



The Tidings is published monthly by
 First United Methodist Church
 416 Jefferson St.
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A Monthly Update for First United Methodist Church Burlington Iowa Volume 90 Issue 1

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



Youth Education in January>>>

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: Practices on the third floor of the Loft. The group is currently on break. Stay tuned for more!

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 take home!

PB&J (Prayers, Blessings, & Jesus): Will begin meeting again on January 10th. They meet on Wednesday evenings for grades PreK-5th. It runs from 5:30-7:00 P.M. and includes a meal, Bible lesson, and games.

Youth Group: Youth Group will be for Grades 6th-12th this year. They will meet after church from 10:15 A.M. - 12:30 P.M once a month. Stay tuned for more!

Young Adults: Will get together every 1st Wednesday of the month. Young Adults Bible Study with Pastor Dan starts Wednesday 1/10 from 6-7pm at the church. Bring your kids to PB&J and enjoy a Bible study on "The Lords Prayer" book by Adam Hamilton. Learn about the prayer Jesus taught us to pray!



Merry Christmas
 from your
 Burlington First
 United Methodist
 Church Family!



For congregational prayer concerns plus weekly updates:

Contact us at 319-754-8421
www.umcburl.org
 Facebook: [fumcburlington](https://www.facebook.com/fumcburlington)

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



Celebrations >>>

Birthdays

- Fran Tillman 01/01
- Sarah Crose 01/03
- Russell Brissey 01/05
- Alexis Davis 01/05
- Beverly Reeder 01/09
- John Wozniak 01/10
- John Phillips 01/11
- Brady Jochims 01/12
- Cheryl Jones 01/12
- Charles Anderson 01/13
- Edward Bickel 01/13
- Lois Fort 01/14
- Gale Lofgren 01/14
- Wanda Abernathy 01/16
- Sue Dichraff 01/19
- Pam Farr 01/20
- Marilyn Garrett 01/21
- Ruby Heubner 01/21
- Bannen Davis 01/23
- Mikayla Brueck 01/24
- Debra Jochims 01/26
- Donald Taeger 01/28
- Garvin Weitzel 01/28
- Blake Hagen 01/31

Anniversaries

- Rev. Dan & Dodi Fernandez 01/03
- Bob & Dee Albert 01/12
- Bruce & Sue Dichraff 01/14

Mission Corner >>>
(or how First UMC is helping in our corner of God's World)

During this season when the desire for peace in our world is most keenly recognized, First UMC Mission Committee designated \$2,040.00 to be sent through the Iowa Annual Conference to the United Methodist Committee on Relief, UMCOR, for humanitarian aid for the victims in Gaza. Earlier in the year our church sent UMCOR funds to help with relief aid in Ukraine.

On Saturday, December 2, many helpful people were able to enjoy the fresh air and serve our community by **ringing the Salvation Army bell** in front of Hobby Lobby. Thank you for taking the time in your busy, holiday season to serve others!

Thank you to so many people for the gracious donations of food for the **Christmas baskets** and for the Christmas **angel gifts**. Each of the recipients for the Christmas baskets and angel gifts are grateful and would like to thank you for your Christmas gift.

The third Sunday of each month is designated as Quiet Ministry Sunday when a local charitable institution is the focus of our quiet monetary giving. On January 14, our gifts will go to the **Domestic Violence Intervention Program**. This group provides shelter to women and families who have been abused and have no where else to go. Please give what your heart allows.

In January, there will be a **Mitten Tree** in the back of the Sanctuary!

Please bring warm mittens, gloves, scarves, and stocking caps to drape onto this tree. The adult items will be taken to the Burlington Area Homeless Shelter and the children's items will go to North Hill Elementary at the end of January.

Thursday, February 29th, is the date for the Shared United Ministries' **end of the month meal** to be served by our church at Grace UMC. There will soon be a sign up sheet for food and for helpers. Our menu will be goulash, cooked candied carrots, and French bread.

Please **continue the Christmas spirit** of helping those in need by signing up to help!

Your regular donations go to the church to pay the bills; your donations to mission projects go to help the poor, the hungry, and the needy in our community and our world. Your donations, monetary and in-kind, throughout the year for mission ministries are appreciated by all who receive them.

Thank you for being God's hands!

United Women in Faith >>>



United Women in Faith

Events/Meetings for the month of January:

Executive Board: 01/08 at 3:00 P.M. **LOFT 1st**

Miriam Circle: **No meeting**

Quilting Group: Meets at 9:00 A.M. every Wednesday on **Loft 3rd**

Adult Education in January >>>

The Brunch Bunch is currently reading and discussing the book, "Who Stole My Church". They meet *upstairs on the second floor after church*.

The Life and Laughter class is currently studying *the Gospels*. 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.

Months of December-March:

Alternating between Aspen Grove/Crapo Park

Community Christmas Card-I would like to thank everyone for your loving and gracious work in making the Community Christmas Card happen! The beautiful music, the live nativity, the talented helpers—with the children, playing pool, puppeteering, quilting, and with Santa, the creatively decorated Christmas trees, the lovely nativity sets, and all the delicious cookies made a wonderful day! It was so very kind and generous of so many people to work together to celebrate and share Christmas in our community. Thank you for everything! *Ann Ure*

Many Thanks-We would like to thank our church family for your support during this time of our grieving for our daughter, Miaree. We appreciate your understanding, support, and kindnesses immensely. *Ann and Dave Ure*



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

Our Financial Health >>>

Financial Information as of December 26, 2023

Budgeted Income	\$ 318,742.74	Budgeted Expenses	\$ 315,256.81
Actual Income	\$ 305,942.63	Actual Expenses	\$ 344,857.65
Event Income	\$ 21,623.97		



—LOFT Market News—

The Loft Market continues to serve crafts people in developing countries around the world year round. Each of these artisans, 70% women, desires to lead a self-sustaining life through their work—a life where they are able to feed and support their families and contribute to their community, just as each of us does.

Your support of the Loft Market helps these individuals.

You may not see something that you absolutely need at the Loft Market, but our artisans absolutely need your support to be able to thrive.

Thank you for supporting this ministry of our church!

Office Hours

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

Reverend
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Organist & Handbell Director:
Roxy Riessen

Custodians/Event Help:
Betty Banks
Bruce Dichraff

Childcare Providers:
Racheal Fenton
Shelby Trafton

Live Stream and Tech
Shawn Johnson

Please enjoy some pictures from our Community Christmas Card that took place on Sunday, December 17th. Thank you to all that worked so hard to make this special day happen!



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
New Year's Eve 9am - Worship Service 10:15am - Adult Sunday School 5pm - LM-Narcotics Anonymous	New Year's Day Office Closed 7:30am - Walking Club-Aspen Grove or 2pm - National Alliance on Mental Illness 5:30pm - Pickleball-Gibson 6:30pm - National Alliance on Mental 7:30pm - Basketball-Brown	9am - Heritage Baptist 7:30pm - Treble Clef 8am - Tuesday Guys 9am - Mahjong 5:30pm - Building Bridges 6pm - Missions 7pm - Education	7:30am - Walking Club-Aspen Grove or 8am - United Methodist Men Breakfast 9am - Quilters 9:45am - Hope Haven 3pm - Silver Singers 3pm - Volleyball-Waste 5:30pm - Basketball-Hoschek 6:30pm - Inspiration Ringers	5:30pm - Pickleball-Gibson 7:30pm - Basketball-Brown	7:30am - Walking Club-Aspen Grove or 4pm - Volleyball-Waste	12pm - L2-Trouman Reception
7:30am - Chancel Choir 9am - L1-Large Shower 9am - Worship Service 10:15am - Adult Sunday School 5pm - LM-Narcotics Anonymous	Martin Luther King Jr. Day Office Closed 7:30am - Walking Club-Aspen Grove or 2pm - Dr. King Celebration 2pm - National Alliance on Mental Illness 5:30pm - Pickleball-Gibson 6:30pm - National Alliance on Mental 7pm - United Women in Faith-Miriam 7:30pm - Basketball-Brown	8am - Tuesday Guys 9am - Mahjong 5:30pm - Building Bridges	7:30am - Walking Club-Aspen Grove or 8am - United Methodist Men Breakfast 9am - Quilters 9:45am - Hope Haven 3pm - Silver Singers 3pm - Volleyball-Waste 5:30pm - Inspiration Ringers 6:30pm - Inspiration Ringers 7pm - Basketball-Gay	3:30pm - Fair Trade 5:30pm - Pickleball-Gibson 6pm - Ad Council 6pm - Bel Cantio Board 7:30pm - Basketball-Brown	7:30am - Walking Club-Aspen Grove or 4pm - Volleyball-Waste	12pm - L1-Conger Shower
7:30am - Chancel Choir 9am - Worship Service 10:15am - Adult Sunday School 5pm - LM-Narcotics Anonymous	7:30am - Walking Club-Aspen Grove or 5pm - Four Oaks 5:30pm - Pickleball-Gibson 7:30pm - Basketball-Brown	8am - Tuesday Guys 9am - Mahjong 5:30pm - Building Bridges	7:30am - Walking Club-Aspen Grove or 8am - United Methodist Men Breakfast 9am - Quilters 9:45am - Hope Haven 3pm - Silver Singers 3pm - Volleyball-Waste 5:30pm - Inspiration Ringers 6:30pm - Inspiration Ringers 7pm - Basketball-Gay	5:30pm - Pickleball-Gibson 7:30pm - Basketball-Brown	7:30am - Walking Club-Aspen Grove or 4pm - Volleyball-Waste	11am - L1-Wade Shower
7:30am - Chancel Choir 9am - Worship Service 10:15am - Adult Sunday School 5pm - LM-Narcotics Anonymous	7:30am - Walking Club-Aspen Grove or 5:30pm - Pickleball-Gibson 7:30pm - Basketball-Brown	8am - Tuesday Guys 9am - Mahjong 5:30pm - Building Bridges	7:30am - Walking Club-Aspen Grove or 8am - United Methodist Men Breakfast 9am - Quilters 9:45am - Hope Haven 3pm - Silver Singers 3pm - Volleyball-Waste 5:30pm - Inspiration Ringers 6:30pm - Inspiration Ringers 7pm - Basketball-Gay	5:30pm - Pickleball-Gibson 7:30pm - Basketball-Brown	7:30am - Walking Club-Aspen Grove or 4pm - Volleyball-Waste	2pm - L1-Garner Baby Shower