

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

# *The Vine*

APRIL 2020 NEWSLETTER



Beloved Children of God,

Fourteen years ago, when I began my seminary education, I never imagined any scenario in which I would be attempting to pastor without physically gathering with the congregation. I am so deeply appreciative of the love and care you have shown one another and the grace and patience you have shown me in this time.

I am counting on you to help me make sure that all of our community, members, attendees, and neighbors, have the care they need in this time. Do you know someone who could use a pastoral phone call? Please pass that information to me, I want to continue to care for every last one of you.

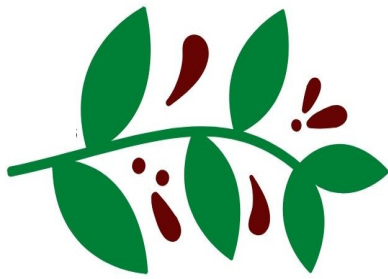
As I think about all the many emotions that I am experiencing in this time, particularly in the face of spending Holy Week at a distance from one another, I am reminded that we are loved by a God who cares for the whole of who we are.

Easter is miraculous because of the incarnation- God's selfless choice to enter the fullness of human experience, including suffering and death, and to show us through the death and resurrection of Jesus that God's love is bigger even than suffering and sin and death, so that we might be assured of our eternal life with a loving God. Even while we learn to find joy and peace in the midst of suffering and fear, let me caution you that being people of faith does not mean that we are not allowed to have the full range of human emotions.

The scripture offers us plentiful examples of bringing our whole selves to God, particularly in the Psalms. Even Jesus referenced the Psalms to express his own experiences. My friend and colleague Jacob Cloud has created this infographic, and I offer it now as a gift to you. Use it to allow yourself to bring the fullness of your experiences before God, trusting that the eternal one is big enough to take it all in stride, as a perfectly loving and patient parent would.

(con't on next page)





# RESTING IN THE PSALMS

Words of hope and peace.



## PSALM 16:1-2

Protect me, O God, for in you I take refuge. I say to my LORD, You are my LORD I have no good apart from you.

## PSALM 13:1-2;5-6

How long, O LORD? Will you forget me forever? How long will you hide your face from me? How long must I bear pain in my soul, and have sorrow in my heart all day long? How long shall my enemy be exalted over me?

But I trust in your steadfast love; my heart shall rejoice in your salvation. I will sing to the LORD, because he has dealt bountifully with me.

## PSALM 18:1-3

I love you, O LORD, my strength. The LORD is my rock, my fortress, and my deliverer, my God, my rock in whom I take refuge, my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold. I call upon the LORD who is worthy to be praised, so shall I be saved from my enemies.

## PSALM 22:9-11

Yet it was you who took me from the womb; you kept me safe on my mother's breast. On you I was cast from my birth, and since my mother bore me you have been my God. Do not be far from me, for trouble is near and there is no one to help.

## PSALM 23:4

Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and staff- they comfort me.

## PSALM 25:16-18

Turn to me and be gracious to me, for I am lonely and afflicted. Relieve the troubles of my heart, and bring me out of my distress. Consider my affliction and my trouble, and forgive my sins.

## PSALM 27:4-5

One thing I asked of the LORD, that will I seek after: to live in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the LORD and to inquire in his temple. For he will hide me in his shelter in the day of trouble; he will conceal me under the cover of his tent; he will set me high on a rock.

## PSALM 28:6-7

Blessed be the LORD, for he has heard the sound of my pleadings. The LORD is my strength and my shield; in him my heart trusts; so I am helped, and my heart exults, and with my song I give thanks to him.

Grace and Peace be abundant in your life,  
Rev. .Amanda L Baker





FOOD PANTRY HOURS ARE EVERY SATURDAY 10AM  
LAURA DICKINSON, MISSIONS CHAIR., [LDINBC@GMAIL.COM](mailto:LDINBC@GMAIL.COM)

**Grace of Les Miserables Bible study** via zoom:

<https://zoom.us/j/194830902?pwd=ak1Mb2dxVm9FUmd6ODA3eGZYWXpKdz09>

Meeting ID: 194 830 902      Password: Grace

**FOOD PANTRY** - During this time of COVID-19, the food pantry is closed. Alternatively, the pantry will be providing weekly vouchers for the purchase of grocery items at the BC Market. We will provide vouchers in a drive-through fashion each Saturday in the church parking lot from 10 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. If you would like to assist with the distribution of the vouchers, please send an email to [ldinbc@gmail.com](mailto:ldinbc@gmail.com). There are no open pantry hours for shopping. In light of these changes, we invite your support of the pantry with monetary donations instead of food items.

**LINK** - The BFUMC will serve at LINK on April 25. COVID -19 has transformed the meal service program and the meals are now provided as to-go dinners. Volunteers are needed to assist. If you are interested in helping, please contact Nancy Arnold at [arnoldn448@gmail.com](mailto:arnoldn448@gmail.com).

**LOVE PACKAGES** to college students - Again, COVID-19 has changed how students are learning and from what location. The Missions Team will not be gathering goodies to send to our college students, but still want to encourage and support students as they close out their spring semester. We will instead send cards of support with some other types of goodies. If you are interested in helping write cards, please contact Laura at [ldinbc@gmail.com](mailto:ldinbc@gmail.com).

**DO GOOD FRIDAY** - We are in hopes of going forward with this activity, dependent upon weather. The work will involve yard clean up for at least one older community member, possibly two. Bring a rake, gloves and come alongside to help while maintaining safe distances. If you are interested in helping, please send an email to [ldinbc@gmail.com](mailto:ldinbc@gmail.com) for details.

*Where can we shine light in the darkness and despair of COVID-19 and truly be emblematic of the Spirit of Christ?*

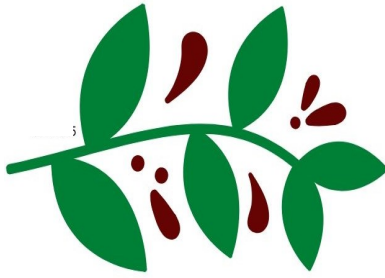
***Good Lord, You hold all our times precious. Now we submit to you our seasons of despair and our seasons of hope for your safe-keeping and blessing. Amen.***

***~Walter Brueggemann***



**OUR MISSION IS TO LOVE AND SERVE GOD AND OUR NEIGHBORS AS DISCIPLES OF JESUS CHRIST**

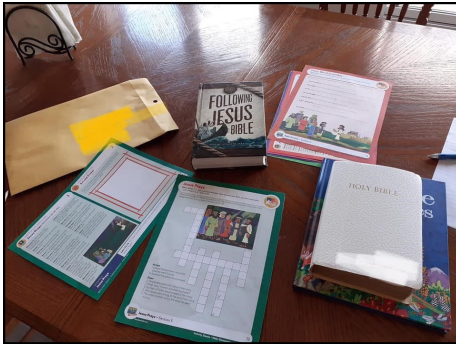




## Kids Ministry

CYNTHIA PEREZ, [CYNTHIAAPEREZ1975@GMAIL.COM](mailto:CYNTHIAAPEREZ1975@GMAIL.COM)

TRICIA ENRIGHT, [TRICIA\\_ENRIGHT@YAHOO.COM](mailto:TRICIA_ENRIGHT@YAHOO.COM)



KIDMinistry at Baldwin First United Methodist Church will have Sunday School Zoom @9:30.

If you know a kiddo who wants to join us but did not get a packet, please email Pastor Amanda.

## B.L.A.S.T. Zoom Crew

BELIEVING. LOVING. AND. SERVING. TOGETHER.

BRAD PETERSON, [PETERSONBRAD@HOTMAIL.COM](mailto:PETERSONBRAD@HOTMAIL.COM)

ANGELA MURRAY, [MURRAYSLANDING@GMAIL.COM](mailto:MURRAYSLANDING@GMAIL.COM)

9:30AM Sundays: <https://kansas.zoom.us/j/453003359> Password: BLAST

JOIN BY PHONE: 312 626 6799 US (Chicago) Meeting ID: 453 003 359

Please sign up for the 2020 Mowing sign up List. This begins now and goes through October. Volunteers are to bring their own lawn mower and are asked to mow on Thursdays. Not e to mow to a height of no less that 4". Sign up here:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60b0b4caaa928abfd0-2020>



ADMIN NOTES: NEWS ITEMS FOR THE VINE NEED TO BE IN THE OFFICE BY THE EVENING OF THE FOURTH MONDAY OF THE MONTH. IF YOU ARE RECEIVING THIS NEWSLETTER BY MAIL AND HAVE AN EMAIL PLEASE LET THE OFFICE KNOW YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS (594-6612) TO HELP ALLEVIATE MAILING COSTS. CHURCH OFFICE HOURS ARE 9 TO 2 MONDAY & WEDNESDAY FOR THE NEAR TERM. THANK YOU.



OUR MISSION IS TO LOVE AND SERVE GOD AND OUR NEIGHBORS AS DISCIPLES OF JESUS CHRIST



# Calendar

## April 2020

Remember that because our Facebook page is public, it can be accessed even if you do not have a Facebook account use this link:

<https://www.facebook.com/baldwinfirstumc/>

### MONTHLY SCHEDULE

Please contact your leaders of regularly scheduled meetings for information on times and information on meeting venue.

**Palm Sunday Worship (April 5)** Online via Facebook Page and YouTube, and by link on the webpage. Folks of all ages are asked to take a picture or 10 sec video with a homemade Palm Branch or a sign that says "Hosanna" and send it to Pastor Amanda via email, text, or FB messenger by Friday 4/3/2020. We will use these in worship on Sunday. You can help one another participate through storm doors/screen doors if needed. Be creative, but keep safety your first objective! If you would like to print a palm branch you may use this one:

<https://illustratedmin.s3.amazonaws.com/weekly-resources/PalmColoring.pdf>

The following **Holy Week Services** will be available on our Facebook Page, either live or as a "premiere".

**Holy Thursday (April 9) 6:30pm**

**Good Friday (April 10) 6:30pm (See Do-Good-Friday under Mission's Column)**

**Easter Morning (April 12)**

**Sunrise Devotion 6:30AM**

**Easter Worship 10:45AM**

Please direct all prayer requests to the office or Linda Ballinger, Caregivers Chair., [lindababe43@gmail.com](mailto:lindababe43@gmail.com)



BALDWIN  
FIRST  
UNITED  
METHODIST  
CHURCH  
704 8th Street, P. O. Bx 25  
Baldwin City, KS 66006  
(Phone: 785.594.6612)

