

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

Knowing Scripture

Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not rely on your own insight. —Proverbs 3:5 (NRSV)

Years ago a friend of mine shocked me by telling that in order to be confirmed in her Catholic church she had to memorize the entire Gospel of Luke. The entire book, not just a key verse here or there. I asked her if she thought it had been helpful and her unequivocal answer was, “Yes!” In fact, she had found it so useful that she had gone on to memorize the Gospel of John while she was in High School. She was in her thirties when we were having this conversation. She couldn’t recite these Gospels by memory any more, but the words and stories were still deeply embedded in her understanding. Pieces popped to the surface of her memory at times that helped her live more fully and faithfully.



In contrast, I don’t remember memorizing a single scripture as a child. I remember Sunday School classes and teachers. I remember playing Bible based games. I just don’t remember being asked to memorize God’s Word. Later in life, when I took the 38 week program called Disciple Bible Study, I did some memorization and found it helpful. As I worked to remember specific verses for the purpose of being ready for my study, I found that I also remembered them in the midst of life. I memorized Psalm 8, and whenever I am outside in a beautiful spot the opening words still come to me as a deep word of prayer, “O Lord, Our Lord, How majestic is your name in all the earth.” (Psalm 8:1, NIV). I memorized Ephesians 4:14, “We must no longer be children, tossed to and fro and blown about by every wind of doctrine...” (NRSV) and it has helped numerous times to remember to think carefully about what different traditions, writers, and television evangelists say about God. Memorizing Scriptures, or studying them deeply is a way of doing what Proverbs 3:5 suggests we do. “Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not rely on your own insight.”

Continued on page 2

PASTOR MARY'S MESSAGE

Continued from page 1.

Beginning July 16, we will start a new sermon series. I'm calling it, "5 More Bible Verses Everyone Should Know." There are a few standard verses that are frequently memorized or pulled out for various occasions. These are important to know. However, we will mostly be looking at the verses that are less commonly used, because they are also important to know. They teach lessons that sometimes contradict popular theology, sometimes extend understanding in a new direction, and sometimes invite us in to a deeper experience of God's grace. I hope you will make every effort to come and join in our five weeks of exploration. The scripture readings will be incredibly short, just one verse each. My hope and prayer, is that the

SUMMER SERMON SERIES

5 MORE BIBLE VERSES CHRISTIANS SHOULD KNOW

July 16 | John 3:17 | To Save

July 23 | Ephesians 2:10 | To Work

July 30 | Matthew 7:12 | The Golden Rule

August 6 | Matthew 5:44 | Pray for Them

August 13 | Leviticus 19:18 | Who's in Charge Here?

reflection and application will be memorable and relevant so that even if you know no other scripture passages by heart, you will remember these.

In Christ

Pastor Mary

Children & Family Ministries

I've had a more difficult time writing this Carillon article than any other over the past year and a half. For some reason I felt like I had to say good-bye, to wrap-up my accomplishments and failures and tie everything up in a neat bow. Finally I whined to Rob about this, "I don't want to write about endings!" And he very calmly suggested that I write about beginnings instead. Every ending leads to a new beginning, and while I am ending my post at Baker Memorial as the Director of Children & Family Ministries, the new director, Shelly Stienbarger is just beginning, and I will be beginning new things too. It is not an end but rather a change, and I am so excited for the change that is coming to Baker!

I understand that change can bring uncertainty and dread to some but I tend to be overcome by the hope and anticipation of what's to come. As much as I regret not checking off every item on my To-Do list I remember the ideas and plans Shelly has, add in her energy and her love for God and His children, and I smile. Through God's power the Children and Family Ministries Team and I have laid the groundwork upon which the next big thing will be built, and with God's power Shelly will do just that! Really, there is no room for fear when you focus your attention to God.

When I am embarrassed by my messy supply room, not even fully recovered from a renovation and now in the midst of a VBS hurricane, and I turn around to find it has been visited by Ida Victor (aka Polly Hunt) who has

restored order, I am revitalized because I know that God's people will be a support to Shelly as they have been to me.

When I am uncomfortable admitting that I will not be leading Sunday School another year I remember that now I will be teaching Sunday School and I am refreshed because I know I'll be able to give it my all for that 1 hour.

When I am sad because I will not see the other staff of Baker as regularly as I do now I think of the new ways I'll be working my faith with them in Bible studies, on committees, and on service projects and my heart is lifted because it means I will get to know God and these people on a new level and share and learn new gifts with them.

When I know I will miss listening to Mark Edwards' organ rehearsals I remember that I will now be able to witness it all come together with prayer, Pastor Mary's sermon, Jeff Hunt's choir, and the liturgy (which I'll be able to do on occasion again!) and I am full of joy.

But I am only human and when I do become anxious for our program in a time of change and in new hands I think about what I was able to do when I didn't know what I was doing, and why I was able to do it (God), and how I was able to do it (God), and who I was doing it for (God) and I am no longer anxious because the why, how, and who has not changed.

Peace,

Mandy Hale

Youth Ministry

When you talk about Jesus with young people, how do you approach them? Chances are, the young people you are speaking with have already heard the good news. Chances are also good they have heard the good news in many ways, both good and bad.

As I taught vacation Bible school for middle school youth in June, I was reminded how deeply many young people have pondered what the cross is, what Jesus did for them and what that really means for their lives. They joyfully interacted with the different stations intended to



revisit and explore the story of Christ's death, crucifixion and resurrection. They kindly listened as I went through scriptures they heard multiple times. I gauged their reactions and noted their body language. It was soon time to go beyond the text to the heart of the matter. It was time to explore what salvation, forgiveness and grace really means.

One youth asked a question many adults struggle with, but one which many of the young people admitted to wrestling with, "If Jesus has already done all of this work for me and my sin debt is paid, what's stopping me from living any way I want to." The Apostle Paul thought this question so important that he addressed it in his letter to the Romans. After telling the church about the power of Christ to save and the liberating power that Jesus unleashed for us on the cross he asked, "What does all this mean? Does it mean we are free to sin, because we are ruled by God's wonderful kindness and not by the Law?" (Romans 6:15) His vehement response was, "Certainly not!"

Of course this subject is deep and wide and could take up many *Carillon* articles, but BakerYouth parents and mentors can both take heart in the fact that your children are learning about Christ. You can also be emboldened to

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

NOW! | BakerYouth **BIG Fundraiser** is going on NOW at: <https://goo.gl/GVPQxz>

Sunday, July 9 | 9am service | **Celebrating our Graduates** and **Work Trip Training Day** in the Youth Center

Saturday, July 15 | **BakerYouth Car Wash Fundraiser**

July 23-29 | **Work Trip** in Bullock Creek, MI

engage your children in dialogue about their salvation. One question over breakfast, lunch or summer dinner outside can open up numerous avenues for discussion. So take July as the month to engage your young person on what they learned in VBS or what they are discovering and thinking through in our High School study of World Religions.

Finally, please be in prayer for us as we embark on another Work Trip. This will be the first such trip for some of our youth. They are excited, but a little apprehensive. Other of our young people have been on numerous ventures like the one we are taking in July. They know what to expect, but we want God to surprise them exceeding, abundantly above what they expect or think. Pray that we not only discuss deep things about Christ, but also meet him in the work and in the silence.

Grace to you,
Carl King

CELEBRATING OUR GRADUATES

We will be celebrating Baker graduates from high school and college on Sunday, July 9 at the 9am service. Our high school graduates and their future school (as of publishing):

- Grace Taylor, Purdue University
- Kate Bingham, St. Mary's College
- Leanne Stahulak, University of Miami
- Madison Frey
- Kirsten Meltesen
- Dan Werner, University of Wisconsin Madison
- Sam Schiller, Baylor University
- Claire Kapustka
- Tommy Claney, Southern Illinois University
- Amy Pearson, Johns Hopkins University
- Savannah Swayze, University of Tennessee

Young Adult Ministry

During a recent study of the book, “Blueprints for Discipleship,” we explored the commandment to serve God in physical and visible ways. This was codified by John Wesley in his second rule, “Do all the good you can.” In our discussion, we talked about finding our gifts and using them in ways that connect with God’s kingdom. Broaching the subject was very thrilling because we ventured into territory not normally covered—our day jobs and how they can sometimes feel limiting.

Many of us in the workforce and at school feel this frustration or disconnect, and it surfaces in the way we speak about church and our work. We say things like, “After work, I feel free to serve and be involved in ministering to people.” Or we identify certain vocations as “ministry” positions, while everything else is “just work.” Fortunately for us, our school and our work is our ministry. It is our gifting and our worship to God. The 8 to 5 many of us dread is how we can “Do All the Good We Can,” but more on that later. Suffice it to say our young adult conversations have deepened over time, as have our prayers and sharing.

We will take the month of July to continue small group meetings, but not hold any other events so I can focus on



The last Murder Mystery Dinner was a blast. Join us in August.

getting the youth to and from Bullock Creek, Michigan. But we will pick up again in August with another Murder Mystery Dinner. The cost is \$20 per person. Considering the insanity of the last one, we expect this one to be bonkers. We’ll share the details with you in the coming weeks, so you can go ahead and reserve a spot. Don’t miss it and invite a few friends, as well.

Pray for me,
Carl King
 Director Youth & Young Adults



FINANCE COMMITTEE CORNER

2017 YTD Financial Information

Operating Fund Balance as of 5/31/2017 is a POSITIVE \$55,933

Balance as of 5/31/2016 was \$64,412

Year to date	All	Unrestricted
Unrestricted		
Total Giving to date	\$428,249*	\$326,100
Total Disbursements	\$423,647	\$332,814
Net Change	\$ 4,602	\$ (6,714)

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

Apportionments paid to date 2017: \$36,130

Overall fund balances are \$122,631 including restricted funds

As of 5/31/2016= \$103,277

Our unpledged giving YTD is down \$7,000 from budget and prior year resulting in the reduction in the operating cash balance as well as the net YTD change in unrestricted amounts.

UMM IS CALLING ALL PAINTERS

Baker United Methodist Men have a church improvement project lined up for July and we need your help! The UMM are looking for 5-6 men per night to help move furniture on July 24, 25 & 26 from 5:30 to 6pm. If you can stay and help strip and wax the floor, plan to stay until 8pm.

On July 15 from 8-12 we need 6 men to paint the stairwell leading up to Pastor Mary's office. This is a great way to serve and get to know others at the same time. If you are available for any of these dates, please contact Tom Warren at niuhuskies50@gmail.com to sign up.

HELP AND DONATIONS NEEDED FOR DAY GUEST LUNCHES

Did you know that we serve a simple lunch every Tuesday and Thursday at 11:30am to community members that could use a meal? Baker Hall is also open from 9am-3pm Monday through Thursday for those that need to cool off, get out of the rain or just sit and rest for a bit. We are looking for people to provide a simple lunch such as sandwiches and chips (or anything you would like to prepare.) The person who prepares the lunch may also serve it if they choose to and, along with a few staff members, eat with and get to know our Day Guests. Please go to <https://www.mealtrain.com/trains/z9dyzd> to sign up or call the office and talk to Judy Schlarb 630-584-6680. Monetary donations are also needed on a regular basis to purchase fresh fruits and vegetables for the meals. Please make donations out to Baker Memorial UMC and write "Day Guests" on your check or envelope.



A big thank you to our VBS staff and to all those who worked behind the scenes and donated to make Maker Fun Factory a big success. The kids had a great time and learned what it meant to be created by God and built for a purpose.

July Classes

HAVE-A-LOOK MEMBERSHIP CLASS

Would you like to know more about membership here at Baker Memorial? Join Pastor Mary for a one-hour session on Sunday, July 9 at 12pm in the Upstairs Conference Room. She will give you information and answer any questions you have. Pizza will be served. Please RSVP with the church office at 630-584-6680 or email info@bakermemorialchurch.org.

BAPTISM CLASS

The next Baptism Class is Saturday, July 22 from 9-10am. Information about baptism can be found on our website. Please RSVP with the office at 630-584-6680 or email info@bakermemorialchurch.org.

7TH ANNUAL SING! WORKSHOP FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

On July 20 the St. Charles Singers will sponsor the 7th annual Sing! workshop here at Baker. This is a one-day event for high school students. We usually have 15-20 different high schools represented. Students are divided into ensembles of 12-15 and are assigned to one of the St. Charles Singers who will direct their ensemble for two songs. All ensembles join together for the All Sing for another two songs. There is a concert at 7pm the same night that is free to the public. The cost is \$70 for the day and includes a pizza dinner.

Also available for an additional \$25 is a solo coaching session. These are 20 minute "voice lessons" where you bring a prepared song and get thoughts from one of the St. Charles Singers. This is a great opportunity to get a different perspective from your regular voice teacher or a chance to see what voice lessons would be like. The coaching sessions are entirely optional. Each coach chooses two of their students to perform their solo at the concert.

Scholarships are available for all or part of the event.

This is a fun day of music—a chance to sing for a day with a different group of voices for a different director. Or simply plan to attend the concert and enjoy an evening of music.

Contact Sandie Benhart (630-513-1134 or sandra.benhart@comcast.net) or Cathie Ruth (630-269-9627 or dougandcathie@sbcglobal.net) for information.

MISSIONS CORNER

Opportunities for Service

ADULT MISSION TRIP ANOTHER SUCCESS!

The pictures to the right show the projects the team worked on and the team gathered before the first full day! We were as happy at the end of our work week as well due to all that we accomplished! We thank Baker Memorial for all the prayers and support that enabled us to help this community in New Orleans that will need re-building for years to come!

SUMMER OFFERING

The Coins for Cambodia collection 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. Clara 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 Sunday, August 6 and September 3 for our "noisy collection"!



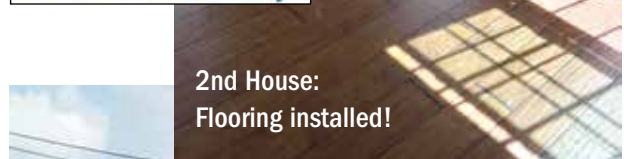
The Adult Mission Team and Young Adult Ministry each got creative and painted pots for a Festival of the Fox contest.



2017 Adult Mission Team at work in New Orleans



1st House:
Given final touches!



2nd House:
Flooring installed!



3rd House:
Built interior walls!

Light Shines Through 2017 Annual Conference

The 178th session of the Northern Illinois conference was held June 4-6. This year's Annual Conference theme was "Light Shines Through...there are cracks in everything, that's how the light gets in," based on a quote from songwriter Leonard Cohen.

With lots of energy and drama we celebrated in a special way Ordination; where the bishop commissioned four candidates for the work of a deacon and eight for the work of an elder. Two deacons and six elders. Two NIC clergy were commissioned as missionaries being based in Switzerland. Thirteen lay missionaries were commissioned. During the sermon Bishop Dyck emphasized the importance of bringing your skills and passion to wherever your journey leads you.

On Monday we celebrated the retirement of 17 pastors with a combined 529 years of service. On Tuesday we remembered those who had died in the last year, in a service of light and dark including the singing of the Lords Prayer by all to close.

A quote from the bishops address to the conference: *Related to the quote regarding the light shining through the cracks. There is the light of Christ. A light that gives us just enough to take the next step by faith and not by sight. And when we join our light of hope with a host of others, we can light up the world, our nation, our church, our annual conference.*

Dr. Marcia McFee a professional worship leader conducted a workshop on multi-dimensional ways to conduct worship. She led our three main services of Ordination, Retirement, and Remembrance beautifully. McFee reminded us that what we do in worship deeply matters, and that we need to leave our "everydayness" behind in worship.

Every year the bishop appeals on behalf of a United Methodist cause and this year it was the United Methodist Global AIDS Fund. 25% of \$71,000 raised will stay in Northern Illinois for local projects including education on prevention and resources for those living with HIV/AIDS. The bishops appeal creates a little competition between districts for who raised the most.

This year Superintendent Dick Wisdom graciously accepted the award for The Aurora District raising the most funds.

Every year items for the Midwest mission distribution center are collected. Each district was responsible for different items. Aurora District was asked to bring hand towels and wash cloths.

Included in the Laity address was one special line; *Your What, Who and Where should define your Why.* If you know your *Why*, your *What* has more impact and you are walking to your purpose. If you know your *Why*, your *What* and *How* can make a difference. If you understand your *Why*, your *What*, *How* and *Who* will communicate your why.

In legislation, the annual conference approved the organizational restructuring plan, which will create a central Shepherding Team and six district Shepherding teams in an effort to streamline the work of the conference.

Other legislation that passed included holding the election of Delegates for the 2020 General Conference during the 2019 annual conference session.

Calling for affordable health care and recognizing the closing of Bethany UMC in Itasca.

We passed a budget of \$6,648,410.

Apportionments have been recalculated, most churches will experience a 2% decrease. We will be able to pay electronically. Notifications and bills will be sent by email.

We heard that some churches are behind on their healthflex payments. If this continues the rate to the churches could increase.




Doc. 700.01 involved that the UMC not knowingly invest in a company that used fossil fuels for a portion of their business activity, after discussion it was referred for further conversation and to be brought back in 2018.

Our annual conference passed the Constitutional Amendments from general conference. However, they must pass by 2/3 of the aggregate of members of annual conferences from all over the world. Once the results are certified by the Council of Bishops at their first meeting following the last annual conference vote, we will then find out whether they passed or not.

We had bible study for two days led by Jack Seymour and Margaret Ann Crain. We discussed Exodus 13:17-22 and John 1:1-18. A different view of dark was presented. Dark is often related to evil, they presented the idea that dark is also a place for new growth, using the womb as an example. The way Jesus lived out the Torah is the way we are called to live out our lives.

Kim Star
Annual Conference Delegate

JULY 2017

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
9am Worship 9am Sunday School: Children, Middle School 10:30am Jazz Worship 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
2 Bring your Summer Offering can to worship! 	3 11:30am Faith Friends 1pm One O'Clock Book Club	4 Independence Day 	5 6:30pm Young Adult Study	6 7:30am FaithFriends 11:30am Day Guest Lunch	7 8am Outdoor Farmer's Market	8
9 9am High School Graduation Celebration 12pm Have-A-Look Membership Class 2pm Youth Work Trip Attendee Event	10 9:30am SHIP: Help for Seniors 11:30am FaithFriends 7pm Trustees	11 11:30am Day Guest Lunch 3:30pm Lazarus House 7pm Children & Family Ministry 7pm Finance	12 7pm Staff Parish	13 7:30am FaithFriends 11:30am Day Guest Lunch 6pm P.E.O.	14 8am Outdoor Farmer's Market	15 8am UMM Work Day 9am Youth Car Wash
16	17 9am NIL Food Bank 11:30am FaithFriends 7pm Church Council	18 Carillon Articles Due for next month 11:30am Day Guest Lunch 5pm Women's Emmaus	19 6:30pm Young Adult Study 6:30pm DBTP Wonder Discussion	20 7:30am FaithFriends 11:30am Day Guest Lunch 1pm Women's Emmaus	21 8am Outdoor Farmer's Market	22 9am Baptism Class
23 BakerYouth leave for Work Trip	24 11am Garden Club 11:30am FaithFriends 7pm Worship/Spiritual Growth	25 11:30am Day Guest Lunch 7pm Youth Council	26	27 7:30am FaithFriends 11:30am Day Guest Lunch	28 8am Outdoor Farmer's Market	29 BakerYouth return from Work Trip 8:30am Premarriage Workshop
30	31 11:30am FaithFriends					

**TICKETS:
\$5/PRE-SALE
\$7/DAY OF**

**CAR WASH
FUNDRAISER**
Saturday, July 15 | 9am-Noon

**SUPPORT THE
YOUTH SUMMER
WORK TRIP!**

**Music
RETREAT**
August 26 & 27

Saturday, August 26
Starting at 12pm through
11am Sunday, August 27

Pheasant Run Resort
St. Charles, IL

An invitation
to everyone
interested in our
music program!
Join us for 24 hours
of sharing, exploring,
learning, growing
in faith & having fun.
It is open to all those
interested in music.

REGISTER ONLINE OR WITH THE OFFICE

**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

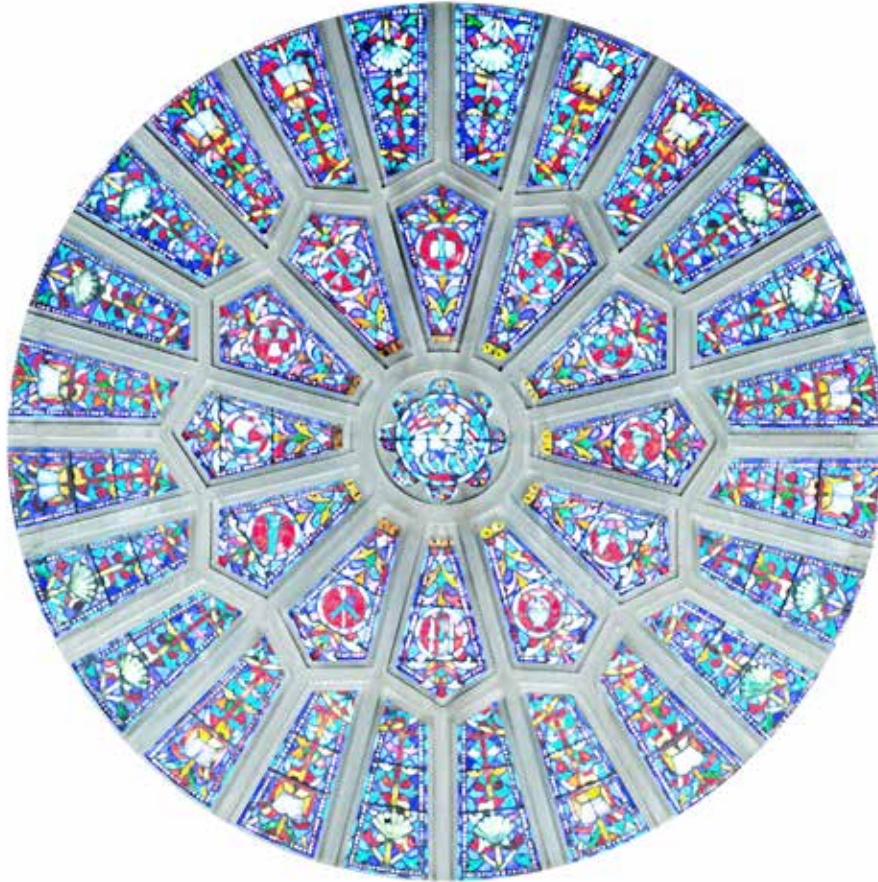
High School Sunday School
Sundays, June 25, July 2, 9, 16,
August 13, 20 | 10:30am | Youth Center

**BAKER
WALKERS**
WALKING TOGETHER WEEKLY

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. 3rd Avenue is the street that runs along the west side of Baker. Follow it north and you'll find the parking lot on the left side of the street.

**STARTING
JUNE 7!**

WEDNESDAYS AT 9AM
NORRIS WOODS NATURE PRESERVE



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 Lescecius—Facilities

BAKER MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

A traditional church for a modern world

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