



So All May Know Joy

BUMC Weekly Connection—Dec. 10

This Sunday, December 12 @ 9:00 am

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

This Sunday - Everlasting Father

Even as we prepare for the incarnation of God, the birth of Jesus, we also affirm that “Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever.” The prophet Isaiah named Jesus “Everlasting Father.” But if Jesus is the Son of God, and God has adopted us as children, how can Jesus be our Father? Don't worry- it's all good news!



Sunday Scripture

The LORD who made you and helps you says: Do not be afraid, O Jacob, my servant, O dear Israel, my chosen one. For I will pour out water to quench your thirst and to irrigate your parched fields. And I will pour out my Spirit on your descendants, and my blessing on your children. They will thrive like watered grass, like willows on a riverbank. Some will proudly claim, ‘I belong to the LORD.’ Others will say, ‘I am a descendant of Jacob.’ Some will write the LORD's name on their hands and will take the name of Israel as their own.” This is what the LORD says—Israel's King and Redeemer, the LORD of Heaven's Armies: “I am the First and the Last; there is no other God. Who is like me? Let him step forward and prove to you his power. Let him do as I have done since ancient times when I established a people and explained its future. Do not tremble; do not be afraid. Did I not proclaim my purposes for you long ago? You are my witnesses—is there any other God? No! There is no other Rock—not one!” Isaiah 44:2-8 (NLT)

Next Sunday – Prince of Peace

When we hear Isaiah name Jesus our Prince of Peace, we naturally think of the many international and domestic conflicts that rage across the world. If the Prince of Peace has come into the world, why aren't we seeing more peace? But Jesus doesn't bring peace the way the world does, and all lasting peace begins with making peace with God.



Sunday Fellowship

Come and join us for Sunday fellowship . If you're not eating or drinking, you're encouraged to wear a mask in the Fellowship Hall. We are still encouraging everyone over the age of 2 to wear a face covering inside our building so that we may continue to enjoy gathering in person.



Other Ministry Updates

Coming Up in Ministry

- Dec 12** 9:00 am Worship Service with Handbells and Baptism
10:00 am Gingerbread Bash
10:00 am Fellowship
- Dec 14** 7:00 pm Leadership Team Meeting
- Dec 15** 6:00 pm Confirmation Faith Night
6:30 pm Senior High Youth
6:30 pm Handbell Rehearsal
- Dec 19** 9:00 am Worship Service with Handbells and Baptism
10:00 am Happy Birthday Jesus Party
10:00 am Fellowship

Gingerbread Bash

This Sunday, December 12, after church, we're having a fun Advent event for people of all ages: The Gingerbread Bash!



We'll meet in the fellowship hall at 10:00 am, where we'll listen to Christmas music, share some of the Christmas story, and make gingerbread nativities (actually, we'll be using graham crackers). You can participate by showing up in-person **this Sunday** or using the link to the online curriculum that you'll find in the Connection. If you'd like, you can still bring things with you to use in constructing the nativity sets.

Families that will be doing this as an at home project will have access to instructions, the video, and everything else they need, just [Click Here](#). The password is: **HOLLYJOLLY** (all caps).

Happy Birthday Jesus!

On Sunday, December 19 you're invited to join our Sunday School students after church for birthday cake in the fellowship hall as we sing happy birthday to Jesus. In celebration please bring your favorite birthday or after school snack to donate to the Buffalo Food Shelf. Look for the green box in the entry way.

Christmas Eve Worship



Please join us for Christmas Eve worship this year at 5:00pm. We'll hear the Christmas Story, sing some of your favorite Christmas Carols, and share the light of Christ by candlelight as we sing Silent Night.

Ornament Kits Available

To help celebrate the Advent season, Robin Anderson has made simple ornament construction kits for you to take home, each one including the names of Jesus that we'll be studying each week in worship. The kits for "Everlasting Father" will be in the lobby for you this Sunday. You'll find new kits there on each Sunday of Advent.



2022 Offering Envelopes Available

If you requested offering envelopes for the coming year, they are available in the entryway. If you want envelopes but don't find any with your name on, please write your name down and we'll get some for you!

Help Teach or Assist with Sunday School!

Do you have any interest in being a SS co-teacher, substitute or helper? Pray about this ministry and let us know if you feel called to serve as a teacher or classroom helper. Please let Andrea Gravley know if you are interested in helping in any way!

No Sunday School

There will be no Sunday School on December 26th and January 2nd.

Secure Giving



Worship Registration





Other Ministry Updates

Christmas Offering

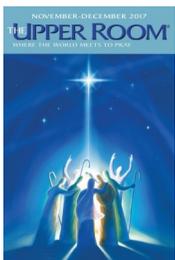
For our Christmas Offering this year you'll have a choice of making a gift to one or both of two different missions: **Common**



Hope and **Minnesota Teen Challenge**. **Common Hope** works to end the cycle of poverty for children in Guatemala. **Minnesota Teen Challenge** assists adults and teens in gaining freedom from chemical addictions and other life controlling problems. Please consider making a special gift out of gratitude for all that you have received from the Lord this year. Simply indicate on your check or envelop which combination of giving you'd prefer: Common Hope and/or MN Teen Challenge. Undesignated gifts will be contributed to the General Fund.

What Are You Reading?

The Adult Disciple Vision Team has asked BUMC members to submit reviews of what they are presently reading, watching, or studying. In upcoming months, you will see a review from an individual and we are hoping that this will inspire you to also pick up the book, watch the movie, or engage in the devotional that is being reviewed. Please feel free to speak with the person who submitted the review. Also, if you would like to submit a review on a book, movie, devotional, study, or blog, please send it to Rita at ritaraevo@gmail.com as we welcome more participation.



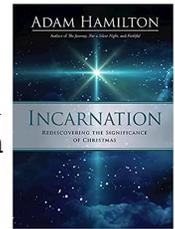
Dale Lay writes the following review.

I regularly read daily Guidepost, and the Upper Room. They have one-page short stories that many times are exactly what I need to read for that day. Included with the stories are Bible verses that also can be

exactly what I need to hear that day. Sometimes they even tie in with the previous Sunday's sermon. They really are amazing, and each story can be read in a minute or so.

Thursday Noon Advent Study

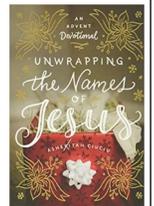
We'll meet in the Fellowship Hall on **Thursdays in December from 12pm to 1pm** to discuss *Incarnation - Rediscovering the Significance of Christmas*, by Adam Hamilton. Each session will include a short video and discussion of a section of the book. There is a sign-up on the church bulletin board. Books are available for \$10.00. Bring your lunch if you like! Please plan to wear a mask when not eating.



- December 16: Emmanuel in the Midst of a Pandemic
- December 23: The Light of the World

Why Celebrate Advent?

This Advent season Pastor Bill is devoting his sermon messages to the names of Jesus. We have chosen a companion Advent devotional titled, *Unwrapping the Names of Jesus*.



Following is a review of this devotional. The books are available at church on the entry bulletin board. The cost of the book is \$9.50.

Most Christians agree that Christmas is all about Jesus, yet most of us spend little time preparing our hearts to celebrate Him. In Unwrapping the Names of Jesus, the author, Asheritah Ciuciu, leads readers through the four weeks of Advent (Hope, Preparation, Joy, and Love). Each week begins with an interactive family devotional that equips readers to celebrate Advent together. It offers five daily reflections that focus on that week's name of Jesus. And included are suggestions for fun-filled family activities or service projects. This devotional can be used by readers in their own personal worship times or as a tool to engage in family worship during the busy holiday season. Participants will gain a greater sense of awe and wonder at who Jesus is. By focusing on the person and character of Jesus throughout the Advent season, readers will prepare their hearts so that when they admire the live nativity, sit in the candlelight service, or wake up on Christmas morning, they can join the faithful who sing from the bottom of their hearts, "O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!"