

# News from the



November 2019  
Circuit Rider



BROOKLYN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

7200 BROOKLYN BLVD., BROOKLYN CENTER, MN 55429

9:00AM, 10:45AM, 11:30AM



7200 BROOKLYN BLVD.  
BROOKLYN CENTER, MN 55429  
Office Hours 9am-4pm (M-Th)  
9am-noon (F)

763-561-1684  
admin@bumc.org  
bumc.org

*Videos of Sunday's sermons can be  
found on our website under  
Worship/Past Sermons*

## BECOMING THE HEART OF THE BROOKLYNS BY ...

### REACH NEW PEOPLE

Through service, worship,  
discipleship, reaching new people  
with the grace of God

### LOVE GOD & LOVE NEIGHBOR

Living out the 2 great  
commandments of Jesus Christ  
in everything we do as a  
community of faith.

### HEAL A BROKEN WORLD

Serving alongside our neighbors to  
become the heart of the Brooklyns,  
the north side and beyond.

*We are pumping in and  
pumping out the love of God  
to the community around us.*

I'm feeling some fall blues. I'm an October lover. It is by far my favorite month and it is over and I'm hoping November will be a great fall month, not just an early winter!

As we turn the page, and hopefully not the snow shovel, into November, our thoughts turn to stewardship. Harvest in my tradition has always been the time when the church turns to stewardship, and asking us all to help the church be stewards of our resources as we turn to planning ministry, and funding our ministry for 2020. There is so much happening that I think we sometimes forget all that BUMC does to be the heart of the Brooklyns.



Our beloved United Methodist Church is in global turmoil as we struggle with issues around human sexuality. The hard truth about our Church is we are still struggling with the issues of race. Our national, and international politics, are in chaos and nationalism is on the rise throughout the globe. There are too many people struggling with addiction, poverty, child care, how the paycheck does not last as long as the bills pile, and do not get me started on the cost of insulin in this country (and I have great insurance!). We even witnessed national, state and local officials attack an autistic young lady for standing up for climate change.

But in the midst of all of this, BUMC is the heart of the Brooklyns by loving God and neighbor, by healing a broken world and by reaching new people. As we enter November, just read through this newsletter and you will see a church loving its God and its neighbor. And despite all that is happening around us, we follow Christ out into God's world and we are making a difference at BUMC. That is why we are asking in November to help us plan our ministry and mission into 2020, how we'll be stewards of God.

My advice on our stewardship comes straight from John Wesley, the founder of the Methodist Movement: Earn all you can, save all you can, so that you can give all you can.

Pastor Rich

### HOMELESS YOUTH ADVOCACY

Pastor Rich would like to form a team, a Wesley Small Group, around the issues of Youth Homelessness in the Brooklyns (the Northwest Metro). Would you want to be part of this small group? 8 people who would gather monthly for study, discipleship, care of our own souls, as well as a group who would then help educate us on the issues of Youth Homelessness in our "backyard." We would also advocate for two organizations in our community – Avenues for Homeless Youth and Hope4Youth. We would help promote our Change4Change offerings for these organizations, set up service opportunities for BUMC at Avenues and Hope4Youth, as well as drives for in-kind donations. In effect this will be a small group with a purpose of putting our faith into action by loving God, loving our neighbors, and healing a broken world around the issue of youth homelessness. Who knows, we may even reach new people! If you want to join the group, let the office know. We will begin our group in January.



## MCCI UPDATE (Missional Church Consultation Initiative)

I have met with my Pastor Cohort, a group of local UM clergy all leading their churches through the MCCI process, now twice with the third being on Oct. 31<sup>st</sup>. At the close of October I will have trained our executive leadership team on a major project of MCCI, a few months of work discovering our history of ministry and writing a narrative of our past mission and ministry. At the same time I will be doing a demographic study of a 5 mile radius around BUMC and North UMC. This work by our executive leadership will take some time. Once they have completed their work, I will get the information, as well as my demographic work, out to us all. This task is going to take some time though. Maybe we will be able to leak some of what we are learning as we go.

On Sunday, the 27<sup>th</sup> of October, 10am, I will be leading a small group, 3 or 4 people in reviewing all our communications to evaluate if we as a church just provide information or do we build a sense of anticipation. With all the information that we get in today's world, people no longer respond to just information, they need a sense of anticipation to engage them in ministry. It will be interesting to see what this group discovers about BUMC's communication. I'll get their findings out to you in next month's newsletter.

Also, if you are a sociologist at heart, talk with Pastor Rich about looking over the data he has about our communities. He would love some help looking it over.

As part of the MCCI process we are exploring a partnership in ministry with North UMC. With this, I will be preaching at North UMC every 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday (they worship at 10:30am) and then lead their Church Council in the MCCI process. Anyone willing to join me on the 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays at North UMC? I would love to have a few people come over after the 9am service and help fill a pew or two at North Musicians - would also love some special music to go with me!

Pastor Rich



Saving our change, making special gifts, to heal a broken world.

### Change for Change Offerings

Using our change and special gifts, God calls us to give to change the world. Each Sunday we ask all of BUMC to save their change, bring it to worship along with any special gift you feel God is calling you to give, and place it in our Change for Change Offering. Together we shall change the world.

This month we are supporting the Dignity Center and our Good Samaritan Fund.

### UMCOR DISASTER - 11/3 & 11/10

UMCOR responds to natural or civil disasters of such magnitude that they overwhelm a community's ability to recover on its own. Through UMCOR, United Methodists extend loving care to people within the United States. When disaster strikes, it is local churches that provide the first response to their communities. This basic understanding—that disaster response is local—forms the foundation for UMCOR's US disaster training and response. When responding to a disaster in the United States, UMCOR provides training, financial assistance, expertise, community collaboration to churches and partners making them more resilient to disasters.

### UM STUDENT DAY/GARRETT EVANGELICAL THEOLOGICAL SCHOLARSHIP - 11/17 & 11/24

Across the country, the people of The United Methodist Church are serving the people God loves in Jesus' name. We're doing it at home, but so often we'd like to do more.

- We want to serve those in other places who are suffering.
- We want to offer spiritual words of hope and life.
- And we want to be well-equipped to do both! But the reality for most of us is that our responsibilities—home, family, work—don't allow us to engage with every need we'd like to meet.

Right now there are UMC young people—who might not have had the resources to attend a school of their choice, or, for some, any school at all—who've been sent by you into the world God loves because of your giving to United Methodist Student Day. When you give generously you are supporting these students as they prepare for a life that unites faith with knowledge.

We'll also be supporting the scholarship in Pastor Rich's name at his theological alma mater.



## Stewardship

We view stewardship as your individual and family's faith journey to prayerfully consider how God has gifted you with your time, talents and treasures and explore in prayer what you feel that God is asking you to give to our church.

This time of the year, pastors and finance committees are

scrambling to put together a financial or stewardship piece. After all:

- we are behind budget
- the summer slump hit us hard
- unless people step up

For some churches, the first course of action is to have the chair of finance stand before the congregation loaded with pie charts and spreadsheets to **grimly inform the congregation of the impending financial crisis**. Maybe ten year old Henry is paraded up front and asked the question, "Do we really want to cut a staff position?" And of course, the people in the pews begin to tune out and think, "Here we go again."

There is a better way...I promise!

### What if stewardship and giving had less to do with budgets, buildings, dollars and cents?

What if stewardship and giving were a way to help people live life to the fullest?

What if stewardship was about learning to embrace ourselves as children of God created in the very image of God?

In his book, *Generosity Rising*, Scott McKenzie re-writes the opening to the Declaration of Independence as: *We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all people are created in the image of a loving, giving, and generous God. We believe real life, true liberty and eternal joy are only realized when we live lives with abundant generosity and sacrificial love.*

### Generosity begins with God.

McKenzie had seen many finance chairs and pastors shake their head at this, suggesting that what is theologically true and what is practically true are somehow not related.

They may say, "But we have to talk budget, we have to let people know how far behind we are or they won't give." To this sentiment, I ask... how has that been working for you?

The *most important* stewardship verse in the Bible has nothing to do with budgets, building, dollars and cents. The most important stewardship verse is this: *For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but have eternal life. – John 3:16 (NRSV)*

God loves...God gives...And the world is forever changed!

### We are created to love and to give.

We are created in the image of God. We are created to love and to give. When we love and when we give, we become the people God created us to be. We are forever changed and the world is forever changed. Now that we'll preach!

Yes, we are almost at the end of October. Yes, we are behind in giving. Take a deep breath, we've been here before. Always God has made a way. So folks, we have the opportunity to become the loving, generous people God created us to be. Let's change the world through our love and giving.

*For God so loved the world He gave...*

This November, you are invited to participate in our Annual Stewardship drive. We want to create a culture of generosity at BUMC. Scott McKenzie's book "Generosity Rising" will guide our conversations. The theme is "Stewardship is grounded in Gratitude, revealed in Prayer, and lived in Faith." Four Sundays we will reflect on the following:

November 3	Gratitude
November 10	Prayer as willingness
November 17	Faith
November 24	Commitment

Also join me for a 21-day devotional challenge offered by Scott McKenzie starting November 3. Details to follow.

Not forgetting, we have an energized and farsighted Stewardship team to steer us throughout next year in achieving our goal for stewardship and generosity. This team will work with finance, staff, and leadership to create the culture.

Blessings  
Pastor Henry





**MORE ABOUT** Saturday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>

Brooklyn United Methodist Women's  
46<sup>th</sup> Annual Fall Bazaar and Craft Show  
7200 Brooklyn Blvd, Brooklyn Center

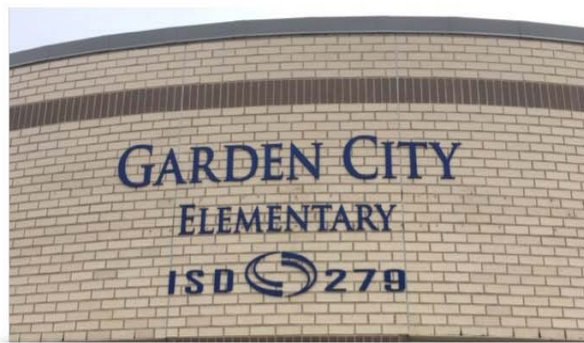
9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Crafters can reserve a table now by contacting  
Nancy Kipp at 612-817-5456.

In addition to a variety of vendors with an assortment  
of things you can pick up for holiday giving, lunch will  
be available, and  
there will be a Quilt Raffle (only \$1 per ticket).  
Bid on silent auction baskets, shop for unique crafts,  
holiday decorations, and more.

The following donations will be accepted at the church after  
October 27: gently-used clothing, jewelry, baked goods, books,  
crafts, Christmas items and Silent Auction baskets.





SEPT 2019 GARDEN CITY+BUMC

PIC•COLLAGE



# BROOKLYN'S KIDS

November 2019

## BUMC CHILDREN'S MINISTRY NEWS

### November for Kids



#### November Sunday School All Services

**We'll be looking at what it takes to be a good steward of our world and our selves:**

Gratitude  
Prayer  
Faith  
Commitment

#### Sunday School Sign In



Parents must **sign in** kids at the beginning of the service and the kids go right downstairs to Room 2.

**Children's Moments** are at the end of the Service. Children will be brought into the service and will share something they have learned with worshippers.

There is a sign up card to be filled out if your child is not in the Sunday School system.



#### It's Beginning to Sound A Lot Like Christmas!!!

Kids will be a part of the Choir Concert on Sunday, December 8th at 4 PM. Look for rehearsal schedules and music to be sent home with kids, in the mail, and by email.

### Is Your Child a Rock Star? Of course!

We would like to celebrate your child's special achievements and important milestones. If they have accomplished something like earning a belt in karate, a first in the school spelling bee,

volunteering in the community, receiving an honor in their school or starring in a play, let me know and we'll feature them in an upcoming Circuit Rider!



#### Important Dates

Every Sunday

9 am, 10:45 am, 11:30 am  
Sunday School, PreK  
class, Nursery care

Sunday, December 8th at 4 pm

Children sing in  
Choir Concert

Wednesdays in December

Special Advent activities  
for all ages!

Sunday, December 29th

Children take part in the  
service of Stars and Kings

#### Special points of interest:

- Sunday School volunteers ALWAYS needed
- Please register children for Sunday School because we want to celebrate birthdays, place kids in the appropriate small group by age and grade, have email and mailing addresses to send out Sunday School or event information, and avoid health risks like food or other allergies.

**For more information or to volunteer, contact Linda at [children@bumc.org](mailto:children@bumc.org), 763-561-1684 or 763-234-2019**



## Walkin' the Talk



Grades 6-12 continue to discover ways to "walk" their talk about God's love for the world and have a little extra fun on the side!

## Youth Ministry

By Mim Campbell, Director

FAITH TREK  
strength for the journey



**Walkin' the Talk ... October Event - See photos above. Next Event: Friday, November 29, 9:00 - 4:00PM**

**Service Project:** Focus on "Teen Link" - a drop-in center for homeless 18-24 year olds - learning about the realities of being homeless and assembling resource packs of delicious soup & Thanksgiving card deliveries to seniors living on their own.

**Fun Activity:** Bowling @ Bowlero Cost: \$12.00

**Bring:** Lunch, Water Bottle & \$12.00 **Reserve a place with Mim by Tuesday, November 26**

We'll meet after the 11:30 service. Bring warm clothes \$12 for bowling & laser tag.

TREK TRAINING

(Confirmation)

Weekly Classes

**Sundays 10:00 - 11:00 AM**

**NOON - 1:00 PM**

Beginning Sunday, Nov 3, the Wednesday class will be meeting at NOON on Sundays.

Please pray for our 6th-8th graders as they learn what it means to love God and neighbor, and heal a broken world.

## Soup-to-Go!

### Youth Fundraiser!



Orders: Taken on  
November Sunday 10 and 17

Pick-up: Sunday morning, November 24  
between 10-1:30 PM

Funds will be devoted to 2020 Mission Trip.

Soups will be made and packaged on Saturday,  
November 23. Time - TBA

**Questions? Concerns? Contact**  
**mim@bumc.com or call/text (612) 791-3969**

**Thanks for Filling Our Youth Room  
with Fun Things to Do!**

**Come & play a game or two of foosball, ping pong or  
air hockey with us in Rm 8.**



**Thank You, Brooklyn Volunteers!** We had a great turn out for Second Harvest Heartland: Tom Foster, Katie and Aidan Barott, Diane and Darryl Sannes, Linda and Gavin Koelman, Kathy Carter, Jim Schagh and Nancy Kipp. Together with the volunteers from Ja'afari Islamic Center and First Union Church of Elk River we had about 60 community members to help organize food for families in need right here in the northwest suburbs. We worked sorting and weighing 13,720 pounds of onions! Our next Interfaith Volunteers activity will be held in January at Feed My Starving Children.



**Feed My Starving Children:** I hope you can join Brooklyn Church at the FMSC Warehouse at 401 93<sup>rd</sup> Ave. in Coon Rapids on Saturday, Nov. 9<sup>th</sup> from 5 – 6:30 pm. We have space for ten volunteers. This is a great way for middle and high school students to get some of their volunteer hours counted! It's also a great way to have some family fun while helping children in need of a healthy meal. Please sign up in Fellowship Hall or online at FMSC.org. If you have questions, please call or text Nancy Kipp at 612-817-5456.



## CARE MINISTRIES

Mim Campbell

### Alzheimer's is Preventable?

Alzheimer's disease now represents a global epidemic with more than 5.8 million people being diagnosed with this incurable disease in the United States! While there is no cure for Alzheimer's, the latest scientific research reveals that Alzheimer's disease can essentially be prevented.

We can't change our genes but we can influence the way they are expressed based on the lifestyle choices we make every day, including diet, sleep, exercise and stress management.

We can never start too soon! Processed foods and sodas have a dynamically huge adverse affect on our brain health.

Fresh berries, nuts and fish, leafy veggies, whole grains and chicken, beans, whole foods and lots of water can all keep our brains happy and healthy for years to come. This part is up to us!!



### Prayers of the People

Please take a moment to share expressions of care and prayer for the following people.

... For the families who have lost loved ones as they embrace the special relationships & rich memories they shared....

Ann Bystrom's family on the death of her brother

... For healing, health and strength of members & friends of our faith community:

Jim Woods, Marion Williams, Pat Butler, Hazel Tveita, Linda Shadden, Doris Kephart, Jim Hoffner, Sherry Lindner, Joe Hill, Marjory Johnson and Bernice Nelson.

*Please help us stay in touch with members of our church and community who are in need of support and prayer. Contact Mim (612) 791-3969 or the Church Office. "Prayer & Requests for Care" cards are available in the pew racks.*







Loaves & Fishes serves meals every Monday, Wednesday & Friday from noon-1pm. All are invited to join lunch and volunteers are always needed. Please call 612-377-9810.

## TRADITION

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If you have a need for a service (lawn mowing, repairs, etc.), let us know!! We'll send it out via our mass email to try & help out.



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## STAFF & OTHER CONTACTS

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### Children & Family Ministries Director:

Linda Browning - [children@bumc.org](mailto:children@bumc.org)

### Director of Developmental Ministries:

Mim Campbell - [youth@bumc.org](mailto:youth@bumc.org)

### Music Leaders:

9am - Clayton Heidbreder - [music@bumc.org](mailto:music@bumc.org)

10:45am - Lexi Bergevin - [encounter@bumc.org](mailto:encounter@bumc.org)

11:30am - Carl Doe - [acm@bumc.org](mailto:acm@bumc.org)

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The CIRCUIT RIDER is a monthly publication of Brooklyn UMC. Its purpose is to highlight life in the church for members and friends. Comments, articles and information can be emailed to [crider@bumc.org](mailto:crider@bumc.org). The monthly deadline is the 3rd Wednesday of the month.

**Church office phone: 763-561-1684**





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Brooklyn United Methodist Church  
7200 Brooklyn Blvd.  
Brooklyn Center, MN 55429

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Sunday Worship Times:  
9:00 am Traditional  
10:45 am encounter  
11:30 am Contemporary with an African Flair