



So All May Know Joy

BUMC Weekly Connection—Jan 22

This Sunday, January 24, 9:00 am

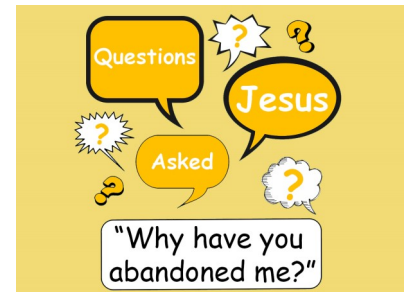
on Buffalo United Methodist Church's Facebook Page & YouTube!

Questions Jesus Asked

Pastor Bill continues our new worship series through February 14 . Jesus was a master at asking timeless questions that cut to the heart of people and their lives. Jesus knew the unspoken fears and doubts that people carried in their hearts and He used questions to bring them to the light and lead them to make a decision of faith. What is Jesus asking you today?

Sunday – Why Have You Abandoned Me?

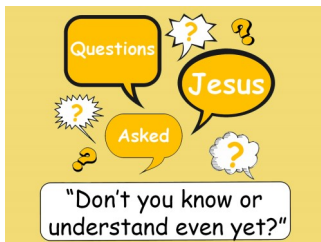
Surely one of the most troubling questions Jesus ever asked was of God, when he cried out from the cross, “Why have you abandoned me?” Did God abandon his son on the cross? Do you ever feel that God has abandoned you? We’ll explore the Psalm Jesus quoted and what it means for our faith.



Sunday Scripture

My God, my God, why have you abandoned me? Why are you so far away when I groan for help? Every day I call to you, my God, but you do not answer. Every night I lift my voice, but I find no relief. Do not stay so far from me, for trouble is near, and no one else can help me. My enemies surround me like a herd of bulls; fierce bulls of Bashan have hemmed me in! Like lions they open their jaws against me, roaring and tearing into their prey. My life is poured out like water, and all my bones are out of joint. My heart is like wax, melting within me. My strength has dried up like sunbaked clay. My tongue sticks to the roof of my mouth. You have laid me in the dust and left me for dead. My enemies surround me like a pack of dogs; an evil gang closes in on me. They have pierced my hands and feet. I can count all my bones. My enemies stare at me and gloat. They divide my garments among themselves and throw dice for my clothing. O LORD, do not stay far away! You are my strength; come quickly to my aid!

Psalm 22:1-2, 11-19 (NLT)



Next Sunday – Don't you Know or Understand Even Yet?

The disciples of Jesus were notoriously slow learners, and Jesus frequently expressed amazement at their inability to grasp spiritual truths in the face of physical challenges. Jesus called them, and calls us, to a radical faith and faithfulness that sets us apart from the unbelieving crowd.

Virtual Fellowship Every Sunday

You're invited to join Pastor Bill for a virtual fellowship time on Zoom at **10:00**, right after worship. Stay for a couple of minutes, or stay for 45 mins - It's all up to you. <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85247108308?pwd=SXVuNkZibHdPZlZ6WnFLL3p0cDRQZz09>



Other Ministry Updates

First Grade Faith Stepping Stone Blessing

Our first graders have learned about prayer in a Faith Stepping Stone class. Isn't it awesome that parents and their 1st grade children can learn about prayer together? On Sunday students will receive a special blessing during worship.



Parking Lot Prayer & Food Drive This Sunday!

Please join Curtis Rieck and Pastor Bill this Sunday, **January 24th from 4:00-4:30PM** in the parking lot for shared devotions and prayer. This will also be a Zoom event, but we would love to have our parking lot FULL of cars!! You can sit in the comfort of your warm car, while listening to it all either via your car radio or on Zoom with your device of choice. Either tune your radio to **FM 87.9** or use the following Zoom link to join: **335 174 1539**. No password needed. Please email any prayer requests ahead of time to prayerrequests@buffaloumc.com. If you would like to donate food to the Buffalo Food Shelf, you can drop it in the shopping cart that we'll have in the parking lot.



Prayer Requests for Sunday Afternoon

We'd love to pray for you this Sunday afternoon from the church parking lot! Please email any prayer requests ahead of time to prayerrequests@buffaloumc.com

Sunday School Kids

We have great crafts to help our children participate in Sunday's Parking Lot Prayer. There are labeled bins in front of the church with the bags that have the crafts. Pick them up at your earliest convenience. They will be available at the event as well.

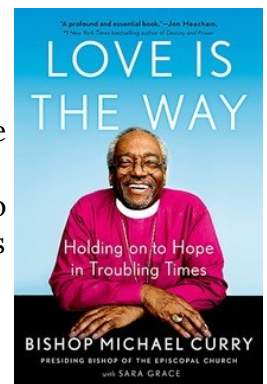
Thank you Essential Workers

Let's bring some light to the essential workers in our community, and let them know that we appreciate all that they do for us. Attached to

this email you will find four "Thank You" cards that you can print and fill out with a personal message and give to an essential worker. They are also located at the church, outside the church in a bin. We have so many people in our community that would appreciate a note of gratitude- postal workers, hospital staff, grocery store employees, safety officers and many more. If you'd like to give a card to someone at the hospital, please drop them off in the bin outside the church by 1/29/2021 and we will deliver them.

The Way of Love: Lenten Worship Series and Conversation

Poverty, racism, selfishness, climate change, ideological divisions, and disease all pose what appear to be insurmountable challenges to the communities we live in as well as the entire planet. But there is a path forward that can take us to a better place: The way of love. In this worship series we'll learn from God's Word and the inspiring life of Bishop Michael Curry how reclaiming the power of love can redeem the pain we're enduring in this country and lead us into a better future. The series kicks off on Ash Wednesday (February 17), and continues through Easter Sunday, with special video presentations shared via Wednesday Facebook Live sessions hosted by Curtis Rieck. The Adult Discipleship Vision Team will also be sponsoring optional Zoom conversations after the Wednesday evening live session. If you'd like to order the companion book (not necessary to fully participate in any of these events), they are available on Amazon: "Love Is the Way.: Holding on to Hope in Troubling Times" By Bishop Michael Curry. Would you consider hosting one or more of the follow-up conversations on Zoom? We'll even provide you with conversation starters for each session! Talk to Rita Varner-Otness to learn more.





Other Ministry Updates

Sunday School Parents

We are sending out a quick poll about options for children during Wednesday night Lent services via email. Please take a moment to respond. There are going to be a few options to see what will work best for the families in our congregation. Watch for an email from Maria!

Will You Make a Welcome Video?

It's been great having so many of our church family show up at the beginning of worship! It's a wonderful way to see each other – especially since we haven't seen each other in a while! Debbie Bishop is looking for short, simple "Welcome to Worship" greetings so would you be willing to help her out? If you are willing, here are a couple of tips on sharing a "welcome to worship" video clip:

- "Hi, (introduce yourself/family). I/We want to welcome you to worship this morning with Buffalo United Methodist Church."
- You may also add a comment or two... "I sure miss seeing everyone on Sunday mornings...I hope everyone is staying well...etc."
- You may use your phone, device or camcorder. Please hold your camera horizontally for a wider screen. Ideally, set up the camera at eye level or just above so we aren't looking at your chin!
- Leave a few seconds at both the beginning and end of video before you start talking, and after you stop talking for production purposes.

Short video clips may be texted to Debbie at 612-709-7377, or emailed to debbie@BuffaloUMC.com. (If your video is too long for texting or emailing, Debbie can send you a link to upload the file to Dropbox – just let her know).

Thanks for helping our congregation stay connected!

New Outdoor Gathering Area

Maverick Gilson has been working hard for the past couple of months on an Eagle project and wanted to combine his love for the outdoors with his passion for sharing God's love. He

decided to create an outdoor gathering area, including a brick circular patio, fire ring, and eventually four benches that can be used for fellowship or even small worship gatherings. He is now looking to replace the funds borrowed from his scouting account for the project. If you would like to donate, please mail a check to the church made out to BUMC with "Eagle Project" in the memo line. We look forward to experiencing God through this wonderful addition to our church property. Click [HERE](#) to watch a short video from Maverick regarding his project or go to our BUMC website.

Coming Up in Ministry

- Jan. 24 **9:00 am Online Worship Service**
9:00 am 1st Gr Faith Stepping Stone Blessing (during online worship)
10:00 am Virtual Fellowship
10:00 am Sunday School
online for Pre-1st, 7th & 8th grade
10:30 am Sunday School
online for 2nd-6th grade
4:00 pm Parking Lot Prayer and Food Drive
- Jan. 26 **7:00 pm Finance Meeting**
- Jan. 27 **6:00 pm Confirmation Focus Night**
6:30 pm Senior High Youth
- Jan. 31 **9:00 am Online Worship Service**
10:00 am Virtual Fellowship
10:00 am Sunday School
online for Pre-1st, 7th & 8th grade
10:30 am Sunday School
online for 2nd-6th grade

Prayer Reminder from the Adult Discipleship Vision Team

When you feel a need to pray, and you're not sure where to start; When you feel called to pray, and you can't find the words; When you want to pray, because you know God cares; When you know a conversation with God is needed; Try this, prayers based on scripture. A safe place to pray.

<https://sites.google.com/view/safeplacetopray/home>