the Vine

baldwin first
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

*"I am the vine, you are the branches.
He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit;
for without Me you can do nothing."* John 15:5

Newsletter • October

As I see it.....



Coltin Thomas and I recently had the opportunity to go on a mission trip to Kenya and it was an experience that I will never forget. I go to Kenya nearly every year but on this recent trip, I learned even more about God. During our time there, we were able to serve others, share God's love, and learn from the people and especially children. We could see the sincerity in their eyes of connecting with God.

One of the meaningful parts of our trip was visiting Umoja Children's Home in Bomet town. We were able to spend time with the children, encourage them, and show them that they are loved and cared for. Their smiles and joy reminded me that sometimes the simplest things, such as spending time with someone and giving them attention, can make a lasting difference.

We also visited two churches where we had the opportunity to minister to children. It was special to see their excitement and willingness to participate in praising God with beautiful music, and they shared a number of memory verses with us until we had to stop them because it was getting dark. Even though Coltin came from a different culture and background, he was able to connect with local people through faith. These experiences reminded me that God's love reaches across cultures and borders.

Another important part of our mission was teaching villagers how to purify water. This showed me that missions are not only about sharing words, but also about meeting practical needs. Clean and safe water is something many of us take for granted, so being able to teach people a simple way to make their water safer helped me understand the importance of serving people in practical ways.

During my time in Kenya, I learned that a mission trip is not just about what we can give to others. It is also about what we receive and learn from the people we meet. The kindness, faith, and joy of the people in my Kenyan village impacted me deeply. Many things reminded me about being a Kenyan, from tea plantations and family photographs to eating chicken, chapati, eggs, ugali, listening to the music, and many other shared traditions.

My trip to Kenya this time strengthened my faith and gave me a greater desire to continue helping others not only in Kenya, but also here in America and other places. I am thankful for the opportunity to serve, for the people I met, and for everything God taught me. The memories and lessons I learned in the mission trip will stay with me for a long time.

Thank you to Baldwin First members and friends who made it possible for us to go on the mission trip. Without the support, we couldn't afford financially to buy water purification kits, 20 liter water buckets, pencils, children's underwear, hats, scuffs, candy, and food for the children.

There is a great deal to say about the recent Kenya mission trip. The worship committee and I will meet and plan for the day Coltin and I can give a report.

Shalom!

Pastor Ezekiel













SUNDAY WORSHIP

Worship	9:30 am
Sunday School	10:45 am
BLAST JH/HS Group	
Adult Bible Studies	10:45 am
Young Adult Bible Study	10:45 am

Childcare service for Pre-K and under is available in the lower level across from Fellowship Hall.

Children's bags can be borrowed during service. They may be found in the narthex.

UPCOMING EVENTS

October 1 & November 5
Just Food Teen Cooking Class

October 14
UWF Book Study 6:30 p.m., Library

October 10 & 24
Men's Group, 8:30 a.m., Ives Chapel
Food Pantry, 9-10:30 a.m.

October 17 - 18 (Maple Leaf)
Baldwin First Chili Feed, 11 - 2 p.m.
No Service October 18

October 19
Leadership Team Meeting, 7 p.m.

October 24
LINK

October 31
Hometown Halloween

November 14
UWF Turkey Dinner, 5 - 7 p.m.

November 18
UWF Book Study, 6:30 p.m., Library

November 19
Baker Chapel @ BFUMC, 11 a.m.

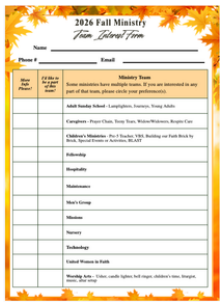
November 22
Hanging of the Greens & Chili Feed

Sunday School Schedule

OCTOBER 4	Sunday School
OCTOBER 11	No Sunday School
OCTOBER 18	No Sunday School or church at BFUMC- Maple Leaf Weekend
OCTOBER 25	Sunday School
NOVEMBER 1	Sunday School
NOVEMBER 8	Sunday School

Ministry Sunday Teams Forming Now

It's not too late to join a ministry team for 2026-27! If you were not able to complete a form last Sunday, click on the graphic at the right to connect you to the digital sign up form.



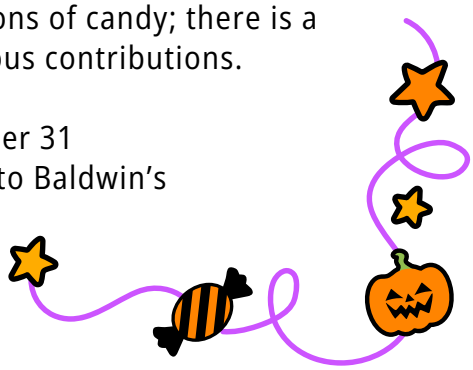
Ministry Sunday Pot Luck

Approximately 70 congregants and guess enjoyed an old-fashioned pot luck dinner following service on September 27. A variety of meats, casseroles, salads, and deserts graced the tables in Fellowship Hall. It is certain that no one left hungry!

Hometown Halloween Trunk & Treat

Halloween is just around the corner, and Baldwin First will be participating in Trunk or Treat. The Hospitality/Fellowship team would very much appreciate your donations of candy; there is a bag in the narthex to receive your generous contributions.

You are also welcome to join us on October 31 from 5-6:30 pm as we hand out goodies to Baldwin's youngest tricksters!



Leadership Team

Jeanne Stanley, Chair
Ryan Berg
Susan Butell
Mike Curran
Christi Darnell
Martha Harris
Marcia O'Neil
Frank Perez
Glen Sharp
Katherine Cook, Secretary
Coleen Burgess, Finances

CONTACT US

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Office Hours
Tuesday - Thursday
10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Website
baldwinfirst.org

Social Media
@baldwinfirstumc

BALDWIN FIRST

Maple Leaf Chili Feed



Baldwin First will once again host a chili feed for Maple Leaf on Saturday, October 17. Hot dogs will also be served. The event will run from 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. unless food is sold out prior to 2 p.m.

Workers and donations are needed. See the sign up sheet in the narthex or use the QR code.

Thanks to Marcia O'Neil, Lori George, and Marilee Beins for organizing this event!

Baker Chapel Held @ Baldwin First

Rev. Blake Stanwood, Baker Chaplain and pastor at Garnett UMC, joyfully welcomed all Baker students, staff, and guests to Baldwin First on Thursday, September 24, for the weekly Baker Chapel.

The Baker Choir, under the direction of Mackenzie Ellis, performed three beautiful pieces during chapel. Snippets of the choir may be heard by viewing the movie on the website.

Rev. Stanwood drew attention to the stain glass windows at the front of the sanctuary and their meaning in Revelations. Together, they picture the complete character of Christ as King (lion), Servant (ox), Man (human face), and God (eagle)

Rev. Stanwood thanked Baldwin First for their hospitality and how special it was to have chapel in such a beautiful church.

A sack lunch of sloppy joes, chips, a brownie, and water was given to attendees by the Men's Group. Everyone was very grateful for their generosity!





LOVE.SERVE.DISCIPLE.

Since 1855, the mission of Baldwin First UMC is to love and serve God and our neighbors as disciples of Jesus Christ.

ALL ARE WELCOME

Believing that all persons are created by God and loved through and by Jesus Christ, the people of Baldwin First United Methodist Church understand that our neighbors include persons of all ages, races, ethnicities, genders, sexual orientation and identity, economic or marital status, and physical and mental condition, and are welcome to participate in the life of our congregation.



A Welcoming Nursery

"It is a pleasure to have three young women caring for the children in the nursery this fall. Separation from a parent can be difficult for a child, even for a short time, but being greeted by a familiar face makes a meaningful difference," said Barbara Pressgrove. Barbara has been the directory of the nursery for three years. "Because the young women already know the children, they can quickly reassure them and ease their fears. Before long, everyone is happily playing with trains, solving puzzles, or building with blocks—and all is well."



Barbara



Anna

Anna Rolland is a senior at Baldwin High School. She is the daughter of Jennifer Stratham and Floyd Rolland. She is often seen at church with her grandmother Janice Swallow. Anna has been a teacher at Baldwin Creative Arts, a head lifeguard, and a water safety instructor. She is very involved in numerous activities, and is the captain of the BHS Cheer Team. In her free time, Anna enjoys embroidery, reading, and spending time with family and friends.

"I want to be positive role model for young kids and also gain more experience working with kids."

Annette Perez has been seen volunteering around Baldwin First for many years. She is the daughter of Cynthia & Frank Perez. Anna attends the University of Missouri-Kansas City and is majoring in Fine Arts in Dance and Choreography. She has been a nanny and an instructor at Baldwin Creative Arts. She enjoys helping others, is a good listener, is hard-working, and organized.



Annette

"My favorite part of working with kids is being able to make memorable moments and an overall experience for them."



Isabel

Isabel Perez is a recognizable girl who has volunteered for many events at Baldwin First. She is the daughter of Cynthia & Frank Perez. Isabel is a junior at BHS. She is on the BHS dance team, tennis team, and is in band and choir. Isabel is highly motivated, caring, and is a responsible team player. She strives to do her best in paying attention to details and ensuring tasks are done correctly.

"I love working in the nursery because I get to see the kids playing and having fun in church!"

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Jill Dodge, Marcia O'Neil,
Amy Berg, Cynthia Perez
Barbara Pressgrove, Nursery
Angela Murry, BLAST Leader

TECHNOLOGY TEAM

Dr. Frank Perez, Mixer/Editor
Ryan Berg, Worship Technology

WORSHIP TEAM

Pam Sharp
Cynthia Perez
Donna Curran
Kathleen Thomas

Just Cook Class For Teens

Baldwin First's Mission Team will be hosting its first teen cooking class on October 1. Participants will learn to cook a meal and will be supplied ingredients to cook a delicious meal at home. The next class will be on November 5. Use the QR code to sign up!

Playground Gets New Look!

As All Saints' Day approaches, we remember our dear friend Tim, whose generous spirit continues to bless our church and the Baldwin City community.

Through the Timothy Newacheck Memorial, Tim's legacy of quiet generosity has touched many lives, supporting meaningful causes through the people and places he cared about—from the Boy Scouts and the library to the BHS scholarship program and Hall of Fame, the food pantry, and now our church playground fence. We are grateful for the gift of Tim's life and for the many ways his kindness continues to make a difference.

Oread Landscaping has installed a new fence. New pea gravel and landscape timbers will be the next step.









MISSIONS TEAM

Susan Butell
Nancy Arnold
Marilee Beins
John Beins
Coleen Burgess
Kelley Bethell-Smith
Martha Harris
Robin Schrack
Corey Schrack

FELLOWSHIP / HOSPITALITY

Linda Ballinger
Trish Batchelder, Co-Chair
Randi Canterbury
Sheryl Cleverley
Katherine Cook, Co-Chair
Christi Darnell
Jill Dodge
Jennifer Fulton
Lori George
Carolyn Groves
Kay Kuhlmann
Peggy McMillon
Marcia O'Neil
Jeanne Stanley
Kathleen Thomas
Janet Venable
Tara Welch, Co-Chair
Letha Williamson