

THE SPiRE



BEL AIR UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

21 Linwood Avenue Bel Air, MD 21014 • 410-838-5181

fax: 410-893-8363 • info@baumc.com • www.belairumc.org

CONGRATULATIONS ON JOINING THE CHURCH!



Jim & Beverly
Frye



Margaret & David
Millholen



Michael Opdyke



Amanda & Patrick
Ross



Joan Suprock



Betty
Whitescarver

Dear Friends:

I hope that you have a happy November. We're going to begin November with an acknowledgement of All Saints Sunday on November 5th. On November 19th, we'll celebrate Thanksgiving together, and then we'll move to Advent.

Advent at Bel Air UMC

Advent begins November 26th! If you look at the liturgical calendar, you'll see that Advent doesn't begin until December 3rd. I made the decision to move it up a week early. This was to give us an extra week to celebrate Advent without it impinging upon December 24th, which will be Christmas Eve. So, come celebrate with us, and help us make it a great season. Our sermon series for this season will be based on the book "Experiencing Christmas, Christ in the Sights and Sounds of Advent," by Matt Rawle.

Pastor Byron's Sabbatical Plans

I hope to apply for a sabbatical through the Lilly Foundation. The Lilly Foundation is a private organization that offers funding for sabbaticals and other philanthropic purposes, which are consistent with their mission. If approved, I hope to be on a sabbatical sometime this next summer. One of the things that I'd like to do is hike the Via Franchigena, an ancient pilgrimage between Canterbury Cathedral in England and The Vatican in Rome, Italy. Via Franchigena means The Way Through France in Italian. It's named after Sigeric, the Archbishop of Canterbury, after he made the pilgrimage to Rome in the year 990 A.D.

After meeting with the SPRC, Staff-Parish Relations Committee, I believe that it would be less disruptive to church plans for me to split up my sabbatical over two years. The foundation recommends 3-6 months for a sabbatical. I would like to apply for four months total, split up over 2024 and 2025. Can I do the walk after my stroke? I don't know. I won't really know what I'm capable of physically until I try it, but I intend to begin training soon. I feel good physically, but I know that the pilgrimage will take a toll on my body. Many people have asked me, "Do you have an emergency plan?" No, not yet. But I intend to have one before I walk.

Much is up in the air at this point. It's only an idea, but an idea that gets more real once I apply for the funding and the concept. It's something that I'd like to do, but I don't know if I'll get approved or not. The Lilly Foundation is a very competitive organization and they only approve the best applications.

Would this cost BAUMC anything? No. If I get approved, the funding is covered, and I won't incur any costs to BAUMC. I'm not supposed to communicate with the church while I'm on the sabbatical, but I can communicate as much as I'd like, or as much as you'd like to hear, before and afterwards. I will keep you posted on my application status. The idea has been approved by our SPRC and our Administrative Council. Now, the rest will be up to God, my physical strength, and the Lilly Foundation. We will see.

Thank you for being so wonderful! Byron

FAMILY ADVENT TIME
November 19th 4 pm
Room 101 & Room 103
Let's celebrate together!

We will make advent wreaths and have a devotional time over pizza!



All Saints Day
November 5th

We will celebrate and remember all our loved ones who have gone before us. On November 5th, please bring pictures of your loved ones who have passed and before the service, place them on the tables, in the Sanctuary or McComas Hall, for display.

There will also be candles that you can light in remembrance.



Join Anne Goodman and the Prayer Team
Wednesdays for group prayer at 3:30 pm.

Join Through the ZOOM App
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/905302493?pwd=U3J4WU5tZHhvNytHV1J4Ym5FNjJlQT09>

Meeting ID: 905 302 493 Password: BAUMC
To Dial In: 253 215 8782 or 301 715 8592
Meeting ID: 905 302 493 Password: 242531



Sermon By Phone
410-800-4472

"Sermon By Phone" allows people to call in and hear the scripture reading and sermon. The information will be updated on a weekly basis.

If you know of someone who could benefit from this, please pass along the information.

Helping you stay connected while we are apart.

Church Office Hours Monday—Friday 9:00 am— 3:00 pm
CHURCH CLOSED ON NOVEMBER 23 & 24 IN OBSERVANCE OF THANKSGIVING

November 5

The Church is
NOT
a Building



BAUMC Kids
Teaching
Series

November 12

Attitude of
Gratitude



Paper Chains
and Snowflakes

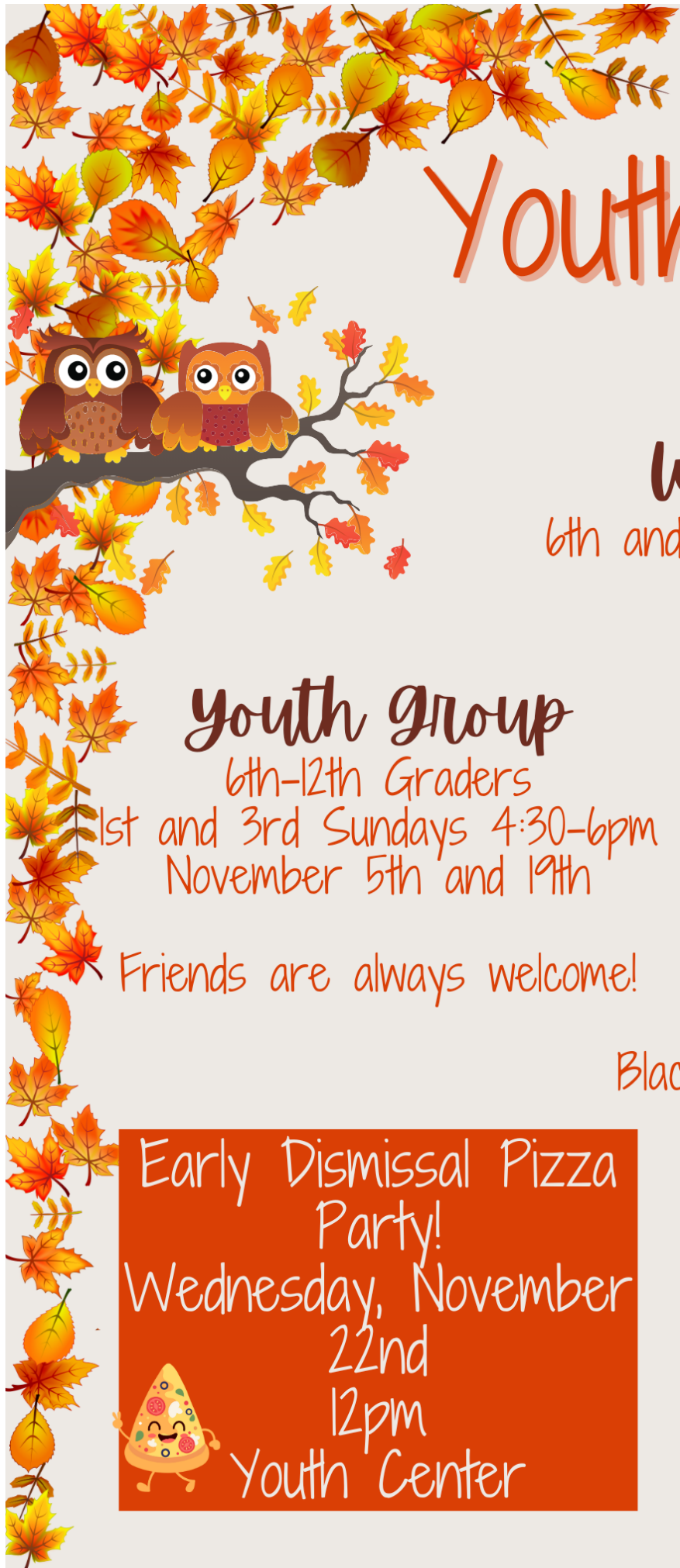


November 19

Hope



November 26



Youth Events

Weekly Events

6th and 7th Grade Sunday School
Sundays 9:15am

Youth Bible Study
Sundays 10:30-11:15am

Youth Group

6th-12th Graders

1st and 3rd Sundays 4:30-6pm
November 5th and 19th

Friends are always welcome!

High School Retreat

Black Rock Retreat Center
November 17-19
\$165 per person

Early Dismissal Pizza
Party!
Wednesday, November
22nd
12pm
Youth Center



FOR MORE INFORMATION

Follow us on Instagram @baumc_youth
Text "YOUTH" to 410-210-4363 for updates
Email sandersa@baumc.com

College Box Ministry

Please help us support our college students as they prepare for finals! We will be collecting donations of packaged snacks and treats during the month of November in a bin next to the Information desk.

To remind our college-age students that they are loved, we will be making care packages one evening the week after Thanksgiving to get them sent out in time for final exams.

If you would like to help, please contact Susan Hudson at 443-752-1874 or Hudson545@comcast.net or Cathy Kogler at (410) 322-9361 or Cathy.Kogler@verizon.net.

Thank you!

COLLEGE ADDRESSES – We know people move, young adults go into the military, go away to school or move out of Mom and Dad's house. We would like your young adult/college student's address and e-mail in order to keep in touch and to update our database.

Do you have a student graduating from high school or college?
Please click on the link to update.

<https://belairumc.org/update-your-contact-information/>



CHILDREN & YOUTH

There is no Children's Choir Rehearsal on Nov 12



**ALL YOUTH, GRADES 7-12, ARE
INVITED TO JOIN KRISTEN BROUGHT
TO REHEARSE SOME SPECIAL MUSIC
FOR ADVENT/CHRISTMAS.
REHEARSALS WILL BEGIN ON
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 5,
FROM 8:30-9:00 AM.
LOCATION TO BE DETERMINED.
PLEASE INVITE YOUR FRIENDS.**



November 2023

UNITED METHODIST STUDENT DAY

SPECIAL OFFERING FOR NOVEMBER
UNITED METHODIST STUDENT DAY

offering helps provide for over 70 scholarships available for United Methodist students to further their education and enrich the life of the Church.

To donate please go to

<https://belairumc.com/Give2StudentDayOffering>



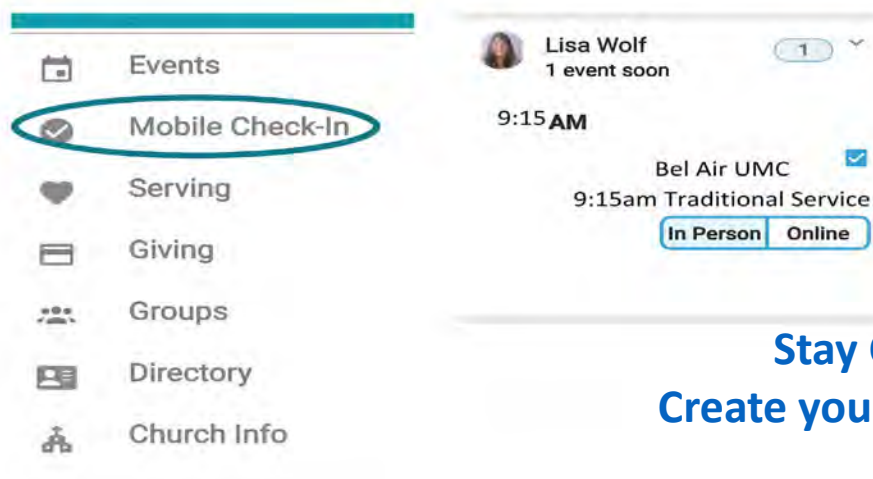
Download Connect App today



Realm Connect App

Mobile Check-In (Worship Service &/or Class)

Instead of signing the attendance pads, you can check-in using the Realm Connect App



Stay Connected
Create your account today!



Pictorial Directory - Get your appointment NOW!

**It's time for a New Pictorial Directory!
Additional Date Added: November 15th
from 1:00-7:00 pm.**

Please join us and help celebrate faith and family with our new church directory.

Every family photographed for the directory will receive a copy of the directory and an 8x10 portrait at no cost. You will also have the opportunity to purchase additional portraits at the time of photography.

So please, sign-up today at the below link or by using the QR code!

<https://belairumc.com/ChurchDirectoryAppt>



Fall Hike at Cromwell Valley Park

Sunday, November 5

10:45 am - carpool from church or

11:15 am - meet at Cromwell Valley Park

Join the Creation Care Team for a scenic, fall hike along the meadow and forest habitat trails of Cromwell Valley Park, a gem in Parkville, only 30 minutes from BAUMC. Contact Sheryl Pedrick for more information and/or to register.

sherylpedrick@hotmail.com



Fall Back November 5

ADOPT A CHILD



WANTED

Adopt A Child Sponsors & Coordinators It's time to help Harford County children for Christmas

Job Requirements:

Sponsors

- * Select, buy and wrap gifts for each child adopted (\$50 per child)

Coordinators

- * Call sponsors and assign each a child
- * Select toys and gift baskets from the Toy Workshop for all the children and parents which can be coordinated with the sponsors.
- * Collect wrapped gifts from each sponsor.
- * Deliver gifts and food to the family

Sign up on hallway bulletin board or email Jeanne Arseneau at mysticheaven805@gmail.com with whether you would like to be a coordinator or sponsor or both positions and how many children you would like to sponsor?

Thank you,
Jeanne Arseneau
410-459-0721
mysticheaven805@gmail.com



Bel Air United Methodist Food Ministries Holiday in a Box Order Form

Hunger is a growing issue in Harford County. Our Food Ministries provide a hot meal and a bag of groceries each week for 70-100 families through Manna House, deliver food to over 250 Seniors in Harford County and provide supplemental groceries, meats and produce to over 350 families once a month to those in need of food assistance at Saturday Family Food Ministry.



For those struggling, having a Holiday dinner with family and friends offers a sense of normalcy. Our food ministries have a tremendous opportunity for you to provide a complete meal to 350 families for \$15 per family.

When you sponsor a family they will receive a turkey, vegetables, stuffing, bread and a dessert, everything you need to enjoy a Holiday meal. **Families will receive the Holiday boxes during our November 4th Family Food Distribution and one Wednesday through Manna House. To sponsor a family, complete the form below or go to <https://belairumc.com/HolidayinaBox>. Please input **Holiday in a Box** in the memo line.**

Make checks payable to BAUMC Food Ministries, 21 Linwood Ave. Bel Air, MD 21014 Attn: Food Ministries
Please input **Holiday in a Box** in the memo line.

Sponsor name: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

I would like to sponsor _____ family (s) at \$15 each = \$ _____



TOY COLLECTION STARTS NOVEMBER 1

The Toy Workshop's Mission is to collect, check, clean and repair toys. We also put together gift baskets for mom, dad and teens; baby sets; and stockings which are all given to those in need at Christmas.

Our 2nd mission is to support those groups helping these children such as their families, teachers, guidance counselors and social service agencies.

To receive help, the family will need to reach out to their case worker at Social Services or Toys for Tots

Our 3rd mission is to recycle used toys and give the opportunity for others to pass on their gifts for baskets, baby sets, dress up clothes, etc.

Our 4th Mission is to bring people of our church and the community together to join together for a worthwhile, needed and fun project.



It is time to start collecting your new, nearly new or repairable toys for the **Toy Workshop**.

You may drop off your toys at the entrance to McComas Hall beginning November 1.

Toy Collection ends Monday, November 20th.

Toys of all kinds
Cars & trucks
Kitchen sets
Dolls & clothes

Barbies & clothes
Build a Bears & clothes
Books
Games

Electronics
Art/crafts sets

Please include DIRECTIONS and BAG TOGETHER PARTS for toys or games.

The following is a list of items needed to make GIFT BASKETS for mom, dad, teen girl, teen boy.

BASKETS
Hats
Gloves
Scarves
Socks
2024 calendars

pens
small games
mugs (no logos)
Shampoo
Body Wash
Deodorant

Body Lotion
Toothpaste Toothbrushes
Make-up
Nail polish
Shaving cream
Small gifts



BABY BASKETS - receiving blankets, small toys, floor play mats, books, blankets

Please save your leftover Halloween candy to be used in the stockings!



TOY WORKSHOP

Please join us to help provide toys and gifts for children at Christmas, to join in the fun and fellowship with us and to accomplish a huge recycling project.

We check, clean and repair toys and add batteries. We fill stockings, make gift baskets and much more.

WORKSHOP IS OPEN on November 24 & 25 (9am - 5 pm) (the two days after Thanksgiving) and the week of November 27 - December 1 (9am - 9pm).

Questions? Coming as a group? Email Elaine Ziegler at elainezig1@yahoo.com

NOVEMBER 2023

Volunteer in Mission (VIM)

Soup Sale
November 12
between services.



Wednesday, November 1
6:30 - 8:30 pm Room 115

DIVORCE *Care*[®]

- Open to anyone from our church or community who is separated or divorced.
- Cost: \$6 for the booklet.
- Register online at www/divorcecare.org.



Surviving the Holidays

GRIEF  **SHARE**[®]

Tuesday, November 14
6:30 - 8:30 pm Room 115

- Open to anyone from our church or community who are grieving a loved one's death.
- Register by leaving your name and contact info with the church office

INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY

The intent of this policy is to ensure the safety of BAUMC's guests, visitors, members, volunteers and staff and to provide for effective communications regarding programs and activities during severe or hazardous weather.

**Text closing to 410-210-4363 to opt in to our texting service
for church closing notifications.**

Monday – Friday Weekdays:

If Harford County Public Schools are closed all day due to inclement weather, all church programs and activities will be canceled.

If there is a school opening delay, all church programs and activities scheduled during the delay will be canceled. Any programs scheduled after the delay will be held as planned.

Evenings and Weekends:

In the event schools close early or cancel weekday evening activities due to inclement weather, please check the BAUMC website, FaceBook page or call the office for the latest information.

For weekend activities, please check the BAUMC website or FaceBook page for the latest information.

Sunday Worship Services:

Sunday worship services are generally not cancelled, however, in the event of severe weather, please check the BAUMC website or FaceBook page for the latest information.

Ways to Stay informed:

The fastest way to get weather closing information is through social media sites and by opting in our texting service. **Text CLOSING to 410-210-4363 to opt in to our texting service.**

Check Bel Air UMC social media sites, Facebook or www.belairumc.org for the most current updates on church. (If you have Facebook, "like" us and "follow" us to get the most up-to-date information.)

In some cases, emergency messages such as weather closings will be broadcast through phone texts. Because of high volume of traffic through phone carriers, these messages are often delayed. Therefore, we encourage you to check social media sites and websites for the most updated information.

You can also go to <http://www.wbaltv.com/weather/closings>

NOVEMBER 2023

Supplies Needed for the Food Ministry

We are accepting donations for our food ministry. We are in need of baby supplies, pop top canned goods, peanut butter & jelly, and small fruit cups.

Please NO Expired Food.

Thank you for your help!



Homestead Update

The Homestead house went on the market June 14th. It was shown 35 times from mid-June until early September when BAUMC received an offer and a contract ratified on September 6th. A 14-day period for inspections has passed, and a closing date of October 31st has been set. Good news there. What I can share about the buyer is that he is interested in renovating and living in the house with his family. Probably one of the more favorable outcomes, restoring the noble house and making it a family home.



Regarding progress on the sales of the four lots. BAUMC has a Lot Purchase Agreement in place with Ward Communities (Bob Ward Homes). It has taken longer than anticipated to complete the requirements necessary to go to settlement. However, we are nearing the completion and have December 15th as the date scheduled to settle on the sale of those lots.

Once again thank you for your support and patience in this process. We are nearing completion of the sale of the Homestead house and property.



BEL AIR UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

LOVE AS JESUS LOVES

21 LINWOOD AVENUE | BEL AIR, MD 21014 | 410.838.5181

The **e-Spire**, a weekly update of information, devotions, upcoming events and activities is distributed via e-mail. If you would like to receive the e-Spire, please send your e-mail address to wolf@baumc.com.

E-spire articles are due by 12 noon on Wednesdays.

E-mail to carmenc@baumc.com

CONFERENCE STAFF

Bishop - Rev. LaTrelle Miller Easterling
District Superintendent - Rev. Ann Laprade

BEL AIR UMC STAFF

Lead Pastor - Rev. Byron E. Brought
Associate Pastor - Rev. L. Lynn Boyd
Director of Children & Family Ministries - Rev. Deb Lampton
Director of Youth Ministry - Ashley Sanders
Director of Music/Chancel Choir Director - David Tramontana
Bookkeeper - Meg Kolarik
Administration Specialist/Mgr - Lisa Wong Wolf
Administration/Congregational Care Asst. - Cheryl Carmen
Hospitality Coordinator - Alice Archer
aaarcher@comcast.net
Wedding Coordinator - Cheryl Firth
cherylfrith@gmail.com

E-mail for BAUMC Staff: last name first initial @ baumc.com (ex: broughtb@baumc.com)

Current addressee or

<<Label>>

<<Mailing Address1>>

<<Mailing Address2>>

<<Mailing City>>, <<Mailing Region>>

<<Mailing PostalCode>>



Church Office Hours
Monday - Friday 9am - 3pm
Church Closed on Thursday & Friday, November 23 & 24th in observance of Thanksgiving

SUBMISSIONS FOR DECEMBER NEWSLETTER

Do you have an event or article you'd like to see in **DECEMBER** edition of the SPIRE? Send them to wolf@baumc.com and carmenc@baumc.com by **12 noon, Friday, November 17.**

Looking for a great Christmas tree this season?

Look no further than Linwood Avenue!

The scent of a fresh cut Christmas tree will make your home come alive when entertaining your family and friends this Christmas season.

Boy Scout Troop 777 will continue the tradition of selling fresh cut Christmas trees. Stop by and see the fantastic selection of Douglas Fir and Fraser Fir trees from 5 feet to 10 feet tall.

SALES STARTS FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 24 at 9 am

Hours are: Mon - Thur 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm,
Friday 5:00 pm to 9:00 pm
Saturday 9:00 am to 9:00 pm and
Sunday 12:00 pm to 7:00 pm.

Proceeds are used for troop camping trips and equipment. The scouts appreciate your support.

IT'S OK TO ASK FOR HELP



National Suicide Prevention Lifeline: 800-273-(TALK) 8255

Transgender Suicide Hotline: Trans Lifeline 877-565-8860

- 988 - Mental Health Hotline