



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

The Vine

JUNE 2023 NEWSLETTER



Annual Conference will meet June 7-10 in LaVista, after a “pre-meeting” of sorts online on May 31st. It will undoubtedly draw a great deal of attention that another round of disaffiliations and clergy withdrawals will become official. There is certainly grief in this for us, I am not exempt from that, as both the congregation that confirmed me and the one that recommended me for candidacy for ordained ministry will disaffiliate.

However, that grief, as real as it is, will not be the primary focus of my attention at annual conference this year. I will be going into annual conference with a Pentecost spirit. Ready to see where the winds of God’s holy Breath are leading us as United Methodists in the Great Plains. I will be paying attention to the faithful ministries of our camps and our campus ministries. I will be watching with joy as we witness for the first time ever a Native American elder being ordained by a Native American Bishop. I will be paying attention to the rising diversity in our conference clergy as we have continued to welcome folks who feel called to serve the Great Plains from, quite literally, all over the world. I will pray for the approximately 750 churches that have chosen to remain United Methodist, and especially the members who have remained United Methodist while the congregations they belonged to disaffiliated. There is new growth happening all around us. Tune in here to watch what the spirit is doing.

<https://www.greatplainsumc.org/livestream>

VBS will be “Twists and Turns” July 9-13th and will be located at Baldwin First UMC (704 Eighth St) from 6-8pm. If you want to volunteer, reach out to Donna Curran donnacurran@gmail.com. Ives Chapel will host an Ice Cream Social with opportunities to pre-register kids for VBS on Friday July 7 at 7pm, and anyone is welcome, even if you have no one in your home who is the right age for VBS. Ives Chapel is located at 1018 Miami in Baldwin City.

Peace,
Rev. Amanda Baker



Great Plains Annual Conference
of the United Methodist Church

In-person sessions of Great Plains Annual Conference will be held June 7-10 at the La Vista Convention Center in La Vista, Nebraska. The conference begins with a service of commemoration and communion at 3 p.m. June 7; addresses by Bishop David Wilson and conference lay leader Lisa Maupin and recognition of retirees on June 8, and reports from connective ministries and the service of ordination and commissioning on June 9. The budget is scheduled to be approved on June 10.



"Why are elevator jokes so classic and good? They work on many levels." "If April shower bring May flowers, what do May flowers bring? Pilgrims."

Baldwin First United Methodist Church
Leadership Board Meeting
May 8, 2023

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

Attendees: Nancy Arnold, Amanda Baker, Doug Cheek, Mike Curran, Joanne Kite, Pam Sharp
Secretary: Katherine Cook

The committee met to complete the annual pastoral assessment. Input had been provided via email, allowing board members to engage in discussion at the meeting. When team members were satisfied with the document, Pastor Amanda was invited to join the discussion. Signatures were gathered to complete the form.

The next meeting will be on May 22nd .
Doug offered a closing prayer. The meeting adjourned at 8:14 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Katherine Cook

Minutes from Leadership Board Meeting
April 17, 2023

Attendees: Nancy Arnold, Ryan Berg, Colleen Burgess, Mike Curran, Joanne Kite, Cynthia Perez, Pam Sharp,
Secretary: Katherine Cook, **Via Zoom:** Doug Cheek

Opening Prayer: Pam offered a prayer at 7:14 p.m.

Devotion: Cynthia offered a devotion on leadership based on the books of I Timothy and Titus.

Review of New People: Discussion included consistently having the pastor's name on the bulletin and having the liturgist remind attendees to sign the attendance books. Pastor Amanda shared names of recurring visitors, several of whom would like to join the congregation and a young lady who would like to receive a bible.

Packet and Consent Calendar Items:

Joanne requested a change to the minutes reflecting accuracy in the financial situation. Rather than being solvent for 2022, we were short approximately \$7,000. Cynthia moved and Pam seconded the motion with the correction to the previous minutes. The motion carried.

Cynthia requested that Sunday school rooms receive attention from the cleaning crew on a weekly basis. Colleen will have the necessary conversation and return to the board; the members of the board will then examine the task list. Discussion arose regarding remaining capital campaign funds in regards to technology and air conditioning units in Fellowship Hall. Mike will reach out to Darren for follow-up. Joanne volunteered to get additional bids if necessary. Colleen shared the current financial report. March saw an amount of \$3,000 more than was necessary to meet bills; however, we are still \$15,500 behind for the year. A monthly financial report will be made in the future.

Board members are interesting promoting the church as a wedding venue. Ryan will begin by determining how to proceed with advertising. The topic will be revisited next month.

Trustee concerns include: leveling the air conditioning system at the parsonage, water on the ceiling tiles in the pastor's office, replacement of the air conditioning unit in the pastor's office, a leaking basement window in the parsonage. In the church, the wall in the music room needs to be repaired.

Colleen asked for volunteers to help clean up the church yard.

Generative and Strategic Work: Organist-Frank has posted an announcement for the position. Applicants are to submit inquiries to the church office.

Church Vitality and Pastoral Leadership Assessment-members will make notes and submit to Doug by April 24th; Doug will combine input. Members of the board will meet for discussion on May 8th at 7:00 p.m.

Pastor Amanda offered a closing prayer at 8:41.

Respectfully Submitted: Kathy Cook

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

The 2023 budget is \$167,943.49 (with the average monthly contribution amount needed of \$13,995.25 , 8.3%, needed each month to meet the budget). Contributions for April there was \$11,255 in donations, year to date \$45,412. That is 26% of the budget out of the \$33.2% needed 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.



"How can you tell it's a dogwood tree? By the bark." "I ordered a chicken and an egg from Amazon, I'll let you know..."

UMC Institute

GET FIRED UP!

REGISTRATION FOR SUMMER CAMP AND INSTITUTE 2023 IS OPEN!

Institute, to be held at Camp Chippewa is June 26-July 1.
 Sign up here: <https://campchippewa.campbrainregistration.com/>
 scholarship applications are available here: <https://campchippewa.org/home/institute/scholarship-applications>




6pm - 8pm

TWISTS & TURNS

PSALM 25:4

July 9th thru 13th

WISHING YOU
GOD'S BLESSINGS
 IN THE **AMAZING ADVENTURE**
 AHEAD
 CONGRATULATIONS, GRAD!

MAY YOU BE
 A LIGHT TO THE WORLD
 AS YOU LIVE IN HIS LOVE!

CONGRATULATIONS
 ON YOUR
Confirmation!

2023 class:
 James Baker, Cara Dodge,
 Paulina Martin, Sylvia Ozier
 and Isabel Perez



"I used to have facial hair, but then it grew on me." What's the best way to watch a fly fishing tournament? Live Stream"

What is Peace with Justice Sunday?

United Methodists relate to this special Sunday, recognised June 4, by seeking peaceful solutions, creating and supporting peace-related ministries in their conference and learning about peaceful, just efforts around the world. June 4 is this year's designated special Sunday giving. Donations for this special Sunday support programs and ministries to educate, equip and mobilize actions in support of identified Economic, Health, and Gender Justice Priorities.

Our Social Principles call us to love our enemies, seek justice, and serve as reconcilers of conflict. We insist that the first moral duty of all nations is to work together to resolve by peaceful means every dispute that arises between or among them.

The United Methodist Church, with its historic commitment to peace and justice, can and should provide leadership to this social transformation. The General Board of Church and Society Church holds a non-governmental, consultative status with the United Nations. This status allows us to participate in UN meetings, consultations and conferences. We recognize and renew our call for social transformation, for the quest to open the doors of opportunity for all, to distribute resources more equitably, and to provide better care for persons in need.



The other half of the donations collected fund national and international peacemaking ministries and grants. We achieve peace with justice efforts by working with the World Council of Churches, interfaith and ecumenical bodies, and secular organizations for social-justice policies and programs that seek the wholeness of shalom for all of God's people. Three different grants are created and made available to United Methodist congregations and organizations that support Ethnic/Minority Local Church ministries, and programs related to the Peace with Justice Sunday. Church and Society awards these grants annually.

Mission Team Update

The Mission team has been busy working on various projects and tasks to serve our local community. Susan Butell spoke to Baker University Human Nutrition class about the food pantry and Nancy Arnold showed the food pantry. The class also had a food drive, donating over 280 items. They spent one class checking expiration dates and helped organize the food pantry's shelf.

The mission's team voted to give the USD 348 school district food service program money to pay student's outstanding balances and to contribute money for the donate fund account. We also have donated to snack closets with the district social workers.

May Day baskets were made by students at the Baldwin Academy of Dance and Voice Studio filling them with flowers and candy by the B.L.A.S.T. crew and taken to Vintage Park Assisted Living, the Baldwin HealthCare and Rehab Center and to others with lots of smiles and hugs.

Mission will also be providing a meal for the VBS volunteers and families July 10-13.



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



-----Prime Time Fellowship Opportunities:-----

**Caregiving group and a Seniors
Gathering**

June 7 at 1PM is monthly Care Givers meeting on Fellowship Hall. This is a time for meeting with your fellow peers to discuss some of your frustrations. It's also a time to get answers to questions on the loss of a loved one.

Mark your calendar for some fun & Giggles. The "Senior(55-105 yrs young) Gathering", June 14th, 2-4 PM in Fellowship Hall. A get-to-gather to share some good time with your fellow friends & neighbors.

Pass the word around & let's have a wonderful time. ~ Linda Ballinger

**Native American poem on grieving
(shared at Ruth's service of death and resurrection)**

*I give you this one thought to keep-
I am with you still- I do not sleep.
I am a thousand winds that blow,
I am the diamond glints on snow,
I am the sunlight on ripened grain,
I am the gentle autumn rain.
When you awaken in the morning's hush,
I am the swift, uplifting rush
of quiet birds in circled flight.
I am the soft stars that shine at night.
Do not think of me as gone-
I am with you still-
in each new dawn.*



Kate Welch Awarded Scholarship

This year's BFUMC Richard and Mildred Allen Memorial Scholarship is awarded to: Kate Welch daughter of Kelly and Tara Welch. Kate will be a KU Jayhawk in the fall starting off in environmental studies



"A person shouldn't tell a dad joke if they are not a dad...that is a faux pa"



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

June 7 Caregiver Group meeting 1PM in Fellowship Hall

June 4 Trinity Sunday
Peace with Justice Sunday

June 14 Senior Gathering 2to4PM
June 18 Father's Day

June 19 Juneteenth - Federal holiday
Tentatively scheduled Leadership Board Meeting 7PM

June 22 Ives Chapel (1018 Miami) monthly "Thankful Thursday" free community meal 5:30-6:30PM



For Pastoral Care; call Rev Amanda Baker, 316.207.3740 or to book a time on her calendar: https://calendar.app.google/P_r9GCKF5bpcD8XCHA

***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 format.

***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



News items or pictures for the church newsletter, The Vine, is due by the 4th Monday of every month. If you prefer to get the newsletter electronically, please provide your current email address to the office (785.594.6612 or email 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

[Unsubscribe office@baldwinfirst.org](#)
[Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)

Sent by office@baldwinfirst.org powered by



Try email marketing for free today!