

BAKER MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

THE CARILLON

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The Carillon is a monthly publication available in print, online and e-mail editions. To sign up, visit our website or contact the church office. bakermemorialchurch.org

Deadline for The Carillon items is the 20th of the month



PASTOR MARY'S MESSAGE

Sweeter than Honey!

How sweet are your words to my taste, sweeter than honey to my mouth! Through your precepts I get understanding; therefore I hate every false way. Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.

Psalm 119:103-105 (NRSV)

When I hear the words, “Your word is a lamp to my feet...” the image that comes to mind is trying to walk through a forest on a dark night without a light. It’s something I would never want to do. Forests are full of hazards in the dark; from the mundane problem of tripping over a fallen tree or stepping into an unseen hole, to the more frightening aspect of creatures that rustle in the dark.

Likewise, I personally would never want to walk through life without the stable, wise, and life changing foundation of God’s Word. It is a light that illuminates the path from birth to death. It helps me avoid tripping on unseen hazards. It helps me distinguish between leaves blowing in the wind and truly dangerous rustling in the dark. Not to mention that as the Psalm says, it is “sweeter than honey to my mouth!” Reading the Word can be like having dessert every day, who wouldn’t want that!

Unfortunately, I’m afraid scripture reading is an “acquired taste.” If only it were as easy as turning on a flashlight! Make no mistake, it takes discipline to know the scriptures well enough to find that sweetness and have them readily available to help guide our living. If you look at these words from the Psalm and wonder how they can really be true, have no fear you are not alone.

In August 1760, John Wesley wrote a letter to one the Methodist preachers named John Trembath. The two of them had spoken about some concerns with his ministry, including that he didn’t seem to be growing in his depth of faith. Wesley attributes this to his lack of reading, including reading the Scriptures. In his letter he writes these passionate words, “O

begin! Fix some part of every day for private exercises. You may acquire the taste which you
Continued on page 2.



PASTOR MARY'S MESSAGE

Continued from page 1.

have not; what is tedious at first will afterwards be pleasant. Whether you like it or no, read and pray daily. It is for your life; there is no other way: else you will be a trifler all your days... Do not starve yourself any longer."

Even Wesley understood that it might feel tedious at first!

O begin! Fix some part of every day for private exercises.

—John Wesley

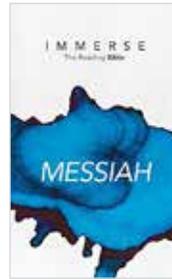
He also understood that the discipline of reading and praying every day was critical.

Hopefully you have heard by now that everyone is invited to engage in the Christian discipline

of reading the New Testament during Lent. It can be difficult, but we are doing it with a resource that is pretty easy to read and allows you to listen by podcast if you don't have time to read. It takes discipline, but in this system you only need to read five days during the week. It can be a

challenge to keep going, but in this case you have a group of friends to share insights and questions with. O Begin!

If you haven't signed up for a group yet, you can go to the church website at bakermemorialchurch.org and find your group. If you won't be in town for several of the weeks, can't attend at the other times, or you are just a little shy, sign up



for the Wednesday night conversation by conference call. The groups will each meet for nine sessions, beginning in the first or second week of March. The first meeting is where you'll get your copy of the book and discuss how your group will function.

Please begin, if you haven't read it before!

Please do it again, if you've read it many

times. Everyone needs a little sweetness in their life and everyone needs a lamp for their path!

In Christ,

Pastor Mary

IMMERSE: MESSIAH GROUP LIST

Find your group! Groups are listed by day, time, location & hosts ✓ = filled

SUNDAY

9am | church parlor | Josh Fredrickson & Alan McCurdy

✓ 10:30am | church parlor | John Clarke & Kim Starr

11:30am | Luau Coffee, 40W450 Illinois 64, St. Charles | Meg Bingham & Marian Emmett

MONDAY

✓ 11:30am | church parlor | Pastor Mary & Diana Seymour

6:30pm | Claire's home | Claire Replogle & Lori Stahulak

TUESDAY

11:30am | church parlor | Jennifer Swenson & Kristin Fischer

6pm | Arcadium Coffeeshouse | Milupa King & David Masters

6:30pm | church parlor | Ginny Swiatek & Paula Hall

6:30pm | Panera Bread, 369 S Randall Rd, South Elgin | Mark Armstrong & Dan Starr

WEDNESDAY

7pm | Meet by conference call | Pastor Mary & Tracy Hulett

6/6:30pm | church parlor | Paul & Debbie Conterato & John & Beth Bayless

THURSDAY

7:30am | church parlor | Pastor Mary & Mandy Hale

✓ Evening | Kathy & Eric's home | Kathy Kozak & Eric Werner

FRIDAY

10am | Judy & Jane's homes | Judy Schlarb & Jane Anderson

4:30pm | Pam's home | Pam Stare & Betty Erickson

time tba | location tba | Rick & Sandy Kotrba

HOW IMMERSE WORKS

- **Who:** Groups consist of 8-12 people. The goal is simple; to talk about your reactions to the week's reading.
- **When:** Meet together once per week, planning to spend 60-90 minutes in discussion. Groups meet the weeks of March 3 through May 11.
- **How:** You can read or listen to the book on podcasts. Copies of *Messiah* will be available from the host.
- **Find your group!** There are a wide variety of group locations and times, to make it convenient to participate.

Children & Family Ministries

WELCOME OTHERS WARMLY

Hi friend! Aloha! Hello! There are so many ways to greet a friend. My favorite greeting is always adding a hug or kisses on both cheeks. That style could be too bold. Greetings can also be a smile or a handshake. Let's try something different. Close your eyes and picture Jesus walking in our church. How do you see Him? How does He speak to you? Does this change the way you might greet others in our church or at your work? I just learned about one of our families in our church who keep track of how many friends and family they greet in church each week. Wow! By being a friend, showing kindness, listening to those in need all represent God's love through you. This week and every day, continue to welcome as Christ welcomed you.

As you reach out to your friends, invite them to join our VBS. This year we are traveling to Athens to learn about Paul's dangerous journey to share the truth. Each day the children will learn a life-changing truth of God's eternal love for us. Apostle Paul will join us this week only! Paul who will tell how God takes care of us, and sent his Son, Jesus. Paul will tell inspire the children to share God's love with everyone. VBS Athens has amazing upbeat Greek music to get the energy flowing. Don't worry, there will be Olympic style games too. VBS is always a special time for Baker Memorial Church to come together to encourage spiritual growth and build friendships through our silly sides. Please let me know how you want to participate your gifts and talents this summer—either with volunteering as an Oikos Leader to prepping the stage. Email me at ssstienbarger@bakermemorialchurch.org.

Blessings & Joy,
Shelly Stienbarger
Director, Children & Family Ministry



FAMILY BIBLE VERSE

So welcome each other, in the same way that Christ also welcomed you, for God's glory.

—Romans 15:7, Deep Blue Kid's Bible

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

- **March Curriculum** | People Welcome Jesus (Mark 11:9)
9am Sunday School
- **March 3** | 9am | Sunday School Singers perform
- **VBS 2019: Athens** | June 17-21 | 9am-12pm

THANK YOU'S!

- **February Teachers:** Chrissy Farley, Gina Armstrong, Mandy Hale, & Becky Crow
- **February Shepherds:** Courtney Fredrickson & Ginny Swiatek
- **Nursery:** Catherine Rosenquist & Danni Killian
- **Praise & Worship:** Melissa Arndt & Brooke Bayless
- **Special Thank You:** Gary Steele



Youth Ministry

UPDATES, SIGN-UPS AND MORE

Youth programming continues full speed ahead and there are many things to know and get involved with. We cover most of these items in the weekly 5-Point Weekend Update, however I wish to make our church aware of these events and opportunities in multiple mediums for the sake of clear communication.

In February, we met with parents and young people interested in going on the **2019 Work Trip**. The group went over details about the location, activities, expectations and payments with many great questions interspersed. As we get closer to May, we will schedule one more event for additional questions and final sign ups. In the interim, the initial deposit for the trip is already due and the first payment of \$75 should be made by March 15.

The **Winter Retreat** has been rescheduled and shortened to a day trip on March 3. We will leave from Baker Memorial at 8am and return around 6pm depending on traffic and weather conditions. We are also trying a new venue this year, Alpine Valley Resort, that some in the church have visited previously. **Joseph Fellowship** is scheduled for March 10 and **Brotherhood** continues its schedule on the 10th and 24th of this month. Additionally, the **Youth Council** meeting for March 26th is in the process of being rescheduled. If you feel a calling to youth ministry, we want your input. Send an email to [cking@](mailto:cking@bakermemorialchurch.org)



bakermemorialchurch.org so we can get you plugged in. We have a need for many skill sets and you may be the answer to a prayer.

Finally, as soon as April gets under way, the **Rummage Sale** will be

upon us. In order to properly prepare, we have created a sign up for those helping with preparation and behind the scenes logistics. Sign up now at bit.ly/byrummage to get the spots you want!

Blessings to you and yours,
Carl King
Director of Youth Ministry

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

- **St. Patrick's Parade Fundraiser** | Saturday, March 9
1-3pm | Join the fun—everyone loves a parade!
- **Joseph Fellowship** | Sunday, March 10 | 12-1:30pm
- **Brotherhood** | Sunday, March 10 & 24 | 6:30-8pm
- **Confirmation** | Wednesday, March 6, 13 & 20 | 6-7:30pm
- Second payments for the **Work Trip** are due March 15
- **Rummage Sale** | Thursday-Saturday, April 11-13

Young Adult Ministry

WE'RE LISTENING AND WORKING!

Our young adult council met again in February and the overarching concern was to create programming that works for you. To that end, you should have received an email with a link to a Google form for your comments and availability. Here it is, in case you have not received it: <http://alturl.com/3fs9a>.

One of the activities scheduled for the new year is an escape room. Many of you said this was something you have wanted to do for a while, others have gone through one and said it was a blast. Here is the good news—it is happening on Sunday, March 17. The other good news is we found the iPanic escape room in Saint Charles has a special code for \$5 off —**chicagofun**. Enter this code for

a \$5 savings and we will also cover \$10 towards the cost per person. This makes the price \$15 per person. The date, again, will be March 17.

Immerse: Messiah groups are starting up this month and I hope you have signed up for one. There are meetings at coffee shops, meetings at church and even meetings online. Following the conclusion of Immerse groups and based on interest we will explore continuing with a small group format meeting, so sign up for a group. Get plugged in where you can!

We're praying for you.
Carl King
Director of Young Adult Ministry



OPENING NEW DOORS

Capital Campaign Update

The Opening New Doors Capital Campaign is continuing to move forward! As of February 20, we have received pledges totaling over **\$1,437,400**. If you have not been contacted yet or have a question, please email capcam@bakermemorialchurch.org or call the church office.

This Month's Testimonial Quote:

"We spent fifteen wonderful years in your church, until we moved to Wesley Willows in the summer of 2016. I felt I was able to use my gifts to teach a variety of classes at the church and Ellyn recalls her being able to lead devotions and give spiritual talks at the monthly mission team meetings of the United Methodist Women...In gratitude to for years at Baker we want to make this gift...We hope and pray that Baker's campaign will be successful and we wish you all of God's blessings for the future."

—Tom and Ellyn Walker

Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes

Thank you to everyone who helped us to fill shoeboxes of trinkets, toys, hygiene items and clothes for children in the country of Ghana. Your generosity made Christmas dreams come true for forty-two children who would not have received a Christmas gift and the opportunity to hear the Good News. Once again, this congregation came through for our youth. *Thank you* from Miriam Circle.

United Methodist Women Happenings

- **UMW Leadership Team:** Please plan to meet for our monthly meeting on Wednesday, March 6 from 9-11am in the Parlor. If you are a circle chair and unable to attend, please send details of your upcoming meeting to Pam Stare at starep@comcast.net.
- **UMW Cluster Luncheon** at Geneva Methodist on Tuesday, March 12. We have been asked to bring salads. Please RSVP to your circle chair or sign up at the UMW bulletin board by March 5.
- **Priscilla Circle:** The next meeting will be on Sunday, March 10 at 7pm at St. Charles Panera. Come for dinner, dessert or coffee—your option. Catch up with each other and meet new sisters in Christ. Everyone is encouraged to invite someone (either from church or a friend) to attend! RSVP to Gina Armstrong.
- **Miriam Circle:** Our next meeting for girls in 4th through 8th grade will be on Sunday, March 17 from 12:30-2:15pm. Bring an apron and help us prepare a

meal for our Day Guest luncheon. More information will be forthcoming in an email to members. If you are not on the Miriam Circle email list, please contact Gina Armstrong to be added. gmarmstrong@smartgate.com

Esther Circle Needs Fleece Donations

Esther Circle will be working with the Sunday school children on April 7 & 14 from 9-10am to make lap fleece blankets for the Ronald McDonald House. Join us for this worthy cause!

Donations of fleece are needed to make blankets. Drop off fabric donations now in Shelly Stienbarger's office.

Questions? Contact Melissa Arndt at Mel_pagano@hotmail.com



Sisterhood DBTP

Sisterhood—a Bible Study for High School Girls

- **Sunday, March 3** | 4-6pm (please note extended time) Youth Center | Revelation Study Lesson #9 | And, special guest, Mr. Mark Armstrong, giving us a church art tour!
- **Sunday, March 17** | 4-5:30pm | Youth Center | Revelation Study Lesson #10

Friends are always welcome!

Please contact Jennifer Swenson 630-621-8362 or Paula Hall 630-363-6566, for more information.

MISSIONS CORNER

Opportunities for Service

THE NOLA HOUSE IS BACK!

This will be the Adult Missions Team 10th year serving in New Orleans. You may remember from a few years ago we were building a POPSICLE HOUSE designed after a New Orleans Row House. The house is not finished and we thought our 10th year would be a good time to do just that!



Here is how it works. Stop by Baker Hall on Sundays, March 3, 10, 17 or 24 to purchase a popsicle stick for \$10. Record your name or your family's name on the stick. We will give you a New Orleans bead necklace. The stick may finish the walls, the roof or maybe even the porch!

Leave us your email and we will send pictures of the Adult Missions Team in action while we are serving in New Orleans!

UMCOR Sunday is this Month

For over 75 years, UMCOR has helped people in crisis all over the world. On UMCOR Sunday, March 31, we gather to celebrate and give generously to cover the relief agency's annual operational and administrative costs so that UMCOR may apply 100% of other donations directly to relief efforts. This is an incredible Sunday that reminds us of the importance of compassion and love in action.

Special offering envelopes will be in the bulletins that Sunday for giving to UMCOR.

Wednesday Night Suppers This Month

- **March 6** | Paul cooks Beef Rouladine
- **March 13** | Italian Chicken, Rice Pilaf, Lipton Veggies, Tossed Salad & Bean-n-Bacon Soup
- **March 20** | Jambalaya, Cornbread Casserole, Tossed Salad, Tomato & Barley Soup
- **March 27** | Spring Break—no dinner

One O'Clock Book Group Invite

This book discussion group meets in the Parlor at 1pm on the first Monday of each month. The selection for March 4 is *The Keeper of Lost Things* by Ruth Hogan. All are invited to join in the lively discussion. Contact Shelly Campbell for more info at sscbooks@sbcglobal.net

NEW ORLEANS BOUND!

The adult mission team serves this month in New Orleans. The team thanks you for your support this year! You may have purchased one of our handmade signs, pumpkins or ghosts. You may have supported or attended the Baker Café in the Fall or you may have helped us finish our NOLA Popsicle House.

However you supported our efforts in improving situations in New Orleans, we thank you! Please pray for the team March 31 through April 7, as we travel and work in the lower 9th ward. To find out how the trip went look for an article in the May Carillon!

NORTHERN ILLINOIS FOOD BANK SCHEDULE



The next volunteer opportunity at the NIL is Monday, March 18 at 9am. Every third Monday, a team meets at the food bank at 273 Dearborn Court in Geneva to package food for those in need. It is a rewarding and fun mission to be involved in. If you would like to join the team or get more information contact Betty Erickson at N9FYC@aol.com

United Methodist Men's Breakfast

The UMM Men's Breakfast will meet on Sunday, March 17 at 7:30am in Wiley Hall. Meet for food, fellowship and a featured speaker.

Jeff Hunt Receives Charlemagne Award

A big congratulations to Jeff Hunt for being honored with the Charlemagne Award! The St. Charles Chamber of Commerce's Charlemagne Award is a lifetime achievement award given to someone with a distinguished history of service to the community. We celebrated Jeff's accomplishment at a recent Sunday fellowship with cakes.



Credit Card & Paypal Donation Options

If you would like to donate to Baker Memorial UMC using a credit card or Paypal, go to BakerMemorialChurch.org and click on the donate button or you can scan our QR code, shown here, to give with your smart phone.



MARCH 2019

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>9am Worship 9am Sunday School: Children, Middle School 9 & 10:30am Immerse* 10:30am Jazz Worship 10:30am HS Sunday School</p>	<p>11:30am Immerse* 7pm Boy Scouts</p>	<p>11:30am Day Guest Lunch 11:30am Kiwanis 11:30am Immerse* 1:30pm Staff Meeting 6:30pm Immerse* 8pm Alcoholics Anonymous</p>	<p>4:30pm Chapel Bells 5pm Wednesday Night Supper 5pm Wesley Singers 5pm Chapel Choir 6pm Chancel Bells 6pm Confirmation 6pm Immerse* 6:30 Chancel Choir</p>	<p>7:30am Immerse* 11:30am Day Guest Lunch</p>	<p>1 9am Indoor Farmer's Market</p>	<p>2 BakerYouth Winter Retreat</p>
<p>3 10:05am General Conference Read- out Meeting 12pm Have A Look Membership Class 4pm Sisterhood</p>	<p>4 1pm One O'Clock Book Club</p>		<p>6 Ash Wednesday 9am UMW Leadership Meeting 6pm Missions 7pm Ash Wednesday Service</p>	<p>7 6pm Cap Camp Steering Comm</p>	<p>8 9am Indoor Farmer's Market</p>	<p>9 9:30am Church Choir Rehearsal 2pm BakerYouth St. Patrick's Parade Fundraiser</p>
<p>10 Daylight Savings Time begins 11am Children & Family Meeting 12pm Joseph 12pm General Con- ference Readout Meeting 7pm Priscilla Circle</p>	<p>11 7pm Trustees</p>	<p>12 3:30pm Lazarus House Cooking</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14 6pm Cap Camp Steering Comm 6:30pm Phoebe Circle <i>offsite</i></p>	<p>15 9am Indoor Farmer's Market</p>	
<p>17 7:30am Men's Breakfast 8am-12pm UMW Rock-a-Thon 12:30pm Miriam Circle 4pm Sisterhood</p>	<p>18 9am NIL Food Bank 7pm Church Council</p>	<p>19 5pm Woman's Emmaus (off site)</p>	<p>20 Carillon Articles Due 4-8pm UMW Rock- A-Thon 6pm Mindful Moments</p>	<p>21 1pm Women's Emmaus 6pm Cap Camp Steering Comm</p>	<p>22 9am Indoor Farmer's Market</p>	<p>23 8am Pre-Marriage Workshop 9am Baptism Class</p>
<p>24 6:30pm Brotherhood</p>	<p>25 7pm Worship/ Spiritual Growth</p>	<p>26 6:30pm Lydia Circle</p>	<p>27 1pm Sarah-Ruth Circle</p>	<p>28 1pm Women's Emmaus 6pm Cap Camp Steering Comm</p>	<p>29 9am Indoor Farmer's Market</p>	<p>30 9am UMM Cleans Sanctuary</p>
<p>31 UMCOR Sunday</p>		<p>IMMERSE: MESSIAH The complete list of groups is listed on page 2</p>	<p>* Please sign up online or with the church office</p>			<p>NOTE: The first row of items occur every week and will not appear on daily listings (except in case of schedule change)</p>

sermon series

BLESSED ARE YOU: Listening to the Preaching of Jesus

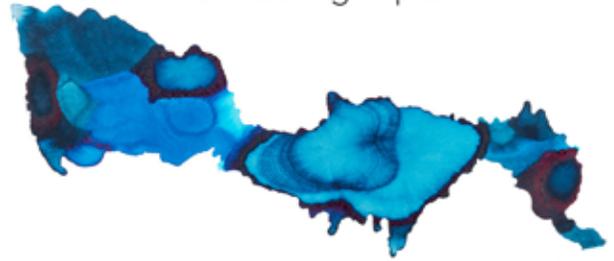


Take your place among the people who gather to listen to Jesus preach his most challenging sermons from Matthew and Luke.

MARCH 6-APRIL 14

IMMERSE

The Bible Reading Experience™



STARTS THE WEEK OF MARCH 3

EXPERIENCE THE BIBLE LIKE NEVER BEFORE!

Join a group for nine weeks

It's like a weekly book club—less like a Bible study

FIND YOUR GROUP!

SIGN UP AT FELLOWSHIP

OR AT: bit.ly/ImmerseMessiah

Rock-a-Thon FUN-RAISER MARCH 17 & 20

United Methodist Women (UMW) is celebrating 150 years of service to women, children and youth.

We will be rocking and fun-raising for the UMW Legacy Fund! Women can sign up to rock for 30 minute slots.

Sign up at fellowship, the UMW bulletin board or via SignUpGenius (being emailed to circles)

JOIN THE FUN!



Sunday, March 17 | 8am-12pm | Baker Hall

Wednesday, March 20 | 4-8pm | Wiley Hall

2019 CLASSES

HAVE-A-LOOK MEMBERSHIP CLASSES

SUNDAYS | 12-1PM

MAR 3

MAY 19

JULY 14

SEPT 15

NOV 10

Please reserve your seat for the class at:
bit.ly/BakerMembership

Note: this URL is case sensitive

BAPTISM PREPARATION CLASSES

SATURDAYS | 9AM

MAR 23

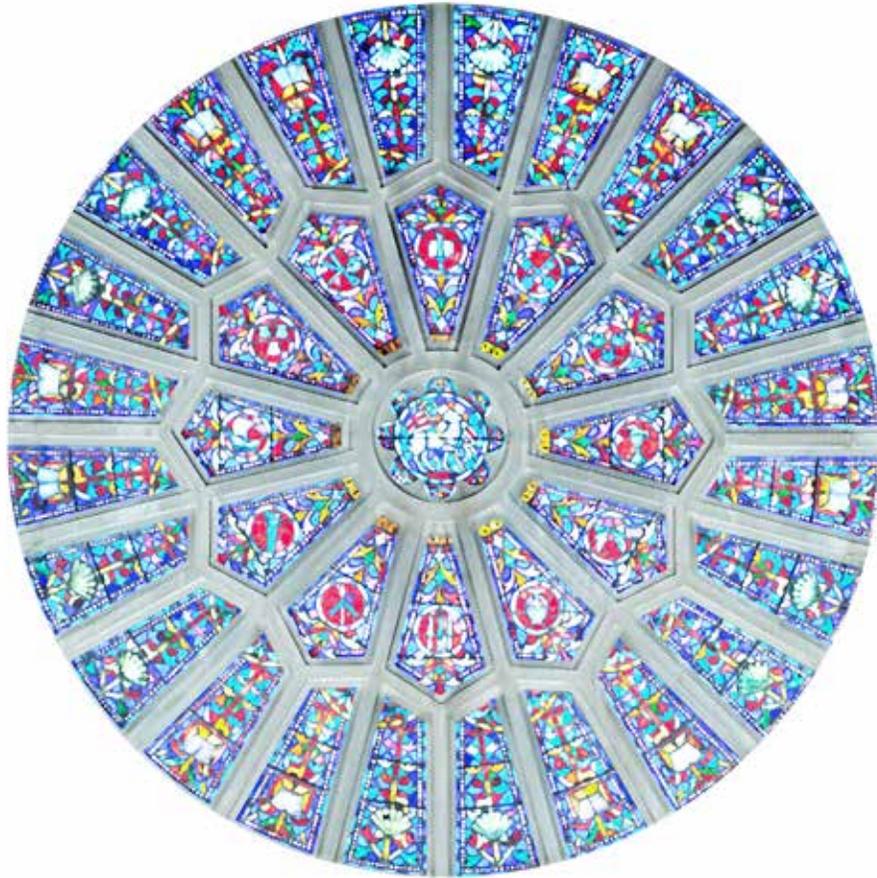
MAY 11

JULY 27

SEPT 14

NOV 9

Please reserve your seat for the class at:
bit.ly/bakerbaptismclass



STAFF

Rev. Mary Zajac | *Senior Pastor*

Jeffery Hunt | *Director, Music Ministry*

Mark Edwards | *Organist*

Shelly Stienbarger | *Director, Children & Family Ministry*

Jenn Gunn | *Director, Administration & Communications*

Carl E. King | *Director, Youth & Young Adult Ministries*

Michele Claney | *Creative Director*

Judy Schlarb | *Finance Manager*

Lita Jimenez | *Church Accountant*

Karl Lescelius | *Building Maintenance Manager*

BAKER MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

A traditional church for a modern world

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