



# 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**

**June & July 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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## Holy Unlikely

As Christians, we have self-identified for millennia as "Easter People" with good reason. Our most unique identifying trait as followers of Jesus is our belief that through the Resurrection, God has wholly and completely freed us from all bondage to death and sin. That's pretty remarkable stuff.

I would suggest, however, that as United Methodists, we are also "Pentecost People." The grounding of our faith is in the Resurrection, and the lived reality of our movement is in the unlikely and unpredictable work of the Holy Spirit. Our story is in the apostles sent out of the upper room speaking the good news in every language, so that every person in Jerusalem could hear and understand. Our story is in the unlikely community of folks dining together in simplicity and gladness in the early days of the church. Our story is in a movement that began with a precocious and meticulous group of college students who longed for a practical way to live their faith, and quickly swept thousands into bands and classes that changed the Church forever. Our story is with a Founder who was raised in the prim and proper high church worship of the Church of England, but had his heart "strangely warmed" in a seedy storefront church on Aldersgate street. Our story is in faithful, God-fearing, rule abiding folks who "submitted to be more vile" preaching on lawns and ordaining Bishops to carry the movement to the newborn United States. Our story is in the faith of Pioneering Americans who organized circuits to build churches, schools and hospitals across the expanding West.

Our story is one you couldn't plan if you tried. It is "Holy Unlikely"

Our worship series in the month of June is "Holy Unlikely" It will be based on work that I participated in creating as a member of a Worship Workshops group with Teresa Stewart, and it will give us 4 weeks to dive into the Holy absurdity of the birth of the church.

In July, We'll do a worship series on Living as Disciples: Loving God and Neighbor, using four stories from the book of Luke. I hope that both series will be a blessing in your lives.

Peace in Christ,  
Rev Amanda Baker

## Stewardship in the Summer Months

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I bring you some excellent news about your 2019 giving that I really want to celebrate with joy and thanksgiving! As of the close of April books, when 1/3 of the year had passed, our giving was right on track, having received 31% of our needed income to meet the budget we set for this year. Given the number of snow cancellations and just plain crummy weather we had this winter, this is a sign of your faithfulness and intentionality, and I want you to know that it does not go unnoticed by those you have entrusted with the care of the congregation's finances.

It is also only fair to be sure you understand that while our giving is right on pace with our budgeted needs, our expenses have outpaced the budget significantly in a couple of areas. Of course you are aware that we are in the midst of a kitchen renovation that simply couldn't wait any longer. You may not be as aware that we have also had significant boiler repair costs, a costly cleanup following last fall's sewage backup, and are now facing an urgent and necessary roof repairs to stop the leaking of water into the upstairs basement.

Figures on how these things are being paid for, where the Kay Parkin Building repair fund is being spent, and how you can help us care for our beautiful, historic building will be available in greater detail at church council on June 24, and available for broader distribution at that time. In the meantime, I urge you to consider helping us off-set the "summer slump" we often see in giving. There are a number of ways that you can do this. One, is to set up your pledged giving as "bill pay" through your bank. Then, your bank will regularly mail a check to the church at the intervals and amounts you designate. Another is simply to look at your calendar and plan ahead to see if it might be wise to write your offering check for a couple of weeks or the whole month, in order to meet your planned giving goals.

We hope that however you give, you do so with gladness, knowing that your gift is an opportunity to invest in the life and ministry of Baldwin First UMC as we seek to "Love God and our Neighbors as Disciples of Jesus Christ."

In God's Abundance,  
Rev. Amanda Baker

## MISSIONS

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

**FLOODS AND TORNADOES** are a harsh reality for many in this wet spring of 2019 and United Methodists are responding to be the hands and feet of Christ to those affected by these natural disasters. Would you like to help? Baldwin First UMC and the Missions team will be sponsoring a Disaster Response Training on June 30th at Baldwin First from 1 p.m. to 7 p.m. A simple meal will be provided for supper. When Lawrence and surrounding areas were hit with tornadoes last week, UMC responders were there immediately to offer assistance. Additional information will be available during the month of June or email Laura Dickinson if you are interested in the training - address above.

Pre-registration for the training is required. Once the registration site is up through the conference, it will be posted at church. There is a registration fee of \$25 that will cover badge, shirt, and other costs. There will be two background checks – Safe Gatherings through the conference (best to get this done before the training class) and UMCOR has a background check we will do in class – this is free and takes only 3-5 minutes.

**SAFE GATHERINGS INFO** - Safe Gatherings is a biblically-based boundary awareness and abuse prevention program developed to certify volunteer workers, staff and clergy, enabling them to work with children, youth and vulnerable adults. The annual conference program applies to all conference and district events, as well as all local church events and activities. By completing this certification program, individuals are authorized to work with children, youth and vulnerable adults in any church-related setting.

All individuals in the Great Plains Conference renewing or completing first-time certification will complete their education and certification process online.

Once registered with the online learning system, applicants are encouraged to complete the online training process for certification in 30 days. Training may be completed anytime, anywhere using the online system. Applicants may complete the training modules at their own pace and request reference letters electronically. Lay and clergy references are required as part of the certification process. State and national background checks are completed for each applicant. A Spanish language version is available. Allow 30 days for certification. Individuals can log on at any time to check on the status of their application.

The cost is \$35 for state and national background checks. Applicants are responsible for making a secure online payment to cover the cost of their background check. **CONTACT** [contact@safegatherings.com](mailto:contact@safegatherings.com) or 888-241-8258 for more information or with questions about the program.

Please note, if you want to volunteer and the costs of Safe Gatherings background checks or the registration for the training presents a barrier, contact Laura or Pastor Amanda to explore options.

**PEACE WITH JUSTICE Sunday** - June 16th - During Sunday School hour, come join a small group discussion in the chapel to explore how the social justice concerns that Jesus highlights in Matthew 25:31-46 affect our community. We will explore what peace with justice-based responses look like in our daily lives..

**FOOD PANTRY** - Father's Day bags will be assembled and distributed for those neighbors visiting the Food Pantry on June 15th. If you would like to donate items to include in the gift bags, there will be a tub in the narthex for deposit of items.

*The measure of our compassion lies not in our service to those on the margins, but in our willingness to see ourselves in kinship with them. - Gregory Boyle, S.J.*



### Old Fashioned Church Picnic

June 30, 2019 on the Church Lawn

(after church service)

*(In case of rain we will be in the Fellowship Hall)*

Bring a covered dish to share  
Drinks and place settings provided

Come for some Good Fellowship!

***SWIM PARTY – Come join in the fun at the Baldwin City Pool for Swim Party on July 12 from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.!***

## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Tricia Enright &amp; Cynthia Perez

### Children's Summer Sunday School...

"Regular" school may be out for the summer, but Sunday School will still be going strong! Don't miss out on fun and fellowship at Sunday School this summer from 9:30 - 10:30 a.m.! Kids grades Preschool - 5th grade will meet together in a one - room school format over the summer.

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

**\*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. During the school year 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.  
Invite your friends!***

At Roar VBS, kids explore God's goodness and celebrate a ferocious faith that powers them through this wild life.



**\*\*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, June 1:

6:00-8:00pm Sr. High Youth Group

WC PAYMENT: Mission Trippers: FINAL WorkCamp payment due today! Amount will depend on total funds raised.

Sunday, June 9:

10:45am Youth Mission Trip Camper Commissioning at Worship Service

12:00pm Youth Mission 2019 WorkCamper TOOL PACKING PARTY

6:00-8:00pm Sr. High Youth Group

June 15-June 22:

Youth Mission WorkCamp 2019 trip to Chattanooga, TN. *Payments due throughout year.*

Sunday, June 30:

5:00-6:00pm Youth Mission 2018 WorkCamper TOOL UN-PACKING PARTY

6:00-8:00pm Pizza and Sr. High Youth Group

July 7-July 11:

5:30-9:30pm nightly Children's Vacation Bible School / Service Opportunity for our Youth

**United States Census 2020 - Employment Opportunity** ... The U.S. Census Bureau is hiring now for temporary 2020 Census jobs. The pay is great -plus, the hours are flexible and training is paid. Check out these videos to learn more: <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLewV-zKXDZkjL0EFRiuFaAxxJBDY1uFCI>

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

**June & July 2019**

<b>Sunday Services</b>	8:30 a.m.	Traditional Worship - Sanctuary
	9:30 a.m.	Sunday School
	10:45 a.m.	Worship – Sanctuary
<b>Last Sunday of the Month</b>	9:30 a.m.	Sunday School
	10:45 a.m.	Blended Worship - Sanctuary
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Monday</b>	7:00 p.m.	Missions – Fellowship Hall
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Monday</b>	7:00 p.m.	Trustees – Library
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Monday</b>	7:00 p.m.	SPPRC – Library
		Finance – Chapel
<b>4<sup>th</sup> Monday</b>	7:00 p.m.	Church Council – Library
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday</b>	1:00 p.m.	Caregivers - Library
<b>1<sup>st</sup> &amp; 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturdays</b>	7:30 a.m.	United Methodist Men – Vintage Park

<b>May 29 – June 1</b>		Great Plains Annual Conference
<b>Sat., June 1</b>	7:30 a.m.	United Methodist Men – Vintage Park
<b>Mon., June 3</b>	7:00 p.m.	Mission
<b>Wed., June 5</b>	1:00 p.m.	Caregivers – Library
<b>Sun., June 9</b>	9:30 a.m.	Sunday School
	10:45 a.m.	Worship (one worship service today)
<b>Mon., June 10</b>	7:00 p.m.	Trustees – Library
<b>Sat., June 15</b>	7:30 a.m.	United Methodist Men – Vintage Park
<b>June 15 – 22</b>		Youth Mission Trip
<b>Mon., June 17</b>	7:00 p.m.	SPPRC – Library
		Finance – Chapel
<b>Mon., June 24</b>	7:00 p.m.	Church Council – Library
<b>Sun., June 30</b>	9:30 a.m.	Sunday School
	10:45 a.m.	Combined Worship
	After church	Picnic on the Lawn Potluck
	1 – 7:00 p.m.	Disaster Response Training – sponsored by Missions team
<b>Wed., July 3</b>	1:00 p.m.	Caregivers – Library
<b>Sat., July 6</b>	7:30 a.m.	United Methodist Men – Vintage Park
<b>Mon., July 8</b>	7:00 p.m.	Trustees
<b>Sun., July 7 – Thurs., July 11</b>	6 – 8 p.m.	Vacation Bible School
<b>Fri., July 12</b>	7 – 9 p.m.	All Church Swim Party at the Baldwin City Pool
<b>Mon., July 15</b>	6:30 p.m.	Caregivers Committee – Library
	7:00 p.m.	Finance – Chapel
<b>Sat., July 20</b>	7:30 a.m.	United Methodist Men – Vintage Park
<b>Mon., July 22</b>	7:00 p.m.	Church Council – Library
<b>Sun., July 28</b>	9:30 a.m.	Sunday School
	10:45 a.m.	Combined Worship