

So All May Know Joy

BUMC Weekly Connection—Jan 8

This Sunday, January 10, 9:00 am

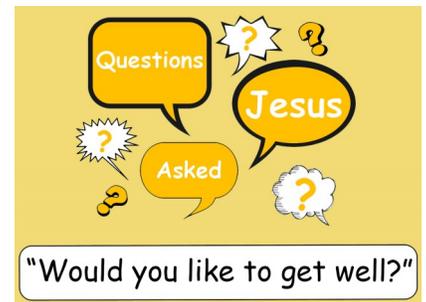
on Buffalo United Methodist Church's Facebook Page & YouTube!

Questions Jesus Asked

Pastor Bill continue 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 – Would You Like to Get Well?

When you visit a doctor, does she ever ask you, “Would you like to get well?” Of course not! Yet Jesus asked that very question of a man who had been sick for 38 years and unable to walk. His question can teach us something about our own role in healing, whatever it is that troubles us.

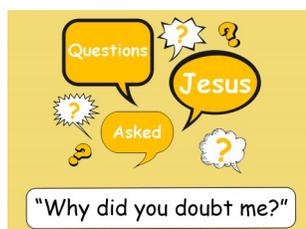


Sunday Scripture

Afterward, Jesus returned to Jerusalem for one of the Jewish holy days.

Inside the city, near the Sheep Gate, was the pool of Bethesda, with five covered porches. Crowds of sick people—blind, lame, or paralyzed—lay on the porches. One of the men lying there had been sick for thirty-eight years. When Jesus saw him and knew he had been ill for a long time, he asked him, “Would you like to get well?” “I can’t, sir,” the sick man said, “for I have no one to put me into the pool when the water bubbles up. Someone else always gets there ahead of me.” Jesus told him, “Stand up, pick up your mat, and walk!” Instantly, the man was healed! He rolled up his sleeping mat and began walking! John 5:1-9 (NLT)

Next Sunday – Why Did You Doubt Me?

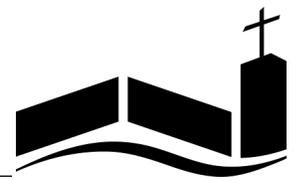


Fear is a pretty natural response to things like the sudden appearance of an angel, or waves crashing over the side of your boat. But how is it possible to be afraid when you're in the same boat as Jesus? The honesty of the disciples being afraid as well as a pointed question from Jesus teaches us something about faith, God, and our human emotions.

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>

Meeting ID: 852 4710 8308 Passcode: 731924 Phone +1 312 626 6799 US



Other Ministry Updates

A Book for All Seasons



It's certainly been, on average, a mild Minnesota winter. I'm thankful for that, but don't really mind putting on the wool socks and the snow pants when needed. But I do miss the vibrant green colors that are so typical of our state in the summer and so rare in the dead of winter. The lawns

and the gardens will be in a deep sleep for months now. I'm reminded of Isaiah's words: "The grass withers and the flowers fade, but the word of our God stands forever." (40:8, NLT). As much as I appreciate all four seasons, I'm glad that our Holy Scriptures endure, not just through one winter, but through all of them. I take great comfort in knowing that long after my life fades with the flowers, the Word of God will continue to be strong, living, and bearing fruit in the world. Certain parts of the Bible do seem to be especially suited for different seasons of our lives. Psalm 150, for example, is a noisy celebration of praise, while Psalm 22 is largely a plaintive lament and cry for help. Some texts are popular for weddings, while others are more typically read at funerals. But no matter what season of life we're experiencing, it's good to know that we have a trustworthy, enduring way to draw close to God and to discern God's best for us. What season are you living through? Look to the Word of God for comfort, wisdom, and plenty of challenges for the new year.

Pastor Bill

First Grade Faith Stepping Stone

Our first graders will learn about prayer in a Faith Stepping Stones class during ZOOM Sunday School hour on Sunday, January 17. Families should have received a letter and materials for the class in the mail about this. Isn't it awesome that parents and their 1st grade



children can learn about prayer together? Then on Sunday, January 24, students will receive a special blessing during worship. Any students in 2nd grade who did not attend last year are also encouraged to attend (please notify Michelle in the church office of your plans). Zoom meeting: Jan 17, 2021 10:00 AM

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/3351741539>

Meeting ID: 335 174 1539

New Year Parking Lot Prayer

As we enter the new year, please join Curtis Rieck on Sunday, January 24th from 4:00-

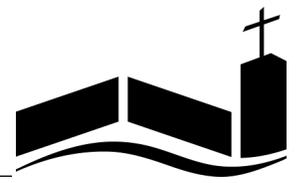
4:30PM in the parking lot for shared devotions and prayer. Even though 2020 has been full of challenges, we know that our prayers to God never stop! This will also be a Facebook Live



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 via your car radio. More details to come. There will be a Children's activity available to be picked up beforehand or on site on the 24th.

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. We want them to know that we are grateful for them and their services during this pandemic. 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. Or you can fill out the cards and mail them to essential workers you know. Thank you for taking the time to bring light to others.



Other Ministry Updates

Will You Make a Video Welcome?

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!

2021 Offering Envelopes Available

Offering envelopes for this year are available. Please call or email the office to receive some by mail.

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. 10 **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
- Jan. 12 **7:00 pm Leadership Team Meeting**
- Jan. 13 **6:00 pm Confirmation Focus Night**
6:30 pm Senior High Youth
- Jan. 17 **9:00 am Online Worship Service**
10:00 am Virtual Fellowship
10:00 am 1st Gr Faith Stepping Stone class— Prayer
10:00 am Sunday School
 online for Pre-1st, 7th & 8th grade
10:30 am Sunday School
 online for 2nd-6th grade

