



The Vine

(Very Important News and Events)

*"I am the vine, you are the branches.
Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit,
because apart from me you can do nothing."
(Jesus, from John 15:5)*

Pastor: Rev. Amanda Baker

November 2018

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

Amanda's Page:

I hope that at some point in the month of November, you have the opportunity to take stock of all the abundant blessings in your life. For many of us, the Thanksgiving holiday brings that opportunity. Others may be participating in a 30 days of gratitude challenge.

Many of us, living in the United States of America, some of us with the privileges of a stable home, middle class income and loving families, may find this practice overwhelmingly easy. Others, among us and around us, may find it harder to fill each day with gratitude. We have neighbors who live in tents and campers without adequate heat, or who crash on the couches of friends and relatives and worry about how long that can last. We have neighbors who go to sleep hungry so that there will be enough mac and cheese to feed the children. Some of us know the ache of loneliness and depression, and some struggle mightily with depression.

Whether you are among those who see abundant blessings all around you, or among those who struggle to find the blessings in the midst of struggle and difficulty, you are not the first. The Psalms are filled with songs of jubilant rejoicing in the goodness of God, and they are also filled with lamentations. The psalmist shows us a way of thanksgiving that is honest and true. It involves naming, in real, authentic terms, the complaints, the injustices, the heartache and the fear in our souls, and then remembering all the times when God has been faithful to you in the past.

When we are honest with God, about both the places we see God's abundant mercies in our lives and also about our deepest struggles and heartaches, then our gratitude becomes a deeper, stronger, and more meaningful offering to God.

Peace and Grace to you in the work,

Rev. Amanda Baker

MISSIONS

Laura Dickinson, Chair., ldinbc@gmail.com

MAPLE LEAF - Thank you to all who committed time and energy to another successful Chili and Soup Dinner during the Maple Leaf Festival.

FOOD PANTRY- Come check out the changes and updates! The Baldwin Community Food Pantry is a local ministry that is housed in BFUMC. Oversight is provided by the members of the BFUMC congregation, but all churches in the community support the pantry with donations, dollars and volunteer work. It is a vital ministry in our community in addressing food poverty to our neighbors in USD 348. New flooring was laid in the small room which has historically housed the food pantry, as well the stage area. Fresh paint was completed for both areas and new lighting was added to the stage area. New curtains will be purchased and finally, there will be curtaining to cover the food shelves on the stage for a quick conversion of the area for use as a stage. These items are courtesy of memorial funds, donations and pantry funds. The response from our neighbors visiting the food pantry has been very positive. The stage is now the area from which folks shop and is clean and welcoming. A special thanks to all the work the Trustees did in the accomplishment of this wonderful improvement to our church and the area in which we serve our fellow community members.

GIVING TUESDAY on November 27 - An international movement to extend the spirit of giving thanks into Advent season. As a response to the hyper-consumerism of Black Friday and Cyber Monday, people around the world celebrate Giving Tuesday by supporting organizations that are transforming the world. United Methodists will come together to support vital ministry projects and missionaries around the world on #GivingTuesday as they generously #GiveUMC. Giving through The Advance empowers hundreds of dedicated project leaders and missionaries to share the love of Christ in meaningful, life-saving ways. As always, 100% of all giving will support the designated Advance ministry! Advance@UMCmission.org.

ADVENT STUDY - During the season of Advent, Missions will be hosting a study group on Sunday mornings during Sunday School hour. The book we will be studying, All Earth is Waiting by Katie Dawson invites us "to explore the familiar Advent themes of hope, preparation, joy and peace with the reconciliation of the heavens and earth in mind". Study books will be provided for participants and a sign-up sheet will be in the Narthex.

JANUARY 27, 2019 - Mark your calendars. Missions will be hosting a dinner with a speaker talking about 2019 missional focus at BFUMC. Stay tuned!

Compassion asks us to go where it hurts, to enter into places of pain, to share in brokenness, fear, confusion, and anguish. Compassion challenges us to cry out with those in misery, to mourn with those who are lonely, to weep with those in tears. Henri J.M. Nouwen

CAREGIVERS SUPPORT GROUP

Linda Ballinger, Coordinator

Caregivers Support Group will be on Wednesday, November 7 at 1:00 p.m. This is a one hour time for caregivers to take a break, share experiences and gather some helpful tips.



UMW Annual Turkey Dinner

Turkey, Dressing, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy, Green Beans, Cranberry OR Orange Jello Salad & Pies

**Saturday, November 10
5:00 – 7:00 p.m.**

**Cost: Adult - \$10
12 & Under - \$5
3 & under - Free**

SOUP SUPPER – On Saturday, December 1 from 4:30 – 6:30 p.m., we will have a Soup Supper in Fellowship Hall – free will donation - *Look for sign-up sheet – who's soup will win? Proceeds will be split between UMW and Church Budget.*

LUNCHEON AND HANGING OF THE GREENS – on Sunday, December 2, after church we will have a Luncheon in Fellowship Hall followed by Hanging of the Greens. *Come help decorate the church for the season!*

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Shelly Todd, Director (594-2921), ksl1987@embarqmail.com

****KidMinistry Sunday School:** Our KidMinistry Sunday School meets at 9:30. Kids ages 3 through 5th grade are invited to join us in our 3 Sunday School classes: PreK-KDG, 1st-3rd, and 4th-5th. We gather on the 2nd floor of the church (one level up from the Sanctuary). The 4th and 5th graders report directly to their Sunday School room. The PreK-3rd graders will gather together in the 1st-3rd grade room for 15 minutes of singing and worshipping before being dismissed to their classes. Sunday School ends at 10:30. We can't wait to see lots of kiddoes in Sunday School!

****KidMinistry Sunday School Offering:** Our KidMinistry Sunday School Offering is used to sponsor a child through World Vision ministries. Our child is a 5 year old girl named Theresa Kafula from Zambia/Africa. Our sponsorship is \$35 per month, which World Vision uses to provide much needed resources for Theresa, her family, and her community...things like clean water, clothing, food, and education. Every penny, dime, nickel, quarter, and dollar we can share is a blessing to Theresa and her family. Please keep Theresa in your prayers and remember to bring a little bit of money to put in the collection plate to help her!

We love to have guests!! Invite your friends to join us at Sunday School at 9:30 every Sunday!

****Children's Church:** Children's Church takes place on the 2nd and 3rd Sundays of the month after the Children's Sermon. Kids ages 3 through 3rd grade are invited to gather together in Fellowship Hall for a time of worship and fun. (3rd Grade students "graduate" to "grown-up" worship once they receive their Bible on Bible Sunday - November 18th)

****Our KidMinistry needs YOU!** The bold print simply can't be BOLD enough! Our Kidministry is needing loving adults to share the love of Jesus with our kiddoes. Sunday School teachers commit themselves to 3 Sundays a month (alternating teaching/assisting), while Children's Church leaders/Nursery Attendants serve roughly once a month. If you love Jesus and you love kids, you are qualified to serve! *There are currently 2 Sunday School positions open, as well as a need for 2 Children's Church leaders and, ideally, 6 nursery attendants!! Please contact Shelly for more information. **Prayerfully consider being a part of this faith-shaping ministry!***

Upcoming Dates:

***November 18th - Bible Sunday** *3rd grade students will receive church sponsored Bibles during the 10:45 worship service. Please contact Shelly if you have a 3rd grade child. Also, if you would like to sponsor a 3rd grader, please let Shelly know.

***December 16th - Children's Christmas Program** *Our Children's Christmas Program will take place during the 10:45 worship service. Rehearsals will be held during Children's Church (10:45 worship service) beginning on November 11th and we will rehearse every Sunday leading up to December 16th. We will have a dress rehearsal during Sunday School time on the 16th (9:15 a.m.). Kids ages 3 through 5th grade are invited and encouraged to be a part of this wonderful tradition of sharing the Good News of Jesus' Birth.

***July 7th-11th, 2019 - Vacation Bible School, 6:00-8:00 p.m.**

****The Great Plains Conference of the United Methodist Church highly recommends that all individuals working with children and youth complete a boundary awareness training called Safe Gatherings. This is an online training accessed through the conference website. <https://www.greatplainsumc.org/safegatherings>. The church conference conducts a criminal background check on those completing the Safe Gatherings training. The cost of the training is \$36 (for the background check) and the church will cover this cost. Baldwin FUMC makes every effort that individuals working with children and youth are Safe Gatherings certified (certification is good for 4 years). We appreciate our ministry volunteers being willing to complete this training so that we can ensure the safety of our children, youth, and leaders, as well.**

CROSS CULTURE YOUTH MINISTRY

Eva Durand, (594-0345) 785.766.5803 or evadurand34@gmail.com

Saturday, November 10 4:00-7:00 p.m. Youth will assist with UMW Turkey Dinner

Sunday, November 11 3:30 p.m. Jr. High Youth Group

6:00 p.m. Sr. High Youth Group

Sunday, November 18 3:30 p.m. Jr. High Youth Group

6:00 p.m. Sr. High Youth Group

Wednesday, November 28 7:00 p.m. Sr. High Youth Hangout Night

**NEWS ITEMS FOR THE VINE NEED TO BE IN THE OFFICE
BY THE EVENING OF CHURCH COUNCIL**

November 2018

Sunday Services	8:30 a.m. 9:30 a.m. 10:45 a.m.	Traditional Worship - Sanctuary Sunday School Worship – Sanctuary
Last Sunday of the Month	9:30 a.m. 10:45 a.m.	Sunday School Worship - Sanctuary
1st Monday	7:00 p.m.	Missions – Fellowship Hall
2nd Monday	7:00 p.m.	Trustees – Library
3rd Monday	7:00 p.m.	SPPRC – Library Finance – Chapel
4th Monday	7:00 p.m.	Church Council – Library
1st Wednesday	1:00 p.m.	Caregivers
Each Wednesday	7:00 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal
1st Saturday	9:00 a.m.	UMW Executive Meeting - Library
1st & 3rd Saturdays	7:30 a.m.	United Methodist Men – Vintage Park

Mon., November 5	7:00 p.m.	Mission
Wed., November 7	1:00 p.m.	Caregivers Support Group – Library
Sat., November 10	5:00 – 7:00 p.m.	Turkey Dinner
Sun., November 11	2:00 -4:00 p.m.	Church Conference – Lawrence West Campus
Mon., November 12	7:00 p.m.	Trustees
Sat., November 17	7:30 a.m.	United Methodist Men – Vintage Park
Mon., November 19	7:00 p.m.	SPPRC – Library Finance – Chapel
Sun., November 25	9:30 a.m. 10:45 a.m.	Sunday School Combined Worship
Mon., November 26	7:00 p.m.	Church Council – Library
Sat., December 1	4:30 – 6:30 p.m.	Soup Supper – Fellowship Hall – free will donation <i>Look for sign-up sheet – who’s soup will win?</i> <i>Proceeds will be split between UMW and Church Budget</i>
Sun., December 2	after church	Luncheon & Hanging of the Greens <i>Come help decorate the church for the season!</i>
Thurs., December 6	6:30 p.m.	UMW Christmas Mission Project – location to be announced <i>Come for fellowship with women of the church and help us make a Merry Christmas for others... there might be some delicious treats too!</i>
Sun., December 9	4:00 - 6:00 p.m.	Living Nativity – on the front steps of the church