"Give praise to God who Abundantly! provides more than we could ask or imagine!"
Ephesians 3:20-21

Monday, October 5, 2026

Dear Ones in Christ,

When did you first become aware of God's blessings in your life? Whether you're 98 or 8 or somewhere in between, the abundance of God's goodness is easily discerned as being all around: the gift of creation, the joy of loved ones, the heart beating and breath that fills our bodies and in this Autumn season the produce of the land by which the Earth shares its goodness. It is indeed a time to rejoice…and to imagine!

Imagine the blessings of a vibrant future at Baker Memorial United Methodist Church made possible NOW through your generous financial support: your stewardship of God's abundance. Being a faithful steward of God's blessings is the call of every Christian. Consider again this calling: "A Christian steward contributes his or her or their time, talents, prayers and financial resources with a willing and joyful spirit. Being a generous giver is a spiritual response to God's goodness."*

The blessings of God are in abundance at Baker Memorial Church. The **JOY** of learning is in abundance as Sunday school sees increased and more consistent attendance of children. This past summer, **HOPE** was in abundance with our June Vacation Bible School "Camp Hope" and July's Mission Trip to Midwest Mission. **FAITH** thrives in our vibrant choral program with ensembles for voices and bells contributing to worship services and performance that give praise to God. **LOVE** is abundantly shared through our dedication to serving whether it be through Hesed House, Lazarus House, District 303 student support or the variety of Christmas and season giving of time and talents.

What blessings of God have you received? **As God is abundantly gracious, we can respond by being abundantly grateful and generous.** With your financial resources, you can share in supporting the operations, programs, staffing, missions and outreach of Baker Memorial United Methodist Church.

Abundantly!

The ministries of the church flourish on the blessings of God as well as on the generosity of every household and every giver. **Membership pledged giving to the financial need of the church composes 2/3 of the annual income;** the other 1/3 comes from building usage donations, endowment support, weddings and other sources. Our anticipated 2027 operational budget is just under $690,000. The enclosed brochure and narrative budget gives details on income and ministry needs.

Every pledge of every size from every giver matters! **Might we count on your pledge of support for 2027?** If you have been a long-time financial supporter of the church, we celebrate your ongoing faithfulness. If you are unsure about pledging, consider again the church's vibrant future that can be supported through your generosity now.

You'll hear more about our "Abundantly" season in worship beginning Sunday, October 18 through All Saints Sunday, November 1, 2026. Our annual fall funding campaign invites you to use the stewardship information and pledge card to share your blessings with the church – now – and through the end of 2026. Return your completed pledge card via the mail, bring it with you to worship on November 1.

The church's website Donor Page is also a great option for making your 2027 Stewardship Commitment, too. Use the QR code or go to bakermemorialchurch.org to access the online pledge form.

"Stewardship is about how we care for the things that God has entrusted to us in ways that serve God's purposes."* Because of God's grace, a meager meal of loaves and fishes fed thousands of people were fed with an abundance of leftovers, too (Matthew 14:13-21). Because of God's wisdom, a manager's investment becomes means by which servants share responsibility for the future (Matthew 25:14-30). Because of God's love, many who had been forgotten or cast aside were called "blessed" and made to be citizens of God's kingdom (Matthew 5:1-12).

Because of your generosity of financial support, we can prepare for another year of abundant faithfulness to Christ's mission – here, near and far away! Let us rejoice in all that is possible and more than we can imagine for the church through our stewardship commitments.

In Christ,

Rev. David Aslesen, Pastor

For more information about the mission and ministry of the congregation, go to…
www.bakermemorialchurch.org or call 630.584.6680.

*Generosity, Stewardship, and Abundance: A Transformational Guide to Church Finance by Lovett H. Weems, Jr. and Ann A. Michel

Abundantly!