

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

*The Vine*

AUGUST 2023 NEWSLETTER



Welcome to Keith Sandrock as the new organist for the church which commences Aug. 6!

Keith has been involved in church music ministry since the age of 14. His recent position was at Grace United Methodist Church in Olathe, KS where he served as Organist and Director of Instruments of Grace for seven and a half years. He holds a bachelor's in business and minor in music, psychology and education from Central Methodist University in Fayette, MO. Keith is the Founder/Owner of Sandrock Music Company, located here in Baldwin City and is a long-time member of the American Guild of Organists. Keith's gifts for worship leadership ring out quite clear and his understanding of how organ music both gives foundation and enhances our inspiration and praise of God is unmatched!

He is married to Kyla and has 4 children: Andrew (18), Osac (13,) Zoey (12) and Wesley (9).



# Welcome !

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**Baldwin First United Methodist Church  
Leadership Board Meeting  
June 19, 2023**

*The Mission of Baldwin First United Methodist Church is to love and serve God and our neighbors as disciples of Jesus Christ.*

**Attendees:** Pastor Amanda Baker, Mike Curran, Joanne Kite, Cynthia Perez, Brad Peterson, Pam Sharp. Recording Secretary: Katherine Cook

**Opening**

Brad offered a prayer at 7:06 p.m.

**Review of New People**

Sunday, June 18<sup>th</sup>, offered an opportunity for a morning meeting with the pastor. July 16<sup>th</sup> will be the next 'pastries with pastor' session.

**Packet and Consent of Calendar Items**

See Linda's Ballinger's contribution below.

**Generative and Strategic Work**

- Linda submitted a report via email regarding caregivers, senior gatherings, and continued work with Teeny Tears.
- Cynthia moved and Brad seconded the motion to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. The motion carried.
- Joanne and Ed obtained an air conditioner for the pastor's office which will be

- installed shortly. Donations will be accepted to cover the cost.
- One bid has been obtained for AC units for Fellowship Hall with a second underway. When the bids are in, Colleen and Mike will make a recommendation, and a vote will be made via email.
- The bid for repair work due to the steam pipe leak in Fellowship. Hall is for \$22,750. Following installation of the AC units, we will know what funds can enhance the \$12,000 still available for the project.
- Ed and Mike will address the steam pipe leak in the pastor's office within the next few weeks.
- United Women in Faith have the funds and would like to replace the ice machine in the kitchen. Mike will obtain the specifications from Darren and the purchase will be made.
- Additional keys for the church are needed. Mike will have a conversation with Darren.
- A team recruitment will be held in September. Brad and Joanne will collaborate with Amanda to establish a vision for the event so they can then share information with team leads.
- Several requests have been made for the installation of a handrail at the bottom of the stairs.
- Mike suggested we wait until September to embark on a financial campaign as soon as possible. Amanda will craft a letter so we can prepare a mailing. Amanda, Donna, and Samantha will update the mailing list.
- There was discussion regarding having a fundraiser that will bring in additional monies while bringing fun and fellowship to the church body. Members of the board will brainstorm names of several people who might be willing to be involved.
- Name tags will be utilized as previously discussed. Both members and guests will be offered clip-on name tags. Amanda will ask Samantha to coordinate additional greeters.
- Walking leaders are still needed to support VBS. Pastor Amanda also needs a 'sidekick;' board members will share names of candidates with the pastor.
- The board is happy to announce that Keith Sandrock has accepted the position of organist and will begin his duties on August 6<sup>th</sup>.

#### **Communication**

- The board reviewed responsibilities and commitments for the coming month.
- The next meeting will be July 17<sup>th</sup>.

#### **Closing**

Pastor Amanda offered a closing prayer at 8:41.

Respectfully submitted,  
Katherine Cook

**Most Current Financial Update** (Note: this is posted after the Minutes of the previous month have been approved)

The 2023 budget is \$175,503.49 (with the average monthly contribution amount needed of \$14,625, 8.3%, needed each month to meet the budget). The contributions for June came to \$9533.74 in donations, making the year to date \$74,596.85. That is 43% of the needed 49.8% at this time.

Online donations can be done at <https://baldwinfirst.org/> or scan the QR code below please indicate your designated area of for donation.





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## Upper Room sponsors free writing webinar Aug. 10



The Upper Room editors Amy Densk and Andrew Breeden will lead a virtual interactive workshop designed to help you practice your writing skills through a process called spiritual autobiography. They will lead you through two writing exercises: one that will help you reflect on the significant events, people, and places that have influenced your spiritual journey, and another that will guide you in shaping your reflection into a more organized narrative for use as a devotion, sermon, or short article.

Each issue of *The Upper Room devotionals* (available in the church entry way for a donation of \$1.00) are written by people just like you. They are always accepting submissions. They work a year in advance and will notify you if they choose to publish your work. Your devotion can be submitted online (<http://submissions.uppperrom.org/>) or mail. More info is provided about submissions are provided in each devotional guide.

At this free writing workshop, there will also be time for group sharing and discussion. This workshop is excellent for anyone who wants to explore scripture through creative writing. The workshop takes place on from noon to 1 p.m.(CT) Thursday, Aug. 10.

**Register by clicking here.**

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Church Food Pantry Hours are on the 2nd and 4th Saturdays of each month 9-10:30AM.

Contact Nancy Arnold ([arnoldn448@gmail.com](mailto:arnoldn448@gmail.com)) if you would like to volunteer to serve lunch at Lawrence Interdenominational Kitchen (L.I.N.K.) luncheon. The next two dates for the opportunity to serve are Aug. 5 and Nov 5.



Missions team has also been providing snack items to the City library to support children who are spending many summer hours enjoying programming. Thank you for supporting our ongoing food pantry and L.I.N.K.

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## 2023 VBS Has Successfully Been Accomplished and Is In the Books!

*"Make Yourself Known to Me, Lord; Teach Me Your Paths"*

*Psalm 25:4 (CSB)"*



### Twist & Turns Crafts



Mission Team provided meals (and good fellowship) for the workers beforehand\*



### Games Music

Many thanks and sincerest appreciation to coordinator Donna Curran, who has been serving in BFUMC Kid's Ministries for over 38 years! The church's ministry is really blessed by her efforts.

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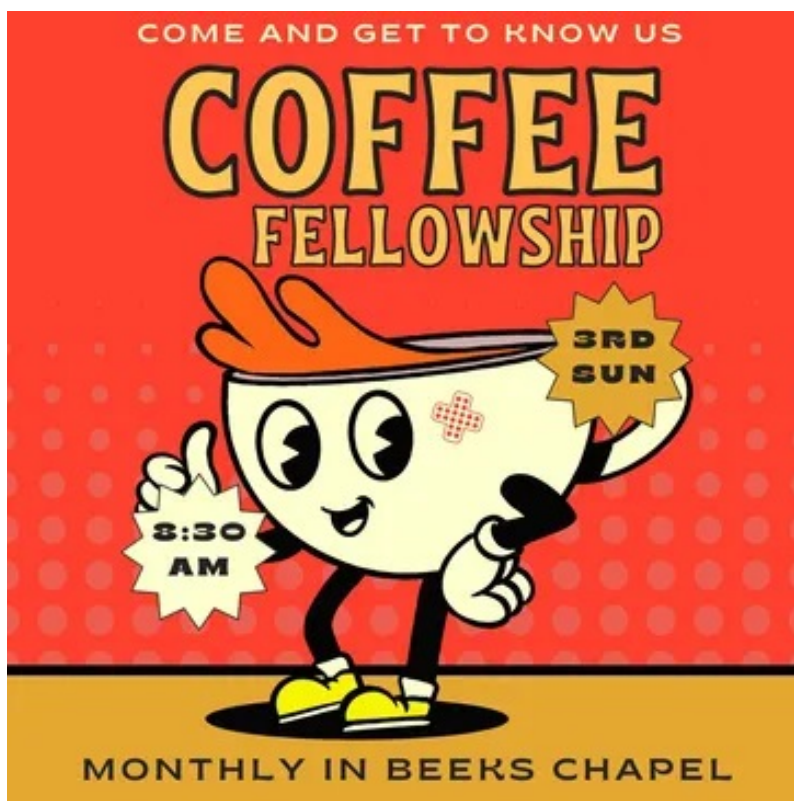
# A Big Shout Out & Thank you

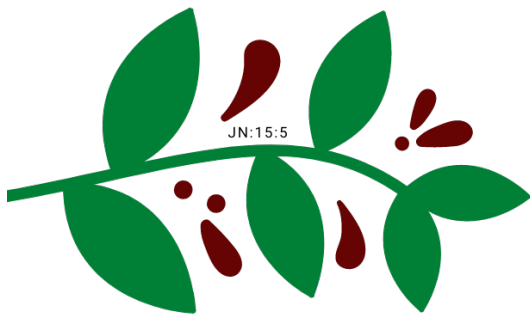


B.L.A.S.T. crew did some sprucing up (*cleaning*) at the church the morning of July 29 and the hospitality team has revamped the Narthex and second floor entry way...all for the start of the upcoming season! (Watch for nametags on Sunday).



Roger Boyd, church member and president of the Santa Trail Historical Society, is spearheading the application effort to put Baldwin First on the Kansas Historical Society. The first step, in an estimated 12 -18 month application process. That step is submitting a Preliminary Site Information Question for the state to evaluate the church's eligibility to be listed on the Registry for Historic Kansas Places. Some of the benefits of this listing includes the honorific recognition for historic significance (as we know it for **God and his Glory in our community**); qualifying the owner for state tax credit eligibility for property rehabilitation and maintenance work; and it helps educate the public and community about Baldwin City's historic and culture resources. Stay tuned for future progress on this effort. Feel free to direct any of your questions to Pastor Amanda.





*Worship Services 9:30 AM  
(in person and live stream)*

**Aug 5 L.I.N.K**

**Aug 9 Caregiver Group meeting 1PM  
in Fellowship Hall**

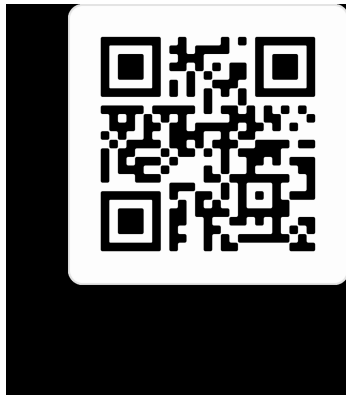
**Aug 20 Coffee Fellowship 8:30am**

**Aug 21 Leadership Meeting, 7PM**

**Aug 26 UWF Summer Picnic, 6PM**

**Aug 27 B.L.A.S.T. Sunday School  
Resumes**

**Aug 31 Thankful Thursday Meal,  
Ives Chapel, 5:30 - 6:30PM**



On the 3rd Sunday of each month, there will be a coffee hour at 8:30am in Beeks Chapel before the worship service. Pastor Amanda would love to have coffee and get to know you better. If that time doesn't work for you, please don't hesitate to use the QR code to book an appointment with  
**Pastor!**



*Church Streaming & Zoom Meeting  
Links Directory*

**\*9:30AM Sunday Worship  
Live Stream:**

<https://www.Baldwinfirst.org>

or at

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

Sunday School and Small Groups are meeting at 10:45a.m. on Sundays unless otherwise announced:

Adult Classes: Journey's (Beek's Memorial Chapel), Lamplighters (Library), Children's Sunday school, PK-5th grade (upstairs), B.L.A.S.T. crew, for middle and high schoolers (Youth Room downstairs).

**\*For ALL scheduled CHURCH meetings there is an optional Zoom Mtgs:**  
<https://zoom.us/join>  
mtg ID #: 9644607669



Did you know we have a Lost and Found box for those things that inadvertently left in the church? The Lost & Found Box is located between the church and pastor's office.

to the office (785.594.6612 or email [baldwinfirstumc@gmail.com](mailto:baldwinfirstumc@gmail.com)) to help save on postage costs.  
Please call the church office upon arrival for access to the building.  
Church office hours 9am-2pm, Monday-Thursday

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