

Baldwin Community United Methodist Church
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BALDWIN COMMUNITY NEWS

A UNITED METHODIST CONGREGATION



DECEMBER 2022

This, this is Christ the King!

By Pastor Pamela Gardner

I give thanks for the 200+ boxes of stuffing sent to the Light of Life mission, the 80+ Foster Love bags, and your enthusiasm for fulfilling each child's wish on our Angel Tree. November has been quite the celebration of community-wide generosity and loving-kindness, thank you!

On Hanging of the Greens Sunday, we started our worship with the thought that Advent is a time of “drawing close” to the infant Jesus, God-made flesh, who came to dwell among us. Throughout December, the Church draws close in worship, study, and fellowship to calm the distracting voices of a more secular Christmas to announce that “This, this is Christ the King!” With each passing week, we commit to the deepening journey toward the manger joining angels, shepherds, animals, innkeepers, and more gathered around the nativity.

Our Advent worship this year will include lots of music, children’s books, and scriptures pondering the true meaning of Christmas. I pray that you are also making space in your homes for this holiest of seasons by putting out your Advent wreath, finding a Christmas devotional, or gathering with friends and family in deeply sacred ways. May our personal preparations echo the song that declares, “This, this is Christ the King!”

Then, on Christmas and New Year’s Day, we will gather in our chapel for music, communion, and reading of Jesus’ birth. We are anticipating a warm, intimate gathering of those who desire to honor these significant days with the centering thought “This, this is Christ the King!” And may this refrain echo throughout 2023 as beyond the season of Advent we commit daily to drawing close to God in simple, elegant, invitational ways. Holy Christmas to all!



The Altar Decorating Crew has been hard at work creating beautiful views in the Sanctuary.

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Trunk or Treat was a tremendous success. With food trucks, a costume contest, and music by the Praise Band, fun was had by all.

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

Christmas

COOKIE WALK BAKE SALE

DECEMBER 10TH

9:00 A.M. - SELL OUT

ASBURY HALL

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

Christmas

COOKIE WALK BAKE SALE

DECEMBER 10TH

9:00 A.M. - SELL OUT

ASBURY HALL

Tell Me Somethin' Good



84 bags were collected for the Foster Love Project!

The front church doors have been refinished!



Listening to the Children's Choir has been a wonderful treat during worship!

We gave a generous donation to TNC to support the construction of a medical clinic in Zimbabwe!



2023 Preview

New Leadership Board



Back row (L-R): Barbara Gjerstad, Lance Gjerstad, Lori Deal, Linda Funk, Vanessa Gleason, and Tom Gintner **Front row (L-R):** Jessica Speer, Barbara Semich, Fred and Arleen Gealey **Missing from photo:** David Paladino

LEADERSHIP BOARD NEWS:

As we look forward to our work on the Leadership Board, we would like to communicate with our congregation that our meetings are open. At the beginning of each board meeting will be time dedicated for church members to come share concerns, ask questions, or offer comments related to the ongoing work of our congregation. Every voice matters as we seek to do the work of God at Baldwin Community UMC.



Baldwin Community Preschool is seeking substitute teachers! Contact Jamie Carr at 412-440-0509.



The
NEW A.D.A. BATHROOM PROJECT
TO BE COMPLETED IN 2023

...AND SO MUCH MORE! WE ARE SO EXCITED FOR 2023!

LENTEN HIKING CLUB



EARLY SPRING 2023



Looking Ahead in Worship



December 18th:
11:00 am Christmas Pageant
Christmas Eve:
5:00 pm in Asbury
7:00 pm in the Sanctuary
Christmas Day:
10:00 am in the Chapel
New Years Day:
10:00 am in the Chapel
January 1st—29th:
“I Resolve...” series
February 5th—26th:
“Love Your Neighbor” series
Note: Lent begins on February 22nd with Ash Wednesday.

Our regular schedule for worship is:
9:00 am—Casual (Asbury)
11:00 am—Traditional (Sanctuary)



Discipleship for All Ages



UPCOMING YOUTH GROUP EVENTS

- Dec. 18, 11:00 am — Christmas Pageant (all-ages)
- Dec. 18, 5:00 pm — Youth Group Christmas Party
- Jan. 15, 5:00 pm—Youth Group Bonfire Night
- Jan. 16, 6:00 pm—Racial Wealth Gap Simulation
- Jan. 20, 6:30 pm—Family Movie Night
- February—Youth Group Ice Skating (date TBA)

Contact Justin at jpearl@baldwincommunityumc.com to be added to the distribution list for youth events. Our regular schedule is Sunday evenings. 5th-8th graders meet from 5—6:30 pm and 9th-12th graders from 6:30 pm—8 pm.



Diversity and Inclusion Team

Is that your
real hair?

Okay, but
where are you
REALLY from?

You're so
articulate!

Your
people...

Join the Diversity and Inclusion Team as we kick off the new year with a discussion on micro-aggressions and fighting prejudice in our communities and

workplaces. We'll discuss why the phrases above are problematic, how to respond when we witness a micro-aggression, and how to avoid committing them ourselves. We meet on the first and third Wednesdays of every month in the parlor. Contact Barbara Gjerstad at wildirishrose@gmail.com for more information.



The Diversity and Inclusion Team hosted an event featuring Keegan Osinski, theologian and author of Queering Wesley, Queering the Church on October 22nd. It was a well-attended and informative evening. We were blessed to have teamed up with First United Methodist Church in the Shadyside area of the city to bring Keegan here. We will be working on continuing our relationship with our brothers and sisters that worship at First in 2023. Stay tuned for more events.

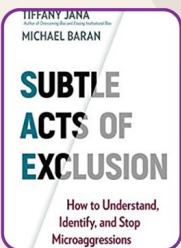
Racial Wealth Gap Simulation

January 16, 2023
6:00
Asbury Hall



Presented by Daily Bread and our
Diversity and Inclusion Team

Diversity and Inclusion Team



Book Study
1st and 3rd Wednesdays
7:00 p.m.
Parlor

Our Church Calendar

- December 7th—Pageant Rehearsal, 5:30 pm (Sanctuary)
- December 10th—Cookie Walk, 9 am (Asbury)
- December 14th—Pageant Rehearsal, 5:30 pm (Sanctuary)
- December 15th—Lord's Pantry Distribution, noon (Circle)
- December 18th—11 am Christmas Pageant (Sanctuary)
- December 24th—Christmas Eve Worship, 5 pm Asbury / 7 pm Sanctuary
- December 25th—10 am Combined Service w/ Communion (Chapel)
- December 26th-30th—Quiet Week (Office Closed)
- January 1st—10 am Combined Service w/ Communion (Chapel)
- January 15th—Youth Group Bonfire Night, 5 pm (Outdoor)
- January 16th—Racial Wealth Gap Simulation, 6 pm (Asbury)
- January 17th—First Leadership Board Meeting, 7 pm (Asbury)
- January 20th—Family Movie Night, 6:30 pm (Chapel)
- January 26th—Lord's Pantry Distribution, noon (Circle)
- February 5th—Love Your Neighbor month begins/Communion Sunday
- February 19th—Deborah Swineford from TNC (9 am & 11 am) services

Keep updated on events on our social media pages!



Al Anon:
Sundays at 8 pm
in Wesley Hall.



GA :
Tuesdays at
7:30 pm in
Wesley Hall.



AA:
Fridays at 7 pm
and Saturdays at
noon in Asbury
Hall.

Save the date...

The Southwestern PA Bread Workshop will be held on Saturday, April 23rd from 10 am—1 pm at the Pittsburgh Theological Seminary.



Bus Trips in 2023...

Dave and Elaine Lewis have announced their scheduled bus trips for next year:

- June 12-13: Creation Museum & Ark Encounter
- August 14-18: Mackinaw Island, Michigan
- November 18: Oglebay Festival of Lights

Registration begins on January 1st. Call Elaine for more information. 412-885-4560