

# **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. Paul Babcock

May 2012

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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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## **PAUL'S PAGE:**

The Christian liturgical calendar is fashioned around the life of Jesus of Nazareth. In Advent we anticipate his arrival (both the first one and the second one!); at Christmas we celebrate his birth and growth; during Epiphany we celebrate his baptism, his calling of the disciples, and his teaching; in Lent we remember his death on the cross for our sakes; in Eastertide we celebrate his resurrection from the dead. And we get to do so for fifty days!

Yes, we are now in the midst of "The Great Fifty Days" as the church calls it, the Easter season. That "begins at sunset Easter Eve and continues through the Day of Pentecost. It is the most joyous and celebrative season of the Christian year. It focuses on Christ's resurrection and ascension and on the givings of the Holy Spirit on the first Easter (John 20:22 -23) and the Day of Pentecost (Acts 2) (from THE UNITED METHODIST BOOK OF WORSHIP)."

On Easter evening, the gospel of John tells us, Jesus appeared to his disciples, breathed on them, and commanded them to receive the Holy Spirit. Then "He presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the Kingdom of God (Act 1:3)." Then he ascended into the heavens. They spent the next ten days in constant prayer. We then read of the festival of Pentecost (Acts 2) when God poured out the Holy Spirit on all of those gathered, many speaking other languages. They were thus empowered to be the Church!

We are reminded during this "Great Fifty Days" that we, too, are empowered to be the Church, we are reminded that we, too, are given what we need to be faithful people, we are reminded that we, too, are a sent people. As the church, we discover and celebrate! We discover who we are and whose we are as we discover and celebrate that the Risen Christ is in our midst.

All of that remembering and celebrating doesn't just happen. It is by God's grace and by God's design.

Those disciples spent time gathered together. They spent time in prayer. They knew that seeing the Risen Christ met something. They continued to seek God's faithfulness and will: they selected someone to join them and all accepted the outcome.

This season of Easter is, for us, a time to learn and celebrate and discover and gather and pray. And part of the purpose of the season is for us to discover and, in some cases re-discover, what our spiritual gifts are, to claim that we are sent, we are called to ministry in Christ's name.

We will continue to celebrate on the Sundays of the month of May: the 6<sup>th</sup> will be Holy Communion; the 13<sup>th</sup> will be Mother's Day and the Festival of the Christian Home; the 20<sup>th</sup> will be Baker University's Baccalaureate service, traditionally held here in our building; the 27<sup>th</sup> will be Pentecost. Come and be a part of the fellowship, the gathered, the celebration, the discovery. And be sent to be faithful people. Always.

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On two different Sundays in April we received new members into the life and fellowship of this church. On April 22<sup>nd</sup> we welcomed Brett Bruner, Cheryl and Mark Fletcher, Sue Gossett, Rose O'Dea and Effie Rinke. On Confirmation Sunday, April 29<sup>th</sup>, we received four members of the Confirmation Class: Emily Dixson, MacKenzie Ellis, Maddie Morgan, and Alaina Schiffelbein.

"Do all in your power to increase their faith,  
Confirm their hope, and perfect them in love."

Another New Member Sunday will be held, probably in the Fall. Please let us know if you would like to join us in our fellowship here at First United Methodist Church.

And, as always, thank you for being who you are and for who you will become in our Risen Lord!

**SHALOM,  
Paul**

**MISSIONS**

Laura Dickinson, Chair. (594-2658)

**Missions Committee Taco Bar Fundraiser – Sunday, May 6 – after church ...**

Missions will be serving tacos Sunday, May 6th in Fellowship Hall directly after church services. The proceeds will go toward the Youth Mission trip this summer. Please come and enjoy tacos while supporting our youth in their mission outreach experience.

**ABC AND WINDOWS FUND UPDATE ...**

Thanks to the generous support of our congregation and others we have raised the \$40,000.00 to complete the building assessment, repair the bell tower and deck, replace the copier equipment and repair, restore and replace the beautiful stained glass windows! The loan has been paid and we are blessed to have these projects completed. Please continue to support the church with donations to the general fund.

Thank you on behalf of the fund raising committee...

Roger and Nancy Arnold  
Carl and Susan Butell

Walt and Barbara Bailey  
John and Becky Thomas

John Beins  
Stan Vickers

**UMW**

Donna Curran, UMW President (594-2381)

**SPRING SALAD SUPPER**  
May 1, 6:30, Fellowship Hall  
All women of the church are invited  
Bring a salad to serve 12  
*Please RSVP Wanda Samuels at 785-766-6348 for dinner and childcare*

**CIRCLE MEETINGS**

**Sarah Circle:** May 9th, 9:30 am at Mary Jane Chubb's  
**Dorcas Circle:** May 16th, 1:30 pm at Vintage Park meeting room, Hostess is Shirley Johnson  
**Eve Circle:** May 24, 7 pm at Donna Curran's home

*If you would like to attend any or all meetings and need more information please call Donna Curran, 594-2381*

**SEWING LITTLE DRESSES FOR AFRICA ...**

mark your calendar for June 30<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m. in Fellowship Hall... Please contact Linda Ballinger (913-980-3831), if you would like to work on this project. The UMW is sponsoring this event and we would like a count of people interested, so we have enough equipment and material to keep everyone busy. There will be fabrics, elastic, bias tape, sewing machines and sergers to complete these "little dresses" project. We will also be making "t-shirt" knit shirts for little boys. Come have a great time serving others – the more the merrier!

On a more personal note, we would love to say thank you for all the kind words, cards, prayers and most important the love that our church family has given to us.

Blessings,  
Mike and Donna

**CHILDREN'S MINISTRY**Shelly Todd, Director (594-2921), [ksl1987@embarqmail.com](mailto:ksl1987@embarqmail.com)**\*No Sunday School on May 20<sup>th</sup> due to Baker University's Baccalaureate**

**\*SKY VBS is coming to BFUMC!** Children who have just completed preschool through 5<sup>th</sup> grade are enthusiastically invited to soar to new heights with God at SKY VBS. Our summer VBS will take place July 8<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> (Sunday – Thursday) from 6:30 to 9:00 p.m. Kids will learn at SKY VBS that no matter who you are, how you feel, where you are, what happens, or what people might do ... you can TRUST GOD! Bible stories and verses come from both the Old and New Testaments and each day the kids will learn a bible point to help them remember that they can TRUST GOD.

This year, there will be some slight changes to the VBS format, but the excitement and fun will be the same! Kids will be excited about the new stations and the soaring fun of SKY VBS! Invite all the kids you know!!

**\*There's a place for everyone at SKY VBS...it's not JUST for kids!** Last year, we ministered to 143 children at Pandamania VBS. It takes a lot of hands and feet to minister to that many wonderful kids! Adults and JR/SR High youth can serve as Station Leaders, Walking Leaders, Registration Attendants, or serve a light meal to our VBS volunteers. And being a part of VBS is FUN!! We have many return adults and youth to our VBS staff and the more the merrier! If you cannot physically be a part of VBS, then you can always support our wonderful VBS financially by sponsoring a child for VBS and praying for our VBS is always welcomed! If you would like to be a part of our VBS staff, please contact Shelly. ☺

**\*VBS sponsorship:** Over the past couple of years, our church family has generously sponsored hundreds of children to attend our FREE VBS. How exciting it is to know that our church can share the great big love of Jesus with kids and their families. The priceless gift of sponsorship will allow a child to SOAR to new heights with God. This year, sponsorship for 1 child is \$20 for 5 days of uplifting joy! If you would like to sponsor a child for VBS, simply leave a check in the offering plate w/ Children's Ministries in the memo line or you can leave a check in the church office. By the way...our prayer goal for SKY VBS is to minister to 150 children! Please join us in praying that God blesses us with the opportunity to minister to MANY children!

**CROSS CULTURE YOUTH MINISTRY**Eva Durand, Director of Youth Ministry  
(594-0345) 785.766.5803 or [eva3d@embarqmail.com](mailto:eva3d@embarqmail.com)

Sunday, May 6:

**12:00pm****Missions Committee Taco Bar Fundraiser**

All Youth will assist Missions Committee to provide set-up, serving, and clean-up for this all-community fundraising lunch. Funds raised will go towards Youth Mission WorkCamp to Ocean View, Delaware.

**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 WorkCamps" for \$172.**

Sunday, May 20:

**3:30-5:00pm****Jr. High Youth Group****6:00-8:00pm****Sr. High YG/Senior Celebration Night!**

Sunday, June 17

**12:00pm: WorkCamper Tool Packing Party**

June 17–June 23:

**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.

June 22–July 1:

**Youth Mission WorkCamp 2012 trip to Ocean View, DE. Payments due March 4 & May 6.**

Sunday, July 8,

**12:00pm: WorkCamper Tool UN-Packing Party**

July 15–July 19,

**5:30-9:30pm nightly: Children's Vacation Bible School / Service Opportunity**

July 15–July 21:

**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*  
 704 Eighth Street, PO Box 25  
 Baldwin City, KS 66006  
 (Phone: 785-594-6612)  
[www.baldwinfirst.org](http://www.baldwinfirst.org)

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

**May 2012**

<b>Sunday Services</b>	<b>9:30 a.m.</b>	<b>Sunday School/Bible Study</b>
	<b>10:45 a.m.</b>	<b>Worship – Sanctuary</b>
<b>1st Monday</b>	<b>7:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Missions – Fellowship Hall</b>
<b>2nd Tuesday</b>	<b>7:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Trustees – Fellowship Hall</b>
<b>3rd Monday</b>	<b>7:00 p.m.</b>	<b>SPPRC – Library</b>
	<b>7:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Finance – Chapel</b>
<b>4th Monday</b>	<b>7:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Church Council – Chapel</b>
<b>1st Saturday</b>	<b>9:30 a.m.</b>	<b>UMW Executive Board – Library</b>
<b>1st &amp; 3rd Saturdays</b>	<b>7:30 a.m.</b>	<b>United Methodist Men – Vintage Park</b>
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Sun., April 29	after church	Potluck Dinner – Fellowship Hall
Tues., May 1	6:30 p.m.	UMW Spring Salad Supper – Fellowship Hall
Sun., May 6	after church	Missions Committee/Youth Mission Fundraiser - Taco Bar - Fellowship Hall
Sun., May 20	9:30 a.m.	Baker University's Baccalaureate Service – No Church Service
June 22 – July 1		Youth Mission Trip to Ocean View, DE
Sat., June 30	10:00 a.m.	Sewing for Africa – Fellowship Hall
July 8 – 12	6:30 – 9:00 p.m.	Vacation Bible School