



*The Tidings* is published monthly by  
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Facebook: [fumcburlington](https://www.facebook.com/fumcburlington)

*Join us for in-person worship with masks and  
social distancing at 9AM each Sunday!*

We will keep you posted when our  
bishop removes more  
COVID restrictions.

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Website:  
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*Up to date news >>>*

*For congregational prayer concerns plus weekly updates, please contact  
the church office to subscribe to the **Pew News**. Call 754-8421.*

<<< **Pew News**

*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 3

# Tidings



Additional Worship 9:00 am with masks or Live Stream

## Young Disciples >>>

**UMP:** (Jesus You & Me Pray) is children's Sunday School during the last half of the church service. It is for PK through 4th graders with masks and has resumed long with in-person worship. Sue Dichraff is our leader.

**YOUTH:** will restart in the fall, once COVID concerns have subsided and enough volunteers have been obtained.

**BETWEEN YOUTH:** Sunday nights from 6-8 pm at the LOFT every week. Sue is also still in need of parents to take turns helping in Melisa's absence for March-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 >>>

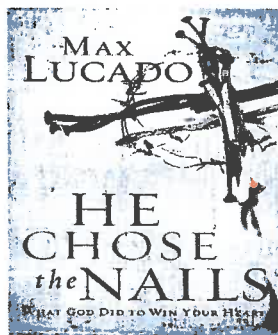
**Inspirational Ringers** continue to give God praise through practice and worship.

**Chancel Choir** COVID break continues. If you are interested in doing special music, please contact the church office at 754-4421.

## Adult Education Opportunities in March

The Lenten study, Max Lucado's "He Chose the Nails," will continue through March. There are 3 opportunities to participate in this study. On Sunday mornings, after the church service, there is a Zoom class and an in-person class in the choir room. On Wednesday evenings there will be another Zoom offering at 7 pm with Sue Dichraff. Zoom links are given in the weekly Pew News.

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 ([ledgery@lisco.com](mailto:ledgery@lisco.com)).



### Summer Camp Registrations

Information on Iowa United Methodist Camps can be found at <https://www.iaumc.org/camps>. Sleeping in a yurt, cooking over a campfire, canoeing, swimming, rock wall climbing, and riding horses are just a few of the optional camp activities. These camps are a great opportunity not just to deepen relationships with God but also to make new friends and create lifetime memories. Check future Pew News postings for information on camperships for these camps through our church's Education Committee.

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

## Special Birthday Announcement!

Gerald Lancaster will be celebrating his 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday on March 4<sup>th</sup>. His family is honoring him with a card shower. If you would like to extend a birthday wish to Gerald, please send a card to:

1037 S. Starr  
Burlington, Iowa 52601

## Celebrations >>>

### Birthdays

Ann Hills	03/02
Victoria Almack	03/04
Leroy Bickel	03/04
Dianna Fenton	03/04
Gerald Lancaster	03/04
Gary Williams	03/04
Shauna Freitag	03/05
Pati Toops	03/05
Cheryl Almack	03/06
Ryan Readinger	03/09
Andree Halden	03/10
Megan Feenstra	03/10
Owen Gach	03/11
Patty Jaeger	03/11
Jerry Anderson	03/12
Joe O'Brien	03/13
Amy Camp	03/14
Randy Schulte	03/14
Cindy Spear	03/15
Carver Crose	03/16
Jed Cone	03/17
Gene Davis	03/17
Melanie Sullivan	03/17
Andy Crooks	03/18
Ann Thompson	03/18
Elayna Zaiser	03/19
Melinda Bickel	03/20
Sandy Hendrichsen	03/20
Jessica Johnson	03/21
Cody Stauffacher	03/22
Julie Warner	03/22
Cadence Crose	03/23
Melisa Bracht-Wagner	03/25
Julie Kniffen	03/25
Lois Rice	03/26
Helen Weitzel	03/27
Julia Pilger	03/28
Judy Adams	03/29
Daniel Crooks	03/30

### Anniversaries

Charlene & Chris Robbins	03/01
Leroy & Sandi Bickel	03/04
Dawn L & Greg Cameron	03/06
Alizabeth & Kelton Malone	03/17
Becky & Phil John	03/27
Donald & Mary Taeger	03/31

### Meetings & Events

Education Tue March 2 @ 7
Missions Tue March 9 @ 6
Fair Trade Thu March 18 @ 3:30
Ad Council Thu March 18 @ 7

## Mission Corner >>>



### Bridges Out of Poverty

A big thank you to the Life and Laughter Sunday School class members who provided the evening meal for the Tuesday, February 2, Bridges Out of Poverty class. The participants enjoyed the casserole and cookies! The 11:11 Sunday School group will be providing the March 2nd meal, followed by the Bell Choir for the April 6th meal.

### Youth Summer Camp

The Mission Committee is in the process of registering children of participants in the Bridges program for summer camp at Wesley Woods Methodist Camp, south of Des Moines. The Mission Committee is financing the 9 through 13 year old's time at camp during the week of July 5 - 9. These young campers will need camping supplies for their adventure! In the upcoming months, Mission Committee will be letting you know ways that you can support these young people as they enter into a new way of knowing God.

### End of Month Meal

The dessert for the end of the month meal at Grace on February 25th will be served by First United Methodist Church. Due to a smaller than anticipated crowd at the January meal, there were enough cookies that were leftover to serve for February. First United Methodist Church will again serve the entree for the end of the month meal on

Thursday, May 27.

### Souper Bowl

Thank you for all the "souper" donations to the food pantry grocery cart in February! A good, hot meal of soup has been just what has been needed during our cold winter. All the many grocery donations to feed the hungry in the cart are most welcomed and appreciated now and every month.

### LOFT Market

The LOFT Market is reopening on **Monday, March 1st!** The hours will be 11AM - 3PM, Monday through Saturday. Our Fair Trade Store will once again be able to support the lives of artisans and producers in the developing world by providing an outlet for their handcrafted goods. About 75% of these artisans are single women who are working to provide their families with the means to have a stable, self-sustaining life. Their wages allow them to send their children to school and to become positive, contributing members of their communities. That is why we welcome you back to the LOFT Market! Your purchase is a gift to your neighbors around the world, whom you may never know, but who will know you by your love!

### 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



#### Heads UP: Be in Church April 11 for a special presentation!

The United Methodist Women have invited Iowa Conference Camping Director, Bryan Johnson to our church service on April 11th, to share exciting information about this summer's camping programs at Wesley Woods and Camp Okoboji. All children and youth should bring their parents to church that Sunday, to hear all about the awesome camping opportunities the United Methodist Church has organized for campers of all ages.

#### UMW Events:

Executive Board Meeting: 03/08 @ 3PM

Miriam Circle: 03/05 @ 7PM

Sarah Circle: 03/22 @ 9:30AM

Quilters: Every Wednesday @ 8:30AM on LOFT 3rd



## Thoughts from Joan

I try to be in the office on Wednesdays. If you have joys or concerns to share, or would like to visit please stop in. You can call first to be sure I am there. You can also email me at [joan@umcburl.org](mailto:joan@umcburl.org). I truly enjoy hearing from all of you.

We are cautiously moving toward fewer restrictions on meetings and worship as the COVID numbers continue to decline. We are still in the yellow zone for church so come in person wearing a mask and social distance—there is plenty of room for all. We are planning for more freedom by Easter but as always it is a day to day plan!

We are in our Lent series by Max Lucado, "He Chose the Nails". Along with Sunday sermons, there are an in-person Sunday School class, a zoom Sunday School Class, a Wednesday evening study, and you can read the book. The study guide has daily bible readings and Lenten practices that I would be delighted to share with you to enhance your Lent journey.

I have a magnet on my refrigerator that means a lot to me and it very fitting for this time of the year:



### *Nail It To the Cross*

*Each worry, stress, or sorrow, each need you're thinking of ...*

*Nail it to the Cross, and entrust it to Christ's love.*

*A trial or temptation, a challenge hard to face...*

*Nail it to the Cross, and give it to His grace.*

*For Christ redeemed all suffering, all struggle, loss, and death...*

*He "nailed" the world's salvation as He took His final breath.*

Peace and Blessing,  
Joan Rodgers  
Interim Pastor

## Order Your Easter Lilies

Easter is fast approaching! In celebration, the church has 2 large stem lilies for \$30 and 8 small lilies for \$15 that congregation members can purchase in memory of or in honor of someone. Please contact Dane in the LOFT Office if interested. If desired, anyone can bring a lily on Easter morning for our service. Feel free to take the lily following the service. How nice to be able to look forward to Spring and warmer weather!

## 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. With the Fair Trade Market set to open **Monday, March 1st**, we hope to see you all soon!



## Office Hours

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

### Interim Pastor Joan Rodgers

319-754-8421 · [joan@umcburl.org](mailto:joan@umcburl.org)

### Office and Event Manager

Dane Feenstra 754-8421  
[admin@umcburl.org](mailto:admin@umcburl.org)

### Director of Christian Education

Sue Dichraff 319.759.4884  
[education@umcburl.org](mailto: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](mailto:pastor@umcburl.org)

## Our Financial Health >>>

Financial Numbers as of  
February 22, 2021

Budgeted Income	\$50,893.07
Actual Income	\$22,857.50
Event Income	\$3,480.00
Total Income	\$26,337.50

Budgeted Expenses	\$51,635.63
Actual Expenses	\$28,123.78



2020 Apportionments have been paid in full. THANK YOU.