



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

The Vine



DECEMBER 2022 NEWSLETTER

Why Talk about Mental Health in Advent?

There are traditional themes that guide the four weeks of advent - the preparation for Christ's coming: Hope, Peace, Joy and Love.



What has sometimes gotten lost is that those themes exist alongside the fact that advent is a season of longing. We long for Hope amidst the hardships of human existence. We long for peace while conflict abounds. We long for joy because we also know grief. We long for love because we have felt isolation, abandonment or apathy.

Our hope in talking about mental health during the advent season is to normalize having a faith that can hold onto Hope, Peace, Joy and Love not by denying, dismissing or ignoring our realities of hardship, conflict, grief or apathy, but by anticipating the savior who comes for all of it. Emmanuel. God with us. God who became fully human - the kind of fully human who laughed and cried with friends, who raged at injustice and rejoiced in restoration. The kind who prayed through tears and forgave from the cross. We welcome you to join us in person or online for our worship services this advent season, and we invite you to attend our Longest Night service if you need a little extra space to bring the laments of your heart to God and have them honored.

You are invited to join us as we long together for God's Kin-dom to draw near.

Sunday Mornings 9:30 Worship,

10:45 Sunday school for children and adults at Baldwin First UMC

Sunday Mornings 10:00 Coffee Fellowship and Bible Study,

11AM Worship at Ives Chapel UMC

Other Special Activities During this season:

Sat Dec 3 9:30 AM United Women in Faith Christmas Tea Baldwin First

Sat Dec 3 4:30-6PM Soup Supper at Baldwin First before the Festival of Lights Parade

Sun Dec 11 9:30AM Children's Pageant during worship at Baldwin First UMC

Sun Dec 11 11:00AM Christmas Tea and Carols during worship at Ives Chapel

Sun Dec 11 4:30-5:30 PM Living Nativity on the Front steps of the Church

Sun Dec 11 5:30 PM Youth Scavenger Hunt for Lights,

beginning at Baldwin First, ending at Eudora UMC

Wed Dec 21 7PM Longest Night Service at Ives Chapel UMC

Sat Dec 24 5PM Christmas Eve Worship at Ives Chapel UMC

7PM Christmas Eve Worship at Edgerton UMC

11 PM Christmas Eve Worship at Baldwin First UMC

Sun Dec 25 10 AM Christmas Day Worship at Baldwin First UMC

~ Rev Amanda Baker



Nancy Arnold, Council Chair., arnoldn446@gmail.com

Council Minutes and Finance Update (Brad Peterson., Chair PETERSONBRAD@HOTMAIL.COM) are subsequently posted one month later after committee approval.

**Baldwin First United Methodist
Church Admin Council Minutes
October 24, 2022**

Attendees: Staff: Pastor Amanda Baker, Cat Henry, Council Members: Council Chair Nancy Arnold, Donna Curran, Cynthia Perez, Brad Peterson, and Kathleen Thomas. Doug Cheek and Laura Dickinson joined via Zoom. Advisory Member: Katherine Cook

Opening: Nancy called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m. Minutes: Brad moved and Donna seconded the motion to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. The motion carried.

Finances: The committee is working on the budget for 2023. There are few line items left to contemplate before completing their task next month. Several of the memorial CDs for restricted funds were cashed. They will be moved to a high-end savings account.

SPPRC: Budget recommendations have been made to finance.

Caregivers: The group meets next on November 2nd. Linda and Jim made three dozen additional Tiny Tears diapers.

Missions: Laura offered thanks to everyone who helped with the Maple Leaf fundraiser. The walking tacos earned approximately \$1500 for missions' projects. She offered a special thank you to Brad for his continued efforts. UNICEF is an alternative way to donate to a worthy cause this Halloween. Donations will support Ukraine. Food pantry hours will be modified in November and December to help meet holiday needs. Food trays will be prepared for service industries. Cards will be prepared for all residents of the nursing home and assisted living facilities. The chest freezer used for the food pantry is no longer working. There is a search for a replacement.

Worship: Blast Crew and children's choir will meet on October 30th. Hanging of the Greens will be November 20th immediately after church. There will also be an children's advent workshop at that time. The children's Christmas program will be December 11th during service. Opportunities exist for nursery workers and Sunday School teachers. The Living Nativity on December 11th will coincide with youth group.

UFW (UMW): The annual turkey dinner will be November 12th from 5-7 p.m. The meal will be served in the building as well as being available for pre-order.

Lay Leader: A request for a change in the format of ad council will be put forth at charge conference. Teams include: missions, caregivers, worship, AV, maintenance, fellowship, and ministries. Nine volunteers will be requested to serve on the council. Trustees: Pastor Amanda shared that we are still working on safety concerns in the building. This may include key pads, rekeying the building, intercom, or video options. Recycling has not been picked up regardless of payments. Nancy will contact the service provider.

Pastor's Moment: Pastor Amanda shared a calendar of events: All Saint's Day on November 6th will bring an end to the worship series on being called to serve.

- The middle two weeks in November will be dedicated to a mini-series on generosity and gratitude.
- Baldwin First will serve as the host site for Douglas County survivors of suicide on November 19th
- November 20th will bring a baptism and the addition of a new family into membership;
- The Advent series will focus on mental health;
- Longest Night's service will be held at Ives Chapel on Dec. 21st; Baldwin First will host Christmas Eve at 11:00 p.m. and Christmas Day at 10:00 a.m.

Council Chair: The next meeting will be November 14th. Charge Conference is December 4th at 5:00 p.m. at 1st United Methodist Church of Lawrence (West Campus). There will be no meeting in December.

Closing: Pastor Amanda offered a prayer.
Respectfully submitted, Katherine Cook

Most Current Financial Update:

The 2022 Budget is \$159,300 (with the average contribution amount needed each month to meet the annual budget: **\$13,275.00**). Total contributions received for the month of October was \$9817.85, putting the budget at 72% of the needed 80% up to this time.

<https://baldwinfirst.org/give-online>

thank you for your generosity and please indicate where your designated fund: general funds, food pantry, or Capital Campaign is to be directed

Text amount to 855.905.1967
Or Scan our QR code



Laura Dickinson, Mission Chair., ldminbc@gmail.com

Food Pantry Hrs: 2nd & 4th Saturdays monthly, 9:00am-10:30am



PLEASE NOTE: In December (on the 10th and 17th), the 2nd and 3rd Saturdays, neighbors get their holiday food prior to the holiday. The pantry will resume its regular schedule in January 2023 (2nd and 4th Saturdays 9 to 10:30 a.m.) S

Baldwin City Community Generosity in Action

Recent donations from Baldwin City USD348 schools, Heritage Tractor, McFarlane Aviation and many individual donations are greatly appreciated!



Great Plains Conference New Bishop Elect: David Wilson

The first Native American bishop in the history of The United Methodist Church will become the episcopal leader of the Great Plains Conference effective Jan. 1, 2023.

“I was elated when I heard the assignment,” said Bishop-elect David Wilson, 59, who has been the assistant to the bishop for the Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference since 2021, following 19 years as a conference superintendent for the OIMC. He described himself as humble and collegial.



“I’m just looking forward to learning from folks,” he said. “This is going to be a big responsibility, and I don’t want folks to think I know everything. I want to see how things are run, jump into the process and get after it.”

A member of the Choctaw Nation, the bishop-elect said he is looking forward to educating the Great Plains about Native American culture, history, and issues.

“The Great Plains does such a great job with social justice, and I’m hoping to expand that to help us understand issues that the tribal peoples deal with day after day and in finding local churches that can say ‘We’ll take that on and build these relationships and see what we can do to support one another,’” he said.

to read the full article on the announcement: go to <https://bit.ly/3UG4dIV>

Community Youth Group

You won’t want to miss what’s planned next for for this group on Sunday, December 11: a Christmas Scavenger Hunt! This youth group is open for folks in 6-12th grade. For this month's event meet up at Baldwin 1st at 5:30pm with it ending at Eudora UMC at 8:00pm.

Stay connected with Youth Group Updates with the "Band" App: <https://band.us/n/a8a777s7s0y5c> or the QR code provided.



Meet Some of Our Newest Faces Baldwin First Greeted in November!



New Professing members: Mark and Jill Dodge and their children: Dillon, Ryan and Cara.



Baptism: Brogan Shane Notle



Forms are available in the narthex of church to purchase **poinsettias** to decorate the sanctuary. The checks should be made out to "In Full Bloom" with Dec 10th is the deadline to ensure your dedication is listed.

Donations are also being taken for **Community Emergency Fund (CEF)**, directly made out to CEF.

UWF (UMW) **UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH**
DONNA CURRAN, CHAIR., DONNAGCURRAN@YAHOO.COM



UWF CHRISTMAS FELLOWSHIP

Family Traditions

Please have a Family tradition to share

DEC. 3RD, 9:30 AM

Fellowship Hall, Baldwin First UMC

SOUP SUPPER

SOUP
CRACKERS
SLICE OF PIE

FELLOWSHIP HALL, BALDWIN FIRST UMC

DEC. 3RD, 4:30 - 6 PM

-DONATIONS WELCOME-



BALDWINFIRST.ORG

CAMP CHIPPEWA

Hopkins Winter Camp 2022

Dec. 29th - Dec. 31st | 3rd-8th Graders

Get out of the house and make new friends!
Cookie Decorating | Games | Crafts | Worship | & more!

\$275 Registraion Fee
Scholarships Available
Register online
www.CampChippewa.org



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

Dec 3 - UFW Christmas Tea: 9:30a.m.
Soup Supper 4:30pm in FH

Dec 4 - 2nd Day of Advent
Church Conference 5PM Lawrence
1st UMC (West Campus)

Dec 7 Cruising Cupboard 10:30 to
11:30am at Library (800 7th St)
Caregiving group meets at 1:00pm.

Dec 11 - 3rd Day of Advent
Children Sunday School Pageant during
worship service

Community Youth Scavenger Hunt
for Lights 5:30-8:00pm beginning at
BaldwinFirst

Dec 18 - 4th Day of Advent

Dec 19: Special AD Counsel Mtg
7:00pm

Dec 21: Longest Night Service at 7pm
at Ives Chapel (1018 Miami Street)

Dec 24 Area Christmas Eve Services:
5:00pm Ives Chapel
7:00pm Edgerton UMC (300 E4th St.
Edgerton)
11:00pm Baldwinfirst UMC

Dec 25 **Merry Christmas!** 10am at
Baldwin First

***Church Streaming & Zoom Meeting
Links Directory***

*Note: Links are accessible in the email version of
this newsletter, the links are not available on
the website version of the Vine due to PDF.*

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

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

<https://www.Baldwinfirst.org>

or at

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

***For ALL scheduled CHURCH
meetings there is an
optional Zoom Mtgs:**

**<https://zoom.us/join>
mtg ID #: 9644607669**



News items for the Vine need to be in the office by the evening of Church Council (the 4th Monday of every month). If you prefer to get the newsletter electronically, please provide your email address to the office (594.6612 or office@baldwinfirst.org) to help alleviate mailing costs.

Church office hours 9-2, Monday-Thursday



Baldwin First United Methodist Church | 704 8th St, Box 25, Baldwin City, KS 66006
785.594.6612

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