



*So All May Know Joy*

## **BUMC Weekly Connection—June 19**

**This Sunday, June 21, 9:00 am**

on Buffalo United Methodist Church's Facebook Page:

### ***Living in a 1080p Time***

It wasn't long ago when we had ourselves fooled that we would never see an end to the economic, educational, and technological prosperity enjoyed by so many, but not all, in our country. The most privileged of us were living "4K" lives, with the U.S. economy booming and the world displayed in high resolution. How quickly those plans went up in smoke...snuffed out by something we can't see with the naked eye and something we've been pretending doesn't exist.



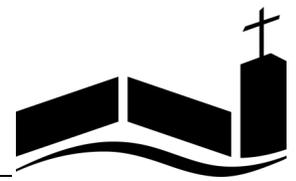
### **Update and Input on COVID Practices and Re-Gathering for Worship**

You should have received an email over the last two days with an invitation to share with the Leadership Team your own readiness to resume sanctuary (in-person) worship, assuming appropriate COVID safeguards are in place. If you didn't receive the email, first check your junk email folder, then contact Debbie Bishop if you still need help. Those without email should receive a phone call instead. The survey should only take a minute or two. Things to know while we wait:

**Ask the Pastor**—Pastor Bill has attached an update on where our church stands and where we may head, regarding COVID practices and next steps, both indoors and outdoors. Please take the time to carefully read it. In summary, at this stage of the Re-Gathering Plan, everyone coming to the church property should wear a mask and observe at least six feet of physical distance when sharing the church building and church grounds with others. Nobody should come to the church building or church grounds if they have a fever or other signs of illness. Ministry groups are encouraged to continue to meet either online or outdoors (with masks and distancing) unless there is a clear need to be indoors.

**Wednesday Evening Gatherings in July** are being considered, perhaps as outdoor "praise and prayer" or "campfire worship" events. Another alternative is to continue the Zoom Prayer services in that time slot, like the one held last Wednesday evening, with in-person participation optional. Please let staff know if either of these ideas appeals to you and the likelihood of your participation. Outdoor Wednesday gatherings would still require physical distancing and masks.

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



## Other Ministry Updates

### Books Needed for Our Little Library

Our church's Little Library by the playground continues to be used regularly, and we're actually running out of children's books. If you have some kids' books you're no longer using, please donate! Small numbers of books could go right in the library, but larger amounts can be dropped off at church for later use. Arrange an appointment, or take a chance to swing by church. W-F there are often staff onsite.

### We Want To See You Online!

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 that we might share to inspire others. (It's not bragging, it's inspiration!!)

### Walk the Labyrinth!

There's a great, safe outdoor activity right in our church's backyard! Spend some time at our prayer labyrinth. And spread the word to others who might enjoy this meditative activity. A flyer with details or to share is attached.

### Email Scam Using Pastor Bill's Name

Pastor Bill and many other UM pastors, including Bishop Ough, have once again had their names used with bogus email accounts. Scammers go to church and conference websites and use the names of leaders in an attempt to swindle people. Pastor Bill will never send you an email asking you to send gift cards, wire bail money, or anything like that. When in doubt, please call or text Pastor Bill directly before taking any action.

### Ways to Give Your Tithes and Offerings

The strength of our church grows when each faithful person, inspired and empowered by the Holy Spirit, shares their talents, spiritual gifts, passions, and wealth for the common good of building up the Body of Christ for ministry to all the world. You and your gifts really matter!

There are several different ways you can give:

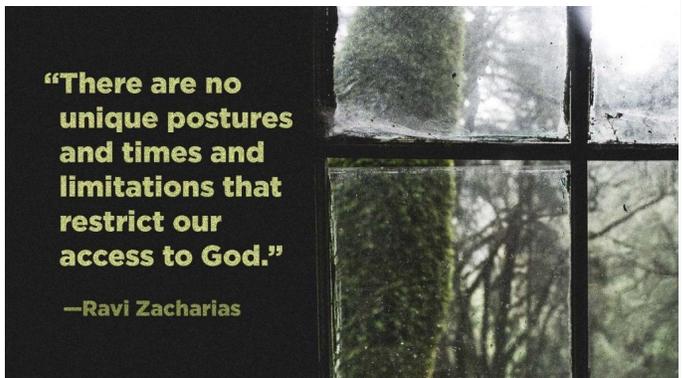
- EFT (automated giving) helps maintain cash flow and can be set up through Patty
- Mailing in your offerings is also great— send to BUMC at 609 8th St NW, Buffalo 55313
- Use free online banking BillPay.
- Give on our website or our Facebook page by clicking on the "give" link. Do remember that whenever you use a credit card, the fees eat up a portion of your gift, however.

### Free Produce Distribution Now in Buffalo

There is now a Free Produce Distribution the second and fourth Wednesday of each month. The next one is **Wednesday, June 24** at Buffalo Covenant Church parking lot. As you drive up, you will be asked for: 1. Your zip code 2. Age group and number in your household 3. Have you picked up produce previously from this distribution. You will stay in your vehicle and simply "pop" the trunk so volunteers can place the box of produce in for you.

### This Week in Ministry

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|---------|---|
| June 21 | <b>9:00 am Online Worship on Facebook</b>             |
| June 24 | <b>7:15 pm Online Adult Discipleship Team Meeting</b> |
| June 28 | <b>9:00 am Online Worship</b>                         |



**"There are no unique postures and times and limitations that restrict our access to God."**

—Ravi Zacharias