



The Tidings is published monthly by
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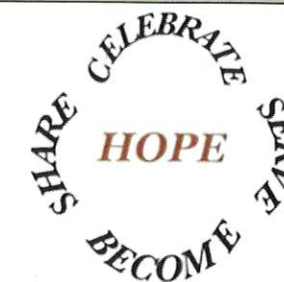
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A Monthly Update for First United Methodist Church Burlington Iowa Volume 90 Issue 2

*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

From Pastor Dan's Desk:

Greetings in the name of our risen Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. This year, the month of February directs us of the beginning season of lent. February 14 is Ash Wednesday. Christian traditions on this day from dawn to dusk put a sign of a cross (forehead, wrist) to remember that all humans are made of earth, and that we will return to the earth when we die, "ashes to ashes, dust to dust".

"By the sweat of your brow you will eat your food until you were taken; for dust you are and dust you will return." Genesis 3:19

The question is, do people really give importance or pay attention to this that the life we live is a borrowed one. The late Rev. John Wesley said

"I have thought I am creature of a day, passing through life as an arrow through the air. I am a spirit come from God and returning to God; just hovering over the great gulf, till a few moments hence I am no more seen. I drop into an unchangeable eternity! I want to know one thing, the way to heaven--how to land safe on that happy shore. God himself has condescended to teach the way: for this very end he came from heaven. He hath written it down in a book. O give me that book! At any price give me the Book of God! I have it. Here is knowledge enough for me. Let me be homo unius libri [a man of one book]."

— John Wesley

Lenten season is a time for reflection, fasting, prayer and doing what God's will for us to be an active participant in building God's Kin-dom here on earth. In this 40 days of Lenten season, may we as well possess the wisdom of John Wesley that through this one book we will be enlighten that our body will return to earth, but our way up is in heaven. God bless us all.

In Christ service, Pastor Dan

Youth Education in February>>>>

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: We would like to form a puppet committee to help continue this ministry. The purpose will be to discuss how we can continue POP and what is needed to move forward. You don't have to be or want to be a puppeteer to help. We will meet at 5 PM on Sunday, February 18 at 5 PM in the puppet area on the third floor of the Loft. If you would like more information or have questions, please contact Melanie Sullivan.

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): meets every Wednesday from 5:30-7pm for ages PreK-5th grades. It consists of a dinner, Bible lesson, Music, and Games. We have 25 enthusiastic kids participating!! We are in need of Bible teachers for the following dates: 2/7, 2/14, 2/21, 2/28, 3/6, 3/20. If you could help for 1 or 2 dates it would be greatly appreciated- easy material and Sue does all the prep work!

Youth Group: On Sunday 1/21 Pastor Dan, Sue Dichraff, Maggie McKee, Kimberly Bickel, Cleo Babcook, Ross Murphy and 1 youth and youth leader from FPC church braved the cold and traveled to Klein Center where we sang songs, played games, and did puzzles with some of the residents including our own Leroy Bickel and Kristi Zick. The Youth Group consists of youth in 6th-12th grade from FUMC, FOC and Zion UCC church. We meet from 10:30-12:30 on the 3rd Sunday of each month. If you know anyone who would like to join us please contact Sue Dichraff at 319-759-4884. The Next Youth Group meeting will be Sunday 2/18 at Zion UCC to help with their Taco lunch fundraiser for their food pantry. Our youth will be collecting donations (monetary or food) to bring to this event. A box will be in the back of the sanctuary. Any donation would be greatly appreciated!

Young Adults: Will get together every 1st Wednesday of the month. Young Adults Bible Study with Pastor Dan starts Wednesday 02/07 from 5:30-6:50pm in 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!



For congregational prayer concerns plus weekly updates:

Contact us at 319-754-8421
www.umcburl.org
Facebook: fumcburlington

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

**Celebrations >>>
Birthdays**

- Jim Farr 02/01
- Isabella Murphy 02/02
- Mary Priebe 02/02
- Roger Stauffacher 02/05
- Abby Weyls 02/05
- Jim Corder 02/08
- Blake Spear 02/08
- Ryker Spear 02/08
- Cory O'Brien 02/09
- Wendy Zick 02/11
- Mary Taylor 02/12
- Tyler Bickel 02/15
- David Camp 02/15
- Lara Kendell 02/15
- John Riessen 02/15
- Paul Babcook 02/16
- Aila Plein 02/18
- Frank Hills 02/21
- Bob Alberts 02/22
- Kiersten Jamison 02/23
- Katie Taylor 02/24
- Max Owens 02/25
- Greg Johnson 02/26
- Diana Wells 02/26
- Molly Cockrell 02/27
- Rev. Dan Fernandez 02/27
- Denise Johnson 02/27
- Chris Robbins 02/28
- Rich Thompson 02/28
- Alexander Toops 02/28

Anniversaries

- Dennis & Vicki Wischmeier 02/01
- Burr & Connie Japsen 02/02
- Tom & Rhonda Stoller 02/09
- Alan & Kris Hanks 02/10
- David & Sarah Crose 02/16
- Garvin & Helen Weitzel 02/19

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

Thank you for making your regular, loving donation to First United Methodist Church! Your gift helps to pay the salaries and the bills of our church.

When you make a donation designated to Missions, your gift goes to the work of the church—helping the poor, the needy, the hungry.

Two weeks ago a message popped up on my Facebook feed saying that it was Trafficking Awareness Day. Trafficking of humans is a worldwide tragedy that allows vulnerable people to fall victim to greed and sexual exploitation. Sometimes we don't know how to help prevent this.

First United Methodist Church is working to prevent trafficking!

Our missionary in Cambodia, Patrick Booth, works to train people who have escaped trafficking to learn construction skills so they can be gainfully employed. You support his mission by buying HyVee gift cards where 5% of the face value goes to his missionary work!

You have the opportunity to help the unfortunate when you support the ministries of First United Methodist Church. Your gracious gift goes to the work of the church!

The February End of the Month meal at Grace United Methodist Church will be prepared and served by volunteers from First UMC. Goulash, glazed carrots, and bread will be the entree. Your help is needed to provide, prepare, and serve this meal. Please sign up at the back of the church soon! Your kind service is the work of the church!

Our church has seven small groups or committees who take turns providing a meal on the first Tuesday of the month for one hundred people involved in Building Bridges. This past December, the Balcony Dwellers provided a Christmas meal of ham and the trimmings. Thank you to Cindy Seibert and her crew!

Due to the holiday, there was no meal in January. The meal in February will be provided by the Choir. Thank you for your upcoming service! The Fair Trade Committee will be responsible for the March meal.

If you are not in one of these groups and would like to help, please contact the office or Ann Ure. Your generous help is the work of the church!

The tree at the back of the sanctuary is filling up with new or gently used caps, hats, gloves, scarves, and mittens for the poor and needy in our community who are fighting the cold. The tree will be up through Sunday, February 4th. After then, the adult items will be taken to the Burlington Area Homeless Shelter and the children's items will go to North Hill Elementary School. Your thoughtfulness is the work of the church!

Thank you for your kind and loving participation in the ministries of First United Methodist Church!

United Women in Faith >>>



Events/Meetings for the month of February:

Executive Board: 02/12 at 3:00 P.M. LOFT 1st

Ash Wednesday: 02/14 Shared Service at Grace UMC 4:00PM

Miriam Circle: **No meeting**

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

Adult Education in February >>>

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 *Pastor Dan'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.

Months of December-March:

Alternating between Aspen Grove/Crapo Park

A NOTE FROM THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY

If your gift to the church is intended for other than the general fund, please indicate so on your check or envelope. This will make sure your gift goes to the fund you intend it for. Thanks!



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

Our Financial Health >>>

Financial Information as of
January 29, 2024

Budgeted Income	\$ 40,072.19	Budgeted Expenses	\$ 56,247.53
Actual Income	\$ 31,072.37	Actual Expenses	\$ 25,796.38
Event Income	\$ 1,540.00		



—LOFT Market News—

At the LOFT Market, blankets and makeup bags with a fine white stitch are made by women in Bangladesh who work in a cooperative that allows women, who may otherwise be forced into the sex trade, the opportunity to support themselves and their families. You support these women and others when you shop at the LOFT Market!



Office Hours

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

Reverend
Dan G. Fernandez
pastor-first@umcburl.org

Office & Event Manager/Choir Director
Dane Feenstra 319-754-8421
admin@umcburl.org

Director of Christian Education
Sue Dichraff 319-759-4884
education@umcburl.org

Organist & Handbell Director:
Roxy Riessen

Custodians/Event Help:
Betty Banks
Bruce Dichraff

Childcare Providers:
Racheal Fenton
Shelby Trafton

Live Stream and Tech
Shawn Johnson

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>7:30am - Chancel Choir 9am - Worship Service 10:15am - Adult Sunday School 12pm - L4 Grazer Shower 2pm - VB-Waste 5pm - LM Narcotics Anonymous 6pm - Pickleball-Elmore</p>	<p>7:30am - Walking Club-Aspen Grove or 5:30pm - Pickleball-Gibson 6:30pm - CB-Prayer Group 7:30pm - Basketball-Brown</p>	<p>8am - Tuesday Guys 9am - Mallong 10am - Nominations 11am - Finance 11:30am - Pickleball-Hack 4pm - Volleyball/Waste 5:30pm - Building Bridges</p>	<p>7:30am - Walking Club-Aspen Grove or 8am - United Methodist Men Breakfast 9am - Quilters 3pm - Silver Singers 5:30pm - PB&J 7pm - Basketball-Gay</p>	<p>First Day of Black History Month 5:30pm - Pickleball-Gibson 7:30pm - Basketball-Brown</p>	<p>7:30am - Walking Club-Aspen Grove or 4pm - Volleyball/Waste</p>	<p>2pm - L4 Grazer Shower 3pm - L2 NAACP MLK</p>
<p>7:30am - Chancel Choir 9am - Worship Service 10:15am - Adult Sunday School 2pm - Four Oaks 2pm - VB-Waste 5pm - LM Narcotics Anonymous</p>	<p>7:30am - Walking Club-Aspen Grove or 2pm - National Alliance on Mental Illness 5:30pm - Pickleball-Gibson 6:30pm - CB-Prayer Group 6:30pm - National Alliance on Mental Illness 7pm - United Women In Faith-Miriam 7:30pm - Basketball-Brown</p>	<p>8am - Tuesday Guys 9am - Mallong 11:30am - Pickleball-Hack 4pm - Volleyball/Waste 5:30pm - Building Bridges 6pm - Milksters 7pm - Education</p>	<p>Valentine's Day 7:30am - Walking Club-Aspen Grove or 8am - United Methodist Men Breakfast 9am - Quilters 12pm - Staff Meeting 3pm - Silver Singers 5:30pm - PB&J 6:30pm - Inspiration Ringers 7pm - Basketball-Gay</p>	<p>5:30pm - Pickleball-Gibson 6pm - Ad Council 6pm - Bad Canto Board 7:30pm - Basketball-Brown</p>	<p>7:30am - Walking Club-Aspen Grove or 4pm - Volleyball/Waste</p>	<p>7:30am - Walking Club-Aspen Grove or 3pm - L4 Heart Party</p>
<p>7:30am - Chancel Choir 9am - Worship Service 10:15am - Adult Sunday School 2pm - Four Oaks 2pm - VB-Waste 5pm - LM Narcotics Anonymous</p>	<p>7:30am - Walking Club-Aspen Grove or 5:30pm - Pickleball-Gibson 6:30pm - CB-Prayer Group 7:30pm - Basketball-Brown</p>	<p>8am - Tuesday Guys 9am - Mallong 3:30pm - Far Trade 4pm - Volleyball/Waste 5:30pm - Building Bridges</p>	<p>7:30am - Walking Club-Aspen Grove or 8am - United Methodist Men Breakfast 9am - Quilters 3pm - Silver Singers 5:30pm - PB&J 6:30pm - Inspiration Ringers 7pm - Basketball-Gay</p>	<p>5:30pm - Pickleball-Gibson 7:30pm - Basketball-Brown</p>	<p>Third Day of Women's History Month 7:30am - Walking Club-Aspen Grove or 4pm - Volleyball/Waste</p>	<p>7:30am - Walking Club-Aspen Grove or 2</p>