

THE SPiRE



BEL AIR UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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

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Join Us

THIS FALL

at Bel Air United Methodist Church

Sunday, September 10th

Rally Day

Blessing of the Back Packs

One Service 9:15am in the Sanctuary

Fellowship

Welcome back Pastor Byron

Thank You



Dear Church Family and Friends:

I'm doing very well and recuperating very well. Thank you! Thank you for your prayers, thoughts, good wishes, cards and meals! I expect to be back in the pulpit on September 10th. Thank you to Pastor Lynn and Pastor Deb for filling in for me. I'm thankful for our guest preachers: Pastors Jeff Haugh, Bob Clipp, and Byron P. Brought. I'm also thankful for our great Lay Speakers who preached this summer: Bob Sherman and Jory Fisher. I know more of you were ready to take up the helm if the time came.

I had a stroke toward the end of June. The day before my stroke, I was telling my brother-in-law and sister-in-law just how healthy I was. Little did I know what was brewing. Since that time, a lot has transpired. I owe my healing to God's goodness, your prayers, good wishes, and the work of the doctors and nurses at University of Maryland hospital.

My speech, eyesight, and sense of balance, were affected. I'm mostly dealing with balance issues now - that and I sleep a lot. I can read now; I couldn't read at first. That was a big problem; thanks be to God that that's back.

The church family has been great. Thank you to all of you for giving me some much needed time off and rest. Thank you for thinking of me and holding me in your prayers. I never did give up and I fought the good fight every day. God was with me in my darkest hour; I know that. Thank you to all of you and see you soon!

Blessings and peace,

Byron

During my summer of healing, I've had some time to reflect and read.
Here's what I've (Byron's) been reading:

- ❖ **Wholehearted Faith (Rachel Held Evans)** – I read this book mostly just for fun. It's the only Rachel Held Evans book that I've read, and it's the one that she wrote just before she died tragically. She's excellent, and her book didn't disappoint.
- ❖ **Don't Look Back (Will Willimon)** – Will Willimon is a bishop in the UMC, and a former professor at Duke Divinity School. He was giving U.M. pastors advice on what to expect next after the pandemic was at its worst, and after the split within the denomination over gay marriage. His advice is what I've been doing here at Bel Air UMC – agree to disagree in love. It seems like it's the only true way forward. That love part is important as it sets the church apart from everybody else in the world.
- ❖ **Good Enough (Kate Bowler)** – This one was read just for fun. It's a 40-day devotional book, written by Kate Bowler and Jessica Richie. Kate Bowler is an author and a professor at Duke Divinity School. The book is basically about embracing imperfection in this lifetime. I know all about that.
- ❖ **Eucharist (Robert Barron)** – Robert Barron is a bishop in the Roman Catholic Church. His views tend to be more conservative than my own. The book was given to me by a friend. It is as the title says: a classic Catholic understanding of the eucharist. In the mass, the bread and the wine are turned into the actual body and blood of Jesus. The book was given to me with the words, "Methodists are Catholic light." No, that's not true. We have a highly developed view of the sacraments as the actual body and blood of Christ that are SPIRITUALLY made real as the communion liturgy is read. Protestant and Catholics have a very different understanding of the eucharist. While these views are quite different from my own, the book is very good and Barron makes an excellent defense of why certain Christians believe what they believe.
- ❖ **Inspired by The Word (J. Sage Elwell)** – I read this just for fun. It deals with classic art and it's grounding in scripture. It's primarily funded by the Museum of the Bible. What's not to like about it? It was a good book.
- ❖ **The Boy, The Mole, The Fox, and The Horse (Charlie Mackery)** – This was my second time reading through this book. It was given to the family as part of my healing regimen. It's excellent advice for kids of any age. I highly recommend this book.
- ❖ **Questions Jesus Asked (Magrey R. DeVega)** – This was a book that I read through in preparation for the sermon series that's coming Sept. 10th. In this series, we'll look at six different questions that Jesus asked his followers. I won't say too much about this one; come enjoy the series.



Questions Jesus ASKED

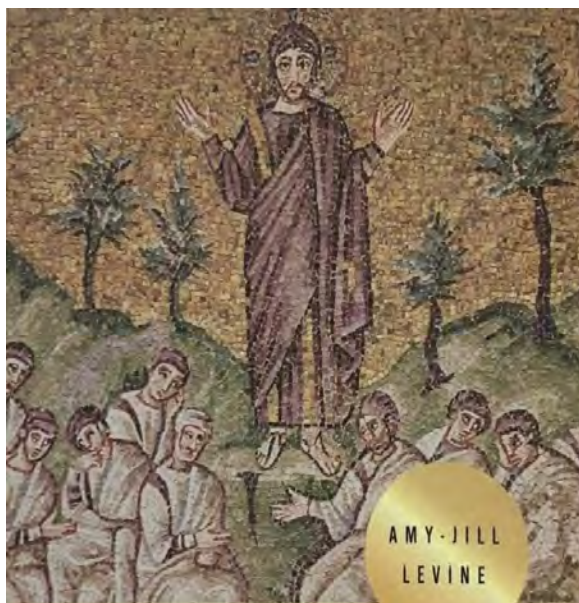


FALL PREACHING SERIES

You're invited to join us for our fall preaching series based on the book, *Questions Jesus Asked*, by Magrey R. DeVega.

Jesus asked questions of his followers:
Why are you terrified?
What do you live for?
Who do you say that I am?

We're going to look at six of those questions. Come Sept. 10th as we begin this series and hope to get a fuller look at the questions that Jesus asks of us.



SERMON *on* the MOUNT

A BEGINNER'S GUIDE to the KINGDOM of HEAVEN

FALL BIBLE STUDY

Starting September 5th

Tuesday, twice a month September - November
7:00 pm - 8:30 pm in the Library

A six-week study by Dr. Amy-Jill Levine exploring the major topics in the most popular sermon ever delivered, providing historical and theological context and using solid knowledge of Hebrew Scripture and moral teaching

How to register – Contact Bev Talbot,
bev.talbot@verizon.net

Purchasing the book by the same title is suggested
but not required



Invite the neighborhood, yours and mine, and bring them to our backyard playground area. Inflatables (slide, rock climbing, obstacle course, bouncy house), yard games, snacks, an opportunity to register for Sunday School. Find out what is so fun and interesting at BAUMC Kid's Ministry. The whole church and their friends are invited!



BAUMC
Kids Ministry

Sunday School Returns!



Sunday, September 10th

9:15am

Armstrong Entrance

One Body – The Church | Corinthians 12:12-26

BAUMC Kid's Ministry is going to use Mr. Potato Head for our One Body to illustrate all the different parts of God's People – The Church. We will look at Eyes, Ears, Mouth, Hands, Feet and Nose. God is so good that He can use an 8 foot potato.

PLATFORM 9 3/4

Harry Potter Party

October 29th - 11am
Room 101

Come in costume and have a wizard worthy time!



Fall Youth Events

6TH AND 7TH GRADE SUNDAY SCHOOL
SUNDAYS (BEGINNING SEPTEMBER 10)
9:15AM
YOUTH CENTER

YOUTH BIBLE STUDY
SUNDAYS (BEGINNING SEPTEMBER 10)
10:30-11:15AM
YOUTH CENTER

YOUTH GROUP
SEPTEMBER 17, OCTOBER 1, 15, 29
4:30-6PM
OUTSIDE BY GAGA (RAIN: YOUTH CENTER)

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Follow us on Instagram @baumc_youth
Facebook: BAUMC Youth Ministry
Text "YOUTH" to 410-210-4363 for updates
Email info@baumc.com

September/October 2023

It's time for a New Pictorial Directory!

October 16 - 18 from 2pm - 8:30pm

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!
<https://belairumc.com/ChurchDirectoryAppt>



Members will be included in the Pictorial Directory Roster

Please take a few minutes to complete the Congregation Member Status to help us update your information and membership status into the new church management system and what you would like to include/exclude in the pictorial directory roster.

<https://belairumc.org/congregation-member-status/>



Need help making an appointment or completing the Congregation Member Status form, please call Lisa Wolf at 410-838-5181 xt 11



Download Connect App today

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

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

Give Online - one time &/or recurring gifts

Print giving statements

Event Registration & Payments

Look up members in your group

View giving history

Make & keep track of pledges

Update your personal information



Realm Connect App

Stay Connected
Create your account today!

September/October 2023



**SPECIAL OFFERING FOR SEPTEMBER
SEMINARY SCHOLARSHIP FUND**

To donate please go to

<https://belairumc.com/Give2SeminaryScholarship>



**SPECIAL OFFERING FOR OCTOBER
CONGREGATIONAL RELIEF FUND**

To donate please go to

<https://belairumc.com/Give2CongregationalRelief>

Maui Relief Efforts

WE NEED EACH OTHER: The impact of the Maui wildfires is unimaginable. Please consider helping with the relief efforts with your monetary donations to the United Methodist Committee on Relief UMCOR. For more information on how to donate, go to <https://umcmmission.org/umcor-us-latest-responses/>

And many are diligently working to help injured and displaced animals and they need our support too such as the Hawaii Animal Rescue Foundation (H.A.R.F.) <https://hawaiianimalrescue.org/>

Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.



Update on BAUMC Support of Habitat for Humanity Building

The past year has been a busy one for Habitat for Humanity, building homes in Harve de Grace and our church had partnered with them on several houses.

The panel build from 2022 provided the outside walls for the house on Ohio St. and it should be completed in the fall. The 2023 panel build constructed frames for the house on Warren St. and Habitat will break ground on this house in the fall. Last January, Habitat held a dedication for a duplex on Stokes St. and we're also sponsors on two houses on Erie St.

Thank you for your continued support of our Habitat mission. We will plan to have volunteer Saturdays in the fall.

Tour a Recycling Center Friday, September 15

(This is a day off for schools and some businesses for Rosh Hashanah.)
9:30 – 11:00 am (carpooling from Bel Air is available)

Join the Creation Care Team on a guided tour of the Baltimore County Materials Recovery Facility in Cockeysville to learn where all of the recycling from our curbside goes, how it's sorted and how we can help "do our part". For ages 10 years & up. Free, but registration is required due to limited spots. To register, email Sheryl Pedrick at sherylpedrick@hotmail.com.



**Prayer
Team**



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.

DIVORCE *Care*

Sept. 7 – Dec. 14
6:30-8:30pm, Room 115

Wednesdays, September 6 –
December 13

6:30 pm, Room 115

DivorceCare is a video-based divorce recovery program that is open to anyone from our church or community who is undergoing separation or divorce. The only cost is \$20 for the workbook. To get details or to register, go to the "Find a Group" listing for our church on DivorceCare's web-site, www.divorcecare.org.

GRIEF *Share*

Tuesdays, September 12 –
December 12

6:30-8:30pm, Room 115

GriefShare is a friendly, caring group of people who will walk alongside you through one of life's most difficult experiences. You don't have to go through the grieving process alone. To register, please contact the church office 410-838-5181

University of Maryland

UPPER CHESAPEAKE HEALTH

COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND HEALTH IMPROVEMENT



Diabetes Prevention Program = PREVENT T2 DIABETES

Thursdays at BAUMC

Aug. 31, 2023 - Aug. 1, 2024;

5:30 - 6:30 pm in the Library

Learn how to prevent or lower your risk of Type 2 Diabetes.

Go to <https://belairumc.com/DiabetesPreventionProgram> for

Upper Chesapeake Health flyer

Call 800-515-0044 to register or scan the QR code



*Attention Blood
Drive Donors*

SIGN UP BY CALLING 800-733-2767 OR
ONLINE AT WWW.REDCROSS.ORG.
REMEMBER THAT SIGNING UP FOR EASY PASS
WILL MAKE THE DONATION PROCESS FASTER
AND EASIER.

September 11th at 9:30 AM to 8 PM McComas Hall

September/October 2023

NOW ACCEPTING REGISTRATIONS FOR 2023 – 2024 ACADEMIC SCHOOL YEAR



AGES 3 & 4 PRESCHOOL

AND

KINDERGARTEN - GRADE 5

BEFORE AND AFTER CARE

(service Homestead Wakefield Elementary School)

Structured, Quality Care In

A Warm, Christian Environment

Theme-Based Christian Curriculum

Age-Appropriate Activities

Independent Choice Centers

Opportunities For Indoor And Outdoor Play

Homework Assistance

Children's Christian Center Of Bel Air United Methodist Church

21 Linwood Avenue ~ Bel Air, MD 21014

410-420-8304 ccc@baumc.com

Please visit our website for more information: cccobelair.com

Tiny Tot School

*As the school year begins, we wish all our former and current Tiny Tots a
blessed start to the 2023-2024 year!*

**** A few spots remain in our PM class ****



*Tiny Tot School is an outreach program of BAUMC offering preschool classes
for children aged 3-5 years. Our programs help each child grow and thrive
academically, physically, and interpersonally, all while introducing children
to the joys of learning in a classroom setting.*

tinytots@baumc.com ~ 410-838-6399 ~ tinytotsbelair.com

"I learned a lot as a Tiny Tot!"

BAUMC Altar Guild



Looking for a new adventure? Experience serving God at His altar. Get to know the language of worship and the symbols of our faith. The Altar guild is looking for a “few good women”! Each team serves once a month and usually spends less than one hour in preparation and occasionally 10-15 minutes on “their” Sunday. We have a wonderful time decorating for Christmas the weekend before Advent. Each member comes when and as long as they are able. Bring a friend and join us!

For more information contact Kathy Frawley, ka.frawley1@gmail.com or call 410-746-7417.



Singers in Kindergarten through 12th grade

Do we have a choir for YOU!!

We want to hear from you if you, or someone you know, is interested in singing this year. Text or call Kristen Brought at 240-498-1369 for information or to be added to her choir contacts.

Isaiah 12:5 Sing unto the Lord, for he has done glorious things.

CHANCEL CHOIR

Important Dates:

- ❖ Our first Chancel Choir rehearsal will be Wednesday August 30th at 7:00 pm in the choir room. Let's plan to reserve 7:00 – 7:30 for food and fellowship and sing from 7:30 – 8:30. Please feel free to bring a snack, appetizer, drink, or dessert to share!
- ❖ Our First Sunday Rehearsal will be on September 3rd at 10:45am (Location TBD)
- ❖ Our First Sunday to Sing will be September 10th at the 9:15 service.

September/October 2023

**Bel Air UMC at the Ball Park
Friday, September 8, 2023 at 7:15 pm**

Join us for an evening of fun and fellowship with the Ironbirds at Ripken Stadium.

FREE Kids Zone for kids 3 - 12 years old.
Last fireworks of the year!
Tickets are \$12 each

<https://belairumc.com/Ironbirdevent>



Creation Care Sunset Canoe Trip

DISCOVERY 158

Thursday, September 14th; 5:45 pm - 7:30 pm

Eden Mill Park 1617 Eden Mill Rd. Pylesville, MD 21132

\$15 per person To Register go to belairumc.com/SunsetCanoeTrip

Food Pantry needs your help

- Baby supplies
- Fruit cups
- Pop Top Cans

(Please no expired food!)





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 Monday,
September 4 in observance of
Labor Day

SUBMISSIONS FOR NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER

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

Would you like to become a member of BAUMC?

There will be a New Members Class on
Sundays, September 24, October 1 & 8
10:40 am in the Library

Reception of new members is Sunday, October 15th.

To sign-up, go to

<https://belairumc.com/NewMemberClass>

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