

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

March 2014

***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:

Robins have been sighted in Baldwin City, Kansas! Not very many, I hope you understand, but they have been sighted. As winter lingers, I thought you might want to know that.

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Even though we have had a good experience in January and February celebrating the Light of the World who comes to us to teach us and show us some new ways of the faith, we now must head into March and the Season of *Lent*. That begins on March 5, Ash Wednesday.

"Ash Wednesday emphasizes a dual encounter: we confront our own mortality and confess our sin before God within the community of faith ... The use of ashes as a sign of mortality and repentance has a long history in Jewish and Christian worship, and the Imposition of Ashes can be a powerful nonverbal and experiential way of participating in the call to repentance and reconciliation. This practice is the historic focus of Ash Wednesday observance and gave the day its name. It is traditional to save the palm branches from the previous Passion/Palm Sunday service and burn them ahead of time to produce the ashes for this service. From THE UNITED METHODIST BOOK OF WORSHIP)."

We will begin this penitential season with such a worship service at 7 o'clock that night. The Baker University Minister, Rev. Dr. Ira DeSpain and I will lead this service. We will have music from the Baker Concert Choir, singing of traditional hymns appropriate for the day, and the imposition of ashes.

I hope you will plan to be present for this worship service.

And, "Lent is a season of forty days, not counting Sundays, which begins on Ash Wednesday and ends on Holy Saturday. Lent comes from the Anglo-Saxon word lencten, which means "spring." The season is a preparation for celebrating Easter. Historically, Lent began as a period of fasting and preparation for baptism by converts and then became a time for penance by all Christians. The First Sunday describes Jesus' temptation by Satan; and the Sixth Sunday (Passion/Palm Sunday), Christ's triumphal entry into Jerusalem and his subsequent passion and death. Because Sundays are always little Easters, the penitential spirit of Lent should be tempered with joyful expectation of the Resurrection (also from The United Methodist Book of Worship)."

Also during Lent, on the fourth Sunday (March 30th), we will share in a special offering for *One Great Hour of Sharing*.

This is probably the best known special offering Sunday in the church and goes "to offer refuge and relief to some of the world's most vulnerable people – in the United States and worldwide – during times of distress. The gifts given on this Sunday fund the administrative cost of the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR). The gifts allow UMCOR to direct 100 percent of designated donations toward the disaster response or other humanitarian effort the donor specifies (January/February, 2014 issue of *The Interpreter*)."

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Some other things for March: One is that the Mission Committee will be sharing with us *March into Mission*. They will be telling us of the important mission activities and ministries of this church AND THERE ARE MANY TO BE CELEBRATED! They will be telling us about our support of the United Methodist Committee on Relief, the annual Bishop's Round-Up for Hunger, the Community Emergency Fund, Imagine No Malaria, Heifer Project International, and our local Food Pantry. There may be a couple of others.

The second thing is that on those four Sundays between the first Sunday of Lent and the Passion/Palm Sunday, I am called to talk about the subject of forgiveness. I feel called to do this because it is something that seems to be in short supply in our world, but very much needed. I will be talking about what it is, how to do it, how many times, and the reasons for doing it.

So, please attend and be present at worship during March and the season of *Lent*.

And, thank you for being the church you are and for seeking to be the church we are called to be.

**SHALOM,
Paul**

PLEDGES & FAITH GIVINGS (JANUARY 2014)

BUDGET INCOME	<u>This Month</u>	<u>Year-to-Date</u>
	\$18,447.55	\$18,447.55
BUDGET EXPENSE		
Apportionments	\$1,666.67	\$1,666.67
Worship	34.00	34.00
Music	287.51	287.51
Adult Programs	51.00	51.00
Children's Ministries	464.99	464.99
Youth Ministries	1,254.68	1,254.68
Personnel	12,911.76	12,911.76
Church Administration	5,063.25	5,063.25
Trustees	1,317.19	1,317.19
Parsonage Property	<u>643.82</u>	<u>643.82</u>
TOTAL EXPENSE	\$23,694.87	\$23,694.87
RESTRICTED GIVINGS	<u>Goal</u>	<u>Year-to-Date</u>
Conference		\$78.00
Worship		
Music	\$300.00	
Adult Programs	1,000.00	38.87
Children	3,582.00	18.89
Youth	32,860.00	
Missions	<u>15,000.00</u>	<u>1,005.06</u>
TOTAL	\$52,742.00	\$1,140.82

MISSIONS

Laura Dickinson, Chair. (594-2658)

Food Pantry - Thank you to the BFUMC youth group and area youth for the food drive they sponsored in February. Thanks to Vinland Valley Soccer for a month of donations! Thanks to all who work every week in many different ways to assure the pantry has an offering to those needing assistance.

MARCH IS ABOUT MISSIONS!!!

LINK - BFUMC will be serving at LINK on April 5th.

The number of people at risk of hunger in the United States increased from 36.2 million in 2007 to 49 million in 2012. In 2012, 14.5 percent of all U.S. households were food insecure—a total of 17.6 million households. For every current job opening in the United States, an average of 2.9 people are seeking jobs. U.S. Department of Agriculture, Household Food Security in the United States, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012.



- Saturday, March 1 – 9:00 a.m. – UMW Executive Board Meets – Library**
- Friday, March 7 – World Day of Prayer**
- Wednesday, March 12 - 9:30 a.m. – Sarah Circle meets – Marlene Courtney's**
- Wednesday, March 19 -11:30 p.m. – Dorcas Circle – Clean Kitchen (bring a sack lunch)**
- Thursday, March 27 - 7:00 p.m. – Eve Circle – Jean Baldwin's**

OUR ALL-CHURCH BIRTHDAY PARTY POTLUCK WILL BE ON SUNDAY, MARCH 30 @ NOON

I would like to express my gratitude and appreciation to the church for your prayers, cards, food, flowers and other acts of kindness expressed during the extended illness and passing of my father, Norman C. Keller. Your support helped me and my family endure a very difficult time. Bless you one and all for your continued love and sympathy. Many thanks for your strength and compassion.

- Gary Keller

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

Hey, Kids (and Mom/Dad)!! Come join us for Fun, Friendship, and Faith Building at Sunday School!! Sunday School begins at 9:30 a.m. We have 4 Sunday School classes: Preschool, KDG-1st, 2nd-3rd, and 4th-5th. Preschool, KDG-1st, and 2nd-3rd grade gather in the chapel area of the church from 9:30-9:45 for a time of singing and sharing, after which they are dismissed to Sunday School. 4th and 5th grades go directly to their Sunday School class to get busy with a fun hour of learning! The fun wraps up at 10:30. Please come check out the fun at Sunday School!!

Our Sunday School Staff:

Preschool: Jean Baldwin, Samantha Cheek, Donna Curran

KDG-1st: Kevin Kropf, Beth O'Neil, Vonna Torneden, and Brian Williams2nd-3rd: Brad Peterson, Shelly Todd4th-5th: Angela Murray, Becky Thomas, Gayla Waymire

****Be sure to attend Sunday School on Palm Sunday (April 13th) and Easter Sunday (April 20th) for 2 special events. More details in the next edition of The Vine!**

***Are you looking for a ministry area in which to serve at BFUMC?** Do you love kids?? We NEED you in KidMinistries at BFUMC!! We are looking for 2 Sunday School teachers to join our 2nd-3rd grade Sunday School team. Please see Shelly if you are interested in joining this exciting ministry area!

***Save the date: Workshop of Wonders VBS, July 6-10 6:30-9:00 p.m.** Please consider being a part of an exciting week of VBS by being a ministry partner at VBS! Adults and JR/SR High Youth are invited to lead as station leaders and walking leaders. It takes many hands and hearts to minister to the many kiddoes that attend our 5 day VBS. Contact Shelly to see how you can serve!!

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

Sunday, March 2:

3:30-5:00pm

Jr. High Youth Group

6:00-8:00pm

Sr. High Youth Group

PAYMENT:

Mission Trippers: WorkCamp payment due today! Make check to "Group Mission Trips" for \$190.

Monday, March 3:

6:30-8:30pm

Pensacola, Florida Youth Missions Trip Meeting for PARENTS & WORKCAMPERS

To discuss details of the 2014 Youth Mission Trip to Pensacola, Florida. Campers & parents *must* attend.

Sunday, March 9:

3:30-5:00pm

Jr. High Youth Group

6:00-8:00pm

Sr. High Youth Group

RSVP/PAYMENT:

Young Christians' Weekend at Silver Dollar City (3/28-30) RSVP/\$50 ticket deposit money due today.

Sunday, March 23:

3:30-5:00pm

Jr. High Youth Group

6:00-8:00pm

Sr. High Youth Group

Friday, March 28, 4:00pm – Sunday, March 30, 6:00pm:

4pm Friday
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!

Total Cost = \$160+ food \$. RSVP with ticket cost \$50 due 3/9. Hotel/transportation cost \$110 due 3/28.

Sunday, April 6:

3:30-5:00pm

Jr. High Youth Group

6:00-8:00pm

Sr. High Youth Group

Sat, April 12 – Sun, April 13:

1:00pm Sat – 10:00am Sun

Purity Retreat

Sr. High Only. Male & Female. Overnight at Camp Chippewa. \$45.

Sunday, April 13:

12:00-4:00pm

Car Detail Fundraiser for Pensacola, FL 2014 Youth Mission Trip

Youth work in 2-hour shifts to detail interior of cars to raise funds. Reservations needed!

3:30-5:00pm

Jr. High Youth Group

6:00-8:00pm

Sr. High Youth Group

PAYMENT:

Mission Trippers: WorkCamp payment due today! Make check to "FUMC/Youth Missions" for \$50.

Sunday, April 27:

3:30-5:00pm

Jr. High Youth Group

6:00-8:00pm

Sr. High Youth Group

The First United Methodist Church
 704 Eighth Street, PO Box 25
 Baldwin City, KS 66006
 (Phone: 785-594-6612)
www.baldwinfirst.org

<p>Non-Profit Organization U.S. Postage PAID Baldwin City, KS 66006 PERMIT NO. 10</p>
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Return Service Requested

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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.

**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.

March 2014

Sunday Services	8:30 a.m.	Traditional Worship - Sanctuary
	9:30 a.m.	Sunday School/Bible Study
	10:45 a.m.	Contemporary 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 Wednesday	7:00 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal – Sanctuary
1 st Saturday	9:00 a.m.	United Methodist Women Executive Meeting - Library
1st & 3rd Saturdays	7:30 a.m.	United Methodist Men – Vintage Park

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Sat., March 1	7:30 a.m.	United Methodist Men – Vintage Park
	9:00 a.m.	UMW Executive Meeting – Library
Sun., March 2	2:30 p.m.	Confirmation
Wed., March 5	7:00 p.m.	Ash Wednesday Service
Thurs., March 6	6:30 p.m.	Disciple Bible Study – Chapel
Fri., March 7		World Day of Prayer
March, Feb. 9	2:30 p.m.	Confirmation
Wed., March 12	9:30 a.m.	Sarah Circle – Marlene Courtney’s
Thurs., March 13	7:00 p.m.	Care Givers Team – Library
Sat., March 15	7:30 a.m.	United Methodist Men – Vintage Park
Wed., March 19	11:30 p.m.	Dorcas Circle – Clean Kitchen
Sun., March 23	2:30 p.m.	Confirmation
Tues., March 25	7:00 p.m.	Technology & Communications Team – Library
Thurs., March 27	7:00 p.m.	Eve Circle – Jean Baldwin’s
Sun., March 30	Noon	All Church Birthday Party Potluck – Fellowship Hall
	2:30 p.m.	Confirmation