

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)*

Pastor: Rev. Paul Babcock

July 2013

***The Mission of Baldwin First United Methodist Church is
to love and serve God and our neighbors as disciples of Jesus Christ.***

PAUL'S PAGE:

Our session of the Kansas East Annual Conference is May 30 to June 1, at The United Methodist Church of the Resurrection in Leawood. There will be the usual administrative things: 1. We will hear reports from laity and clergy about membership, finances, perhaps attendance; 2. We will elect officers (effective for a few months); 3. Ordain clergy; 4. Retire clergy, etc.

And it will be the last session of the Kansas East Annual Conference. So we will be also celebrating this end and hearing some of the history of the Kansas East Conference. We will also be hearing recommendations and providing feedback on the formation of the new Great Plains Annual Conference.

Beginning on September 1, 2012, the Kansas Area and the Nebraska Area became one Episcopal area, meaning we all have one bishop, instead of two as in the past. Under discussion since that decision was made earlier, has been the idea of the three annual conferences (Kansas East, Kansas West, and Nebraska) becoming one annual conference. The discussion has centered around how best to be the church here in this part of the world: how do we use our leadership, how do we structure ourselves to be connectional, what is our vision, and how do we leverage our technical assets. That decision was made at the last session of each Annual Conference in 2012.

In August, 22 to 24, there will be a uniting Conference at Salina. The three Conferences will meet at the same location and time to decide on recommendations about how to move forward as one Conference, the Great Plains Conference. That new Conference will come into being on January 1, 2014.

A new thing is coming into being. It is a new creation. It is a wholly new Annual Conference. Please be in prayer for it.

Kathleen Thomas is our Lay Member of Annual Conference; I am a member of the Annual Conference.

During announcements in worship in the month of May, I told you that I was looking for a new challenge for preaching during the summer months. I was interested in using music as a beginning point for sermons during June, July and August. I asked you for your input on music titles that might be some good ones, your suggestions on what might be used.

Many of you responded! I have lots of suggestions, too many to use during the available number of Sundays. Thank you for your responses.

Most of what was suggested was hymn titles. They are hymns that are in the United Methodist *Hymnal, The Faith We Sing*, as well as various praise hymns. There were several other popular music and country music titles which presented interesting ideas to me about sermons.

This is proving to be exactly what I expected, a challenge, and I am looking forward to it.

From June 16 to 28 I will be on the Baker campus for what is called the Kansas-Nebraska License to Preach School. Persons who lead churches do so from two points: ordination (such as me), or licensing. Those licensed are lay persons who are given training to provide leadership in the congregations to which they are appointed by the Bishop. This school is such training. A few years ago I was given responsibility to put this together every few years, and this is the year, again. I have been working on putting this together for several months, and now it is here. I will still be here on Sunday mornings, but I will be with them during those two weeks.

As summer activities take you to other places at different time, please remember that the expenses of operating the church and the need for financial support of our ministry still continue.

And, thank you for all you do and will do for making this church what it is called to be and will be.

**SHALOM,
Paul**

MISSIONS

PEACE WITH JUSTICE (PWJ) Sunday was May 26. Missions will be collecting peanut butter with jelly (PWJ) throughout the month of June at Baldwin First as a way to observe PWJ Sunday. The food will go to support the local Baldwin Community Food Pantry. Food poverty is pervasive and affects a high percentage of children and elders. Children will be out school during the summer and will need extra food. Please bring a jar of peanut butter and jelly as a means of lessening food poverty in our community.

Ives Chapel in collaboration with Baldwin First will do a family/children's food program this summer and will come to the Baldwin Community Food Pantry on Saturdays to distribute bags of food for families with children.

Money gifts to "2013 May Tornado Relief" top \$150,000 ... As of this week, donations have exceeded \$150,000 to the Oklahoma Conference special fund "**2013 May Tornado Relief.**" If you would like to give, you may designate a gift to this fund through the church – check made out to First United Methodist Church – with the designation "2013 May Tornado Relief", or send a check to: Conference Treasurer's Office, 1501 NW 24th, Oklahoma City OK 73106. One-hundred percent of the fund is being distributed to Oklahomans impacted by the May tornadoes. You also may direct your giving through UMCOR. Thank you for your generosity.

BISCUITS AND GRAVY AND CINNAMON ROLL ...

- Bill Clement

On Saturday, June 1, there will be a biscuits and gravy and cinnamon roll breakfast to raise funds to help support the Senior Wheels bus service here in Baldwin City. It will be from 8:00 – 10:00 at the corner of 8th and High by the water fountain. We hope you can come and have some good food, fellowship and donate toward a worthwhile cause. The bus drivers and some of the men from UMM will be helping, but we can always use anyone who would like to donate some time to set up tables and chairs, help in the church kitchen or serve the food. If you are one of those, show up around 7:00 and we'll put you to work. Otherwise, just come and get the day off to a good start.

BALDWIN CITY FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH CARE GIVING TEAM is available to assist with the following for seniors:

- Home visits: Stop for a visit with those individuals that are not able to get out and do not have family in the area.
- Phone calls: Call and visit with individuals.
- Transportation: Will take area residents to area appointments or local businesses, such as grocery store, dollar general, etc.

If you would like to receive any of the above services please contact:

Louise Cummings-Simmons
 Care Giving Team Committee Chair
785-594-3719 (home)
785-691-9852 (cell)
 lcsimmons1@aol.com

A BIG THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP WITH THE ZETA CHI DINNER from the UMW to: Friday help - Anita White, Effie Rinke, and Sheryl Cleverly; Cakes- Shirley Johnson, Joy Wellman, Marlene Courtney, Ruth Ann Nutt, and Colleen Burgess; Saturday help - Marlene Barber, Anita White, Sue Ann and Tom Kleist Shelly Todd, Debbie and Pastor Paul Babcock, Sarah Snedeger, and Jean and Steve Baldwin. The Zeta Chi "Stag Night" dinner was a big success and our first fund raiser. Thanks again.
 -Linda Ballinger, Zeta Chi Dinner Chair

CHILDREN'S MINISTRYShelly Todd, Director (594-2921), ksl1987@embarqmail.com

***Save the date: Kingdom Rock VBS is coming to Baldwin FUMC!! July 7th-11th!!** Our evening VBS runs from 6:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. and is offered to kids in Preschool through 5th grade (last grade completed). At Kingdom Rock, kids will learn that with God, they can STAND STRONG against ANYTHING! Invite every kid you know to join in on the fun and fellowship!

***VBS ministry opportunities:** Last year at SKY VBS, we ministered to 125 children. To do this, we had an AMAZING and LARGE staff of wonderful adults and youth! This year, our prayer is to minister to as many, or MORE, children!! Adults and youth are needed as station leaders, walking leaders, registration helpers, and technology "engineers". ☺ Please let Shelly know if you would love to be a part of this AMAZING, FUN, and REWARDING week!!

***VBS Sponsorship:** Our congregation has the opportunity to help transform the lives of our community children and families! Kingdom Rock VBS is a FREE event to our community kids. We are able to do this through the generosity of congregation members who show support by sponsoring children for VBS. **The cost of sponsorship for one child is \$15.** Our prayer goal is to minister to 130 children at Kingdom Rock. I am confident that the BFUMC congregation will help us meet this financial goal! When filling out the check, please write "Children's Ministries" in the memo line. Thank you for your prayerful support!!

***Ministry opportunities in KidMinistries:** Have you been feeling a nudging from God to get involved in ministry at our church? Have the cute faces of the kiddoes been tugging at your heart? The opportunity has risen for you to follow that nudging and impact those cute faces! We have openings for Sunday School teachers in the following classrooms: Preschool, KDG-1st grade, and 2nd/3rd grade. As a teacher, you will teach one Sunday, assist one Sunday, and have the 3rd Sunday off from teaching. You will receive on the job training before being set loose to teach and you will be a part of something absolutely amazing and rewarding. Contact Shelly for more information!

CROSS CULTURE YOUTH MINISTRYEva Durand, Sr. High Youth (594-0345) 785.766.5803 or eva3d@embarqmail.com

Saturday, June 1	5:00pm to Sunday, June 2, 8:00am: Sr. High Youth Group Lock-In!!			
Sunday, June 9	3:30-5:00pm	Jr. High Youth Group	6:00-8:00pm	Sr. High Youth Group
<u>PAYMENT:</u>	Mission Trippers: WorkCamp FINAL payment due! Make check to "FUMC/Youth Missions" for \$124**. ** Will likely be a lesser amount depending on fundraising.			
Sunday, June 23	3:30-5:00pm	Jr. High Youth Group	6:00-8:00pm	Sr. High Youth Group
Sunday, June 30	3:30-5:00pm	Jr. High Youth Group	6:00-8:00pm	Sr. High Youth Group
June 16–June :	Institute Session 1: Intentional Christian community experience, sponsored by KS East Conference Council on Youth Ministry. For students completing 8-12 grades. Held at Baker University.			
Sunday, July 7	12:00pm: Youth Mission 2013 WorkCamper Tool Packing Party			
July 7–July 11	5:30-9:30pm nightly: Children's Vacation Bible School / Service Opportunity			
July 13–July 21	Youth Mission WorkCamp 2013 trip to Mescalero, New Mexico. Payments due March 3 & May 5.			
Sunday, July 28	12:00pm: Youth Mission 2013 WorkCamper Tool "UN"-Packing Party			
July 14–July 20	Institute Session 2: Intentional Christian community experience, sponsored by KS East Conference Council on Youth Ministry. For students completing 8-12 grades. Held at Baker University.			

The First United Methodist Church
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(Phone: 785-594-6612)

www.baldwinfirst.org

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

Items received after evening of Church Council will not be in the Newsletter.

July 2013

Sunday Services	9:30 a.m.	Sunday School/Bible Study
	10:45 a.m.	Worship – Sanctuary
1st Monday	7:00 p.m.	Missions – Fellowship Hall
2 nd Monday	7:00 p.m.	Trustees – Library
3rd Monday	7:00 p.m.	SPPRC – Library
	7:00 p.m.	Finance – Chapel
4th Monday	7:00 p.m.	Church Council – Chapel
Each Thursday	7:00 p.m.	Bible Study - Library
1st & 3rd Saturdays	7:30 a.m.	United Methodist Men – Vintage Park
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Sat., July 6	7:30 a.m.	United Methodist Men – Vintage Park
July 7 – July 11	6:30 – 9:00 p.m.	Vacation Bible School
July 13 – July 21		Youth Mission WorkCamp 2013
Sat., July 20	7:30 a.m.	United Methodist Men – Vintage Park