

Brightwood Christian Church  
5044 W. Library Ave.  
Bethel Park, PA 15102



# The Beacon

News from Brightwood Christian Church  
(Disciples of Christ)  
April and May 2024

The Easter season continues with us until Pentecost on May 19th. What do we do with that? We've celebrated the resurrection, we've found the eggs (most of them at least), we've eaten our feast and at least two of the chocolate bunny's ears. What now? How do we celebrate Easter for over a month.

Celebrate is the operative word. And if we aren't sure how to do that, we have spring to teach us. Here's a primer of scriptures in which nature sings the praise of God.

*"11 Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice;  
let the sea roar, and all that fills it;  
12 let the field exult, and everything in it.  
Then shall all the trees of the forest sing for joy"*

*Psalms 96:11-12*

*7 'But ask the animals, and they will teach you;  
the birds of the air, and they will tell you;  
8 ask the plants of the earth, and they will teach you;  
and the fish of the sea will declare to you.  
9 Who among all these does not know  
that the hand of the Lord has done this?  
10 In his hand is the life of every living thing  
and the breath of every human being.*

*Job 12:7-10*

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1 *The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands.* Psalm 19:1

20 *The wild animals will honour me, the jackals and the ostriches; for I give water in the wilderness, rivers in the desert, to give drink to my chosen people,*

Isaiah 43:20

In this season of spring and sunshine, if you struggle to continue to celebrate Easter all the way until Pentecost, look to the birds of the air and the flowers of the field.

*Blessings.*

*Pastor Jana*

**Next Lunch Bunches:** Lunch Bunch has become a favorite Brightwood activity as we gather at a local restaurant to enjoy each other's company. It is a great time to invite a new friend to meet your church friends! Mark your calendar for lunch on the following dates:

- **Thursday, April 25** at 11:30 am at Bartram House Bakery (197 Millers Run Road, Bridgeville, PA 15017)
- **Thursday, May 23** at 11:30 am at Eat N Park (3380 Washington Rd Ste 1, McMurray, PA 15317 )

Contact Pastor Jana by the Wednesday before each lunch bunch to add your name to the list.

### **Pentecost Geraniums**

We will have Pentecost geraniums available for purchase again this year in honor or memory of loved ones. We don't have costs or dates as of the printing of our newsletter, but if you are interested and unable to attend worship, contact Pastor Jana and she will be sure to get you the information as soon as it is available.

- **May 26th** at 11 am, Worship
- **May 29th** from 6:30-7:30pm, World Religion Study
- **May 31st– June 2nd:** Laurelview Family Camp
- **June 5th** from 6:30-7:30pm, World Religion Study
- **June 16th–June 22nd:** Laurelview Chi Rho Camp
- **June 23–29th:** Laurelview Conference Camp
- **July 7–July 13th:** Laurelview Junior Camp
- **July 14th–July 17th:** Laurelview Mini Camp

### **April Birthdays**

3 Mel McClelland  
6 Sue Orrick  
8 Hannah Wright  
10 Alyssa Goelz  
13 George Updegrove  
19 Linda Beattie  
22 Kevin Quisenberry  
23 Brenda Weiss  
24 Tyler Bable

### **April Anniversaries**

3 The Yelligs

### **May Birthdays**

1 DJ Berg  
5 Carrie Lombardi  
12 Jan McCuean  
17 Luciano Francica  
22 Jesse Orrick  
31 Deb McCuean

### **May Anniversaries**

14 The Fillippas  
24 The Bergs  
30 The Updegroves

## Mark Your Calendar!!!

- **April 6th** cemetery clean-up
  - **April 7th** at 11 am, Worship
  - **April 10th** at 7 pm, Board Meeting
  - **April 11th-17th**, Pastor Jana away for Denominational board meetings
  - **April 14th** at 11 am, Worship led by Kellee Cohlhepp
  - **April 15-18th**, Harmony Singers Tech Week
  - **April 19th**, Shalom Day at the church (local Pastor's retreat)
  - **April 20th** at 4 pm at Bethel Park Community Center, Harmony Singer's Concert "The Music of Life"
  - **April 21st** at 11 am, Worship
    - 2 pm at Bethel Park Community Center, Harmony Singer's Concert "The Music of Life"
  - **April 25th** at 11:30 am, lunch bunch at Bartram House Bakery
  - **April 28th** at 11 am, Worship
  - **May 1st** from 6:30-7:30pm, World Religion Study
  - **May 5th** at 11 am, Worship
    - Board Meeting after worship
    - Rummage Sale Set-up after Board Meeting
  - **May 8th** from 6:30-7:30pm, World Religion Study
  - **May 9th** at 9:30 am, Rummage Sale Set up
  - **May 10th** from 9 am- 2 pm, Rummage Sale
  - **May 11th** from 9 am- 2 pm, Rummage Sale
  - **May 12th** at 11 am, Worship, Happy Mother's Day!
    - Pentecost Special Day Offering
  - **May 15th** from 6:30-7:30pm, World Religion Study
    - Newsletter Deadline
    - Church Directory deadline
- (continued on next page)
- **May 19th** at 11 am, Worship, Pentecost!
    - Pentecost Special Day Offering
  - **May 22nd** from 6:30-7:30pm, World Religion Study
  - **May 23rd** at 11:30 am, lunch bunch at Eat N Park

## World Religion Study

On Wednesday Evenings from **May 1- June 5** from 6:30-7:30 pm, we'll gather to learn about world faiths and how they see Jesus. In a time when we are more connected than ever to others far and wide, learning about what others believe may help us to reinforce and understand our own ideas. You are welcome at any or all study sessions, but please contact Pastor Jana on the weeks you plan to attend in case we need to cancel at the last minute.

## Rummage Sale

This spring's rummage sale is on **Friday, May 10 and Saturday, May 11th from 9 am-2pm.**

We will need some help setting up. If you are able, please plan to stay after the board meeting for a few minutes on **Sunday, May 5th to help us set up the fellowship hall (We'll order pizza).** We'll also gather for final set-up on **Thursday, May 9th at 10:30 am.**

We are always accepting rummage. Please leave it on the stage in the Fellowship Hall. Please invite your friends to our sale or to donate gently used items.

## Pentecost Special Day Offering

Disciples welcome an over and above offering to support New Church Ministries on *May 12th and 19th*. Not only does this ministry plant new churches, but those who are trying to grow older congregations are learning so much from new church innovations. We are too early in producing this newsletter to insert promotional materials. They will be available in worship, however if you aren't able to get to worship, you may mail a check and mark it "Pentecost offering".

## **Wear Red to Worship on May 19th for Pentecost!**

### **Upcoming Board Meetings**

Please mark your calendar for our upcoming board meetings: **April 10th at 7 pm** and **May 5th after worship**. Written reports facilitate a quicker meeting. Please email them to Pastor Jana three days in advance of the board meeting.

### **Pop Tabs for Ronald McDonald House**

On March 3, during worship, we celebrated our ongoing pop tab collection and prayed over the ones that we were ready to turn in to benefit Ronald McDonald House.

We continue to receive pop tabs to benefit Ronald McDonald House, a charity that helps keep families and children together during a child's hospital stay. Keep them coming! (See [rmhc.org](http://rmhc.org) for more information about the Organization.)

### **Newsletter Plans**

Pastor Jana continues to produce a newsletter every two months. This month covers April and May. If you have an event that should go into the June and July newsletter, please submit it to Pastor Jana by **May 15th**.

### **Pennies for "Peanut Butter"**

Every person can make a difference. We are collecting spare change in a jar in the narthex that will be donated to South Hills Interfaith movement. SHIM serves 2500 individuals monthly through three food pantries in Bethel Park, Whitehall, and Baldwin. Financial contributions to those programs have five times more impact.

- Linda's friend, Travis, whose toddler, Lucas, is dealing with developmental challenges
- Sue Orrick's cousin, Sandra Reidel, with cancer
- Dick Mansuetto, Nick Mansuetto's father, with cancer
- Barb Morgan's sister-in-law, Elaine
- Ukraine, Israel and Palestine, Haiti, Indiana, recovering from Tornadoes, wildfire victims in Virginia



**Brightwood Christian Church is a welcoming community of Christians seeking to grow in faith and service.**

**Minister: Rev. Jana Quisenberry**

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**Organist: Lisa Powell**

**Facebook: [Facebook.com/brightwoodchurch](https://www.facebook.com/brightwoodchurch)**

**Website: [brightwoodchurch.org](http://brightwoodchurch.org)**

**Online Giving: On the Givelify App or  
at [BrightwoodChurch.org](http://BrightwoodChurch.org)**

**Youtube: Pastor Jana Q at Brightwood**

## Prayer Concerns

- Ron McAnulty, who had a heart episode and had two stents put in
- Tom Starkey, recovering from hernia surgery
- Don McCuean, who had triple bypass surgery and is recovering well at home
- For the family of Barbara Ann Jackson Devore, Rev. Bob Jackson's mother, who passed away on March 14th
- Pat's daughter, Lori Beth, recovering from arm surgery
- Johnna Mansuetto, recovering from hip surgery with some complications
- Criss's friend's daughter, Rachel, who has been told there is nothing more they can do for her cancer
- Lisa's friend, Kris, undergoing surgery & treatment for cancer
- Alice Vietmeier, awaiting biopsy for an ovarian mass
- Wes Nugent, young father in a bicycling accident, being transferred for physical therapy for paralysis
- Christine Reynolds, Linda's friend, now in Concordia
- Horst Riddler, recovering in rehabilitation at Paramont
- Vicki Dadisman, Pat Watson's friend, with cancer
- Mickey Campbell
- Kevin Powell, recovering from successful amputation surgery
- Kasey Richardson, young mother with stage 4 liver cancer
- Ron McNulty's sister, Janet Hamilton,
- Vicky McAnulty's Son, Darryl
- Kim Vagni's friends Darlene, Daniele, Lydia, and Kristian and her mother and law Barb, and the Vagni's
- Pete Galambas, who has kidney failure following COVID pneumonia and is on dialysis
- Lisa's friend, Marci, with severe spinal issues

## Children's Church

Pastor Jana's daughter, Lily, with help from her son, James, teach children's church each Sunday that Lily is available. After the children's moment in worship, the kids go to the nursery for a Bible lesson, art & snacks.

## Denominational Board Meeting and Pastor Jana Away

Pastor Jana is a member of the Administrative Committee to the Board of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and a member of the Board itself. **Pastor Jana will be in Chicago for those meetings from April 11-17th including travel.** If you have a Pastoral emergency during that time, please contact Pastor Jana and she will reach out to a local Disciples Pastor. We will welcome seminary student **Kellee Cohlhepp to preach on April 14th.** Please make her feel welcome! And please pray for the work of the Board during that time.

## Refrigerator Help

Our kitchen's refrigerator has failed. If you have an extra refrigerator at home or would like to donate towards the purchase of a new one, please contact Pastor Jana.

## Online Worship Continues

Remember, worship is available online at our YouTube channel: Pastor Jana Q at Brightwood. *Please subscribe* and consider sharing them with friends and family. We want to be a blessing to as many people as possible. Each week's worship is typically available later in the day on Sunday, even in the absence of an email.

## Welcome New Member

Welcome to James Quisenberry, who made his confession of faith on March 17th & was baptized on March 24th. We were so delighted to welcome you into our family of faith!

## Online Giving

We are thrilled to offer online giving! We understand that not everyone in our congregation would take advantage of such a service. It enables those visiting our website or joining us for online worship to share in the church's ministry.

The service costs the church nothing except a percentage of those gifts when used. You can download the Giveify App or visit our website to find more information.

There are three categories: Local mission (which goes to South Hills Interfaith Ministry), Disciples Mission Fund (which goes to the General Ministries of the Christian Church and tithe/offering, which goes to the general fund of the church to support our ministries and operating budget.

**Thank you for a wonderful Easter season!** Our weekly studies were engaging, the Baptism and luncheon afterwards was a huge success and Easter was such a blessing. Thank you for attending and contributing to the luncheon and egg hunt. Thank you, as well, for the beautiful Palm Arrangement given by Bonnie Rudolph in honor of Ron Rudolph. We couldn't have done it without you all of you. Thank you!

*Please Take Note of Rick and Pam Bruno's new address:*

*104 Olivia Dr.*

*Eighty Four, PA 15330*

*If you need to mail a check for the church,  
please use this address.*

**Church Directory** We are well past due for a new directory. We are definitely hoping to get one ready to send out with our June/ July newsletter. Please notify Pastor Jana with any changes by May 15th.

## Cemetery Clean Up

On April 6th at 9 am, volunteers from Peters Township police, fire department, and the community at large will gather at our cemetery to clean it up for spring and make it more manageable on an ongoing basis. We will be providing lunch for volunteers. Please mark your calendar and contact Pastor Jana if you are interested in volunteering. If you are unable to volunteer, consider making a donation towards the luncheon by marking it "Cemetery Volunteer Lunch."

## Celebrate!

We are so excited to celebrate that we have paid off the mortgage we took out to renovate the parsonage. There have been many who have helped in this process, and some who have gone to extraordinary lengths to do so. We are grateful to provide a wonderful home for a wonderful family while also being blessed in what we are able to accomplish because of the income it provides the church. Thank you all! *God is so good!*

**Please Make a Note of Charlotte Cain's New Address:**

Kane Community Living Center  
300 Kane Blvd; Pittsburgh, PA 15243

*Happy  
Mother's  
Day*