

*As Christ's Light of Hope,
together we Become, Serve,
Celebrate and Share*



A Monthly Update for First United Methodist Church Burlington Iowa Volume 87 Issue 2

Tidings



Traditional Worship 9:00 am with masks or Live Stream

Young Disciples >>>

JUMP: (Jesus You and Me Pray) children's Sunday School during the last half of the church service. It is for PK through 4th graders with masks will resume when in-person worship resumes Sue Dichraff will be our leader.

PBJ: will restart once COVID concerns have subsided and enough volunteers have been obtained.

TWEEN YOUTH: Sunday nights from 5-6 pm at the LOFT every week except 02/07. Sue is also still in need of parents to take turns helping in Melisa's absence—lesson planning is already done. Please reach out to volunteer!

PUPPETS are currently not meeting, but will decide more further in the year.

Music Ministry >>>

Inspirational Ringers continue to give God praise through practice and worship.

Chancel Choir COVID break continues. If you are interested in doing special music, please contact the church office—754-8421

Adult Education Opportunities

The "Wandering into Grace" study will end on February 14. If you have not had a chance to participate, you are welcome to jump in. The discussion is held via Zoom at 10:10 on Sunday mornings. Zoom links are given in the weekly Pew News. This study follows the sermon topics and is based on Bishop Halter's book.

Jerry Rigdon will continue to facilitate discussions on "Spirituality in the Gospel of Matthew." These discussions are held in the church's choir room at 10 am on Wednesdays. You can receive the week's agenda by emailing Jerry (ledgerguy@lisco.com).

A Lenten study will start on February 21st. Max Lucado's "He Chose the Nails" will help you:

- Learn just how much God loves and cares for you.
- Take comfort that Jesus understands everything you face in this life.
- Remember that there's nothing you can do to earn God's gift.
- Stand firm in the promise that you are forgiven, and you are welcome in God's presence.

There will be Zoom class offerings and possibly in-person offerings for this Lenten study. Updates will be given in the Pew News.

If you have any questions about educational opportunities, please contact Sue Dichraff or Cindy Seibert (tcjaseibert@mchsi.com). Your comments and suggestions are welcome too!

Thank You

A sincere thanks for your thoughts, prayers and cards with the passing of my brother Dennis. -From Howards Toops & Family-

I have been attending the online worship services and have so enjoyed hearing Pastor Melisa's sermons. I pray for her daily. I've also enjoyed all the others: Roxy's beautiful piano and organ music. Dane's beautiful singing. The beautiful bell players! Sue's children's service! I attend a different church in Burlington that does not have an online service. My friend, Sandie Bickel invited me to view your services and they are wonderful! Thank you. May we all have a better 2021. Merry Christmas! -From Julie Hensley-

We also have a Thank You card from many Bridges families for viewing in the LOFT Office!



Birthdays

Jim Farr	02/01
Isabella Murphy	02/02
Mary Priebe	02/02
Sarah Roark	02/04
Roger Stauffacher	02/05
Tim Votaw	02/05
Abby Weyls	02/05
Jim Corder	02/08
Blake Spear	02/08
Ryker Spear	02/08
Joan Rodgers	02/08
Gloria Jewett	02/09
Cory O'Brien	02/09
Wendy Zick	02/11
Mary Taylor	02/12
Tyler Bickel	02/15
David Camp	02/15
Lara Kendall	02/15
John Riessen	02/15
Paul Babcook	02/16
Virginia Ford	02/18
Aila Plein	02/18
Frank Hills	02/21
Bob Alberts	02/22
Kiersten Jameson	02/23
Katie Taylor	02/24
Max Owens	02/25
Greg Johnson	02/26
Diana Wells	02/26
Molly Cockrell	02/27
Denise Johnson	02/27
Chris Robbins	02/28
Rich Thompson	02/28
Alexander Toops	02/28

Anniversaries

Vicki & Dennis Wischmeier	02/01
Connie & Burr Japsen	02/02
Kris & Alan Hanks	02/10
David & Sarah Crose	02/16
Garvin & Helen Weitzel	02/19

Meetings & Events

- Education Tuesday February 2 @ 7
- Mission Tuesday February 9 @ 7
- Fair Trade Thursday February 11 @ 7
- Ash Wednesday February 17
- Ad Council Thursday February 18 @ 7

Souper Bowl

The NFL Super Bowl is Sunday, February, 7! And the annual FUMC "Souper Bowl" celebration to collect protein enriched soup for our local food pantry will be held from now until the end of February! You can bring in your cans of soup to the Loft on weekdays and to the church on Sundays and place them in our shopping cart. Can't make it into church? A memo on your check specifying Souper Bowl will allow soup to be purchased for you! Can we match the total number of cans to the total score for the NFL Super Bowl?

Shared United Ministries

Cookies! Cookies! Cookies! Cookies are needed for the February 25th End of the Month meal. It is our turn to provide dessert for this meal, served at Grace UMC to feed the hungry in our local neighborhoods. Three people are needed to each bake three dozen cookies and deliver them to Grace UMC, 1100 Angular, by 4:30 pm on the 25th. Please contact Ann Ure or the church office to sign up! Thank you to all the kind souls who prepared the scalloped potatoes and ham and the corn and served the meal for the New Year's Eve, December 31, SUMM meal! Great teamwork!

Hy-Vee Cards

First United Methodist Church provides support to a missionary in Africa through the sales of Hy-Vee gift cards. Hy-Vee graciously gives back 5% of every card purchased to the church. Over the course of a year, the goal is to have \$1,000 to be sent to help Larry Kies at the African University in Zimbabwe teach his agriculture courses. These cards are available at the church's information center and at the church office.

Bridges Out of Poverty

On the first Tuesday of each month, eight different groups in our church take turns providing a meal for the students in the Bridges Out of Poverty evening class before the students learn important life skills. During our Covid-19 interval, meals have been served to thirty people each month. Otherwise, past graduates and their families are invited to share the meal, and 50 to 80 people are served. The February 2nd meal will be provided by the Life and Laughter Sunday School class. On March 2nd, the 11:11 Sunday group will be providing the meal. Thank you to Fair Trade Committee who prepared the meal for January and to all the groups who have served this mission in the past year. If you are not part of this mission but would like to help, please contact the church office or see Ann Ure for more information.

Mitten Tree

Thank you to all who have donated mittens, gloves, scarves, and hats for the Mitten Tree (which, this year is a tub!). At the end of January those items will be taken to the Burlington Homeless Shelter and to North Hill School. However, if you would like to donate any of those items and have not yet had an opportunity to do so, the Mitten Tree tub will stay in the corner of the Loft office until the end of February.

United Methodist Men



It's time to plan to apply for Ken Koch Memorial scholarships and Mildred Westfall grants for the Fall semester of school year 2021. Application forms are available on the church web-site and in the office. Submissions are due via delivery to the church office or mail postmarked on the last Friday of March.

United Methodist Women



The Executive Board Meeting will be on 02/10 at 3pm in the Church Library. Also, the 2021 Year Books for United Methodist Women members and friends is available. Pick yours up at church on Sunday mornings, or at the LOFT during office hours.

Thoughts from Joan

Thank you for welcoming me into your congregation. You have been wonderful! I hope to meet more of you in person or by phone over the next couple of months. As this goes to print, Pastor Melisa's surgery is over! She is home already, and we now pray for a speedy and full recovery. I believe the power of prayer was demonstrated when her surgery went better than expected! Keep the prayers for recovery going! God has this. He has her and her family, and her congregation in his arms.

How about we all quarantine this week? Oh, you have had enough of that! When you have time alone here is a great guide to follow.

- Q- Quiet your soul.
- U- Unite as one with God.
- A- Act with Godly love.
- R- Read your Bible
- A- Activate your faith.
- N- Nourish your soul.
- T- Talk to God.
- I- Intercede for others
- N- Nestle in the presence of God.
- E- Elevate God in worship

We continue to watch the COVID 14 day % to determine if we have in person worship each week. And of course we listen to the Bishop's recommendations. We truly want to be gathering through Lent and on Easter, but we made it through Advent and Christmas online and the celebration of Jesus birth happened. And we will celebrate Easter and the resurrection however we need to!

The sermon series on Wandering through Grace will be complete in February and we will move directly into the Lenten season with a series by Max Lucado, "He Chose The Nails". There will be an Ash Wednesday service—details posted later.



I try to be in the office on Wednesdays. If you have something you would like to talk about or would just like to sit down and visit please stop in. You can call first to be sure I am there. You can also email me at joan@umcburl.org

Peace and Blessing,
Joan Rodgers
Interim Pastor

Fair Trade Market >>>

Although the LOFT Market has been closed for a good part of the past year, our mission to serve producers and artisans in developing countries and to offer our Burlington community opportunities to help these industrious, deserving people lead a better, more sustainable life still continues. While the Fair Trade store will remain closed, please call the LOFT Office at to set up an appointment with Dane!



Office Hours

Monday-Friday 8:30 am-3:30 pm

Interim Pastor Joan Rodgers
319-754-8421 joan@umcburl.org

Office and Event Manager
Dane Feenstra 754-8421
admin@umcburl.org

Director of Christian Education
Sue Dichraff 319.759.4884
education@umcburl.org

Ministry Intern
Lucy Cockrell 319.850-2469

Organist & Handbell Director:
Roxy Riessen

Choir Director: Dane Feenstra

Custodians:
Tim Votaw & Bruce Dichraff

Childcare Providers:
Ilianna Murphy & Racheal Fenton

Live Stream and Tech
Rohit & Savannah Bhawle

Rev Melisa Bracht-Wagner
Medical Leave pastor@umcburl.org

Our Financial Health >>>

Financial Numbers as of January 25, 2021



Budgeted Income	\$22,984.05
Actual Income	\$11,275.20
Event Income	<u>\$802.50</u>
Total Income	\$12,077.70

Budgeted Expenses	\$23,711.15
Actual Expenses	\$16,572.93

2020 Apportionments have been paid in full. THANK YOU.



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Facebook: [fumcburlington](https://www.facebook.com/fumcburlington)

In-person worship????

As COVID numbers decrease, please
watch the PEW NEWS for updates on
in-person worship.

Worship with us Online

Website

umcburl.org/recorded-services

Youtube

[https://www.youtube.com/channel/
UCf5Sk8GTo7ZLVzqIP6qoN1w](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCf5Sk8GTo7ZLVzqIP6qoN1w)

Facebook

www.facebook.com/fumcburlington

Up to date news >>>

*For congregational prayer concerns plus weekly updates,
please contact the church office to subscribe to the
Pew News. 754.8421*

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