

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

The Vine

MAY 2022 NEWSLETTER



Dear Friends,

About a month ago, I was invited to write about why, even as the time has come when some will split off from The United Methodist Church, I will continue to **#BeUMC**. The truth is, it is really a reflection on why, over the last decade particularly, as much unrest and harm has been done within our denomination, I have continued to **#BeUMC**.

The shortest answer is the philosophy of "*ministry with*" In our local churches and congregations, United Methodism practices "*ministry with*." Church looks different at United Methodist churches in Zimbabwe, Russia, New York and Idaho. Church looks different in downtown Kansas City and in Eudora, KS. Church even looks different in our two congregations right here in Baldwin City, because we have the adaptability to adjust our practices so they best suit the communities around us. We practice "*ministry with*."

Across the United States and around the globe, the United Methodist Committee on Relief (**UMCOR**) has earned a reputation for being an organization that is trustworthy and helpful. We begin, always, with ground-level relationships. Then it is paired with known best practices for recovery. At every step, it is based on the philosophy that locals are the experts on their needs. It is "*ministry with*."

Since 2008, the United Methodist Church has been a partner in a global effort to end Malaria. The entire project has been based on the philosophy of "*ministry with*." The "Imagine No Malaria" program has cut malaria rates around the globe in half by engaging with the communities most affected- resourcing local health clinics and traditional healers alike to identify malaria, equipping communities with needed communications (like radio towers) that can share information about preventing, identifying and treating malaria, working with local leaders to distribute bed nets and normalize their use, and adapting prevention measures in ways that honor local culture and practice.

Jesus practiced *ministry with*, and it is how I want to witness to the resurrection in the world around me, and I still believe the best way I can do that is to **#BeUMC**.

~Rev. Amanda Baker



Gathering of the Tri-County Network Churches

WHAT'S UP WITH THE UMC
Sunday, May 1, 2:30 pm

First Church West Campus
867 Hwy 40, 66049

Featuring Great Plains Delegates:
Rev. David Livingston and Randall Hodgkinson

- Repeat postponement of the General Conference
- Launch of the Global Methodist Church, May 1
- The impact on our denomination and congregation

NANCY ARNOLD, CHAIR., 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
March 28, 2022 ~via Zoom

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

Opening: Nancy called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

Minutes: An addition to the previous minutes states that there will be a virtual Maundy Thursday service at 7:00 p.m. Doug moved to accept the minutes from February with the change. Brad seconded the motion; the motion carried.

Finances: Brad noted that giving has been less than meets expenses for the past few months. Otherwise, the checking account is in good standing. The finance team authorized an outside agent to look over the books.

SPPRC: Cynthia reported that there was no meeting this month. At the next meeting, the team will begin the leadership assessment due in May.

Caregivers: The group will meet on April 6th. There is a meeting on Parkinson's Disease in Lawrence on April 19th.

Missions: Lenten devotionals were mailed out at the beginning of Lent. On April 7th, Missions will be serving a meal at Baker. LINK is April 23rd. There will be a card writing thank you event for staff and employees of USD 348 on April 24th following service. May Day baskets will be prepared for Vintage and Baldwin Care Center. A food drive will occur next Saturday; volunteers may help store items in the food pantry. April 25th is World Malaria Day. Funds are being collected for Ukraine support with Blast Crew initiating their own effort to help. UMCOR Sunday funds go to cover administrative expenses.

Worship: The palms have been ordered for Palm Sunday. There will be forms for individuals to order Easter lilies. The form will offer the option of donating a lily or making a monetary donation to the Community Emergency Fund. Holy Week activities begin with our traditional service on Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday will be livestreamed at 7 p.m., Good Friday service will be held in the sanctuary at 7 p.m., Easter sunrise service will be held at Sullivan Square at 7 a.m., and Easter service will be in the sanctuary at 9:30 a.m. followed by an egg hunt and brunch.

UMW (UWF): The group is no longer known as United Methodist Women; rather, they are to be recognized as United Women in Faith. The Spring meeting and brunch will be on April 30th. The ladies will create handbags for the homeless as they experience the theme "Growing Our Faith in Serving Others." Mother's Day bags will be created for the pantry.

Sunday School and VBS: "Following Jesus: The Way to the Cross" is the current Sunday School theme. Donna and Samantha have begun ordering materials for VBS.

Lay Leader: Doug will attend a meeting on the one-board-model in April.

Trustees: Darren stated that trustees are still working on adjustments to the boiler. There is a small leak from a new valve that will be taken care of. There was discussion regarding the copier and riso-graph machines. The recommendation is to stop paying maintenance fees; the finance committee agreed. Donna shared a concern that there needs to be a cage for a heater to protect small children. Nancy followed up on a request for a policy on snow and ice removal. They will make changes prior to the next season.

Pastor's Moment: Pastor Amanda shared an invitation to Ives' Easter morning breakfast. Marcia O'Neil has graciously accepted a position on SSPRC. Linda moved and Doug seconded the motion to accept Marcia O'Neill. The motion carried.

Pastor Amanda asked for volunteers to write postcard invitations to Holy Week activities.

Council Chair: Nancy asked about the loan paperwork for Wesleyan Investive; it was signed and submitted.

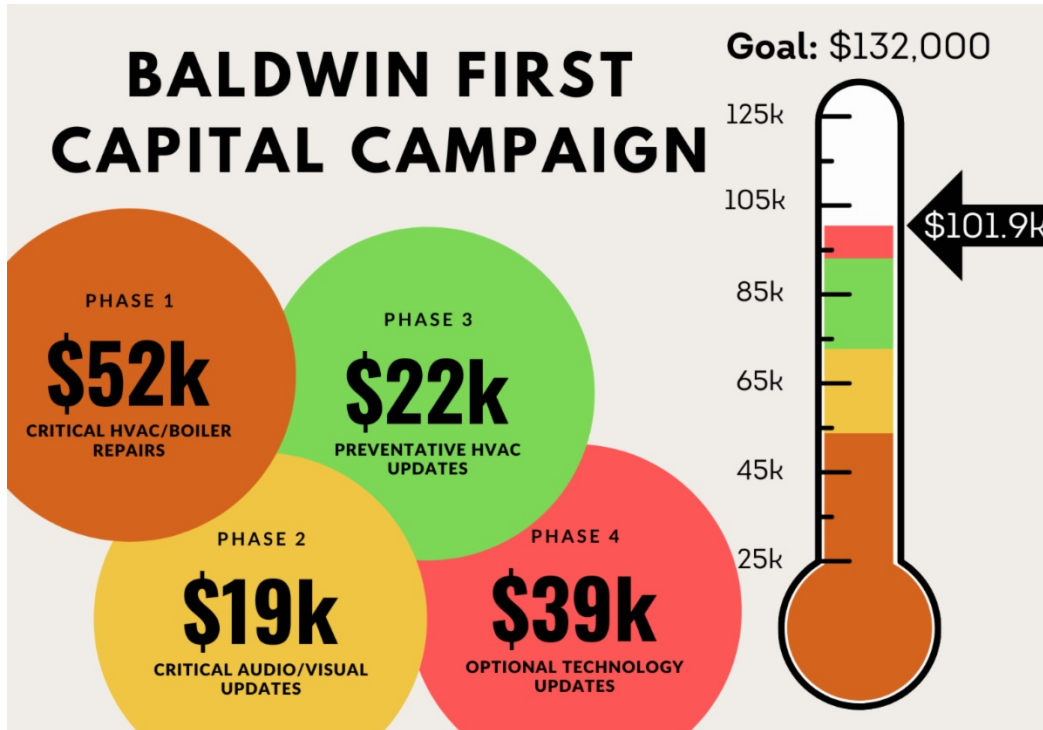
Closing: Pastor Amanda offered a closing prayer at 7:54 p.m.
Respectfully submitted, Katherine Cook

Most Current Financial Update:

The 2022 Budget \$159,300 (with averaged contribution amount needed each month to meet annual budget: \$13,275.00) total contributions received for the month of March is \$12,908, 21% of the budget (3% behind for this time period).



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



Missions FOOD PANTRY HOURS ON THE 2ND & 4TH SATURDAY OF THE MONTH, 10AM
LAURA DICKINSON, MISSIONS CHAIR., LDINBC@GMAIL.COM



LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR activities for the coming months:

May to June 30 – Baldwin Retirement Apartment Complex (BRAC)

BRAC is a local 501 C 3 non-profit providing unique affordable housing to Baldwin residents. The five buildings are located immediately South of the Baldwin Care Center and are also known as Orchard Lane and Jersey Street Apartments. Douglas County Community Foundation have awarded a \$10,000 grant to help construct an accessible emergency exit route. This will be built utilizing ADA guidelines, as the building houses many elders and physically challenged residents. The total cost for this project is approximately \$17,000. The board is seeking community support from local churches to help fund this endeavor. Donations to support this project can be made through **checks to BFUMC with BRAC in the Memo line or you can donate online through the webpage**. Members of the BRAC board would be happy to answer additional questions and those can be addressed to John Thomas at johnthomas@oreadllc.com

June – June 5 is Pentecost, the birthday of the church – we will be collecting items for birthday kits to distribute at the Community Food Pantry. Those items will include the extras: candles, balloons, birthday napkins, Icing. The recent Boy Scout Food Drive brought in enough cake mixes to assure for every family.

July – Baldwin Community Food Pantry – we will be collecting peanut butter and jelly with emphasis on different flavors of jelly besides grape, a staple of summer sandwiches when children are out of school for the summer

August – Welcome back BU students – we will be collecting snack items – fruit rollups, popcorn packs, granola bars, gum, candy, etc. for welcome kits

September – Hunger Action Month -Stand Against Hunger – explore ways to volunteer, pledge, fundraise, donate to help end the impossible choices of hunger

VOLUNTEERS Needed: The food pantry is needing additional volunteers to work in a variety of roles to support the food pantry. If you are interested, please contact Laura at ldinbc@gmail.com

Native American Ministries Sunday May 1

To give by mail: Send checks to: GCFA
P.O. Box 340029
Nashville, TN 37203
Please put name of Sunday in note section.

Resources for you to engage in the ministry of Native American Ministries Sunday can be through clicking the the graphic link,going to <https://www.umc.org/en/content/native-american-ministries-sunday-ministry-article> or the [BFUMC website](#).



How to support those still in Ukraine and those fleeing the violence?



Global Ministries/UMCOR, GPO, P.O. Box 9068, New York, NY, 10087-9068 By check made out to Global Ministries/UMCOR with “Advance #982450-Ukraine” written on the memo line and given to any United Methodist church

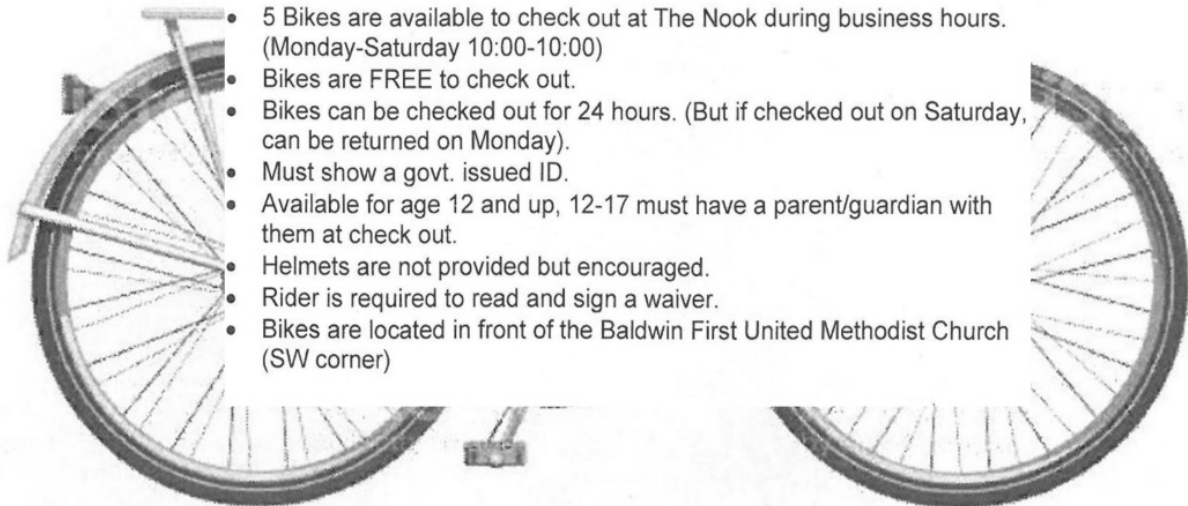
At this time, all gifts to UMCOR’s International Disaster Response and Recovery Advance will be used to assist those who remain in Ukraine and those who have fled the violence to neighboring nations. Gifts can be made in the following ways: Online at <https://umcmmission.org/advance-project/982450> By toll-free telephone call: 888-252-6174 By check made out to Global Ministries/UMCOR with “Advance #982450-Ukraine” written on the memo line and mailed to

The Bike Share Program is Back and Available!



Free for Community Use:

Can be used for exercise, errands, or just for fun!



- 5 Bikes are available to check out at The Nook during business hours. (Monday-Saturday 10:00-10:00)
- Bikes are FREE to check out.
- Bikes can be checked out for 24 hours. (But if checked out on Saturday, can be returned on Monday).
- Must show a govt. issued ID.
- Available for age 12 and up, 12-17 must have a parent/guardian with them at check out.
- Helmets are not provided but encouraged.
- Rider is required to read and sign a waiver.
- Bikes are located in front of the Baldwin First United Methodist Church (SW corner)

*In
Loving
Memory*

Ruth Ann Nutt

Nov. 14, 1921-Feb. 7 2022

Services will be held Wed. May 4 at 1 p.m.

Anita White

Mar. 30, 1943-Mar. 15, 2022

Services will be held Sat. June 18, at 11:00 a.m

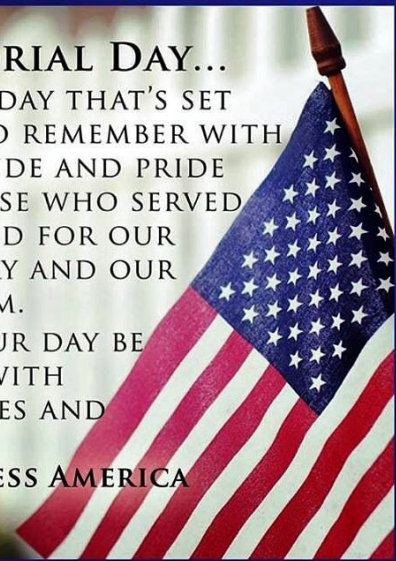
MEMORIAL DAY...

...IS THE DAY THAT'S SET ASIDE TO REMEMBER WITH GRATITUDE AND PRIDE ALL THOSE WHO SERVED AND DIED FOR OUR COUNTRY AND OUR FREEDOM.

MAY YOUR DAY BE FILLED WITH MEMORIES AND PEACE.

GOD BLESS AMERICA

GodVine.com





B.L.A.S.T.

BELIEVING. LOVING. AND. SERVING. TOGETHER.

BRAD PETERSON, PETERSONBRAD@HOTMAIL.COM

ANGELA MURRAY, MURRAYSLANDING@GMAIL.COM



Congratulations and continued blessings to the 2022 high school and college graduates:

High School grads:

Collin Ediger, son of Josh and Terri Ediger; **Lexi George**, daughter of Russ and Lori George (grandmother Marcia O'Neil); **Jordan Jackson**

daughter of Christopher and Heather Jackson; **Abby Patterson***, daughter of Brian and Michelle Patterson; **Charles Pittman**, son of Ryan and Toni Reynolds; **Riley Smith***, daughter of Tessley and Kelly Bethel Smith; **Olivia Todd***, daughter of Michael and Shelly Todd; and **Ayden Williams***, son of Brian and Courtney Williams.

College grads:

Sydney Cheek (Coe College, Iowa) daughter of Doug and Samantha Cheek; December grad **Abby Hayes** (Ft Hays State) daughter of Robert and Jennifer Fulton; December graduate **Megann Lawrenz** daughter of Darren and Chris Lawrenz; **Amelia Murray** (University of Oklahoma), daughter of Robert and Angelia Murray; and **Sid Roberts** (dental hygienist school) son of Paul and Lori Roberts.

Accomplished a masters degree: **Allison Waymire**, daughter of Dennis and Gayla Waymire

*part of original B.L.A.S.T. crew!

Save the Children Baldwin Youth4Ukraine

B.L.A.S.T. crew is initiating a Save the Children "Baldwin Youth4Ukraine" fundraiser.

If you want to donate to the click here:
<https://bit.ly/3M6vYGc> or use the QR code.



Contact Brad or Angela at the emails listed above for more information.



BFUMC is looking for volunteers to mow the grounds around the church for 2022. Mowers should bring own lawn mower. The Sign up sheet is available at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60b0b4caaa928abfd0-2022>



Worship Services 9:30 AM
(in person and live stream)

May 1 Special Giving: Native American Ministries Sunday

May 2 Missions Mtg 7:00PM

May 4 Cruising Cupboard Mobil Pantry at Baldwin City Library, 10:30 to 11:30

May 5 National Day of Prayer

May 8 Mother's Day

May 9 Trustees Mtg 7:00PM

May 11 CareGiving Support Grp 1:00PM (*Note date change*)

May 15 Finance Mtg 7:00PM
SPPRC Mtg 7:00PM

May 23 Council Meeting 7:00PM

May 30 Memorial Day

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



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) to help alleviate mailing costs.

Church office hours 9-2, Monday-Thursday