

The Baldwin Memorial United Methodist Church

CROSSROADS

921 Generals Highway, Millersville, Md. 21108

DEC. 2015, JAN. 2016

PASTOR'S COLUMN

But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see – I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Christ, the Lord..."

Luke 2:10,11 N.R.S.V.

"...Savior – God breaking into history to announce, 'Don't be afraid! I love you and bring tidings of fantastic joy!'"

Mike Mason, author from his book,
"Champagne for the Soul"

May God's blessing, grace and peace – the Shalom of Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior be with all God's people at Baldwin Memorial United Methodist Church. God is Good – All the time! All the time – God is Good!

One of our dogs to sometimes entertain herself will chase her own tail, running in circles, till she drops on the floor. Sometimes I feel that way about the Christmas season. Most of us are so busy, so rushed, so running at full speed. Many of us overeat, overspend, and experience little of the comfort and joy that this season is supposed to be about. I think so often we forget whose birthday it is we are celebrating. How do you think our Lord and our Savior would want us to celebrate during this season, which is supposed to be about Him?

I think our Lord would want us to spend time with Him. We like to debate "quality time" versus "quantity time." I think God desires for both types. I believe that is also true for our families and friends. One of the most precious gifts we give is our time, attention and love.

So don't you think it would please our Lord if we gathered faithfully and joyfully together every Sunday to worship Him? I know it is hard in our busy lives and schedules, but what a blessing and joy it is to spend time with God, to gather together on Sundays and to spend some time each day with God in prayer and reading the Bible.

Maybe during this fast pace season we could take time to read the Christmas story with our family or friends at our homes. Or perhaps we could turn off all the lights in our houses except the Christmas lights and listen to some Christmas music.

Or maybe this Christmas season perhaps just for the season we might participate in one of the choirs of our church or learn together in our three week Advent Bible study.

Besides our "presence" what do you think would be on Lord Jesus' wish list? Would not our Lord want us to reach out in love and charity to others? So what can we do for the least, the last, the lost during this season when we remember and celebrate the One who left the glory of heaven to come in poverty to be born in a stable, in order to save us all? What if we taught our children that giving is just as important as receiving? We give because we have been given to; we love because He first loved us; we are blessed to be a blessing to others. What a Christmas we would celebrate if we decided this year to spend as much on others as we spend on ourselves and our loved ones.



Annual Church Music Drama in March

This winter treat yourself to the study of a Bible story and experience the joy of sharing that story with others. Join us for Baldwin Memorial's annual church-wide music drama planned for Sunday, March 6, 2016. (Yes, Palm Sunday and Easter are early next year!!) Actors, coaches, singers, instrumentalists, dancers, set designers, sound engineers, costume and make up artists both young and older are needed! The first reading and rehearsal of this play will be on Sunday, January 3 in the Fellowship Hall after the 10:30 a.m. service. Pizza lunch will be provided at our first rehearsal!

The following rehearsals and work sessions will be held each Sunday from 12 noon to 2:00 p.m. Plan to be a part of this annual intergenerational musical; just bring a bag lunch and stay after the second service each Sunday morning. Bring a friend, too! Contact Susan Petty at 410-987-4273 for more information.

Church Office email: bmumcoffice@yahoo.com

bmumcpastor@yahoo.com

Website: www.baldwinmemorial.org

A complete listing of this month's events can be found at <http://baldwinmemorial.org/calendar.html>

Saint Teresa of Avila, a holy woman who lived in Spain in the sixteenth century challenges us:

“Christ has no body now on earth but yours,
No hands but yours,
No feet but yours.

Yours are the eyes through which the compassion of
Christ is looking on a hurting world.
Yours are the feet with which He is to go about doing
good.
Yours are the hands with which He is to bless now.”

I love this time of year. May Lord Jesus bless us all as we remember and celebrate His nativity. May Holy Spirit, the Spirit of the Living God dwell in each of us, filling us with God’s presence, so that we experience God’s love, joy, peace and comfort so much that it flows out of us to touch and bless others.

Or as Phillips Brooks wrote in the hymn “O Little Town of Bethlehem.”

“O Holy child of Bethlehem, descend to us we pray:
Cast out our sin, and enter in, be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel!”

God bless you all

Your Pastor and friend,
Phil Tocknell

CELEBRATING MUSIC WITH SUSAN

On Sunday November 8th, the church held a luncheon in honor of Susan Petty's 20 years of service as Music Director. The celebration was expertly emceed by Cindy Lahoff who introduced the many performances and testimonials.

Performances of the cherub choir, the chancel choir and the hand bell choir occurred during morning services. Performers at the luncheon included the Liturgical Dance Troupe (Angelica Caruso, Kim Parks, Jessie Reider, Alex Verbeek); Kelsey Brandt on saxophone; Coral Medford and Emmie Taylor on flutes; Delanie Johnson singing; and John Murphy on guitar.

Testimonials and presentations were provided by Tony Jaston, Annie Medford, Holly Moores, Pastor Sandy Phillips, Debbie Calder, Nancy Erskine, Becky Stevens and Jane McKain.

The luncheon food preparation was capably organized under the leadership of Martha Preston, Mary Jane Knode, and Janice Crowe. A delicious multi-tiered cake was provided by Ashley Harris.

Many thanks to the Church Council, SPPRC, Trustees, UMM, UMW, the Missions Task Force and the entire congregation for their contributions to this joyous occasion.



Thank You to all who have helped and supported me here over the past 20 years. The “basic salad luncheon” I was invited to on November 8 certainly turned out to be an amazing day of celebration – uplifting worship, beautiful music, dance, photographs and great food – a celebration of our creative spirit.

Soli Deo Gloria – Glory to God Alone! -
Susan Walsh Petty, Director of Music/Organist



TRUSTEES NEWS

The Trustees thank all of our members and friends who have helped us clean above and below the stage this year. Trustee Ken Funk led the effort to clean all of our storage, and at least 20 folks came out to help. Between these clean-ups and the cleaning of the ventilation system in the Fellowship Hall earlier this year, we have rid our informal worship space of quite a bit of dust as well as old unnecessary "stuff". The Trustees also said a sad farewell, together with Pastor and Ms. Debbie, to the beautiful sugar maple that graced the Parsonage property. It is sad to have lost so many magnificent trees during this past year, but we are looking at landscaping and replacing some trees in the next year or two. Before removing the sugar maple, we were able to repair and freshen up the front stoop of the Parsonage.



24 hard working volunteers who spent Saturday morning removing no longer needed items that have been stored on the upper portions of the stage in the Education Bldg.

Two truckloads went to MD Recycling and netted \$10.80 to the Pastor Discretion Fund. Several truck loads went to the landfill and some items went to new homes. Then decades of dust was swept up.

Thank you from the Trustees to all who made quick work of a much needed project.



BALDWIN CHILD CARE CENTER

We would like to welcome to Baldwin Child Care Center several new families since September: the Gertz family, the Fergusons, the Rathsacks, and the Gately family. We look forward to getting to know your family and watching your children grow and learn with us!

October and November were fun filled months for us. In October, our fall photos taken by Great American Photos were beautiful. We had our annual visit from the fire department. The children watched with excitement as the fire fighter dressed in his work gear and then he took them for a tour through the fire truck. Later in October, the whole center enjoyed a fun day at Papa John's Pumpkin Farm in Millersville as we searched for that perfect pumpkin. We were blessed that so many families were able to join us! As an added bonus, we had a visit from the Truckin' for Troops monster truck!

Our delicious desserts arrived from Claire's Gourmet on Nov. 18th. Thanks to all who participated in this fundraiser. We profited almost \$900 which will be used for in-house activities, such as a magician, the Zoo Mobile, and the end of the year carnival. The center was closed on 26th and 27th for Thanksgiving.

The children and staff at Baldwin Child Care Center are so excited and are looking forward to a wonderful and exciting Holiday Season. The children will make crafts and presents, learn Christmas carols, and will enjoy lots of delicious food. Our annual Christmas program is scheduled for December 17th at 6:30pm. We welcome all of you to come and enjoy this joyous occasion with us. Last year this wonderful evening was enjoyed by about 300 friends and family members. The children are practicing finger plays, poems, songs, dances and skits. We are so blessed to have such wonderful children in our center!

The center will close the 24th of December and will re-open the 4th of January, 2016. Re-registration for currently enrolled families will take place in January. Our open house is scheduled for February 11th, after which families from the community will have the opportunity to enroll their child in our programs.

The children and staff of the Baldwin Child Care Center wish each and every one of you a very Merry Christmas and the best New Year ever!



Task Force on Missions 2016 Healthy Beginning's Celebration January 10

Servant of Christ Around the World



Upcoming Meeting – Tuesday, December 1 – 7 PM -Please join us as we plan our 2016 Healthy Beginning's Celebration.

Here's the plan - Starting at 1130 A.M. on Sunday, January 10, stroll through the halls of the Educational Building, visit with the various vendors, pick up some suggestions, ideas or items that will help make 2016 "your year for a healthier you". Find out about effective natural health solutions designed just for you. Or maybe you need some information on Type 2 Diabetes or Neuropathy solutions. Interested in a 15 minute massage, honey from Mr. B's Apiaries, hand-made shea butter soaps, pecan pralines & spiced nuts, meet with a wellness coach, or pick up some everyday essential oils just to name a few. Then at noon, warm up to a cup of soup and sandwich as you listen to soothing music. While eating a tasty dessert, sit back and gather more "Healthy Beginnings" information. Wanna donate blood, the Red Cross will be there. Wanna chat with a fireman, policeman, veterinarian or dentist? They will be there. The Health Clinic will be there to check your BP too. Watch the weekly bulletins for additional information. We ask that you remember those in need of food and to please bring a can good for our food pantry.

Our Committee supports



Serving People across Neighborhoods. Our Church is a partner along with other area churches, joined together to assist our neighbors in need of assistance while facing crisis situations of hunger, emergency funds to those facing eviction or disconnection of electricity or gas utilities, and in need of prescription drugs.

You can place your donations either in the marked TASK FORCE marked container or beside it in the Educational Building. Through your donations we have been busy making hygiene packs for distribution to those without homes. We continue to collect small toiletry items to include: tooth brush, tooth paste, liquid & bar soap, deodorant, wash cloths, combs, emory boards, lotion, shampoo & condition. We also collect clothing and camping equipment for distribution. Please feel free to leave your items near the food collection bins.

Your donations were delivered to Mary's Cradle in October and just at the right time. Trinity United Methodist Church was getting ready to celebrate 20 years in managing Mary's Cradle. They were very appreciative of our suburban filled donations. "Thanks much in your support of our October baby shower for Mary's Cradle". We need to keep their church in our prayers as they recover from the unexpected death of their pastor last October. In addition, their program director Jennifer is undergoing cancer treatment.

2016 MISSION TRIP– NOME ALASKA

We just finished two fundraisers selling fruit and holiday greens to help subsidize mission expenses. Items ordered will be delivered the first week in December. Our mission will be with Community United Methodist Church (CUMC) in Nome, the Children's home, and community center teaching the Christian faith. If you have an interest in our 2016 Alaska mission trip, then please plan on attending our planning meeting on Tuesday, December 1 at 7 PM. For further information, please contact TJ Furlong @ 410-923-2637 or tjfurlong2@verizon.net "as soon as possible".

CELEBRATE VALENTINE'S DAY 2016 WITH US

Last year was our first year selling Valentine's Day wreaths, candies, jewelry, scarves, sneakers etc. Congregation members enjoyed our sales so much they requested another sale. Watch for further information as Valentine's Day approaches. We hope to offer more surprises.



Baby shower for Mary's Cradle

THANKSGIVING SUPPER WAS DELICIOUS

November 22, 2015

The Nurture Outreach Witness (N.O.W.) Task Force would like to say THANK YOU to all the volunteers that helped with the Thanksgiving Supper. It is greatly appreciated!

On Sunday, November 22, 2015, during the first church service, the aroma of deliciousness wafts about the building...reminding each and every one of us what Thanksgiving is all about; being thankful to the Lord, family, friends, togetherness, laughing, giving, remembering, eating, and enjoying.

Psalm 118:24 (NKJV)

This is the day the Lord has made;

We will rejoice and be glad in it.

UMW 2015 Calendar

Saturday, December 5, 2015

UMW Leadership Team Meeting at 10:30 AM

Saturday, December 12, 2015

UMW Christmas Basket Preparations at 9:00 AM

UMW 2016 Tentative Calendar

Leadership Team Meeting

Saturday, January 2, 2016 at 10 am

Installation of 2016 UMW Officers

Sunday, January 3, 2016 at both Worship Services

Pancake Supper

Tuesday, February 9, 2016 from 4:30 to 7:00 pm

Prayer Breakfast

Wednesday, March 16, 2016 at 9:30 am

General Membership & Leadership Team Meeting

Saturday, March 19, 2016 at 10 am

Spring Luncheon

Saturday, April 30, 2016 at noon

Leadership Team Meeting

Saturday, May 14, 2016 10:00 am

Strawberry Festival & Flea Market

Saturday, June 11, 2016

Mission u - Pooks Hill Marriott, Bethesda, MD

Friday, July 29 to Sunday, July 31, 201

Leadership Team Meeting followed by UMW Picnic at noon

Saturday, August 6, 2016 at 10 am

General Membership Meeting & Retreat at Arlington Echo

Saturday, September 24, 2016 at 8:30 am

Special Recognition Salad Luncheon

Sunday, October 2, 2016

Holiday Craft Show & Bazaar

Saturday, November 12, 2016

Thanksgiving Basket Preparation

Saturday, November 19, 2016 at 9:00 am

Leadership Team Meeting

Saturday, December 3, 2016 at 10 am

Christmas Basket Preparation

Saturday, December 10, 2016 at 9:00 am

ANNUAL HOLIDAY CRAFT SHOW & BAZAAR

The Baldwin Memorial UMW's annual Holiday Craft Show & Bazaar was held on Saturday, November 14. It was a crisp fall day and the many attendees enjoyed shopping at the craft tables, white elephant room and the bake goods table.

Shoppers enjoyed a delicious lunch including our famous homemade soups and chicken and shrimp salad sandwiches. And of course, our homemade baked goods!

All proceeds from the rental of craft space and from all baked goods sales, lunch, and white elephant rooms will support our UMW mission projects. This event is the biggest UMW fundraiser of the year.

Many thanks to everyone who shopped, ate lunch, donated white elephants or baked goods, or gave of their time and helped with the bazaar. We could not have done it without you!

LITURGICAL DANCE GROUP

I started this dance group along with Kim Parks, Alex Verbeek and Jessie Reider as a way for all of us to express worship in a different way-dance! We have performed at the annual UMW conference at Severna Park United Methodist Church in late October. We also performed at our Music Director, Susan Petty's 20th year celebration. Our next performance will be in December during our Christmas Season here at Baldwin United Methodist Church. I truly enjoy Liturgical Dancing-it is a great way to express yourself, not only in worship but as a person! We would love to have our Liturgical Dance group grow with all ages and abilities. If you have any questions about the dance group, you can contact me at Angelica Caruso at bmumcoffice@yahoo.com



HAVE A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR

BALDWIN HAPPENINGS:

Births:

Jacob Wesley Lyons son of Seth Lyons and Kara Pinter. Grandson of Rev. Ken Lyons and Donnelle Lyons. Isabella Ann Shipp daughter of Elizabeth Bennett Shipp and Jeremy Shipp, sister of Henry Shipp and granddaughter of Leslie and Jessica Bennett.

9:00 AM

Worship in the Fellowship Hall of the Education Building

9:00 AM Sunday School in the Fellowship Hall of the Education Building

10:30 AM

Worship in our stone church

Children are always welcome at all worship services. Nursery is available for children ages infant to 5 years in our Education Building. This nursery is staffed by two paid adult attendants at all times.

PANCAKE SUPPER

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2016

4:30 PM TO 7:00 PM

ALL YOU CAN EAT PANCAKES

Sausage, scrambled eggs, spiced apples,

Coffee, tea, orange juice, and lemonade

Adults	\$5.00
Students 13 & up	\$4.00
Children 6 to 12	\$2.00
Children 5 & under	Free

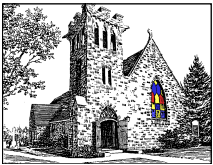
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For additional information,

Please call the church office 410-987-4273



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