

BAKER MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

THE CARILLON

NOVEMBER 2020

VOLUME 21 • NUMBER 11

IN THIS ISSUE

Pastor Mary's Message . . . 1
Church Conference 2
Ask the UMC 2
Children & Family 3
BakerYouth 4
Missions Corner 5
Baker News 6, 7
Staff 8

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

Musings from Pastor Mary

On Sunday November 1, we had the joy of announcing that Rev. Kim Neace will soon be joining the staff at Baker Memorial UMC as an ordained deacon. Pastor Kim and I will be serving together as clergy partners to do all we can to build up the body of Christ at Baker Memorial United Methodist Church. I will let Pastor Kim introduce herself in a future newsletter, what I would like to do here is explain a little about what it means to be a Deacon.

We have many types of ministry in the United Methodist Church and it can be confusing to sort them all out. All members are called to be in ministry through their prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness. Some people experience a call to additional levels of lay ministry and others to ordained ministry. By the way, in case you do not know these terms, lay persons are simply Christians who are not ordained as clergy persons. There are vastly more lay people than ordained clergy, so most ministry of the church is carried out by lay people.

Lay ministry provides more options for additional service in the name of Christ than can be listed here. Some lay people become certified in a specialized ministry area. Others serve as Lay Servants who preach and lead as needed in their home church and sometimes other churches. Still other lay people serve on committees or as Lay Leaders for the District or Conference. Some lay people become Local Pastors and serve local churches. They are clergy members while they serve. The options for lay ministry are seemingly endless.

Ordained ministry is comparatively simple to understand. There are only two broad categories of ordained ministry, that of the Deacon and that of the Elder. Ordained ministry of either type is different from lay ministry in that it involves a lifelong commitment to serving God as a deacon or elder in the Church. Candidates must have a master's level degree in their area of ministry, be affirmed by their local churches, affirmed by the Board of Ordained Ministry within the Conference, and affirmed by their clergy



Rev. Kim Neace



Continued on page 2.

PASTOR MARY'S MESSAGE

Continued from page 1.

colleagues before they are ordained by the Bishop. As you might imagine, ordination is a lengthy process that takes many years to complete. It is also a substantial commitment for both the ordained clergy person and their family.

Deacons and elders have similar lifelong commitments and training, however their focus in serving God is somewhat different. Elders are ordained to the ministry of Word, Sacrament, Order and Service. Deacons are ordained to the ministry of Word, Service, Compassion and Justice. Elders typically serve in the local church, or as district superintendents, conference staff, or Bishops. Sometimes elders are appointed beyond the local church to teach in seminary or serve as a chaplain in various settings. Deacons do not have a typical place of service. Many serve the local church leading areas such as youth, missions, or Christians Formation. However, many others work full-time as chaplains, teachers, justice ministries or in leading not for profit agencies. No matter where their primary work is located, all deacons are officially connected to a local congregation to serve part-time.

The key thing that I want to emphasize is that the ministry of elders and deacons is complementary. We have a wider reach and a deeper skill set when we work together. I am personally very excited to work with Pastor Kim, not only because she is a strong clergy member, but because our calls are complementary and together we are better equipped to both reach out to the community and build up the congregation.

I expect that you will see Pastor Kim and I work together quite closely. While I will do much of the preaching, Pastor

Kim will also preach. While she will empower much of the programming ministries, I will also be involved. Kim brings years of experience in a wide variety of church based ministries, and I look forward to you getting to know her.

Peace in Christ

Pastor Mary

Email Warning

Be aware that there has been some fraudulent email activity using Pastor Mary's email address. Her correct email address is pastormary@bakermemorialchurch.org. It's always worth checking the address the email comes from for spoofing. Scammers often change the name. Check after the @ symbol.

Annual Church Conference

Church Conference with our District Superintendent Rev. Jeffrey Bross will be held by Zoom on November 11 at 7 pm. Simply click the link below to join the meeting, or you are welcome to participate by phone by using the phone number and meeting information below (visual materials will be sent by email). There are no major votes before us this year. We will approve nominations, pastoral salary, and celebrate our lay servants.

- **Zoom Meeting Link:** <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5431260207?pwd=eHhvRmVFNERabm51NFFNMkUvdTFEUT09>
- **Phone Number:** 312-626-6799
- **Access Codes:** Meeting ID: 543 126 0207, Passcode: 694828

Ask The UMC

Is The United Methodist Church involved in politics?

The people called Methodists have been actively involved in social and political matters from their founding in 18th century England. Methodists were among the primary advocates for the abolition of slavery across the British Empire, the organization of labor unions to protect workers from dangerous working conditions, the ending of the debtors prison system, and the creation of new systems of care for poor children. Given this heritage, Methodists have continued to advocate for other social or political issues since that time—women's suffrage ([https://www.umnews.org/en/news/methodists-crucial-in-fight-](https://www.umnews.org/en/news/methodists-crucial-in-fight-for-womens-vote)

[for-womens-vote](https://www.umnews.org/en/news/methodists-crucial-in-fight-for-womens-vote)), temperance, civil rights, health care and care for the environment, to name a few.

Today our United Methodist Social Creed (<https://www.umc.org/en/content/our-social-creed>) and Social Principles (<https://www.umc.org/en/content/ask-the-umc-why-do-we-have-social-principles-where-did-they-come-from>) express our commitment to fully participate in building a more peaceful and just world.

To view the full article, go to <https://www.umc.org/en/content/ask-the-umc-is-the-church-involved-in-politics>.

This content was produced by Ask The UMC, a ministry of United Methodist Communications.

Children & Family Ministry

FOCUS ON FAMILY TIME

► **Family Bible Verse:** *Give thanks to the Lord because he is good, because his faithful love lasts forever.*
—Psalm 118:1 (CEB)

The coronavirus has definitely changed my daily routine. I use to think I thrived because my schedule had my life perfectly planned out each week. Now I've been that parent who's dropped off their child on the wrong hybrid day because I missed the memo that they changed with A/B Day after the last holiday. Of course my phone was on silent, but my child gave me grace that day. I was more frustrated than her, but with our extra time that day, we celebrated with Arby's.

After reading the book *Unplugged Ninja* by Mary Nhin, I remember to find my balance in this world full of technology. I tell myself, "Keep calm, and pray." Life can be messy and hard. Continue to try new things, tweak them, and find the joy each day. Don't forget to laugh! Laughter helps! These days, I thrive on my schedule including more outdoor walks, coffee dates, and meal preps.

STORYTIME Have you watched our Storytime, yet? Here is another spoiler alert about one of our upcoming books, *An Elephant & Piggie Book: The Thank You Book* by Mo Willems. I can't say this enough, "Thank you! Thank you Pastor Mary for leading us in this uncharted territory. Thank you Michele for your creations each week. Thank you to our wonderful staff at BMUMC. Thank you God for your love and your son Jesus Christ! And again I say thank you Baker Memorial for your prayers, support, and your love for the Sunday school children. If you would like to be added to BakerKids' email to hear our Storytime with Pastor Mary and yours truly, let me know. We encourage you to share us with your grandchildren, friends, and neighbors. Did you want to claim dibs on any of the books we've read for a Christmas gift? Let me know. Last, here's my Storytime challenge for you all this month: watch, share, laugh, & repeat. Enjoy!

PUMPKIN SCAVENGER HUNT Last month, Sunday school families were sent a list for their own family fall scavenger hunt and a pumpkin prayer coloring sheet. Please share with me your family's experiences. I would love to hear



about your adventures. We got a picture from the Zenker family (above right) displaying their scavenger finds. Also, here's a picture of Teagan (on the left) on our fall scavenger hunt. She decided we needed to put it in a sleeve with a dry erase pen to hunt multiple days. It was difficult to find an apple tree, acorns, and mushrooms. We found our acorns at Pottawatomie Park, apples at the Kratz's house, and some sort of fungus I called mushrooms off a fallen tree on our river walk. Teagan has great ideas for next year to make her own list with animals, statues, and types of decorations.

Each month our BakerKids will be given a monthly family theme adventure. I'll continue to keep everyone in the loop in case if there are grandparents, aunts, uncles, neighbors, or best friends who would love to be added to our list to build new fun family memories one day at a time.

Blessings,
Shelly Stienbarger
Director, Children & Family Ministry

► **Challenge:** Prayer Buddy's, can you coordinate a time to screen share Bakerkid's story time with your buddy?



Remember our puzzle from the Sunday school room? *Finally finished it—only took six months!*





Youth Ministry

GONE CAMPING

In October, we had a great outdoor event. We made up stories, jumped rope with glow sticks, burned marshmallows— I mean, ate delicious and well-cooked smores—and enjoyed a great, big fire. The weather was brisk, but not frosty. Despite a few families from local churches being unable to make it on the day of the affair, fun was had by all. Oh, and there was a lot of talk about, *Among Us*.

WINTER ACTIVITY TALK

This month, the weather has changed and we are discussing our annual Winter retreat in lieu of the current state-mandated restrictions. So much has gone online, but we still want to provide some offline, in-person options. If you have ideas for safe and fun activities, we want to hear them! In the meantime, our remaining 2019-2020 confirmands will be welcomed into the congregation and confirmed on November 22 at the 11am service. Be in prayer for them and their immediate family.

CONFIRMATION

2020-2021 confirmation families have been resilient and steadfast as we have journeyed through limited in-person

meetings and a lot of Zoom classes. The confirmands themselves have been a joy as we learn about the past, live in the present, and imagine a powerful future at Baker Memorial UMC.

In Christ,
Carl King
Director of Youth Ministry

ADVENT READERS & CANDLE LIGHTERS
Please note that we need 12 people/families to sign up to cover the season. Choose the tab for the service you want to sign up for— Online, 9:00 or 11:00.
SIGN UP AT:
<https://tinyurl.com/2020AdventCandles>

MISSIONS CORNER

Serving here, near and far away

STUFF THE TURKEY!

Our annual Stuff the Turkey collection for the Salvation Army is needed as much if not more in 2020. Normally we would have a table set up in Baker Hall to collect \$20-25 from your family to help feed another family in the Fox Valley a Thanksgiving dinner. Since we will not gather for fellowship, this year we simply ask that you send your checks in the mail to the church office. Please make the check out to Baker Memorial UMC and mark stuff the turkey on the check. Checks should be in the office by November 10. One check from Baker will be mailed to the Salvation Army fulfilling our long standing tradition of feeding those in need on Thanksgiving Day! Thank you for your generosity!



SALVATION ARMY ANGEL TREE COLLECTION



The Salvation Army Angel Tree program has a new look this year. There's no shopping or delivering of gifts. Instead, we are collecting \$25 gift cards for kids and families impacted this season by financial losses. We have committed to our usual 75 tags. The Salvation Army requests only \$25 gift cards, to keep amounts equal. Recommended gift cards are Target, Meier, Walmart, Ultra, Tilly's, Game Stop and Amazon. Please mail cards to the church office and indicate that they are for the Angel Tree. If you prefer to drop off your donation, Judy Schlarb will collect cards at church on Tuesday and Thursdays from 11 am-1 pm. Just ask for Judy at the Cedar Ave. entrance. All cards are due in the office by December 6th. Contact Loretta Wilson at redtop55@att.net with questions.

GIVE BLOOD AT VERSITI, IF YOU ARE ABLE

Give blood at Versiti, if you are able! The need for blood is great! It is easy, at a convenient location and takes about an hour. Here is the information, if you can give... Call Versiti Blood Center of Illinois to schedule an appointment at 630-208-8105, give them Baker's # 100997 on the phone and at check in, saying I am from Baker Church. Arrive at

2000 W State Street Unit 1E in Geneva (next to Walgreens). The center follows all COVID-19 guidelines for the safety of all. Thanks in advance for giving!

COVID-19 ANTIBODY TESTING AT VERSITI

Versiti now performs antibody testing on blood donations as part of their standard testing. The test will inform donors if they have antibodies reflective of a prior COVID-19 infection, but does not tell them if they currently have the virus. Donors with these antibodies may be eligible to donate COVID-19 convalescent plasma (CCP), a special type of donation used to treat sick patients fighting COVID. Learn more at [versiti.org/home/coronavirus-information](https://www.versiti.org/home/coronavirus-information).

MASK MINISTRY

The team of three are still making and sending masks to the Midwest Distribution Center weekly. Any fabric mask is accepted. Handmade or store bought if you would like to donate. Fabric is needed again as well. Contact Chris at 630-709-7761 or cstumpf0308@gmail.com

CHRISTMAS TREE ORDER

Christmas trees can be ordered to benefit missions outreach. Contact Dave Wilson at davexpress@att.net

LOOKING AHEAD TO JANUARY 2021:

1/19 | Baker packs food at **NIL Food Bank** | Contact Jennifer Cervan at paddeaux@att.net

1/20 | **Bood Drive** | Wiley Hall | Contact Pete Holmes at peteholmes177@gmail.com

RING THAT BELL!

Salvation Army bell ringing will take place at our usual spot at the north door at the Jewel on Randall Road in St. Charles. A number of special procedures will be in place in light of the pandemic. Ringers must remain outside 100% of the time and must wear gloves and face coverings. We might even be wearing disposable aprons. Our hours will begin November 27. We do 2-7 on weekdays and 10-6 on Saturdays. To sign up to ring, look for details in the *Weekly Word* or contact Rick Carlson at carlson.rc@sbcglobal.net

Construction Update

The refurbishment of the six church entry door sets is continuing and going very well. The doors being refurbished are the sets on Cedar Street, Third Street, Upper and Lower Narthex on Main Street, Narthex on Fourth Street and Sanctuary on Fourth Street. The work includes redoing the finish, the hardware, weather stripping and



threshold repair. This portion of the door refurbishment should be done in November. A second portion of the door project is to replace some of the existing stained glass with clear art glass. This will solve the safety issue of not being able to see through the stained glass who is entering the building and when rides have arrived. We will have a

sample of clear art glass installed on the Cedar Street entry doors. Next up, will be expansion and enhancement of the Cedar Street interior entrance area which will also include relocation and expansion of rest rooms. This will involve some adjustments to Baker Hall. In future stages the lift would be replaced by an elevator and some program staff offices may be moved upstairs to a newly developed area near where Pastor Mary's office is currently located. After many meetings with our construction committee, our very



patient architect is finalizing the proposed layout for this next area. We will let you know soon about how you can see what is proposed and how you can provide feedback. Ask a Construction Committee member for details. The Construction Committee includes Judy Schlarb (lead), Peter Wintersteen, Peter Vargulich, Heidi Hughes, Jon Sauser, Jean McCabe, Jayne Beck and Pastor Mary.

In-Person Worship On Sundays

Two in-person services will now be offered on Sundays at 9 and 11 am. Seating is limited and we request that you sign up prior to each service. To sign up for one of the Sunday services go to tinyurl.com/bakerinperson. Online Church worship videos will continue to be posted each week.

UMW November Leadership Meeting

UMW Leadership team please plan to attend our monthly Zoom meeting Wednesday, November 4 at 9 am. Circle chairs unable to attend should send updates to Pam Stare at starep@comcast.net

Day Guest Donation Needs

Our Day Guest program continues to distribute lunches on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Please consider signing up to donate lunches at <https://www.mealtrain.com/trains/z9dyzd>. Make it a team effort and do it with a friend or two! In addition to the lunches, we continue to have food in a plastic tote at the Cedar Street entrance for those in need.

We can use pop-top cans of baked beans/chicken/beef stew/pasta/fruit, individually wrapped cheese, small bags of chips, small packages of cookies, Gatorade, small boxes of cereal and protein milk (available at Costco). Please drop off donated items between 11 am and 1 pm on Tuesdays or Thursdays. We appreciate your continued support!

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 continues. 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.



A Virtual Singing Of *Silent Night* Sung by Our Congregation For Christmas Eve

We are excited to announce that we will be offering to all in our congregation, the opportunity to join in singing *Silent Night* in a virtual carol sing. The carol will be presented online for our Christmas Eve service.

This is a wonderful opportunity to involve your family in taking part in this incredibly beautiful service from your home. A virtual singing experience is when you record yourself while listening from a guide track. The singing is edited and put together on a screen with everyone else singing together.

It is important to remember that no matter how well you think you may or may not sound as a singer, congregational singing is a collective way to express our community of faith and love in song. Your voice will be a part of the whole beautiful sound that will come through the carol.

This is open to all ages and we hope everyone in your family will participate. Ellie Armstrong, a member of our congregation and a music major at Millikin University has graciously agreed to help me with this project.

Editing and putting together the music is time consuming so we are needing you to record your singing and send it to Ellie by Thanksgiving, so she has time to put

this together. I have put together an instruction guide to help you along with specific instructions on how to record and where to send the recording. It really is not difficult and I am offering to help you if you need extra assistance. The instruction guide lets you know how you can sign up for a 20-minute slot the week of November 15th to meet with me, safely distanced at the church to put this together. I think however that many will find the experience to be manageable from home. I am available to help over the phone or via email if you run into trouble.

We hope you will take part in this virtual singing experience. Seeing our faces and hearing your voices on Christmas Eve, even from a very distant place, will be very meaningful.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call at 630-699-3389 or email me at mmsdir1@aol.com

Blessings to you and your family!

Jeff Hunt

Director of Music Ministry

► To download instructions or sign up for help with Jeff, go to <https://tinyurl.com/singsilentnight>

Christmas Story Caravan

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6
3:30-6:30 p.m.



Batavia United Methodist Church
8 N. Batavia Avenue, Batavia

United Methodist Church of Geneva
211 Hamilton Street, Geneva

Baker Memorial United Methodist Church
307 Cedar Avenue, St. Charles

THEME: REJOICE WITH HOPE

FEATURE: Angel Mural & Music

MISSION: Collecting mittens, gloves, hats, scarfs, and leggings in all sizes to be donated to local charities

"For nothing will be impossible with God."

Luke 1:37 (NRSV)

THEME: RECEIVE GOD'S LOVE

FEATURE: Live Nativity with Animals & Music

MISSION: Collecting funds for Heifer International and their mission to end hunger and poverty

"...they shall name him Emmanuel."

Matt 1:23 (NRSV)

THEME: SHARE THE LIGHT

FEATURE: Prayer Tree, Luminarias & Music

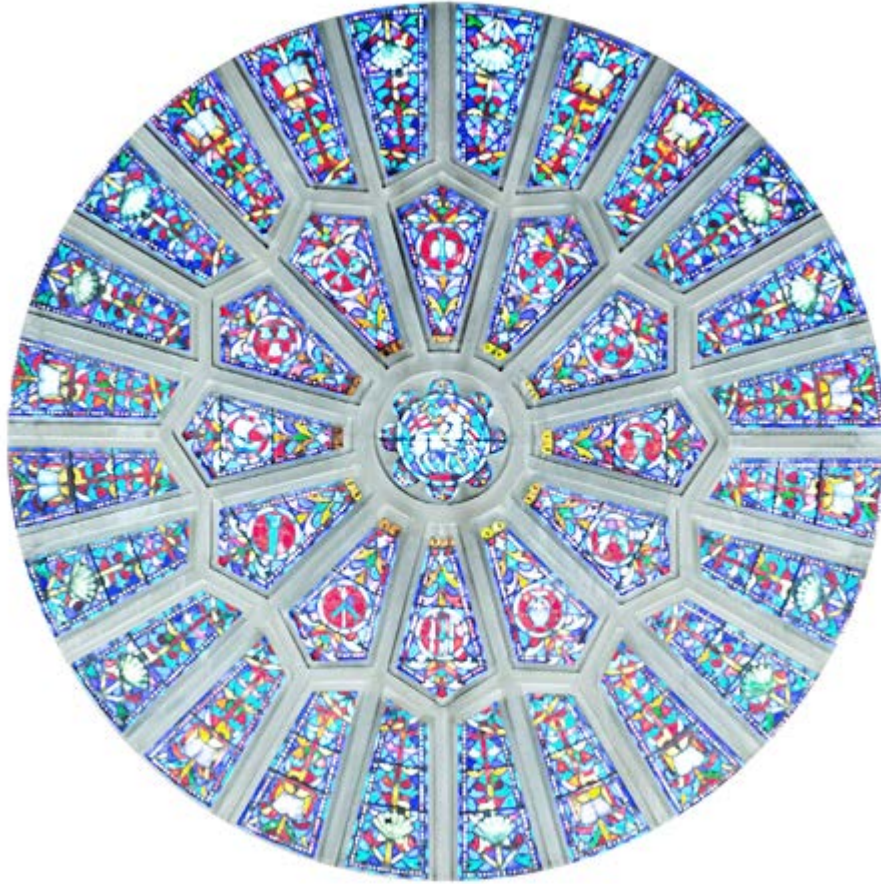
MISSION: Collecting funds for Clara Biswas who directs the Street Children Ministry in Phnom Penh Cambodia

"They told everyone they met what the angels had said..." Luke 2:17 (MSG)

YOU'RE INVITED!

Experience the story of Christmas driving church-to-church in your car.

Each stop features an optional outdoor activity and mission collection.



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*

**BAKER MEMORIAL
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

A traditional church for a modern world

307 CEDAR AVENUE | ST. CHARLES, IL 60174
630-584-6680 | BAKERMEMORIALCHURCH.ORG