



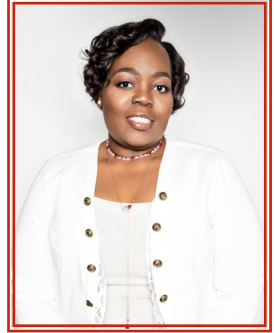
# THE BEACON

The Broad Street United Methodist Church Newsletter

## The Pastor's Corner

### Embracing 2025: A New Season of Breakthrough, Expansion, & Grace

As we step into 2025, Broad Street enters a defining chapter in our journey of faith. This is more than just a new year, it is a new season, one marked by breakthrough, expansion, and grace. Together, we are called to move boldly into the plans God has for us, both as individuals and as a church community, as we actively fulfill the Great Commission.



### Breakthrough in Our Personal Lives

Breakthrough begins within us. In 2025, let this be a year where we open our hearts to God's transformative power. Whether it's finding freedom from fear, deepening our prayer lives, or stepping into long-awaited blessings, breakthrough starts when we surrender fully to God's will. This year, let's commit to personal spiritual growth by immersing ourselves in prayer, studying God's Word, and embracing His grace for every aspect of our lives.

### Expansion as a Church Community

God is calling Broad Street to grow not just in numbers but in spirit, unity, and purpose. Expansion means strengthening the bonds that unite us as a church family while welcoming new members into our fold. It's about creating spaces where people of all generations and backgrounds can encounter the love of Christ. Together, we'll strive to make Broad Street a flourishing, intergenerational community, living out our mission to "Go, Reach, and Grow."

### Grace in Our Outreach and In-Reach

Grace will guide us as we extend our ministry both outward and inward. In our outreach, we will take bolder steps to meet the needs of our local community and beyond, sharing the gospel through acts of love, service, and

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compassion. In our in-reach, we will nurture the spiritual and emotional well-being of our members, ensuring that everyone feels seen, supported, and equipped to grow in their faith. Let 2025 be the year we reflect Christ's grace in everything we do.

### **Stewardship and Progression**

Fulfilling the Great Commission requires intentional stewardship of the resources God has entrusted to us. This year, we will prioritize financial health, sustainable practices, and resource allocation that aligns with our vision. Stewardship also includes our time and talents, actively serving in ways that glorify God and build His kingdom. Progression will come as we embrace innovative ways to expand our ministries, improve facilities, and enhance the ways we engage with our congregation and community.

### **Taking Action Steps Together**

Living out the Great Commission is not a task for a select few, it is a call for all of us to act together. In 2025, we will intentionally:

- **Engage in discipleship** by offering more Bible studies, mentorship opportunities, and leadership development programs.
- **Expand our outreach** by creating impactful community initiatives and events that share the love of Christ.
- **Enhance our worship experience** through creativity, inclusivity, and intentionality.
- **Strengthen connections** within our church family by fostering relationships and encouraging active participation in ministry.

### **A Vision for 2025 and Beyond**

This is the year Broad Street becomes a church where breakthrough happens, expansion takes root, and grace abounds. As we journey through this new season, let us remember the words of Philippians 3:13-14: <sup>13</sup>“Brothers and sisters, I do not consider that I have made it my own yet; but one thing *I do*: forgetting what *lies* behind and reaching forward to what *lies* ahead, <sup>14</sup>I press on toward the goal to win the [heavenly] prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.”

Together, let us press forward with faith and purpose, stepping boldly into the breakthroughs, growth, and grace that God has prepared for us. May 2025 be a year of transformation, where we not only envision change but also take the steps to make it a reality. for ourselves, our church, and the world around us.

Blessings,  
Pastor Temaris

## A Few Notes from Marsha Danser:

### **Choosing Him**

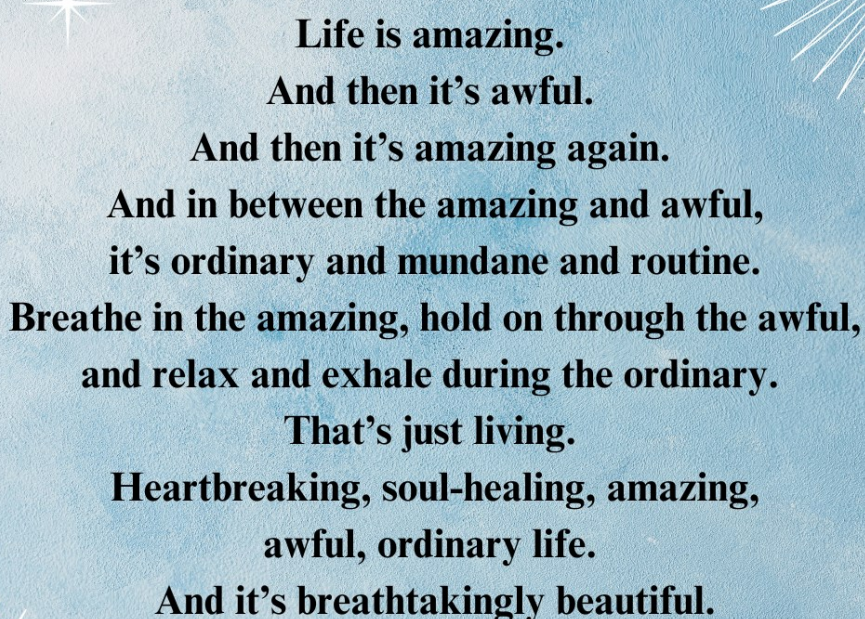
Where did the year go? It's hard to believe that 2024 is done and here we are in 2025. Aside from New Year's resolutions (which we tend to discard too quickly), let's simply work on making 2025 a wonderful year!

If you attended our Christmas Eve service just a few days ago, you heard about Christmas reminding us of God's love for the **imperfect**. Yes, that means us! We are far from perfect but the Lord loves us just the same. In fact, he came to earth to live among us, to teach, to minister.....and then he died for us, for our sins. The **perfect** came to earth for the **imperfect**.....Jesus came to earth for the unlikely, the overlooked, the ordinary. That is who we are..... but The Good Shepherd, The Wonderful Counselor, and The Prince of Peace chose us, chose to be among us.

As we work on making 2025 a wonderful year, let's include Jesus as part of that plan. Let us choose HIM just as HE chose us!

### **A Take on Life**

L. R. Knost wrote this, and I share it with you:



**Life is amazing.  
And then it's awful.  
And then it's amazing again.  
And in between the amazing and awful,  
it's ordinary and mundane and routine.  
Breathe in the amazing, hold on through the awful,  
and relax and exhale during the ordinary.  
That's just living.  
Heartbreaking, soul-healing, amazing,  
awful, ordinary life.  
And it's breathtakingly beautiful.**



The Girls of Grace (GOG) held our annual Christmas Tea on Saturday, December 7, 2024. We sold 103 tickets and had 84 attend the tea (many of our no-shows were due to illnesses and a few hospitalizations, unfortunately). The ladies of GOG outdid themselves with the food once again and everyone seemed quite happy with the variety of sandwiches and desserts. Some of our youth were there to help set up, serve and clean up and we greatly appreciated their energy and enthusiasm!

After eating their fill, our guests were entertained with Christmas songs by Cecile Danser. We even heard a Filipino Christmas tune that was new to most everyone in attendance. Our silent auction prizes were also a hit. We raised over \$3,100 in total!

Thank you to everyone who helped with the tea and thank you to everyone who came and invited friends and family to join us!

All women of the church are invited to join GOG. We generally meet once a month and the date of our January meeting will be announced soon. Watch the bulletin, Facebook page and/or website for information and come join us! While many of our meetings are in the afternoon for those who don't drive at night, we try to have some in the evening to accommodate those who work. Come when you can and enjoy the fellowship!

## **Music at BSUMC**

### **Sanctuary Choir Praise Band**

#### **PRACTICES THURSDAY NIGHTS IN LUCAS HALL**

6:00PM - Praise Band

7:00PM - Sanctuary Choir

Everyone is welcome to join.

Do you play an instrument?

Join the Praise Band!

Do you like to sing?

Join the Sanctuary Choir

No auditions!

# A Message from Laura Sourwine:

## Help Wanted!



Hi Everyone,

I am on the hunt again for all of those interested in presenting the Children's Sermons during the church service for our adorable children! The Children's Sermon is where all the children come to the front of the church to hear a brief story geared towards children.

Please let me know if you are interested in volunteering. I have included the next few months of open dates below. Please let me know what dates would work for you. I look forward to hearing from you about your interest and willingness to volunteer!

- Sunday, January 12, 2025 – Marsha Danser
- Sunday, January 19, 2025
- Sunday, January 26, 2025 – Jeena Sheppard
- Sunday, February 9, 2025 – Atalia Moore
- Sunday, February 16, 2025 – Helen Rainier
- Sunday, February 23, 2025
- Sunday, March 9, 2025
- Sunday, March 16, 2025 – Helen Rainier
- Sunday, March 23, 2025
- Sunday, March 30, 2025

The first Sunday of the month when we have communion isn't listed above (January 5, February 2, March 2) but if we get enough volunteers we can have a children's sermon those Sundays as well.

There are books available of suggested Children's Sermons and there are suggestions online. The theme could match a holiday or other event, or it could match the sermon, so if you need additional ideas for the children's time there are plenty! It is actually pretty easy to do! We are grateful for any help you can offer in our children's ministry.

Thanks for prayerfully considering this ministry to our children!

- Laura S.



# Help flood victims with cleaning supplies



Broad Street UMC is assembling disaster relief buckets to be distributed by UMCOR. This is a great way to help those impacted by recent hurricanes.

You can participate by donating items on the list below or coming to help pack the buckets. Drop off times are Sunday mornings from 10-Noon; Thursday, 11/7/24, from 7-8:30PM; and Tuesday, 11/12/24, from 1-3PM.

We'll assemble the buckets on Saturday, 11/16/24, at 9:30AM.

- One five-gallon round bucket with re-sealable lid (14.35" h x 12.19" w x 12.19" d)
- One 32-64 oz. bottle liquid laundry detergent
- One 16-40 oz. bottle liquid concentrate household cleaner (no spray cleaners)
- One 16-34 oz. bottle dish soap
- One 4-8 oz. pump spray air freshener (liquid, not gel)
- One 6-14 oz. pump spray insect repellent (pack of 10-20 wipes also acceptable)
  - Pump spray bottles must have protective covers
- One scrub brush with or without handle
- 18 re-useable cleaning wipes (no terrycloth, microfiber or paper towels)
- Five scouring pads (no stainless-steel pads with soap in them)
- 36-50 clothespins
- One 50-100 ft. clothesline (cotton or plastic line)
- Roll of 24 heavy-duty trash bags (33-45-gallon sizes)
- Five N95 particulate respirator dust masks (1-3 mm thickness) (no surgical masks)
- Two pairs kitchen gloves durable for multiple uses
- One pair work gloves - cotton with leather palm or all leather

**Join us in helping hurricane victims**

**Donate cleaning supplies today**

Broad Street UMC  
36 E. Broad St.  
Burlington, NJ 08016  
[www.broadstumc.org](http://www.broadstumc.org)



## Soup Sunday Sunday, February 2, 2025 following worship



Mark your  
calendars  
now.



Some of the soups have already been made for Soup Sunday and they are in our freezer, but we'll need help making some of the more labor-intensive soups (e.g. Joe's Chicken Tuscan or Vegetable as there's a lot of chopping for those soups). Watch for announcements on dates when we'll get together in the church kitchen to chop vegetables for those.

Also, please mark your calendars for Saturday, February 1, 2025 at 9:30AM to help set up for Soup Sunday. Many hands make light work and we'll set up the tables and the warmers so we're ready for Sunday morning.

On Sunday, February 2nd, we'll need help serving and then following lunch we'll need help putting leftover soup in quart containers and cleaning up. And of course, we'll need everyone to bring their appetites!

# Updating Our Church Membership List

**Over the next few months we will be undertaking a project to update our membership records and provide a new church directory. Someone will be reaching out to ensure that the information we have about names/addresses/etc. is correct. This will help not only the church office, but also the pastor. We're excited to begin working on this and hope to have it completed by Easter.**

If you would like to help out and reach out to some of our members, please let Laura Jaskot, Marsha Danser or Helen Rainier know. We're working on a form that everyone who helps can use to collect the information so that we're consistent in what and how we're gathering what we need to update our records.

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Available now:

## THE UPPER ROOM®

The January/February 2025 edition of *The Upper Room* devotional is currently available. Please consider a small donation to cover the cost (a dollar or two), but it's not required.

## 2025 Offering Envelopes

2025 offering envelopes are here. If you haven't picked yours up yet, you can find them in the narthex in the back of the sanctuary. They are in boxes alphabetically by last name. See Laura J. on Sunday if you need help finding yours. Putting your tithes/offerings in your numbered envelope helps our Financial Secretary, Don MacMillan, provide you with an accurate accounting of your yearly giving. And a reminder from the Counting Committee—please write the amount of your donation on the outside of your envelope. It is not necessary to write your name. You can write one check for multiple donations as long as your envelope clearly indicates what's included (e.g. weekly offering, communion offering, bulletin dedication, etc.).

# Mark Your Calendars for these Upcoming Events



We have a lot of activities coming up this year. Mark your calendars now to be sure you don't miss any of them. You can find all of these and other activities at the church on the church calendar on the [website](#).

Tuesdays	Bible Study with Pastor Temaris in Lucas Hall 6:30PM
Thursdays	Praise Band Practice 6:00PM Sanctuary
Thursdays	Sanctuary Choir Practice 7:00PM Lucas Hall
Saturday February 1, 2025	Set-up for Soup Sunday 9:30AM Lucas Hall
Sunday February 2, 2025	Soup Sunday following worship 12:00 Noon Lucas Hall



## Christmas Card



## Post Office

Thank you, everyone, for supporting the Christmas Card Post Office which is a fundraiser for our youth programs.

If you haven't, please check your mailbox in the chapel for any cards. The mailbox can be found on the left-hand wall as you enter the chapel from the front door of the church. Your cards can be found in the slot labeled with the first letter of your last name, and in general, all of your cards will be in a rubber band to keep them together.



For more information about any of these stories or upcoming church activities, please visit our website:

[www.broadstumc.org](http://www.broadstumc.org)

Previous editions of this newsletter can be found at this [link](#).

You can also follow us on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/BSUMCBurlington>


We're on Twitter:

<https://www.twitter.com/BSUMCBurlington>

and on Instagram:

[https://www.instagram.com/bsumc\\_burlington/](https://www.instagram.com/bsumc_burlington/)


Broad Street United Methodist Church



*Weekly*  
**BIBLE STUDY**  
*Every Tuesday*

**In Lucas Hall @ 6:30PM**

Study's Focus: *Relying on the Holy Spirit*

 36 E. Broad Street, Burlington, NJ 08016



Broad Street United Methodist Church

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