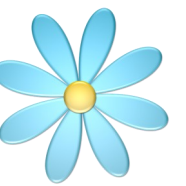


# Baldwin Community News



Mid-Summer Edition—2020



Pamela Gardner, Senior Pastor

As August 2nd approaches, we are busy making final preparations for worship in our sanctuary.

Here is what you can expect upon arriving at the church building on August 2nd:

- Please plan to park in the church lot on Doverdell Drive as the back lot will be closed. Please enter by the Asbury Hall entrance to access the elevator to the sanctuary. Feel free to pull into the church circle to drop off all passengers with mobility concerns.
- The Asbury entrance and Sanctuary doors will open at 9:30 am. Please wear your mask to worship! If you forget your mask, one will be provided for you. As you enter the building, you will be asked a series of questions (Have you been feeling sick? Have you been around others who have been sick?) and your temperature will be taken with a touch-free thermometer. Anyone with a fever of 100.5 or higher will not be allowed in the building.
- Following your check-in, we ask that you move into the sanctuary by the center aisle. Please do not linger or visit with people before being seated. Members of your household should sit together. When entering the sanctuary, select an open pew that has not been blocked off, moving to the far side aisle seats first. Once the side aisle seats are occupied, then you may choose to sit at a center aisle seat. Please find your seat and remain seated. Restrooms should be used for emergency purposes only, either in the usher's room or downstairs outside Asbury Hall.
- Worship services will not include greeting one another, singing, communion, or collection of the offering. Offering baskets will be located at the sanctuary doors where you can easily drop your envelope in the basket as you pass by. Bulletins will be sent in our weekly email blasts on Fridays; for those wishing to have a hard copy to read from, please print your page at home as they will not be distributed at the doors.
- Worship services will last approximately 30-40 minutes. Once the worship service is over, we ask that you leave by the side aisles and avoid congregating in groups inside the building. Socializing outside the building is welcome.
- Until there is a vaccine, we will be evaluating in person worship weekly and complying with local and state health mandates. For the latest information, see <https://baldwincommunityumc.com/about-us/covid-19/>.

We are asking you to be respectful and kind with each other, all volunteers, and the church staff as we work to make the best of a difficult situation. We know how frustrating life has become in response to COVID-19. Our goal at Baldwin Community UMC must be to provide an outstanding role model for the surrounding community and to celebrate our unity by doing our very best to stop the spread of this virus. Thank you for your ongoing prayers, generosity, and commitment to Baldwin Community UMC!



Thank you to Nancy Michael and the rest of the Health and Wellness Committee for volunteering your time to assist with meetings in the church building as well as prepare for the protocols we will be following when we return to in person worship.

*One of our sanitization carts pictured right.*

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Baldwin Community United Methodist Church  
5001 Baptist Road Pittsburgh, PA 15236  
412-882-9300

Non-Profit Organization  
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PITTSBURGH, PA.  
Permit No. 308



Clean up with  
Trustees:  
Saturday,  
July 11, 2020





## Call to Prayer & Fasting

July 25th—26th

Fasting is a spiritual practice intended to deepen our relationship with God based on trust and obedience. As we return to our sanctuary for worship, we want to be in a good place with God as we recognize we are not returning for ourselves but to worship and praise a God known to us. Calling for a fast is an opportunity to create space to offer thanksgiving and awareness as we prepare for this return not by our own efforts. During this weekend, you are invited to create a fast by picking the day, the amount of time, the thing you are fasting from, and preparations you need to make for a successful fast. You might choose to fast from food, electronic gadgets, or any other distraction that impedes your relationship with God. As you pray and prepare, you might consider the following in your reflections.

- Am I ready to worship in person? Do I feel safe to return to the sanctuary?
- What have I learned about my relationship with God? With others? With myself?
- What blessings do I bring into worship that honor God and all around me?
- What changes are being worked out within me in response to pandemics of Covid-19 and racism?

I pray that the joy of deep listening to God in this time of fasting and prayer might move you into surprising and wondrous moments with our God.

**The POWER of PRAYER AND FASTING**



Ginger Thomas,  
Administrative Pastor

## Staffing News

We thank everyone who helped make Phil Aley's retirement car parade send-off so special! Thank you also for your generosity to Phil and Winnie's love offering; the monetary gifts you sent in helped to fund a retirement gift from the congregation of a gift certificate for a week at Chautauqua Institution, a very special place to the Aleys.

In preparation for our return to in-person worship, we are in conversation with local organists to arrange for organ music on a temporary basis, until the time that SPRC is ready to hold a search for a long-term organist and director of music.

Presently, a search has begun to hire a part-time (12 hour/week) Tech and Media Coordinator. See the church website for more information. Please help get the word out!

We want to thank Janise Daly for her years serving as Congregational Care Coordinator. She has recently stepped down from this role and from her role as Silver Seekers Coordinator because of an increase in hours with her other job. If you are interested in helping to fill some of our congregational care needs, please reach out to Pastor Pam.

## 2020 Laity Memorial Educational Award

In appreciation and in recognition of their contributions to the life and history of Baldwin Community United Methodist Church, the men of BCUMC established this annual post secondary award in memory of the laity of this church. There may be one or more recipients regardless of gender who are active in this church. The awards shall be used to assist the educational development of the recipient regardless of his/her choice of vocational study.

All active members and clergy of this church are eligible to submit the required application. Forms are available in the church office or send an email to Jerry Rohland, Attn: 2020 Laity Award. Completed forms should be submitted to the Methodist Men by 4:00 p.m. on Sunday, August 2, 2020.



## Technology & Worship News



Sign up to receive our weekly email blasts by updating your Elexio information:

[baldwincommunityumc.elexiochms.com](https://baldwincommunityumc.elexiochms.com)

Subscribe to our YouTube channel:

<http://www.youtube.com/baldwincommunityumc>

Like our Facebook page:

<http://www.facebook.com/baldwincommunity>

Worship can be viewed online at:

- ♦ <https://baldwincommunityumc.com/live-service/>
- ♦ <http://www.facebook.com/baldwincommunity/>

## Connecting online & in person:

### Weekend Worship

August 2020

Saturdays online at 7 pm

Sundays in the Sanctuary with live stream at 10 am

**"Restoring Hope: Searching for truth in Ezra-Nehemiah"**

- ♦ August 1-2 : Restoring Hope by honoring what was lost (Ezra 7)
- ♦ August 8-9 : Restoring Hope by recognizing the faithfulness of God (Neh. 5)
- ♦ August 15-16 : Restoring Hope by working together (Neh. 5)
- ♦ August 22-23 : Restoring Hope by immersing in God's word (Neh. 8)
- ♦ August 29-30 : Restoring Hope: by acknowledging our fears (Neh. 13)

Mark your calendars!

Upcoming book study on **Christians at the Border: Immigration, the Church, and the Bible**  
Mondays at 7 pm , beginning October 5th.

## BALDWIN COMMUNITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

*... makes the Presence of God Real!*



⇒ **Saturday Evening Online Worship at 7:00 p.m.**

⇒ **Sunday Morning In Person\* and Online Worship at 10:00 a.m.**

\*In person Worship begins on Sunday, August 2, 2020 and will be evaluated weekly, until there is a vaccine.





Justin Pearl, Discipleship and Youth Coordinator



Baldwin Community would like to recognize our 2020 graduates, who finished up studies this past Spring. Graduation is an incredible accomplishment, and we at the church are very proud of our students. This year's graduates are:

**Britney Zimmer** graduated from Baldwin High School. At BCUMC, she has participated in the church plays, church greeting, and youth group. As a student, she was very active in Choir and all 4 years of the High School Musicals. She has already begun studies at Community College, and has been accepted to study education at Slippery Rock University.

**Austin Zirngibl** graduated from Columbus State in early May with a degree in Skilled Trades Technology.

Cards of congratulations can be mailed to the church under the name of the student, where they will be collected and forwarded to the students next month.

## Children & Youth News

### Children's Sunday School

Each Sunday, at 9:15am, Leo Butcher will be gathering together the children of the church for a time of fun and sharing. Each week, we will ask the students to bring something to share with the group. This is a great opportunity to see each other's faces and spend some time having fun together! For login information, contact:

[jpearl@baldwincommunityumc.com](mailto:jpearl@baldwincommunityumc.com)

### Youth Group

Students 6th-12th Grade are encouraged to join us each Sunday evening, at 6:00-7:00pm for a Zoom call, during which we share a short devotional and play some great online games together. Spend some time with us each week laughing and having fun. For login information, contact:

[jpearl@baldwincommunityumc.com](mailto:jpearl@baldwincommunityumc.com)

### Adult Sunday School

Starting August 2<sup>nd</sup> (11:00am), join us for an Adult Sunday School class/book study on N.T. Wright's *Surprised by Hope*.

To register for the class, go to: <https://bit.ly/baldwinhope>



## SURPRISED BY HOPE

*N.T. Wright*

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL 11:00AM

## Whitehall Community Lions Club: Plastic Film Recycling Project

### How can you help/participate?

Collect your plastic. Contact our club with how much your plastic weighs via email or phone call. You can then put your plastic in the plastic collection boxes at a participating store (Giant Eagle, Kohl's, Home Depot) or contact a club member to give them your plastic.

### What will the Club receive when we collect 500 lbs.?

The club will receive a bench and then donate the bench to Whitehall Borough/Baldwin Township, Baldwin Borough and/or any community organization that is interested in receiving a bench. We can receive 1 bench every 6 months. The more plastic collected, the more benches that can be donated.



## Congratulations on your Retirement, Phil!



Car Parade for Phil Aley's Retirement:  
Saturday, July 11, 2020

