

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

The Vine
OCTOBER 2023 NEWSLETTER



We all have a money story, whether we recognize it or not. Perhaps we are living from a story of fear or shame, or a story that the church is dying and no longer relevant. Perhaps it's a story that your actions won't have an impact, or that we don't have enough.



But this October, we will be considering where God might be speaking a new narrative into the limited ones we have told ourselves. This month's worship series, "Our Money Story," encourages us to discover and tell our money stories in light of God's money story of liberation and justice. Our worship this month will invite us to transform our stewardship practices into more full expressions of who we are and what we believe.

This month we invite you to remember, release, reimagine, and restore your money stories so that we can write the one God is begging us to live into.



**Peace and Joy,
Rev Amanda Baker**

Baldwin First United Methodist Church
Leadership Board Meeting
Aug 21, 2023

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, Ryan Berg, Coleen Burgess, Mike Curran, Darren Lawrenz, Cynthia Perez, Brad Peterson, Pam Sharp. **Staff:** Pastor Amanda Baker. **Recording Secretary:** Katherine Cook

Opening: Mike opened the meeting at 7:12 p.m. and offered a prayer.

Review of New People:

Our Baker students are returning, and we have several new faces as well.

Generative and Strategic Work:

- Cynthia moved to approve the minutes of the previous meeting; Brad seconded the motion. The motion carried.
- Our expenses for July were \$674.84 more than our income. This is better than expected for a summer month. However, our expenses are about \$10,535.96 more than our income for the year. We need to check on our office supplies expenses. We have spent 167% of what was budgeted. Natural gas expenses are 145% of what we budgeted. This is something that we cannot control. Church Maintenance/Repair is at 177% of what was budgeted. We will be looking at other income resources from the interest on the endowment to help with those expenses.
- Regarding the update on the historical submittal, Pastor Amanda is seeking clarity from the Conference before moving forward. The congregation will have the opportunity to submit questions for several weeks prior to September 17th when Roger and Amanda will share during church; discussion will follow service.
- Darren provided updated bids from BCI Mechanical and Westerhouse for air conditioning units for Fellowship Hall. The board decided to wait an additional month so that details could be clarified.
- Air conditioning repairs on the parsonage were \$1039. Pam moved and Brad seconded the motion to provide preventative maintenance for the parsonage at \$200 annually. The motion carried.
- Preventative maintenance and repairs for the units in the church was \$3430. Additional concerns have been identified at a cost of \$3463. Brad moved to move forward with necessary repairs and Nancy seconded the motion; the motion carried. Preventative maintenance on the church for Spring and Fall is \$3205.
- Mike reported that he will work with Darren Goodwin to examine the steam pipe in Amanda's office next week. Additionally, a railing will be installed at the bottom of the stairs.
- Team recruitment will be September 10th. Sheryl Cleverly and Carolyn Groves will assume leadership of Adult Ministries.
- Pastor Amanda has assembled a letter for the upcoming financial campaign. It will be emailed to board members.
- Ryan has created a document to help share requests. He will also create a line-item workbook of projects that are in process so that all paperwork is digitized.

Closing: Pastor Amanda offered a closing prayer at 8:58.

Respectfully submitted, Katherine Cook

(Note: Minutes are posted from the most previously month approved)

Most Current Financial Update

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 August came to \$11,196 in donations, making the year to date \$98,919.00. This amount is 56% of the 66% of the budget 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.





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

In Appreciation and Recognition to the ongoing Food Pantry's Donors

In August of 2022, the Baldwin Community Food Pantry partnered with the Charitable Committee at MacFarlane Aviation. Four to five times a month, employees pick up donated items from the grocery cart at the Baldwin City Market and delivers the items to the Food Pantry.

The photo to the right was taken showing the recent donation of great produce donated by members of our community. We were also able to provide eggs, margarine, bread and lunchmeat!

Thank you to all that donate!

Add the Double of the Joy and Love to their Family

Parents Alex and Alyssa and brother Barrett welcome Letti Lela and Cora Mae Crouch, born August 17th, to their family.

Proud grandparents are Bruce and Diane Peterson and Kevin and Monica Crouch.



Letti is on the left with the white bow and Cora is on the right with the floral headband.



A Reflection

In the fading of the summer sun,
the shortening of days, cooling breeze,
swallows' flight and moonlight rays
We see the Creator's hand.

In the browning of leaves once green,
morning mists, autumn chill,
fruit that falls, frost's first kiss
We see the Creator's hand.

- Unknown

photo by Frank Perez

First United Methodist Church

Update on the progress of Baldwin First's National registration of Historical Places



Kibbee Cabin, 1855-1858



Old Castle, 1858-1868



Old Stone Church, 1868-1904



First Church, 1904-1930



Centenary Hall, 1930-1932

There are no fees to submit an application other than for a fee to the person who writes it up. We are blessed that in our case, Roger (an active member and who is also president of the Santa Trail Historical Society) waved the fee. Dr. Amy Van der Reit, a professor at KU teaching Historic Preservation and Architectural Replication Studio Instructor: Amy Van de Riet is also advising.

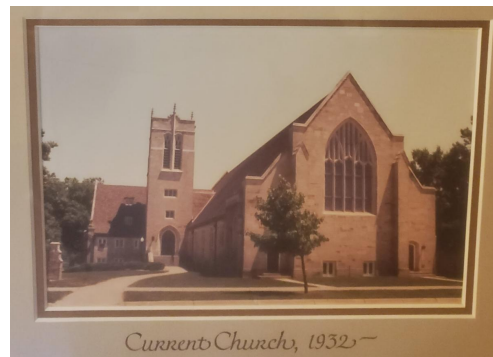
Roger Boyd presented on Sept. 17 at the Worship Service a progress report on the registration of Baldwin First on the Kansas Historical Registry. He is spearheading the effort. The highlights included:

Why:

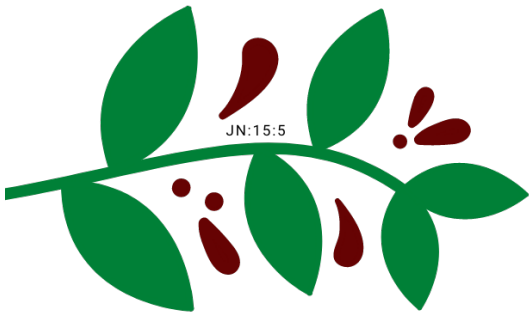
- Our Congregation has been here since 1855 (168 years);
- The building is a longtime iconic structure in Downtown Baldwin (91 years);
- Our building is the only example of “Gothic Revival” architecture in Baldwin City;
- Our sanctuary featuring the stained glass chancel window from 1931.
- The church's notable pipe organ, the largest and only pipe organ in town;
- The congregation's long history intertwined with Baker University;
- The building's a high degree of historical integrity;
- Being recognized on this list can help Baldwin First maintain it historical character,; and the
- Historical recognition provides a sense of pride as one of only the few.

The Benefits:

- The State Historical Preservation Office (SHPO) can provide 40% tax credits for approved projects over \$5,000;
- The tax Credits are sold on a special market to provide us with cash.
- Example: A \$15,000 project could cost only \$9000;
- With even larger projects the Federal National Park Service can provide an additional 20% tax credit;
- The “sacred Places Trust” is another source of grants for restoration project;
- SHPO can provide us guidance on how best to maintain our historical building.
- SHPO is in favor of the best use of the church and will help us get there; and
- Submitting our history on the nomination preserves our history through SHPO.



Current Church, 1932-



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

**Oct 1 World Communion
Sunday**

**Oct 4 Caregiving Group 1pm
FH***

**Oct 9 Church office is closed for
federal holiday**

**Oct 22 There will be a combined
worship service during this
Maple Leaf Festival weekend at
Ives Chapel (1018 Miami) at
11am. There is no worship
service or Sunday School at
Baldwin First that day.**

**Oct 23 Leadership Meeting,
7PM**

**Oct 26 Thankful Thursday Free
Community Meal 5:30 6:30 at
Ives Chapel**

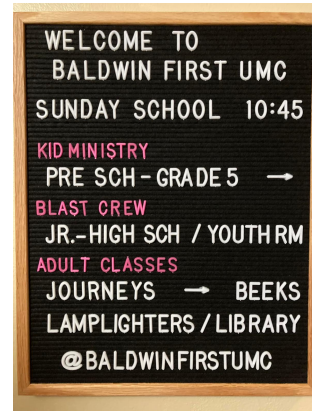
Oct 31 Reformation Day

Church Streaming Info

***9:30AM Sunday Worship
Live Stream on website
<https://www.Baldwinfirst.org>**

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

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



Communication Requests

To help keep the church informed in the most timely manner as possible, Communication Request forms are available at this link <https://forms.gle/OK9oZyEM39XNaxEx5> with hard copies available on the bulletin board near the office has specific information requested For the church newsletter, The Vine, deadline is each month by the 4th Monday.

(785.594.6612 or email baldwinfirstumc@gmail.com)

For security purposes, the church doors are locked during office hours,
9am-2pm, Monday-Thursday, Please call the office for entry.

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

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