

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

The Vine

MARCH 2020 NEWSLETTER



An Invitation To Observe a Holy Lent

Since the very early days of the Christian community, the forty days before Easter have been an important time of preparation. New converts prepared for baptism. Those who had committed serious sins were reconciled to the community by penitence and forgiveness and restored to full fellowship. The whole church, then, remembered together the mercy and forgiveness proclaimed in the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Whether you are new to the faith, have strayed from your community of faith, or consider yourself part of the steadfast flock, you are invited to enter lent as a holy season of remembering God's great love for humanity, and for you personally.

We invite you to imagine how this might become a holy time in your own faith walk:

- + **By self-examination**, by looking honestly at yourself to see where you are living as a reflection of the image of God in you, and where you have lost touch with who God created you to be.
- + **By penitence**- intentional acts aimed at setting right the injustices we have participated in.
- + **By prayer**- you can begin by just praying a psalm or the Lord's Prayer, or you can offer your own words or silence to God.
- + **By fasting**- Fasting can take many forms. Some may choose a day to go without eating from sunup to sundown. Others may choose a particular food to fast from (like those that give up meat or chocolate) Some opt for nonfood fasts, learning to do without social media, giving up their cell phone from sunup to sundown one day a week, or opting not to eat out during Lent.
- + **By sharing with the poor**- making a conscious and concerted effort to share your abundance with others who may be in need.
- + **And by studying the Bible**- reading the bible each day, or spending time studying the word of God with others in an organized bible study.

However you may choose to observe a Holy Lent, may God grant you with the peace to know that this is not a season for striving to act holy. But instead that this is a time for choosing to take time, to make space, and to show up to the Holy One, so that God who knows and loves you, may continue restoring you to the fullness of the image of God.

Rev. Amanda Baker, pastorabaker@gmail.com

Please join us for the Lent Sermon Series based off of the ideals (Grace, Justice, Poverty, Revolution, Love and Hope) of Victor Hugo's *Les Miserables*



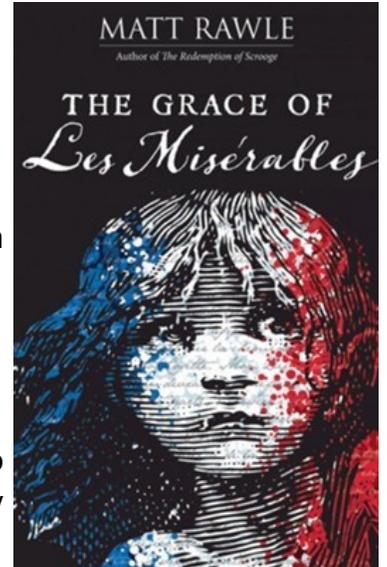
OUR MISSION IS TO LOVE AND SERVE GOD AND OUR NEIGHBORS AS DISCIPLES OF JESUS CHRIST



FOOD PANTRY HOURS ARE EVERY SATURDAY 10AM
Laura Dickerson, Chair., ldinbc@gmail.com

Let the wise listen and add to their learning, and let the discerning get guidance. - Prv1:5 NIV) God, incline our ears and hearts toward the truth tellers among us. Amen -
Common Prayer

Lenten Study - Victor Hugo's *Les Miserables* is a powerful epic story and musical. We will be taking a 6-week journey into a Lenten study, "The Grace of Les Miserables", beginning on Thursday February 27th at 6:30 in the Baldwin First library. The study delves into 6 ideals found in the story - Grace, Justice, Poverty, Revolution, Love and Hope - drawing parallels between the iconic story and musical and our Christian calling. Please come and join the study as we explore our faith and how we live it out in the world. Come for one or all six or any number in between. The books and curriculum will be provided by Missions.



March Student Packages - The Missions Team will be gathering good-



ies to send to our college students to encourage and support them as they close out their spring semester. We want to remind them folks back

home continue to hold them close to their hearts with these packages of LOVE. From March 15th through April 5th, there will be a collection basket in the Narthex for those who would like to contribute items for the mailings. Items sent in the past included candy, gum, silly toys, pens, paper - items that are not

immediately perishable. We will be preparing the packages on **DO GOOD FRIDAY**.

DO GOOD FRIDAY - Mark your calendars! On April 10th, Good Friday, we will be preparing the above-mentioned packages to go to the college students and will have a variety of other activities where you can **DO GOOD!**

LINK (Lawrence Interdenominational Nutrition Kitchen)- BFUMC will be serving at LINK on April 22. If you are interested in assisting with service on that date, contact Nancy Arnold, arnold-n448@gmail.com or John Beins, jbeins52@gmail.com. Thank you to those who assisted with service on February 22. BFUMC serves at LINK 4 times a year and will serve again on August 22 and November 7.

Food Pantry - The food pantry is reliant upon volunteers to welcome our community neighbors to the pantry each Saturday, pick up and deliver groceries, sort and store donations of food and keep records. We have a great crew of folks from BFUMC and throughout the community who do these tasks each week. If you would like to explore the food pantry as a place to volunteer your time, additional volunteers are always welcome! Please contact Laura Dickinson at ldinbc@gmail.com. We provide an overview of tasks and volunteers can plug in where most comfortable.



UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

Donna Curran, Chair., Donnagcurran@yahoo.com



**Re-Dedication
of Church Kitchen**

**Sunday, March 29 after
10:45 Worship Service**

**Please bring a food dish to
share**



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CROSS CULTURAL YOUTH MINISTRY

Youth

Tara Welch, tswelch@ku.edu



Youth Group (Junior and Senior high):

If you plan to go to Silver Dollar City for Young Christians' Weekend (April 3-5), please get in touch with Tara Welch by **March 10**. You can email her at the above link or text or call 785-760-1265. Thank you!

B.L.A.S.T.

BELIEVING. LOVING. AND. SERVING. TOGETHER.

Brad Peterson, Petersonbrad@hotmail.com

Angela Murray, Murrayslanding@gmail.com



Our contributions to February's Bushel of blessings deserves a Bushel of our Thanks for making it such a success. The Bushels of Blessings for March will be collaborating with the Missions Team gathering donations for college packages.



Kids Ministry

Cynthia Perez, CynthiaAPerez1975@gmail.com

Tricia Enright, Tricia_Enright@yahoo.com



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Calendar

MARCH 2020

Check website (www.baldwinfirst.org) for any date changes due to specially scheduled church season calendar events.

MONTHLY SCHEDULE

Sunday Services 8:30am Traditional Worship - Sanctuary
9:30am Sunday School
10:45am Worship - Sanctuary

Last Sunday of the Month
9:30am Sunday School
10:45am Combined Worship - Sanctuary

1st Monday 7pm Missions - Fellowship Hall

2nd Monday 7pm Trustees - Library

3rd Monday 7pm SPPRC - Library
7pm Finance - Chapel

4th Monday 7pm Church Council - Library

Each Wednesday 7pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

1st Wednesday 1pm Caregivers - Library

1st Saturday 9am UMW Executive Mtg - Library

1st & 3rd Saturdays 7:30am UMM-Vintage Pk
6:15pm Jr Hi/Sr HiYouth

2nd & 4th Thursdays 7pm Eve Circle
kkcthoms@hotmail.com

3rd Wednesdays 1:30pm Dorcas Circle

MONTHLY ADDITIONS

Thursdays, Feb 27-Apr 2, 6:30p.m. Lenten Small Grp Study

March 15- April 5 collection will be taken for Student Packages

Fri., Mar. 6 World Day of Prayer

Sun., Mar. 8 Daylight Savings time takes into effect

Sun., Mar. 22 UMCOR Sunday

Sun., Mar. 29 UMW Kitchen Re- Dedication Potluck
after 10:45 Worship Service

*Mark your calendar for April's Maunday Services 6:30
and Do Good Friday day of service 3 to 6pm*

ADMIN NOTES: 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 are receiving this by mail and have an email, please let the office know your email address (594.6612 or Office@Baldwinfirst.org) to help alleviate mailing costs. Church office hours are 9 to 2, M-Th.

Thank you.



@baldwinfirstumc

Please direct prayer requests to the office or Linda Ballinger, Caregivers Chair., Lindababe43@gmail.com



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