



# *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**

**March 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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## Observing a Holy Lent

It was at the last of 3 Ash Wednesday services at the church where I served as an Associate. Our first had been at 6:30AM to catch folks on their way to work. The next at noon, for those who could slip away on their lunch hour. Now, at 6:30 pm, I was astounded to see that the large sanctuary was full. We got to the part of the service where we prepared to put ashes on the heads of the congregants who came forward, ready to mark their repentance.

First, my Senior Pastor and I would mark each other. As his thumb traced a cross on my forehead, I heard his voice say softly, "Remember your baptism, and give thanks." My Eyebrows went up a little, and he quickly added, "Remember you are dust, and to dust you shall return." We enjoyed a little smirk and then I marked his forehead with ashes too.

But his slip-up, the pastoral version of auto-pilot after 40+ years in ministry, unlocked for me a new connection with the practice. I remembered that the cross of Ashes on Wednesday is not unrelated to the mark of our baptism.

We repent, not because our baptism has failed, but because we believe in grace. We believe in the prevenient grace that leads us to faith before we even know we need it. We believe in justifying grace that is able to wipe clean even our foulest and most shameful sins, and in the repentance of Ash Wednesday and the practice of Lent, we confess our belief in Sanctifying Grace, the grace by which God renews, reforms, and reshapes us into the image of Christ.

There are many means of grace that can help us get in touch with God's sanctifying grace. Fasting is the most well known of these. There are many ways to engage in the practice of fasting. Some fast entirely on a certain day each week. Some fast from particular foods. Some may choose a non-food kind of fasting- social media fasts and fasting from online retail have become popular in recent years.

There are also practices of engagement that can be means of grace for a holy lent. Some choose to adopt a new prayer practice or rededicate themselves to a daily time of reading scripture. Some may choose to engage in a daily or weekly practice of service to others.

I encourage you to prayerfully consider how you will engage the means of grace this lent, so that you may make space for God's sanctifying grace to be at work in your life.

Grace and Peace in the name of Christ,  
Rev. Amanda Baker

**NOTIFICATION ABOUT CANCELLATIONS AND DELAYS** ... we have had several reminders that in Kansas, we do tend to have winter weather sometimes! In response, we're making some updates to our system for notifying folks about cancellations and delays. You may or may not have received a text or email on Sunday November 25, from a system called "Remind." This is a group messaging system, originally designed for schools, and is a fast, easy way for me to reach many people at once with important information that needs distributed quickly. If you received this message, and received it in the way you want to continue to receive occasional messages from the church, you don't need to do anything.

If you did \*NOT\* receive the cancellation notice, and would like to receive future messages, there's an easy way to opt-in to the system. Simply text @bfumc19 to the number 81010.

If you'd prefer to receive these messages via email, please notify Rev. Baker at [PastorABaker@gmail.com](mailto:PastorABaker@gmail.com) and she will get you added.

**FAT Tuesday Pancake Feed!**

March 5, from 5 – 7 pm

Fellowship Hall

Free Will Donation

*Proceeds will go to the renovation of the kitchen.*

***We will have a Potato Bar after church on March 17***

Sign-up in the Narthex if you can bring toppings

## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Shelly Todd, Director (594-2921), [ksl1987@embarqmail.com](mailto:ksl1987@embarqmail.com)

**\*\*KidMinistry Sunday School:** Our KidMinistry Sunday School meets at 9:30. Kids ages 3 through 5<sup>th</sup> grade are invited to join us in our 3 Sunday School classes: PreK-KDG, 1st-3rd, and 4th-5th. We gather on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the church (one level up from the Sanctuary). The 4th and 5th graders report directly to their Sunday School room. The PreK-3rd graders will gather together in the 1st-3rd grade room for 15 minutes of singing and worshipping before being dismissed to their classes. Sunday School ends at 10:30. We can't wait to see lots of kiddoes in Sunday School!

**\*\*KidMinistry Sunday School Offering:** Our KidMinistry Sunday School Offering is used to sponsor a child through World Vision ministries. Our child is a 5 year old girl named Theresa Kafula from Zambia/Africa. Our sponsorship is \$35 per month, which World Vision uses to provide much needed resources for Theresa, her family, and her community...things like clean water, clothing, food, and education. Every penny, dime, nickel, quarter, and dollar we can share is a blessing to Theresa and her family. Please keep Theresa in your prayers and remember to bring a little bit of money to put in the collection plate to help her!

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

**\*\*Children's Church:** Children's Church takes place on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> 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. (3rd Grade students "graduate" to "grown-up" worship once they receive their Bible on Bible Sunday - November 18th)

**\*Our KidMinistry needs YOU!** The bold print simply can't be BOLD enough! Our Kidministry is needing loving adults to share the love of Jesus with our kiddoes. 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 Shelly for more information. We are in specific need of adult nursery attendants! Prayerfully consider being a part of this faith-shaping ministry!*

### Upcoming Dates:

**\*April 14 - Palm Sunday Holy Week Walk:** *The KidMin Sunday School classes and BLAST crew are hosting a Holy Week Walk for our church family beginning at 9:45 a.m. This Holy Week Walk will consist of 4 stations that depict key moments of Jesus' life during the week leading up to his death and resurrection. The Sunday School classes and BLAST crew will share an experiential story activity with participants attending the Walk. Please come and celebrate Holy Week with us!*

**\*July 7th-11th, 2019 - Vacation Bible School, 6:00-8:00 p.m.**

**\*\*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, March 3:

**3:30-5:00pm** Jr. High YG **6:00-8:00pm** Sr. High YG

Sunday, March 17:

**3:30-5:00pm** Jr. High Youth Group **6:00-8:00pm** Sr. High Youth Group

**SDC RSVP/PAYMENT:** Young Christians' Weekend at Silver Dollar City (4/5-7) RSVP/\$80 deposit money due.

TUESDAY, March 19:

**6:30-8:30pm** Chattanooga, TN Youth Missions Trip Meeting for PARENTS & WORKCAMPERS  
To discuss details of the 2019 Youth Mission Trip to Chattanooga, TN. Campers & parents *must* attend.

Sunday, March 24:

**3:30-5:00pm** Jr. High YG **6:00-8:00pm** Sr. High YG

Sunday, March 31:

**3:30-5:00pm** Jr. High YG - ANDREW NIGHT **6:00-8:00pm** Sr. High YG - ANDREW NIGHT

**WC PAYMENT:** Mission Trippers: WorkCamp payment due today! Make check to "FUMC/Youth Missions" for \$75.

Fri, Apr 5, 4:00pm – Sun, Apr 7, 6:00pm:

**4pm Fri to 6pm Sun** **Young Christian's Weekend in Silver Dollar City;** Branson, MO  
Be a part of amazing concerts by Christian rock groups, hear inspiring messages from some of the most respected youth speakers of our time, and thrill your heart with over 30 rides and attractions!

*Cost (SDC Tickets, Hotel, Bus) = \$180+ food \$. RSVP with deposit of \$80 due 3/4. Final Payment \$100 due 4/5.*

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

**March 2019**

<b>Sunday Services</b>	8:30 a.m. 9:30 a.m. 10:45 a.m.	Traditional Worship - Sanctuary Sunday School Worship – Sanctuary
<b>Last Sunday of the Month</b>	9:30 a.m. 10:45 a.m.	Sunday School Combined 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>Each Wednesday</b>	7:00 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Saturday</b>	9:00 a.m.	UMW Executive Meeting - Library
<b>1<sup>st</sup> &amp; 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturdays</b>	7:30 a.m.	United Methodist Men – Vintage Park (March 2 <sup>nd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Saturdays)

<b>Sun., March 3</b>	3:30 p.m.	Confirmation Class
<b>Mon., March 4</b>	7:00 p.m.	Mission
<b>Tues., March 5</b>	5 – 7 p.m.	FAT Tuesday Pancake Feed! Fellowship Hall
<b>Wed., March 6</b>	1:00 p.m.	Caregivers – Library
	7:00 p.m.	Ash Wednesday Service
<b>Sat., March 9</b>	7:30 a.m.	UMM – Vintage Park
<b>Mon., March 11</b>	7:00 p.m.	Trustees
<b>Sun., March 17</b>	after church	Potato Bar – Fellowship Hall
<b>Mon., March 18</b>	7:00 p.m.	SPPRC – Library Finance – Chapel
<b>Sat., March 23</b>	7:30 a.m.	UMM – Vintage Park
<b>Mon., March 25</b>	7:00 p.m.	Church Council
<b>Thurs., March 28</b>	7:00 p.m.	Eve Circle – Delma Hitchcock’s
<b>Sun., March 31</b>	9:30 a.m. 10:45 a.m.	Sunday School Combined Worship – Hymn Sing