



The Tidings is published monthly by  
First United Methodist Church  
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A Monthly Update for First United Methodist Church Burlington Iowa Volume 89 Issue 03

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

# Tidings



Traditional Worship 9:00 am or Live Stream with link on Facebook

## Missive from Mel

God's love to you beloved children of God!  
I imagine by now most of you are aware that I have been reappointed to First United Methodist Church of Mason City, effective July 1. This was not an easy decision for me but was an opportunity I couldn't pass up. Being back in Northern Iowa puts me so much nearer friends and family, especially my boys. We still have some time left together to do good ministry and I give thanks to God for that time!

Since the announcement I have received a few questions about what is next for all of you. So I want to refresh your memory as to how getting a new pastor works in the UMC. We have what is referred to as an appointment system rather than a call system. The appointment system we use works in a very different way than the call system that many other mainline denominations use.

Our Bishop and her Cabinet, which consists of all the District Superintendents, will work together to appoint a new pastor to your pulpit effective July 1st. Rather than an interview and call process, Rev. Doug Cue, our district superintendent will meet with the Staff Pastor Parish Relations Committee (SPPRC) and they will put together a pastor profile. This ensures that the Bishop and the cabinet are aware of what your needs are as a congregation and they will work together to find the best fit. When they have determined who that is, that pastor will meet with the SPPRC and they will be able to confirm the fit. Only after those steps have happened does the appointment get announced to the whole church.

None of us like living in this liminal space and wondering what will happen. However, you can be assured that the Bishop and Cabinet will do the best they can to make this transition as easy as possible. God walks with us through this time of discernment. I trust you will continue on, doing wonderful ministry together. God's got this!

**Pastor Mel**

## Youth Education in March>>>

**JUMP (Jesus, You, & Me Praying):** meets every Sunday after the Children's Message for Bible lessons and crafts in the Church Lower Level!

**Puppets of Praise:** is currently on break. Stay tuned for the start up of practices closer to the beginning of Lent, with an upcoming performance after Easter!

**Youth Library Books:** Please check out the library books for youth (toddler-preteens) displayed in the back of the sanctuary. You can borrow for just the service or borrow to take home!

**PB&J (Prayers, Blessings, & Jesus):** meets Wednesday nights starting at 5:30 P.M. in the Church Lower Level. This is an evening of activities for kids ages Pre K-5th Grade that runs until 7:00 P.M. Dinner is served first, then there will be Bible lessons, music, and games! All are welcome to join and bring your friends!

**Youth Group:** Attention: All 6th-12th graders! On Mar. 19th at 10:15am, you are welcome to come and join us in the kitchen on the 2nd floor of the Loft. We will be cooking together as we also deepen our relationships with each other and God. Participation will require a parent to fill out a permission slip and make sure we have a copy of all allergies on record. Can't wait to cook with all of you!

**VBS: Save the date for 2023 Vacation Bible School! Event runs Sunday June 11th - Thursday June 15th. This year's theme is "Everest"- Conquering Challenges with God's Mighty Power!**



*Up to  
date news  
found in  
Pew News  
>>>*



Contact us at 319-754-8421

www.umcburl.org

Facebook: fumcburlington



For congregational prayer concerns plus weekly updates, please contact the church office to subscribe to the **Pew News**. Call 319-754-8421.



## Celebrations >>> Birthdays

Velma Johnson  
Ann Hills  
Victoria Almack  
Leroy Bickel  
Dianna Fenton  
Gerald Lancaster  
Gary Williams  
Shauna Freitag  
Andy Kincaid  
Pati Toops  
Cheryl Almack  
David Gray  
Ryan Readinger  
Andree Halden  
Megan Feenstra  
Owen Gach  
Patty Jaeger  
Jerry Anderson  
Joe O'Brien  
Amy Camp  
Randy Schulte  
Cindy Spear  
Carver Crose  
Jed Cone  
Gene Davis  
Melanie Sullivan  
Andy Crooks  
Ann Thompson  
Elayna Zaiser  
Melinda Bickel  
Sandy Hendrichsen  
Jessica Johnson  
Cody Stauffacher  
Julie Warner  
Cadence Crose  
Julie Kniffen  
Lois Rice  
Helen Weitzel  
Julia Pilger  
Judy Adams  
Daniel Crooks

## Anniversaries

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

## Mission Corner >>>



Paul Witmer, pastor from Women at the Well, spoke to the congregation during worship on Sunday, February 26. Women at the Well is the church behind bars at the Iowa Women's Correctional Facility in Mitchellville, Iowa.

03/04 First UMC has a covenant to support the mission work of Women at the Well.

03/04 In pre-Covid years and before prison restructuring, our church members were able to go behind the prison walls and worship with the inmates on a Thursday evening. At this time, that is not possible.

03/04 However, our prayers and financial aid, which pays for ministerial support, is still welcomed and needed so that the women in prison can receive the comfort and solace of the Church.

03/05 Our special Easter offering will be going to support the work of Women at the Well. Please prayerfully consider this ministry as you prepare for Easter.

03/06 On Thursday, March 30th, from 5:30 to 6:30, First UMC will be serving the entrée for the end of the month evening meal to local hungry people for the Shared United Ministries. Four times a year our church is asked to provide either the entrée or the dessert with drinks for this meal which is rotated between six Burlington churches.

03/10 We will be serving a spaghetti casserole with green beans and bread. Volunteers are needed to prepare the casserole, provide the green beans, and help serve the food and clean up when the meal is over.

03/12 Your help is needed! You can sign up to help on the sheet on the bulletin board at the back of the sanctuary!

03/14 Each month on the first Tuesday, different groups in our church take turns preparing and serving an evening meal as part of our support of Building Bridges. Thank you to the Choir who provided the February meal! The March meal will be prepared and served by the Fair Trade Committee.

03/17 The Mitten Tree, which was up at the back of the sanctuary during the month of January, sprouted 23 caps, hats, gloves, and mittens for the children in need at North Hill Elementary and 18 of those items for the adults seeking shelter at the Burlington Area Homeless Shelter. Thank you for your gracious and warm donation!

03/18 The Souper Bowl was Sunday, February 12th, and, in case you didn't hear, the Kansas City Chiefs won with \$324.00 and eight soup cans over the Philadelphia Eagles who had \$49.00 and six soup cans. Congratulations to Matthew 25:40, the recipient of the funds which provides help to local people in need!

## United Women in Faith>>>

**MONDAY MEAL AND A MESSAGE-MARCH 6, 2023, 6:00PM LOFT 2ND FLOOR**

03/27 Everyone is invited to attend a free dinner provided by United Women in Faith followed by a program with **Homestead 1839**.

03/28 **Homestead 1839**, uses sustainable agricultural practices. Their use of horticulture therapy helps put community members with legal and mental health issues on the path to recovery. The farm sits on 30 acres, which was originally the homestead of Mollie's Krell's ancestors, dating back to 1839.

The Krells now work with juvenile court services, probation services, and mental health resource organizations to help rehabilitate youths and adults in southeast Iowa. They also provide educational opportunities for youth and adults alike, service learning opportunities, and community capacity building.

Please register your planned attendance on the sign up sheet at church or by phoning the church office at 319-754-8421, or by email at [mktaeger@gmail.com](mailto:mktaeger@gmail.com), or by text to 319-572-0115 by March 5.

## Adult Education in March >>>

**Brunch Bunch** meets in Room 217 at 10:10 on Sundays. Check with Jim Corder for more information!

**The Life and Laughter class** continues to meet after Sunday service. They have been discussing Pastor Mel's sermons. This class meets in the Choir Room after church. All are welcome to join!

### Walking Club

Meets Monday-Wednesday-Friday at 7:30 a.m.  
Month of March alternating between *Crapo Park & Aspen Grove*; depending on weather conditions



UMM will continue meeting  
Wednesdays at 8 AM at the  
All-Star Diner in  
West Burlington.

### 2023 Scholarship Application Update

Beginning this year, the Endowment Committee will be responsible for Awarding scholarships from two sources. We will be accepting applications until Friday, March 31st. Applications are available on the church web-site or at the office. *Ken Koch and Melisa Bracht-Wagner* applicants are restricted to members of our church. *Mildred Westfall* applicants are not restricted. We encourage members to apply for both as that gives our committee more flexibility. Students are eligible for support for four years. Those graduating high school or continuing college are eligible. Please pass the word!



United  
Women  
in Faith

**Events/Meetings for the month of March:**  
Executive Board-03/13 at 3:00 P.M. in **LOFT Library**  
Miriam Circle-03/20 at 7:00 P.M. at **Cheryl Jones' home**  
Sarah Circle-No Meeting

The church has a **Prayer Shawl Ministry** that is meeting again. If there are persons who knit or crochet and would like to join the group, we will meet **March 16th at 10:30 A.M. on LOFT 1st.**

## Our Financial Health >>>

Financial Information as of  
February 24, 2023

Budgeted Income	\$ 55,237.53
Actual Income	\$ 34,403.84
Event Income	\$ 4,019.25
Total Income	\$ 38,423.09

Budgeted Expenses	\$ 55,159.89
Actual Expenses	\$ 29,917.13



## —LOFT Market News—

There is an assortment of unique, wall decor crosses as well as handmade cross necklaces for Easter available at the LOFT Market. These and many more fair trade articles are ready for you to give as gifts and to help women in developing countries live self sustaining lives, support their families, be contributing community members!

## Office Hours

Monday-Friday 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

**Reverend**  
Melanie Greengo  
[pastor@umcburl.org](mailto:pastor@umcburl.org)

**Office & Event Manager/Choir Director**  
Dane Feenstra 319-754-8421  
[admin@umcburl.org](mailto:admin@umcburl.org)

**Director of Christian Education**  
Sue Dichraff 319-759-4884  
[education@umcburl.org](mailto:education@umcburl.org)

**Organist & Handbell Director:**  
Roxy Riessen

**Custodians:**  
Bruce Dichraff  
Betty Banks

**Childcare Providers:**  
Shelby Trafton & Racheal Fenton  
Nikki Davis & Riley Richards

**Live Stream and Tech**  
Shawn Johnson

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<div>26</div> <div>7:30am - Chancel Choir 9am - Worship Service 10:15am - Adult Sunday School 12:30pm - CB-Schmitz Party 4pm - West Hill UMC 5pm - LM-Narcotics Anonymous</div>	<div>27</div> <div>7:30am - Walking Club-Aspen 9:30am - United Women in Faith- 5pm - Girl Scouts 5:30pm - Four Oaks 6:30pm - Chess Club</div>	<div>28</div> <div>8am - Tuesday Guys 9am - Mahjong 4pm - Doctor 5:30pm - Faith and Finance</div>	<div>1</div> <div>7:30am - Walking Club-Aspen 8am - United Methodist Men 9am - Quilters 9:45am - Hope Haven 3pm - Silver Singers 5:30pm - PB&amp;J 6:30pm - Chess Club</div>	<div>2</div> <div>4:30pm - Shoquogoon Children's 5pm - LM-Narcotics Anonymous 7pm - Bel Canto</div>	<div>3</div> <div>7:30am - Walking Club-Aspen</div>	<div>4</div> <div>10am - L2-Kipatrick Reception</div>
<div>5</div> <div>LM-Faith-Monday Meet+Message 7:30am - Chancel Choir 9am - Worship Service 10:15am - Adult Sunday School 4pm - First UMC 5pm - LM-Narcotics Anonymous</div>	<div>6</div> <div>7:30am - Walking Club-Aspen 2pm - National Alliance on Mental 5pm - National Alliance on Mental 5:30pm - Four Oaks 5:30pm - UMFaith Monday 6:30pm - Chess Club</div>	<div>7</div> <div>8am - Tuesday Guys 9am - Mahjong 5:30pm - Faith and Finance 7:30pm - Treble Clef</div>	<div>8</div> <div>7:30am - Walking Club-Aspen 8am - United Methodist Men 9am - Quilters 3pm - Silver Singers 5:30pm - PB&amp;J 6:30pm - Chess Club 6:30pm - Inspiration Ringers</div>	<div>9</div> <div>9am - Bible Conversations Around 4:30pm - Shoquogoon Children's 5pm - LM-Narcotics Anonymous 7pm - Bel Canto</div>	<div>10</div> <div>7:30am - Walking Club-Aspen 5:30pm - L1-Gracefully United</div>	<div>11</div> <div></div>
<div>12</div> <div>7:30am - Chancel Choir 9am - Worship Service 10:15am - Adult Sunday School 4pm - First UMC 5pm - LM-Narcotics Anonymous</div>	<div>13</div> <div>7:30am - Walking Club-Aspen 3pm - United Women in Faith- 5:30pm - Four Oaks 6:30pm - Chess Club</div>	<div>14</div> <div>8am - Tuesday Guys 8:30am - Iowa Child Advocacy 9am - Mahjong 5:30pm - Faith and Finance 6pm - Missions 7pm - Education</div>	<div>15</div> <div>7:30am - Walking Club-Aspen 8am - United Methodist Men 9am - Quilters 10am - Hope Haven 12:15pm - Burlington Lunchtime 3pm - Silver Singers 5:30pm - PB&amp;J 6:30pm - Chess Club</div>	<div>16</div> <div>10:30am - Prayer Shawl Ministry 3:30pm - Fair Trade 4:30pm - Shoquogoon Children's 5pm - LM-Narcotics Anonymous 6pm - Bel Canto Board 7pm - Ad Council 7pm - Bel Canto</div>	<div>17</div> <div>7:30am - Walking Club-Aspen</div>	<div>18</div> <div>1pm - L2-Boy Scout District</div>
<div>19</div> <div>7:30am - Chancel Choir 9am - Worship Service 10:15am - Adult Sunday School 10:15am - Youth Group 4pm - Grace UMC 5pm - LM-Narcotics Anonymous</div>	<div>20</div> <div>7:30am - Walking Club-Aspen 12pm - P. E. O. 2pm - National Alliance on Mental 5:30pm - Four Oaks 6:30pm - Chess Club 6:30pm - Prayer Group 7pm - United Women in Faith-</div>	<div>21</div> <div>8am - Tuesday Guys 9am - Mahjong 5:30pm - Faith and Finance</div>	<div>22</div> <div>7:30am - Walking Club-Aspen 8am - United Methodist Men 9am - Quilters 3pm - Silver Singers 5:30pm - PB&amp;J 6:30pm - Chess Club 6:30pm - Inspiration Ringers</div>	<div>23</div> <div>9am - Bible Conversations Around 4:30pm - Shoquogoon Children's 5pm - LM-Narcotics Anonymous 7pm - Bel Canto</div>	<div>24</div> <div>CS-SCHROCK Wedding Rehearsal 7:30am - Walking Club-Aspen</div>	<div>25</div> <div>2pm - CS-Schrock Wedding</div>
<div>26</div> <div>7:30am - Chancel Choir 9am - Worship Service 10:15am - Adult Sunday School 12:30pm - Tonsen Party 4pm - West Hill UMC 5pm - LM-Narcotics Anonymous</div>	<div>27</div> <div>7:30am - Walking Club-Aspen 10am - P.E.O. 5pm - Girl Scouts 5:30pm - Four Oaks 6:30pm - Chess Club</div>	<div>28</div> <div>8am - Tuesday Guys 9am - Mahjong 5:30pm - Faith and Finance</div>	<div>29</div> <div>7:30am - Walking Club-Aspen 8am - United Methodist Men 9am - Quilters 3pm - Silver Singers 5:30pm - PB&amp;J 6:30pm - Chess Club 6:30pm - Inspiration Ringers</div>	<div>30</div> <div>4:30pm - Shoquogoon Children's 5pm - LM-Narcotics Anonymous 7pm - Bel Canto</div>	<div>31</div> <div>7:30am - Walking Club-Aspen</div>	<div>1</div> <div>L2-Monday Party 8am - Bel Canto Dress</div>

## 2023 Shared United Methodist Lenten Services

**Please Note: All who enjoy singing are invited to lend their voice to a shared choir; to participate in the choir, arrive at the host church by 3:30 PM for rehearsal on the date(s) you are available; Dane Feenstra will direct the shared choir.**

**Offerings will benefit the Burlington Area Y's Domestic Violence Shelter; please make checks payable to SUM.**

**This schedule is subject to change.**

**Host churches will offer light refreshments (cookies & beverages) & time for conversations following the Sunday services.**

Date & Time	Special Service / Sunday of Lent	Host Church	Pastor Preaching	Refreshments Afterwards	Special Music
February 22 4:00 PM	Ash Wednesday	First UMC 421 Washington Street	Pastor Tammi Wirt	No	Dane Feenstra
February 26 4:00 PM	1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday Service	West Hill UMC 540 S. Leebriek Street	Pastor Kathy Moore	Yes	Derrick Murphy
March 5 4:00 PM	2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday Service	Asbury UMC 2128 S. Main Street	Pastor Jan Garza	Yes	To Be Announced
(Daylight Savings Time Begins at 2:00 AM) March 12 4:00 PM	3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday Service	First UMC 421 Washington Street	District Superintendent Rev. Doug Cue	Yes	Inspiration Ringers (Hand Bells)
March 19 4:00 PM	4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday Service	Grace UMC 1100 Angular Street	Rev. Melanie Greengo	Yes	Autumn Fjeld Violin Solo
March 26 4:00 PM	5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday Service	West Hill UMC 540 S. Leebriek Street	Pastor Jan Garza	Yes	Gina Walker & Renee Zaiser
April 2 4:00 PM	Palm Sunday Service	Spring Grove UMC 4502 Summer Street	Pastor Tammi Wirt	Yes	Vincent Garza Pianist
April 6 4:00 PM	Maudy Thursday	Asbury UMC 2128 S. Main Street	Rev. Melanie Greengo (Prepackaged Holy Communion w/ ill be offered)	No	Holy Communion; no Special Music
April 7 4:00 PM	Good Friday	Grace UMC 1100 Angular Street	Tammi, Jan, Melanie, & Kathy	No	Derrick Murphy
April 9	Easter Sunday	All Churches Will Hold Their Own Easter Worship Services Asbury UMC – 9:00 AM – Pastor Kathy Moore First UMC – 9:00 AM – Rev. Melanie Greengo Grace UMC – 10:45 AM – Pastor Tammi Wirt Spring Grove UMC – 9:00 AM – Pastor Jan Garza West Hill UMC – 9:00 AM – Pastor Tammi Wirt			