



The Circuit Writer

Barts Centenary
United Methodist Church
Littlestown, Pennsylvania 17340

August 2025

Active Worship In Person Sunday mornings at 8 am
Worship In Person Sunday mornings at 10 AM

Contact us at 717-359-5600 or bartscentumc@gmail.com or www.bclittlestown.com.



The Circuit Writer

Barts Centenary United Methodist

August 2025
2025 Issue 8

Beloved in the Lord, people called “Methodists” from Barts Centenary United Methodist Church, grace and peace to you all in The mighty name of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Redeemer!

It’s a great joy to write this introductory piece for The August newsletter for the first time. The Lord of the Church, on His appearance to John in the Island of Patmos said: “Behold, I make all things new!” This well known phrase is found in the Book of Revelations 21:5. It signifies God’s promise to restore and renew everything both in the present and in the future. This includes a new heaven and a new earth, as well as a new creation for believers.

It is a great joy to walk in the newness of God’s creation that includes the capacity and ability to witness God in action, in and through His church’s as well as to witness His blessings as He calls and empower each and everyone of us to be in mission with Him here at Barts Centenary UMC.

While reading some previous Newsletters, written by my predecessors I learned and realized that August is an important month for this community for many reasons: school is reopening, where children and parents are called to catch up and learn new things; new school laws and procedures, and so on.

For Barts Centenary, this year, God is bringing a new Pastor coming from different cultural background and different context. Thanks be to God that His Holy Spirit, the same God is willing to help, guide and equip both the Pastor and the Congregation to be aligned with His divine purpose of building His kingdom on earth in general and at this community, in particular.

This pastoral piece on the Newsletter is a call for more unity and willingness to walk together for the common good and for the continuation of the mission and ministry of our beloved United Methodist Church in a such a time as this!

As your new Pastor, I am coming to continue what others have done during all the good years that God allowed this beautiful congregation to come into existence. Each Pastor who passed through this community has laid a good foundation for us to be thankful of today and move forward until the Day of Christ!

Mine is the task to continue the journey that takes us together to “Zion, the beautiful city of God!”

Beloved in the Lord, as you read this pastoral letter, please pause in a moment for prayer and reflection as we sing together this beautiful hymn: “ We’re marching to Zion...”

Come, we that love the Lord,
And let our joys be known;
Join in a song with sweet accords,
Join in a song with sweet accords,
And thus surround the throne,
And thus surround the throne.

We’re marching to Zion
Beautiful, beautiful Zion
We’re marching upward to Zion
The beautiful city of God.

Let those refuse to sing
Who never knew our God
But children of the heavenly King
But children of the heavenly King
May speak their joys abroad
May speak their joys abroad.

The Hill of Zion Yields
A thousand sacred sweets
Before we reach the heavenly fields
Before we reach the heavenly fields
Or walk the golden streets
Or walk the golden streets.

Then let our songs abound
And every tear be dry
We're marching thru Immanuel's ground
We're marching thru Immanuel's ground
To fairer worlds on high
To fairer worlds on high.

This hymn means a lot to us and our ministry. We are not coming to you because we have all the good qualities of service or have all the answers to your possible questions, but because we are willing to join you humbly in this long journey into perfection, as we "march together and faithfully towards the beautiful city of God!"

As we march together with the God who calls us to His mission, we are so confident that we will look back to the footsteps and footprints of those who served before us leading you to the same journey and we will take from there, learn from them to proceed our marching towards the beautiful city of God.

As your new pastor:

Together we will celebrate our spiritual growth and maturity through profession of faith, worship, baptism, membership confirmation and Christian marriage;

Together we will walk the valley of death as we celebrate the life and resurrection of our beloved who have gone before us;

Together we will remember the Lord as we join together in celebration of the Holy Communion each month;

Together we will continue to care for those in need, for those in prison, for those in hospital, for those who need us the most;

Together we will continue to be a welcoming church where everyone matters; we will continue to be open hands, open hearts, open doors, the people of the United Methodist Church;

Above all, together we will continue to preach the gospel of salvation, with Christ and His sacrificial death at the center, together we will walk every streets and homes of our community to show our solidarity with all God's people so that Christ can be known and received as the Lord and Savior of us all.

Together we will continue preaching and sharing the gospel of Jesus Christ, making faithful disciples for the transformation of the world.

As your Pastor I wish you all a very blessed and pleasant month of August, as we march to Zion, the beautiful city of God!

In mission together,

Rev. Fernando Simone Munguno Matsimbe

Pastor

Barts Centenary UMC

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(+258) 84 053 1197 (also reachable through WhatsApp)

August 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2
3 9 am Sunday School 10 am Worship	4 Boy Scouts	5 3:30 pm United Women in Faith	6 ZUMBA Cub Scouts	7	8	9 YARD SALE COLLECTION BEGINS
10 8 am Active Worship 9 am Sunday School 10 am Worship	11 YARD SALE COLLECTION Boy Scouts	12 YARD SALE COLLECTION	13 YARD SALE COLLECTION Cub Scouts	14 8a-2p YARD SALE 7 pm Praise Team	15 8a-2p YARD SALE	16 8a-2p YARD SALE
17 8 am Active Worship 9 am Sunday School 10 am Worship	18 Boy Scouts	19	20 ZUMBA Cub Scouts	21 7 pm Praise Team	22	23
24 8 am Active Worship 9 am Sunday School 10 am Contemporary Worship Basket of Love collection	25 Boy Scouts	26	27 ZUMBA Cub Scouts	28	29	30
31 8 am Active Worship 9 am Sunday School 10 am Worship						



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
8/3/2025	Communion	Amy & Ted Debnam	Carter & ?	Dave Wolf & Laura Fair	Beverly Carter
8/10/2025		Penny & Rob Segessenman	Segessenman & Bennett		Peggy Clarke
8/17/2025		John & Joanne Bennett	Davis & Carter		Penny Segessenman
8/24/2025	Baskets of Love & Praise Team	Gwen Updyke & Barb Herman	Updyke & Clarke		Praise Team
8/31/2025		Lynne & Taffy Croslely	Davis & Carter		Gloria Gouker
9/7/2025	Communion	Amy & Ted Debnam	Carter & ?	Peggy Clarke & Gwen Updyke	Ted Debnam
9/14/2025		John & Joanne Bennett	Segessenman & Bennett		Gloria Gouker
9/21/2025		Laura Fair & Lisa Wolf	Davis & Carter		Dave Wolf
9/28/2025	Baskets of Love & Praise Team	Gwen Updyke & Barb Herman	Updyke & Clarke		Praise Team

HISTORY PROGRAMS FOR THE SECOND HALF OF 2025

August – No program due to Good Ole Days

September 16th – Early Churches of Adam and York County

BASKETS OF LOVE

Megan has indicated that she will be collecting whatever is ready to be picked from your gardens. As summer moves on more vegetables and fruit will become plentiful. If you can share anything out of your gardens we will be filling baskets on August 24th, and September 28th after the 10 a.m. church service. If you know anyone who is struggling in any way and could benefit from something that will make them smile, give the office their name and address so they can be delivered.



Annual BCUMC Yard Sale

Mark your calendars! The Annual BCUMC Yard Sale will be held in Fellowship Hall from 8:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. each day from Thursday, August 14 through Saturday, August 16. Please begin to get donations together and tell others about this fantastic annual event as it will be here before you know it! We will begin to accept donations in Fellowship Hall on Saturday, August 9, from 9:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m., and we will continue to accept donations through Wednesday, August 13 until 1:00 p.m. that day. Someone will be in Fellowship Hall to accept donations on Sunday after church services, and Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday from 9:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. Please remember that we cannot accept anything that cannot be certified to function, and that **NO ELECTRONIC ITEMS OR LARGE PIECES OF FURNITURE WILL BE ACCEPTED**. Food will be available for purchase during the yard sale on Thursday and Friday from 8:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. There will be **NO FOOD SERVICE ON SATURDAY**.

In addition, we could use your **HELP!** If you can donate any time at all during the days leading up to the yard sale itself to fold clothes, organize books, unload boxes of donations, etc., it would be **VERY MUCH APPRECIATED!** We could also use your help during the yard sale to keep things organized, pack purchases at the register, reorganize merchandise as things are sold, etc. Any time you can donate is, again, **VERY MUCH APPRECIATED!** Let's continue to work together to make this event incredibly successful once again this year - our community really looks forward to it! Thank you!



SIGHT & SOUND to see NOAH, Saturday Sept. 27

8:00 Leave Church (must be there by 10:15)

11:00 Performance (2 ½ hours)

1:45 Lunch (on your own) at Olive Garden Lancaster (6 min. away - reservations made)

5:30 back at Church

Show ticket cost is \$75.05 a person as long as we have 15 or more going. Cost is only \$72.54 if we have 30 going. Children 12 and under cost is 42.00. I have reserved a block of 30 tickets so seating will be together. There is an elevator to take us up the third-tier seating and we only have two steps down for 13 of our group. Others will have no stairs. Seats are in the back as preferred by those who went to see Daniel.

We will be carpooling and we'll need drivers depending on how many signs up to go. We will share the cost of gas.

Right now, I need to know how many are interested in going. Please let me know by July 25. Call or email Joanne @[717-965-0073](tel:717-965-0073)

(jj4bennett@gmail.com) if you want to go on this outing. Your payment is due in full to Joanne by August 10.



Help Needed!

**We are in need of several more
Children's Church teachers.**

**Please contact Penny
Segessenman for information**

Jan. 1, - Jun. 30 2025 Financial Report

\$74,365.44 - General Operating Fund Receipts, Interest, Misc. & Fund Raising Income

\$ 23,576.00 - **Plus** monies received for Funds for Specific Purposes – These monies include gifts to Maintenance & Repairs, Memorials, Missions (Hungry for More), Kitchen Maintenance, Sound System, Choir Music, Scholarship Fund, Cemetery Fund, Etc.

\$97,941.44 - **Total Available**

\$128,064.74 - **Less** Expenses (Supplies, Salaries, Utilities, Shares of Min., Improve., Ins., etc.)

(\$30,123.30) - Net amount that each Fund Balance increased or (decreased).

Current Balance in **General Operating Fund** is **\$102,575.32**.

Current Balance in **Funds for Specific Purposes** is **\$37,435.42**.

Additionally this year you have generously given **\$300 to Camp Scholarships**.

If you have any questions, please ask a member of your finance team – Chairperson: Yvonne Davis, Treasurer: Michelle Johnson or Financial Secretary: Joanne Bennett



**If you would be
interested in helping out
in the Church office a few
hours a week, please
contact Beverly Carter or
Peggy Clarke**

BACK TO SCHOOL



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



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.



- 1 Patty Bean
- 4 Carl Hauswald
- 4 Monique Keller
- 5 Joe Herman
- 7 Jill Slagle
- 8 Laura Fair
- 10 Mildred Messinger
- 10 Lucas Schuman
- 12 Graham Schuman
- 13 Robert Hollie
- 14 Kim Hollie
- 17 Sarah Blose
- 28 Beth Stapleton
- 30 Grace Beaston
- 31 Geneva Hudson
- 31 Michael Kohne

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



*The Deadline for the September
newsletter will be Wednesday,
August 20, 2025.*

