



Baldwin Memorial United Methodist Church

CROSSROADS

Baldwin Memorial United Methodist Church
921 Generals highway, Millersville, MD 21108

August/September 2022

Pastor's Column

Are You Settled In?

Over these past few weeks, as Cherish, Oliver, and I have moved to our new home, and moved into the ministries of Baldwin Memorial United Methodist Church, we've encountered the same question, repeated over and over. Church folk, new neighbors, family and friends alike have asked this question out of their kindness and good nature.

"Are you settled in yet?" I suppose at three weeks into this transition, one could suppose that we three indeed have become settled. In some ways we have. For instance, we have unpacked most...er many...um some of our belongings (I keep forgetting about all the dang boxes in the garage and basement). We've done the important stuff; changed our address, met our neighbors, and figured out the good places to get bagels and coffee.

But if I'm going to be honest, which I always strive to be, we are not really settled at all. At our house, despite having to unpack and pay for repairs here and there, it still feels a little like we're in a vacation rental. It feels oddly temporary, like we just haven't lived in it quite long enough for it to feel exactly like home. If that were not enough, Cherish is beginning a new job on Monday following our return from vacation. And if that were still not enough, the very next day after we return, we're picking up a new puppy. Yes, a black Labrador Retriever puppy, a girl that Oliver has sweetly named "Grace." I'm sure you can expect updates in further newsletter installments.

I haven't even mentioned Baldwin Memorial UMC yet! A wonderful church to be sure, but I am most definitely not settled in here! I'm trying my best to learn as many faces and names as I can. (I apologize if I've already forgotten yours). I'm very, VERY grateful for your kindness in wearing name tags. Please keep that up.

I'm also grateful for all the encouragement and

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guidance I've received from the congregation. It is certainly needed. After all, this has been your church for a while, and I need to learn how you do things in order to prayerfully discern how we will do things moving forward. My first weeks here will be spent asking many questions and listening as I try to discover more and more about each of you.

But even if I spent years doing just that; listening and questioning and adjusting, I will likely never truly be settled. If I come to know every face and name, every process of the church, all the history it's accumulated, I still will not be settled - God willing. In fact, I hope I never am and I pray the same for you.

That question, "are you settled in," is a kind one - and it comes from a good place and I deeply appreciate it. But you should know that God is not always in the business of settling. God is often doing the work of UN-settling us.

In Genesis, when humans settled in a city called Babel (see chapters 11:1-9), God unsettled their language, confused them and sent them out into the world, as God had originally commanded their ancestors, Adam and Eve.

In Exodus, when God's people had settled into Egypt, but fallen into slavery. God unsettled the very natural order through ten deadly plagues - and unsettled the hardened heart of Pharaoh. And God unsettled a man named Moses, from his life as a sheep herder to the prophetic leader of the Israelites who would lead them through the unsettled waters of the Red Sea to freedom.

In the gospels, Jesus teaches a new way. "You have heard it said...but I tell you..." He would say. He unsettled demons from the places they resided and

Pastor's Column Continued...

unsettled disease as he cured the sick. All this unsettled the powers of the Jewish religious authorities and the Roman Empire. For all that, they arrested him, tortured him and hung him on a cross to die.

But God was not done with his work of unsettling that which needs to be disrupted, changed and transformed. And so, Jesus did not lay in the grave long, but rather death itself was unsettled and sin was deposed as he rose from the tomb.

So, this is a bit of Bible in an otherwise innocuous newsletter article, all to help you entertain the possibility that the very same God, who scattered humanity from Babel, that broke the chains of the Israelites, that resurrected Jesus from the grave - is at work in Baldwin, by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Perhaps God is unsettling things for us here and now. It may just be that God has some awesome things in store for us.

Peace and Love in Jesus' Name,

PASTOR MIKE

Assistant Pastor Column Continued...

Often, September is associated with new beginnings, playing host to the start of the school year, the reappearance of football season, the emergence of the harvest moon, and more.

So let's use August to reap what we have sown January through July as **Hosea 10:12 states Sow for yourselves righteousness; reap steadfast love; break up your fallow ground, for it is the time to seek the Lord, that he may**

come and rain righteousness upon you and Galatians 6:7 states "Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked.

A man reaps what he sows. Let us be reminded of God's provision for us and God's blessing for others and celebrate a harvest season and experience the spirit of harvest everyday of our life.

Also let us use September as our new beginning. Remember that God is happy when we take the boldness to make new moves in our lives and new moves to be in better personal relationship with him.

I challenge all of you, all of us, to sow, reap and cherish our new beginnings in August and September.

Live and love in fun and fellowship as we continue to grow together and live each day in our mission--**At the Crossroads of past and future in witness for Christ.** --and our vision--**Make disciples for Jesus Christ for the transformation of the World.** —let us stay in continual prayer for our Pastor, our church, each other, our communities in church and out, and the world.

Love, Peace and Blessings,
Pastor Kim



Assistant Pastor's Column



Happy August and Happy September,

Before summer comes to an end, you can squeeze in a few more fun activities and celebrations. From National Root Beer Float Day to National Relaxation Day, there are many ways to enjoy the sunny days of August.

It goes without saying, that August then is a time to celebrate the summer as August is considered to be the last month of summer.

August is also the time to reap what you have sown, quite literally even, as most summer vegetables are ready to be harvested.

September, more specifically Labor Day kicks off many exciting things, including the unofficial start of the fall

Scout News



BSA Troop 192 attended summer camp at Hawk Mountain Scout reservation in PA.

The Scouts had a wonderful week, earned tons of merit badges, and had lots of fun! Special events included a Scoutmaster Belly Flop contest, a Senior Patrol Leader Cannonball contest and a camp-wide raft competition. It was an awesome adventure!



If you know a girl age 11-17 who would like to join us on our next adventure, contact Scoutmaster Annie Medford at danmedford@aol.com

Widows & Widowers Group



Our Widows & Widowers Group enjoyed an “indoor-picnic” on June 23rd. We were all ready and excited to have our picnic at Camp Barrett...but the rain changed our plans. So, we had our picnic at “Camp Baldwin” (in the Fellowship Hall)!

Everyone brought delicious food to share, and we had a great time...indoors! Our group is always happy to welcome new members. We meet monthly, usually on the fourth Thursday at 1pm. To keep to our summer tradition, we will have lunch at a waterfront restaurant on July 28th and August 25th.

If you, or someone you know, would like to visit/join our group contact Barb Stodghill at 410-721-2898, or barbsMK@comcast.net



Save the Date...

Sunday, September 11, 2022
following 10:30AM worship service



Sponsored by our SPPRC

Thanks to a gracious donation, Mission Bar B Que will provide the main meal.

Further details will be provided in the upcoming weekly Sunday Bulletins

June/July 2022 Baptisms, Weddings, Funerals

BAPTISMS

June 5, 2022

- Bria Capri Pisacano, daughter of Amanda (Bennett) and Nicholas Pisacano
- Tilman Wade Deitrick, son of Victoria (Donaldson) and Travis Deitrick

June 12, 2022

- Fallon Victoria Bernstein, daughter of Jessica (Ross) and Jason Bernstein
- Andrew Christopher Longfellow

June 26, 2022

- Claire Susan Taylor, daughter of Mary (Wade) and Carl Griffith Taylor

WEDDINGS

June 18, 2022

Debra Bradley and Richard Myers

June 25, 2022

Emily Howes and Derrick Hendrickson

FUNERALS

June 3, 2022

Larry Dash

June 4, 2022

Anne Steed

June 5, 2022

Alan (Burch, Jr.) Suing

June 6, 2022

Nancy Erskine

UWF Calendar

- ❖ Leadership Team Meeting – Zoom
Saturday, August 13, 10AM
- ❖ UWF Special Recognition Salad Luncheon & World Thank Offering
Sunday, October 9, following 10:30 AM Service
- ❖ UWF Holiday Craft Show & Bazaar
Saturday, November 5, 10AM
- ❖ UWF Leadership Team Meeting & Christmas Basket Preparation
Saturday, December 3, 9:00AM

Early Learning Center



Our PreK graduation was so beautiful. The graduates were so excited to perform some songs and receive their diplomas from Ms. Kim. Congratulations and we wish you the best in kindergarten!

The summer has really flown by and we've had so much fun. There were approximately 30 children registered for the summer program.

Our children were especially thrilled that we were privileged to witness the transformation of beautiful Painted Lady butterflies. We learned so much about them as we got to explore them up close and personal!! We were also excited when we had special events such as Water Day Wednesday, eating hot dogs and beans and making cactuses during Wild, Wild West week, pretending to be pirates, Popcorn & movie day and our all-camp picnic were also so much fun! Yum! S'mores!!

We know that our fall program will be just as exciting as the summer and we look forward to welcoming many returning families and meeting new families as well.

We also met our new pastor, Pastor Mike, and his family. He is excited to get to know our staff and the children of BELC. He plans to visit each class and share his Bible Stories with the children. Welcome!

Please feel free to contact me to schedule a visit. I can be contacted at 410-923-2832 or at BaldwinELC21108@gmail.com.

Mary Ahearn,
Director, Baldwin Early Learning Center



SPAN News



The Severna Park Assistance Network (SPAN) was formed by local ministers concerned about a growing demand for emergency assistance. There was a need for a process to identify those needing assistance so they could be helped in a dignified and expeditious manner rather than individuals having to go from church to church asking for help.

SPAN is an ecumenical Christian ministry, first formed by six area churches, now includes 14 churches, and has expanded its service area. **SPAN was later changed to stand for Serving People Across Neighborhoods.**

SPAN provides food and/or financial assistance to qualified individuals and families to help them through an emergency situation – i.e., a utility turn-off, court-ordered eviction, or the need for a medical prescription, etc.

Compassionate interviewers work one-on-one with clients to understand their unique circumstances in order to determine how best to help the individual, and may provide referral for additional resources.

SPAN, Inc., is a nonprofit organization in the state of Maryland, chartered under 501(c)(3) of the IRS Code. All donations are tax-deductible.

SPAN's ability to serve those in need is proportional to the donations it receives. **SPAN pantry shelves are running low due to an increase in need, and slow donations during the summer.**

Most Needed Items:

Laundry detergent	Rice/Pasta Sides
Deodorant	Hamburger/tuna helper
Shampoo	Boxed Potatoes
Toothpaste	Fresh Fruit/Vegetables

UWF News

New Administrative Assistant:

If you have not already met Linda Bunn, our new part-time Administrative Assistant, stop by the church office. Linda began working at BMUMC on November 18, 2021 after retiring from a large non-profit organization in Lanham, MD where she served as Assistant Director, HR.

Linda graduated from University of Baltimore with BS degree in Business Administration, and major in

UWF News Continued...

Human Resources.

She has already beautifully demonstrated her many administrative, organizational, and creative skills.

Linda is in the office M-F 8AM to 12noon. Please join us in welcoming Linda and give her big "Thank You."

Thanks and shout out to Julie Reinhart for taking the lead in updating our Church Website.

Offering Hope in Ukraine -By Joey Butler, *UM News*

As soon as the Russian invasion of Ukraine began on Feb. 24, 2022, Ukrainian refugees — mostly women and children — began arriving in neighboring countries. Some by train, some in cars with bullet holes. "We didn't know where we were going; we just went west," said Anna, a refugee from Kyiv staying at a United Methodist retreat center in the Czech Republic. United Methodists in Eastern Europe have been welcoming refugees since the beginning. Many offer shelter and basic daily necessities, in many cases hosting the refugees in their own homes. Others arrange to transport food and medical supplies back into Ukraine for those who cannot leave, and help refugees acquire legal documents that they may have left behind or lost while fleeing their homes. As the conflict drags on and more long-term needs arise, churches help children with school and help their parents find more permanent housing and jobs. When asked, the response is always that they will help as long as necessary. In late May, a team from United Methodist News, the United Methodist Committee on Relief and the United Methodist Board of Global Ministries visited church refugee ministries in the Czech Republic, Hungary, Romania and western Ukraine to share stories of the United Methodist presence in the wake of such tragedy and ongoing need. The Rev. Jana Krizova, who helps coordinate refugee ministries for the annual conference of The United Methodist Church in the Czech Republic and Slovakia, said this ministry happened naturally. "It's in the Methodist DNA," she said. "You see need and do something about it."

UWF News Continued...

Special Recognition

Every year the Baldwin Memorial United Women of Faith (UWF) honors two members who have gone over and above in service in our church ministries with women, children, and youth. Due to the COVID Pandemic, we have not been able to hold our annual luncheon nor give recognition.

Sunday, October 9, following worship services, we will hold a salad luncheon in honor of our recipients and present them with their special recognition pin and certificate. All ladies of Baldwin's Church are invited to join. We ask that you RSVP our church office.

The Love Circle met at my home to assemble a craft, a star. Shared fellowship and brainstorming ideas for our craft table in November. If you have an idea please share with your circle and invite others.

This is one step to expand our community in God.

Debra Snowberger

Love Circle Continued...



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