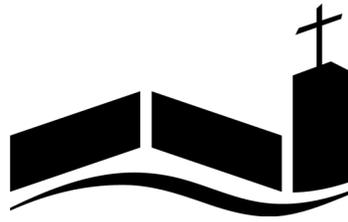


**BUFFALO
UNITED METHODIST**



So All May Know Joy

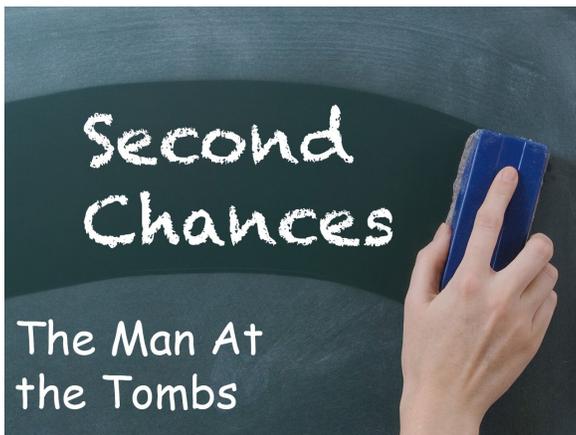
BUMC Weekly Connection—July 3

This Sunday, July 5, 9:00 am

on Buffalo United Methodist Church's Facebook Page:

NEW SERIES! *Second Chances: Stories of Restoration and Redemption*

Human beings aren't perfect. We make mistakes, we mess up, and we hurt ourselves and others. We sometimes end up feeling unlovable, broken and worthless - like a piece of discarded furniture set out on the curb. But just like that ugly sofa, all we need is for someone to see our potential and give us a second chance. The message of the Gospel is that no matter where we are or what we've done, God sees beyond our imperfections, loves us, forgives us and offers us a new life.



The Man at the Tombs – July 5

The encounters Jesus has with demons in the Bible are shockingly foreign to our understanding of the world. No matter whether you choose to understand this as possession or mental illness, the results speak for themselves. Pastor Bill explores how Jesus gave the man living in the tombs freedom from what bound him and a new lease on life, and Jesus offers each of us the same second chance!

Communion This Sunday

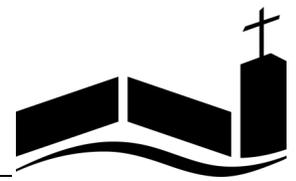
Our worship this Sunday will also include communion, so remember to gather your items representing the bread and the wine as we gather in spirit around Christ's table.

Sunday worship is a great way to stay connected with your church family! Remember, even if you can't watch the premier live at 9:00 on Sunday morning, you can watch it any time afterwards. See familiar faces as they welcome you to worship, share scripture with you and other messages, too.

Wednesday Evening “Praise and Prayer” Gatherings Start July 8 at 7:00 pm

Let's get together outdoors as a first step to re-gathering! Join us on **Wednesday, July 8 at 7:00 pm** for our first Wednesday evening outdoor “praise and prayer” event (weather permitting). Bring your face masks, blanket or lawn chairs (or folding chairs will be available). We'll spread out on the lawn to safely physical distance and have a short worship service. If you're still not sure about gathering in-person, you can watch this Wednesday worship on Facebook as a livestream! Just go to our church's FB page.

On **Wednesday, July 15** we will hold another Zoom Prayer service for our “praise and prayer” event, and you may choose to gather at church, or join us from home, either on Zoom or by simply calling in on your phone. (You will have just audio, not video if you dial in.) Watch for details!



Other Ministry Updates

BUMC EarthKeepers News!

Did you know there is a MN Ecumenical Water Initiative? Minnesota Lutherans, Methodists joined with the MN Council of Churches to form this group to promote access to safe, healthy drinking water to all in Minnesota. To learn more about the organization and their latest letter writing campaign, visit MNEWI.org. Some of our church members have already written letters to the governor regarding a pending water infrastructure legislation.



Share a Video!

It's been great having so many of our church family show up in worship via videos! Doesn't it help us feel connected? Perhaps it's your turn! We'd love to get your short video clips in the following categories:

1. A simple **"Welcome to Worship"** greeting
2. A **"Second Chance" story**—Our next worship series is about restoration and redemption though getting a "second chance." Do you have a short story to tell?
3. A **ministry video**—If you've been working at the food shelf, helping neighbors, or doing a creation care project during the pandemic when our ministry options are so limited, we'd like to hear about it! Take a short hands-on video to share and inspire others.

Books Needed for Our Little Library

Our church's Little Library by the playground continues to be used regularly, and we could use more children's books. Small numbers of book donations can go right in the library, but larger amounts can be dropped off at church for later use. Arrange an appointment to drop off.

Finance Team Update

By Martyn Dibben

Welcome to mid-summer! Enjoy the extended daylight hours and family gatherings, but don't forget the relentless potential of COVID-19 re-infections. Church gatherings remain online, and despite improved congregational use of alternative giving formats, donations are running some \$10,000 below normal for the first

half of 2020. However, non-salary expenses are way down and certain staff costs have been offset by underwriting of the Annual Conference. Consequently, the negative net June dollar balance of @ -\$1,379 is well below the typical deficit of the previous six budget years. This is about to change, however, as the church's monthly portion of staff health & pension costs (\$1,809) become payable again in July, and a deferred annual Workers Compensation bill (of @ \$3,096) comes due September 15. The church has reserves in the General Fund that can be tapped in a stressed year, but it is far more practical for monthly contributions to offset expected costs as laid out in each year's budget. Apportionments have been paid through June - so please keep your dedicated giving in motion! And use one of the four BUMC options currently available:

- a) Automated gifting via EFT which helps maintain cash flow & can be set up through Patty;
- b) Snail mail a check to Patty c/o 609 8th St. NW, Buffalo, MN 55313;
- c) Access an on-line banking Bill Pay system (which is usually free);
- d) Contribute via BUMC's Facebook page or Website clicking on the 'give' link (remember credit card use has fees which eat up a portion of your gift).

Donations tend to drop off over a normal summer, and this year the world and church life are vastly changed. But God's call to ministry is unrelenting, and your special commitment during uncertain times will allow BUMC to continue serving its flock and missions faithfully.

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

This Week in Ministry

- | | |
|---------|--|
| July 5 | 9:00 am Online Worship on Facebook |
| July 7 | Property Team Meeting online |
| July 8 | 7:00 pm Praise & Prayer worship |
| July 12 | 9:00 am Online Worship |