



So All May Know Joy

BUMC Weekly Connection—July 12

This Sunday, July 14 @ 9:00

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

Sermon Series—On Purpose

Have you ever asked this question: Why am I here? Trying to discover the purpose of our lives can lead to a lot of questions: Who am I? Do I have a “calling”? What am I supposed to do with my life? What does purposeful living look like? Often, the world is all too ready to give us answers to these questions – promising that finding the perfect job or achieving the next milestone will make us happy. But in this series, we will embrace these questions as an invitation to discover what it is that God wants to do with the story of our lives right now.



This Sunday – What is My Purpose Now | Matthew 14:13-21

To discover our purpose, we must not focus only on the future, but also pay attention to the present. What do we have to offer right now, and who needs it? When we offer what we have now, we find – often to our surprise – that our purpose begins to come into focus.

Scripture Reading | Matthew 14:13-21

When Jesus heard what had happened, he withdrew by boat privately to a solitary place. Hearing of this, the crowds followed him on foot from the towns. When Jesus landed and saw a large crowd, he had compassion on them and healed their sick.

As evening approached, the disciples came to him and said, “This is a remote place, and it’s already getting late. Send the crowds away, so they can go to the villages and buy themselves some food.”

Jesus replied, “They do not need to go away. You give them something to eat.”

“We have here only five loaves of bread and two fish,” they answered.

“Bring them here to me,” he said. And he directed the people to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish and looking up to heaven, he gave thanks and broke the loaves. Then he gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the people. They all ate and were satisfied, and the disciples picked up twelve basketfuls of broken pieces that were left over. The number of those who ate was about five thousand men, besides women and children.

Next Week – No Time Is Wasted | Exodus 16 or Proverbs 8:22-31

When we don’t have the answer to where we are going, we often feel like we are wandering and “wasting time.” But with God, no time is wasted. In our wandering, God offer us an opportunity to explore new possibilities through acts of creativity, wonder, and play.

Sunday Fellowship If you'd like an opportunity to get together for coffee and a chat ... Let's meet in the Fellowship Hall after the service.





Other Ministry Updates

- July 14** 9:00 am Worship Service
10:00 am Fellowship
10:00 am All Church SWOT
- July 16** 7:00 pm SPRC Meeting
- July 17** 9:30 am Reading in the Park
6:30 pm *The Chosen* viewing
- July 18** 6:15 pm Summer Fun Night
- July 21** 9:00 am Worship Service
10:00 am Fellowship
10:00 am All Church SWOT

Experience Summer Fun at BUMC!

This **Thursday, July 18th**, come to BUMC for a fun night for all ages!! Kids and adults are invited to join us for a meal at **6:15** followed by three different fun opportunities for growth and mindfulness!

1. Mini-S.I.N.G. Pastor Amy will share a little about our Spirituality in Nature Group, a time to de-stress and relax while we engage in Nature Bingo (all ages welcome)!
 2. BUMC's Labyrinth. Martyn Dibben will host and teach kids and adults how to get the most out of our labyrinth, to experience walking meditation, in a practice that is over 4,000 years old.
 3. Jericho Prayer Walk. The Prayer Ministry will host a full-bodied prayer experience to pray for the church. As we walk around the church, you can pray out loud or in silence and go at your own pace. This event is also kid-friendly, and all adults are welcome.
- As a special treat, we'll plan to wrap up the evening with ice cream sandwiches!
**Chairs will be available at each location for those wanting to participate without the extra walking. This event is also kid-friendly and all adults are welcome.

Connecting with Campers

We are so excited to have 8 children signed up to attend UM camps this summer!! If you're willing to bless these campers by sending them a note in the mail or email while at camp, you can send it to: Koronis Ministries 15752 Lake Ave. Paynesville, MN 56362 or KORCampers@campminnesota.org.



Please put the camper's name and the camp they are attending. This week Dalinda Gravley and friend, Quinn Nussman will be attending Teen Specialty Week Camp from **July 14 - July 19**. Please pray for them.

Summer Movie Nights!

Join us this summer as we watch *The Chosen: Season 2* and look at the life of Christ through the eyes of His disciples. Come and see what they saw. Every **Wednesday from 6:30 - 7:30 pm** we will be showing one episode. There will be time for discussion afterwards. Join in as many as you can!

Meals on Wheels in August

Don't forget that August is our month to provide drivers for Meals on Wheels delivery in Buffalo! Click [HERE](#) to sign up online, sign up on the bulletin board in the entry way or call Michelle in the office.



Reading in the Park

Our Summer Reading in the Park program continues each **Wednesday from 9:30 - 10:30 am** through **August 21**. We are also looking for healthy snack donations for approximately 24 children each week. Donations can be placed in the labeled bin in the Church entry. Any items that need refrigeration or freezing, please label and place in the kitchen fridge/freezer. Thank you for helping making this program such a success!

Confirmation & Youth Group SWOT!

Sunday, July, 28th after worship, everyone is welcome to attend. Students and parents of 7th-12th graders are especially invited to grab a snack, meet in the back Fellowship Hall to share your thoughts and passions as it relates to our youth.

Secure Giving



Worship Registration





Other Ministry Updates



“Everyone is Welcome” SWOT

Sunday, July 14th and Sunday, July 21st, right after our worship service, everyone is welcome to gather and give feedback on our church. The feedback you give (on our strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats) is essential. This information will assist the Leadership Team and Staff in discerning God’s guidance, identify ministry priorities and set goals to help us to continue to grow in vitality and missional effectiveness. Hosted by Pastor Amy and Gail Hurley (Chair of the Leadership Team).

God Who Sees Us, stir up this truth in our daily experience, ...” **the same power that the Father used to raise Jesus from the dead is at work in us.” (Eph 1:19-20)**
Breakthrough, speak, show and inspire us so that we may follow where your Spirit is leading us next at BUMC. Amen.

Re-launching Breakthrough Prayer Initiative!

As we launch the SWOT Initiative we also want to remember to be in prayer. Therefore, we are re-launching our Breakthrough Prayer shown above.

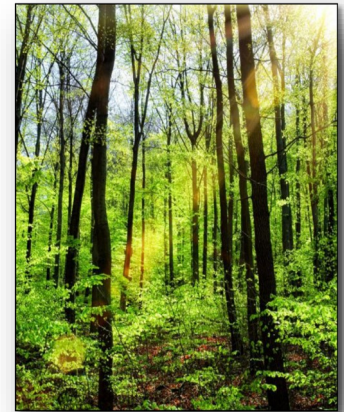
We are asking EVERYONE to pray this prayer twice a day. You can pray it at **6:09am** and **6:09pm** or anytime it works for your schedule. It will take less than a minute out of your day. We can do this!

Please pray for God’s best for our church. Pray we will discern together how God is leading us and guiding us. Pray we also listen to one

another as we dream and plan strategically where we need to prioritize our efforts over the next 3 to 5 years.

Spirituality in Nature Group (S.I.N.G)

S.I.N.G. is a gathering of people who want to explore our connection to God in Nature. Our hope is to gather a diverse group of all ages, committed to consistently exploring and deepening our spirituality together in nature. All stories and faith traditions are welcomed, including no-faith.



At each gathering, there will be a variety of activities, including meeting new people with common interests, exploring nature in both group and solo time, as well as a time of sharing (if interested).

The location is Bertram Regional Park (9910 Briarwood Ave NE, Monticello) at the amphitheater. Participants will need the ability to both walk up to 3/4 of a mile and climb steps to reach the amphitheater.

If you enjoy meeting new people and love to be in nature, this may be the perfect opportunity for you! Gatherings are from May - October so join once or as many times that work for your schedule.

We hope to see you there!

July 25 - Connection and Compassion 2

August 1 - Giving Thanks 1

August 15 - Giving Thanks 2

September 5 - Coming Home 1

September 19 - Coming Home 2

October 3 - Autumn: Harvest

October 17 - Autumn: Harvest

Nursery Help Wanted

We are looking to expand our nursery staff on Sunday mornings (8:45-10:15). If you are interested in learning more about this opportunity, please contact [Andrea Gravley](#).