

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!



It is now the month of February. We are nearing the end of our journey through the season of Epiphany and are on our way to entering the season of Lent. Ash Wednesday falls on February 14th this year, which just so happens to be the same day as Valentine's Day. Could there be a better way to celebrate Valentine's Day than Ash Wednesday and the beginning of Lent? I think Saint Valentine, a martyr of Jesus Christ, would want it no other way! But in all seriousness, I hope, on Ash Wednesday we can gather together as a community to start the Lenten journey together.

It's a journey. It's a journey of fasting, encountering the extent to which sin has corrupted God's good creation, and has resulted in death touching everything in our midst. Ash Wednesday is an apt beginning for us to encounter our own mortality. The imposition of ashes, as we hear, "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return," signifies our coming to terms with our own death. But this prepares us, so that we might see and witness the radically new gift God gives us in Jesus Christ's resurrection. Jesus's resurrection on Easter Day is the goal of Lent and also the termination of Lent. A season marked by encountering our own sinfulness and embodying a disposition of penitence is transformed and filled with the life giving power of Jesus's resurrection.

But first, we must become aware of our individual sin and the collective sin of humanity. This journey is not possible by ourselves. It is made possible by the one who went before us in this journey. The first Sunday of Lent starts with Jesus's own temptation with Satan in the wilderness. And we know how our sin impacted Jesus's life here on earth. It ends with his own death. This is how we know the profound extent to which sin damages our lives; it even caused the death of our Lord and Savior. Let us journey with Jesus this Lent, as he fasts, as he is tempted, as he encounters outcasts, demons, and the sick. Let us journey with Jesus in his life, so that we might be with him on the day of the empty tomb.

In Christ,
Pastor James



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Soup Sunday – February 4, 2024

Soup Sunday is here! Mark your calendars for this Sunday, February 4, 2024, when we'll enjoy soup following the worship service. We've been working hard all week making the soup that will be served on Sunday. Every morning this week we've been at the church at 9:00AM making soup. There are still two opportunities to help if you're available: we'll be making soup tomorrow morning (Friday) and then setting up on Saturday morning, both at 9:00AM.

We've had twelve different volunteers helping Joe Jaskot make soup so far this week, and they've made Chicken Tuscan, Ham & Bean, Turkey Noodle, Turkey & Sausage, Turkey Chili, Vegetable Beef and Vegetable. We will also have Roasted Vegetable and Potato, Stuffed Pepper and Manhattan Clam Chowder.

Invite a friend and join us on Sunday. It will be an extra special day this year and you won't want to miss it. Enjoy some pictures of our soup-making this week:



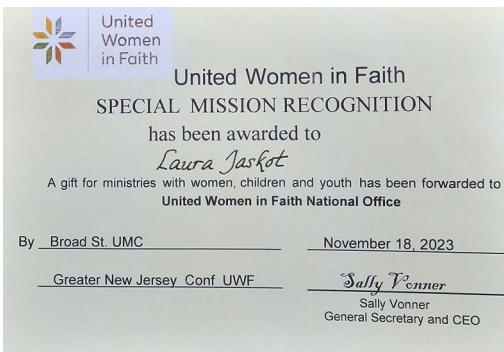




Updates from the United Women in Faith

- Betsy Grover

The United Women in Faith were pleased to recognize Laura Jaskot with a pin and certificate of recognition for her help and support in everything that we have been going through these past couple of years, especially in helping to guide us through the many changes in our group, including group name change (formerly United Methodist Women), the size of our membership, and many other changes. We appreciate, so much, the support of Laura, Cindy Borgstrom and the entire 'Girls of Grace' (GOG) group.



Recent previous recipients of the award include Cindy Borgstrom, Marsha Danser and Bill Lucas.

All women of the church are invited to join the United Women in Faith. [Read more](#) about this national organization and join the UWF for their next meeting on Tuesday, February 13th at 1:00PM.

Locally, our chapter focuses on mission both locally and nationally. Our UWF supports the Neighborhood Center in Camden, creates Advent bags for our shut-ins and has supported the seed collection for Jackson Area Ministries for many years. The Jackson Area Ministries (JAM) is a mission project of the United Methodist Church helping families in the Appalachian counties of Southeastern Ohio. You can read about the seed project [here](#). The UWF will be collecting seeds to send to JAM over the next two months. If you are able to help, please pick up a few seed packets when you're out shopping and bring them to church. There will be a collection box for the seeds or give them to any UWF member. Thanks for supporting this project!

Join us
for the Inaugural
Broad Street UMC

Chili

COOK OFF AND BROWNIE BAKE-OFF



Make the best
chili or bake the
best brownies to
win bragging
rights and a
special 'trophy'

SATURDAY,
FEBRUARY 24, 2024

3:00 PM

The competitions (chili and brownie) will be judged by the attendees. Depending on the number of entries in each category, we may have multiple winners. Chili must be labeled 🔥 , 🔥🔥 or 🔥🔥🔥

TICKETS:
\$7/ADULTS
\$5/CHILDREN 5-12
AVAILABLE FROM ANY GOG MEMBER



For more information see:
www.broadstumc.org
or Cindy Borgstrom

Cooks and bakers need to register that they'll be participating. Please see Cindy Borgstrom to sign up.

The Girls of Grace are hosting their inaugural Chili Cook-Off and Brownie Bake-Off. In order for us to plan, please let Cindy Borgstrom know if you plan on entering either or both contests and what kind of food you'll be bringing (ex. turkey chili, vegetarian chili, peanut butter brownies, etc.). Even if you don't want to make or bake anything, please support this fundraiser by coming and eating. Tickets are available starting this Sunday (Soup Sunday) from any Girls of Grace member. Everyone who attends will be a judge, voting for their favorite chili and brownie recipe. This should be a fun time for all and we're hoping for a great turnout and a good start to what we hope will be an annual event.

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/



Updates from the Girls of Grace

The Broad Street UMC Girls of Grace (GOG) is a women's group similar to the United Women in Faith and most women in the group also belong to the UWF. GOG has been busy recently making blankets for chemo patients at Fox Chase Medical Center. Receiving chemo treatments can be long and tiring and often the patients feel cold. These blankets are made with love and sent to the hospital with a prayer that the recipients feel God's loving presence wrapping around them as they receive their treatments. Here is a picture of one of the blankets made on January 27th.



We will be making them again soon. Everyone is welcome to join us. It's an easy craft—no sewing skills needed.

GOG has also purchased two cabinets and is donating one to the Monday Night NA group to store their belongings.

The cabinets needed to be built and our cabinetmakers ranged in age from 60 to early 90s! Didn't they do a great job? Check out their handiwork on Sunday while eating soup.



New Ministry Brainstorm Session Monday, February 5, 2024 6:00PM

- Pastor James

I announced last Sunday about an opportunity given to me by Mosaic. Mosaic is a community of United Methodist pastors working together in order to learn how to grow in their respective ministry settings. The opportunity Mosaic has offered involves developing a ministry that will engage the community in a new and relational way. But this is not something I can do on my own. I need partners in this mission!



This Monday, February 5th at 6 pm, in my office, I will lead a ministry brainstorming meeting. I hope to see you there!



BSUMC Lenten Devotional Submissions Needed by Saturday, Feb. 10, 2024

The Worship Committee would like some help in putting together a Lenten devotional booklet that will be shared with the congregation. Lent begins with Ash Wednesday, which this year is also Valentine's Day—February 14th.

Please consider helping out by submitting your favorite Bible verse, a paragraph about the verse (why it's meaningful to you or how it has impacted you) and a brief one or two sentence prayer. The format would be similar to that of the Upper Room.

We need 46 submissions to make this project a reality. You can hand-write it or email it. Please give submissions to Laura Jaskot or email office@broadstumc.org. Submissions need to be in by Saturday, February 10th so we have time to put it together and send it out by Ash Wednesday. This is something a lot of churches do, and it's really special when the devotions are written by people associated with the church in some way—members, friends, former pastors, visitors—everyone is invited to submit something.





Did you know that Easter can fall on any day between March 22nd and April 25th? Easter comes on the first Sunday following the first full moon following the first day of Spring (the vernal equinox, or March 21st). That's some fun trivia to know!

We observe 40 days of Lent as the 6 weeks prior to Easter (plus the four days from Ash Wednesday through that Saturday) . But 6 weeks plus four days is 46 days—that math doesn't add up! That's because the six Sundays during Lent are not counted as part of the 40 days in the Methodist tradition. You can read more about that on the umc.org website. There is also a wonderful video series on various aspects of Methodist traditions and history produced by the Global Board of Discipleship called *Chuck Knows Church* and you can watch the episode on Lent [here](#). These videos are 2-5 minutes long and cover a variety of topics in a fun and interesting way. Check out all of these videos [here](#).

At Broad Street UMC, we start the Lenten season with a Pancake Supper the night before Ash Wednesday. Also known as Mardi Gras in French, translated as Fat Tuesday, the night before Ash Wednesday was a day when people used up the foods they wouldn't be able to eat during Lent. Tuesday, February 13th from 5—7PM join us for Pancakes.

This year, Ash Wednesday is on Valentine's Day, February 14th, and we will have an Ash Wednesday service at 5:30PM. Traditionally, ashes given out on Ash Wednesday come from burning palms from the previous year's Palm Sunday. We saved palms to burn and we will create our ashes that way this year.



Volunteers Needed



There are so many opportunities to help out at Broad Street UMC. Review the list below and reach out to the person coordinating each activity if you can help or even just to find out a little bit more about what's involved:

Readers – we're always looking for people to assist in the worship service by leading one or more of the readings. Please see Marsha Danser if you're interested in helping out. Let Marsha know what weeks you are available and she'll get you on the schedule.

Children's Sermons – Laura Sourwine coordinates our Children's Sermons each week. There are many resources available if you're willing to help out with this ministry. The children's message should be five minutes or less and targeted towards our youngest congregants. There are books of object lessons in the library or you can find children's sermons online as well. You'll be given the week's scripture lesson ahead of time so that you can coordinate your sermon with the theme of the service if you'd like. It's so much fun and everyone (young and old) enjoy the children's messages. Please see Laura S. if you're able to help out.

No Meeting Committee – our church is a large facility and while we now have cleaners hired to come in monthly and clean the building, there are always things that need to be done. Marsha Danser heads a team of people who come in approximately once a month and tackle some of those odd jobs, usually on a Tuesday morning for about 2 hours. Watch the bulletin and website, and listen in church for announcements and join the team the next time they get together.

Social Media Assistance – do you follow our Facebook page or Instagram account? Would you like to help make some of the things we post? Please see Laura Jaskot if you're interested. We use Canva to create pictures for Bible verses and hymn lyrics. If you have a computer or a tablet and are interested in helping out, we can have a short meeting to go over how to do it and you can start creating content for our social media pages. You'll be surprised how easy and how much fun it is to do.

Praise Band – do you play an instrument? Do you need an outlet for playing more often? Join the Praise Band. Practice Sunday mornings and participate in worship once a month. See Bryan Roth if you'd like to participate.

Altar Guild – the Worship Committee is looking for people who will help each week with the worship service (making sure the paraments are the right color for the season, filling the altar candles each week, recycling unused bulletins after the service each week, etc.). It's an important job with a small time commitment, good for anyone in their teens or older. Please let Laura Jaskot know if you can help.

Mark Your Calendars for these Upcoming Events



We have a lot of activities coming up this 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.

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
Friday 2/2/24	Soup Sunday Soup Prep—Church Kitchen—9:00AM
Saturday 2/3/24	Set-up for Soup Sunday - Church Kitchen 9:00AM
Sunday 2/4/24	Soup Sunday following Worship
Monday 2/5/24	New Ministry Brainstorm Session—Pastor’s Office 6:00 PM
Sunday 2/11/24	Souper Bowl of Caring Monetary and Canned Good Collection following worship to benefit Neighborhood Center and local pantries
Tuesday 2/13/24	United Women of Faith meeting 1:00 PM
Tuesday 2/13/24	Annual Pancake Supper 5:00—7:00 PM
Wednesday 2/14/24	Ash Wednesday Service 5:30 PM
Sunday 2/18/24	Coffee Hour following Worship—please bring something to share
Sunday 2/18/24	Admin Board Meeting 7:00 PM
Wednesday 2/21/24	Girls of Grace meeting 7:00 PM
Saturday 2/24/24	GOG Chili Cook-off/Brownie Bake-off 3:00PM
Tuesday 2/27/24	Church Work-Day Committee (No-Meeting Committee) 9:30 AM
Saturday/Sunday 3/9/24 & 3/10/24	Hoagie Sale

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 \(broadstumc.org\)](https://broadstumc.org)



SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2024

GOAL: \$200 and 100 canned goods

Collection in back of the sanctuary following worship.

The Souper Bowl of Caring was started in 1990 in Columbia, SC with an idea that maybe the weekend of the biggest football game of the year could also be a weekend to collect money and canned good for those in need.

Youth choose a day or days leading up to the Super Bowl, and all donations are given to a local charity of their choice. We are going to hold our collection on **February 11th** (Super Bowl Sunday). Our youth will be standing in the back of the sanctuary with soup pots to collect your monetary donations on your way out of the worship service. Canned goods/non-perishable food items can be brought in and put in baskets in the back of the sanctuary on the way into worship. Monetary donations will support the Neighborhood Center in Camden. The food items will be distributed to the Sisterhood, the Burlington Township Food Pantry and First Baptist (across the street).

Let's see if we can exceed our goal of \$200 and 100 canned goods.



Broad Street United Methodist Church

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