

BAKER MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

THE CARILLON

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

The deadline for submitting items to the *The Carillon* is the 20th of the month.



PASTOR MARY'S MESSAGE

Being A Church Outside the Building

The churches of Asia send greetings. Aquila and Prisca, together with the church in their house, greet you warmly in the Lord.

1 Corinthians 16:19 (NRSV)

It feels strange to be unable to meet in our beautiful church building for so long. Yet, at the same time we need to remember that we are not the first generation of faithful people to experience the need to worship God outside a dedicated building. In fact, the first generation of Christians generally didn't have special buildings for worship, they usually met in people's homes. Some historians think that the first building set-aside for Christian worship was actually a house that was purchased and converted around 240 AD. In other words, Christianity grew for almost 200 years before dedicated buildings were established.

Prior to Christianity our Jewish ancestors worshipped in the Tabernacle, which was a large tent-like structure. King Solomon built the first Temple in Jerusalem around 830 BC. After that, worship was centered on the Temple for hundreds of years. That is until Jerusalem was overthrown by the Babylonians in about 425 BC and the Temple was destroyed. It's important to notice that destroying the Temple and even taking the people into exile did not end worship. Instead, the people learned how to worship outside the Temple. They learned to worship in small groups and in homes, even in secret. The concept of having a local synagogue became commonplace.

The Temple of Jerusalem was rebuilt around 340 BC and worship practices changed again. Daily worship was held in the Temple, but most people worshipped in their local synagogue except on Holy Days. This went on for hundreds of years, until the Second Temple was destroyed by the Romans in 70 AD and the people adapted again. Synagogues

Continued on page 2.



PASTOR MARY'S MESSAGE

Continued from page 1.

and homes became the center of Jewish worship, and since no Temple was rebuilt, the practice of animal sacrifices ended.

More recently, imagine being a member of a Christian Orthodox Church during Communist rule in Russia. Many buildings were destroyed but the community of worshippers survived and managed to pass faith from generation to generation in their homes and secret gatherings. Imagine being a member of a Jewish synagogue during the Holocaust, or even gathering in church buildings during prior pandemics. In all of these situations the community that is the church had to adapt, and did adapt successfully.

As hard as it is to be away from our building for so long, we are being reminded in our age that while the church building is important it turns out that it isn't absolutely necessary. We can be the church on Facebook, and YouTube and gather in small groups on Zoom for as long as we need to. We can't participate in some of most important spiritual practices like receiving communion, but we can find new ways of worshipping and even thriving spiritually. We are still in the learning stages of adaptation, but it already

seems likely that we will want to keep a strong presence in the virtual world for the long term. After all, there are many people who will not be able to join in person until the danger of COVID-19 is completely behind us, and there always have been some who simply cannot come during the traditional times of worship.

We live in strange and even tragic times. I feel the hurt of the

world when I hear the statistics of the spread and toll of COVID-19 around the world each day. **This is a world that needs the Gospel. This is a time when people need to find peace, and joy, and unconditional love. So, let's work together to adapt. I'm looking for a small team of people to work together on how we might become more adept at being a strong and faithful church in the internet age.** If this is a call that God is putting on your heart, please email me at pastormary@bakermemorialchurch.org. We will have our first meeting, by Zoom of course, in early May.

Please stay well in body, mind, and spirit.

Peace in Christ.
Pastor Mary

This is a world that needs the Gospel. This is a time when people need to find peace, and joy, and unconditional love.

Did You Solve Last Month's Puzzle?

Here is the answer to the puzzle that ran in the April issue. How did you do?

There are 29 books of the Bible in this paragraph. Can you find them? This is a **most remarkable** puzzle. It was found by a gentleman in an airplane seat pocket, on a flight from Los Angeles to Honolulu, **keeping** him occupied for hours. He enjoyed it so much, he passed it on to some friends...One friend from Illinois worked on this while fishing from his **john** boat. Another friend studied it while playing his **banjo**, Elaine Taylor, a columnist friend, was so intrigued by it she mentioned it in her weekly newspaper column. Another friend **judges** the **job** of solving this puzzle so involving, **she brews** a cup of tea to help her nerves. **There** will be some names that are really easy to spot. That's a **fact**. Some people, however, will soon find themselves in a **jam**, especially since the book names are not necessarily capitalized. **Truthfully**, **from** answers we get, we are forced to admit **it usually**

takes a minister or a scholar to see some of them **at the worst**. Research has shown that something in our **genes is** responsible for the difficulty we have in seeing the books in this paragraph. During a recent fund raising event, which featured this puzzle, the Alpha Delta **Phi lemonade** booth set a new record. The local paper, The **Chronicle**, surveyed over 200 patrons who reported that this puzzle was one of the most difficult they had ever seen. As **Daniel Humana** humbly puts it, "The books are all right here in plain view hidden from sight." **Those** able to find all of them will hear great **lamentations** from those who have to be shown. One **revelation** that may help is that books like **Timothy** and **Samuel** may occur without their **numbers**. Also, keep in mind, that punctuation and spaces in the middle are **normal**. A **chipper** attitude will help you **compete** really well against those who claim to know the answers. Remember, there is no need for a mad **exodus**, there really are 30 books of the Bible **lurking** somewhere in this paragraph waiting to be found. God Bless.

Children & Family Ministries

CREATIVE FAMILY TIME IDEAS!

► **Family Bible Verse:** *Not only so but we also rejoice in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope.*
—Romans 5:3-4 NIV

Hi Baker family, friends, and Sunday schoolers!

I miss y'all so much! I am very proud to hear and see your creativity sent through texts. Please continue to share your accomplishments whether it's from something out of your comfort zone or from your go-to creative comforts like cooking.

When I followed up with a family on the puzzle they had been working on, they asked me which one? They are now on their fifth and keeping track with a picture after each completion. In my family, our first puzzle is still a work in progress on our coffee table. I've also seen before and after haircut pictures. I'm not sure who was braver the parent or the little boy who transformed his hair to look like *The Last Airbender*. In our house, Teagan and I have collaborated in impromptu poetry during a walk and Taya has mastered the art of cooking eggs.

Are you still looking for inspiration? Try your hand at journaling to spark your creativity during isolation. Try a 100 day (or less!) challenge of creativity with words, art, or activities. Ask someone you love to join you to help you stay on track. Maybe you have more quiet time for personal Bible study. Or maybe you would like to make a collage with your child from this school year to remember their best and favorite moments. Taya still has one on her wall she made in third grade with all of her favorite memories from Hawaii. It could also be of everything baseball, or maybe a collage from camping trips or vacations. I had a virtual cooking contest with my sister on Easter. No winners, just sister love to inspire creative cooking from a limited pantry. My sis made caramel to transform her cheerio treat into gourmet sweet, which motivated Taya make fudge. What have been your favorite concoctions? Mine has to be the roasted pepper quesadillas.

ZOOM WITH US! Come to Sunday School and BakerKids using Zoom! We meet Sundays at 1pm and Wednesdays at 6pm. We're going to try to keep it fun and helpful. You can watch Pastor Mary's Sunday morning sermons as a family in the morning, and have Sunday School in the afternoon.



The kids had their first “BakerKids” night over Zoom! If you want to get connected email info@bakermemorialchurch.org.

Please contact me if you are interested in attending the Zoom events. Wednesday night will include the fun Science lessons from Deep Blue Kids curriculum. Sunday afternoons will be centered on Bible stories.

MORE FUN IDEAS Want some more fun at home? Try a dance off at a certain time at night. Do you have a neighbor you can challenge across the street? Or just challenge your family. Have you played BINGO lately? In our household, our new thing is Chore BINGO. I have never seen my kids so eager to call grandma or help me with the dishes.

You may even want to try spirit days. Make sure to show me your pictures (spoiler alert: I've shared my Pajama and Superhero Shelly pictures with Pastor Mary!). My kids haven't joined me yet, but I'm still “bringing it!” Here are some ideas:

- **Monday:** Monochrome, Marvel
- **Tuesday:** Tropical, Tiger/animal print,
- **Wednesday:** Western, Wacky
- **Thursday:** Throw back, Tie-Dye
- **Friday:** Freaky (twin), Fancy
- **Saturday:** Sports, Superhero, Star Wars
- **Sunday:** Pajamas, Ninjas, Pirate Day

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

THANK YOU!

- April Helping Hands: Emily & Becky Crow

Youth Ministry

We are making plans to celebrate our seniors and college graduates on June 7 at the 9am service. Of course, this will be subject to the orders put in place for safety at the state and federal level. Following that service, we'll repair to Baker Hall for snacks and fellowship and then have a celebration service for our confirmands at 10:30am. In the interim, we are going to keep our schedule of meeting on Sunday mornings at 10:30am on Zoom for middle school students and 11:30 for high school students. The link and password are included in the 5-Point Weekend Update, so make sure you are subscribed.

The application process for B.G. Gross scholarships is active and the link is <https://bit.ly/2020bggross>. The deadline for submissions is May 31, 2020 with awards being announced during our June 7 service. Young people, especially seniors, are understandably in a challenging spot. The sporting events they've trained for during the past three years are cancelled leaving them unable to shine and get much needed scholarships. School activities like prom, the senior trip and a host of other smaller things are gone. Just gone. In the midst of it all, hastily assembled e-learning seeks to fill the gap left by an incomplete school year, but through all of this we have seen genuine kindness.

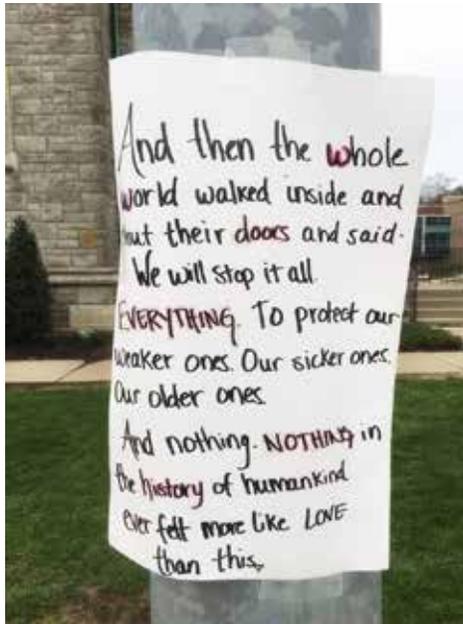
Small and large parades of trucks and cars with yelling occupants have wished their friends Happy Birthday while we've sheltered in place. Paywalls have come down allowing

us to read news, access recipes, and interact with others. So many folks have gone live on social media platforms to sing, DJ, speak comfort or just play a tune. Neighbors have shared kind words, lent a helping hand and stood at a distance in order to protect those among us who are more susceptible to sickness. None of this grace and kindness erases what was lost for our young people. However, I hope it shows them they are still loved and not alone in this world.

As your young person goes to pick up their supplies and belongings from school, I hope they see many of their friends and can spend just a few moments in person, reconnecting and commiserating. Chances are they are already in contact through text, social media messaging, FaceTime and email. Yet, those times of personal connection are crucial to our survival. I hope they get to see their favorite teachers and relive their favorite moments walking through the hallways, visiting the gym and cafeteria, even sitting briefly in a

classroom like they did during orientation. I pray for their peace in the uncertainty of all of this. Know I'm praying for you, too. Our role as examples is on display daily. May God give us strength, wisdom and grace.

Blessings,
Carl King
Director of Youth Ministry



**LET'S STAY
CONNECTED!**

See our messages on **Facebook** at
Baker Memorial United Methodist Church
and **Bakermemorialchurch.org**



A Gentle Word About Giving



The work of God continues at and through Baker Memorial UMC in these difficult times. Our staff is hard at work seeking to check-in with the whole congregation on a regular basis. Our work with our Day Guests not only continues but has expanded for people who are homeless. We are learning how to do worship on-line. As you are able, please seek to keep up with your giving during this time, or even accelerate it so we can continue to meet our payroll and bills. We understand that some people will not be able to do this and are working to manage spending accordingly. All of you are in our prayers.

Hold The Date For The Women's Retreat

Title: Finding Your Path to Faith

Dates: Retreat content begins Saturday, March 13 at 10am, and completes Sunday March 14 at Noon. All are invited to come early for more social time starting the evening of Friday, March 12.

Place: Wesley Woods on Lake Geneva

Each of us is a unique and beautiful creation in the eyes of God, so while our path to finding and growing in Christian faith is similar, it can also be surprisingly different. Hold the date for an exciting exploration of how we understand faith and connect with God in Christ. Discover and embrace your own path, while more deeply appreciating the paths of others as well.

Our room reservation is dependent on the number of people who register. We can accommodate 36 in the facilities we used this year, but can reserve a larger building if there are 50 who register. Costs to be announced. If you want to help organize this retreat, please contact Kim Starr, Meg Bingham, Betty Erickson, or Cathie Ruth.

We hope to see you there—friends are welcome!

WNS Needs A New Cooking Crew

We have been deeply blessed by our three wonderful Wednesday Night Supper chefs Gina Armstrong, Emily Greene, and Sarah Hardwick. Sadly even wonderful things come to an end. In this case, the blessing of changing job responsibilities means we need to recruit some new chefs.

Love to cook and know others who do, recruit a team and the work will be easier. Love to cook but don't know others, volunteer and we'll work to find more. Sometimes it just takes one person to volunteer to make the way open for others.

The team usually cooks 3-4 times per month from September through early May. Dinner has typically been served from 5-6pm and serves 50-70 people. Emily, Sarah, and Gina have all volunteered to pass on their trick, tips, and traps to make the transition easier.

Please bring your gift to the service of Christ by volunteering!

Join Us For A Facebook Live Event

Thanks to everyone who came to our second Facebook Live event on Tuesday evening. It was great to have some new people join in! We

invite you to be on our Facebook page at 7pm on Tuesday, May 5 for our next live event.



Don't Miss Online Worship

To view our weekly worship videos, go to the church website. If you missed a video or want to watch it again, they are all there. Plus you can visit the archive of Pastor Mary's messages. Go to bakermemorialchurch.org.

Considering Homeschooling?

Once the dust settles and your family begins to consider the upcoming school year you may want to think through the options for how to educate your children. Maybe now that you have had a taste of doing schooling at home, long term home schooling looks like a more viable option than you thought. It isn't a fit for every family, but in case you are considering it Courtney Fredrickson (a home schooler herself) has provided some links to options that are available in our area. The programs are each unique so you need to take the time to look carefully at curriculums, underlying beliefs, parents/student expectations, and costs.

Here are a few places to get started, if you are interested:

- Classical Conversations
Website: <https://www.classicalconversations.com/>
Contact: ccstcharlescampus@gmail.com
- Greenhouse Co-School
Website: <https://greenhousecoschool.org/>
Contact: office@greenhousecoschool.org
- G.I.F.T.
Website: <https://www.homeschool-life.com/1872/>
Contact: GIFTregistration@hotmail.com

MISSIONS CORNER

COVID-19 Has Not Stopped Ministry at Baker Memorial

LAZARUS HOUSE COOKING CONTINUES

You may have seen on one of Pastor Mary's videos that Wildwood Restaurant in Geneva donated 20 pounds of food for us to cook and bring to Lazarus house. What a gift of generosity. Please support Wildwood when they reopen! Although the residents are staying in other locations, we continue to bring food to Lazarus House and the staff delivers to residents. The need was there and we had so much food that we cooked on April 14 and April 28. The dinner menus included Prime Rib, Asparagus, Baked Potatoes, Carrots, several other side dishes and cookies! Cooking was done in a few homes as the church kitchen was not an option. Our team of volunteers have really stepped up and made lunches since the current number needed is now 50 lunches (up from 20). May 12th is the next scheduled time to cook. Please help, if you can by providing food items via Sign Up Genius. Just email Chris Stumpf at cstumpf0308@gmail.com and you will be added to the list of volunteers and receive the sign up list and easy instructions on how you can help!

LAZARUS HOUSE URGENT NEEDS LIST

Urgent needs list from Lazarus House provides another way you can give. If you have extra and can donate, just call Lazarus (630-587-2144) and ask when you can drop off any of these items....

- Disinfectant wipes
- Latex-free Nitrile Gloves (size large)
- Cases of bottled water
- Hand sanitizer

NEXT NIL VOLUNTEER DATE IS MAY 18

Northern Illinois Food Bank is still accepting volunteers at the food bank (at the time this was written). The next NIL Food Bank volunteer date for Baker is May 18 from 9am-Noon at the food bank at 273 Dearborn Ct. in Geneva. If you would like to join the team or get more information contact Betty Erickson at N9FYC@aol.com

MEALS ON WHEELS KEEPS DELIVERING

Meals On Wheels volunteers still continues to deliver meals to seniors. Every month a team of volunteers delivers meals to seniors on third Tuesdays. A short orientation is required and then volunteers are given a badge and deliver

meals that are needed and appreciated! Would you consider being a volunteer? Substitutes are especially needed and would only deliver occasionally to sub for a regular that cannot deliver that week! If this is something you could do, please contact Marge Meanger at marjorieme@att.net.

CASA COLLECTION FUNDRAISER POSTPONED

When we are able to gather again in our church building, we will resume our collection for the CASA Kids that are affected every day by uncertainty in their lives. If you have already purchased gift cards, suitcases or backpacks, please hold on to them awhile longer. If you have not yet made a donation, please see the list below. Ordering online is easy! You can order online and have sent to your home to bring in when we announce a new collection date.

Items Needed for CASA Children:

- Backpacks and luggage (new)
- Gift cards in any amount (Target, Walmart, Aldi. Or fast food gift cards such as McDonalds and Subway)
- Public transportation vouchers (Pace, Ventra and Uber)
- Park district passes from Aurora and Elgin
- Movie passes (AMC and Goodrich theaters)

DAY GUEST PROGRAM CONTINUES

Our Day Guest program continues to serve. We are distributing bagged lunches on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Please consider signing up for meals at <https://www.mealtrain.com/trains/z9dyzd>. Thank you to all of you who have signed up to donate in May and who made lunches in April.

In addition to the lunches, we have food in plastic totes at the Cedar Street entrance for those in need. We are going through about half of a large tote of food every day of the week. Please help us keep that up! We can use bottled water, pop-top cans of baked beans/chicken/beef stew/pasta/fruit, individually wrapped cheese, lunch packs of fruit, small bags of chips, small packages of cookies, and individual juice/protein drinks. We have also found that small boxes/bags of cereal are good so long as we also have shelf-stable milk (available at Costco). Please drop items off between 11am and 1pm on Tuesdays or Thursdays.

Kingdoms Word Scramble

These are all words that are associated with the Immerse: Kingdoms study.
If you're not reading the book, still give it a try! These are all words in the Bible.

NOKSIGMD

SJEDGU

URTH

NAACNA

VADID

SIRLEA

IBNGSELS

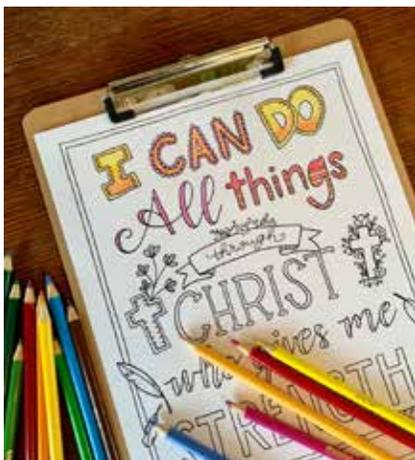
YBEO

ONNTCVEA

ILEEX

NOUQSCET

JAHUSO



Some Coloring Inspiration

Print out the coloring page on the next page and have some fun. We'd love to see your projects!

Take a picture of your finished coloring page and send it to info@bakermemorialchurch.org.

I can do all things through Christ who gives me strength. —Philippians 4:3

I CAN DO

All things

through

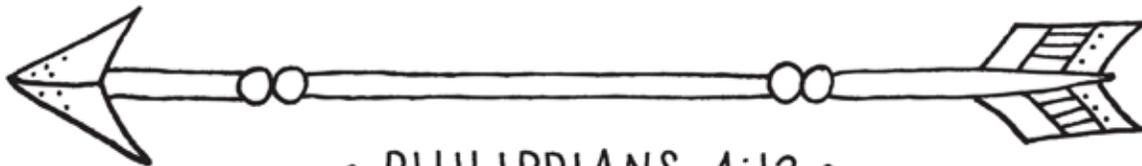


CHRIST

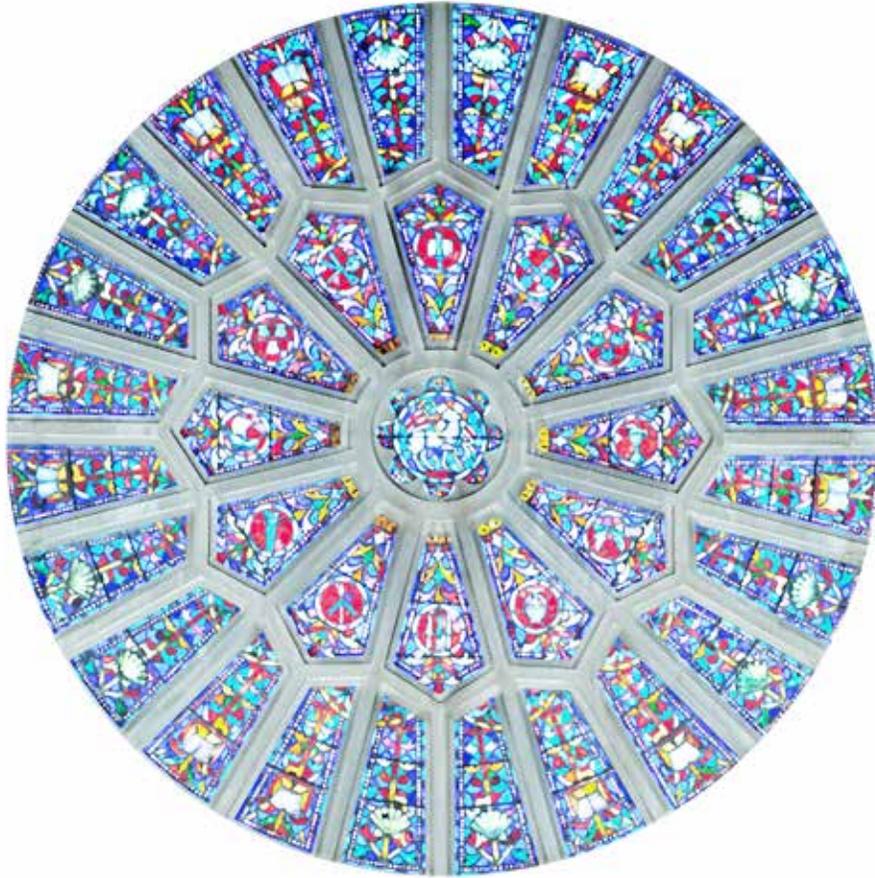


who gives me

STRENGTH.



• PHILIPPIANS 4:13 •



STAFF

Rev. Mary Zajac | *Senior Pastor*

Jeffery Hunt | *Director, Music Ministry*

Mark Edwards | *Organist*

Shelly Stienbarger | *Director, Children & Family Ministry*

Kurt Heinz | *Director of Administration*

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*

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A traditional church for a modern world

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