

STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY, OCT. 18, 2026, 9:30 AM

SERVICE of WORD, SONG, PRAYER & BLESSING

BAKER MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

GREETING — The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

WELCOME TO WORSHIP — Rev. David Aslesen, Pastor

…a multigenerational congregation filled with the joy of faith, hospitality towards everyone and hope for the future. We believe God's grace is a gift to everyone; each person a beloved child of God worthy of love, respect and blessing.

PRELUDE — "Prelude in G Major, Op. 37, No. 2," Felix Mendelssohn, Michael Surratt, organist

* CALL TO WORSHIP — *adapted from Psalm 67* — Dan Starr, Liturgist

One: May God be merciful to us and bless us;
All: Let the church everywhere praise You, O God!
One: You judge fairly and with integrity, to guide all people.
All: Let all the people everywhere praise You, O God!
One: Our God is providing abundantly for all our needs.
All: Let all creation everywhere praise You, O God!

* HYMN 97 "For the Fruits of This Creation"

* OPENING PRAYER *inspired by Ephesians 3:20-21*

God of Great gifts, we thank you for the many ways you provide more than we could ask or imagine. In every season, may we learn to trust in your gifts that we need not fear scarcity or "count the costs" or lack for anything of your good will. Call us again to do the work of Christ as the church that we may bring abundant hope, peace, joy and love to the ones near and far you have given to our care. Accept the gift of our worship. In Christ Jesus' name we pray. **AMEN.**

* THE PEACE OF CHRIST — *Share a smile, wave or sign of peace.*

BK

TIME WITH YOUNG CHRISTIANS – CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Students pre-K to 5th grade are invited to attend Sunday school on the lower level. Sunday school concludes at 10:30 AM.

ANTHEM — "O For A Closer Walk With God," C. Stanford, Chancel Choir

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

May we know the love of Christ…**and be filled with the fullness of God.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory, forever. AMEN.

* GOSPEL READING — Matthew 14:13–21, N.T., pg. 16, pew Bible

The Word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

MESSAGE — "Abundantly Gracious" — Rev. David Aslesen

STEWARDSHIP: OPPORTUNITIES AND OFFERINGS FOR MINISTRY

Use the QR code or pew envelopes for your gift to the mission of Baker Memorial United Methodist Church. Your generosity is appreciated.

Offertory "All Things Bright and Beautiful," arr. Kevin McChesney, Chancel Bell Choir

* Doxology, Hymnal, pg. 94

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below. Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God, the source of all our gifts.
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

* PRAYER OF BLESSING – STEWARDSHIP SEASON

Holy God, make us a grateful and generous people, to bring forth our prayers, presence, gifts, service and witness in faithfulness to Christ and for the stewardship of the church. Use the resources we commit to abundantly bless Baker Memorial United Methodist Church now and in the future. In Christ's name we pray. AMEN.



* HYMN 399 "Take My Life, and Let It Be"

* BLESSING & SENDING FORTH

POSTLUDE — "Sonata, Op. 65, No. 2, Movement III: Allegro maestoso e vivace," Felix Mendelssohn, Michael Surratt, organist



STEWARDSHIP SEASON OCTOBER 18-NOVEMBER 1, 2026

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. 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. **Stewardship pledge information is located at either entrace and www.bakermemorialchurch.org.**

GUEST ORGANIST: MICHAEL SURRATT

Mr. Surratt is Director Emeritus of Music and Organist of the Union Church of Hinsdale, Illinois which he served for 32 years; his tenure included tours of Europe and recitals throughout the Midwest and Southeast. A native of North Carolina, Surratt attended the North Carolina School of the Arts in Winston-Salem. He holds a Bachelor of Music degree from Oberlin Conservatory in Ohio, and a Master of Music degree from Northwestern University in Illinois. Surratt has served as an Adjunct Instructor of Organ at Elmhurst College in Illinois.

BAKER MEMORIAL CHURCH STAFF

Pastor: Rev. David P. Aslesen, Director of Music Ministries: Jeff Hunt, Director of Children & Family Ministries: Shelly Stienbarger, Director of Administration & Finance: Steven Wilhelm, Building Maintenance Manager: Karl Lescelius, Creative/Communications Director: Michele Claney, Organist: Stephen Uhl, Director of Children's Music: Kathy Olivarez, Pianist: Sam Wyatt, Livestream Tech: Rob Hale, Treasurer: Lita Jimenez, Wedding Coordinator: Judy Schlarb, Organist Emeritus: Mark Edwards.

FOR MORE NEWS AND INFORMATION

Speak with our staff or pastor. Call 630.584.6680. 10AM-3 PM Mon.-Fri.
Email: info@bakermemorialchurch.org. Go to bakermemorialchurch.org.



Psalm 24:1 reads…

"The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it."

Abundance Indeed!

Baker Memorial UMC is where I was confirmed. I am forever grateful to my mom and dad for their support and providing the opportunity to attend Baker. Baker is where I learned to read music and sing in the Cherub Choir at the age of five under the guidance of the beloved BG Gross.

Now I get to sing in my brother Jeff's Chancel Choir who has been Director of Music for 41 years. Today I witness children of all ages enjoying the same experience. God's blessing of so many musical experiences at Baker Memorial has enriched my life incredibly.

Baker Church is where I met my best friend Jim Masters who was also in the Cherub Choir. We still talk every week and reflect on memories of Baker School of Fine Arts. The Baker Hall stage is where our middle school band, The Brass Leaf, played. We laugh as we reminisce about how we sat across from each other as acolytes and sent messages through our nostrils in Morse Code…not recommending! ~ Life long friendships!

Baker Memorial Church is where I met my wife Polly, (thanks to matchmaker Dick Masters) who faithfully brought her four daughters (dressed alike) to church every Sunday. Polly taught Sunday school for many years. We felt blessed to exchange our vows at Baker Memorial Church, when we were married in 2003! Polly and I have loved our church and have felt committed to stewardship to help the perpetuation of God's abundant love, presence, and community He provides for us all here!



Steve and Polly Hunt

What is Stewardship?

Stewardship is everything you do after you say 'yes' to Jesus. Stewardship is a lifestyle choice that recognizes that everything is a gift from God. Our responsibility as Christian stewards is to manage all the gifts that we have received from God – including our financial gifts. God is the true owner of all that we have in life. Jesus consistently taught that our responsibility as his disciples is to recognize that God is the provider of all that we possess and that our call is to be generous givers of our financial resources. **Find out more about the Stewardship Season "Abundantly!" at www.bakermemorialchurch.org.**

UPCOMING EVENTS & OPPORTUNITIES FOR MINISTRY

Information about all of our events can be found on our church app and at BakerMemorialChurch.org/Whats-Happening. Don't have our app? Scan the QR code to download!

WORSHIP ASSISTANCE PROVIDED BY:

Greeters: Alan & Sheila McCurdy; Ushers: Debbie & Paul Conterato, Gary Johnson, Goeff Hardwick; Liturgist: Dan Starr; Livestream Tech: Rob Hale

SUNDAY SCHOOL: OCTOBER: WARM & COZY - GOD CARES FOR US

Sunday School for children pre-K to 5th grade begins immediately after the Children's Message
+Oct. 18 God's Instruction and Care & Sunday Funday: Pumpkin Palooza at 10:30 a.m.
+Oct. 25 God Cares for Us Always & Trunk-or-Treat 12:30-2 p.m.

ABUNDANTLY! STEWARDSHIP SEASON: OCTOBER 18-NOVEMBER 1

Every Christian is called to be a faithful steward of God's blessings, responding to His abundant grace with gratitude and generosity. Stewardship brochures—including the 2027 preliminary budget, financial pledge card, and more—are available at each entrance and online at www.bakermemorialchurch.org.

WESLEY SINGERS & CHAPEL CHIMES: WEDNESDAYS IN BAKER HALL

The Wesley Singers (grades 1–8) rehearse from 4:30–5:00 p.m., to sing in worship monthly. Following at 5:00–5:30 p.m., Chapel Chimes (grades 2–8) rehearses to perform each month. No prior experience is needed. Weekly rehearsal commitment is required.

ADULT ED: "SEEING GRAY IN A WORLD OF BLACK & WHITE," SUNDAY MORNINGS

Join us Sunday mornings at 10:45 a.m. for a 4-session study authored by Rev. Adam Hamilton on modeling faithful conversations in a politically polarized country. Meets in the Wesley Room at through Oct 25th.

MISSIONS: STUFF THE TURKEY / SALVATION ARMY, OCT. 18-NOV. 8

It's that time of year to help support Salvation Army in providing Thanksgiving Meals to local families in need. Monetary donations can be made via cash (use the pew envelope, note: Stuff the Turkey), check (made payable to Baker Memorial UMC; memo: Stuff the Turkey) or via the QR code in the bulletin or online. Help our Mission Teams help our local community. Contact Loretta Wilson at 630.975.5455 with any questions.

UWF DROP-IN COFFEE, MONDAY, OCTOBER 19, 9AM

Drop-In Coffee at Maple Leaf Coffee House Drop by for third Mondays casual gathering for coffee and conversation. There's no agenda or need to sign up—just show up. Location: 1 Illinois Street, St. Charles.

ANNUAL CHURCH CONFERENCE, OCTOBER 21, 7 PM, BAKER HALL

All members are welcome. The agenda includes formal approval of the leadership roster, sharing ministries of hope and pastoral compensation report. SPRC will meet at 6:30 PM in the Wesley Room.

ADULT ED: "WHOLEHEARTDLY BECOMING" WORKSHOP, OCT. 27 & NOV. 3, 6-7:30 PM

Led by Cheri Hunt and Christine McMinn, this two-session workshop explores living from God's abundance rather than striving through guided art, journaling, and conversation. No artistic experience needed—just a willing heart to creatively engage with God's Word. Register on our website or app.

VOTING AS UNITED METHODIST CITIZENS: OUR RESPONSIBILITY

"The strength of a political system depends upon the full and willing participation of its citizens." (United Methodist Social Principles, ¶164.B) Voting can be an act of faith.
https://www.umcjustice.org/what-we-care-about/civil-and-human-rights/free-and-fair-elections.

POLLINATOR GARDEN TAKING SHAPE

On Monday, Oct. 12, members and leaders of Girl Scout Troop 321 planted a beautiful selection of perennials for the new pollinator garden in the Holt Memorial Garden area near the Collins Chapel wall. Check it out! More work will be done very soon. Thank you to Marti and Sofia Tarmichael for coordinating the effort.

This Week
AT BAKER MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

SUNDAY, October 18
- 9:30am Worship
- 9:45am Sunday School
- 10:30am Sunday Funday – Pumpkin Palooza
- 10:45am AdultEd: Faith in the News
- 10:45am AdultEd: Seeing Gray
- 12pm Simone Tingley Recital
- 2pm UWF - Bunco

MONDAY, October 19
- 9am UWF – Drop-In Coffee (Maple Leaf)
- 11am PGC Luncheon

TUESDAY, October 20
- 11am Women's Emmaus
- 11am Staff Meeting
- 11:30am Kiwanis
- 8pm Keep it Simple Group AA Mtg

WEDNESDAY, October 21
- 10am Payer Quilt Ministry
- 4:30pm Wesley Singers Rehearsal
- 5pm Chapel Chimes
- 6:00pm Chancel Bell Choir Rehearsal
- 6:30pm SPRC Meeting
- 7pm Church Conference
- 7pm Keep it Simple Group AA Mtg

SATURDAY, October 24
- 10am Vee Guynn Celebration of Life
- 11am Vee Guynn Reception

SUNDAY, October 25
- 9:30am Worship
- 9:45am Sunday School
- 10:45am AdultEd: Faith in the News
- 10:45am AdultEd: Seeing Gray
- 12:30 pm Trunk or Treat

Information about all of our events can be found on our church app





SUNDAY FUNDAY
October 18 at 10:30 am

The theme is *Pumpkin Palooza.* Join us in Baker Hall after worship at 10:30 am for an intergenerational event featuring fall fun with pumpkin games and crafts!

TRUNK OR TREAT
COMMUNITY EVENT

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25
12:30–2 PM
LOCATED IN THE 3RD AVE & RT 64 PARKING LOT



Sign up to host a trunk on app or website!

PROVIDE HOSPITALITY TO COFFEE & FELLOWSHIP: SIGN UP!

Help us host Sunday hospitality and refreshment in Baker Hall at 10:30 AM after worship. Sign up here: https://tinyurl.com/umxm4spm or on the website.