

THE BEACON

The Broad Street United Methodist Church Newsletter

The Pastor's Corner

Dear Broad Street Family,



This month's pastor corner will be on a more somber note, due to the recent disturbing events we have witnessed between Hamas and Israel, resulting from Hamas's initial attack on Israel. Since this initial attack, further violence, death, and suffering has ensued. Here is what Bishop John Schol has to say to us about these recent events and what might be our response as faithful United Methodists:

“The devastating acts of war by Hamas against Israel, resulting in the tragic loss of innocent lives and the taking of individuals as hostages, are heartbreaking and incomprehensible. Such acts of violence and brutality have historically intensified animosities rather than fostering resolution, and we must resoundingly condemn these actions.

What can you do? I humbly call all of us, and invite our pastors to call congregations, to the following responses:

Pray – Pray for the hostages, for those who have suffered losses, and for peace in the Middle East. Pray for leaders that they will make good, right and just decisions that value and protect life.

Empathize - Reach out to those impacted by the war. It may be family, friends, colleagues, or others from the Middle East. Share your concerns and listen.

Learn - Talk with people from the Middle East or read to better understand.

Be sensitive - Aggression and war affect people differently, especially those who have been to war or combat zones. Listen, pray as needed, assist the individual to receive additional help.

While this is an ancient conflict dating back to Abraham, we must never give in or give up on hope. Jesus has always shown through prayer and working together that God does bring peace.”

Let us be active in our prayer life and seek for a peace as the prophet Isaiah portrays: “they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.” Let us also never forget that lament is a powerful Christian witness whenever wickedness and destruction is perpetuated against innocent lives. Lift up in prayer to God the suffering of the world, that we might witness God's healing power at work in this conflict.

Grace and Peace,
Pastor James



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Friends and Family 2023

- Marsha Danser

Celebrating 253 years of Methodism is not an insignificant event! And so on Sunday, October 15, 2023, people at the Broad Street United Methodist Church got together for worship and fellowship to commemorate over 250 years as an established Methodist congregation in New Jersey! As we know from our rich history, we have John Wesley and Captain Thomas Webb to thank. On December 14, 1770 Captain Webb formed a Methodist class here, and in 1788 we had our first church building.

One of our former pastors, Rev. Compton Williams, made the great suggestion to celebrate our church anniversary every year, not just on the significant ones such as 200 or 225 years. Friends and Family was born, and now we get together each year to recognize our church.

Now, who wants to hear about the baked ziti, roast pork and turkey chili that we enjoyed after worship? Hold on a minute! We can't skip our worship service! **Rev. Robert Tomer** preached a wonderful sermon, our choir sang, Judy brought the organ to life.....it was a rousing service for sure!



All during the service in the sanctuary, however, the smell of roasted potatoes and chicken wafted up into the church.....it was tough for some to concentrate!

In 2020 BSUMC celebrated 250 years of history in our church....but we all know that the numerous events we were planning had to be scrapped due to Covid-19. It was a shame, but that could never diminish the pride we feel as members of the Broad Street United Methodist Church.

Almost everyone came down to the Fellowship Hall (Junior Room) following the worship service. We had some new faces in the congregation but they did not require directions to the food.....they just followed the smell! Tables were called to get in line and partake of the wide variety of delicious food. No one went away hungry and some left with take out containers! As usual we had way more than enough for all.

There were a number of helpers involved with setting up on Saturday, cooking preparation and serving on Sunday. Volunteers make things happen! We need to thank Joe (Chef Josef) and Laura Jaskot for preparing some of the dishes served. Marsha arranged for Villa Rosa to provide some of the food as well. We thank our Work Day Committee for preparing the Junior Room and for setting the tables. Our faithful volunteers arrived Saturday morning to do some chopping and cutting (under Chef Josef's direction!). AND a huge thanks to our congregation for the wonderful desserts we all shared! Naming all of the helpers would be next to impossible, but you know who you are.....and you are most appreciated.

Burlington City on its own has a rich history and the Broad Street United Methodist Church factors into that history in a large way. We should all be proud to be a part of what has brought us to our celebration in 2023, and how it all began in 1770.

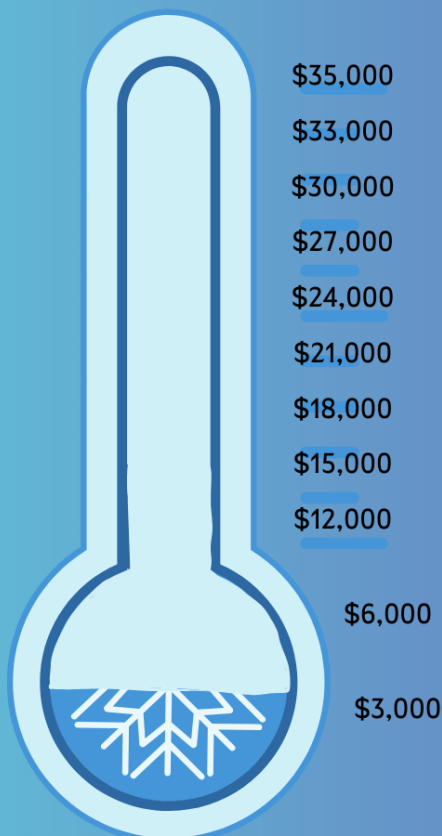


BREATH OF GOD CAPITAL CAMPAIGN



We are excited to announce that the project to air condition the gym and Fellowship Hall has been completed. This will allow these areas of the building to be comfortably used year-round and we can invite the community in for fellowship activities as well as use the facility for things like funeral repasts and wedding receptions.

We are pleased that the Bridge Players are covering half of the cost of the project. We will need to raise \$36,000 and are starting a capital campaign to do so. We already have donations and pledges totaling \$3,000 so we're on our way. Please prayerfully consider how you can help and watch for more information on making a pledge or donation to help us meet our goal.



How are we doing?

Every little bit helps when an organization is starting a capital campaign. It is great to have some large donors who can make significant contributions towards the goal, but it is the accumulation of the smaller donations that eventually push capital campaign to its conclusion. How can you help? Prayerfully consider what level of contribution you can make towards this campaign. If you would like to make a contribution in memory of or in honor of someone, you can do that by marking an offering envelope as shown below. Be sure to include 'Breath of God Capital Campaign' on any donation so that it's counted appropriately. Let's see if we can reach at least half of our goal by Christmas of this year. With God, all things are possible!!

MY WEEKLY OFFERING FOR THE WORK OF CHRIST

REGULAR OFFERING \$ _____

*OTHER honor In memory of (Name) for Breath of God Capital Campaign

*(Please designate fund)

Broad Street United Methodist Church
Burlington, New Jersey

Name _____

"On the first day of every week, each of you is to put something aside and store it up, as he may prosper." 1 Cor. 16:2.
Printed by The Hubbard Press

GIFT OF LIFE

ORGAN & TISSUE DONATIONS

- Betsy Grover



All who knew Bill Lucas know that he was a very 'giving' person. He chose to donate whatever organs that could be used to the Gift of Life Donor Program. His family was informed that they were able to use many of Bill's donations, including corneas, bone and a number of other organs.

We have been asked by 'Gift of Life' to make others aware of the extreme need for organ donors, to help others live a better life. Donors are always, and often urgently, needed. Information cards are available at our church for those who would like to find out more about the Gift of Life Donor Program. Sometimes it takes a little bit more than checking off "Organ Donor" on the back of your drivers license. The cards provide information on how to be sure your intentions are clear.



Best Bible Emergency Numbers

UPSET?	John 14
WEAK?	Psalms 18:1-29
LONELY?	Psalms 23
SINNED?	Psalms 51
WORRIED?	Matthew 8:19-31
ANXIOUS?	Philippians 4:4-9
UNHAPPY?	Colossians 3:12-17
IN DANGER?	Psalms 91
DEPRESSED?	Psalms 27
LACK OF FAITH?	Exodus 14
OTHERS UNKIND?	John 15

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.

All of October	Drop-off used clothing. Collection is a fundraiser for BSUMC. Drop off bags of new or used clothes in the gym.
Tuesday Evenings	Bible Study - Romans 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM
Thursday Evenings	Praise Band Practice 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM Sanctuary Choir Practice 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM
Tuesday 10/17/23	Girls of Grace Meeting 1:00 PM
Saturday 10/21/23	Advanced Lay Servant Class—Leading Worship 9:00AM—2:00PM
Saturday 11/4/23	Advanced Lay Servant Class—Leading Worship 9:00AM—2:00PM
Tuesday 11/7/23	Girls of Grace Meeting 9:30 AM
Tuesday 11/14/23	United Women of Faith Meeting 1:00 PM
Sunday 11/19/23	Admin Council Meeting 7:00 PM—8:00 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
Friday 12/1/23	Girls of Grace Meeting—Set up for Tea 9:30 AM
Saturday 12/2/23	Girls of Grace Christmas Tea Prep 8:00 AM
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 Cullett 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 is facilitating a Bible study on Paul’s Letter to the Romans. The group meets on Tuesday nights at 6PM in the Fellowship Hall. Everyone is invited to join and participate in this Bible Study whenever you can.

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

Girls of Grace

- Cindy Borgstrom

The Girls of Grace is a small group at BSUMC. We currently have 18 members, but all women of the church are welcome to join. We meet monthly for fellowship, fun, crafts, and planning for fund raisers for the church. We have been in existence for twelve years, and have accomplished many things in that time. We have used our funds for many different projects that needed to be done to maintain the church and education wing. Some of the major projects we contributed to were the new gym roof, and the new boiler. We purchased the round tables and new folding chairs for the fellowship hall. We purchased the chair racks to hold the new chairs that allowed us to take the old racks to a metal recycler and raise money for the church. Last year we purchased the new hot water heater for the kitchen. We also helped to sponsor the youth’s trip to the IGNITE conference held at the shore. Our largest fund raiser is our Christmas Tea held every December, and over the years we have developed a faithful following for this event. We also have an annual yard sale in September, and in the upcoming year we will be hosting a Chili cook-off and brownie bake-off. Look for more information on this event in the new year. We invite all women to come out to join our group. Our next meeting is this Tuesday, October 17, 2023, at 1:00 PM.



Last year we sent 13 boxes to
Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child.
Our goal this year was 20 boxes.

THANK YOU!

The Girls of Grace coordinated the collections for the Samaritan's Purse Christmas boxes. Our goal was 20 boxes. With your help and donations we filled 24 boxes! Our October collection was to help offset the cost of shipping (\$10/box) and with the donations we received and an offer to make up any shortfall we have done that! Helen Rainier will be bringing our filled boxes to a local collection site in November and the boxes will be on their way to a child who otherwise wouldn't experience the joy of receiving a gift at Christmas.

The United Women of Faith and the Girls of Grace would like to remind you to use your Boscov's Friends Helping Friends coupons this Wednesday, October 18, 2023. between 8 AM and 11 PM. Your purchase and use of your Boscov's Friends and Family card not only gives you a 25% discount on most items storewide, it also helps us support The Neighborhood Center in Camden, NJ. The Neighborhood Center provides much needed sports, education, entertainment and many other activities for the children and youth in the City of Camden.
- Betsy Grover



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/



Clothing & Shoe Drive Fundraiser



Broad Street United Methodist Church

Fundraiser

When:

October 1 - November 4th 2023

Where:

36 E Broad Street Burlington New Jersey

Contact:

Michele Hogan 609-354-2004



Help our organization raise funds by cleaning out your closets, attics, garages, and basements.

Please place your gently used/unwanted items in tightly tied bags. Every bag counts. Give your items a second chance to be worn/used again.

The more our collection weighs the more we raise.

Thank you for your support!



What We Accept:

All Merchandise in Plastic or Paper Bags that are of different colors that are directly packed and folded from the homes and not re-bagged once they have left the homes.

Adult & Children Clothing, Shoes, Apparel, Handbags, Purses, Wallets, Sandals, Sneakers, Boots, Jackets, Coats, Rain Gear, Leathers, Belts, Ties, Pants, Shirts, Sweaters, Vests, Blouses, Dresses, Skirts, Robes, Undergarments, Sheets, Towels, Linens, Tablecloths, Hats, Scarfs, Gloves, Wallets, Jewelry, Watches, Uniforms, Jerseys, Backpacks, New Diapers, and **NOW ACCEPTING** Household Items, Utensils, Hard & Soft Toys, Electronics, Small Bric-A-Brac Items which all must be bagged.

Please, We Do Not Accept:

Thrift Store Goods, Flea Market, Yard Sales, Furniture, Books, Pillows & Curtains.

Any merchandise that has holes, rips, stains, mold or has an odor.

Any items once they have been re-bagged after they have left the home.



ClothingShoeDrive.com



**Raise Substantial Funds
Schools • Teams • Clubs**

As with many churches and other non-profit organizations, we often look for creative ways to raise money for our church. Recently we have taken unused, scrap metal to the metal recyclers and gotten paid for it, we've had several hoagie sales, the Girls of Grace have hosted their annual yard sale, and now we're having a clothing drive. It's the perfect time of year for this fundraiser as many people are 'switching over their closets' as we head into the fall season. The weather is getting cooler and summer clothes are being put away.

Before you just put all of those summer things in boxes, take a good look at them. Are they still in good shape but just didn't get worn as much this year? Consider donating them to the BSUMC clothing drive. Replacing that winter coat? Consider donating your used one to the BSUMC clothing drive. Pack your unused or unwanted items (see list above for what is accepted and what is not) into plastic garbage bags and bring them to the church during the month of October.

The bags can be put in the room at the far end of the stage in the gym or into the old nursery (first room on the right upstairs in the Sunday School building). Our deadline is November 3rd as they will be picked up November 4th. Our goal is 250 bags of clothes each weighing at least 13 pounds.

Reach out to Michele Hogan with any questions.

Think how good it will feel to clean out your closets and help Broad Street UMC at the same time! Can you help us reach our goal?

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.





We have a wonderful opportunity for you to join the choir just to participate in our Christmas cantata. Starting Thursday, November 2nd, we will be practicing the Christmas cantata (*The Voices of Christmas*) first during our practice. That means you can come at 7:00PM, practice just the cantata, and then head home before we practice the anthems for other Sundays. We can use many more 'voices of Christmas' and we hope you'll consider being one of them this year.

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

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 or send an email to the church office and we will have the group leader reach out to you.



Broad Street United Methodist Church

36 East Broad Street

Burlington, NJ 08016

609-386-0155

www.broadstumc.org

Email: office@broadstumc.org