



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

The Vine

SEPTEMBER 2020 NEWSLETTER



The next sermon series at Baldwin First will come from the book "The Good and Beautiful God: Falling in Love with God" by James Bryan Smith. Please see page 3 of the newsletter on how to obtain the book so you can follow along as well as read good practices on each topic. The nine Spiritual Disciples to be looked at will include:

Week 1, August 30: What are you seeking?

Soul Training: Sleep

Week 2, September 6: God is Good

Soul Training: Silence and Awareness of Creation

Week 3, September 13: God is Trustworthy

Soul Training: Counting your Blessings

Week 4, September 20: God is Generous

Soul Training: Praying Psalm 23

Week 5, September 27: God is Love

Soul Training: Lectio Divina (Divine Reading)

Week 6, October 4: God is Holy

Soul Training: Margin

Week 7, October 11: God is Self Sacrificing

Soul Training: Reading the Gospel of John

Week 8, October 18: God Transforms

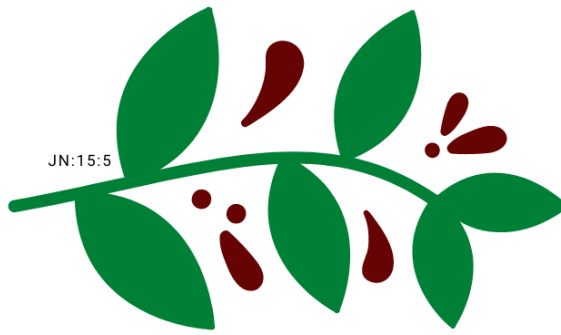
Soul Training: Solitude

Week 9, October 27: How to Making a Pickle

Soul Training: Slowing Down



OUR MISSION IS TO LOVE AND SERVE GOD AND OUR NEIGHBORS AS DISCIPLES OF JESUS CHRIST



JN:15:5



Of Life: Martin Pressgrove

Martin Ross Pressgrove, Jr., 77, passed away Friday, Aug. 28, 2020 at his home surrounded by his family.

Martin was born December 7, 1942 in Glendale, CA., the son of Martin Ross Pressgrove, Sr. and Margaret Armista (Beal) Pressgrove. The family moved throughout the west and midwest during his childhood, settling in Tecumseh, KS where he graduated from Highland Park High School in 1960. Following graduation, he studied at the University of Kansas and Baker University and went on to graduate with an elementary education degree in 1967.

He proudly served our country in the United States Navy in 1967, serving a nearly two-year deployment in Vietnam on the U.S.S. Fletcher DD 445 and followed up his active service with more than 20 years of service in the Navy Reserves.

Martin was united in marriage to Barbara Boyd on Aug. 8, 1970 at the First United Methodist Church in Baldwin City as part of a double wedding with Barbara's brother, Dr. Roger Boyd and his wife, Jan. The couples celebrated their Golden Anniversaries of 50 years of loving marriage earlier this month.

He began his teaching career with the fifth and sixth grade in Hiawatha, KS, in 1969 and retired as a paraprofessional at Baldwin High School in 2009. His career as an educator was not limited to the classroom. He was also a Scoutmaster for over ten years with the local Boy Scout Pack 65 and was always involved in his own children's activities.

Martin was a member of Baldwin First United Methodist Church, where for several years he served as the church custodian. He was a member of Lions Clubs International. He also held the role of Secretary with American Legion Lloyd Beaton Post 228.

A man of many talents and passions, Martin liked to read and could be found working on his VW Vanagon or his Subaru. He enjoyed birdwatching and the great outdoors; so much so that any piece of litter he encountered, anytime and anywhere, would be disposed of properly. He loved kids and for almost twenty years he ran a sno-cone stand as a hobby at the Maple Leaf Festival and other festivals in NE KS.

Martin was preceded in death by his parents, Martin, Sr. and Margaret; a sister, Carolyn Wilson; and a brother, Daniel Pressgrove.



The Veil Opens

Whenever there is birth or death,
the sacred veil between the worlds
grows thin and opens slightly up
just long enough for Love to slip,
silent, either in or out
of this our fragile, fleeting world,
whence or whither a new home waits.
and our beloved ones draw near,
in rapt anticipation, or
in weary gratitude, they stand;
our loved ones stand so close, right here,
just on the other side
of Eternity.

— Charles Anthony Silvestri

Martin is survived by his wife, Barbara Pressgrove; a son, David Pressgrove and his wife, Jennifer, Craig, CO; a daughter, Michelle Rogers and her husband, Scot, Placerville, CA; eight grandchildren; and three brothers, William (Bill) Pressgrove, Cedar City, UT, John Pressgrove, Tecumseh, KS, and Michael Pressgrove, Topeka, KS.

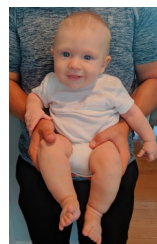
A private funeral at 10:30 a.m. on Sept. 3 was held and streamed live at BFUMC (on the website) to celebrate Martin's life. A public graveside memorial service (streamed by the funeral home on their Facebook page) followed at 11:30 a.m. at Oakwood Cemetery, 300 N. 200 Rd., Baldwin City, KS.

Memorial contributions may be made to Lawrence Parkinson's Support Group or Baldwin Education Fund for Mardi Gras Diversity Day and sent c/o Lamb-Roberts-Price Funeral Home, P.O. Box 64, Baldwin City, KS 66006. Condolences may be sent to the family through www.lamb-roberts.com.

Of Baptism: Barrett Crouch

BFUMC also celebrates in another life event of the of Baptism into Gods Family welcoming Barrett Charles Crouch into God's family. The event was celebrated at the Outdoor Worship Service August 23.

He is the son of Alex and Amanda Crouch of Baldwin City. Barrett is the proud grandson of grandparents Bruce and Clare Peterson and Kevin and Monica Crouch.





Worship Attendance Reminders

- We will ask that you pre-register for worship, but of course, we will also have a process to welcome those who join us on Sunday morning without pre-registering.
- Household units will be seated together, and distanced no less than 6ft from other household units.
- For mutual protection, masks will be required, hand sanitizer will be widely available, and good hygiene practices will be encouraged.
- We ask that you show love and care for one another through non-contact greetings.
- You are encouraged to dress for comfort, as some windows will be kept open for ventilation.
- You will notice other changes in the sanctuary. Pew cushions have been removed for more efficient cleaning. Song books, pew bibles and attendance pads have also been removed to reduce contact points.
- All those who are physically able to use the front entrance (up the outdoor stairs) are asked to enter this way. We will provide a “drop-off” area along Grove Street for those who need it. We ask that you leave the lower level entrance for only those who need to use the elevator. This will maintain a more uniform flow of traffic and make social distancing easier.
- When you arrive: If you pre-registered, a greeter will confirm your attendance. If you did not pre-register, the greeter will gather contact information. Whether or not you have pre-registered, you will be asked to confirm that your household is symptom free and without known contact with a positive/suspected case of COVID-19. An usher will then help you find your seats.
- Offering plates will be positioned at the doorway of the sanctuary, and electronic giving information will be available on the screen.
- Services will be short, approximately half an hour and will not include congregational singing. However, music will continue to be part of how we worship.
- Communion will continue to use elements prepared for each household. Masks may be briefly removed to consume communion. We will continue to make elements available for at-home worshippers upon request.
- Children will ALWAYS be welcome at BFUMC, and we trust that parents will make wise decisions about their children’s ability to abide by social distance guidelines and masking for those over 2 years of age. We will have Wikki-stix (moldable wax coated yarn sticks) available for any children present, and after use, the sticks may be taken home or thrown away. These will replace our pew bags. We will not have children’s church or children’s time, but efforts will be made to offer ways for every generation to be engaged in our worship.

Bathrooms will be closed, but not locked. Use of them is discouraged, but available in an emergency. Please practice good hand washing if they are used.





BRAD PETERSON, CHAIR PETERSON@HOTMAIL.COM
816.392.1225

The finance committee provided an update on the status of the finances for our church recently at an outdoor worship service. We ask that everyone continues to pray on tithing. Brad can be contact at the above listed information by either my phone or email address with any questions. Updated communication over the next couple months along with updates will be provide.

New District Superintendent

In a heartfelt ceremony online service, three new district superintendents were installed during a virtual gathering on Aug. 16.



Rev. Dr. Tom Brady
Five Rivers and Parsons districts

The Rev. Dr. Tom Brady was installed as Five Rivers and Parsons districts superintendent; along with two other newly appointed superintendents to their areas: the Rev. Jenny Collins for the Topeka and Flint Hills districts; and the Rev. Dee Williamston formally added the Hutchinson District to her duties as Salina District.

“This is a historical moment for the Great Plains,” Bishop Ruben Saenz Jr. said at the beginning of the 60-minute ceremony, noting it was the first time that multiple districts were celebrated together, with an online service.

Of Brady, who previously served in Americus, Burlington, Overland Park Heritage and Lawrence First UMCs: “He’s familiar with the eastern and southeastern Kansas context, issues and culture.”

**SERVE.
DONATE.
GIVE.**

Everyone should give whatever they have decided in

Scan for Giving



Text amount to 855.905.1967
Or Scan our QR code

Welcome back to in-house Worship!

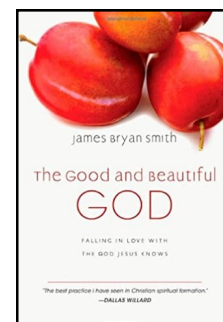
To register for worship services please use the following link <https://reopen.church/r/FLNUSZyC>.

Our new worship series for this fall “Good and Beautiful God” by James Bryson Smith, can be



Scan me for worship signup!

obtained at Baldwin City’s bookstore *The Nook*, or it can be purchased as an e-book or audio book online.



To be able to scan QR codes: download the QR code app to your phone available for free through Google Play or your cell phone app program and follow instructions.

OUR MISSION IS TO LOVE AND SERVE GOD AND OUR NEIGHBORS AS DISCIPLES OF JESUS CHRIST





Calendar

SEPTEMBER 2020

BFUMC Services

SUNDAY WORSHIP will be available In-Person indoors at BFUMC, and live streamed on Facebook and YouTube @10:45 AM. For the in-Person, preregistration for attendance is asked:

Please go to:

<https://reopen.church/r/FinUSZyc>

Check the church website (Baldwinfirst.org) for updated information about the Kid's Ministry and B.L.A.S.T. Sunday School plans

For all church meetings : <https://kansas.zoom.us/j/9644607669>, password 042020 unless indicated otherwise

Typical Monthly Calendar:

Sept. 7 Labor Day

Sept. 21 Finance 7:00PM

Tues. Sept. 8 **Note change this month**

Sept. 23 Baldwin City Blood Drive

Missions 7:00PM

Fellowship Hall, noon - 5 p.m.

Sept. 14 Trustees 7:00PM

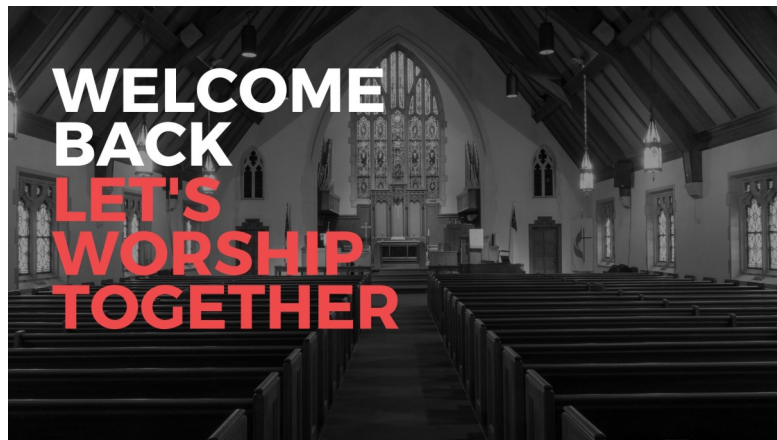
Sept. 28 Council 7:00PM

Sept. 21 SPPRC 7:00PM

(<https://kansas.zoom.us/j/92295961164>

(<https://kansas.zoom.us/j/99933704758>)

password: 889023)



OUR MISSION IS TO LOVE AND SERVE GOD AND OUR NEIGHBORS AS DISCIPLES OF JESUS CHRIST