



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

December 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:

Over my lifetime, I have celebrated Christmas with 12 different congregations. Decorations, traditions and service times varied. What was the same in every one of those places was the tradition of lighting candles of some kind and joining their voices in singing "Silent Night."

When you think about it, you can probably see it in your mind's eye. You may be able to hear the voices of brothers and sisters in Christ. You may even be able to feel the warmth of the candle glow on your face or smell that distinctive smell of candle smoke and cold air. And what feelings does it bring?

For me, I feel peace, and joy, and hope and love.

These are not things I need to DO this Advent. They are the gifts of Christmas that we are able to anticipate and open ourselves to receive.

That's our focus this month. To allow ourselves to receive the good gift of the incarnation - the God who dwells with us and among us, as one of us to restore our relationship, to bring us peace, and joy, and hope, and love.

Give yourself the gift of worship this December, and plan to join us for our very special advent series "Calm and Bright: 200 years of Silent Night."

In God's peace,

Rev Amanda Baker

MISSIONS

Laura Dickinson, Chair., ldinbc@gmail.com

Advent Study - During the season of Advent, Missions will be gathering on Sunday mornings during Sunday School hour for a book study/discussion. 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. Come join us, beginning December 2. Come for one or all.

LINK - BFUMC is serving at LINK on December 8th. Contact John Beins or Nancy Arnold if you are interested in helping serve. jbeins52@gmail.com and arnoldn448@gmail.com

SOCKS and CROCKS Tree - This year the Tops to Toes tree in the Narthex will shift in focus. We will be collecting socks to take to the shelters for those without homes, as socks are a much-needed item all year. All socks - adults, children, infants, whimsical, industrial, all are welcome. We will also be taking donations for the purchase of \$15 crockpots to give to our neighbors at the Food Pantry. As we look to 2019, we will be implementing some different options for healthy and nutritious food at the pantry.

27th - MARK YOUR CALENDARS - The Mission Team will be hosting a dinner and speaker from the UM Conference office, Hollie Tapley, Disaster Response Coordinator. She will be sharing what is involved in forming a Volunteers in Mission (VIM) team and a recent trip to Puerto Rico. United Methodist Volunteers In Mission (UMVIM) is a grassroots movement within the United Methodist Church in which a group of persons or individuals give time, talent and labor to serve those in need for a short period of time.

UMCOR -The current string of California wildfires have produced unprecedented devastation. UMCOR is there! The recovery from a disaster of this magnitude will be long and arduous, but UMCOR is there. They are requesting school kits, health kits, and cleaning buckets for use in the relief. This is an arm of the United Methodist Church that provides hope and assistance that is tangible. Those kits we prepare each year serve someone near or far whose life has been forever changed.

God of grace, let us never feel too small to act against injustice. It is easy to feel overwhelmed by the pain of this world, but let us not lose heart. Let us remember that you go with us, telling us that with you nothing is impossible. Amen.
- Sojourners Daily Prayer

NOTIFICATION ABOUT CANCELLATIONS AND DELAYS ...November was a startling reminder that in Kansas, we do tend to have winter weather sometimes! In response, we're making some updates to our system for notifying folks about cancellations and delays. You may or may not have received a text or email on Sunday November 25, from a system called "Remind." This is a group messaging system, originally designed for schools, and is a fast, easy way for me to reach many people at once with important information that needs distributed quickly. If you received this message, and received it in the way you want to continue to receive occasional messages from the church, you don't need to do anything.

If you did *NOT* receive the cancellation notice, and would like to receive future messages, there's an easy way to opt-in to the system. Simply text @bfumc19 to the number 81010.

If you'd prefer to receive these messages via email, please notify Rev. Baker at PastorABaker@gmail.com and she will get you added.

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. *Whose 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 (free will donation) in Fellowship Hall followed by Hanging of the Greens. *Come help decorate the church for the season!*



UMW Christmas Mission Project

All Women are invited
December 6th at 6:30 pm
Lumberyard Arts Center
Bring a treat to share

We will be making Christmas decorations for the care center's residents and putting together Christmas gift bags for the women who come to the Food Pantry.

If you would like to sponsor a bag for \$5 please let Donna Curran know.

If we have more than they need we will deliver to the Willow House and homeless shelter.

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:

***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

Sunday, December 2
3:30-5pm - Jr Hi Youth Group
6-8pm - Sr Hi Youth Group

Sunday, December 9
3:30-5pm - Jr Hi 'Old School' Christmas Party
6-8pm - Sr Hi 'Old School' Christmas Party
** Pizza, Games, White Elephant Gift Exchange **
Bring friends & let's celebrate!

Sunday, December 16
\$75 Mission Trip Payment due

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

December 2018

Sunday Services	9:30 a.m. 10:45 a.m.	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

During Advent (December 2, December 9, December 16 and December 23) we will have one 10:45 a.m. worship service each Sunday. Regular worship times will resume in January.

Sat., December 1	7:30 a.m.	United Methodist Men – Vintage Park
	9:00 a.m.	UMW Executive Meeting - Library
	4:30 – 6:30 p.m.	Soup Supper – Fellowship Hall – free will donation <i>Look for sign-up sheet – whose soup will win? 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>
Wed., December 5	1:00 p.m.	Caregivers - Library
Thurs., December 6	6:30 p.m.	UMW Christmas Mission Project – Lumberyard Arts Center
Sat., December 8	4:30 – 6:30 p.m.	LINK Served - Lawrence
Sun., December 9	4:00 - 6:00 p.m.	Living Nativity – on the front steps of the church
Sat., December 15	7:30 a.m.	United Methodist Men – Vintage Park
Sun., December 16	10:45 a.m.	Children’s Christmas Program
Sun., December 23	10:45 a.m.	Worship - Cantata
Mon., Dec. 24	7 pm & 11 pm	Christmas Eve Services – Carols, Communion and Candlelight <i>(Choir will sing at 7:00 p.m.)</i>
Sun., December 30	9:30 a.m.	Sunday School
	10:45 a.m.	Combined Worship