My journey into ministry began in 1984 when I called my pastor at Shively UMC in Louisville and told him I needed to talk because there was something I just couldn’t get off my heart and mind. “I think God might be calling me into ministry,” I told him. All these years later that included seven years of higher education, six years on church staff as a youth minister, and thirty years as a full-time pastor, I find myself ready to retire.

My last sermon here at Brandenburg will be Sunday, June 14. The following Sunday, John Hatton, our District Superintendent, will bring a message of transition preparing the way for your new pastor, Lynn Beach. His first Sunday in the pulpit will be June 28. I know you will welcome him into the BUMC family as warmly as you did Denise and me. I’ve enjoyed getting to know Lynn over past few years as we both served on the Board of Ordained Ministry for the Annual Conference. He will love you and lead you well.

Denise and I have loved being a part of this wonderful church and community. I can’t imagine a people or place that would have loved us any better and made these final four years of ministry such a joy. I never would have dreamed that my last year or two of ministry would have included tackling a building project and capital campaign, then shutting down a church building and opening it back up. What a wild ride! No wonder I’m retiring!

One truth has been a constant: God has been there with us through it all. That truth remains as you go through this next step of your journey. God is with you. Remember and claim this truth: BUMC, your best years are yet to come.

With Love and Appreciation,
Pastor Jeff

Sundays at BUMC

9 a.m. Contemporary Service, Family Life Center
11 a.m. Traditional Service, Sanctuary

Please note: both services will be live-streamed: https://www.facebook.com/BrandenburgUnitedMethodistChurch or https://Brandenburg-umc.freeonlinechurch.com/live

As we return to limited in-person services, seating will be limited, and pre-registration will be required. To reserve space, please visit our Web site and click on the pre-registration link. Pre-registration will open on Sunday and close on Wednesday or when all spots are filled, whichever comes first. You may also call the church office at 270-422-2810 to reserve your spot.
Retirement Celebration for Pastor Jeff and Denise

On Sunday, June 14, Pastor Jeff will deliver his final message to Brandenburg United Methodist Church. The day will be a day of celebrating Pastor Jeff and Denise as they prepare to retire. The timeline for retirement celebrations to take place that day is as follows:

10 a.m. and Noon: There will be a time after each morning service to share a few moments with Pastor Jeff and Denise.

3-4 p.m. For those not ready to return to in-person worship, there will be a drive-through farewell at church.

4 p.m. A retirement celebration will be live-streamed on our Brandenburg United Methodist Church Facebook page.

5 p.m. A Zoom "reception" for Pastor Jeff and Denise will be held following the retirement live-stream. If you would like to participate in this Zoom reception, please email sandra.stone@bburgumc.org, and Sandra will send you the link when the meeting is scheduled.

We look forward to Sunday, June 14, when we will hear a final message from Pastor Jeff and celebrate the many years of service he and Denise have given to Methodists in Kentucky. Please join us in this celebration in whichever way – in person, online, or from your car – that best suits your circumstances.

Leadership Council Update

Reopening for In-Person Services

On Sunday, May 31, the church opened for worship with one service in each of the worship spaces. Seating is limited to allow for social distancing, and pre-registration is required. Live streaming of services will continue, and it will be communicated that worshiping online remains a valid choice.

On June 21, our District Superintendent John Hatton will give a videotaped message, as a transition between Jeff Carter’s departure and Lynn Beach’s arrival. Lynn’s first Sunday in the pulpit at Brandenburg UMC will be June 28.

Finance Team Report

We are now 37 percent into the year with 30 percent of budget received and 28 percent of budget expended. Our people have been generous, and the church remains in good financial shape.

Pastor Jeff, Heather Wilson and T Parker will confer regarding catching up with 75 percent of apportionments paid to the Kentucky Conference.

Building Update

Ron Barger advised he filed a claim with Church Mutual, and the insurance company will cover the roof over the Family Life Center (which was planned as part of the building project). Repair work is now underway.

SPRC Update

Denise Corley advised Lynn Beach is in the process of selecting a mover. John Hatton has sent information regarding transition of pastors, and this information has been forwarded to leadership council members with links to videos to be viewed.

On page 8 is a more complete message from Carol regarding her Bible translation work, her return to the United States for medical care and and information regarding how you may assist her if you wish.
During this time of change and uncertainty, it is important to remember to pray. The Bible teaches us to pray about everything. Do not be anxious, do not worry, but pray about everything, because there is nothing that is beyond the reach of God.

That said, we have decided to hold a 24-hour prayer vigil starting at 6 p.m. on Friday, June 12, and ending at 6 p.m. on Saturday, June 13. Each hour will have a certain prayer focus. We will be praying for Pastor Jeff as he transitions into retirement and praying for Pastor Lynn as he transitions into his role as pastor of BUMC.

Other pertinent topics will be covered during this 24-hour vigil. If you would like to participate at home, we have a list of the prayer topics for each hour. If you would like to come to the church, you can call the office and sign up for your desired time. Due to the pandemic we will limit the number of people for each time slot so that proper disinfection and social distancing can be observed.

May God be with each and every one of you and richly bless your prayers.

Stephanie Johnson
Prayer Team Captain
1 AM  Pray for those persons who are victims of abuse and neglect.
(ISAIAH 61:1 ... He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives and release from darkness for the prisoners)

2 AM  Pray for those who are have lost their jobs and those who are struggling with finances.
(PHILIPPIANS 4:19 And my God will supply your every need according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus)

3 AM  Pray for those who feel far from God.
(HEBREWS 13:5 For He Himself has said, 'I will never leave you nor forsake you')

4 AM  Pray for our community.
(ISAIAH 1:17 Learn to do good. Seek justice. Help the oppressed. Defend the cause of orphans. Fight for the rights of widows.)

5 AM  Pray for our nation and the world.
(Psalm 47: 2 and 7-8 For the Lord Most High is awesome, he great King over all the earth. ... For God is the King of all earth, sing to him a psalm of praise. God reigns over the nations; God is seated on his holy throne.)

6 AM  Pray for our leaders in government to make godly decisions.
(Psalm 22:27-28 All the ends of the earth will remember and turn to the Lord, and all families of the nations will bow down before him, for dominion belongs to the Lord and he rules over the nations.)

7 AM  Pray for schools.
(Isaiah 54:13: All your children shall be taught by the Lord, and great shall be the peace of your children)

8 AM  Pray for our leaders in the United Methodist Church. Give them godly wisdom and help them to make decisions that will glorify God.
(Acts 20:28 Pay careful attention to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to care for the church of God, which he obtained with his own blood.)

9 AM  Pray that God will guide and direct our church leadership.
(Acts 14:23 And when they had appointed elders for them in every church, with prayer and fasting they committed them to the Lord in whom they had believed.)

10 AM Pray for God to guide and direct our church so that we may be his hands and feet in a hurting world.
(Mark 10:45 “For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”)

11 AM Pray for God to guide and direct us individually on how to be good neighbors to those around us. So that we might reflect the love and mission of Christ.
(Matthew 22:37-40 Jesus replied: “‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments.”)

NOON Pray for God to grant Pastor Lynn and his family favor in their move and bless their family during their time here in Brandenburg.
(1 Timothy 5:17 Let the elders who rule well be considered worthy of double honor, especially those who labor in preaching and teaching.)

1 PM  Pray for God to guide and direct Pastor Lynn as he transitions into the pastoral role at Brandenburg United Methodist Church.
(1 Peter: 1-2 To the elders among you, I appeal as a fellow elder and a witness of Christ’s sufferings who also will share in the glory to be revealed: Be shepherds of God’s flock that is under your care, watching over them- not because you must, but because you are willing, as God wants you to be.)

2 PM  Pray that God will bless the members of our church body to feel personal spiritual growth in their lives. That they make be closer in their relationship to you.
(2 Peter 3:18 But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and forever! Amen)

3 PM  Pray that there will be a revival of your spirit and love in our world.
(Joel 2:28-29 “And afterward, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your old men will dream dreams, your young men will see visions. Even on my servants, both men and women, I will pour out My Spirit in those days.”)

4 PM  Pray that the spiritual influences that create hate and wickedness would be bound and cast out.
(Matthew 18:18 “Truly, I say to you, whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.”)

5 PM  Pray that the Lord hears our prayers and blesses them. (Jeremiah 29:12 “Then you will call upon Me and come and pray to Me, and I will listen to you.”)

PRAYER VIGIL CONCLUDES AT 6 P.M.
SATURDAY, JUNE 13
Happy JUNE! Wow....summer break is officially here and it has been a wild ride to get here! Our TRIBE has stepped up to serve our community during this time. We started the Summer Snack Bag ministry the first official day of Summer Break on Thursday, May 14. We planned a meal in a bag consisting of a grilled burger, chips, oatmeal cream pie, and bottle of water and offered it to our community in an outdoor, drive by style. Cars were lined, up and on the first night we served 155 meals. We prepared 250 and wound up taking the leftover meals to our EMT, Dispatch, Guard Shack at Doe Valley, and to the Men’s League who were playing at the MAC that evening. It was a great testimony and act of service from our church and very well received.

On week 2, May 21, we grilled hot dogs and packed bags with chips, cookies, and a bottle of water. We prepared 125 meals and served them all!

On week 3, May 28, we again prepared 125 meals with a menu of pulled pork sandwiches, chips, Oreo cookies, and a fruit cup!

We plan to continue this ministry each Thursday until our regular Love In Action resumes. What a blessing it has been for our youth to serve others, masks and gloves and all!

While our mission trip to Charleston, South Carolina, was cancelled, we were able to travel to Gatlinburg, Tennessee, for a weekend retreat entitled Relentless. We spent the weekend relentlessly pursuing Christ and our relationship with Him. Fun was had by all as we enjoyed our cabin with its own private basketball court, hot tubs, pool, and game room! Hiking and rafting rounded out our time together.

Thank you so much to Stace and Christy McElfresh for volunteering to attend, shop, cook, and serve all of our meals so we could avoid restaurants! Hats off to Emma Wilson, Katie Wilson, and Heather Wilson for traveling with us and leading worship and small groups! We were all blessed by each of them.

While our daily lives may be impacted and masks have become a new normal and things seem so crazy and out of balance right now, one thing remains steady--Jesus! I want to encourage you to lean in and snuggle up with the love and promises of Jesus during these times. We have learned that He Relentlessly pursues us as much as we need to be Relentlessly pursuing Him. Wow, what a relationship that comes out of those efforts!

Love In Christ,
Kelly Wilson

Please see page 6 for additional pictures.
Brandenburg United Methodist Church has supported Bible Translation Missionary Carol Pebley for many years now. She was recently diagnosed with breast cancer and has returned to the United States for treatment. She is staying with her mother and her mother’s husband in New Haven, Indiana.

On Friday, May 22, I had two doctor appointments at Community Health Hospital on the north side of Indianapolis. The first doctor was a breast surgeon. He said that I am a good candidate for lumpectomy. So the plan is lumpectomy followed by radiation. Chemotherapy will be decided on later after the surgery when they can test the lymph nodes for cancer. If the margin of the lump that he removes is positive for cancer then I will have to do a mastectomy. But he feels like I have a good chance that will not happen. Since it was Friday before the Memorial Day weekend, no date has yet been set for surgery. Also, I need to get some pre-surgery tests.

A plastic surgeon also examined me so that in case I do have to have a mastectomy, we already will know whether I am a good candidate for reconstruction of the breast. He said that I am a good candidate for either implant or what they call DIEP where they take stomach tissue to reconstruct the breast.

During my 12 days of quarantine, I continued checking 1 and 2 Thessalonians in the Guina-ang language with the Greek and the commentaries. Where I found any issue with accuracy, clarity or naturalness of the translation, I wrote a comment to explain to the translation team the problem I see and to request them to make revisions. I also worked on Revelation in Tagakaulo, looking at how the translation team there made revisions and writing further comments when needed. Each of these checks I am doing takes several rounds of my commenting and the team revising. It can take up to 6 or 7 rounds sometimes before the book is completed and ready for publication. Because I may go on medical leave for some months when my treatment begins, I want to get as much done on these checks as I can.

Praise God for these:
• A good safe trip home and gifts for the airfare.
• Loving and supportive family and friends who are willing to help me in quarantine and in treatment for cancer.
• Fely who is left at my house in Manila taking care of everything including the dogs, cats and the car.
• Good time with my niece and her husband and now after quarantine, with my mother and her hus-
  band in New Haven.
• Gifts that people have given for the medical expenses.

Please pray for these:
• The date of my lumpectomy will be scheduled soon.
• I can find a place where they can soon do the chest x-ray, ECG and blood tests so my surgery is not delayed.
• COVID-19 will quickly end, lives will be saved and many will come to know God during this time of hardship.
• God’s help to me as I continue to work on the consultant check of Guina-ang 1 & 2 Thessalonians and to look at the revisions in Tagakaulo Revelation.

Blessings,
Carol Pebley

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SUNDAY SCHOOL: 10:00 A.M.
SUNDAY WORSHIP: 9:00 and 11:00 A.M.


(29) Valerie Redmond, Jason Sager, Sheila Smith, Lynne Trotter, (30) Tyler Bohannon, Phyllis Melton

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