BAKER NEWS

Living God's will to love, welcome, and share Christ with all.

Join Us in Worship

Worship Service on
Sunday mornings at 10:00am

Live-stream Sunday worship through bakerchurch.org and YouTube at https://www.youtube.com/@eastaurorany-baker-church8572/streams

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Church Office Hours

Mon, Wed, Thurs ~ 8am - 2pm
Tues ~ 8am - 1pm
Friday ~ CLOSED

*If you have a **pastoral emergency** outside of regular office hours and need to reach Pastor Robyn, you may call her at (315) 430-4262*

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Connect With Us

345 Main St.
East Aurora, NY 14052

(716) 652-0500

admin@bakerchurch.org

www.bakerchurch.org

Pastor ~ Rev. Robyn Hays
Admin Asst. ~ Tammy Carroll
Music Director ~ Jeffrey Thompson
Family Life Director ~ Judy Baumgartner

Pastoral Letter

Dear Friends,

The summer is winding down, and school will soon be back in session (if it isn't already) and all our fall programming will be restarting. Sometimes we treat September like the beginning of a new year. This means you have permission to try something new. Try out a new Bible Study or Book Club. Try out a new ministry. Where do you feel God is calling you to act?

Maybe what you want to start is a new Spiritual exercise. Find a nook in your home where you can place a good, easy to read Bible (I can help you to find one) a fun notebook, and some nice pens (maybe in several colors). Set up a comfortable chair and a place to write. You can even add a candle or some flowers. Make an appointment with God to meet in that space daily or weekly to just talk, read the Scriptures together, and be.

Or perhaps that is too ambitious. Maybe this September is not the time you feel able to start on any new venture. Maybe you are feeling overwhelmed by life, and Sunday morning worship is all you can manage. That's okay. We're here for you, and we love you. Come on Sundays and join us in praise and worship as you rest in the gathered community. We're not here to add to anxiety, we're here to offer God's love and grace to each other.

I'm looking forward to the start of this season together!

Your Sibling in Christ,

Robyn

Bible Studies

Thursday evening Bible Study

Thursday evening Bible Study will continue the N.T. Wright's study of the Gospel of John. We are on Lesson 18 which corresponds to Chapter 14 in the Gospel (John 14). Our first meeting is on September 3 (4-5:30 pm). We should complete this study by Thanksgiving, so think about what you would be excited to study next.

Wednesday Women's Bible Study

The votes are in, and J. Ellsworth Kalas's, "*Strong Was Her Faith: Women of the New Testament"* was the chosen book for our study. A book can be purchased through Amazon, or Tammy can purchase through the office.

If you would like Tammy to get you a book, please see her ASAP as our first meeting is September 9 (9:30 am). Please read Chapter 1, *Elizabeth: A Friend in Need,* before our meeting.

Sunday Book Study

This fall we are trying something new. After the service, we will be offering a book study as a part of the 'Coffee with Pastor.' This will allow those who are teaching and leading Children's Church to be full participants in the group. The first book we will be reading is, *The Christian as Minister: An Exploration Into the Meaning of God's Call*. Pastor Robyn has several copies in her office, and if there is strong interest more will be ordered. This book study will begin after worship on September 6 (11:30-noon).

Worship in September

Sept 06 Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost/ Communion
Scripture: Matthew 18:15-20
Message: Conflict

Sept 13 Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Scripture: Matthew 18:21-35
Message: Grace

Sept 20 Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost / Communion Picnic at Emery Park
Scripture: John 6:1-15 *(Matt 14:13-21; Mk 6: 32-44; Lk 9:10b-17)*
Message: Sharing Your Lunch

Sept 27 Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Scripture: Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32
Message: Turn, then, and live.

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Prayer Changes Things

To add your prayer requests to the Baker Prayer Chain, please email Sue McFeely at: smcfeely@live.com or call at 716-870-1972.

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NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

The Deadline for the October 2026 issue of Baker News is Wednesday, September 23.

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FISH of East Aurora

The food item for September is:

BAKED BEANS

Please leave your donations on the shelf at the SAME entrance to be delivered to FISH.

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Our next "Table for All" will be on **Thursday, September 17** from 6-6:45pm. Our menu this month is Chicken Alfredo casserole, green beans, bread and Cherry Cheesecake bars for dessert. Join us for food and fellowship! Please sign up to volunteer for set-up, cooking, serving and lots of other areas on the sign-up board in the Chapel. Invite your neighbors and friends!!!

Contact Mary Ann Kopp if you have any questions.

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Coffee Hour

Coffee & Fellowship hour prior to worship at 9am in the Chapel each Sunday unless there is a special event. Come join us!

Also, starting in September, join us immediately following worship for "Sunday Book Study" with Pastor Robyn. This will allow those who are teaching and leading Children's Church to be full participants in the group. The first book we will be reading is, *The Christian as Minister: An Exploration into the Meaning of God's Call*.

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United Women in Faith (UWF) News

UWF Executive Committee The next meeting is the second Friday in September on **September 11**. This is moved to avoid the Labor Day weekend.

Interest Groups

Hands & Hearts Hands & Hearts is meeting on Monday, **September 14** at 6:30pm. We will be sorting and sanitizing the Sunday school room on the third floor.

Ladies Wednesday Bible Study **The first meeting is September 9 from 9:30-11:00 a.m. in the chapel**. Pastor Robyn will lead the discussion on the book *Strong Was Her Faith: Women of the New Testament* by J. Ellsworth Kalas. Several books have been purchased and are available in the church office for $9, or you can order yourself. Please read and be ready to discuss Chapter 1, *Elizabeth: A Friend in Need* before the meeting. Meetings will continue the second Wednesday of each month from September–May 2027. *If you have not been part of this group and would like to join in, contact Corinne Pazder and pick up a book in the office.*

Niagara Frontier District UWF "Annual Meeting" District "Annual Meeting" will be held on **Saturday, September 19** at Agape UMC, 2846 Seneca Street, West Seneca. Registration ($10) with check-in and refreshments is at 9:00 am followed by the program and worship at 9:45 am. Speaker is Georgia Whitney – *Walking Alongside our Immigrant Neighbors.* Offering during worship will support Matthew 25 Ministries and our Pledge to Mission. *If you plan to attend, please give your registration fee to Ruth by Sunday, September 6. All are welcome.*

Tops Gift Cards can be purchased during Sunday morning coffee hour from 9-10am or through the church office during the week. Various amounts are available. *~ Sales benefit Tiffany Window Restoration Fund*

Rada Cutlery (various prices) is available to purchase through the church office. We will not be ordering any more cutlery so once we sell what we have on hand, this project will end.

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Meditation and Yoga as Christian Spiritual Practice

We're Back!! Breathe, stretch, and reflect. Mind, body, and spirit come together in meditation and yoga as Christian spiritual practice.

The group will meet in September on the first and third Thursdays, **September 3rd & 17th**. We will meet in the Youth Room at 10am.

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Generational Ministry

Our big event of the summer, **RAINFOREST FALLS VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL,** was a huge success! We had 60 registrants ranging from Pre-K to 5th grade. As many of you know, this type of community outreach event does not happen without the hard work of members and friends of our church who provided us with funding and volunteer hours. Nothing is more important than the time and sacrifice we are willing to give to connect with our brothers and sisters in Christ as we fulfil our mission of keeping God's story relevant to present and future generations.

I would like to publicly thank everyone who gave their time, prayers, donations and played major roles in our efforts:

Pastor Robyn Hays, Pastor David Hays, Zach and Jo Hays who were actors in our daily skits and conducted the sound and video for our opening and closing sessions. **Bill Kopp** who donated a new DVD player and did all the set-up for our sound and video.

Bonnie Smeal and Ginny Pendleton who were our song directors for the week (Ginny was also leader for the Wild Bible Adventures session).

Crew leaders & assistants – **Alex Lehsten, Debbie Rosa, Chelsea Trulin, Christina Kennison, Sarah Garvey and Kristin Pounds**.

Our crews attended Imagination Station (Science) with **Ethan Hansen**, Wild Bible Adventures, **Ginny and Connie Tsujimoto**, Sticky Scriptures, **Debi Suttell and Corinne Pazder**, Recreation with **Lindsay Garbacz and Henry Doyle** and Snacks provided daily by **Bonnie Chaney and Sue Toft**. We are especially thankful to **Pastor David** who played the roles of King Saul and Jesus at the last minute!

Our biggest surprise was the number (14!) of pre-K campers who attended (ages 3-4). Luckily our Baker Preschool teacher, **Brianna Drummer** was able to lead the group with **Julianne Hansen and Gabby Cino** as very capable assistants.

Due to weddings bookmarking the VBS week, decorating was difficult with much of it taking place the day before the start of camp. The team leaders took on the responsibility of decorating their individual rooms. Special thanks to **Kathy Schlaich, Ginny Pendleton, Fred Baumgartner, Mark Pazder and Greg Schlaich** who decorated Frantz Hall, the SAME entrance and halls, pitching in wherever needed, especially during set-up and tear-down.

Last but certainly not least, I want to express my sincere appreciation to **Sue McFeely**, who took on the huge responsibility of registration, ordering and organizing all the supplies, and keeping the event on time and on track. Kudos to her faithful friend and assistant, **Roxanne Martina**. Thanks ladies, you have no idea how grateful I am for your support.

The campers were given a mission to collect and donate new socks to fill a need at the Buffalo City mission's "Cornerstone" facility.

We will be provided several boxes to the mission to keep the children "warm and toasty" this winter. Thank you to Debi Suttell and **Mimi Burdick** for this mission.

It takes a community to put on an event such as VBS, we thank you again for your financial, physical and spiritual support! Looking forward to welcoming newcomers to get involved next year. Sincerely,

Judy Baumgartner, Family/Life Director

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Church Worship & Picnic

Our church in the park, which includes worship service and potluck picnic, is scheduled for **Sunday, September 20 at 11am.** It will again be held at Emery Park ski lodge which will open at 10am. Please bring an appetizer, side dish or dessert for all to enjoy along with a place setting for yourself. There is no Bills game that day, so come worship and mingle with us. Hot dogs and drinks will be provided.

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Invitation to Adults and Youth to Serve at Sunday Worship

"My Father will honor the one who serves me."
[Jesus in John 12:26b]

Newcomers are invited to join the Sunday servers to participate as greeter, Communion server, or liturgist. Youth are invited to participate as a greeter (paired with an adult) or to lead the "Call to Worship" in the bulletin (paired with the liturgist). There is a current need for more servers in this ministry. Please email Rosalie rwylegala@roadrunner.com by Wednesday, September 16th, and include your cell number. An email will follow asking for your preferences and availability for October through December. All are welcome!