



# 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)*

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**Pastor: Rev. Amanda Baker**

**May 2019**

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

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A Resurrection Calling.

When I reflect on the passages that articulate my sense of call, one that comes up often is one of the Resurrection appearances of Jesus in John 21:15-17:

When they had finished eating, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?"

"Yes, Lord," he said, "you know that I love you."

Jesus said, "Feed my lambs."

**16** Again Jesus said, "Simon son of John, do you love me?"

He answered, "Yes, Lord, you know that I love you."

Jesus said, "Take care of my sheep."

**17** The third time he said to him, "Simon son of John, do you love me?"

Peter was hurt because Jesus asked him the third time, "Do you love me?" He said, "Lord, you know all things; you know that I love you."

Jesus said, "Feed my sheep."

Jesus does not say to Peter, feed the sheep that agree with you. Jesus does not say to Peter, feed the lambs you think are right. Jesus does not say to Peter, design a series of tests to determine which sheep to care for. Jesus says, "Feed my sheep." "Feed my lambs." "Take care of my sheep."

That is my primary role as pastor.

I seek to feed you by careful, studied, prayer-filled reflections on the Scripture.

I seek to feed you, by listening to what you have to say, not just to "hear you out" but to better understand you and what you hunger for in your spiritual life.

I seek to care for you by standing beside you, both literally and figuratively, when life is challenging, or frightening, or filled with sorrow or anxiety or immense joy.

I seek to feed you a steady diet of reminders that God, who created you, loves you with an unfathomable love. That it is God's boundless love for you that led Jesus to the cross and then to the Resurrection, so that we might be free from our slavery to sin and death. That the love of God is the Holy Spirit that fills you and is perfecting you for a life of loving others the way that God loves you.

I am also still being perfected in this life as a follower of Christ and in my call as a shepherd to Christ's flock in this place, and I invite your accountability to both.

May God's grace be sufficient for us all in this season of being resurrected with Christ,

Rev. Amanda L. Baker

## MISSIONS

Laura Dickinson, Chair, [ldinbc@gmail.com](mailto:ldinbc@gmail.com)

**May 05 - Cinco de Mayo** - The Missions team will be sponsoring the annual taco dinner after the 10:45 service this Sunday, May 5th. We will be serving in Fellowship Hall. Wonderful desserts will be available in the post-dinner auction. All proceeds go to support the youth mission trip to Tennessee this year. Come enjoy great food and being in fellowship with one another while supporting our youth.

**Food Pantry - Thank you** to all who sustain the food pantry throughout the year with prayers, donations, funds and time. The pantry is open every Saturday from 9 -11. Volunteers from BFUMC and the community assure for the ongoing work of the pantry. If you are interested in becoming a volunteer with the pantry, contact Laura Dickinson at [ldinbc@gmail.com](mailto:ldinbc@gmail.com).

**CREATION STEWARDSHIP** - excerpt from article by Heather Bennett. Heather Bennett is the Executive Director of [Blessed Earth Tennessee](#). Their mission is to inspire and equip Christians to become better stewards of the earth. Heather received her M.S. in Sustainability from Lipscomb University in 2014. She is married to Rev. Ryan Bennett, pastor of First United Methodist Church in Lebanon, TN, and they have an eight-year-old son.

### How Can We Live Sustainably?

- First, REFUSE. If you don't need it don't buy it. If you don't need it don't take it. This includes food.
- Second, if you can't REFUSE then REDUCE. Reduce the amount you need.
- Third, if you can't REFUSE or REDUCE then REUSE.
- Fourth, if you can't REFUSE, REDUCE, or REUSE then RECYCLE. Recycling is probably the most popular, but recycling is energy intensive. Think about the transportation, energy and water involved in the process.
- Fifth, if you can't REFUSE, REDUCE, REUSE or RECYCLE then ROT. That's just an R word for compost.
- Sixth is pretty special: REST. This one is not dependent upon the others. Every week practice REST. When we rest, we're not driving or engaging in commerce. We're probably going to enjoy some time outside. For Christians, this day would include spending time in God's word and in God's creation.

Living an environmentally friendly life is a response to a loving Creator. Now when I pick up trash along a roadside, I know that it's both a practical way of showing my love for God and neighbor, and a spiritual practice that brings a slice of heaven to earth.

*Oh God, deliver us from apathy, that we may greet that of you in every person and know the place where we are standing to be holy ground. Amen.*  
**Common Prayer**



Sat., May 4	9:00 a.m.	UMW Executive Meeting – Library
Wed., May 15	1:30 p.m.	Dorcas Circle – Vintage Park
Thurs., May 23	7:00 p.m.	Eve Circle – Kathleen Thomas'

**Dear Baldwin FUMC Church Family –**

*I want to thank you all for such a special reception and recognition for me on Sunday, April 14<sup>th</sup>. I was deeply touched by the outpouring of love shown to me in honor of 14+ years of ministry as Children's Ministry Director.*

**Ecclesiastes 3:1 (NIV) "There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens."**

*Truly, there is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens. I am so thankful to God for the unexpected opportunity to serve as Children's Ministry Director at Baldwin FUMC. When I was invited by Pastor Pam Morrison to serve as Children's Ministry Director, I had never considered leading Children's Ministries. After much prayer and conversation, I trusted God's leading and set forth into a ministry that has brought me so much joy as I served my God and the children and families of Baldwin FUMC. 14 years passed so quickly!*

*And just as God unexpectedly lead me into ministry at Baldwin FUMC, He once again worked unexpectedly.... guiding me and calling me to a new opportunity. For several months, during my quiet times reading scripture and praying, God was preparing my heart that a change would be coming in my life. I sensed Him telling me that a move would be coming in the near future. I felt Him telling me to trust Him and be willing to go where He asked me. And, then He opened up the opportunity for me to accept a position as Children's Ministry Director at Worden UMC.*

*While my heart is heavy to leave the church my family and I have called our home for 16 years, I have complete peace that God has a greater plan for ALL of us. I am grateful for the season God gave my family and me at Baldwin FUMC. I thank you all for loving us and being Christ to us. It was a beautiful season. And now, I leave you all with a blessing for all God's truth and goodness to be with you all. I rejoice in knowing that even though we may not worship together on Sunday mornings, we are always family with God as our Father.*

**Much love in Christ,  
 Shelly**

## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

**\*\*KidMinistry Sunday School:** Our KidMinistry Sunday School meets at 9:30. Kids ages 3 through 5<sup>th</sup> grade are invited to join us in our 3 Sunday School classes: PreK-KDG, 1st-3rd, and 4th-5th. We gather on the 2<sup>nd</sup> 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:** Our Children's Church ministry that takes place the 2nd and 3rd Sundays of the month during 10:45 worship will be taking a break the months of May, June, July, and August.

**\*Our KidMinistry needs YOU!** The bold print simply can't be BOLD enough! Our Kidministry needs 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 Cynthia Perez or Tricia Enright for more information. We are in specific need of adult nursery attendants! Prayerfully consider being a part of this faith-shaping ministry!*

**\*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](mailto:evadurand34@gmail.com)

Sunday, May 5:

**12:00pm Missions Committee Taco Bar Fundraiser**

All Youth will assist Missions Committee to provide set-up, serving, and clean-up for this all-community fundraising lunch. Funds raised will go towards 2019 Youth Mission WorkCamp to Chattanooga, TN.

**6:00-8:00pm Sr. High Youth Group/SENIOR CELEBRATION DINNER NIGHT!**

**NOTIFICATION ABOUT CANCELLATIONS AND DELAYS ...** 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](mailto:PastorABaker@gmail.com) and she will get you added.

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If you are receiving this by mail and have an email address ~ please let us know (594-6612 or office@baldwinfirst.org). Thank you.  
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**NEWS ITEMS FOR THE VINE NEED TO BE IN THE OFFICE  
BY THE EVENING OF CHURCH COUNCIL**

**May 2019**

<b>Sunday Services</b>	8:30 a.m. 9:30 a.m. 10:45 a.m.	<b>Traditional Worship - Sanctuary Sunday School Worship – Sanctuary</b>
<b>Last Sunday of the Month</b>	9:30 a.m. 10:45 a.m.	<b>Sunday School Blended Worship - Sanctuary</b>
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Monday</b>	7:00 p.m.	<b>Missions – Fellowship Hall</b>
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Monday</b>	7:00 p.m.	<b>Trustees – Library</b>
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Monday</b>	7:00 p.m.	<b>SPPRC – Library Finance – Chapel</b>
<b>4<sup>th</sup> Monday</b>	7:00 p.m.	<b>Church Council – Library</b>
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday</b>	1:00 p.m.	<b>Caregivers - Library</b>
<b>Each Wednesday</b>	7:00 p.m.	<b>Choir Rehearsal – (May 1 and May 8)</b>
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Saturday</b>	9:00 a.m.	<b>UMW Executive Meeting - Library</b>
<b>1st &amp; 3rd Saturdays</b>	7:30 a.m.	<b>United Methodist Men – Vintage Park</b>
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<b>Wed., May 1</b>	1:00 p.m.	<b>Caregivers – Library</b>
<b>Thurs., May 2</b>	11:00 a.m.	<b>Baker University Chapel - Sanctuary</b>
<b>Sat., May 4</b>	7:30 a.m. 9:00 a.m.	<b>United Methodist Men – Vintage Park United Methodist Women Executive Meeting – Library</b>
<b>Sun., May 5</b>	after church	<b>Annual Taco Dinner – Fellowship Hall</b>
<b>Mon., May 6</b>	7:00 p.m.	<b>Mission</b>
<b>Mon., May 13</b>	7:00 p.m.	<b>Trustees – Library</b>
<b>Wed., May 15</b>	1:30 p.m.	<b>Dorcas Circle – Vintage Park</b>
<b>Sat., May 18</b>	7:30 a.m.	<b>United Methodist Men – Vintage Park</b>
<b>Sun., May 19</b>		<b>Baker Baccalaureate <i>Everyone is welcome to come to support the students and extend hospitality to their parents and friends</i></b>
<b>Mon., May 20</b>	7:00 p.m.	<b>SPPRC – Library Finance – Chapel</b>
<b>Thurs., May 23</b>	7:00 p.m.	<b>Eve Circle – Kathleen Thomas’</b>
<b>Sun., May 26</b>	9:30 a.m. 10:45 a.m.	<b>Sunday School Combined Worship</b>
<b>May 29 – June 1</b>		<b>Great Plains Annual Conference</b>