



So All May Know Joy

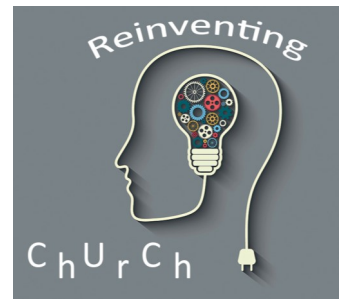
BUMC Weekly Connection—August 28

This Sunday, August 30, 9:00 am

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

Reinventing Church: August Worship Series

So often we long for the way things used to be in what we like about being the church, and yet change has always been the norm rather than the exception for God's people. This series explores the evolution of the great changes in how the people of God have related to God and the world across Biblical history (from Abraham through Acts) as an inspiration and for courage for us to embrace the ongoing changes in who we are becoming as a church today.



From Giving Answers to Asking Questions –August 30



The church used to be seen as the place you went to get answers to life's most pressing questions. If the pandemic has taught us anything, it's that we don't have all the answers. What might our ministry be like if we became more comfortable asking questions rather than giving answers? Gather with us this Sunday in the church parking lot/lawn, or watch the livestream on our Facebook page!

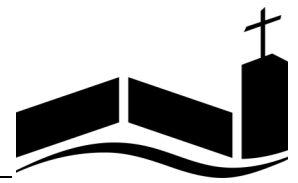
Outdoor Worship at Church This Sunday, August 30, 9:00 am!

If you are comfortable doing so, please join us for another outdoor worship service together **this Sunday, August 30!** Currently the weather forecast looks good!! We'll gather on the church's overflow parking lot and lawn. Bring your own lawn chair or blanket if you can, and remember your face masks! We will physically distance, but it will be an exciting time to see one another and worship together as we're able. We will have music leaders and plenty of music in the service. Pick up a song sheet with lyrics when you come!

We discourage use of the indoor restrooms, especially since the outdoor restroom is available. Staff will listen to the forecast carefully and if the weather is not cooperative, a decision will be made by **Saturday, August 29 to cancel** if necessary. This will be our final opportunity for an in-person worship gathering for some time, so join us if you're able!

Worship Now on YouTube as Well as Facebook!

Worship now on YouTube as well! For those who prefer to not use Facebook, you'll now find a YouTube link to our Sunday worship on our church website. The link will be posted each Sunday morning on the "Worship" page of our website BuffaloUMC.org. So join us each Sunday for our Facebook Premiere Viewing Party at 9:00 am, OR use the posted YouTube link to watch any time.



Other Ministry Updates

Sunday School, Confirmation, Youth Group to Remain Online this Fall

BUMC will continue to follow the recommendations of the Minnesota Annual Conference Phased Regathering Plan for Churches, meaning we will commit to distance discipleship for these age group for the remainder of the year, monitoring the Regathering Plan status and Wright County COVID transmission for a possible change in January.

Sunday School Registration is open!!

We will start Sunday School on **September 13** with online sessions. To register online, please go to our church website www.BuffaloUMC.org and register online OR



print a registration form to send to our church office. We look forward to sharing the love of Jesus with your children, and teaching them to share it with the world!

Stories of Resilience Sought

Have you overcome something in your life, and perhaps come out even stronger? Do you know someone who has done so? In the midst of trials it is often hard to see our way forward, but God can use our difficulties to make us stronger, to learn things we didn't know, or to prepare us for a future we can't see. Our fall worship series is on stories of resilience, and we'd love to hear from you! Talk to Pastor Bill ASAP if you might have a story to share.

Now Hiring Children's Ministry Coord.

Buffalo UMC is taking applications for Children's Ministry Coordinator position to oversee children's discipleship (birth - 6th grade), including Sunday School and special events. Qualified individuals will have a vibrant faith in Jesus and a passion for children and family ministries. This is a part-time position (15 hours per week) that reports directly to the Senior Pastor. Please share this information with anyone you know who might be interested in applying! The full position description and

application form are found on our church's webpage at www.BuffaloUMC.org.

Staying Connected during Pandemic

Pick up the phone or drop a note or email to your church family to offer a word of support to stay connected during these crazy times, especially with those who live alone!

Confirmation Sunday & Classes 2020-2021

The confirmation of our 9th graders will happen in our online worship September 13. Don't miss it! **Orientation** for all new and returning students, faith partners, and Table Leaders is on **Wednesday, September 9 at 6 pm** via Zoom. **Classes** for 7th & 8th graders resume via Zoom on **Wednesday, September 16** with our first Faith Night. **Sunday School classes resume Sunday, September 13 at 10 am.**

Ways to Give Your Tithes and Offerings

God continues to work through the ministries of Buffalo UMC, and your offerings allow it to happen. For options of all the ways you may give to the church, see our website or call the church office.

Access to the church office remains available by appointment and the church telephone will continue to be answered (remotely) during business hours.

See You Around...

It's not really goodbye, just "see you around." I have been so blessed by being in ministry with all of you, and intend to do so again, albeit in a different way! I am grateful for support, and your ongoing prayers as I retire and we do our best to keep Joe healthy. Trust God, and do your part to share the Good News! Blessings, Laurie

Coming Up in Ministry

- Aug. 30 **9:00 am Outdoor Worship at church,** or on Facebook!!
- Sept. 1 **Property Team Meeting**
- Sept. 6 **9:00 am Online Worship** with Curtis Rieck preaching
- Sept. 13 **9:00 am Online Confirmation Service**



Racism Resource Reviews

Learning about Racism

The Adult Discipleship Vision Team (ADVT) wants to continue the conversation on racism and encourage us to continue learning. To that end, they invite us to share our personal thoughts on some of the books, movies, podcasts etc. we have learned from. Please send your contributions to Rita Varner-Otness at healinghands.dc@bwig.net or call Rita at 763-682-5256.

This week's review:

Book Review

"A Good Time for the Truth: Race in Minnesota" by Sun Yung Shin

By Gloria Farwick



I recently read the book *A Good Time for the Truth: Race in Minnesota* edited by Sun Yung Shin. It is a compilation of 16 essays written by "16 of Minnesota's best writers who provide a range of perspectives on what it's like to live as a Native person or a person of color in Minnesota." It is this year's statewide book club choice under the heading OneBook/ OneMinnesota.

I think it is often easy to read a book on a tough topic and say "oh, that's not me" or "but that's not happening here," so I decided to read about "me" and "here" to make this topic more real and local. What an eye opener!!

Racism in Minnesota exists in a big way, both intentional and unintentional. In fact, Minnesota ranks second in the U.S. for being the worst state for Black Americans!

Or as one author put it, "I didn't know racism existed until I moved to Minnesota," and she had lived in all parts of the U.S including many southern states. Other places acknowledge and talk about race: here we try to avoid it or be "Minnesota Nice" and it often gets in the way. Instead of listening to the stories of others, we want to jump in and "help" (the way WE want to) and it gets in the way of HEARING the stories of discrimination. The keys are truly listening and not stereotyping.

Since reading this book, I see the examples of racism "jumping" off the pages of the *Star Tribune* and the local news feeds. A recent article in the paper reported the story of a 6'2" young Black woman working in a hospital, who was told that she should play basketball and get her education paid for, never imagining that she already had a neuroscience degree!

I strongly recommend reading these essays. Though not always comfortable, they will help to deepen our understanding of how race and culture are lived in Minnesota, and we will be "better prepared for the conversations and changes that lie ahead."

Our Buffalo Library carries this book, our local bookstore sells it, and of course it's available on Amazon.