

Baldwin Community News

A United Methodist Church

Spring 2020

Outreach Ministries

Daily Bread of the Outreach team takes meals to the homeless at the United Methodist Church Union, which is located at 114 West North Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15212. Our last visit was on January 26, 2020; we served 165 friends in need. The menu was sausage sandwiches, corn, fruit, and a variety of desserts. The men, women, and children LOVE cakes!

If you are unable to physically come and help serve, baking is a great way to fill the bellies of those in need. Another way to serve is to place items like t-shirts, socks, and trial size hygiene items in the bins marked “Daily Bread”.

See more on what is happening with Outreach on page 3



UMW Spring Meeting

The BCUMC Women’s Abigail and Esther Circles extend an invitation from the Pittsburgh District United Methodist Women for their spring meeting on Saturday, March 28th.

From the beginning, UMW has focused on ministries with women, children, and youth. The UMW Circles provide opportunities to grow spiritually, equip women and girls to be leaders, support local and international mission as well as working for justice through service and advocacy.

Reverend Dawn Hand, Pittsburgh District Superintendent, has graciously agreed to serve as the speaker for this event. We look

forward to learning more about Reverend Hand, her life’s journey, and how we can make a positive difference in our region and around the world.

Please mark your calendars to join us on Saturday, March 28th at 8:30 a.m. Registration forms will be in the Narthex, on the various bulletin boards and at the circle meetings. Please R.S.V.P. by March 20th. Call Mary Lou Englert or Trish Riani for more information. See page 5 for more UMW news.

Keep reading for information on outreach and advocacy, the United Methodist General Conference, fun events, news from various organizations, Holy Week and Easter schedule, and much more!

“The Pittsburgh District UMW office works to bridge the connection between our congregations and communities bringing leadership, resources, connection, and transformation within our region as Christ’s agent of grace.”

~Reverend Dawn Hand

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

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Lent 2020: Watch Those Dials

Sin has a way of keeping our lives out of balance. As we talk about the deadly sins throughout Lent, ponder how these sins might be threatening to ruin or destroy your life and relationship with God.

- ♦ Feb 29/Mar 1—Envy
- ♦ March 7/8—Sloth/Acedia
- ♦ March 14/15—Avarice
- ♦ March 21/22—Gluttony
- ♦ March 28/29—Lust
- ♦ April 4/5—Vainglory





The preschool staff is happy to report that we have over 200 children attending our program this year. We've had some big changes with Jamie Carr stepping into her new position as Preschool Director as well as three new teachers joining our team. The preschool parents and children have been very receptive to the staff changes. The children come to us ready to learn new things. The 2 year olds are learning to use their words to share and take turns. The 3 year old group is focusing on learning their colors, shapes, and identifying their names. The 4 and 5 year olds are working on learning patterns, sorting, and writing the alphabet. All the ages enjoy visits from our yoga Instructor, music teacher, science expert, and the Whitehall librarian. Many families have been opting to extend their children's days for the enrichment programs with STEAM based activities, cooking foods from our favorite books, and keeping our bodies active on Fitness Fridays. Of course, the children's favorite time of day is when we have the opportunity to play outside, ride bikes, dig in God's Garden (which we've heard referred to as "Bob's garden" by our little ones) or have playtime in Asbury Hall (frequently called "Raspberry Hall").

We are grateful to the church for the ease in which we are able to use these shared spaces. All of these things have made our school appealing to new families. Registration for the 2020/21 school year has already started, and numbers are climbing daily. Baldwin Community Preschool has thrived for many years on our reputation of being a place where the children are loved, cared for, and are prepared for their future schooling as they leave us. Our classrooms are known for being full of smiles, laughter, hugs, and lots of love. We are blessed to continue this wonderful legacy.



This year you have a choice to give an Easter flower in honor or memory of a loved one **OR** give a monetary donation for the renovation of the Sanctuary-level restroom, in honor or memory of a loved one. **The Easter Flowers and Restroom Renovation Donations each have their own form.** Please mail completed form and payment to the church **OR** place form and payment in an envelope and place in the offering plate.



Easter Flowers *Deadline to order: March 27, 2020*

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Plants are \$10.00 each. Tulips # _____ Hyacinths # _____ Lilies# _____ Daffodils# _____

Please print your requests CLEARLY

In Loving Memory of _____

GIVEN BY _____

In Honor of _____

GIVEN BY _____

Restroom Renovation Donations *Deadline: March 27, 2020*

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Donation \$ _____

Please print your requests CLEARLY

In Loving Memory of _____

GIVEN BY _____

In Honor of _____

GIVEN BY _____

Church Council

The Baldwin Community United Methodist Church Council has the responsibility for planning, implementing, and evaluating the effective ministry of the church. One of our priorities is building relationships with the community. Dr. Justin Pearl is bringing his talents and resources to the discipleship program. We are working to communicate his message to an audience outside of the regular attendees. Jamie Carr, the Preschool Director, has opened up ways to meet and communicate with the families of their 200 students. We distributed flyers for the Flapjack Festival and will be participating in their open house soon.

SPRC

The Staff Parish Relations Committee has the responsibility of coordinating the relationship between staff personnel and pastoral staff with the congregation. The members of the committee this year are Helen Akers, George Belles, Carol Coyle, Linda Funk, Lance Gjerstad, Gerrit Goodman, David Paladino, Trish Riani, Janet Westwood, and Sandy Young. This year has been especially busy with staff transitions, Brad Neel's retirement, and the appointment of Pam Gardner as our new Senior Pastor. We are very grateful to Pastor Ginger Thomas for her extra hours of work and guidance during this time. If you have any questions related to the work of the SPRC, please feel free to speak to any of the committee members. We welcome suggestions and comments.

Congratulations to Bill and Kareen Apel, who will celebrate 67 years of marriage on April 18, 2020.

Denominational News

The annual conference will hold informational meetings on the proposed Protocol for Separation of the denomination. All clergy and laity are welcome to register to attend a session. The discussion will focus on the "Protocol of Separation Through Grace and Reconciliation" because those who signed it represent advocacy groups who proposed other plans but now unanimously support the Protocol. They have agreed to work together for passage of the Protocol at the May 5-15, 2020 General Conference. There will be an opportunity for questions to provide clarification about the Protocol and how our Conference will respond if it is passed.

Wednesday, March 25, 2020
6:30 p.m.—9:00 p.m.
Crossroads UMC :
1000 Crossroads Drive
Oakdale, PA 15071

<https://wpa-reg.brtapp.com/PreGeneralConference2020>

Outreach & Advocacy Opportunities

In 1974, Bread for the World was founded by an ecumenical group of Christians who felt called to advocate for the poor and vulnerable in their community. Almost every Christian denomination partners with Bread for the World in its advocacy for the poor and hungry. This group works for bipartisan legislation that helps hungry people feed their families.

The Outreach work area is encouraging anyone who is interested in learning more about food insecurity locally, nationally, and globally to attend this Bread for Life workshop. Through our prayers, our understanding, and our advocacy, we can be a part of the solution.

Mark your calendars for April 19th for the Hunger Advocacy Workshop. More information is listed in the flyer.

On March 29th, the Outreach team will be packing boxes to send to college students and military personnel following the 11:00 a.m. service. Volunteers are welcome. Donations of non-perishable snacks can be placed in the Outreach bins throughout the church. Please submit names and updated addresses to Paula Turek by March 26th. Even if they have received a package before, you must resubmit each time for accuracy purposes.



Bread for the World

Hunger Advocacy Workshop
Sunday April 19, 2020

Pittsburgh Theological Seminary
John Knox Room 2:00 – 5:00 PM

Main Speaker:
John Carr, President of the board of Bread for the World

Workshop Sessions:
Advocating by Effective Congressional Office Visits
Linda Ambroso

Reauthorization of the Child Nutrition Act:
Just Harvest Staff Member Ann Sanders

Pittsburgh Food Policy Action Strategic Plan,
Sarah Buranskas from the Pittsburgh Food Policy Council

Also:
Learn about Bread for the World's 2020 letter writing focus
Write your own letter to Congress
Receive information about the June 9 Lobby Day
Register at
<https://bread2020.eventbrite.com>



BALDWIN COMMUNITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH ... makes the Presence of God Real!



Saturday Evening Service 5:30 p.m.
Worship and relax in our Chapel with a small church feeling and Communion.

Early Sunday Worship 8:00 a.m.
Experience the peace of the morning and come early to peaceful worship in our Sanctuary.

Contemporary Worship Sunday 9:30 a.m.
Worship is an uplifting experience with band, media and Communion in our Sanctuary.

Classic Worship Sunday 11:00 a.m.
Sanctuary worship with the chancel choir and organ in a traditional setting.

Holy Week Schedule:

- ♦ **Maundy Thursday:** April 9th at 7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary.
- ♦ **Good Friday:** April 10th at 7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary.
- ♦ **Holy Saturday:** April 11th at 7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary.
- ♦ **Easter Sunday:** April 12th at 8:00 a.m., 9:30 a.m., and 11:00 a.m.



Thanks to your donations, the Outreach Committee has...

- Served 50-60 families each month through the Lord's Pantry.
- Sent boxes to college students and our military personnel to let them know they are supported.
- Collected congregation collections totaling \$655 for the hunger ministries, which benefited the Daily Bread.
- Helped clients at 8th Avenue Place and provided a Christmas dinner for 57 people.
- Sent funds to UMCOR to assist with disaster relief.
- Sent numerous children to Jumonville over the summer through the Campership Campaign.
- Contributed to donations for Bread for the World, Nyadire Connection, and four sponsored children in need.
- Helped preschool families with scholarships.
- Supported our youth group.
- Sent cards to veterans to make their days a little brighter.
- Helped feed the homeless and under-employed through Daily Bread.
- Helped the Silver Seekers provide happiness to our homebound members with gift bags, holiday presents, and fellowship.

~General Conference~

Minneapolis, MN—May 5-15, 2020

All eyes will be on Minneapolis this May as United Methodists gather to decide matters before the church. Most specifically, we will be watching the ongoing debate on human sexuality in the church, as it threatens to divide us as a denomination. Since the General Conference feels so far removed from us, how can we access information that can empower us? Here are a few ways you can keep up with what is happening in the church:

- ◆ Attend discernment sessions at Baldwin Community UMC to keep yourself immersed in the conversation that is happening locally. Our next sessions will be on March 24th (theme: trust) and April 21st (theme: identity) at 6:30 p.m. in Wesley Hall. All are welcome to come speak their own truth with grace and kindness!
- ◆ Attend one of Bishop Cynthia Moore-Koikoi's Protocol briefings. More information is available on page 6 of this newsletter. If you'd like to ride with Pastor Pam for the March 25th event, contact her as soon as possible.
- ◆ Watch the General Conference website at www.resource-umc.org/en/churchwide/generalconference2020
- ◆ Participate in Baldwin Community UMC's prayer services at 4:00 p.m. on May 3rd, 10th, and 17th in the Chapel. Information will be distributed at those gatherings to extend the power of prayer, encouragement, and support as one body throughout these tough days.

Inclusive Church Event

Reverend Junius Dotson, CEO of UM Discipleship Ministries and a member of the group which proposed the Protocol for Separation, will be a keynote speaker at The Current, a gathering to envision a fully inclusive and theologically diverse United Methodist Church. It is scheduled for Saturday, March 28th from 1pm-5pm at Christ UMC in Bethel Park. Visit <http://thecurrentwpa.com>

Eagle Scout Project

Thank you to Boy Scout, Benjamin McKee, who planned, coordinated, and carried out this special project for our church. We now have a renewed space for outdoor worship. Justin Pearl is excited to use this area for youth group this spring and summer.



Adventure Awaits

Upcoming Bus Trips

- **May 13, 2020:** Have a blast on this day trip to Jamestown, NY to see the Lucy Desi Museum & the National Comedy Center.
- **August 1—August 7, 2020:** A week of fun with stops in Charlotte, NC, Charleston, SC, Savannah, GA, and Beaufort, SC, including many historical tours, a boat cruise, and several museums.
- **November 14, 2020:** Enjoy your day trip to Canton, OH with a few interesting stops, including a 2 hour musical variety show.

For more information, call Elaine Lewis at 412-885-4560. Reservation forms can be found in the Narthex and on the table beside the Chapel.

New Bible Study

The Panera Bible Study group will be starting a new study on Wednesday, April 1st—no foolin'! You are invited to join us as we explore the book of Proverbs. We will use a study guide and get deep inside God's Word to ponder questions of values, moral behavior, and conduct.

We meet on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month at the Caste Village Panera at 6:30 p.m.

Contact Carol Coyle for more information. We look forward to seeing you!



FLEA MARKET



Sponsored by: United Methodist Women

Where: Baldwin Community United Methodist Church

When: Saturday, April 25, 2020

9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Do you need a place to sell your "stuff"?

Register online: <https://forms.gle/VLkbDg1XCLYjeRi28>

Space with table - \$15

Register and Pay by April 13th.

Checks Payable: BCUMC ("Flea Market" in memo)

Mail Checks: BCUMC, 5001 Baptist Road, Pgh, PA 15236

Set up begins at 7:00 a.m.

All items must be removed from the church by 2:00 p.m.

Questions? Contact esthercircle.bcumc@gmail.com or call 412.882.9300

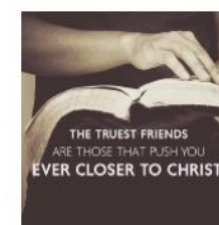
CELEBRATE PI DAY WITH SOME PIE

MAR. 14 6:30
MAR. 15 9:00 AND 10:40
SIGNUP IN THE NARTHEX

PIE SUNDAY



Men's Ministry



Men's Ministry meets at 7:00 pm the second and fourth Tuesday each month. Come join us.

➤ Enjoy fellowship, build new friendships while working to serve others in the Lord's name. Life's moments are better, more memorable, and more exciting when we have other people along for the ride.

➤ God designed us to be together and his plan is for us to come together and walk through life together in the good and the bad. Nobody wants to do it alone, and God doesn't want us to try.

Please feel comfortable in joining us for any amount of time that your schedule allows. You are never late and always considered a blessing!

Save the Date

The third annual BCUMC Women's Retreat will be held on May 2, 2020. Hosted by the UMW Abigail Circle, this all day retreat will be a great opportunity for fellowship and spiritual growth. Details coming soon!



MUSIC NEWS

Our wonderful Chancel Choir welcomes new members—especially for the upcoming seasons like Lent, Palm Sunday, and Easter. Joining is simple; just show up for Thursday evening rehearsals, weekly from 7:00 p.m.—8:30 p.m. If you have the voice and the spirit, our doors are wide open and we'll make sure you get your music and robe. Join us. We need you!

Contact Phil Aley for more information.



Colossians 3:1-4