

From the Pastor's Desk

Dear Friends

Greetings in the name of Jesus! There are two important meetings coming up in the month of November. The first is the Northeastern Jurisdictional Conference of the United Methodist Church to be held November 2-4 in Maryland. The purpose of that meeting is to elect two bishops, who will lead an episcopal area in the northeastern part of our country. Rev. Alyce Weaver Dunn is one of nine nominees to be interviewed and one of two endorsed by our conference.

Pastor Alyce and I are asking for your prayers while we wait for the conference to occur. We also ask that you join us in praying that God's will would be done through this process.

The second important meeting of the month is our annual Church Conference on Monday, November 14th at 7 PM in our sanctuary. This will be our first in-person conference since 2019. It will provide many of you the first opportunity to meet our District Superintendent, Rev. Deborah Ackley-Killian.

The church conference is our annual meeting. It is where the pastor's salary for 2023 will be set. We will also elect our church officers and committee members for next year. Various reports will be given and goals for next year will be set. Every member of our congregation is a member of the conference with voice and vote. We hope you will join us for this important meeting!

Our District Superintendent is asking each of her churches to answer the following questions framed around the questions asked at baptism and membership:

As a congregation,

How do you renounce the spiritual forces of wickedness, reject evil and repent of your sin?

How do you resist evil, injustice and oppression?

How do you confess Christ, place your trust in Him and serve Him as Lord?

How are you loyal to the work of the United Methodist Church?

How do you participate in its ministries with your prayers, your presence, your gifts, your service, and your witness?

Please join me in thinking about these questions in the weeks leading to our church conference. I would love to include your thoughts about our life together as we consider these questions. Please feel free to e-mail me at kdunn@bakerstownumc.org or plan to bring your answer to the conference.

Blessings,
Pastor Keith

Join Us for worship! ON Sundays at 8:30am and 11:00am

Adult small group at 9:45am

Nursery (available at 11:00am) Upper Education Wing **Nursery is available for infants and children up to 4 years old**

Junior Church will be dismissed after the children's moment at 11:00am worship

The Neighborhood Table | Nov. 3 | Fellowship Hall
BUMC is continuing to partner with the Fox Chapel UMC to provide meals to the Sharpsburg Community.

Volunteers are needed to help prepare the meal at BUMC starting at 2:30 PM. The meals are then transported to Sharpsburg and volunteers are needed there to help serve and clean up afterwards. This has been a very rewarding ministry so far, so please consider volunteering by calling Roger Cramer at 724-443-2847.



Daylight savings time ends on November 6th. Remember to set your clocks back 1 hour.



2022

All Saints Sunday, November 6th at both services. We will be honoring all the members of Bakerstown UMC that passed away between November 7, 2021-November 6,

NOVEMBER IS LONG TERM CARE AWARENESS MONTH

"Learn 4 Truths About Long Term Care"

If you are thinking "it won't happen to me" when it comes to needing help as you age, you aren't alone. But the need for care often comes anyway. Attend a FREE workshop, "4 Truths About Long Term Care", and learn how best to prepare for the kind of care you want.

Sunday, November 6, at 9:40AM, in the Library
Reservations appreciated-call John "Rick" Hill at 330-554-0004, or email: john.hill@thrivent.com

Drive Thru Dinner | Nov. 8 | Fellowship Hall

The Mission Team is has been serving a monthly meal for The Lighthouse. Our vision is to be able to serve our neighbors in New Fellowship Hall in the future. If the Lord is calling you to participate in this new ministry in one capacity or another or if you have questions, please contact Carol Skolnik at cnikskol@gmail.com.

Bakerstown Book Club | Wednesday, November 9th, | 7:00pm | Library. Our Discussion Book is: The Extraordinary Deaths of Mrs. Kip by Sara Brunsvold. Our second discussion book is: An Undiscovered Life by Nancy Moser. If you love to read, please join us on November 9th, whether you've read the books or not. Please just come along and join us for food, fun, and fellowship. All "Book Lovers" are welcome!! There's always chocolate!!

Blood Drive at Trinity Lutheran | Thursday, November 10th | 1-6pm

Since late July of last year we have held 5 successful Red Cross blood drives in the Gibsonia community. Please help us to continue this endeavor! On-line registration for the drive can be found at <https://www.redcross.org/give-blood.html>. To access the drive, type Trinity Gibsonia in the search box and choose an available appointment. If you have questions, need help with registration, or would like to volunteer to help with the drive, call Rose in the Trinity office at 724-443-8110. Thank you!

Mark your calendars for the annual Church Conference on Monday, November 14th at 7:00pm in the sanctuary. All members of the church are encouraged and invited to attend this meeting with District Superintendent Deborah Ackley-Killian, presiding. At this meeting everyone has a voice to vote.

GriefShare "Surviving the Holidays" Seminar - November 16 at 7pm—Wesley Room

You are invited to a GriefShare Surviving the Holidays seminar, on Wednesday, November 16, 2022, at 7:00pm in the Wesley Room. This evening will offer practical strategies for making it through the holiday season following the loss of a loved one. You will view a video featuring advice from people in grief who've faced the holidays after their loss. You'll hear insights from respected Christian counselors, pastors, and psychologists, as well as other experts in the field of grief support.

At GriefShare Surviving the Holidays, you'll also meet with other grieving people who have an understanding of what you're going through. They won't judge you or force you to share, but will accept you where you are and will offer comfort and support. "It was so helpful when I went to GriefShare," said Marion, "I realized there are different ways to grieve."

Your holiday season won't be easy; your emotions may ambush you and suck you under at times. But you can choose to walk through this season in a way that honors your loved one and puts you on the path of health and healing. This event is open to anyone in the church and/or the community. Feel free to bring friends or family members with you. For more information, call the church office at 724-443-3184.

****GriefShare regular meetings continue weekly on Wednesday evenings at 7pm: 11/2; 11/9; 11/16 (Surviving the Holidays seminar); 11/23 (no meeting, Thanksgiving Eve), 11/30; 12/7; and 12/14.**

All-U-Can-Eat Breakfast! [Saturday, Nov. 19] 8:00-11:00am | Fellowship Hall Breakfast will be served from 8:00 am to 11:00 am. With food costs going up, the new price will be \$7.00 for Adults, \$3.00 for ages 6-12 and under age 6 eat for free. Come and get your choice of Plain, Blueberry, Buckwheat or Chocolate Chip Pancakes and the options of eggs, bacon, sausage and/or home-fries to go with them. Wash it all down with coffee, tea or OJ and then go out and change the world!

Pancake Breakfast Volunteers Needed!

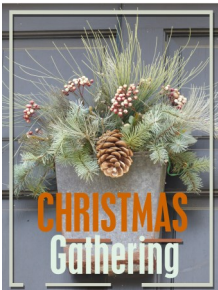
The BUMC Men have been doing a great job, and more volunteers are always needed and welcome. If you want to experience the true joy and happiness of seeing the smiles of the happy customers, join the list of breakfast volunteers. Monthly emails are sent for volunteers, so send your request to be added to the list to: bakertownnumm@gmail.com

A Stitch and a Prayer [Saturday, Nov. 19 |10am to 2pm| Old Fellowship Hall Sewing, knitting and crocheting blankets and prayer shawls for Linus Project, baptisms and ill in our church. Need help sorting, sewing, ironing, pinning, cutting.....all hands welcome. Bring a lunch!!!!

If you sew, crochet, or knit your talent can be used in making quilts for Project Linus, shawls for shut-ins or even lap robes for people in nursing homes. If you are not able to join us when we meet on the 3rd Saturday of the month from 10-2, please contact Louise Himes, Mary Pouchot or Marge Kirkpatrick if you have questions regarding how you can help.

Hanging of the Greens | Saturday, Nov. 26th |10:00am.

We would like to welcome everyone to help trim the church for the coming Christmas season. We need men to assemble the trees and others who enjoy decorating. Come on out and have fun decorating and fellowshiping with others.



Ladies!! Mark your calendars for the Women's Annual Christmas Party!! This year it will be on **Tuesday, December 13th at 7:00pm.** Come for music, fun, a Christmas message, and some delicious desserts!! More details to follow later.

Lighthouse Toy Shoppe at Bakerstown UMC—Pick a paper ornament from the Christmas tree in the Narthex. Bring back an unwrapped gift back under the tree, with your paper tag attached by December 11th.

We will be hosting the Lighthouse Toy Shoppe on Saturday, December 17th 9:00 am—1:00 pm. Your donations are greatly appreciated. It allows families in need to receive presents for Christmas for their children. ***Look for the angel tree before Thanksgiving*** **If you would like to volunteer on Saturday, please contact the church office 724-443-3184.** We are always in need of younger teenager gifts...some suggestions for them are make-up, jewelry, fishing rods and tackle boxes, hoodies (hooded sweat-shirts), nerf toys, remote control helicopters/airplanes/cars, etc. ****The Lighthouse is also giving out \$25 gift cards for teenagers aged 16-18 this year, so if you would like to donate one, they'd appreciate it.** Thank you so much for all of your support!**

Advent with DIGGing Deeper

We all come from someone, somewhere, and something—a people, a place, and a story. So does Jesus. In Roots: Advent and the Family Story of Jesus, we rediscover that Jesus—born naturally of a mother from a family line herself, and nurtured by a father who knew the names of his own kin many generations into the past comes from the family vine of the great King David, the son of Jesse, and from a long line of faithful men and women.

The idea known as a “Jesse Tree” will be our map. A Jesse Tree is an approach to the preparation season of Advent, leading us toward Christmas, that encourages us to revisit stories from the Hebrew Bible to help us gain insights into the family line of Jesus and the spiritual mandate of the child born to save the world.

Ignite—Bakerstown Youth Group meets on Sunday nights from 6:00-7:30pm. Open to all kids from 6th-12th grade. Weekly meetings, which include Bible study, worship, games, and fellowship and give all youth an opportunity to explore their faith while developing lasting friendships. If you want to be involved in our Youth Ministry Program, or have questions concerning a program, contact Pastor Keith at 724-443-3184 or kdunn@bakertownumc.org

Giant Eagle Grocery Cards available following the 8:30am service!

The church receives a portion of every grocery card we sell, those proceeds will support projects around the church. A slow-and-steady program, we need you to continue to keep it rolling by simply grocery cards to do your weekly grocery shopping or buying gift cards as special gifts. You can buy grocery cards to purchase other gift cards at Giant Eagle as well. ****If you don't get a chance to purchase your grocery certificates on Sunday, you can stop by the church office during office hours, to get one. ****

From the Prayer Corner— A Prayer of Thanksgiving in November

“If the only prayer you ever say in your entire life is Thank You, that will be enough.”

Meister Eckhart

Why say a "thank you" prayer?

The Bible tells us “Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go” (Joshua 1:9). It’s important to have faith in God when you can’t see the way but how can you offer God praise when you’re dealing with hardship and pain? The choices you make in these moments are so important. They can propel you toward God or away from Him. You can find God in the hard times by choosing to trust and hope when you can’t see the way. This will help us turn to thanksgiving and praise, and glorify God better.

God is present come rain or shine. He is even present when we fail to realize it! It’s important that we not only turn our focus back to praising Him when we begin to lose hope but also that we turn to praise in times of abundance. Many of us are quick to question God when things go wrong, but slow to honor Him and thank Him when things go well. One of the biggest challenges here is turning every blessing He pours into our lives back into praise. One way we can do this is through gratitude and thanksgiving – simply being grateful for our blessings and telling Him so. Psalm 100 exhorts this and tells us: “Enter His gates with thanksgiving and His courts with praise; give thanks to Him and praise His name” (Psalm 100: 4-5). It only takes a moment to say “Thanks”!

Here are six quick “Thank You” prayers:

Thank You For Loving Me!

Thank You For My Countless Blessings!

Thank You For Your Son Jesus!

Thank You For Every Good and Perfect Gift!

Thank You For Those I Love!

Thank You For Your Grace and Generosity!

When we focus our minds in the direction of God and proclaim His goodness, we reflect His glory. When we do this, we are filled with peace and contentment. This can help shift our outlook towards our circumstances. Finding God in the hard times can be particularly difficult. That’s why it’s so important to choose trust and hope when you can’t see the way.

God has blessed us with so much. We can’t acknowledge what we have without thanking God, our Heavenly Father, who gave us the gift of life, the gift of His Son, Jesus, and from whom all blessings flow. Praise God for He is good and His love endures forever!

(Portions taken from an article by Lesli White)

Join the Email Prayer Team!!!! It’s easy. Here’s how:

Contact Lora Stafura lstafura@bakerstownumc.org, or Cathy Dambach hwdambach@consolidated.net, or Heather Brown hldrdb@hotmail.com and the monthly prayer list will be emailed to you. Occasionally we also have weekly urgent requests that are sent out as well. Thank you!

For many months now, the mission team has wanted to provide an in-person dinner for our Drive Thru Dinner friends as well as our church family members who receive a monthly meal. We are excited to announce our first ***Community Thanksgiving Dinner*** on Wednesday November 16 at 5:30 p.m. As you can imagine, an endeavor such as this will require many volunteers to make things run smoothly. Please check out the signup link below and volunteer where you can.

We are extending invitations to our drive thru dinner friends and our church family members who receive monthly meals first. Depending on the response, we may be able to open the invitation to the congregation. Stay tuned for more details!

Thanksgiving Dinner Signup

Attention Women of BUMC

Our gift for our Drive Through Dinner families in December will be a Blessing Bag similar to what we did last year. We have already started collecting items and will continue collecting until Sunday, November 20th. The following list of items are the ones we really need. Items can be placed in the boxes that are located in the fellowship hall closet.

Men's and women's gloves, Men's hats
\$25 Walmart cards, \$25 Giant Eagle cards

(Lora, our office administrator, has the Giant Eagle cards in the office. The church receives a portion of every grocery card we sell. The proceeds from the sale of the gift cards support projects around our church).

You can also write a check to the church with a note on the memo line (Dec. Blessing Bags)

If you have any questions contact: Peggy Hill 330-687-4342 or Rita Sullivan 252-232-8610

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD



Time is winding down to donate to children aged 2 - 12 through OCC, a ministry of Samaritan's Purse. The deadline for bringing gifts is Sunday, Nov. 13.

Consider helping with the Packing Party to be held Tuesday, Nov. 15, at 6:30 in the Wesley Room. Many hands make light work. These filled shoeboxes will be dedicated during worship on the 20th. Afterwards, I will transport them to the semi for delivery to the Charlotte, NC, Processing Center.

Please pray for the children receiving these gifts as well as all the workers including teachers in this transforming ministry. Verna Feather



Lighthouse Food Pantry Collection for the month of November – boxed potatoes (any kind)

Junior Church - After the children's moment with Pastor Keith, at the 11am service, children will be dismissed to the education wing. Children who are preschool age and younger should report to the nursery. Children who are enrolled in elementary school will be divided into two classes: Kindergarten - 2nd grade and 3rd-5th grades. [Volunteer Sign up here](#)

Children's Mission Night



November Children's Ministry Mission Night - Your family is invited to join us for a night dedicated to mission work. Together with your children, you will:

- bake cookies for the Sharpsburg community dinner,
- hear a special presentation from Mrs. Deborah Swineford about The Nyadire Connection and her Zimbabwe mission work,
- create Christmas cards for the Bakerstown UMC's Care and Share team to distribute.

We are combining our Kingdom Kids and JUMP programs for this special November event. All children in K-5th grade and their families are invited to attend together. If your family plans to attend this special night of fun, fellowship, and mission work, please RSVP using the sign-up genius link below no later than November 11th so that we may prepare enough materials and volunteers. If you have any questions, please contact Katie Lowell at klowell@bakerstownumc.org.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0A4FAFAE2AAAFD0-november>

Children's Ministry Wish List- In order to support our children's ministry programs, we need your help please! We are in need of snacks and supplies that we use in Junior Church, Kingdom Kids, and JUMP. If you would like to make a purchase, please access our wish list using [this link](#). Your purchases can be delivered to the information desk or given directly to Katie Lowell. Thank you so much for your support!

Thank
you!
♡

Thank You to our stitch and a prayer group for my beautiful quilt and the drive though dinner crew for the delicious Dinner 🍷 - Marcia McKnight

We are off to a great start in the Day School! Thank you for picking an item from our bulletin board and donating. We run through supplies quickly and your help is greatly appreciated! Thanks to preschool board, we had our very first fall mum fundraiser which was a success. Pie sales to help the day school are going on now. Our budget is very tight so this is very helpful to our little school. Thank you all so very much for your support!

This month our school service project is a drive for Foster Love Project. The kids have had a great time shopping for items to fill a backpack for children placed in emergency foster care. The fall brings with a field trip to Hampton Acres Farms, our vision screenings, nature walks, and fun Halloween parades and parties. This is a happy place to be!

Sarris Candy Fundraiser

We have opted to once again do an online-only, contactless fundraiser with Sarris Candies. Please help support the Day School by ordering your chocolate for **Thanksgiving**, and **Christmas** from Sarris. We earn a 25% profit with every online order! Please share the attached brochure and email it to anyone you think might be interested. Our Group ID# is 10-3713, and you can access the Sarris candies website by clicking [here](http://www.sarriscandiesfundraising.com). All orders will be shipped directly to the address you provide. Shipping is FREE, but a \$5.00 packaging and handling fee will be applied to each order by Sarris Candies. (Orders must be placed through www.sarriscandiesfundraising.com). Last day to order Sarris candies online is Thursday, December 15, 2022.

As always, participation is voluntary, but we think you will enjoy this yummy deal!

November Birthdays and Anniversaries

11/01 Rachel Whipple
11/02 Broderick Cosgrove
11/03 Diane Semler
11/03 Laurie McLeister
11/05 James Holcomb
11/05 Kim Leasure
11/08 Barbara Beri
11/09 Rich Kenzie
11/10 Donald Allaman Sr.
11/10 James Scalise
11/12 Natalie Lowell
11/13 Patti Kenzie
11/13 Jim Skolnik
11/14 Nancy Shipley
11/17 Fran Sutton
11/17 Patti Sworden
11/19 Julie Cramer
11/21 Kevin L. Staub
11/21 Larry Halliwell

11/22 Anastasia Vulhop
11/23 Corey Stevens
11/23 Nicole Edinger
11/23 Becky Rinker
11/24 Joshua Knochel
11/25 Gregg Platt
11/25 Bradley McLeister
11/25 Zachary Szalc
11/26 Nathaniel Swisher
11/26 Barbara Williams
11/28 Andy Edinger

11/02 James & Pam Holcomb
11/11 Dave & Kathleen Meuschke
11/14 Dean & Ellen Kelley
11/15 Michael & Penny Fischetti
11/22 Joe & Barbara Beri
11/27 Jim & Carol Skolnik

Bakerstown United Methodist Church
5760 William Flynn Highway
Gibsonia, PA 15044
724-443-3184
www.bakerstownumc.org



*Our mission is to make disciples of Jesus Christ
for the transformation of the world.*

Staff:

Rev. Keith Dunn
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Lora Stafura
Office Administrator
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Katie Lowell
Children's Ministry Director
klowell@bakerstownumc.org

Enjoy the Convenience of Electronic Giving

Bakerstown United Methodist Church wants to remind you that we offer electronic giving as a convenience for individual congregation members and provides much-needed donation consistency for our congregation.

Direct Debit Giving is used to automatically transfer funds from your checking or savings account to the church's bank account. This service is offered for a once a month donation for withdrawal on the first business day of the month.

Online Giving lets you go to www.bakerstownumc.org at any time to set up an automatic donation plan, change your donation plan, make a one-time donation or view your online donation history. As you contemplate the future contributions, please consider electronic giving. Authorization forms and additional information are available from the church office or by contacting Kay Cramer, financial secretary at 724-443-2847.

	September 2022	YTD September 2022	YTD September 2021
Donations:	\$26,704.49	\$300,262.40	\$314,085.62
Expenses:	\$33,872.71	\$388,957.60	\$327,072.19

This report is for all the donations and expenses the church has incurred.

I have been asked to do another report to reflect the Current Fund income and expenses.

	Sept 2022	YTD Sept 2022	YTD Sept 2021
Current Fund donations	\$26,704.49	\$300,262.40	\$310,545.46
Current Fund expenses	\$33,872.71	\$315,548.70	\$306,391.08

Hope this helps explain the financial picture of our church operations.

It's been good to see you at church. Please find a place to plug in as there are new programs (and some tried and true ones) for everyone.

If you have questions, please give me a call..Kay Cramer, Financial Secretary 724-443-2847