

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. Dr. Connie Wilson

May 2011

***The Mission of Baldwin First United Methodist Church is to love and serve God and our neighbors
as disciples of Jesus Christ.***

Greetings in the name of the risen Christ!

Over the next few weeks we will be learning together what it means to be a disciple and why it matters. I can think of no greater example than the life of Jesus Christ. His invitation was to, "Follow me." We follow by watching, listening, thinking, relating and then acting. Then, we get to contemplate and reflect. Ultimately, we repeat this cycle again and again in our lives. Today, we enter the next forty days, a time to study Jesus' post-Resurrection appearances. I invite you to ponder what Jesus wanted us to learn from the example of his life, embodied here on earth. I pray this reflection will help you begin to think about how to be a disciple of the risen Christ! I would love to hear what you think.

Grace and peace,
Connie

THE JESUS MODEL...

He personally invited ...
He kept in constant contact with his boss
He knew his mission and stuck to it
He guarded his energy
He said thank you
He was in an attitude of celebration
He was willing to look foolish by earthly standards
He worked through his fears
He knew the Source of his resources
He prized the seed as much as the bouquet
He knew his purpose

He took action
He had a plan
He formed a team
He asked the questions
He saw things differently (counter-cultural)
He knew no one could ruin the plan
He practiced WOWSE – with or without someone else
He took one step at a time
He troubled himself on behalf of others
He trained his replacements
He came to be a blessing
He knew he was not alone

He gave a vision larger than anyone could imagine

He was transparent before them
He believed in them
He clearly defined their benefits
He treated them as equals
He educated them
He held them accountable
He prayed for them
He set the example for them
He acknowledged them

He loved them
He served them
He defended them
He gave them authority
He played with them
He wanted everyone at the top
He saw them as God's gifts to him
He gave them as his greatest accomplishment
He knew nobody wins until we all do

Source Unknown – Adapted by Connie Wilson

MISSIONS COMMITTEE

Laura Dickinson, Chair. (594-2658)

April 30th – Food and Fellowship – Missions will be serving breakfast this Saturday, April 30th, from 9am to 11am. We are inviting all persons to join in the meal as we seek and foster fellowship with one another and those in our community.

Taco Bar – Missions will be serving tacos this Sunday, May 1st, in Fellowship Hall directly after church services. The proceeds will go toward the Youth Mission trip this summer. Please come and enjoy tacos while supporting our youth in their mission outreach experience.

Food Pantry – A BIG THANK YOU to the local Boy Scouts for the Scouting for Food Drive on 4-23-11!
Over 1600 food items were donated, sorted and stocked for ongoing Food Pantry needs. Each Saturday the Food Pantry serves between 25-35 families representing 100 to 150 persons. Thanks to all supporting the community food pantry.

The United Methodist faith is deeply rooted in the Scripture and in the basic beliefs of all Christians. Out of that theology and the faith have grown some specific actions that mark United Methodists as Christians engaged in ministry to the world. The early members of the groups that eventually became The United Methodist Church

- took strong stands on issues such as slavery, smuggling, and humane treatment of prisoners;
- established institutions for higher learning;
- started hospitals and shelters for children and the elderly;
- founded Goodwill Industries in 1902;
- became actively involved in efforts for world peace;
- adopted a Social Creed and Social Principles to guide them as they relate to God's world and God's people;
- participated with other religious groups in ecumenical efforts to be in mission.

Excerpt from [What Every Teacher Needs to Know about The United Methodist Church](#), p.20-23, Discipleship Resources © 2002. Used by permission.

Executive Meeting May 7, 9:30 am in the Church Library

Sarah Circle, May 11, 9:30 am at Barbara Henre

Dorcas Circle, May 18, 1:30 pm at Vintage Park, Shirley Johnson hostess

Eve Circle, May 26, 7 pm at Donna Curran

All women are invited to visit a circle. For any questions please call Donna Curran 594-2381.

FELLOWSHIP AND ACTIVITIES ...

Donna Curran 594-2381

Old Fashion Church Picnic will be May 29, right after Church service on the Lawn. (In case of rain we will be in the Fellowship Hall)

Bring a covered Dish to share, Drinks and place settings will be provided.

Dear Friends,

The family of John Lawrenz would like to thank you all for your comfort and support. Your cards, notes, phone calls and warm memories of John have brightened our days and are very much appreciated. A special thanks to Ruth Ann and her team for providing dinner for almost one hundred family members. It was not difficult to see that Ruth Ann has been providing this service since 1950! Every time we added more, we were told no problem. We will never cease to feel the loss of our beloved John, but the congregation of BFUMC has eased our burden with their love, understanding and compassion.

Thank you,

Marilyn and the John Lawrenz family

Darren, Laura, Cricket, Wes, Jay, Chris, Mark, Emily, Ryann, Kaitlyn, Lane & Megann

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Shelly Todd, Director (594-2921), ksl1987@embarqmail.com

***Holy Week Tour:** On Palm Sunday (April 17th), the Children's Ministry Sunday School classes hosted a Holy Week tour for the youth and adult Sunday School classes and other congregation members. Each Sunday School class adopted a part of the Holy Week story and represented that portion of the story through dramatic play and scripture reading. At each station, participants received a little trinket to take home with them to reflect on during the week between Palm Sunday and Easter. The kids had a wonderful time sharing the story of Jesus' last week on earth and those who attended the tour seemed to be moved by the ministry offered by our children. A special thanks to Donna Curran for spearheading this event and thank you to our wonderful, creative Sunday School staff who guided and directed our kids through this event.

***Easter Sunday Children's Church:** Hallelujah! Christ is risen! He is risen INDEED! On Easter Sunday, our church was blessed to have 40 children in Children's Church! I want to say a special thanks to our awesome team of Children's Church leaders and their gift of time on Easter Sunday. Those leading the children on Easter Sunday were Beth O'Neil, Tricia Enright, Tara Welch, Meredith

Kropf, and Michelle Patterson. Please forgive me if I have forgotten anyone else who gave of their time. Michaela Todd and Sidney Roberts were our Jr. High assistants. Thank you so very much to everyone who served in Children's Church on Easter Sunday!!!

***VBS is coming to BFUMC!** Mark your calendars for July 10-14, 6:30-9:00 p.m. Pandamania VBS is coming to BFUMC. Our VBS is open to children ages 3 through 5th grade (grade from 2010-2011 school year). Online registration will be coming soon to our church website. Last year, we ministered to 125 children! This summer we are praying that we can minister to 150 children! To successfully lead this number of children, we need LOTS of ministry partners!! We need station leaders (Crafts and the Bible Exploration station are 2 stations in particular) and walking leaders (you get to go to every station w/ the kids and experience it with them!). We also will need generous people who are willing to provide light snack suppers for our VBS volunteers. And, of course, we can always use the prayers of our faithful congregation. Please contact Shelly to offer your time and talents or to learn more about service opportunities at Pandamania VBS

***No Sunday School on May 22nd:** There will be NO SUNDAY SCHOOL on May 22nd due to the Baker University Baccalaureate service.

CROSS CULTURE YOUTH MINISTRY

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

Saturday, April 30, 1:00pm to Sunday, May 1, 10:00am:

+ PATH 2 PURITY RETREAT at Camp Chippewa. Meet at FUMC parking lot.

Sunday, May 1:

+ 12 noon: Missions Committee Taco Bar to raise funds for Youth Mission Trip to Hammond, Indiana. Invite friends; bring a dessert; and come to assist! ...+ No additional afternoon/evening Youth Group activities.

Sunday, May 8:

+ WorkCamp payment due.

+ No Youth Group Activities due to Mother's Day!

Sunday, May 15:

+ No Youth Group Activities due to BHS Graduation!

Sunday, May 22:

+ 3:30-5:00: Jr. High Youth Group

+ 6:00-8:00: Sr. High Youth Group: Special Senior Celebration Dinner!

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.

May 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
Each Wednesday	7:00 p.m.	Sanctuary Choir rehearsal
1st Saturday	9:30 a.m.	UMW Executive Board – Library
1st & 3rd Saturdays	7:30 a.m.	United Methodist Men – Vintage Park

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Sat., April 30	9 – 11 a.m.	Food & Fellowship – Missions will serve breakfast
Sun., May 1	after church	Taco Bar - The annual fundraiser for the Youth Mission Trip
Mon., May 9	7:00 p.m.	Church Council Special Meeting – Fellowship Hall
Wed., May 11	9:30 a.m.	Sarah Circle – Barbara Henre's
Thurs., May 12	7:00 p.m.	Trustees Long Range Plan Meeting – Fellowship Hall
Wed., May 18	1:30 p.m.	Dorcas Circle – Vintage Park
Sun., May 22		Baker Baccalaureate
Thurs., May 26	7:00 p.m.	Eve Circle – Donna Curran's
Sun., May 29	after church	Old Fashion Church Picnic on the Lawn. (In case of rain we will be in Fellowship Hall) Bring a covered Dish to share, Drinks and place settings will be provided.