



## *The Circuit Writer*

Barts Centenary  
United Methodist Church  
Littlestown, Pennsylvania 17340

**January 2026**

**Worship In Person Sunday mornings at 8 am & 10 am**

Contact us at 717-359-5600 or [bartscentumc@gmail.com](mailto:bartscentumc@gmail.com) or [www.bclittlestown.com](http://www.bclittlestown.com).



# The Circuit Writer

Barts Centenary United Methodist

January 2026  
2026 Issue 1

**2026, the year of great and mighty tidings of God to His people  
at Barts Centenary United Methodist Church**

## **The value of a new beginning!**

Beloved people of God, grace and peace from Above be with you all! It has been always a great joy to be at your disposal and service in whatever way possible. 2025 is gone and New year, 2026, has just arrived! This is how God has planned His world to be: Day comes and passes, replaced by nights that comes and passes; then weeks comes and passes; months comes and passes; as well as years comes and passes; even life comes and passes. Nothing is permanent under the sun. The Book of Ecclesiastes deals extensively with this matter, showing that ***“Everything has its own time.”*** (Please read all the verses of **Ecclesiastes 3:2-8**).

The same Author, in chapter 12:13-14 concludes his challenging remarks by saying that: ***“The end of the matter, all has been heard. Fear God, and keep His commandments; for that is the whole duty for everyone. For God will bring every deed into judgement, including every secret thing, whether good or evil.”*** As we look these two extremes, we are called to value each moment that God has given, learning from our mistakes to be better persons each moment that is called ***“TODAY.”*** We ought to learn from ***“YESTERDAY”*** in order to prepare a good ***“TODAY”*** that will give us the right and possibility to envision a meaningful ***“TOMORROW.”*** All this helps us to understand the value of a new beginning!

When I approached the Pennsylvania Driving Department in order to get the driving license that will allow me to drive freely in this State, I was confronted with the rules and regulations of driving that applies to this State, although I have been a driver for thirty years. I went to the first test and failed; for the second, same thing, up to the point of someone from the staff approaching me and asked: ***“are you familiar with our laws and regulations? Have you had an opportunity to learn our driver’s manual?”*** I said no, I never heard about that; I never learned anything about your laws and regulations. So, she said I will give you a link, print the manual and learn its contents with love and dedication, which I did in twenty-four hours and next day I went again for a test, surprisingly I got 100%, PASSED!

I had to embark in a new beginning. The new beginning has helped me to see where I felt, what was my mistake and what I needed to do in order to overcome all visible and invisible barriers and excel, so that I could be granted the driving license that I needed the most. So beloved brother and sister, God calls you for a renewal. See the value of this new beginning; grasp with purpose what you need to understand with more clarity, and continue joyfully your journey with your fellow members at your church. Learn from your mistake in your life and faith journey planning, and accept to take a new chance that is open for you towards perfection. Let’s be one body of Christ, witnessing to the world Love, Joy, Hope and Peace, in the way we live and interact with each other this year; let us carry the burdens from one another, as our own, as Jesus experienced the heavy duty of carrying our sins in the cross of Calvary, let us love one another in truth, so that **2026 be the year of great and mighty tidings of God to His people at Barts Centenary United Methodist Church.**

Renewed wishes of all blessings upon you all in this New Year!  
Rev. Fernando Simone Munguno Matsimbe, Your Pastor

# January 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2	3
4  8 am Worship 9 am Sunday School 10 am Worship First Sunday potluck following service	5  Pastor's Day off Boy Scouts 6:30 LAHS Board meeting (overflow)	6  7 pm Church Council	7  ZUMBA Cub Scouts 6 pm Prayer Time	8  3:30 pm Prayer Shawl	9	10
11  8 am Worship 9 am Sunday School 10 am Worship	12  Pastor's Day off Boy Scouts	13  3:30 pm United Women in Faith	14  ZUMBA Cub Scouts 3 pm GFWC 6 pm Prayer Time	15	16	17
18  8 am Worship 9 am Sunday School 10 am Worship	19  Pastor's Day off Boy Scouts	20  7 pm Historical Society "The Birth of Littlestown"	21  ZUMBA Cub Scouts 6 pm Prayer Time	22  7 pm Choir 7:45 pm Praise Team	23  6:30 LAHS Board meeting	24  Boy Scouts Pinewood Derby
25  8 am Worship 9 am Sunday School 10 am Contemporary Worship	26  Pastor's Day off Boy Scouts	27  6 pm Boy Scouts Leaders meeting	28  ZUMBA Cub Scouts 6 pm Prayer Time	29  7 pm Choir 7:45 pm Praise Team	30	31



## CALLING ALL BCUMC WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

**Can you cover any of the slots that are open in our calendar for the next 3 months? If you can, please contact Beverly in the church office 717-359-5600 or home at 717-359-9522.**

Date	Special Dates	Greeters	Counters	Communion	Liturgist
1/4/2026	Communion	Amy & Ted Debnam	Yvonne Davis & Beverly Carter	Dave Wolf & Laura Fair	Dave Wolf
1/11/2026		Penny & Rob Segessenman	Yvonne Davis & Beverly Carter		Penny Segessenman
1/18/2026		Lynne & Taffy Crosley	John Bennett & Rob Segessenman		Barb Herman
1/25/2026	Praise Team	Gwen Updyke & Barb Herman	Gwen Updyke & Peggy Clarke		Praise Team
2/1/2026	Communion	Amy & Ted Debnam	Yvonne Davis & Beverly Carter	Peggy Clarke & Gwen Updyke	Gloria Gouker
2/8/2026		Penny & Rob Segessenman	John Bennett & Rob Segessenman		Barb Herman
2/15/2026	Donut Sunday	Lynne & Taffy Crosley			Gloria Gouker
2/22/2026	Praise Team	Gwen Updyke & Barb Herman	Gwen Updyke & Peggy Clarke		Praise Team
3/1/2026	Communion	Amy & Ted Debnam	Yvonne Davis & Beverly Carter	Amy Debnam & Anne Hauswald	Dave Wolf
3/8/2026	Day Light Savings Time Begins	John & Joanne Bennett	John Bennett & Rob Segessenman		Penny Segessenman
3/15/2026		Lynne & Taffy Crosley	Yvonne Davis & Beverly Carter		Barb Herman
3/22/2026	Praise Team	Gwen Updyke & Barb Herman	Gwen Updyke & Peggy Clarke		Praise Team
3/29/2026	PALM SUNDAY	Laura Fair & Lisa Wolf			

**After worship the first Sunday of each month, we will have a fellowship potluck lunch. Please bring your favorite dish to share**

### TO ALL MEMBERS OF OUR CONGREGATION!



**Take Note!**

There is a small change to the Sunday morning 10:00 a.m. service. WE ARE NOW STARTING THE SERVICE AT 9:55 a.m. All persons need to be in their seats at 9:55 a.m. The Acolyte, Choir and Pastor will be processing at 9:55 a.m.

**Dear Congregation,**

**After 60+ years of serving god, it's time for someone else to take on these responsibilities. As of the beginning of February, I will no longer be handling these things. Please contact me if you are willing to take one of these tasks. Physically I am not as able as before and I feel it's time to pass the torch along.**

- ◇ **Quarterly volunteer scheduling**
- ◇ **Safe Sanctuary coordinator**
- ◇ **Secretary to the church council & church conference**
- ◇ **Making sure that the first aid box in Fellowship Hall is stocked**
- ◇ **Keeping the equipment inventory for the appliances in the church & parsonage**
- ◇ **Organizing the shepherds**

**There might be a couple more areas where help is needed. Some of these items can be done from home.**

**If you are willing or able to take any of these tasks on, please let me know or let Dave Wolf know. As I said after Feb 1st, I will not be completing these tasks.**

**Blessings,**

**Beverly Carter**



**REMINDER!!!!**

We continue to encourage the congregation to send in ADVANCE Joys, Concerns and any Announcements they wish mentioned on Sunday mornings to Beverly at 443-789-1027 to be compiled before the service. If you have concerns or joys that occur when Beverly is not available, there are Prayer Slips in the pews to fill out. The prayers will be posted in the Mid Week News on Wednesday and announced the following Sunday.

Troops 84B and G are having our annual Pizza Sale! Orders will be taken in January and pizzas will be made on Saturday Feb. 7, just in time for Super Bowl Sunday! You'll be able to order pizzas cooked and ready to eat, or ready to freeze! Order form will be available at the church.

The Scouts of Littlestown are also having a Blood Drive on Saturday Feb 28 at Barts from 9am-2pm. Go to [RedCrossBlood.org](http://RedCrossBlood.org) to sign up to donate blood!

The LAHS History program on Tuesday January 20th will be the Birth of Littlestown at 7 PM.



Feb 15 will be Donut Sunday

Need youth and young at heart at 9 to start making the donuts

We will eat them after the 2<sup>nd</sup> service

A gift from BCUMC to you. We invite you to the Christian Streaming  
– bible studies for every age as well as programs for kids and teens.  
Never any cost to you. Go to:  
<https://app.rightnowmedia.org/en/join/BartsCentenaryUMC> and join today!

rightnow MEDIA

WE GOT YOU A PRESENT



## ZUMBA PARTY YOURSELF INTO SHAPE



### Zumba Gold Group

Each Wednesday  
from 10:00 – 10:45 AM  
For only \$3 per person,  
you can join the class held  
in the Fellowship Room at  
BCUMC. Join the fun as we  
strengthen our bodies and  
spirits!

**A Prayer Room** will be available in the front of the church  
(The Overflow Room)

**Monday and Wednesday from 9 AM – 1 PM** for anyone  
who would like some solitary time in a sacred space, also  
available before and after worship, and by request (text/call  
Pastor at 717-350-1345)

**Church Office Open Monday and Wednesday**  
9 AM – 1 PM.



## BIRTHDAYS THIS MONTH

- 2 Quinn Holland
- 4 Gwen Updyke
- 6 Daniel Larkin
- 7 Blake Ogle
- 8 Aaron Young
- 11 Ella Happel
- 11 Debby Jackson



### Barts Centenary United Methodist Church

50 East King Street

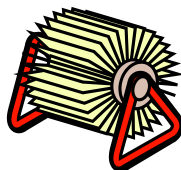
Littlestown, PA 17340

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E-mail: [bartscentumc@gmail.com](mailto:bartscentumc@gmail.com)

Website: <http://www.bclittlestown.com>

## Newsletter Deadline



*The Deadline for the February  
newsletter will be Monday,  
January 19th!*