



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

*The Vine*

APRIL 2022 NEWSLETTER



## Easter Thoughts

Friends, I am so excited to share Holy Week and Easter with you.

I have gotten asked if it's hard to be planning Good Friday and Easter worship at the same time. They feel like such opposite ends of the emotional spectrum. And it is. It is hard to inhabit both places with my head and my heart.

But it occurs to me that's part of the beauty of it all.

When Mary woke early in the morning on the third day--she hadn't shaken off the heaviness of the week's events. She wasn't ready for lightness and joy. In fact, her heart is so heavy she can't even recognize Jesus when she sees him. .

Easter is always a shock.

Resurrection is the ultimate surprise. It comes amidst our grief. Right in the middle of the cemetery. May it be so for you this year. Come, in the midst of whatever grief and weight you are carrying, and let the whole of human existence be redeemed in your life this Easter.

See you at sunrise (ish) (at Sullivan Park).

Rev Pastor Amanda Baker



## Holy Week



BALDWIN FIRST  
United Methodist Church



**Palm Sunday**

Sanctuary 9:30 AM



**Maundy Thursday**

Livestream 7 PM



**Good Friday**

Sanctuary 7 PM



**Easter Sunrise**

Sullivan Square 7 AM



**Easter Sunday**

Sanctuary 9:30 AM

NANCY ARNOLD, CHAIR., [ARNOLDN448@GMAIL.COM](mailto:ARNOLDN448@GMAIL.COM)  
COUNCIL MINUTES AND FINANCIAL UPDATE (BRAD PETERSON, CHAIR.,  
PETERSONBRAD@HOTMAIL.COM) ARE SUBSEQUENTLY POSTED ONE MONTH LATER  
UPON APPROVAL.



**Baldwin First United Methodist Church**  
**February 28, 2022 ~via Zoom**

**Attendees Staff:** Reverend Amanda Baker Council Members: Council Chair Nancy Arnold, Linda Ballinger, Doug Cheek, Donna Curran, Laura Dickinson, Darren Lawrenz, Brad Peterson, Kathleen Thomas, Guest: Marve Ralston, Advisory Member: Katherine Cook

**Opening:** Nancy called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. Minutes Doug moved to accept the minutes from January. Brad seconded the motion; the motion carried. **Finances:** Brad addressed payments of major expenses. The running checking account looks positive at this time.

**SPPRC:** Cat is recovering from surgery. Information for “The Vine” can be shared with Samantha.

**Caregivers:** Linda shared that approximately 225 sets of the Teeny Tears items have been donated.

**Missions:** Lenten materials should be arriving via mail. Vouchers and bags of food items are being given out at the food pantry. Requests will go out for laundry detergent for the Lenten season. We can expect to see information regarding refugee relief in the coming days.

**Worship:** “Ashes on the go” will take place Wednesday from 7 a.m.-1 p.m. Kathleen is recruiting volunteers. Holy week will have a variety of activities including a palm parade. Although there will be virtual service on Maundy Thursday, Good Friday will be observed. Easter will begin with a sunrise service at 7:00 a.m. at Sullivan Square. Ives Chapel will host a breakfast at 8:00. Regular services will follow. Communion will be offered at both services.

**United Women of Faith (UMW):** The Spring meeting will be April 30th at 9:30. The ladies plan to fill 15 purses with necessary items. Future meetings will be held 3-4 times annually rather than monthly.

**VBS “Being Fed in the Word of God”** will be the theme of a VBS Food Truck Party held on July 17-21 from 6-8 p.m. Donna is getting her crew together; volunteers are welcome.

**Lay Leader:** Doug will offer a state of the church address on Sunday, March 6th. In April, he will attend a meeting on the one-board-model.

**Trustees:** Darren shared that the boiler is installed and is working well. Other improvements will be necessary for the system to function perfectly. Nancy asked about a plan for ice and snow removal, including sharing information so those interested in helping can be informed. There was a meeting with MSM and the electrician regarding audio-visual equipment. They are awaiting final numbers on additional lighting and electrical expenses.

**Pastor’s Moment:** Pastor Amanda will be contacting Wesleyan Investive for a final update.

**Council Chair:** There are ample Covid tests to offer additional dates to serve the community. We will need to determine when and how we would like to relax our mask mandates. Backup procedures for emergency worship are being established by the worship committee.

**Closing:** Pastor Amanda offered a closing prayer at 7:58.

Respectfully submitted, Katherine Cook

**Most Current Financial Update:**

The 2022 Budget \$159,300 (with averaged contribution amount needed  
each month to meet annual budget: \$13,276.00)  
total contributions received for the month of February 10425.87.



<https://baldwinfirst.org/give-online>  
to a designated fund: general funds, food pantry, or Capital Campaign



## **LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR activities for April and May 2022**

**BU Chapel Meal** BFUMC Missions will be serving lunch after Chapel at Baker on April 7<sup>th</sup>. Pastor Amanda will be preaching that morning - might be a fun day to go to Chapel at Baker University. John Beins is the meal chef.

**LINK** BFUMC will serve at LINK on April 23

**Activities** planned for 4-24-22 following church service during Sunday School hour

**USD 348 Appreciation** – Please join in writing thank-you notes to all those involved with education in Baldwin City. We want teachers, paras, support staff, school board members, bus drivers, coaches, janitors, all who have continued through 2 years of incredible challenge to know they are appreciated. Cards will be supplied and ready for personal notations. Staff Appreciation Day is May 06<sup>th</sup> and the cards will be distributed for that day.

**MAY Day baskets** for Vintage Assisted Living and Baldwin Care Center – We will be preparing small May Day baskets for delivery to the facilities on May Day. We will work on these as well on 4-24-22.

**Boy Scout Food Drive** – The local BSA is doing their spring food drive. if you would like to help with the donations getting culled and shelved, this will be occurring Saturday morning, April 2 at 9:30 a.m.

**UMCOR UKRAINE AID** – At this time, all gifts to UMCOR's International Disaster Response and Recovery Advance will be used to assist those who remain in Ukraine and those who have fled the violence to neighboring nations. Gifts can be made in the following ways:

Online at <https://umcmmission.org/advance-project/982450>

By toll-free telephone call: 1-888-252-6174

By check made out to Global Ministries/UMCOR with "Advance #982450-Ukraine" in the memo line & mailed to Global Ministries/UMCOR, GPO, PO Box 9068, New York, New York 10087-9068 or by check made out to Global Ministries/UMCOR with "Advance #982450-Ukraine" written on the memo line and given to any United Methodist Church

**April 25<sup>th</sup>** – World Malaria Day – Giving thanks and acknowledgement for the efforts of the UMC Imagine No Malaria initiative in working toward the goal of eliminating malaria in the world in our lifetime. Just a few short years ago, statistics showed a child died every **30** seconds of malaria. Today, because of much dedication and support, it is every **60** seconds that malaria claims a life. The numbers are improving but there is still work to be done. The people of the United Methodist Church have a powerful record of joining together to develop a commanding response to issues of need and continue on the path to elimination of this unnecessary

**April 23<sup>rd</sup>** – **Festival of God's Creation/Earth Day** – The United Methodist Church designates one Sunday each year, generally the Sunday closest to Earth Day (April 22), as a Festival of God's Creation, celebrating God's gracious work in creating the earth and all living things. Reflect and choose individual ways to make a difference throughout the year in sustaining our earth. Genesis says it was God who created the very First Earth Day: "The second day God said, 'Let there be space to divide the waters into two parts.' And it was so. God called the space Sky. 'Let the waters under the sky be gathered together into one place and let dry land appear.' ... God called the dry land Earth and the waters that were gathered together, Seas. God saw that it was good." Genesis 1:9-10, New Revised Standard Version

On April 22, 1970, the United States began celebrating Earth Day annually, creating a movement that now motivates people around the world to use the day to consider the planet, demonstrate their love for it and enact ways to protect it. Organizers anticipate more than one billion people around the globe will take part in events this year engaging in environmental issues. Additional information for your consideration will be posted on the downstairs bulletin board and available on the table in the Narthex.



**There will be a Brunch during the Sunday School hour on Easter Sunday, April 17, and an Easter Egg Hunt. Please bring a dish to share for the brunch.**

**United Women in Faith  
(UMW)**



United  
Women  
in Faith

All Women of the Church  
are invited to the Spring meeting  
“Growing our Faith by serving others”

Saturday, April 30, 9:30AM  
Fellowship Hall  
BFUMC

Kansas Grown  
**Easter Lilies**  
**\$16**  
Order Forms are located in the Narthex  
or call 594-2381 by April 10th  
Checks made out to - **In Bloom Too**  
or make a donation to the  
Community Emergency Fund

### Meanings of the Backdrop for Lent (continued from last month's newsletter)

In continuation of the symbolic meanings through the rest of the season of Lent, Baldwin First is displaying visual aids on a table in the sanctuary (added weekly and explained during children's time at each Sunday of Lent).

On Sunday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>, the fifth Sunday of Lent, A basin and ewer represent the act of Pilate as he washed his hands of the guilt of condemnation for himself and place it on the people.

The following Sunday, April 10, is Palm Sunday representing Jesus 'victorious entry into Jerusalem, palm branches were strewn and waved in front of Him with shouts of Hosannas.

April 14 or 15 (Maundy Thursday/Good Friday) a chalice, awns of wheat of bread and grapes indicate the symbols of the Last Supper. The twelve grapes symbolize the fruit that lasts, not only of the first disciples as well as for all the saints who live with Jesus down through the ages.



Camp Chippewa, a United Methodist summer camp in Ottawa, KS, is looking for summer staff. If you or someone you know is looking for work, Camp Chippewa is hiring. They need cooks, counselors, nurses, activity leaders, and many other positions. There are also volunteer opportunities. Apply at [www.campchippewa.org/work-for-us/](http://www.campchippewa.org/work-for-us/)



**B.L.A.S.T.**

**BELIEVING. LOVING. AND. SERVING. TOGETHER.**

BRAD PETERSON, [PETERSONBRAD@HOTMAIL.COM](mailto:PETERSONBRAD@HOTMAIL.COM)  
ANGELA MURRAY, [MURRAYSLANDING@GMAIL.COM](mailto:MURRAYSLANDING@GMAIL.COM)

B.L.A.S.T. crew is initiating a Save the Children "Baldwin Youth4Ukraine" fundraiser. If you would like to donate click here: <https://tinyurl.com/BaldwinBlast4Ukraine> Contact Brad or Angelia at the emails listed above for more information.







JN:15:5

Save the Date!



Jul 17-21 , 6-8pm

*Virtual Worship Services  
9:30 AM*

- Apr 4 Missions Mtg 7:00PM
- Apr 6 CareGiving Support Grp 1:00PM
- Apr 10 - Palm Sunday
- April 11 Trustees Mtg 7:00PM
- April 14 Maundy Thursday Live Stream
- Apr 15 Good Friday
- Apr 17 - Sunrise Service  
Sullivan Park 7 a.m.  
Easter Worship 9:30  
Easter Brunch at 11:00 FH
- Apr 18 Finance Mtg 7:00PM  
SPPRC Mtg 7:00PM
- Apr 23 National Volunteer Day  
LINK
- April 25 Council Meeting 7:00PM
- Apr 30 \*United Women in Faith (UMW)  
Spring Meeting in Fellowship Hall, 9:30

*Church Streaming & Zoom Meeting  
Links Directory*

*Note: Links are accessible in the email version of this newsletter, the links are not available on the website version of the Vine due to PDF.*

*Sunday School and Small Groups are meeting at 10:45a.m. on Sundays*

**\*9:30AM Sunday Worship  
Live Stream:**

**<https://www.Baldwinfirst.org>**

or at

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

**\*For ALL scheduled CHURCH meetings there is an optional Zoom Mtgs:**

**<https://zoom.us/join>**

**mtg ID #: 9644607669**



\*(UMW)

United  
Women  
in Faith

News items for the Vine need to be in the office by the evening of Church Council (the 4th Monday of every month). If you prefer to get the newsletter electronically, please provide your email address to the office (594.6612 or [office@baldwinfirst.org](mailto:office@baldwinfirst.org)) to help alleviate mailing costs.

**Church office hours 9-2, Monday-Thursday**

