

# The MESSENGER

Published by  
Baptist Church of  
West Chester

May/June 2011 Issue

## Pastor's Report

### IT'S TIME FOR THAT LETTER!

No, it's not a "Dear John" letter, nor is it time to say goodbye, but it is time to begin thinking about it. That's why the term "interim" always appears before my title. Our time together is for a season, and seasons all come to an end.

Before you get all melancholy and depressed, remember how you treat the seasons. You don't hate spring when it goes, you are awaiting summer; and you don't hate the departure of summer because beautiful leaves are coming; and, some of you even look forward to winter activities while you await the spring.

God has given us a great season together. He has drawn us together in a bond that will last for all eternity. That's been one of the marvelous joys of doing interim work: the life-changing friendships we have developed in so many places. It will take much of eternity to get caught up with all the wonderful friends, like you, with which God has lined our pathways.

As the Search Committee is beginning to see some fruit for their labor, and as you begin to anticipate the calling of your next pastor, Sue and I ask but one thing – please do not let our presence hold you back from celebrating in anticipation of the new chapter God is unfolding for your future. Silly comments like, "We won't vote for a new pastor,

then you'll have to stay," will not help you or us. This is the reason why we came – to get to know, to love, to seek God's healing, and to look forward to God's promises for tomorrow.

In addition to building some time and space into the calling process, interims are designed to illustrate that there are different styles and types of ministry and ministers. Each one is unique and can be used by God to help us in our development, growth and service.

In the sixteen months God has granted us together we have learned to trust and comfort each other. The comfort and healing is not yet complete for some, so be patient and sensitive with them. The trust level also is not fully in place for some, but they are trying and stretching themselves in faith. I pray that you have come to appreciate what a talented, compassionate, strong, faithful and loving congregation the BCWC really is. We have.

That's not an ingredient some interim slipped into your coffee. That's you, with God. And if we have modeled anything for you, it is how resilient and open you are to sometimes new and often strange ideas. And how open you can be for a new pastor who will be anxious to meet and know you, and learn how best to challenge you to become even more than you already are under the Spirit's leading.

*(Continued on page 4)*



All-Church Picnic  
following worship  
June 5  
Hoopes Park

Summer Hours Begin  
June 12  
Sunday Worship  
9:30 a.m.

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For more BCWC  
Information visit us at  
[www.bcwc.org](http://www.bcwc.org)



### Check us out on Facebook!

If you would like to receive updates of what is happening at BCWC, just click on the "Like" button on Facebook and you will automatically receive updates!

Contact Caron Cramer if you would like an event or pictures posted on Facebook. Enjoy!



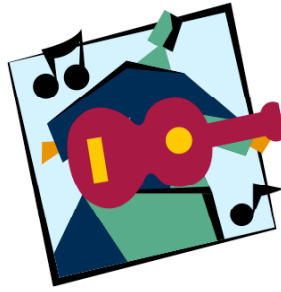
Be sure to regularly visit our website. It's loaded with information, offers access to video clips, and will soon have a calendar of meetings and events.



Catch the waves of fun at our Vacation Bible School this summer!

July 18-22, 2011 9 a.m. to noon  
Register today at [bcwc.org](http://bcwc.org)  
Invite a friend! ☺

If you can help, contact  
Elberta Clinton  
[elbertaf101@verizon.net](mailto:elbertaf101@verizon.net)  
or 610-692-5725



### Feedback Concert 2011

Planning is underway for the second Feedback Concert! This year we are teaming up with Christ Community Church and Westminster Presbyterian Church for an afternoon of fellowship and praise music. We will again be collecting canned goods for the local food bank. The event is tentatively planned for July 16, 3 p.m., at West Goshen Park. If you are interested in helping with the planning of this event, please see Mike Coles or Ryan Jeffries.

### Food Bank Collection for Salvation Army

#### First & Third Sundays of the Month

There is an urgent need for the following items:  
infant formula, baby foods,  
canned meats,  
soup, peanut butter, jelly,  
cereal, and paper products.

Thank you to Melissa Myers  
for coordinating  
the Food Bank Collection.

### Medical Equipment Available

The Trustees have a small inventory of medical equipment available for loan. Please contact Bill Moyer or one of the Trustees for arrangements and a list of equipment items to borrow.

### ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING OFFERING 2011

*"Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ." Galatians 6:2 (NIV)*

sharing resources.



Each year we have the opportunity to join other denominations in giving to **One Great Hour of Sharing**.

Our annual offering supports international and home missions, which include development projects, refugee ministries, plus relief for nations such as Haiti and Japan that have suffered from natural disasters.

Starting on May 22, our bulletin will feature One Great Hour of Sharing inserts. Please read them, pray, and give.

### Young at Heart

**May 17**  
Rainbow Theatre

**June 14**  
Young at Heart Picnic at  
Coopersmith Park

**July/August**  
No meetings  
See you in September

**Young at Heart meets  
the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month  
at 10 a.m. for coffee and  
fellowship, followed by  
lunch and a program.  
We invite you to join us  
and bring a friend.**

# Board of Missions

## Please Pray for These Special Interest Missionaries

Each year the BCWC Board of Missions receives the names of American Baptist Special Interest Missionaries (SIMs) who serve in the U.S. and countries around the world. In each issue of The Messenger, we will feature two SIM missionaries. Please include these faithful servants in your prayers.

### Barbara and Dwight Bolick Southern Chile



The Bolicks work with the Chilean Mission Baptist Convention to serve the indigenous Mapuche people. Through ministries of economic and leadership development, strategic planning, stewardship and Christian education, the Bolicks help people recover their identity as a people made in God's image, and discover their vocation as productive stewards of God's creation.

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### Thank you from Baptist Children's Services YES! "Youth Empowered to Succeed"

Thank you for affirming the mission of BCS YES! with your generous contribution of \$1,000. Your gift will help transform a troubled young life, through counseling, medical and dental health care, tutoring, and training in basic life skills.

The legacy of BCS YES! began in 1879 as the Baptist Orphanage of Philadelphia. From that time until the present, ministries and churches of the Baptist faith have provided the spiritual and financial support needed.

Thank you for sharing the tremendous burden of care of disadvantaged youth. We are truly grateful for your on-going support.

Laurence W. Buchholz, Executive Director

### Kim L. Weaver, Executive Director Weirton Christian Center, Weirton, WV



Making a difference in the lives of children is what motivates Kim Weaver. "The Lord kept nudging me towards the possibility of Christian Center ministry," says Weaver. The Center serves a community that suffered when the steel mill closed years ago. Through after-school programs, summer camps, tutoring, clothing and household items, God's love reaches children and their families.

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## Happy Retirement, Betty Layton!

Best wishes to Betty Layton on her retirement after 22 years of service with the American Baptist Historical Society (ABHS).

At a recognition event on April 1, Betty received words of appreciation from many, including Roy Medley, General Secretary of American Baptist Churches USA, and Deborah Van Broekhoven, ABHS Executive Director.

Betty began working as a part-time library assistant at the Valley Forge Archives Center and in 1996 was named Archivist.

Recently -- when we missed her in worship some Sundays -- she was busy coordinating the move of thousands of historical documents from Valley Forge, PA, and Rochester, NY, to the new Archives Center in Atlanta, GA.

In retirement, Betty has been honored with the title of ABHS "Archivist Emeritus."

Congratulations, Betty!

We wish you many mornings of sleeping in and afternoons of reading "just for pleasure."

## BCWC Women's Ministries

### BCWC Women's Annual Spring Banquet

As we go to press, we are looking forward to our Spring Banquet on Friday, May 6, in Lowry Hall. We are excited to have a small group from the "49ers" perform for the event, so hopefully you are able to attend this fun event.

### College "We Care Bags"

We have delivered packages for students as they studied for their spring semester finals during the first week of May. We also did this for the fall semester and the bags were very much appreciated by the WCU students that we are blessed to have attending our church.

### Regional Women's Summer Conference

The conference will be held Friday to Sunday, June 10-12 at Shippensburg University. We hope to have good attendance from the BCWC for this worthwhile weekend. There will be a sign-up sheet in Lowry Hall. Watch for more details.

### Combined Picnic

On Tuesday, June 21 the Women's Circle and Young at Heart will have their combined picnic at Coopersmith Park. There will be a sign-up sheet in Lowry Hall closer to the event.

### Summer Coffee

It is not too early to mark Saturday, August 13, on your calendar for our Summer Coffee at Ginnie Ashton's place. In spite of the weather we have had, summer is just around the corner.

### The Penny Project

This ongoing ministry is designed to bring attention to the fact that in the U.S., 14 million children live in poverty. We are getting close to our goal of filling the jar by June. The jar is out every Sunday morning in Lowry Hall following worship. *Remember that your coins matter.*

### Campbell Soup Labels for Education

We continue to send Campbell's labels to the Murrow Indian Children's Home in Muskogee, OK, to help buy computers and other educational needs. Please remember to clip the bar codes on the labels, not the front labels. There is a box in Lowry Hall to put them in by the women's bulletin board.

## Board of Deacons

***Whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him. Colossians 3:17***

Thanking God for the opportunity to serve as your Deacons are:

Ginnie Ashton, Paul Banyacski, Elberta Clinton, Dave and Sandy Stevenson, Ann Supplee, and Glen Stuart.

The following officers were elected at the February 16 Diaconate meeting:

Chair:	Paul Banyacski
Vice Chair:	Elberta Clinton
Treasurer:	Dave Stevenson
Secretary:	Glen Stuart

We praise God and thank Pastor Dan for his insightful, inspirational Lenten Worship Services each Wednesday evening.

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### Pastor's Report (Continued from page 1)

Let me return to the subject of trust. I have a minor prejudice against people who refuse to volunteer or accept a board or committee job but then criticize those who are willing to do the job. My experience at BCWC finds a deep level of commitment and responsibility by those who have taken office. They may not always be right, but they are willing to "fix it" if it isn't right. Moreover, they don't take their tasks lightly, but prayerfully and carefully.

The Kingdom, and the Church, will not be completed by the singing of the right song, the appearance of the leader, the color of the carpet, the menu for fellowship hour, the frequency of the newsletter, or even the attractiveness of the website – as important as these types of things become for our comfort and use. God's will for us will be accomplished when we each seek to know Christ intimately and seek to Serve Him fully.

My softball team has a phrase that is growing in popularity. When one of our batters comes up in a crucial situation, with runners on base, and the game on the line, someone will say to the batter, "You are right on time!" Oh that God can say of us, "You are right on time!"

Pastor Dan

# Youth News

## "PHREDD" Concert

April 8, 2011

What a blast! We had "PHREDD," Fred McNaughton, from Lancaster Christian Radio (WJTL) and his daughter, Keilah, and son, Zach, at BCWC for a wonderful evening. Thanks to all who helped make this a successful event!



The kids had fun singing and moving with PHREDD!



Serving the Lord with joy! ☺  
*Caron Cramer*

## Schedule for Youth Group

### May

1: No Youth Group (YG)  
15: YG  
22: YG

### June

5: All -church picnic at Hoopes Park.  
No evening youth group.  
12: Youth group picnic  
27 -29: Beach trip to the Pyles' home in Bethany Beach, DE

### July

18-22: Vacation Bible School (VBS). All youth are welcome to help with this fun ministry.  
31-Aug. 6: "Group Workcamp" Mission Trip to Elizabethtown, PA. Click on their website ([groupworkcamps.com](http://groupworkcamps.com)) for more information.

Youth Group (YG) is from 5:30-8 p.m. on Sunday evenings, dinner included. Friends are always welcome! Any questions or if rides are needed, contact Caron Cramer 610-873-8535 (home) or [webcramers@verizon.net](mailto:webcramers@verizon.net). Visit us on Facebook for more information.

Serving the Lord with joy! ☺  
Caron Cramer  
Youth Director

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**Ink Jet Cartridges  
Recycle the cartridges  
and help the youth.**



Place your cartridges in the box in Lowry Hall marked "Empties4cash." The money goes toward food and aid for youth trips. Ask your family, friends and co-workers if you can have their empty cartridges, too. Thanks for your support! ☺

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### Thoughts on Memorial Day

"Ours is a world of nuclear giants and ethical infants. We know more about war than we know about peace, more about killing than we know about living. We have grasped the mystery of the atom and rejected the Sermon on the Mount."  
—General Omar Bradley

## Children & Family Ministries

Spring is in full bloom here at BCWC. Our *KidMo!* program is continuing to explore God's amazing love. In the coming weeks we will be exploring the titles: "I Am" and "Deep." Please continue to encourage your children to work on their Memory Max verses weekly and to exercise the biblical truths that they are learning each Sunday.

It is a blessing when we have new faces joining us on our weekly explorations. Please pray for the children that you and your family could reach out and invite to *KidMo!* and BCWC.

Vica Shaffer  
Director of Children and Family Ministries



The fall *KidMo!* schedule is starting to be prepared. If you are interested in leading or helping with the *KidMo!* program, please contact Vica for more information at [children.famdir@bcwc.org](mailto:children.famdir@bcwc.org).

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### Certificate of Appreciation from American Baptist Churches USA

BCWC has received a certificate of appreciation from our denomination for \$24,513.00 in United Mission giving in 2010.

The certificate notes that our congregation is #46 among approximately 5,500 American Baptist churches in the U.S. and Puerto Rico.

Our United Mission contribution supports American Baptist churches and mission work here at home and around the world. The certificate is posted on the Missions Board in Lowry Hall.

## May

Sam Seibert	1
Ginnie Ashton	2
Barbara Myers	3
May Ashbrook	4
Kenyon Wicks	4
Bea Conner	5
Nathaniel Barnett	8
Bob Wilson	9
Quenetta Sprague	10
Mary Helen Barnett	12
Emily Struthers	12
Dan Faccioli	14
Payne Norris	14
Evan Campbell	15
David Stuart	16
Braydon Hunter	20
Dave Ludeker	20
Christina Barnett	24
Sue MacDonald	25
Beryl Bradley	26
William Englehart	27
Bill Moyer	27
Deborah Parsons	27
Mackenzie Weiler	29
Elaine Jarrett	30



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Did we miss you or your loved one's birthday? We're sorry. Please let the office know and we'll correct our error immediately.



## June

Thelma Wolfson	1
Cole Michael Fisher	2
Lois Vanderlip	2
Josh Gentry	4
Kathleen Huss	5
Ann Supplee	5
Leah Cramer	9
Steven Huss	11
Josh Yarnall	12
Harold Barnett	16
Jeanne Peters	19
Bill Sharpless	21
Margaret Eileen Bell	23
Nancy McGowan	23
Joseph Clinton	26
Connie Snyder	27
Matt Daylida	27
Thomas Force	29



Bertha Davis  
Pocopson Home  
1695 Lenape Rd., 1<sup>st</sup> floor  
(formerly on 4<sup>th</sup> floor)  
West Chester, Pa 19382

## July

Kay Bennett	3
Jennifer Stuart	3
Stanley Cramer	4
Kiley Ryan	6
Jean Blackburn	11
Brandt Babel	13
Robbie Colson	13
Delilah McKnight	14
Andrew McKnight	18
Ralph Watson	18
Jeffrey Huss	20
Amy Trout	22
Brittany Guie	23
Shonte Kennedy	28
David Stevenson	28
Jennifer DuPont	30



Devyn Colson, our tech support person and member of the Board of Trustees

Recently the office experienced a number of issues with the computers and fax machine. Devyn has been on the job – correcting the problems, updating and performing other necessary tasks to ensure we stay connected.

Thanks Devyn, for your expertise, patience and good humor.  
Anita Uhl