

BAKER MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
**THE CARILLON**

AUGUST 2017

VOLUME 18 • NUMBER 8

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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](http://bakermemorialchurch.org)

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



**PASTOR MARY'S MESSAGE**

## The Joys of Worshiping Together in the House of the Lord

*I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the LORD!"  
—Psalm 122:1 (NRSV)*

**H**ave you seen the credit card commercials with the tagline, "Wouldn't it be great if everyone said what they meant?" If you have seen them, you know the writers were being sarcastic. The short video clips feature people saying what they are "really thinking" when they are on a first date, estimating a repair to a home, or

bringing a pie over to the new neighbors house. I honestly have a hard time watching these ads because the actors are always smiling. However the things they are portrayed to be thinking are the opposite of how they look. Inside they are judgmental and negative. It's a visual representation of what it means when we say that someone lacks integrity. The way they appear and the truth of how they actually feel do not match. Of course the credit card company claims that they have great integrity, they always mean exactly what they say.

I read this first verse from Psalm 122 and it makes me smile. I believe we can trust that this verse has integrity. The Psalm writer *is* excited to go the house of the Lord to worship. There will be friends there, and even some festival meals. The city of Jerusalem was impressive to see. This was the place where disputes were settled. However the most important aspect of going up to the house of the Lord was the opportunity to draw closer to God. The temple was understood to be the place where God was most present. Worshiping in the temple was

*Continued on page 2*



## PASTOR MARY'S MESSAGE

*Continued from page 1.*

understood to be an act of honoring God by bringing gifts and sacrifices. Going to the house of the Lord was a way of being in God's presence more deeply than they could be in their homes.

I recently read an excerpt from one of these "funny things children say" kinds of books. A pastor had invited the children to give him feedback about attending worship. Loreen, age 9 wrote, "Dear Reverend, I think more people would come to church if you would move it to Disneyland." Interesting idea. It might be one way to make it easy to explain why you enjoy going to church on Sunday morning. Margaret, age 10 wrote, "Dear Reverend, I like to go to church on Sunday because I don't have any choice." I guess most parents have heard something like that at some point.

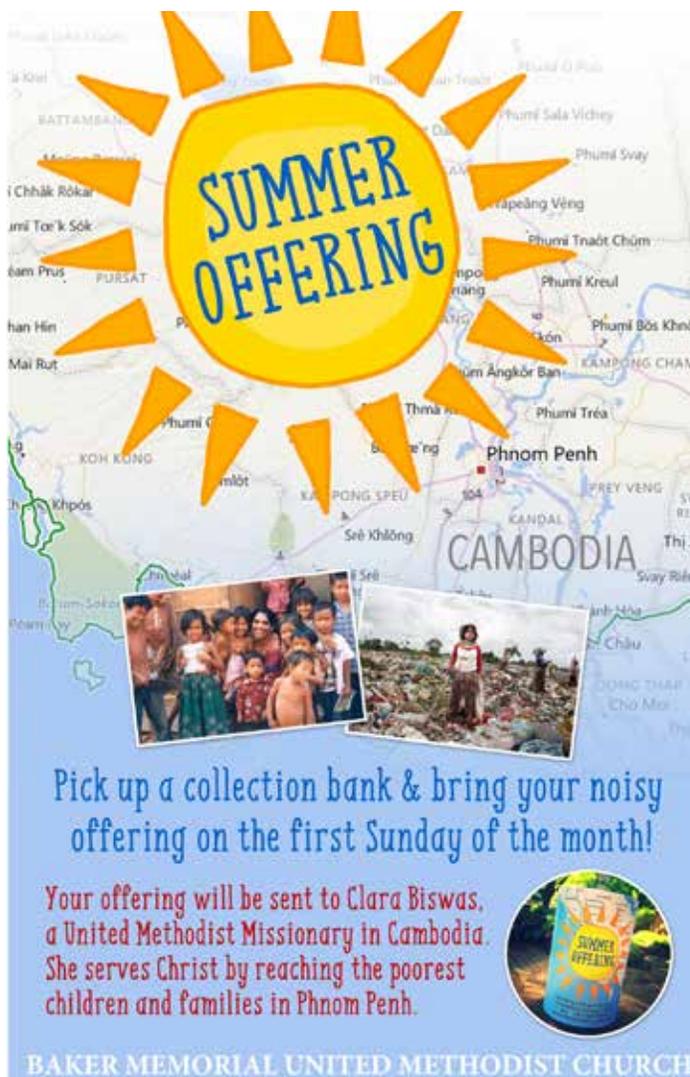
All of this makes me wonder how we explain to others why we go to church. Do we come off as those commercials where the people are smiling just a little too much to cover what they are really thinking? Are we like Loreen who wants to make church all about the fun and what she gets out of it? Do we come across like Margaret implying that church is an obligation rather than a joy? Hopefully, most of us find ourselves more like the Psalm writer, eager to come for many reasons yet most eager to come because church is a place where you can draw closer God.

*The presence of other seekers and believers increases our own breadth and depth of worship.*

We don't think that God dwells in only one place like the ancient worshipers did, but going to a worship service is still a way of drawing closer to God. There are many aspects of worship that we can only do together. We can hear moving music at home, but we can't hear a choir, soloist, or ensemble right in front of us. We can pray alone, but we can't pray in the same way we do when 100 hearts are simultaneously open to God. We can sing hymns, but it just isn't the same thing as when 100 voices are lifted up together with ours. We can read the Bible on our own, but there's something more to having it read and preached. We can honor, and worship God at home, but we cannot do it in the same way. The presence of other seekers and believers increases our own breadth and depth of worship.

I am glad when the time comes to go to church on Sunday morning, because this is how I can take a step closer to God. What a joy that is, and I mean that with integrity.

In Christ  
Pastor Mary



Pick up a collection bank & bring your noisy offering on the first Sunday of the month!

Your offering will be sent to Clara Biswas, a United Methodist Missionary in Cambodia. She serves Christ by reaching the poorest children and families in Phnom Penh.

BAKER MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

### JOIN US FOR SUNDAY WORSHIP

**9am Traditional Service**, a traditional United Methodist service with time for prayer and sacred music by our choirs and ensembles. Communion is offered the first Sunday of the month

**10:30am Jazz Service**, with the mellow sounds of jazz from Kingdom of Groove and a relaxed, intimate feel. Worship order, prayers and sermon are based on the same Scripture from the traditional service. Communion is offered weekly.

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# Children & Family Ministries

It's hard to believe we only have a few more weeks left of summer. Are they mapped out? Did you complete everything on your summer bucket list? Did you plan one? Are you the type of family that plans or decides at last minute? It's great to have a little mystery or chaos, but it seems if you are not deciding how to plan family time, outside engagements are claiming your free time. I challenge you to start blocking off time in your schedule for play time, family game night, or a surprise ride to Dairy Queen.

As we start buying our back to school supplies, let's be bold and put God first. Now, think of this process a little differently. Young and old, are all God's children. So, shouldn't we all be getting our school supplies ready for the fall? Dust off your Bible, raise your hand to volunteer, take a small group study class, or say yes to be a Sunday school teacher. Maybe the first step could just be to sit in a class to be a shepherd. Again, as we prepare our families in a few weeks, let's start to consistently implement our faith routines at home. For me, this has started with family prayers, devotions, small group classes, to now becoming the Director of Children & Family Ministries. Remember, the most important Book you'll read this fall is your Bible. I look forward to this new school year with hope and joy.

Peace and Blessings,  
Shelly Stienbarger

## MORE CHILDREN & FAMILY INFO...

- **Mark your calendar for this fun family event!**

**Wednesday, August 16** | 6-8pm | Back to School Pancake Dinner | Equip your family for a successful school year! It's free, but please RSVP to: [sstienbarger@bakermemorialchurch.org](mailto:sstienbarger@bakermemorialchurch.org) or with the church office.

- **Last chance for the time capsule**

If you have not put anything in the time capsule in the new Children's Center, it is not too late. Time is running out, so bring it to the church office. We welcome the memories of our Baker family history through pictures, letters, or small items.

- **Fall Sunday school teachers needed**

The "Deep Blue" Sunday school rotation is beginning soon and we are calling all teachers! The children experience the Bible through cooking, art, spiritual practice and more. Let us know if you are interested in volunteering for one of the following rotations: Joseph's Journey, Freedom or Ten Commandments.

Contact: [sstienbarger@bakermemorialchurch.org](mailto:sstienbarger@bakermemorialchurch.org)

- **Family Bible verse:**

*Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight.*

—Proverbs 3:5-6 (NIV)

pancakes  
& prayers  
back to school  
D.I.N.N.E.R

**AUGUST 16 | 6-8pm**  
We'll help equip your family for a successful school year with prayers, projects, programming and more.  
It's FREE, but please **RSVP** by Sunday, August 13 with the office or [sstienbarger@bakermemorialchurch.org](mailto:sstienbarger@bakermemorialchurch.org)

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# Youth Ministry

## WHAT IS THE ROLE OF YOUTH MINISTRY?

**A**s a youth develops, there are few more important components than that of faith formation. What we believe affects everything, and no matter whether we are permitted to verbally express our faith or not, it determines the decisions we make, the things we back and the things we steer clear of. How are our young people being formed?

You have probably heard or seen some study or survey touting the benefits of youth ministry or, conversely, something that says the days of youth ministry are behind us and raising faith-filled teens is solely the responsibility of parents. Like extreme temperatures, extreme views on faith and ideology typically make it hard for everything else to survive. The truth is most healthy families rely on a mixture of parental example, as well as outside mentoring and training.

We want to give BakerYouth that mix of mentoring and training that is so crucial to their growth, while providing parents with resources to train up their family at home. This begins as early as 6th grade with middle school Sunday school weekly on Sunday mornings at nine. In addition, middle school youth can participate in Miriam Circle (young ladies in grades 4-8 and overseen by United Methodist Women) or Joseph fellowship (young men). In seventh grade, we welcome them into confirmation for an intensive two-year exploration of their faith hopefully culminating in a commitment to follow Christ for life.

### CONFIRMATION 2018

BakerYouth are looking for our next confirmation participants. Young people entering 7th or 8th grade who wish to confirm their faith and become members of the church please contact Carl King at 630-584-6680 or [cking@bakermemorialchurch.org](mailto:cking@bakermemorialchurch.org).

### MIDDLE SCHOOL SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS ARE NEEDED

If you would like to be blessed by teaching Middle School Sunday School please sign up at <http://tinyurl.com/Y72ptwp7> or contact Carl King at [cking@bakermemorialchurch.org](mailto:cking@bakermemorialchurch.org).



**BakerYouth were packed and ready for their work trip in Bullock Creek, Michigan. What a blessing to have such a great crew!**

High school youth also have a wide range of opportunities for mentorship, education and putting faith to action. We attend a variety of events from concerts to campouts to an annual mission trip. We have regularly scheduled Sunday school on Sunday mornings at ten. In addition, young men can participate in Brotherhood, as BakerYouth group for young men in high school. Young ladies can take advantage of Sisterhood (part of Deborah by the Palm Bible Study) which is led by Jennifer Swenson.

Baker Memorial also has Sunday morning services in which to worship God and hear His word. For our youth who wish to serve God through singing or instrumentation, our music department at Baker Memorial provides a myriad of opportunities for middle school and high school youth. Some of our youth even follow Christ by leading younger children in the nursery and children's Sunday school at nine.

All of these groups serve the function of giving life instruction, building friendship and most importantly, growing our relationship with and reliance on Christ. None of them can replace the role of parents or guardians in faith formation, but families who avail themselves of these opportunities tend to grow over time. This is the role youth ministry plays then, building faithful teens in concert with the instruction and example they see at home. May God grant us grace to do all this in His name.

Blessings,  
*Carl King*

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# Young Adult Ministry

## WHAT IS A SHORT-TERM MISSION TRIP?

And just as importantly, Why should I go on one?

My life has been impacted by short-term mission trips. From Mexico to Missouri, I've been blessed to witness God's love poured out from the hearts of people seeking to serve Him. Being on those teams has been deeply moving.

Some trips were designed to be specifically about preaching the gospel. Teams prepared months in advance with local churches and community members to make the three or five days we were able to be there significant. Other trips focused on service and work, rebuilding homes, restoring churches or packing desperately needed supplies for neighborhoods struck by emergency.

Mission trips are a big deal and because of their value and impact on our lives, as well as the lives of those we seek to serve, it can be difficult to discern where to go. There is so much hurt and need in the world. Where should we start?

The only answer I can offer is to ask God and then begin right where we are—here, near and far away. We are all as busy as we want to be, whether that involves service to God and our neighbor or binge-watching *Stranger Things* on Netflix. Our world is not limited on opportunities for involvement. We just need to get started. The world is waiting.

Blessings,  
*Carl King*

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## FINANCE COMMITTEE CORNER

### 2017 YTD Financial Information

**Operating Fund Balance as of 6/30/2017 is a POSITIVE \$50,762**

*Balance as of 12/31/2016 was \$65,515*

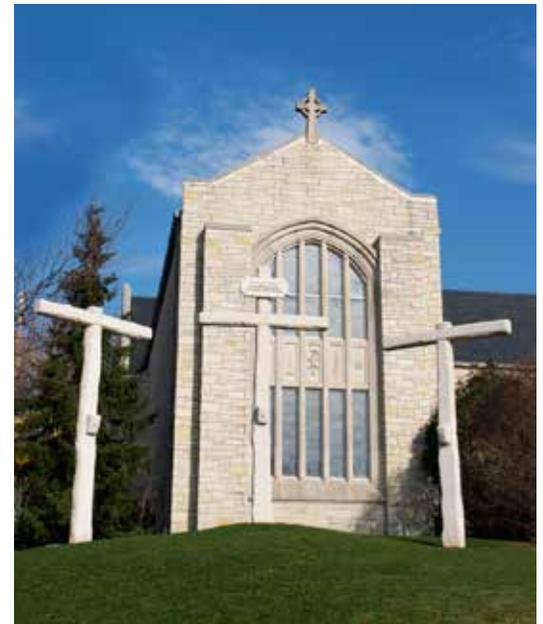
Year to date	All	Unrestricted
Total Giving to date	\$490,994*	\$ 376,442
Total Disbursements	\$491,441	\$ 395,267
Net Change	\$448	\$ (18,825)

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

Apportionments paid to date 2017: \$43,356 total due YTD

**Overall fund balances are \$117,582 including restricted funds**

As of 12/31/2016= \$118,029



We are blessed to have a full staff onboard at our Church. It is a wonderful staff that is doing God's work, providing the guidance and support to carry out the programs and mission of our Church. The cost for the full staff was included in the budget as was the increase in the giving to cover those additional costs.

In review of our financial situation at mid-year, our giving is falling short of the budgeted goal. YTD our operating fund balances continue to decline as our disbursements exceed the unrestricted giving amounts.

Our unpledged giving YTD is down \$7,300 from budget and \$ 5,600 from prior year. Our pledged giving YTD is under budget by \$5,620 but above prior year by \$12,314.

Good news giving is up; bad news is that it's still under the budgeted amount needed to cover the expenses.

Please take a moment to reflect and if you can increase your giving or "catch" up on your pledged amount that would be a wonderful thing. Financially the church is still in a much stronger position that it was a few years ago. We just need to monitor our finances to make sure it stays that way.

# MISSIONS CORNER

## Opportunities for Service

### COINS FOR CAMBODIA COLLECTION

Our Summer Offering continues to support Far Away ministry! Clara Mridula Biswas 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. Our coins will hardly be missed by us, but will make a world of differences to the children

and families that will be served! As you place coins in the can please pray for this ministry!

Thank you for your generosity and your prayers! Bring your cans to church on August 6 and September 3 for our “noisy collection”!

### LAZARUS MEALS A VIBRANT MINISTRY FOR BAKER!

This past month we kept it cool with a menu of chicken salad sandwiches, tossed salad, baked beans and ice cream sundaes! The generosity of our team to feed the homeless in our community is heartwarming! Month after month the donations and help in the kitchen is truly a blessing! Are you interested in joining this team? We have a standard policy of help or donate when you can and no worries when you can't! Contact Chris at [cstumpf0308@gmail.com](mailto:cstumpf0308@gmail.com) if you are interested in this ministry.

### FUNDRIVE: FILL A BAG & MAKE A DIFFERENCE

**Saturday, October 14** | 9am-4 pm | FUNDrive  
Save your clothing and household items to be turned into money for Missions. You drop off your items at the lower narthex (the brass doors right off of Route 64). Savers will pay by the pound for goods collected. Items accepted: clothing, shoes, accessories, bedding, linens, bath items, toys, household items, and



books. Save save save! 200 bags earns about \$500! Thank you for supporting the FUNDrive!

### SEPTEMBER FOOD BANK EVENT SCHEDULED

We will be going to the Northern Illinois Food Bank on Saturday, September 30 to work. The shift is 9am-noon.

### PLANTING A SEED FOR SERVICE IN 2018!

As this is being written, Betty Erickson is serving at Midwest Distribution Center in Chatham, Illinois with United Methodist Women. A few members of our congregation took a day trip there several years ago to volunteer. In 2018 we would like to repeat that service! Volunteers pack kits, sort items, sew, help with mailings, build desks, repair bicycles and sewing machines, help load/unload supplies or whatever the current requested needs are at the time. There are opportunities for those at peak ability and for those individuals who may have limitations. No matter your abilities, there is an important job that needs you!



More information will be coming in the next few months for a trip that Mission Outreach is organizing. Would you like to serve in this way?

If so, would you prefer a day trip or an overnight? Chatham has accommodations with a full kitchen. Please talk to Chris Stumpf or Betty Erickson or email Chris at [cstumpf0308@gmail.com](mailto:cstumpf0308@gmail.com) with your interest and preference!

### SOCIAL ACTION TRIP TO MIDWEST MISSION DISTRIBUTION CENTER

Six of our Northern Illinois Conference-United Methodist Women members joined together to work for a day in Chatham, Illinois at the Midwest Distribution Center. We found out how all of our donations work to help so many. We spent the day in cuteness overload, separating and sorting Layette kits that had been donated by an annual conference. One of our members also sewed.

Some of us joined another group in the dorm where we took advantage of the facilities and met a three-generation family from Indiana and Kansas. We shared devotions and meals with them. Also, the group met local residents who stop by and work when they can.

*Betty Erickson*

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## DEBORAH-BY-THE-PALM BIBLE STUDY BEGINS

**Wednesday, September 13** | 11:30am Women's Study  
6:30pm Men & Women's Study

Christian History is not about names and dates...it is about the people of God and the life and death issues of faithful people for two thousand years...*No!*...since the beginning of time.

Come and join the fall classes and learn about your history...and your future. It is a beautifully simple, beginner-friendly telling of Christian history. Join us for *Christian History Made Easy*, by Timothy Paul Jones, starting September 13. Morning and Evening Classes available.

Pick up books in church office or between services in Baker Hall

Email: paulamorrishall3@gmail.com or call/text: 630-363-6566 for more information

## UNITED METHODIST MEN IN ACTION

Thank you to all those who helped move furniture and wax the floors this week. Several men are needed to cook the August 16th Pancake Dinner for Children & Family's back to school event. Please contact Tom Warren at niuhuskies50@gmail.com to sign up for either of these opportunities.

## HAVE-A-LOOK MEMBERSHIP CLASS

**Sunday, August 6** | 12pm | Have-A-Look Membership Class & lunch

Join Pastor Mary for pizza and find out more about Membership at Baker Memorial UMC. Please RSVP with the church office at 630-584-6680 or email info@bakermemorialchurch.org.

## DAY GUEST LUNCHEES NEEDS

Help and donations are needed to support our Day Guest Lunch program. We typically serve 10-12 day guests on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 11:30am to 12:30pm. Please go to <https://www.mealtrain.com/trains/z9dyzd> to sign up or call the office and talk to Judy Schlarb 630-584-6680.

## CHURCH MICE NEEDED FOR COLLEGE STUDENTS

A Church Mouse volunteers to be a "secret pal" to one of our church members who is away at college. If you would like to volunteer or know a college student, interested in receiving support from a Church Mouse you will find a box in the hallway near the coat-racks. Please fill out the appropriate form, place it in the box or send to Nancy Pearson and you will be contacted. If you have

any questions please email Nancy Pearson atnpearson@ameritech.net

## B. G. GROSS SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY

Applications are being accepted for the B.G. Gross Scholarship, which offers financial assistance to active members of Baker Memorial United Methodist Church who are enrolled in institutions of higher learning. A typewritten letter of application must explain the applicant's involvement in church and community activities, scholastic record or aptitude and plans and goals for use of the scholarship. Applications must be received in the church office by Sunday, August 6. (There are no exceptions to this deadline.) The scholarship is named for longtime Baker principal organist and choir director.

## GOLDEN DINERS RECOGNITION

Ken Madden of the Salvation Army Golden Diners program presented Vic Temple with a certificate of appreciation for Vic's 43 years of amazing service to the Golden Diners Program. Vic has served as coordinator

for Baker church volunteers to deliver meals to shut in seniors as well and a regular route driver and substitute driver. A steady reliable volunteer like Vic is what makes it possible for senior shut-ins to receive a hot nourishing meals on weekdays. That meal and the friendly smile may be the only contact that recipient has all day long.



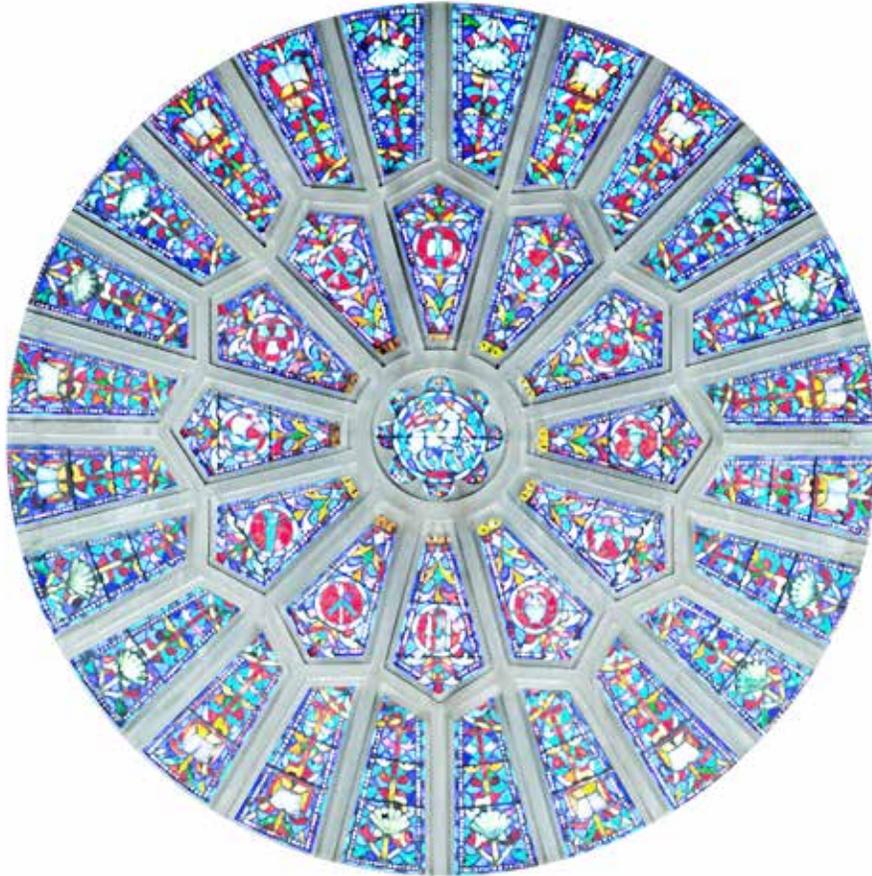
We all appreciate the tremendous gift of volunteering that Vic has shared with the shut-ins of the area. When the program started in 1974, Baker Church coupled with the Salvation Army to deliver meals to Geneva and St Charles. Many routes have been added and we now handle only two routes in St. Charles.

The Salvation Army Golden Diner Program is funded separately. Any donations for the Golden Diner Program must be ear marked as such.

If you are interested in volunteering one Tuesday a month, or as a substitute, please contact Marge Meanger at 630-584-9582.

# AUGUST 2017

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>9am Worship</p> <p>9am Sunday School: Children, Middle School</p> <p>10:30am Jazz Worship</p> <p>10:30am High School Sunday School</p>	<p>7pm Boy Scouts</p>	<p>11:30am Kiwanis</p> <p>1:30pm Staff Meeting</p> <p>4pm American Music Institute</p> <p>8pm Alcoholics Anonymous</p>		<p>4pm American Music Institute</p>	<p><b>NOTE: The first row of items occur every week and will not appear on daily listings (except in case of schedule change)</b></p>	
		<p><b>1</b></p> <p>11:30am Day Guest Lunch</p>	<p><b>2</b></p> <p>6:30pm Young Adult Study</p>	<p><b>3</b></p> <p>11:30am Day Guest Lunch</p> <p>7pm Capital Campaign Team Meeting</p>	<p><b>4</b></p> <p>8am Outdoor Farmer's Market</p>	<p><b>5</b></p>
<p><b>6</b></p> <p><b>Bring your Summer Offering can to worship!</b></p> <p>BG Gross Scholarship apps due</p> <p>12pm Have-A-Look Membership Class</p>	<p><b>7</b></p> <p>11:30am FaithFriends</p> <p>1pm One O'Clock Book Club</p> <p>1pm Homeschool Group</p> <p>7pm Staff Parish</p>	<p><b>8</b></p> <p>11:30am Day Guest Lunch</p> <p>3:30pm Lazarus House</p> <p>7pm Children &amp; Family Ministry</p> <p>7pm Finance</p>	<p><b>9</b></p> <p>1pm Caring Ministry</p>	<p><b>10</b></p> <p>11:30am Day Guest Lunch</p>	<p><b>11</b></p> <p>8am Outdoor Farmer's Market</p>	<p><b>12</b></p> <p>8am UMM Work Day</p> <p>9am Youth Car Wash</p>
<p><b>13</b></p> <p>10:30am Welcome New Members</p>	<p><b>14</b></p> <p>9:30am SHIP: Help for Seniors</p> <p>11:30am FaithFriends</p> <p>7pm Trustees</p>	<p><b>15</b></p> <p>11:30am Day Guest Lunch</p> <p>5pm Women's Emmaus</p>	<p><b>16</b></p> <p>6pm Family Pancake Dinner: Back to School Survival</p> <p>6:30pm Young Adult Study</p>	<p><b>17</b></p> <p>11:30am Day Guest Lunch</p> <p>1pm Women's Emmaus</p>	<p><b>18</b></p> <p>8am Outdoor Farmer's Market</p>	<p><b>18</b></p> 
<p><b>20</b></p> <p><b>Carillon Articles Due for next month</b></p> <p><b>Youth Sunday</b></p>	<p><b>21</b></p> <p>9am NIL Food Bank</p> <p>11:30am FaithFriends</p> <p>7pm Church Council</p>	<p><b>22</b></p> <p>11:30am Day Guest Lunch</p> <p>7pm Youth Council</p>	<p><b>23</b></p> <p>6:30pm Emmaus Dinner</p>	<p><b>24</b></p> <p>11:30am Day Guest Lunch</p>	<p><b>25</b></p> <p>8am Outdoor Farmer's Market</p> <p>6pm BakerYouth Back in School Party</p>	<p><b>26</b></p> <p><b>Baker Music Retreat</b></p>
<p><b>27</b></p> <p><b>Baker Music Retreat</b></p>	<p><b>28</b></p> <p>11am Garden Club</p> <p>11:30am FaithFriends</p>	<p><b>29</b></p> <p>11:30am Day Guest Lunch</p>	<p><b>30</b></p> <p>6:30pm Young Adult Study</p>	<p><b>31</b></p> <p>11:30am Day Guest Lunch</p>		



## STAFF

Rev. Mary Zajac—Senior Pastor

Jeff 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

Karl Lesceius—Facilities

# BAKER MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

*A traditional church for a modern world*

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