



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

September 2019

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

Neighboring as Discipleship

My earliest childhood memories were formed in an idyllic little neighborhood. It was a dead end street in Ashdown AR. It was a dead end because it backed up to a federally protected preserve of some kind. It seemed, to a very young me, that my mother knew everyone on our street. I can remember going with her to a neighbor's house a few times a week when that neighbor had a new (and very colicky baby). If the baby was sleeping, my mom and the neighbor would have coffee or tea or a Pepsi and chat. If the baby was awake (it was probably crying) my mom would "take a turn" She would coo and sing and bounce and sway and when the baby would relax (and usually fall asleep) reassurances would follow that it wasn't that she was "better at babies" but that we get into tension cycles with our own children. Other times it was dropping off a casserole or fresh baked bread to a neighbor who'd been ill, or the many neighbors that tag teamed to get my sister and me to school during the month long saga of chicken pox rolling through our home.

So- imagine my surprise that as an adult, I found it so hard to be that kind of neighbor. I knew that a friend across the country had fried Oreos at the local street fair, but didn't know the name of my next door neighbor. When my friends and colleague Adam Barlow Thompson started a non-profit dedicated to promoting better neighboring, I was intrigued.

What really took me by surprise though, was when I found that the changes I needed to make to be a better neighbor, were also the changes I longed to make to be a better disciple of Jesus Christ.

I needed to stop thinking in terms of scarcity of time, energy and resources, and start to think in terms of abundance of skills and creativity and community.

I needed to switch from a mind set of fierce independence (some of us are rather slow the "me-do-it" of toddlerhood, and adopt instead a mind set of strength in interdependence.

I needed to spend less time and mental energy in shame, guilt and resentment, and find restoration in the spiritual discipline of joy and celebration.

These are the changes of perspective we'll be exploring in our September worship series on the Key Ingredients of Neighboring and Discipleship.

And if you like what you see, you can learn a lot more by poking around at www.neighboringmovement.org

There's a podcast, weekly text challenges, and an insightful blog you can check out.

May God's Peace enfold you on this journey,
Rev Amanda L. Baker

MISSIONS

Laura Dickinson, Chair, ldinbc@gmail.com

The Flooding continues and the Hurricanes begin. The United Methodist Church also continues - **to be a presence with those affected following natural disasters.** The UMC is there with PRAYERS, volunteers, flood buckets, food, clean water, hygiene kits and a host of other ways. Most importantly, it is a reminder to those trying to put their lives back together, they are not forgotten. There are many ways to contribute. You can visit <https://advance.umcor.org> and select where you would like your dollars to go. When donations are given through the ADVANCE programs with the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR), 100% of the donation goes to support the designated project.

Last Sundays of each Month will become collection days for particular causes. This will be led by the BLAST crew. As September is Hunger Awareness month, the designated cause will be the Food Pantry. Please bring any non-perishable food item for donation on September 29th.

Active Military Care Packages. Thank you to all who contributed items for the Active Military Care packages. On Missions Sunday, 40+ packages were prepared for mailing. They will go out the first week of October. We are seeking the names and place of station for those you know who you would like a package to be sent. This link will take folks straight to a form where they can give us names and addresses for military personnel

<https://forms.gle/DKL6GgXwdDyFzct17>

MAPLE LEAF VOLUNTEERS needed – The annual chili and soup feed is ON, regardless of the status of the kitchen. Volunteers are greatly needed!!! We will need volunteers for set-up of Fellowship Hall on Friday, Preparation for the crowds on Saturday morning, Serving Shifts between 11 and 1 and clean up. A sign-up genius will be generated for folks to identify when and where they might volunteer. All funds from this endeavor are split between United Methodist Men and the Missions Committee for outreach and service projects throughout the year.

Until the great mass of the people shall be filled with the sense of responsibility for each other's welfare, social justice can never be attained. - Helen Keller

Prayer: *Lord, empower us to have great care for one another, in the same way that you care for us.*



**Saturday, September 7 9:00 a.m. UMW Executive Meeting
- Library**

Thurs., September 26 7:00 p.m. Eve Circle – Donna Curran's

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

tricia_enright@yahoo.com
cynthiaAperez1975@gmail.com

***KidMinistry Sunday School:** Preschool through 5th grade are invited to join us for Sunday School! Our KidMinistry Sunday School meets from 9:30am – 10:30am every Sunday. We gather on the 2nd floor of the church (one level up from the Sanctuary) and have 2 class levels available. Preschool age kids through 1st grade will gather together, while 2nd through 5th grade will gather together. We can't wait to see lots of kiddoes in Sunday School!

***Children's Church:** Our Children's Church ministry will resume from its summer break on September 8th during our 10:45 Worship Service. 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.

***Would you like to be a part of KidMinistry?** We are actively seeking volunteers to add to our wonderful group of Sunday School Teachers and Nursery Attendants. If you enjoy children and feel a calling to serve our youngest church family members, please reach out to Tricia Enright or Cynthia Perez for information on how you can be a part of this service to the church.

****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.**

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

CROSS CULTURE YOUTH MINISTRY

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

Sunday, September 8:

6:15 -8:00pm Jr. High Youth Group

6:15 -8:00pm Sr. High Youth Group

Sunday, September 15:

6:15 -8:00pm Jr. High Youth Group

6:15 -8:00pm Sr. High Youth Group

Sunday, September 22:

6:15 -8:00pm Jr. High Youth Group

6:15 -8:00pm Sr. High Youth Group

Wednesday, September 25: **See You At The Pole: "IF MY PEOPLE PRAY"** (not a Youth Ministry sponsored activity)

7:00am Student initiated. Student organized. Student led. Meet at your school flag pole to pray for your friends, family, school, community, and the world. For more info check out syatp.com.

Sunday, September 29:

9:00am Preparation Meeting for Youth-Led Worship Service

10:40am Youth-Led Worship Service, highlighting the 2019 Chattanooga, Tennessee Mission Trip

6:00-TBD Jr. High & Sr. High Youth Group Movie Night

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*If you are receiving this by mail and have an email address – please let us know your email address –
 (594-6612 or office@baldwinfirst.org). Thank you.*

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

September 2019

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 Blended Worship - Sanctuary
Each Sunday (Sept. 8 - Oct. 13)	9:30 a.m.	A Necessary Conversation
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
Each Wednesday	7:00 p.m.	Chancel Choir Rehearsal
1st Wednesday	1:00 p.m.	Caregivers – Library
1st Saturday	9:00 a.m.	UMW Executive Meeting - Library
1st & 3rd Saturdays	7:30 a.m.	United Methodist Men – Vintage Park

Tues., Sept. 3	7:00 p.m.	Missions
Wed., Sept. 4	1:00 p.m.	Caregivers – Library
Sat., Sept. 7	7:30 a.m.	United Methodist Men – Vintage Park
	9:00 a.m.	United Methodist Women Executive Meeting – Library
Mon., Sept. 9	7:00 p.m.	Trustees – Library
Mon., Sept. 16	7:00 p.m.	SPPRC – Library Finance – Chapel
Sat., Sept. 21	7:30 a.m.	United Methodist Men – Vintage Park
Mon., Sept. 23	7:00 p.m.	Church Council – Library
Thurs., Sept. 26	7:00 p.m.	Eve Circle – Donna Curran’s
Sun., Sept. 29	9:30 a.m.	Sunday School
	10:45 a.m.	Combined Worship