

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

Asking God to Stretch Us and Taking the Next Step

You say, 'I am rich; I have acquired wealth and do not need a thing.' But you do not realize that you are wretched, pitiful, poor, blind and naked. —Revelation 3:17

These challenging words are a letter from Christ to one of seven churches addressed in the book of Revelation. Some of the churches receive positive notes, some relatively neutral notes, and some receive critique. This is a critique that speaks to the human tendency to see ourselves and our churches as self-sufficient and self-made.

The attitude doesn't look like a problem on the surface. They apparently had enough funding to fill all the needs that they could think of and weren't in need. In today's words you might say that they could support their church staff, provide good Christian programming, and keep their church property well maintained. It seemed to them that this was enough. Yet Christ tells them they are poor, blind and naked. They are unable to see that their greatest need is not material. Their greatest need is to be filled with, and led by, the Holy Spirit who has a lengthy list of opportunities to be stretched and grow to the glory of God. They are wretched because they think they have finished the race, when they have barely left the starting blocks. They are pitiful because they have the peace of self-satisfaction, which is a poor and fragile imitation of the peace that passes understanding found in Christ alone.

This is clearly not the church that we want to use as a model for Baker Memorial United

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This year's Summer Offering project begins in June. Be sure to pick up a collection can!

PASTOR MARY'S MESSAGE

Continued from page 1.

Methodist Church. In fact, we need to use this church from Revelation as a warning. When we start to have a sense of self-satisfaction, it is time to ask God to stretch us so that we can see God's next step for our congregation.

This year's Summer Offering project starting in June is a part of this opening up to let God stretch us. We often say that our mission is to Serve Christ, Here, Near and

My hope is that Christ will use our willingness to be stretched in the Spirit to heal and inspire both these children in a faraway land, and our congregation

Far Away. Over the last few years we have been growing into this mission. We have started to serve regularly at the Northern Illinois Food Bank, have started the Day Guest program, engaged with the Mid-Valley Special Education Cooperative to have students receive some experience in our kitchen,

and are just getting connected to the Kairos Torch ministry at the Illinois Youth Center. These are all great ministries in the "Here" and possibly "Near" category. This year we

are opening ourselves up to an opportunity to engage "Far Away." We will be connecting with a United Methodist Missionary in Cambodia named Clara Biswas. She serves Christ by reaching the poorest children and families in Phnom Penh and providing church, education, food, and in some capacity the joy of music.

This is an exciting opportunity to reach out to a specific community far away and be stretched in our love for Christ. Perhaps it will be just for a summer, but my hope is that we stand at the beginning of a long term relationship with Clara and the street children of Cambodia. My hope is that Christ will use our willingness to be stretched in the Spirit to heal and inspire both these children in a faraway land, and our congregation here in the United States. As our eyes are opened to the needs of these children, I suspect God will stretch us to be innovative, generous, and connected with people we could never know otherwise.

Please make sure you pick up an offering can at the church and bring them in every first Sunday of the month for our "noisy offering" to the glory of God.

In Christ,
Pastor Mary

GADGETS? CHECK. GIZMOS? CHECK. INVENTORS?

We've prayed, we've built, we've trained and now we are ready to help curious kids become hands-on inventors who discover they are lovingly crafted by God!

Are your PreK through incoming 8th graders geared up for the adventure? Have they invited a friend?! If not, be sure to sign them up for Vacation Bible School taking place June 19-23 from 9am-12pm. We strongly encourage registration by June 5. Register on line or during fellowship!

You can help make this year's VBS Maker-iffic! Here are a number of ways to help make the VBS puzzle complete!

• **Volunteer your time** Are you handy? Can you Act? Do you like to have fun?! If you have the time, we have the perfect place for your skills!

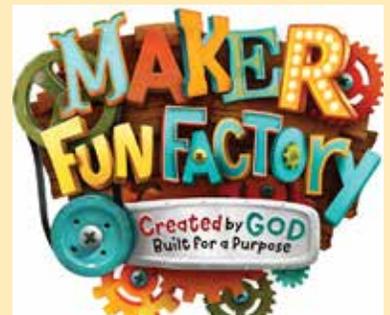
• **Donate Supplies** Visit the VBS Table for an updated donations list! Your gifts are greatly appreciated!

• **Craft Day** Saturday, June 10, 9am-2pm

Help create the sets that inspire us to be creators as we learn and explore the word of our ultimate Creator!

• **Set Up Days:** Thursday, June 15, Friday, June 16, Saturday, June 17 from 9am-2pm. Snacks provided!

• **Participate!** Enjoy a cup of coffee and opening worship each day from 9-9:25am or just before lunch at 11:30am for our closing worship. This time includes stories, songs (some dancing) and prayer!
We'd love to see you there!



For more information, contact Courtney Fredrickson
630-632-6878 or Courtney.j.fredrickson@gmail.com

Children & Family Ministries

As much as Spring is a time of growth and renewal, I feel Summer is a time for doing! The days get longer and sunnier (eventually...), the birds join us in greeting each day with excitement, and it is time to put all our great plans into action! Cleaning, planting, building, repairing, moving, playing, sweating. Basically laughing and crying our way to accomplishment.

I have seen Summer hit Baker Memorial recently, there is movement everywhere! Things are being built and painted, baked and served, donated, planned and pulled-off all around me in all areas. The harpsichord has a lovely new home and the back of Baker Hall has become an airy rehearsal space for our choirs. The youth are offering their services all over town to raise money for their mission trip to Battle Creek, MI in July. VBS props are being assembled and stashed in nooks and crannies all over the church. The 'Everyone in Missions' tree in Baker Hall is bursting with leaves and the under-served in our neighborhood are being cared for with weekly lunches served in a comfortable environment with plenty of conversation.

And of course there is our beautiful new Children's Center, a space that has been given to us as a gift of love for God, for His children and the desire that they have a welcoming space where they can find God for themselves and begin to build their own relationships with Him. The Children's Center will be a place where friendships are formed and where children of Baker, all too soon to become the adults of Baker, will learn and serve together.

I am reminded that we cannot go it alone, that all of this happens because of an amazing variety of people in our

DONUTS WITH DAD

Dads of Sunday School children are invited to a special Father's Day event on Sunday, June 18 at 9am. Join us for donuts, class presentations and more. Register at the office or online.

FAMILY SERVICE EVENT

Don't miss our family visit to **Feed My Starving Children** at the Aurora location. This is a great way to finish up VBS week or to schedule a Summer service outing with your family.

- Saturday, June 24 at 9-11:00am at the Aurora location
- Sign up at time of VBS registration



There were lots of happy faces at the Children's Center ribbon cutting.



congregation and the unique combination of gifts each possesses. I can plant a vegetable garden to rival any, and I'll paint anything you give me, but that's just it, it has to be provided to me. Maybe provided by someone who doesn't know the first thing about growing or pickling veggies. It's hard to imagine that with all of this going on there are even bigger changes on the horizon. Open space next door, building updates and new spaces created to welcome, teach, love and grow together as a church and as a community. Baker is putting plans into action and I see us all having a part to play and a gift to give.

"Do not neglect the gift that is in you, which was given to you through prophecy with the laying on of hands by the council of elders. Put these things into practice, devote yourself to them, so that all may see your progress. Pay close attention to yourself and to your teaching; continue in these things, for in doing this you will save both yourself and your hearers." —1 Timothy 4:14-16 (NRSV)

Peace,
Mandy Hale

Youth Ministry

BakerYouth is actively seeking new young people graduating from sixth grade into seventh grade who desire to confirm their faith. As a traditional church for this modern world we get excited about the opportunity to share the foundations of our faith with our children and friends. By digging deep into the questions and listening to the voice of God we grow and see how the words apply to our present day lives. You do not need to be a member to begin this faith journey. Nor do you have to be a scholar. Just come with an open mind and a hungry heart.

But before confirmation starts, join us for youth VBS. This marks our second year hosting a youth VBS for

sixth through eighth grade students. I have peeked at the curriculum and it promises to be a fun time studying about God. We already have a good number signed up, but want to extend the invitation to your friends and family. Join us.

And if you are a high school student or have a high school student, we are continuing high school Sunday school through the summer this year. We are diving into a study of the religions of the world. We will use Adam Hamilton's study series, "Christianity and World Religions" previously covered in adult Sunday school. My goal is to invite the questions that many young people think in their mind but are afraid to ask out loud. So, bring your friends and your questions. See you soon!

Young Adult Ministry

The young adults of Baker Memorial are still working on reading the Bible in a year and recently talked about where we all are in the process as a group. Some are right on track with their readings, while the majority of us have fallen behind a bit. However, we are able to hold each other accountable and see the progress of the group through the YouVersion app. This is indicative of what Wesley taught about bands. If we are not accountable, in good times and bad, we will suffer in silence when we are doing poorly and rejoice a little too loudly when we do the things the Bible tells us to do.

Many young adults are returning from college over the summer and will acutely feel absence of their friends, even though surrounded by family. They have probably undergone the experience of suffering in silence during their time away and long to feel joined to something stable and strong. That's why the life of the church during the summer months is so important. During the summer we have the unique opportunity to reconnect, refresh, and recommit to Christ and his body. But what does that look like?

It's praying for each other in Baker Hall when conversation reveals a need in the life of a friend.

It's recommending studies, scriptures, sermons and books that have touched your life.

It's sharing food, drink, and each other's company outside of the four walls of the church.

...exercising in the park while catching up

...cycling or hiking down a mountain and taking time to meditate on God together



Last month's paint ball excursion was a blast!

Really...reconnecting, refreshing and recommitting is all about doing the everyday things we do but putting Christ at the center of each endeavor. He becomes the focus and our relationship with him and others becomes the motivation.

With that in mind, I really hope to see you at some of the upcoming young adult events over the summer. In fact, if you are a young adult or know a young adult, take a moment right now and forward this message to them via email or mail this article to them as a hard copy. Let them know how much we care.

Blessings,
Carl King
Director Youth & Young Adults



Children & Family Job Opening

Is God Calling you or someone you know to Children & Family Ministries?

The Children & Family Ministry Team is looking for a Part-Time Director to join our thriving and growing Sunday School & Weekday Program

A Position with Perks! Work for God's Glory, exploring God's world with children and families, flexible hours and competitive pay.

We are seeking an enthusiastic, creative and energetic individual to lead our Children and Family Ministries. The Director of Children and Family Ministries will be responsible for designing programs that engage children in faith development and help families live into their baptismal commitment to raise their children who will desire to profess the Christian faith for themselves.

This position is part-time, approximately 20 hours per week, including most Sunday mornings and Wednesday evenings during the school year.

To view the full job listing: go to bakermemorialchurch.org/cpt_news/children-family-ministries-director-opening-part-time/

To apply: email your resume to Bakerchurchjobs@gmail.com

Father's Day
DONUTS WITH DAD
SUNDAY, JUNE 18 | 9-11AM
 Hosted by BakerKids and Children & Family Ministry

Dads of Sunday School children are invited to a special Father's Day event with donuts, class presentations & more!

Register with the office or at:
bakermemorialchurch.org

BAKER MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

BRING A FRIEND! BRING YOUR QUESTIONS!

THE WORLD'S RELIGIONS
A GLOBAL LOOK AT FAITH

Join us for an enlightening Summer study of world religions. We'll cover:
 Christianity • Islam • Hinduism
 Daoism • Confucianism • Judaism
 Buddhism • Jainism • Sikhism
REFRESHMENTS PROVIDED

High School Sunday School
Sundays, June 25, July 2, 9, 16, August 13, 20 | 10:30am | Youth Center
BAKERMEMORIALCHURCH.ORG

MISSIONS CORNER

Opportunities for Service

EVERYONE IN MISSION

This 2nd Annual program was received well by the congregation and added new volunteers to our ministries! Many of you received a volunteer button to wear at church or in the community when serving. Thank you to all that volunteered! If you missed the table on the five Sundays we were giving out the buttons, feel free to volunteer now and get your button from the church office. Let us keep the momentum going and volunteer all summer long!

RUMMAGE SALE

Our all-church rummage sale earnings were \$5002.19. A big thank you to all that donated and volunteered! The Rainbow Covenant fund was the ministry chosen for those that worked hours for Mission Outreach and that total was \$1751.06. The Kitchen/Parlor workers earned \$1942.05 and the Adult Mission Team for Habitat earned \$1309.08. A job well done by all who worked tirelessly for missions here near and far away!

We are seeking new organizers for the rummage sale next spring. Are you interested in serving in this way? Maybe a youth fundraiser? Or possibly a committee fundraiser? Prayfully consider the possibility!

OUR MISSIONARY TO CAMBODIA

This summer you will learn more about Clara Mridula Biswas who works in Phnom Penh, Cambodia. She works with the poorest of the poor in slum areas and garbage dumps to facilitate their move to relocation and rehabilitation centers. She assists education programs, giving 620 public school students music, computer, and art classes, and she also assists health programs that refer patients to hospitals and local organizations. Missions & Outreach is reaching out to her via email and hope to connect her ministry to our congregation in a powerful, rewarding way! So stay tuned for more details that will be forthcoming!

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

Look for more pictures, in the July edition of the Mission Corner, of the participants that volunteered to help rebuild New Orleans. The following members of Baker worked tirelessly in the New Orleans heat and humidity: Mitzi Babka, John Clarke, Mandy Morgan, Molly Morgan, Cathie Ruth, Doug Ruth, Chris Stumpf, John Stumpf and Dave Wilson. Two local residents joined us on site as well, making 11 on the Baker Team. Yes we wore our Baker volunteer buttons! Next year, we hope *you* can join us for our 9th trip to N.O.LA.



FINANCE COMMITTEE CORNER

2017 YTD Financial Information

Operating Fund Balance as of 4/30/2017 is a POSITIVE \$ 63,809

Balance as of 4/30/2016 was \$62,384

Year to date	All	Unrestricted
Total Giving to date	\$366,694*	\$271,126
Total Disbursements	\$345,675	\$270,713
Net Change	\$21,019	\$413

**Includes \$37,000 donated for the Children's church center and \$44,000 Grant income*

Apportionments paid to date 2017 \$28,904

Overall fund balances this year are \$139,048 including restricted funds

As of 4/30/2016 was \$96,450

Staff Chair-ity Art

Baker Memorial Staff worked together to create a chair for the St. Charles Downtown Partnership Chair-ity Event. Chair-ity is a downtown St. Charles public art exhibition. Come downtown and view these interesting works of art, each of which was created by local business or resident. Some chairs will be up for auction, with bidding opening the first week of June. Make sure to look for our chair in the downtown display between now and August 11th!



Baker Walkers Summer Program Begins

Join us on Wednesday mornings at 9am this summer, starting June 7, as we get together for exercise and fellowship! We will be meeting at the Norris Woods Nature Preserve parking lot, located at Johnor and 3rd Avenue in St. Charles. The parking lot is directly across the street from the rear of Bethlehem Lutheran church and 3rd Avenue is the street that runs along the west side of Baker. Just follow it north and you'll find the parking lot on the left side of the street. We welcome men and women of all walking abilities. We plan to organize into several groups to accommodate all walking speeds and distances. All walkers will start at 9am, but some groups may choose not to walk the full hour. If you choose to walk the whole distance it will be about three miles and take approximately one hour.

The Norris Woods path is a beautiful shaded walk that winds along the Fox River, bordered by wild flowers and the occasional deer. It's serene beauty is truly nourishment for the soul! Please consider joining us this summer. For more information contact Kristin Fischer at alpha_kristin@hotmail.com or 630-235-6019.

First Ever Music Retreat Planned

The Music Ministry at Baker Memorial is planning its first ever Retreat at Pheasant Run Resort and we want to share some of the preliminary details so good planning can take place. The purpose of the Retreat is to bring all those interested in the music program together for a 24 hour time period of sharing, exploring, learning, growing in faith and having fun. It is open to all interested in music at Baker. You need not be in choir or an ensemble to enjoy the experience. In fact we are hoping this retreat will equally serve our current participants in music and inspire new people to participate in music at Baker Memorial.

The Retreat will have activities for all ages. Families are encouraged to do this retreat together.

The Retreat will begin Saturday, August 26 at noon and end 11am Sunday, August 27. Please let us know if you and your family may be interested! It would be helpful in planning. The retreat will be led by Jeff Hunt and the music staff. You may sign up on the church website or you may drop a check off to the office. Deadline for registering and paying for the retreat is July 15, 2017. More details can be found on our website or in a printed flyer at the office.

Church Library Staff Update

A big thank you to Marsha Byers for her tireless volunteer work as the Baker Memorial UMC Librarian. She completed the not-so-small task of cataloging all of the books we own! This June she is transitioning her knowledge and duties over to Diana Seymour who has graciously volunteered to continue blessing our congregation with a wonderful church library.

CARING MINISTRY A SUCCESSFUL COLLABORATION WITH MID VALLEY SPECIAL EDUCATION COOPERATIVE

Tyler from the Mid Valley Special Ed presented Pastor Mary with a special recognition plaque for Baker Church's

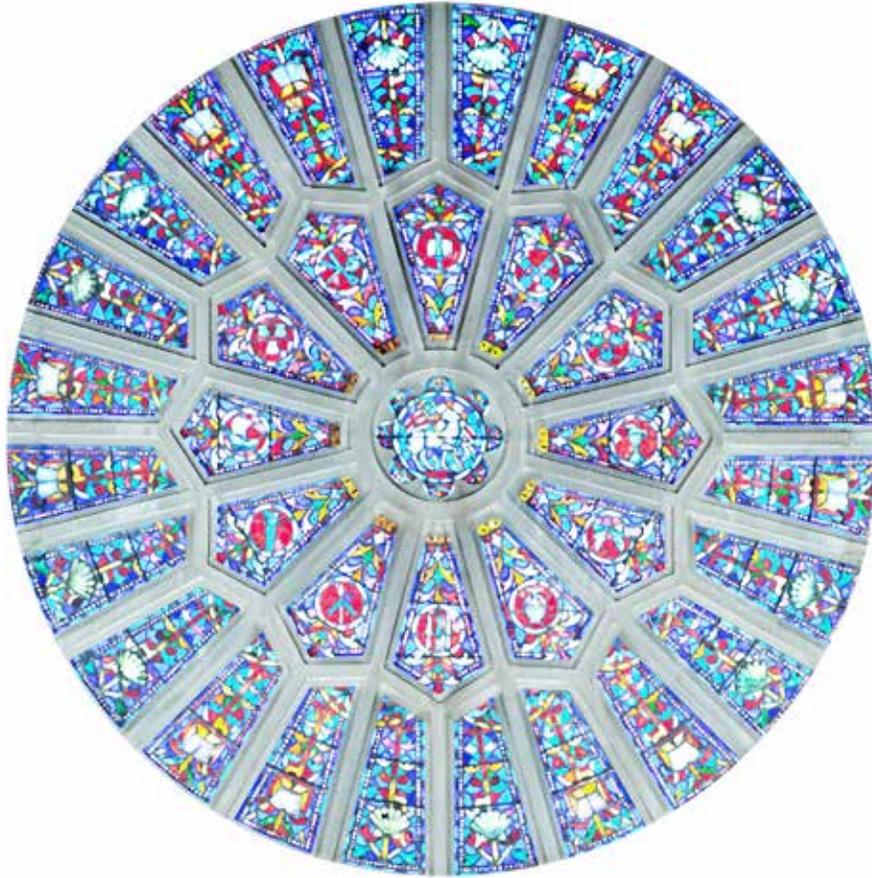


participation in their program. The Mid Valley Group has been helping to prepare and serve meals along with other committed church volunteers for our Day Guest Program. We will miss Tyler, Savannah and their supervisor Mary this summer. Tyler and Savannah will be graduating from Mid Valley soon and we wish them well in their future endeavors. Also, a special thanks to our dedicated church volunteers.

The Day Guest program will continue throughout the summer on Tuesdays and Thursdays. If you are interested in helping out, please call the office and speak with Judy or Mandy. We have received many contributions of money, clothing, canned fruits, soups and other staples to help with our small pantry and we thank all of you.

JUNE 2017

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
9am Worship 9am Sunday School: Children, Middle School 10:30am Jazz Worship 10:30am FaithQuest 10:30am High School Sunday School	7pm Boy Scouts	11:30am Kiwanis 1:30pm Staff Meeting 4pm American Music Institute 8pm Alcoholics Anonymous		4pm American Music Institute		NOTE: The first row of items occur every week and will not appear on daily listings (except in case of schedule change)
				1 7:30am FaithFriends 11:30am Day Guest Lunch 7pm Endowment Committee	2 8am Outdoor Farmer's Market 2pm AA	3 7:30pm St. Charles Singers Concert
4 Get your Summer Offering Can! 12pm Have-A-Look Membership Class	5 11:30am Faith Friends 1pm One O'Clock Book Club 1pm Home School Group	6 9:30am Phoebe Cir 11:30am Day Guest Lunch 6pm VBS Training	7 6:30pm Young Adult Study 7pm Missions & Community Outreach	8 7:30am FaithFriends 11:30am Day Guest Lunch	9 8am Outdoor Farmer's Market	10 9am VBS Set Building 
Northern Illinois Conference						
11	12 9:30am SHIP: Help for Seniors 11:30am FaithFriends 7pm Trustees	13 11:30am Day Guest Lunch 3:30pm Lazarus House 7pm Children & Family Ministry	14	15 7:30am FaithFriends 8am VBS Set Up 11:30am Day Guest Lunch 1pm Women's Emmaus	16 8am Outdoor Farmer's Market 8am VBS Set Up	17 8am VBS Set Up 11am Youth Car Wash Young Adult Group Movie Night
18 Father's Day 9am Father's Day Donuts with Dad 10am Pies for Pops UMW Pie Sale	19 9am NIL Food Bank 11am Garden Club 11:30am FaithFriends 7pm Church Council	20 Carillon Articles Due for next month 11:30am Day Guest Lunch 5pm Women's Emmaus	21 6:30pm Young Adult Study 6:30pm DBTP Wonder Discussion	22 7:30am FaithFriends 11:30am Day Guest Lunch	23 8am Outdoor Farmer's Market	24 9am C&F: Feed My Starving Children
9am VBS: Maker Fun Factory						
25 10:30am High School Sunday School Begins	26 11:30am FaithFriends 7pm Worship/ Spiritual Growth	27 11:30am Day Guest Lunch 7pm Youth Council	28	29 7:30am FaithFriends 11:30am Day Guest Lunch	30 8am Outdoor Farmer's Market	



STAFF

Rev. Mary Zajac—Senior Pastor

Jeff Hunt—Director, Music Ministry

Mark Edwards—Organist

Mandy Hale—Director, Children & Family Ministry

Jenn Gunn—Director, Administration & Communication

Carl E. King—Director, Youth & Young Adult Ministries

Michele Claney—Creative Director

Judy Schlarb—Finance Manager

Karl Lesceus—Facilities

BAKER MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

A traditional church for a modern world

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