue Christmas Service—a service for those who are not feeling up to the festivities of the season due to loss, illness or for any reason |
| Sunday 12/24/23 | Regular worship in the morning Evening Christmas Eve service—more details forthcoming |

Read more about many of these upcoming events, get tickets or registration forms, etc. on our website events page located here:

[Weekly Announcements - Broad Street United Methodist Church](#)

Romans 3:23-24 “For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and all are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus.”



Bible Study

Romans

Romans 6:23 “For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in (or through) Christ Jesus our Lord.”

Tuesdays, 6:00PM
in the BSUMC Fellowship Hall
starting September 12, 2023

Join Pastor James as he starts a new
Bible study on
Paul’s Letter to the Romans

Romans 8:28 “And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.”

Pastor James has started a Bible study on the Paul’s Letter to the Romans. The group has only met one time so far. Everyone is invited to join and participate in this Bible Study.

Each week, Pastor James will provide some insight and suggested pre-reading. You can find that information on our website [here](#).

Annual Church Conference

Our annual Church Conference is scheduled for Tuesday, October 10, 2023 at 6:00PM. This annual meeting is where the officers of the church for the next year are voted on, the budget for the church is voted on, a review of the past year’s activities is done and various reports (such as a Pastor’s report, a report from the Finance Committee, a report from the Trustees, etc.) are reviewed. The strategic direction of the church is typically reviewed and we discuss things of importance to the congregation of BSUMC. The meeting is presided over by an elder in the GNJUMC and follows a specific structure. All are invited to attend. Additional information regarding the location (in person or Zoom) will be provided in the church bulletin and on the website as it’s received.

Gerald Dickens in *A Christmas Carol*

*Friday, November 24, 2023
1:00PM and 7:00PM*

Mark your calendars now and tell your friends and family: Gerald Dickens is returning to Broad Street UMC on Black Friday, November 24, 2023, for two performances, 1PM and 7PM. What a wonderful day to start the holiday season with our annual Thanksgiving Breakfast the day before and perhaps some holiday shopping that morning.



This year we are going to try and include some ads from local businesses in our program as a way to help offset the costs. We get 250-300 people on average at his performances and other groups with that audience size are able to sell quite a few ads in their programs. We have a form that can be given to local businesses. If you are interested in helping distribute the forms, please let Laura Jaskot know.

We will be looking for people to help with the shows including setting up the sanctuary before the program, selling tickets, taking tickets at the door, running the elevator, directing people through the building, handing out programs, baking for our reception, setting up and cleaning up the receptions and putting the sanctuary back in order after the evening performance. We have always gotten great compliments on our receptions—everyone really enjoys talking after the performances and everyone who has helped with them in the past should be very proud of the comments we've received.

Tickets are available now. They are \$20/adults and \$18/students and seniors in advance. All tickets are \$20 at the door. While other venues charge more for their tickets to Gerald's performances, we try and keep the ticket prices affordable recognizing that a large portion of our audience are people on fixed incomes and we want to ensure they can still enjoy a program of this quality.

Ticket order forms and posters to share with family and friends are available [here](#) on our website.

If you are willing to bring baked goods for our reception following each performance, please let Laura Jaskot know. Our reception is a big hit with our audiences and people tend to stay and talk for up to an hour following each show. Many other venues charge extra if there is a reception or they don't have one at all. We have received so many compliments on our food spread and people look forward to that and being able to peruse our used book sale when they come to our church.





Do you like to sing at home? Sing along with the radio? We can use you in the choir and we have plenty of room in the choir loft for you. Singers of all voice parts welcome, no prior choir experience required and there are no try-outs. You don't need to know how to read music. We practice each choir anthem for several weeks before we sing it on a Sunday, so there is plenty of time to learn the anthem.

The Sanctuary Choir is open to anyone is high school or older. We practice on Thursday evenings from 7:00PM - 8:30PM. If you are unsure, come to a practice and see if you enjoy it. Questions? Ask our director and accompanist, Judy Schetler.

Join A Small Group

We have quite a few small groups in our church. Here are just a few that you might want to consider joining:

United Women of Faith - Betsy Grover, President

Girls of Grace - Cindy Borgstrom, President

Sanctuary Choir - Judy Schetler, Director/Accompanist

Tuesday Evening Bible Study - Pastor James, facilitator

'No Meeting' Cleaning Crew - Marsha Danser, coordinator

If you want to know more about any of these groups, please reach out to the person listed for information on what the group is and when they meet.



Broad Street United Methodist Church

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