



So All May Know Joy

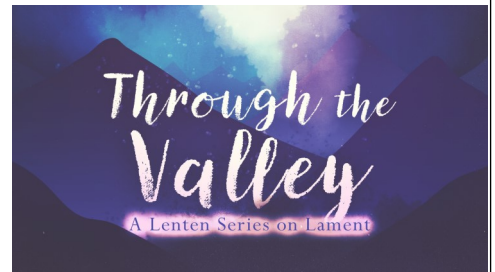
BUMC Weekly Connection—March 15

This Sunday, March 17 @ 9:00 am

Also on Buffalo United Methodist Church's Facebook Page & YouTube!

Sermon Series—Through the Valley: A Lenten Series

Just as Jesus wandered in the wilderness for forty days, so too can we feel like we are wandering in the wilderness, as we face hardships, grief, temptations, and injustices. This Lent, we will discover what it means to wander these parts of life in honesty with God through the practice of lament. We will learn how crying out to God in our need can help us to fully embrace what it means to be human beings held and loved by a God we can trust. We will learn that even through the darkest valleys, Jesus both goes ahead of us and walks with us.



This Sunday — Honesty Leads to Hope | Lamentations 3:19-24

In a world of “either/or,” lament can bring us to a more honest place of “both/and.” We can both reckon with the full weight of our sorrows and experience hope in our faithful, loving God.

Scripture Reading | Lamentations 3:19-24

I remember my affliction and my wandering,
the bitterness and the gall.
I well remember them,
and my soul is downcast within me.
Yet this I call to mind
and therefore I have hope:
Because of the Lord's great love we are not consumed,
for his compassions never fail.
They are new every morning;
great is your faithfulness.
I say to myself, “The Lord is my portion;
therefore I will wait for him.”
This is the Word of God for the people of God

Next Week — Honesty Leads to God-Seeking Action | Luke 19:41-48



While facing reality can sometimes cause us great pain and sorrow, Jesus shows us how this important step can lead us to necessary, God-seeking action.

Sunday Fellowship Check out the coffee, treats and great conversation after worship in the Fellowship Hall.

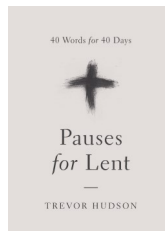


Other Ministry Updates

- March 17 9:00 am** Worship
10:00 am Fellowship
10:00 am Education Hour
10:00 am Congregational Care Team
- March 19 7:00 pm** SPRC Team Meeting
- March 20 6:00 pm** Lenten Meal
6:35 pm Lent Service
6:35 pm Lenten Series for kids
6:35 pm Confirmation Focus Night
- March 24 9:00 am** Palm Sunday Worship
10:00 am Fellowship
10:00 am Education Hour

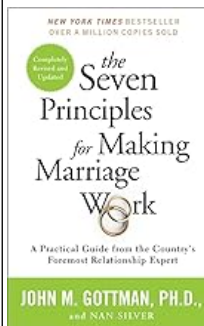
Lent Series

We will be having Wed. night services, with a congregational supper at **6:00** and then a short service from **6:35-7:15**. The book we will be reading from is called *Pauses for Lent – 40 Words for 40 Days*.



Join us each Wed as we hear readings, reflect on our journey, and sing our way to the cross.

Children's Ministry will continue our tradition of hosting a Lenten Series for kids and youth ages 3+ each **Wednesday** evening from **6:35 - 7:15pm**. Feel free to reach out to [Andrea](#) directly with any questions!



Seven Weeks Seven Principles

We are looking for 3 or 4 couples interested in strengthening their marriage in a 7-week small group experience. We'll be reading *Seven Principles for Making Marriage Work* by foremost relationship expert John M. Gottman. Group

commitment would be approximately 1 hour and 15 minutes per week and then including time for reading the chapters and doing the homework, facilitated by Pastor Amy. If we get enough interest, we'd like to start the group 1st or 2nd week after Easter and try to be done by end of May. Please let the [Pastor Amy](#) know by **Tuesday, March 26th**.

Palm Sunday

Holy Week is just around the corner. We'll be observing Palm Sunday on **March 24** at **9:00 am**. Come join the palm parade as we shout Hosanna to the King!



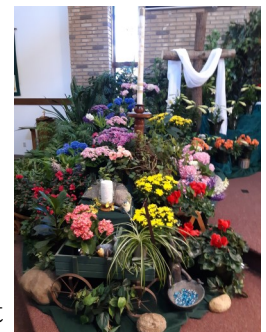
Holy Thursday

Holy Week will continue with Holy Thursday on **March 28th** at **6:15 pm** in the Fellowship Hall with a

soup and rolls meal. At **7:00 pm**, we'll share communion in the Upper Room with Jesus and the disciples, and end with a Tenebrae service.

Easter Sunday

To accommodate the extra people that Easter worship usually draws, we'll be offering two Easter Sunday worship services: a **contemporary** worship experience at **9:00 am** and a **traditional** worship service at **10:30 am**.



Special Easter Offering

2024 Easter Offering will be split 50/50, with half going to support of Terabinth Refuge a Christ-centered shelter and safe home that brings hope, healing services, and freedom to exploited and trafficked women. And the other half of our offering to go to support camp attendance for our kids. If you'd like to make a special Easter offering, please place your offering in one of the Easter Offering envelopes or write "Easter Offering" on your check. If you're giving electronically, you can make a note to that effect in the comment line.



A Shelter for Hope and Healing



Other Ministry Updates

Birthday Bags

In conjunction with the Buffalo Food Shelf and food share month, BUMC Sunday School is hosting a drive for birthday bags through **3/22**.



We are looking to fill 50 birthday bags and will have a donation drive for the following items: cake mixes, frosting, candles, small cake plates or napkins. We are also looking for small to medium gift bags (these can be slightly used!) to put the following items in. If you prefer to make a monetary donation, please label accordingly. If you have any questions, please contact [Andrea](#).



Lawn Crew Needed

The Property Team is gearing up for lawn mowing and we have saved a lot of money annually by using volunteers to mow May

through October. The church has mowers on site that you can use. Would you consider volunteering once or twice this year? Contact Michelle at the church office to volunteer. Thank you!

UMCOR Sunday March 17

On Sunday we'll again receive our annual UMCOR offering. Your gifts make the global disaster relief work of the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) possible by covering staff and administration costs, allowing your donations throughout the year to go directly to the causes you request. UMCOR has an excellent reputation world-wide for being one of the first agencies to arrive and last to leave at the scene of disasters. With recent tornado and flood disasters on our minds, this is an opportunity to generously support those who are suffering.



Thank you!

We received a Thank You note from the Minnesota Annual Conference for paying 100% of our apportionments. *"You have been faithful in mission together. Your generosity shines in the darkness. Your support for mission and ministry of the United Methodist Church is indeed a sign of hope and love."*



Summer Camp

Summer 2024 camp registration is open! Don't forget about the Early Bird incentive. Register before April 30 and receive a \$25 Camp Store Credit. Save even more by bringing a friend with you to camp. Click [HERE](#) for details. All BUMC youth who register for a UMC camp this summer will receive 50% off tuition, as well as all 1st-time adults. You will find additional information in the front entry.

March is Minnesota Food Share Month:

The 43rd March campaign for 2024 runs from **February 26—April 6**. Any food or monetary donations made during this time will be complimented with a percentage of dollars from the "food fund." The food fund is funded by local corporations, foundations, businesses, and individuals, as part of Minnesota FoodShare. Please consider donating food, personal care items, or money. The most needed items are currently canned fruit, canned tuna or chicken, flour, cereal, ketchup, personal care items, or any of your favorite snacks. Place items in the red wagon outside of the church office. Let's repeatedly fill the wagon! Money can be given through the church by designating "food shelf" in your check memo or note on your cash. You can also donate on line at Buffalofoodshelf.com They are always looking for volunteers also.

