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By Pastor Pamela Gardner

Familiar words from a classic hymn play through my mind this day in the attempt to define the word “grateful.” Looking to the dictionary, we find expected definitions of thankfulness or to experience gratitude. You will also find new considerations taking the curious down rare paths calling us to embrace concepts like “appreciation for a kindness” or simply “welcome” widening the definition of what it means to be grateful. During the next few months, it will be easy to share what we are thankful for as we celebrate the blessings of fall and Thanksgiving. How many families go around the table lifting our thanks? We’ve been doing this practice for years and have been richly blessed in the sharing.

But what if this year, we dare to switch the implication of our gratitude to questions that sound more like “During the past year I welcomed...” or “During the past year I appreciated the kindness of...”. Imagine how a simple change of phrase might deepen our celebrations from expected affirmations of thanksgiving to a posture of receiving all that God has prepared for us to grow, thrive, and become living expressions of gratefulness. Imagine your world filled with safe spaces and people who dare to welcome new experiences and change with kindness and a sense of openness to what God is doing in our lives!

As you read through our newsletter, my prayer is that you might find something at Baldwin Community UMC that leads you into a deeper experience of gratefulness opening to you a more loving, generous relationship with God and others. Mark your calendars! Live in grateful expectation of the Holy Spirit entering worship, discipleship conversations, and the life of our church for God's glory!

Adult and Youth Opportunities

Upcoming Events

Preschool News

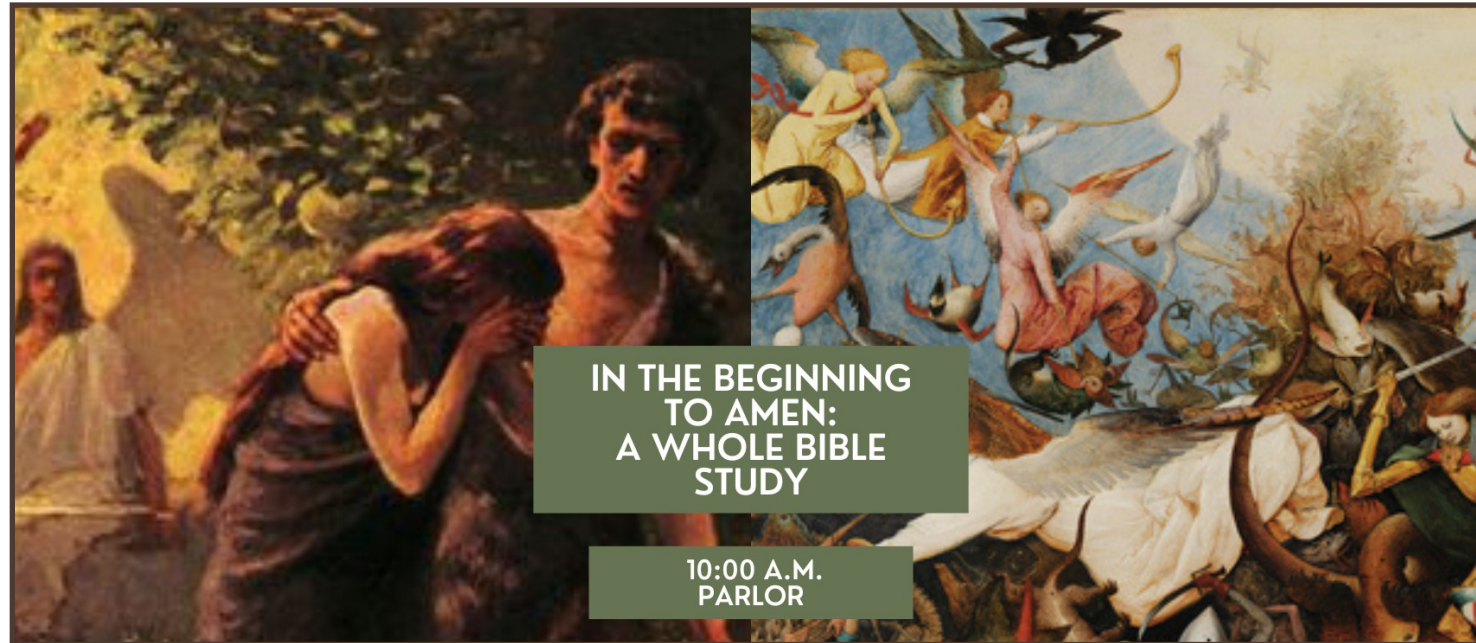
Good News to Share

Worship Information



We had great weather for the Kickoff Sunday Picnic. Everyone enjoyed the music provided by our Praise Band.

Adult Discipleship



Lighthouse Bible Study—
If the Bible speaks it, we teach it!



Thursdays at 2pm
in the 1st Floor
Conference Room

Contact Karen Kleinhampl at 412-884-5417 for more information.

Devoted Disciples



1st and 3rd
Mondays at 7pm
at the King's
Residence

Contact Steve King at
dsktjk1@aol.com or Sam/Sandy
Young at sayyoung@comcast.net
for more information.

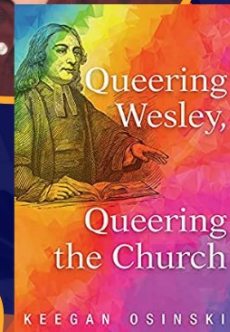
DINNER AND
DISCUSSION WITH
KEEGAN OSINSKI

Author and Theologian

 **OCTOBER 22**

 **5:30 PM DINNER**
6:00 PM LECTURE

Baldwin Community UMC - Asbury Hall
5001 Baptist Road
Pittsburgh, PA 15236
R.S.V.P. 412-882-9300
info@baldwincommunityumc.com



In her book, Queering Wesley, Queering the Church, author Keegan Osinski presents a prototype for thinking about Wesleyan holiness as an expansive openness to the love and grace of God in queer Christian lives rather than the limiting and restrictive legalism that is sometimes found in Wesleyan theology and praxis. On Saturday, October 22nd at 5:30 p.m., we will be joining together for a fellowship dinner in Asbury Hall followed by a lecture with opportunity for Q&A with Keegan Osinski. Please be sure to register by calling or emailing Ria or Heather in the church office. Keegan will also be joining us on Sunday, October 23rd for worship!

Tell Me Somethin' Good



We welcomed Heather Hampton to our staff in the position of Receptionist at the end of August. Heather, shown above with her husband, Dan, and 6 children, lives in Whitehall. Heather enjoys cooking, walking, and cheering on her children in their various sporting events. Her children (Grace, 19; Erin, 18; Mary, 16; Anne, 14; Jack, 11; Andrew, 9) keep her busy. Here in the building, she is responsible for phone and door duties as well as assisting with scheduling events. Heather keeps our office open from 9:00—12:30 Monday through Thursday. Please feel free to stop in to say “hello”.



New directional signage was added to the building which has been well received by all, especially visitors.



“If you carry joy in your heart, you can heal any moment.”
~Carlos Santana

As I ponder the above quote I can't help but think about the JOY that we share through our ministries here at Baldwin Community. Each ministry impacts people in ways we couldn't even begin to understand. Each ministry allows people to know that there are good people in this world; Each ministry allows people to feel loved and cared for in some way; and each ministry brings a sense of joy to a moment which I believe does bring a sense of healing. As Outreach continues to plan ways to share joy with others in the coming weeks, we hope that you will find ways to join us. We will be continuing our work to support the ongoing ministries such as Lord's Pantry, Silver Seekers, Bread for the World, The Nyadire Connection, Daily Bread and UMCOR. We also hope to explore some new opportunities. We hope that you will join us in spreading a little joy while also being on the lookout for “Joy sightings” in future newsletters. ~Jessica Speer



Our Director of Music Ministry, Franklin Mosley, has been demonstrating his God-given talents in the short time he has been on staff. From leading choir rehearsals in the newly renovated Wynne Hall to singing on stage with Michael Buble, we are thrilled to have the opportunity to enjoy his musical aptitude at this church. Contact Franklin if you'd like to join the Chancel Choir. Rehearsals are Wednesdays at 7pm and choir showcases their ministry at the 11am service in the Sanctuary.



Looking Ahead in Worship

- ♦ **Ending October 16th:** “If These Windows Could Talk”: When we look at the stained-glass windows in our sanctuary, what is the story being told?
- ♦ **October 23rd at 9:00:** “On the Wedding Garment”: Join us in Asbury Hall as our guest, Keegan Osinski, shares the relationship between the parable of the wedding garment and John Wesley’s understanding of holiness. As contemporary Christians, what are the garments we are called to wear as we profess faith and invite others to come experience life in Christ? What are we truly all about?
- ♦ **October 30th:** Guest Preacher (TBA)
- ♦ **November 6th—20th:** “With A Grateful Heart”
- ♦ **November 27th—December 25th:** “This This is Christ the King”
- ♦ **December 18th:** 11:00 a.m. Christmas Pageant
- ♦ **Christmas Eve :** 5:00 p.m. in Asbury or 7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary
- ♦ **Christmas Day:** 10:00 a.m. in the Chapel
- ♦ **New Years Day:** 10:00 a.m. in the Chapel



Child/Youth Discipleship



In mid-September, the quiet church that we had this summer suddenly erupted into a whirlwind of activity. 10:00 a.m. Children’s Sunday School started their new year with teachers, Amy Amrhein, Julie Baldizar, Gina Domhoff, and Karen Stiteler. The nursery reopened, staffed by Laura Mae Benestelli and Karen Hritz. Youth Group kicked off their new year, led by Justin Pearl and aided by several parent volunteers.

Coming up this Advent, we invite all who are interested in participating in our Christmas pageant to join us for rehearsals. We will rehearse on November 30th, December 7th and December 14th at 5:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary. For more information any of our opportunities for children and youth, contact Justin Pearl.

The prayer below is one we use during Children’s Time in worship and Sunday School, along with some fun hand motions. Learn it with your children/grandchildren so you can join us in reciting this special prayer.



UPCOMING YOUTH GROUP EVENTS

- Oct 22, 5:30 pm—Keegan Osinski (All-Ages event)
- Oct. 30, 5:00 pm — Youth Halloween Party
- Nov. 20, 11:00am — Hanging of the Greens (All-Ages event)
- Nov. 20, 5:00pm — Friendsgiving Dinner
- Dec. 18, 11:00am — Christmas Pageant (All-Ages event)
- Dec. 18, 5:00pm — Youth Christmas Party

Contact Justin at jpearl@baldwincommunityumc.com to be added to the distribution list for all youth events.

All Saints Sunday

November 6, 2022 at 11:00 a.m.

- Edward Ames
- Kareen Apel
- Charlotte Cappel
- James (Jeff) Caro
- Carol Coyle
- Nina Deibler
- Holly Ferkett
- James Foster
- Gary Gallagher
- Elizabeth (Betty) Hank
- Virginia Kraft
- Beth Ann Lamb
- James Lehman
- James Marshall
- Steve Momeyer
- Robert Reynolds
- LaVerta Sander
- Ruth Steele
- Constance (Connie) Strang
- Richard (Tom) Weigel



SPIRIT OF GOD,
TO YOU WE PRAY
FOR YOUR BLESSINGS EVERY DAY.

GUIDE OUR FEET
TO BRING GOOD NEWS
IN THE STREETS - NOT JUST IN PEWS.

GUIDE OUR HEARTS
TO THOSE WHO ARE SAD,
TO SPREAD YOUR JOY
TIL ALL ARE GLAD.

GUIDE OUR HANDS
SO WE CAN BLESS
EVERYONE WHO STILL HAS LESS.

GUIDE OUR MOUTHS
TO SHOUT RELEASE.
DON'T LET US STOP
TIL ALL ARE FREE.
THIS IS YOUR YEAR OF JUBILEE!

AMEN

Paraphrased from
Luke 4:18-19

Preschool

Baldwin Community Preschool is excited to be back for our 2022-23 school year! We happily welcomed 205 students into our program this year. We were able to hold a successful Parent Kick-Off night with most of the parents attending. The church made welcome bags to distribute to our new families. Thank you to Ria Fruscello and Nicole Mitts for assembling the bags and to Linda Funk, Cheryl Goodman and Janet Westwood for coming to hand out the bags and personally welcoming families to Baldwin Community.

After the last two years, our biggest excitement is starting this school year with mask wearing being optional. The staff is so happy to see the children’s smiling faces! We are noticing that the students are having a more successful start to this year as they are also able to see their teachers smiling as they greet them. We are already establishing good relationships with the parents. There has been such a wonderful positive energy within the Preschool over the last few weeks, and we know it will continue throughout this year.

God’s Garden, our outdoor play area received a much-needed makeover this summer. We removed the pea gravel, old plants, and the big tunnel for safety reasons. There is a new walkway, child friendly plants, and mulch. The old tunnel is being recycled into planting stations. Of course we kept the much-loved sandbox and hope to add more items for the curious minds and energetic bodies of our students. It really looks wonderful and I encourage you all to stop by and take a look.

Last year, we had a very successful year during uncertain times and we pray that this year will be the exact same. Please add the Preschool teachers, students and families to your prayers.

Many Blessings!

Jamie Carr, Director



God’s Garden is a favorite spot for the Preschoolers. We are so grateful for a safe and fun place to enjoy the outdoors.



Lord’s Pantry News

For the 4th year, Baldwin Community UMC has been a sponsor for the summer lunch program for children in our community. We provided meals for 5 sites: SHIM Preschool Camp at the SHIM Neighborhood Center, SHIM Summer Camp at Prospect Field, BCUMC Sports Camp, Baldwin Borough Library, and breakfast and lunch for the ESL (English as a Second Language) program at Baldwin High School. We made 3,455 lunches and 396 breakfasts! BCUMC also won an award for our efforts in 2021. It takes many hands and dedicated volunteers to make this program work. I would like to thank the following volunteers for their commitment over the 9 weeks this summer: Kathy Donnelly, Elaine Frombach, MaryLou Englert, Sandy Young, Sam Young, Carol Barringer, Myra Mann, Trudy King, Steve King, Janet Westwood, Helen Akers, Jim Akers, Helen Pomilio, Beverly Kraft, Patty Friedrich, Kendra Coyle, Louise Landis, Fred Gealey, Arleen Gealey, Teri Sander, Becky Rohland, Linda Funk, and Howdy Phillips. YOU ARE THE BEST!

~Susan Eyrolles

Our Church Calendar

- October 16th—Snippets with Pastor Pam, 10:15am (Wynne)
- October 20th—BCUMC Church Conference, 7pm (Chapel)
- October 22nd—Dinner and Lecture with Keegan Osinski, 5:30pm (Asbury)
- October 27th—Lord’s Pantry Distribution, noon (Circle)
- October 29th—Trunk or Treat (Circle/Doverdell Lot)
- November 6th—All Saints/Communion Sunday, “With A Grateful Heart” Sermon Series begins
- November 12th—Church Bus Trip
- November 12th—Visioning Session, 10am (Chapel)
- November 17th—Lord’s Pantry Distribution, noon (Circle)
- November 20th—10am Combined Service with Hanging of the Greens/Potluck Lunch
- November 20th—Youth Group Friendsgiving, 5pm (Youth Room)
- November 27th—“This, this is Christ the King” Sermon Series begins; Lessons in Carols, 11am
- November 30th—Pageant Rehearsal, 5:30pm (Sanctuary)
- December 4th—Communion Sunday, 9am/11am
- December 7th—Pageant Rehearsal, 5:30pm (Sanctuary)
- December 10th—Cookie Walk, 9am (Asbury)
- December 14th—Pageant Rehearsal, 5:30pm (Sanctuary)
- December 15th—Lord’s Pantry Distribution, noon (Circle)
- December 18th—11am Christmas Pageant (Sanctuary)
- December 24th—Christmas Eve Worship, 5pm Asbury /7pm Sanctuary
- December 25th—10am Combined Service (Chapel)



Baldwin Community UMC’s Church Conference will be held this year on October 20, 2022, at 7pm in the chapel. Join us for the momentous vote on our new Leadership Board that will make our ministry nimble and visionary for years to come! Also, hear from our District Superintendent answering questions regarding our baptismal covenant…

How do we renounce the spiritual forces of wickedness, reject the evil powers of this world, and repent of our sins? How do we resist evil, injustice, and oppression in whatever forms they present themselves? How do we confess Jesus Christ as our Savior? We are looking forward to a hearty conversation!