

Baldwin Community United Methodist Church
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BALDWIN COMMUNITY NEWS

A UNITED METHODIST CONGREGATION

MAY/JUNE 2024

Pastoral Rest and Renewal

From the very beginning of our Bibles, we are given clues to the importance of rest and renewal in companionship with God. As the scriptures move along, Sabbath keeping becomes essential to covenant faithfulness as God's own people. Exodus 20 and Deuteronomy 5 lists the commandment to observe the Sabbath and keep it holy. In her book, Keeping the Sabbath Wholly: Ceasing, Resting, Embracing, Feasting, Marva Dawn defines the ideal of the sabbath as the act of ceasing and desisting. As the modern church, this definition directly conflicts with our cultural and societal norms, which push us toward constant productivity and frantic achievement. As Christians, to stake our claim in rest and waiting upon God is heard as otherworldly, lazy, and naive. How are we to find God in our pursuit of gain and efficiency? How do we experience rest, blessing, and meaning without stopping to reflect and pray?

We are in a season of great challenge as denominational, political, and societal pressures have made a discernable impact on our work as God's church. As I anticipate serving Baldwin Community UMC for the near future, I have requested from the District Superintendent and the Leadership Board a season of sabbath and renewal. In the Book of Discipline, ¶350.2 and ¶350.3 offer a time of renewal to clergy both yearly and quadrennially for spiritual growth and formation. Beginning June 9, I will start a combination of vacation, renewal, and continuing education time. During my renewal time (July 7-August 2), I plan to visit churches and ministry sites where exciting things are happening, research current ministry trends, and, in a spirit of openness, anticipate worship and ministry moving forward. On August 3, I will begin a week at Chautauqua Institution for Week 7, devoted to the theme of wonder and awe. The Most Rev. Michael Curry (who presided at Meghan and Harry's wedding) will lead worship all week. I pray that the spirit of sabbath-keeping will be foundational throughout this summer of rest and renewal.

If you have questions or would like to know more about my renewal plans, please feel free to ask. I would love the opportunity to share my plans with you prior to my renewal time. Your support and understanding mean a lot to me. Just know there will be lots of sharing upon my return to Baldwin Community UMC on August 19!

Enjoy this newsletter full of summer events and opportunities!



Start the Party

2024 KID CREATIONS SUMMER CAMP

The party can't start without you!

Volunteers

NEEDED

JUNE 24-27, 2024

9AM TO 12PM

Be a PARTY LEADER!

- Help with registration
- Lead stations
- Supervise groups
- Donate to our wish list via the QR code.



Scan me

Interested?

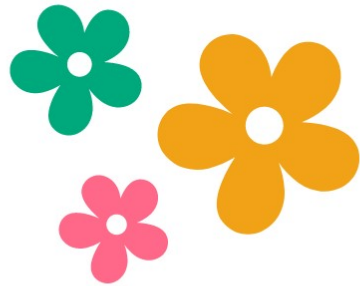


Email apopieski@baldwincommunityumc.com

I.C.Y.M.I.



The Sunday School kids performed in a pageant called "The Empty Tomb" on March 16th. Thank you to the children and volunteers who made this possible.



Ria Fruscello and Pam Honeychurch represented Western PA at the PAUMCS Annual Conference held in Memphis, TN in early April.



The United Methodist Men held their Annual Flapjack Festival on April 6th. As always, the food was delicious and the environment was warm and welcoming.



Collaborative Youth Fellowship Mixers started in late March. We hosted the first event here with the theme of "Mission Possible." On May 4th, First Bethel UMC helped to plan a group ticket event at the Pittsburgh Pirates Faith Night. The next UM Youth Mixer will be at Spencer UMC, 117 Spencer Ave, Pittsburgh 15227, on Sunday, May 26th from 6 - 8 pm. All youth grades 9-12 are welcome. Bring a friend!

The Youth Mission trip teens held a bake sale on Election Day, to aid in fundraising, raising \$300.



CALENDAR

May 2024

- 12th - Panera Fundraiser, 8 am - 8 pm
- 14th - Dinner & Discussion, 6 pm, Wesley
- 15th - Diversity & Inclusion Team, 7 pm, Parlor
- 18th - Clean Up Day, 8 am, Outside
- 19th - Last Day of Sunday School & Childcare until fall
- 24th - Lord's Pantry Distribution, 12 pm, Circle
- 26th - Youth Fellowship Mixer, 6 pm, Spencer UMC
- 27th - Memorial Day - Office closed
- 31st - Camp registration closes

June 2024

- 2nd - Music Sunday
- 6th - 8th - WPAUMC Annual Conference
- 9th - Joel Garrett, Guest preacher, 9 am and 11 am
- 9th - Daily Bread, 2 pm, North Side
- 10th - Summer lunch program begins
- 16th - Don Scandrol, Guest preacher, 9 am and 11 am
- 17th - Yoga Flow, 7 pm, Asbury
- 20th - Yoga Flow, 9:30 am, Asbury
- 23rd - Bill Starr, Guest preacher, 9 am, Asbury
- 23rd - Jack Aupperle, Guest preacher, 11 am, Sanctuary
- 24th - Yoga Flow, 7 pm, Asbury
- 24th - 27th - Kid Creations Camp, 9 am - 12 pm
- 28th - Lord's Pantry Distribution, 12 pm, Circle
- 28th - Fireworks Night, 5 pm, Circle
- 30th - Bill Starr, Guest preacher, 9 am, Asbury
- 30th - Jack Aupperle, Guest preacher, 11 am Sanctuary

Youth Events:

The Youth Mission Trip is July 21-26 to Mexico, Missouri.

Monthly fellowship mixers are being planned with other local churches. We are excited to team up with Spencer UMC on May 26th.

Support Groups:

- Al-Anon: Sundays at 8 pm
- Gamblers Anonymous: Tuesdays at 7:30 pm
- Alcoholics Anonymous: Fridays at 7 pm and Saturdays at 12 pm



Bus Trips:

August 5-8: "Smoky Mountains"

November 9: "Three Redneck Tenors"

Contact Elaine Lewis at 412-885-4560 for more information.

Follow
-US-

Be sure to follow us on social media for the latest news. We also send a weekly email. Subscribe by emailing Ria at info@baldwincommunityumc.com

UPCOMING EVENTS



DINNER AND DISCUSSION
MAY 14 AT 6 PM
WESLEY HALL


BRING A SPRING SALAD TO SHARE.

REGISTER NOW



Join in the discussion as we continue talking about Half Truths by Adam Hamilton. Reading the book is not required. Bring a spring salad to share. Sign up at church or by calling the office.

BCUMC CLEAN UP DAY
Saturday, May 18th
8:00 am



Help support us!

BALDWIN COMMUNITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

20% OF SALES WILL BE DONATED

May 12, 2024
8:00 am to 8:00 pm EDT
5301 Grove Road, Pittsburgh, PA

Use code **FUND4U** at online checkout, in the Panera App, or at the kiosk in-cafe.*

Volunteers Needed

Contact Allison Popieski for more information on how you can help.

ALL NEW VBS 2024

START the PARTY

Kid Creations Summer Camp
June 24-27
9 am - Noon

bit.ly/REGISTER2024KIDS

Celebrate the Good News



JOIN US FOR **Fireworks Night**
JUNE 28TH



You can look forward to UM Men's cooking, dessert food trucks, and a great view of the fireworks. The event starts at 5 pm. Contact Tom Gintner if you are able to help.

Rest & Renewal

As Mental Health Awareness Month unfolds, it's essential to recognize the significance of rest and renewal in nurturing our mental well-being. In the hustle and bustle of daily life, we often overlook the profound impact that rest can have on our overall mental health. In our fast-paced society, there's a prevailing notion that being busy equates to being productive and successful. However, this mindset often leads to neglecting our need for rest and renewal. We push ourselves relentlessly, juggling multiple responsibilities without giving ourselves the chance to recharge. Consequently, we find ourselves feeling overwhelmed, stressed, and emotionally depleted. Let's recommit ourselves to prioritizing rest and renewal as integral components of self-care. Several members of the congregation and staff have been asked to share recommendations and tips for self-care.

Franklin Mosley escapes from the drama of real life by enjoying other people's drama on tv or in books. He is currently on a binge of "Dynasty."

Barbara Gjerstad makes it a priority to turn off all electronic devices one hour before bed. She recommends the app "Headspace."


Ria Fruscello is adamant about daily movement and recommends the book, The Ruthless Elimination of Hurry.

Vanessa Gleason uses mindfulness to help relieve stress.

Work/Life balance is a key focus for Lance Gjerstad. His phone automatically disables work chat notifications at the end of his normal work day, and all work related apps including e-mail get disabled shortly after that.

Nicole Mitts enjoys walking and listening to music to wind down.

Did you know that dialing "988" on your phone provides 24/7, free and confidential support for people in distress, prevention and crisis resources for you or your loved ones?



Pastor Pam recommends memorizing scripture, breath prayers, and anything by Kate Bowler.



Yoga Flow
at Baldwin Community UMC

Mondays at 7 pm - June 17, June 24, July 1, July 8, July 15, July 29, August 5, and August 12

Thursdays at 9:30 am - June 20, July 11, July 18, August 1, August 8, August 15

Instructor: Missy Bigley

\$10 per class

OUR SUNDAY WORSHIP

Summer Edition

During Pastor Pam's summer sabbatical for rest and renewal, we're excited to welcome guest preachers who will inspire us with the Word and guide us in worship. A big thank you to Lori Deal for her diligent efforts in arranging these remarkable speakers to enrich our summer lineup.

JUNE 9

JOEL GARRETT



JUNE 16

DON SCANDROL



JUNE 23 - JULY 7

BILL STARR



JUNE 23 - JULY 7

JACK AUPPERLE



JULY 14

BEVERLY GROSS



JULY 21 - AUGUST 4

DERYL LARSEN



AUGUST 11

JUSTIN PEARL



AUGUST 18

ALLISON POPIESKI



CAMP FUN AND MORE

Camp Allegheny, Jumonville, Wesley Woods, and Olmsted Manor are on a mission to serve the diverse communities of Western PA by offering unforgettable experiences! From deep connections with God to loads of fun and spiritual growth in the great outdoors, it's all covered.

To explore the Western Pennsylvania Conference of the United Methodist Church's website on camping ministries and discover the magic waiting for you: www.wpaumc.org/camping

But wait, there's more!

CAMPERSHIP 2024 is back for its 12th year, and we're pumped to bring both kids and adults closer to Christ! On average, camp costs around \$550 for a week of adventure. But fear not, because our scholarship fund is here to ensure that everyone gets the chance to experience the joy of camp. Access our 2024 Scholarship form by using the QR code below, and let's make dreams come true together!



CAMP ALLEGHENY

www.campallegheny.org

Camp Allegheny is having a 75th Anniversary Celebration on May 19th from 2-6 pm. This free event includes camp activities and a family picnic.

JUMONVILLE

www.jumonville.org

Check out the Jumonville Open House event on May 18th! Explore over 50 exciting summer camp activities and programs designed just for YOU. Come see firsthand all the fun waiting for you at Jumonville! Enjoy free tours, camp games, and activities to get a taste of the amazing experiences in store for your child.

WESLEY WOODS

www.wesleywoods.com

Join Wesley Woods for a FREE Community Pool Day on Saturday, June 15th from 1 - 6 pm at the Brokenstraw Valley Swimming Pool in Youngsville. You can look forward to meeting their summer team as they will be playing games and grilling hot dogs throughout the day.

OLMSTED MANOR

www.olmstedmanor.org

Olmsted Manor is hosting a Couples Retreat on July 12th-14th as a chance to reconnect with God, nature, and one another. This retreat will be led by Christian Counseling Associates.