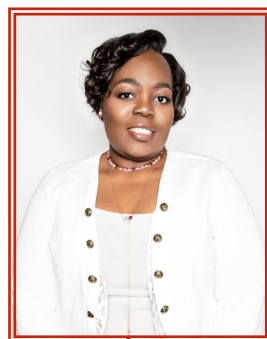


THE BEACON

The Broad Street United Methodist Church Newsletter

The Pastor's Corner

Revealing Truth: From Epiphany to Black History



As we step into February, we find ourselves in the rich intersection of two significant observances in the church and in our broader community, Epiphany and Black History Month. Though distinct in focus, these two seasons share a powerful common thread: revelation, identity, and the call to live in the light of truth.

Epiphany: A Season of Revelation

Epiphany, which begins in early January and extends through February in many church traditions, is a time when we reflect on the ways God reveals Himself to the world. The visit of the Magi to the Christ child (Matthew 2:1-12) symbolizes the unveiling of Jesus as the Savior, not just for Israel, but for all nations. This revelation broke through cultural and societal barriers, affirming that God's love extends to all people. The light of Christ shines in the darkness, calling us to walk in new understanding, faith, and unity.

Black History Month: A Story of Unveiling and Liberation

Black History Month is a time of remembering, honoring, and celebrating the contributions, struggles, and triumphs of Black individuals throughout history. It is a season of education and acknowledgment, a time to shine a light on the stories that have often been overlooked or intentionally hidden. Just as Epiphany reveals the truth of Christ to the world, Black History Month helps us uncover and embrace the fullness of our shared history, moving us toward justice, reconciliation, and wholeness

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- Girls of Grace
- Lenten Devotional
- Souper Bowl Sunday
- and more

Let your light so shine... Matthew 5:16

The Light that Guides Us Forward

The connection between Epiphany and Black History Month reminds us that revelation leads to transformation. When we truly see Christ, our lives are changed. When we recognize the contributions, sacrifices, and faith of those who came before us, we are challenged to live more faithfully in response.

At Broad Street UMC, we are called to be a beacon of light, lifting up the stories of our ancestors, advocating for justice, and proclaiming the inclusive love of Jesus Christ. Just as the Magi followed the star to find the newborn King, we are invited to follow the light of God's truth, illuminating the path toward a future where all people are seen, valued, and celebrated.

As we journey through this season, may we open our hearts to the revelations God has for us. May we honor the past, live faithfully in the present, and work for a future where the love and justice of Christ shine brightly for all.

Blessings,
Pastor Temaris



The Great Plains and Missouri Conferences of the United Methodist Church have challenged the Eastern Pennsylvania and Greater New Jersey Conferences to see which can collect the greatest weight in canned goods in a good-natured Super Bowl contest.

Please help us win by bringing in some canned goods starting now through Sunday morning, February 9, 2025. We will report our totals to be added to those of the other GNJ Churches and let's see if we can beat our mid-western neighbors twice next weekend!

All canned goods stay in Burlington and are distributed to local food pantries. Monetary donations will be given to the Camden Neighborhood Center.

Two years ago the Eagles lost to the Chiefs in the Super Bowl, and EPA/GNJ lost to the Great Plains and Missouri Conferences in our food collection challenge. See page 14 of this newsletter for a link to the Bishop's video on this year's challenge and let's see if we can help EPA/GNJ come out on top this time.



Soup Sunday – February 2, 2025

Soup Sunday is here! Sunday, February 2, 2025, when we'll enjoy soup following the worship service. We've had a busy few weeks at Broad Street. This week we had volunteers in Wednesday, Friday and Saturday mornings helping make soup and set up for Soup Sunday, and we think we're ready!

It's good soup weather this year, unlike some recent years, and we have a good variety of soups prepared for lunch following the worship service: Chicken Tuscan (with or without pasta), Ham & Bean (with or without pasta), Turkey Noodle, Turkey & Sausage, Turkey Chili, Vegetable Beef, Minestrone, Mixed Meat Chili, Manhattan Clam Chowder and Vegetable.

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:



We had 9 people helping on Wednesday morning.









Purchasing Soup Following Soup Sunday

We will have soup order forms available on the tables for anyone interested in purchasing soup following Soup Sunday's lunch. Selling our extra soup has been a wonderful fundraiser over the years, and we're continuing that tradition this year, with a slight modification: we are going to ask that everyone wait until we're done serving before trying to get soup to take out. It has been very hectic in the past and it has taken longer to fill orders than we'd like it to, so this year, we'll ask that if you want to purchase soup, use the order form and mark what you want, then one of our youth or Girls of Grace members will help get the soup for you and bring it to you. We should have plenty of each type of soup available. The price remains the same as it has been the last several years. **Quarts of soup are \$10, and if you buy 5 you get a 6th quart for free.** You can pay with cash, checks (made out to BSUMC) or electronically via PayPal. All of the soups are made from scratch. Any soups we don't sell on Sunday will be frozen and available anytime after Soup Sunday.

Update on the Breath of God Capital Campaign

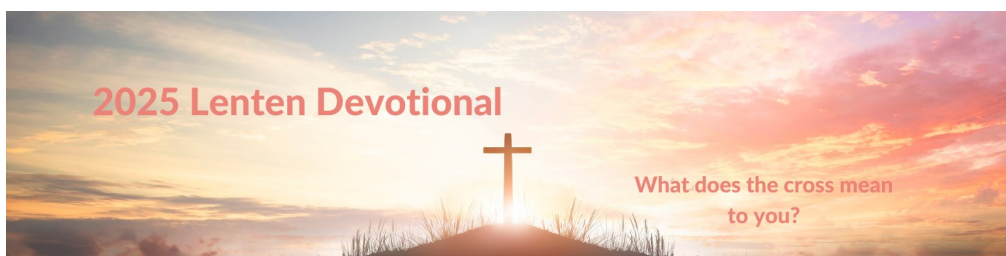
A note from the Finance Committee: we are just over 60% of the way towards raising the funds needed to pay for our portion of the air conditioning in Lucas Hall and the gym. We would like to make a push the first half of 2025 and try to finish up the Breath of God Capital Campaign by the end of June. To date we have raised just under \$20,000 of the \$32,000 we need. Please prayerfully consider if you can make a donation to this fundraising effort and help us cross the finish line. Easter memorial donations to the Breath of God campaign in memory or honor of a loved one would be an option instead of or in addition to purchasing Easter flowers.

Bulletin Dedications

As you know, we discontinued having fresh flowers weekly on the altar last July. If you would like to purchase and bring them in, you are welcome to do so (Steins on Sunset is a good florist choice as they know the size we need). Just let the Worship Committee know the week before so your dedication can be in the bulletin.

We are still having bulletin dedications weekly, however. The cost is \$10 to dedicate the bulletin and you can dedicate it in memory or honor of a loved one, a pet, a holiday, a group—whatever you'd like.

At the moment, most Sundays in 2025 are available. Bulletin dedication forms are available in the back of the sanctuary. If you'd like to dedicate for a particular week, fill out the form and return it to the church office (via the offering plate is fine) with your \$10 donation. If your requested week is already taken we will let you know and we'll offer alternatives.



As we prepare for the Lenten season, we invite our church family to reflect on the significance of the cross in their personal faith journey. This year, we're putting together a Lenten devotional, and we'd love for YOU to be a part of it. What does the cross mean to you?

Your devotional can be as simple as a short reflection—perhaps a memory of a past Easter, the first time you truly connected the cross with the resurrection, or a meaningful moment where the cross came to life for you in a new way. Whether it's one paragraph or a couple of sentences, we encourage you to share your personal thoughts. Everyone's perspective is valuable, and your story might be just the encouragement someone else needs during this sacred season.

How to Submit:

- **Paper Submissions:** Blank forms can be found in the back of the sanctuary. Simply fill one out and return it to Helen Rainier or the church office.
- **Online Submissions:** If you prefer, you can submit your devotional easily via our online Google Form: [Submit Here](#).

Whether you submit one reflection or several, everyone is encouraged to contribute. We're aiming for at least 47 devotionals (more than the 25 we needed for our Advent devotional!), so your participation is greatly appreciated. Devotionals can come from individuals of all ages—this is a wonderful opportunity for families, children, teens, and adults to share their voices.

Deadline for Submissions: Please submit your devotional no later than **Wednesday, February 26th** (earlier submissions are encouraged!). This will give us time to format the collection and have it ready to be shared by **Sunday, March 2nd**, in anticipation of Ash Wednesday on **March 5th**.

If you have any questions or would like some guidance on how to write your devotional, please don't hesitate to reach out to **Helen Rainier** at preachycat@aol.com.

We were deeply moved by the personal stories shared in our Advent devotional, and we're excited to once again journey through Lent together, reflecting on the cross and all it means as we approach Easter morning.

We can't wait to read your stories!

2025 Pledge Cards: Help Us Plan for the Year Ahead

Starting Sunday, February 2, 2025, pledge cards for the 2025 year will be available in the back of the sanctuary. We are asking all members and friends of our church family to pick up a pledge card, complete it, and return it via the offering plates in the provided envelope by **Sunday, February 23, 2025**.

Your completed pledge card is vital for the Finance Committee as we prepare our 2025 ministry and missions budget. Knowing what we can expect in giving allows us to plan accurately, focus on what’s most important, and ensure that we can continue supporting the ministries that make such a difference in our church and community.

Why Now?

We typically hold a Stewardship Campaign in the fall to prepare for Pledge Sunday, and pledge cards are traditionally due by the end of November. However, since we did not have a Stewardship Campaign for 2024, we need your help now to budget for 2025. We will hold our Stewardship Campaign in the fall of 2025 for the 2026 calendar year, but we ask for your commitment and support now to plan effectively for the year ahead.

How to Submit Your Pledge:

- **Pick up a pledge card** starting Sunday, February 2, 2025, from the back of the sanctuary.
- **Complete the pledge card** with your giving commitment for 2025.
- **Return it by Sunday, February 23, 2025** in the provided envelope via the offering plates.


If you prefer, a copy of the pledge card is available [here](#). You can print it out and send it to:

BSUMC
36 E. Broad St.,
Burlington, NJ 08016
Attn: Don MacMillan, Financial Secretary

Thank you for your continued support of our church family and the work God is doing through us. Your commitment makes a real difference, and we are grateful for your partnership in ministry. We look forward to seeing how God will use our collective efforts to further His kingdom in 2025 and beyond.

If you have any questions or need assistance with your pledge, please don’t hesitate to reach out to Don MacMillan.

Thank you for your generosity and support!



**Broad
Street
United
Methodist
Church**
®
The Beacon on Broad Street

2025 Pledge Card

God has called us to be faithful stewards of all the resources with which God has blessed us.
Your tithes and offerings support the work of God's Kingdom through the Broad Street UMC.
Your pledge helps our Finance Committee to plan our 2025 ministry and missions budget.

YES, I commit from my treasures for God's work
\$ _____ per week / month / year. (circle one)

Please fill this out prayerfully and make your commitment.
Bring to church on or before Sunday, February 23rd in an envelope addressed to Don MacMillan
or you may mail your pledge to church: BSUMC, 36 E. Broad St., Burlington, NJ 08016, Attn. Fin. Sec.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Phone: Home: _____

Cell: _____

Girls of Grace Hoagie Sale – First of 2025!

It's that time again! The **Girls of Grace** are kicking off their first hoagie sale of 2025, and we need your support! This fundraiser helps us raise funds for various church projects, as well as important mission work both within our community and beyond.

Order Your Hoagies Today!

We're offering delicious hoagies for just **\$10**, which includes the hoagie, a bag of chips, and a bottle of water. Choose from the following hoagie options:

Italian

Ham & Cheese

Turkey & Cheese

American

Tuna

Cheese

All hoagies must be **pre-paid**. Be sure to get your orders in by the **deadline: Monday, February 24th**.

Pick-up Dates

Once you've placed your order, you can pick up your hoagie on either **Friday, February 28th** or **Saturday, March 1st** from **11:30 AM to 1:00 PM** in Lucas Hall.

How to Order

- **Order forms** will be available starting **Sunday, February 2nd**, in the back of the sanctuary.
- **Order online** through this simple Google Form: [Order Here](#).

Why Support the Hoagie Sale?

The money raised from this hoagie sale goes directly toward supporting the **Girls of Grace** ministry and helps fund projects within the church, as well as our local and global missions. Your generous support helps make a difference, and we are so grateful for each order placed!

We hope you'll enjoy a tasty hoagie while supporting the important work of the Girls of Grace. Thank you for your continued support, and we look forward to seeing you on **February 28th or March 1st**!

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, February 24, 2025



Scan the QR code to order.



A Note from Marsha Danser:

Church Volunteers

You have often heard it stated that without volunteers we would be in deep trouble as a church ... and it is especially true when it comes to decorating and undecorating for Christmas, planning for a church function such as Soup Sunday, recruiting helpers for Sunday School, serving on committees, visiting the sick ... just to give a few examples.

Being asked to assist with a funeral or memorial service at church is another avenue for volunteerism. We recently experienced the loss of several dedicated Christians, volunteers, and members at BSUMC: Midge Smith, Wilbur McConnell and Faye Habingreither. We miss them very much.

To appropriately honor our members who transition to their eternal reward, it takes help. Most recently, a faithful group of family and church members planned Faye's funeral and luncheon. This involved hours of funeral service preparation, cleaning, organizing, setting up, serving and clean-up following the service and luncheon. The group of volunteers heard many positive comments, and the family was truly grateful for what was done for their loved one.



That is part of who we are at Broad Street ... a dedicated group of Christians who seek to help others. Working together allows for fellowship, getting to know others better, and the feeling that one is doing something for the greater good.

A huge thank you goes out to all who volunteer in whatever capacity at our wonderful church. Let us be appreciative for all the ways God has blessed us.



- Cindy Borgstrom

The Girls of Grace have a busy schedule coming up. All women of the church are invited to join us. Our meetings will be announced in the bulletin and on our website, so keep an eye out. Mark your calendars for all of our upcoming events and help spread the word!



Beginning tomorrow on the first Sunday in February, GOG will be collecting personal care items to make into small kits for the people that frequent the food bank at the First Baptist Church.

Items requested are toothpaste, tooth brushes, soap, wash clothes, hand towels, women's personal

hygiene items, combs, small handbag size packages of tissues, etc. A box will be in the back of the sanctuary for the next four weeks. Thank you in advance for your generosity as we help our neighbors who are in need.

Our Second Annual Chili Cook-Off will be held Sunday, February 23rd as a coffee hour. Please let Cindy Borgstrom know if you are going to enter your chili into the contest. Everyone is invited to the coffee hour to taste and evaluate all of the chilis. A free



will offering will be taken that day. There will be chips and salsa on each table. Also corn bread and drinks will be provided. Prizes will be awarded for the top three most popular chilis. Time for you all to dig out your chef hats.

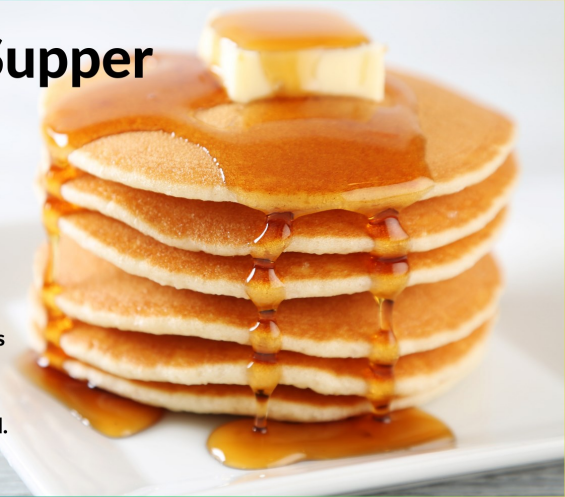


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Pancake Supper

**Tuesday, March 4, 2025
5:00 - 7:00PM
BSUMC - Lucas Hall**

**Free-will offering baskets
will be on the tables.
All proceeds benefit the
BSUMC Scholarship Fund.**



Our Annual Shrove Tuesday Pancake supper will be held on March 4th in Lucas Hall. Dinner will be served 5-7 pm, which includes pancakes, sausage, fruit cup, and drinks. A free will offering will be collected, and all proceeds will go to the scholarship fund.



Good Friday Women's Breakfast

**8:00 AM Friday morning
April 18, 2025**

Good Friday women's breakfast will be held at BSUMC in Lucas Hall. The cost is \$5 per person. Breakfast casseroles as well as continental breakfast items will be served. The choir from Calvary Presbyterian Church in Riverton will provide the entertainment. Laura will be sending letters of invitation to local churches' women's groups and please feel free to invite your friends as well.

GOG will be finishing the flood bucket project and we plan to send 5 full buckets to the collection site.

Thank you to all who have contributed to that project so far. Please see Cindy for a list of what we need to complete the project if you want to contribute any final items to the buckets.



Support Broad Street UMC's donation drive

Help flood victims with cleaning supplies



Broad Street UMC is assembling disaster relief buckets to be distributed by UMCOR. This is a great way to help those impacted by recent hurricanes.

Updating Our Church Membership List

We are making good progress on updating our membership records. Helen Rainier, Marsha Danser and Laura Jaskot have met several times and are working through our membership books alphabetically. We are halfway through the alphabet and should finish with another two meetings. Once we've gone through and updated what we can, we will be reaching out to everyone on our membership roles to ensure we have current contact information. When that's done, we'll be able to create an updated church directory and we're looking forward to sharing that. If you'd like to help contact current members to update information, please reach out to one of us and we'll divvy up the list. Many hands make light work and you might even meet someone new!



SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2025

GOAL: \$200 and 100 canned goods

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 9th** (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 First Baptist and The Way / Sisterhood.

The GNJ/EPA Conferences (home of the Eagles) have been challenged by the Great Plains and Missouri Conferences (home of the Chiefs) to see which can collect the most food (measured by weight). Check out the video from our Bishop, Cynthia Moore-Koikoi, explaining the challenge [here](#).

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. You can find all of these and other activities at the church on the [website](#).

Thursdays	Praise Band Practice 6:00PM Sanctuary
Thursdays	Sanctuary Choir Practice 7:00PM Lucas Hall
Sundays in February	GOG collecting small personal care items—box in sanctuary
Sunday February 2, 2025	Soup Sunday following worship 12:00 Noon Lucas Hall
Sunday February 2, 2025	Soup Sunday following worship 12:00 Noon Lucas Hall
Sunday February 9, 2025	Souper Bowl of Caring—canned good and monetary donation collection during worship
Sunday February 23, 2025	Chili Cook-Off following worship 12:00 Noon Lucas Hall
Sunday February 16, 2025	Administrative Council Meeting 12:15PM—1:15PM Lucas Hall
Monday February 24, 2025	Deadline for ordering hoagies for the Feb/Mar GOG Hoagie Sale
Friday February 28, 2025	GOG meets to make hoagies 10:00AM—11:30AM Lucas Hall
Friday February 28, 2025	Day 1 Hoagie Sale; Pick up hoagies 11:30AM—1:00PM Lucas Hall
Saturday March 1, 2025	GOG meets to make hoagies 10:00AM—11:30AM Lucas Hall
Saturday March 1, 2025	Day 2 Hoagie Sale; Pick up hoagies 11:30AM—1:00PM Lucas Hall
Sunday March 2, 2025	Deadline to submit for the BSUMC Lenten Devotional
Tuesday March 4, 2025	Set up for Pancake Supper 9:30AM—11:00AM
Tuesday March 4, 2025	Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper 5:00PM—7:00PM Lucas Hall
Wednesday March 5, 2025	Ash Wednesday - Lenten Devotional reading begins
Sunday April 13, 2025	Sanctuary Choir Easter Cantata 11:00AM—Noon Sanctuary
Thursday April 17, 2025	Maundy Thursday Worship Service 7:00PM—8:00PM
Friday April 18, 2025	Good Friday Women’s Breakfast 8:00AM—9:30AM Lucas Hall
Sunday April 20, 2025	Easter Sunrise Service 7:00AM—8:00AM Burlington Riverfront
Sunday April 20, 2025	Easter Breakfast 8:00AM—9:00AM Lucas Hall
Sunday April 27, 2025	Finance Committee Meeting 12:15PM—1:15PM Lucas Hall

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/



Broad Street United Methodist Church

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