

WORSHIP LIFE AT BALDWIN COMMUNITY

Experience Time Location

Worship in our beautiful sanctuary with organ and choir in a traditional setting.

Sanctuary Worship 11:00 a.m. Sanctuary

An uplifting and energetic worship experience with our new band *Asbury Alternative*.

Asbury Alternative 9:30 a.m. Asbury Hall

Come early and enjoy worship in our sanctuary in an abbreviated setting.

Early Morning 8:00 a.m. Sanctuary

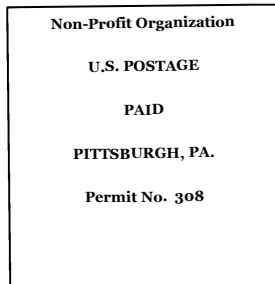
Worship with an intimate "small-church" feeling and communion each week.

Saturday Night 5:30 p.m. Chapel

Baldwin Community United Methodist Church

5001 Baptist Road
Pittsburgh, PA 15236

Time Sensitive Material



The Living Faith

ISSUE 5

"Baldwin Community is a Dynamic, Welcoming and Nurturing Community of Disciples of Jesus Christ Who Reach Out To Share The Message of God's Love With All People"

The Pastor's Column

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Wir Sund Bruder! You are probably thinking right now, "What is Pastor Jeff talking about?" That's ok, I was thinking the same when I heard this for the very first time! It has been a joy teaching United Methodist History, Polity, and Doctrine on Wednesday evenings to the people of Baldwin Community United Methodist Church. Upon writing this article, we have averaged approximately 40 people at this class! It has been wonderful seeing the many people coming out to learn more about their faith as United Methodists.

Wir Sund Bruder? Philip Otterbein, an Evangelical met Martin Boehm, a Mennonite following a sermon Boehm preached. Otterbein was convicted by Boehm's preaching and common theology, that Otterbein said these German words, "Wir Sund Bruder," "We are brothers." These two individuals were pioneers in the Evangelical United Brethren Movement, later joining with the Methodist Church to become The United Methodist Church in 1968.

A passion was stirred then among Otterbein and Boehm. A passion is stirring today at Baldwin Community. The Holy Spirit was at work then among Otterbein and Boehm just as much as the Holy Spirit is alive and moving among us today in this church. On May 11 here at Baldwin Community United Methodist Church, we will celebrate Pentecost, Mother's Day, and Confirmation. We will be celebrating this day with all our might and strength! Our confirmands just came off a powerful retreat at Jumonville a few weeks ago and are now preparing to be received into membership.

The Spirit is at work among us, moving freely throughout the corporate life of this church. Through the leading of the Holy Spirit, may we celebrate our faith in the One Triune God as sisters and brothers in the month of May. We have births, baptisms, celebrations, confirmations, and many other joys to rejoice in!

I thank God for you. Why? Because "Wir sund bruder und shwestern!" We are sisters and brothers in Christ Jesus! Have a blessed May, church family!

ONE in the Family of God,

Pastor Jeff

BALDWIN COMMUNITY U.M. CHURCH

5001 BAPTIST ROAD

PITTSBURGH, PA 15236

412- 882-9300 Phone - Fax 412- 882-9305

Confirmation—Pentecost—Mother’s Day Sunday, May 11, 2008

We will celebrate the confirmation of these nine young people. May God bless each one of them and our church:

| | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|---------------|
| Lacey Bathe | Ethan Brogan | Mary Buchanan |
| Gail Falcione | Laura Hall | Josh Mino |
| Chelsea O’Neill | Emily Schmidlin | Edward Taylor |

**“Give Back” to the Church we love
on May 10 & 11**

Pentecost celebrates the birth of the church and the coming of the Holy Spirit. There is a movement of the Holy Spirit and new birth happening at Baldwin Community United Methodist Church. Our church gives us so much joy, hope and love. On Pentecost Weekend this year, May 10 & 11, I am calling each of us to “Give Back” to our church.

For a number of years our church has been surviving by spending down our reserves. We have put in place a plan this year to reduce staff costs and ministry costs and to be faithful to the amount all of us pledged. But we will still need to spend nearly \$70,000 of our reserves to make ends meet.

We do have a new birth at our church that we all can feel and see. Our attendance is up nearly 100 people over last year and our giving is also up, so we see great hope for 2009 and beyond. We need all of our help to make it through 2008.

I am asking all of us to prayerfully consider giving a one time gift, to “Give Back” to the church we love. Our goal is to raise the \$70,000 that we had planned to spend from our reserves. This seems like a large goal, but we have nearly 400 people here each weekend. If just 70 of us would give \$1,000 we would reach our goal. Or if only 140 people gave \$500 we would have what we need. Or if only 280 people gave \$250.....you get the idea! You may be able to “Give Back” from an IRA, from savings, from tax returns, or from a government stimulus package refund. You may be able to give back from giving up something. Skip twenty dinners out and give \$500.....you get the idea!

Now this only works if we all give to this “Give Back Offering” beyond our regular giving. Our plan for the year is based on what each of us generously pledged to give to our church. So we must continue to give our regular giving and give a one-time gift above and beyond. You may give this offering in two parts if you wish.

This is very crucial for the future of our church. We only have \$70,000 in reserves that we can spend, so without this offering we would completely deplete any reserves. Please “Give Back” to the church we love and help keep the new birth going!

We have already received nearly \$7,000, ten percent of our goal!

Allan K. Brooks

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Confirmation 2008

Nine incredible young people will be taken into membership at Baldwin Community United Methodist Church on Sunday, May 11. Jeff Deal and Beth Lamb have been extremely blessed by our time with these young people. As part of our experience, we have met every Wednesday evening since January to learn about what it means to be a follower of Jesus Christ in the United Methodist tradition. We have learned about the Means of Grace, the seasons of the church, church polity and how our church family functions. To learn about Christian service, they served as ushers and acolytes and went to the Soup Kitchen to serve the homeless. On our retreat at Jumonville, each young person had time to spend alone with God at the foot of a cross, 60 ft. high and then compose their own personal statement of faith. On Sunday, May 4, the Confirmands, their families and their mentors will celebrate their achievements at a brunch, given in their honor. Please continue to keep Lacey Bathe, Ethan Brogan, Mary Buchanan, Gail Falcione, Laura Hall, Josh Mino, Chelsea O’Neill, Emily Schmidlin, and Edward Taylor in your prayers as they make their public profession of faith on Confirmation Sunday, May 11, 2008.

Wesley Wonders

Wesley Wonders will begin on Sunday, June 1. After the Children’s Message at the 9:00 a.m. Asbury Alternative service or the 11:00 a.m. Sanctuary service, all children from age 3 (and diaper-free), to those who have just completed second grade are invited to Wesley Wonders, our summertime Sunday school. Each Sunday kids will have fun learning how to Live B.I.G. with stories, crafts, games and fun, fun, fun.

Many volunteers will be needed to lead Wesley Wonders. Please prayerfully consider giving 30 minutes on a Summer Sunday morning to share the love of Jesus Christ with children. Please call (412-882-9300, ext. 20) or send an email (blamb@pghbcumc.com) to Beth Lamb to be a leader or helper with Wesley Wonders. You will be blessed with the minimal preparation and relaxed atmosphere of our Summer Sunday school.

Sunday School 2007-2008

It is hard to believe that Sunday School classes for this year will come to an end on Sunday, May 18. Many, many thanks to all of our teachers for their countless hours preparing, leading and praying for our children, youth and adults. A Thank You Brunch in honor of all of the Christian Education ministry team will be held on May 18.

GOD'S BIG BACKYARD

Vacation Bible School

June 22-26, 2008

6:30 p.m.—8:45 p.m.

Welcome to God's Big Backyard: Where Kids have a blast serving Jesus! Get ready for an outdoor adventure that starts in your own backyard and gets bigger each day as kids take the love of Jesus into their neighborhoods and communities! In God's Big Backyard, kids will participate in the large group excitement of Backyard Bash, experience God's Word at Backyard Bible Club, meet real-life servants at Community Corner, plus explore and create through fun-filled crafts, snacks, and games. Just step outside, take a look over your fence, and help kids discover how much fun they can have serving in God's Big Backyard!

Swing on over and join the fun!



Asbury Alternative Worship Series

“Back to Basics” – Becoming an Acts 2 Church May 11-June 8

May 11- Pentecost

May 18 – Word

May 25 – Fellowship

June 1 – Grace and Prayer

June 8 – House Meetings/ Accountability Groups

On June 8, The Asbury Alternative will not worship in Asbury Hall. As we end our Back to Basics worship series on June 8, we will conclude with a celebration! We will gather for worship at South Park by the Willow Tree Shelter. We will gather for worship at 11:00 a.m. and will follow worship with a great picnic. All are welcome to attend! Following the picnic, stay for a day of fun and games! More information to come in June's newsletter.

MUSIC MINISTRY

SUMMER CHOIR - A great chance for any person to “try out” choir – If you've always wanted to know what it is like to sing in the choir, SUMMER COULD NOT BE A BETTER TIME. There are no week-night rehearsals – The time commitment on Sundays is not as much as during the year – The music is easy – SO WHY NOT GIVE IT A TRY THIS SUMMER: Beginning in June –

● Choir will meet in the Sanctuary every Sunday morning at 9:25 a.m. to prepare for: SUMMER WORSHIP WHICH BEGINS AT 10:00 A.M. If you want more information, call Phil at the church.

● In the meantime: Regular Thursday evening rehearsal will continue throughout the month of May (7:00 p.m. till 8:30) WHY NOT JOIN US – IF YOU'VE GOT THE VOICE AND THE SPIRIT – YOU BELONG IN CHOIR!!!

God's Big Backyard—Registration Form

Name _____ Age/Grade _____

Parent Name(s) _____

Home Address _____

Phone _____ Email Address _____

| | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Before April 15 | \$5.00 per child/\$15.00 per family |
| Between April 16 & June 1 | \$10.00 per child/\$25.00 per family |
| After June 1 | \$15.00 per child |

Completed Registration Forms and registration fee can be returned to the Church Office:

Baldwin Community UMC, 5001 Baptist Road, Pgh, PA 15236

Or

Register online at www.pghbcumc.org

Camping Thank You! A special thank you is extended to all who donated toward our camping scholarship aid for the children and youth at Baldwin Community United Methodist Church! Donations are still coming in! A final figure will be shared in June's newsletter! Thank you!

Acolyte Robes Our Acolytes will be raising funds for new robes. Donations are welcome and encouraged! Please use a pew envelope and mark it “Acolyte Robes” and place it in the Sunday offering. If you prefer, you may mail your designated gift to BCUMC, 5001 Baptist Rd. Pittsburgh, PA 15236.

We Celebrate

A Great Opportunity for Pastor Jeff

Pastor Jeff St. Clair has just been given the honor to receive a Lewis Fellows Scholarship. The Lewis Fellows Program seeks to develop church leadership through the G. Douglas Lewis Center for Church Leadership at Wesley Theological Seminary. It is an ecumenical leadership development opportunity for outstanding young clergy. The scholarship is being offered through a grant from the Lilly Endowment, Inc. Because of this support, provided through Lilly's Sustaining Pastoral Excellence initiative, Wesley is able to offer this program without cost.

This opportunity will cause Pastor Jeff to be out of the office four times during the period, July, 2008 though April 2009. The components of this program are: leadership development, group study, spiritual formation and engagement with consummate leaders.

We congratulate Pastor Jeff on becoming a Lewis Fellow and look forward to his sharing his leadership and vision for a church that will take us into the future with hope, love and a faith that will enrich the people of Baldwin Community United Methodist Church.

OUR CHURCH FAMILY

BAPTISMS:

Brandon Matthew Seitzinger was baptized on March 30, 2008.
Naomi Marie Ferkett was baptized on April 6, 2008.
Allison Rose Gintner was baptized on April 13, 2008.

Births:

Luke Nicholas Maravich was born on March 11, 2008. He is the son of Nicholas and Kerri Maravich.
Adam James Proctor was born on March 17. He is the son of Kristopher and Christina Proctor.
Mackenzie Grace Bowen was born on March 19, 2008. She is the daughter of William and Tracy Bowen.
Olivia Jean Frisoli was born on April 8, 2008. She is the daughter of Anthony and Amanda Frisoli.

Please Pray for the Following:

In Memoriam:

Ms. Betty J. Campbell, March 25, 2008
Mr. James Colbus, March 25, 2008
Ms. Doris B. Stadtfeld, April 1, 2008
Ms. Mary Maxine Wiley, April 6, 2008
Mr. Herbert E. Ransford, April 7, 2008

Memorial Fund:

In Loving Memory of:
Herbert Ransford
James Colbus

Music Fund:

In Loving Memory of:
Herbert Ransford
Maxine Wiley

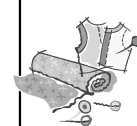
MISSIONS

May 10 and 11: Lord's Pantry Collection - Needed items: snack crackers, paper products, boxed pudding. Thank you for your support!

May 12: Mission Team Meeting, 7:00 p.m., Library



UNITED METHODIST WOMEN



Thursday, May 8

Piecemakers -

School Kit Bags, Clothes

9 a.m.-12 Noon Room 214

Thursday, May 15

Luncheon and Program

12:30 p.m.—Asbury Hall

Gwen Elliott Family Activity Center, Allegheny County Jail, Lydia's Place

Lunch suggested donation: \$4.00

RSVP to Barb Kelly 412-653-4290 by Sunday May, 11

Saturday, May 3 11:30 a.m. — 2:30 p.m.

Showers of Fashion: Fashion Show and Luncheon

Fashions by Macys/Shoes and Accessories by Rendezvous Shoes

Fun Basket Auction

\$12 presale/\$15 at door \$6 for ages 10 and under

For tickets, call the Church Office 412-882-9300

Proceeds go to missions for women, children and youth.



Thursday, May 22 **BCUMC Readers** Parlor

10 a.m.-12 Noon Book: The Storyteller's Companion to the Bible, New Testament Women

Smokey Mountain Music

Gatlinburg—Pigeon Forge, TN—September 15—18, 2008

Monday through Thursday. Trip includes transportation, 3 nights lodging at Pine Grove Inn, 3 continental breakfasts, 3 dinners, admission to Dollywood, 3 shows, guided tour of Great Smokey Mountain National Park, taxes, meal gratuities, baggage handling, driver and step-on-guide gratuity. Cost per person: \$418.00 Double Occupancy, Triple Occupancy \$393.00, Quadruple Occupancy \$379.00, Single Occupancy \$493.00. Reservation forms are throughout the church. If you have any questions, please call Elaine Lewis at 412-885-4560.

Youth Events

We start off the month with a trip to “**Acquire the Fire**” May 2 and 3 for a faith-building experience with concerts, speakers, and more.

The youth will usher at the 11 a.m. service on Sunday, May 18.

Our second Car Wash will be Saturday, May 31 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

All events involve youth in both Middle and High School.

The High School youth will meet at 7 p.m. Sundays, May 4, 11 and 18.

The Middle School youth will meet at 7 p.m. Wednesdays, May 7, 14 and 21.

Throughout the month we will be busy getting ready for the **Golf Tournament on June 21.**

Golf Tournament

Supports the Baldwin Community Church Youth Group’s mission trips.

Saturday, June 21, 2008 at Seven Springs Golf Course in Elizabeth, PA.

The four-person scramble includes 18 holes and a cart, hot dog and drink at the turn, and a buffet dinner. Prizes will be given out afterward.

To sign up, sponsor a hole, make a donation, or for more information, please pick up a pamphlet after church services or in the church office.

Confirmation Geraniums

Orders must be received by May 2, 2008. Please place this completed order form in the offering plate.

These flowers will be planted throughout the church grounds to be enjoyed all summer.

Number of plants at \$4.00 each: _____

In loving memory of _____

In honor of _____

Name: _____

Phone: _____

For Your Information

BALDWIN COMMUNITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

BUDGET VARIANCE NOTES

MARCH 2008 - YTD

TOTAL RECEIPTS – Envelope Offerings were under budget by \$3,744.25 for the year to date. \$25,945 has been budgeted to be transferred from the Living Trust & Estate Fund to satisfy operating cash shortages but \$27,700.00 was needed. This created a variance of \$1,755.00 over the budget. With the transfer from the Living Trust & Estate fund and the transfer of \$7,920.00 from the Schwab Portfolio for the mortgage principal payments during 2008 included, the Total Receipts netted to be under budget by \$525.12.

EMPLOYEE COSTS – Employee Costs were under budget by \$1,063.15 due to Workman’s Compensation Insurance, Hospitalization Expense, and Minister’s Reimbursable Expense all being under budget.

FACILITY OPERATIONS COSTS – Facility Operation Costs were under budget by \$812.73 as a result of Services Received being under budget by \$691.56 and Custodial Supplies being under budget by \$290.58 for the year. Parsonage Tax Expense was also under budget by \$70.98.

ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS – Administrative Costs were over budget by \$722.40. Most of the line items in this category were over budget. As the year progresses the line items will fall within the budgeted amount.

EDUCATION WORK AREA COSTS – Education Work Area Costs are over budget by \$50.51. TGIF Expense is under budget by \$389.75 and Christian Education Child Care is under budget by \$274.00. These under budget items were offset by Sunday Curriculum Expense which was over budget by \$659.72. As the year progresses these line items will fall back within the budgeted amount.

WORSHIP WORK AREA COSTS - Worship Work Area Costs are under budget by \$2,346.96. This underage is the result of Easter Music and flowers expenses being less than anticipated in the budget.

PROGRAM WORK AREA COSTS – Program Work Area Costs are under budget for the year by \$1,654.31 due to Parish Staff Expense and Staff Retreat Expense as well as Lay Leadership Training Expense being under budget for the year. As the year progresses the line items will fall within the budgeted amount.

Envelope Offering continues to be an issue of concern for the year even though March did show an over budget amount of \$6,328.32. The Schwab Portfolio value at March 31, 2008 was \$903,353.57. This represents a decline in value of \$72,749.25 since January 1, 2008 which is attributed to the current NYSE conditions. Total Year-to-Date Disbursements is under the budget by \$5,038.53.

JUNE NEWSLETTER ARTICLES ARE DUE ON MAY 9, 2008