

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

October 2011

**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:

Oh, the month of October! Some good things come in October.

The first of those is World Communion Sunday on the first Sunday of the month. Here is some information about it, from the UMC web site:

In 1940 the Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America established World-wide Communion Sunday as a global, interdenominational event. Prompted by the impact of World War II, the Methodist Church received an offering on this Sunday for the Fellowship of Suffering and Service. In 1971 The United Methodist Church changed the name of the observance to World Communion Sunday and redistributed the offering to support the Crusade Scholarship Program (begun in 1944, now the **World Communion Scholarship Program**), the Ethnic Scholarship Program and the Division of Chaplains and Related Ministries. In 1980, Chaplains and Related Ministries was moved to World Service funding, but the World Communion Sunday offering continued to assist racial- and ethnic persons pursuing various avenues of ministry.

Half of the offering provides **World Communion Scholarship** for international and U.S. racial- and ethnic graduate students. Thirty-five percent of the receipts support Ethnic Scholarships for undergraduate students. Fifteen percent funds Ethnic In-Service Training Program scholarships for racial- and ethnic persons seeking second careers in church-related vocations.

Please come and be a part of this world wide event on October 2.

The third Sunday of October is Laity Sunday: "this day calls the Church to celebrate the ministry of Christians of all ages in the home, workplace, congregation, community, and world (from the UNITED METHODIST *BOOK OF WORSHIP*)." I know many of you will be out in the community that day for the Maple Leaf weekend celebration. So, I want you to know that I celebrate the ministry of the laity of this church, so many of whom will be out that day helping move the community forward. Thank you all and I celebrate you! Thank you for your ministry in and through this church.

On October 23 we have an opportunity to celebrate our historic tie to Baker University. The Baker Chamber Choir and Concert Choir will both be here. They will be providing us some wonderful sacred music from all the ages. I look forward to hearing them. I hope you will be here for that, too.

Also on that day, I will begin a series of sermons on stewardship. I do that because I think it is a part of our discipleship that is lost in our world. Usually when people think of stewardship they think of money, and that is part of it, but not all of it. Stewardship is more than that. I will be talking about what a steward is and the stewardship of our time, talent and treasure. This begins on the 23rd and continues on the 30th, then going to November 13 and 20. We will be hearing some other good stories on those Sundays from others in our congregation about how this church and its ministries have had effect on them. We'll actually be celebrating Laity Sunday for several weeks!

I want you to know that I celebrate being a part of this church and all of our ministries. I also celebrate the God who sustains us in those ministries and in life. All too frequently, it seems, we are confronted by life with unanswered questions. That can be troubling. What I have come to believe is that God does uphold us and strengthen us and leads us forward even when so much is senseless. Thanks be to God for loving us so much.

And thank you all for what you do and what you are as First United Methodist Church in Baldwin City, Kansas!

SHALOM,

MISSIONS COMMITTEE

Laura Dickinson, Chair. (594-2658)

CROP Walk – To all those who “walked because they walk”, donated time and efforts toward the CROP event, provided financial endorsement to walkers, donated food for the Food Pantry and gave honor to the work and life of John Lawrenz in this important outreach, a BIG THANK YOU!

Maple Leaf - Baldwin First is always a busy place on Maple Leaf Saturday. The UMM and Missions team co-sponsor the annual Chili Feed in Fellowship Hall. You do not have to be involved with either group to come and help. Additional hands are always welcomed. If you are interested, please visit with Bill Clement and/or Laura Dickinson.

Bishop’s Roundup – This year's annual event is November 19th. We are lucky as the gathering event occurs at the nearby Lawrence fairgrounds. The Kansas East Conference gathers food, clothing, funds and other items through individual churches in the Kansas East Conference on a designated Saturday every November and subsequently distributes those items to a variety of missional sites throughout Kansas, the US and international programs. Youth from Kansas East converge on the fairgrounds Friday evening for an overnight event, followed by Saturday morning's human convoy in the movement of items delivered. It is quite a sight to see!!! All are welcome!!! The Bishop is in attendance for the 10:30 am worship service. If you have never been, it is a great opportunity to see the connectional system of the United Methodist Church at work.

We will be “rounding up” school kits, health kits, clothing and other items throughout the October and November for Bishops Roundup. Items included in kits will be on display in an area in the Narthex, along with other information about this important event.

Food Pantry - The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) reports that for the third consecutive year, 1 in 6 Americans live in households that are food insecure. Among the nearly 49 million Americans facing hunger are more than 16 million children. Five million households experiencing food insecurity include at least one senior. The USDA collected the data in December, 2010. Of the nearly 49 million Americans that experience food insecurity, 16 million are children.

The Baldwin City Community Food Pantry serves 150-200 family units throughout a month, representing 400-600 individuals. Thank you for the ongoing support provided to the Community Food Pantry in donations of time, food and dollars.

Whatever God does, the first outburst is always compassion – Meister Eckhart

BONFIRE & WIENER ROAST
Saturday, October 8 - 6:00 p.m.
at Kelly & Tara Welch’s
639 East 1700 Road
Please bring lawn chairs and a side dish
This is a kid friendly event!

BILL’S BRANCH - Maple Leaf Festival is just around the corner. Many of you will be involved in a number of ways in the festivities that weekend. The Missions Team and United Methodist Men will once again hold the chili feed in Fellowship Hall. The date will be Saturday, October 15, 11:00 - 1:00. Plan on having lunch with us. The menu will again include chili, chili dogs, hot dogs, vegetable soup, water, pop and coffee. And don’t forget to finish off your meal with a piece of pie, cookies or brownies from the United Methodist Women’s dessert bar that will be set up on the stage. All the profits from the chili feed go to carry out the mission and ministries of the church. It takes a lot of people to be greeters, cashiers, food runners, serve food and clean tables. We will have two different shifts, each lasting 1 1/2 hours. Even if you are not on the Missions Team or in the UMM Study Group, you can still help. Please contact Bill Clement at 594-6864 or Laura Dickinson at 594-2658.



Potluck & Pumpkin Carving Contest (prizes awarded)
Sunday, October 30
(after church)

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Shelly Todd, Director of Children's Ministries
(594-2921), ksl1987@embarqmail.com

***Sunday School:** The Sprout Ministries Sunday School Staff invites all children ages 3 through 5th grade to join us on Sunday mornings at 9:30 a.m. for Sunday School. 3 year olds through 3rd grade gather in the chapel with Miss Shelly for 15 minutes of singing and prayer before going to their Sunday School classes. 4th and 5th grade students report directly to their Sunday School classroom.

Our Sunday School staff is excited about meeting new students and continuing on with other students from last year. Here is our official staff for the 2011-2012 School year:

Preschool: Jean Baldwin, Samantha Cheek, Donna Curran (classroom is in the basement by the elevator)

Kdg-1st Grade: Rose O'Dea, Marve' Ralston, Vonna Torneden (classroom is on the 2nd floor of the church)

2nd-3rd Grade: David Bolz, Cora Martin, and Connie Neuenswander (2nd floor of the church)

4th-5th Grade: Angela Murray, Becky Thomas, Gayla Waymire (2nd floor of the church)

Sunday School registration forms are located in the Narthex. We encourage you to complete a form for your child. Forms may be given directly to Shelly Todd, to one of the Sunday School teachers, or left in the church office. We are looking forward to a FUN year in Sunday School!

3rd Grade Bible Sunday: The 3rd graders of our church will receive bibles from the congregation on Sunday, November 20th during our worship service. If you have a 3rd grade student, please contact Shelly so that we are sure to have a bible for your child. This is an exciting Sunday for 3rd graders and a wonderful event in the life of our church

Save the date: The Children's Christmas pageant will be on December 11th during our worship service. Rehearsals will take place during the Sunday School hour. More information will be coming in the next issue of the Vine. We hope that all children ages preschool through 5th grade will be a part of our telling of the story of Jesus' birth.

CROSS CULTURE YOUTH MINISTRY

Eva Durand, Director of Youth Ministry
(594-0345) 785.766.5803 or eva3d@embarqmail.com

Sunday, October 2:
3:30-5:00pm Jr. High Youth Group 6:00-8:00pm Sr. High Youth Group

{For those interested: Conference Event: Saturday, October 1, 9:30am-5pm – Christians in Action Youth Mission Event at Harvesters in Topeka, KS. Bring your own sack lunch. Get t-shirt upon arrival. Contact Conference Office with ?s.}

Sunday, October 9:
3:30-5:00pm Jr. High Youth Group 6:00-8:00pm Sr. High Youth Group

Wednesday, October 12: **Maple Leaf Festival Fundraiser -- Chalking Fundraiser for 2012 Youth Mission Trip -- YOUTH**

Youth meet at the Lumberyard Arts Center to receive instructions on designating booth spaces in the downtown area (chalking numbers for booths). Work may be needed Thursday evening too.

Thursday, October 13: **Possible Maple Leaf Festival Fundraiser -- Chalking Fundraiser for 2012 Youth Mission Trip -- YOUTH**

Booth work may be completed on Wednesday evening, but if not, work may possibly be needed Thursday evening as well. If so, Youth meet at the Lumberyard Arts Center to receive instructions on designating booth spaces in the downtown area (chalking numbers for booths).

Friday, October 14: **Maple Leaf Festival Fundraiser -- Chalking Fundraiser for 2012 Youth Mission Trip -- YOUTH**

Youth meet at the Lumberyard Arts Center to receive instructions on designating booth spaces in the downtown area (taping booths in the middle of the street).

Saturday, October 15: **Maple Leaf Festival Fundraiser – Parade Security Fundraiser for 2012 Youth Mission Trip -- PARENTS**

Parents of Youth needed to work as Parade Security! Meet at the Lumberyard Arts Center to receive instructions and 'fancy orange security' vests.

Times TBD **Fundraiser for 2012 Youth Mission Trip – Apple Butter -- PARENTS & YOUTH**

Parents of Youth needed to work the Apple Butter Booth at Antiques on the Prairie. There will also be preparation days prior to Maple Leaf Weekend.

Sunday, October 23:
3:30-5:00pm Jr. High Youth Group 6:00-8:00pm Sr. High Youth Group

Sunday, October 30: **Youth-Only Fall Fun Night**

5-8pm All Youth (combined Jr. High & Sr. High) will meet at Dan & Connie Neuenswander's for fellowship and fall fun with a hayrack ride, bonfire, hot dogs, S'Mores, and Capture the Flag!!

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

www.baldwinfirst.org



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.

October 2011

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
2nd Tuesday	7:00 p.m.	Trustees – Fellowship Hall
3rd Monday	7:00 p.m.	SPRC – Library
	7:00 p.m.	Finance – Chapel
4th Monday	7:00 p.m.	Church Council – Chapel
1st Saturday	9:30 a.m.	UMW Executive Board – Library
1st & 3rd Saturdays	7:30 a.m.	United Methodist Men – Vintage Park

Mon., Oct. 3	2:00-6:00 p.m.	Community Blood Drive at BHS, hosted by National Honor Society. Donors may schedule an appointment by contacting Kathy Cook at kcook@usd348.com or going on-line to www.esavealifenow.org .
Tues., Oct. 4	7:00 p.m.	Nominations Com. – Library
Sat., Oct. 8	6:00 p.m.	Bonfire & Wiener Roast at Tara & Kelly Welch’s – 639 East 1700 Road ... bring a side dish & lawn chairs. This is a kid friendly event!
Sat. - Sun., Oct. 15-16		Maple Leaf Weekend
Sat., Oct. 15	11 a.m. – 1 p.m.	Chili Feed & Bake Sale – Fellowship Hall
Sun., Oct. 16	6 – 8 p.m.	Mary Swan’s 90 th Birthday Party! Lumberyard Arts Center (no gifts)
Tues., Oct. 18	7:00 p.m.	Nominations Com. – Library
Sun., Oct. 30	after church	Potluck & Pumpkin Carving Contest
Sat., Nov. 5	5 - 7 p.m.	Turkey Dinner – Fellowship Hall
Thurs., Nov. 17	7 - 9 p.m.	Church Conference