



So All May Know Joy

BUMC Weekly Connection—March 17

This Sunday, March 19 @ 9:00 am

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

This Sunday – The Prostitutes and Prodigals

This Sunday we'll consider the prostitutes and the prodigals, those whose behavior alienated them from the communities they lived in and placed them near the bottom of the social ladder. Jesus turned all social expectations on their head, dining with prostitutes and offering forgiveness to prodigals.

There's room at the table for...



The Prostitutes and Prodigals

Scripture Reading

To illustrate the point further, Jesus told them this story: "A man had two sons. The younger son told his father, 'I want my share of your estate now before you die.' So his father agreed to divide his wealth between his sons.

"A few days later this younger son packed all his belongings and moved to a distant land, and there he wasted all his money in wild living. About the time his money ran out, a great famine swept over the land, and he began to starve. He persuaded a local farmer to hire him, and the man sent him into his fields to feed the pigs. The young man became so hungry that even the pods he was feeding the pigs looked good to him. But no one gave him anything.

"When he finally came to his senses, he said to himself, 'At home even the hired servants have food enough to spare, and here I am dying of hunger! I will go home to my father and say, "Father, I have sinned against both heaven and you, and I am no longer worthy of being called your son. Please take me on as a hired servant."'

"So he returned home to his father. And while he was still a long way off, his father saw him coming. Filled with love and compassion, he ran to his son, embraced him, and kissed him. His son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against both heaven and you, and I am no longer worthy of being called your son.' "But his father said to the servants, 'Quick! Bring the finest robe in the house and put it on him. Get a ring for his finger and sandals for his feet. And kill the calf we have been fattening. We must celebrate with a feast, for this son of mine was dead and has now returned to life. He was lost, but now he is found.' So the party began. Luke 15:11-24 NLT

There's room at the table for...



The Homeless Beggars

Next Sunday – The Homeless Beggars

Next Sunday we'll consider the homeless beggars, those who today find themselves living under highway overpasses, bounced around by communities unwilling to help them and too uncomfortable with their presence. Jesus stopped and listened to a blind beggar rather than simply walking past him. Who are the homeless beggars in your life? How can you make room at the table for them?



Other Ministry Updates

- March 19 9:00 am** Worship Service—UMCOR Sunday
10:00 am Sunday School & Education
10:00 am Fellowship
- March 21 7:00 pm** SPRC meeting
- March 22 6:00 pm** Lent supper—Tacos
6:30 pm Lenten Service
6:30 pm Children & Youth
- March 26 9:00 am** Worship Service
10:00 am Sunday School & Education
10:00 am Fellowship

Wednesday Evenings in Lent

Each Wednesday, we'll continue meeting at **6:00** for a meal, with an abbreviated time of gathering afterwards. In the sanctuary, we'll be sharing devotional readings, Scriptures, and prayers from the book: *Uncovering the Love of Jesus*.



Lenten Series for Children & Youth

We hope you can join us each **Wednesday** in Lent following supper for a time of learning and fun from **6:30 - 7:15 pm**.



Scriptures for Room at the Table Worship

If you would like to read ahead, here are the scripture readings for the series.

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| March 19 | Luke 15:11-24; 7:36-50 |
| April 2 | Luke 19:28-40; 18:35-43 |
| April 9 | Luke 24:1-24; 38-33 |

MN Food Share

March is MN Food Share Month. All donations will be partially matched by various organizations. Shop for your favorite foods to donate or donate money by listing "food shelf" in the memo line of your check. Any food or personal care products can be placed in the red wagon outside of the church office. The donation time runs through **April 9**. Thank you for your generosity.



Easter Garden Flowers

This Sunday is the last day to place an order for Easter flowers. Order forms are in the chairs at church or you can call Michelle at the church office to place an order. Also, if you have any green or flowering plants that you may be willing to loan to the Easter garden for two weeks (April 8-16), please call Laurie Schroeder at 763-682-4409. Thank you for helping make our Easter Garden possible!



UMCOR Special Offering

This Sunday, **March 19**,



we'll be receiving a special offering for UMCOR, the United Methodist Committee on Relief. UMCOR comes alongside those who suffer from natural or human-caused disasters – famine, hurricane, war, flood, fire or other events—to alleviate suffering and serve as a source of help and hope for the vulnerable. This special offering will be used to pay administrative expenses so that 100 percent of donations given to particular UMCOR projects and appeals can go directly to them. Please use one of the special envelopes in the sanctuary or write UMCOR in the memo line of your check or on the outside of your envelope.

Hymnals and Bibles

If you prefer to use the Hymnals and Bibles, please stop at the Welcome Cart and one of the Guest Connections Team members will give you the appropriate books for the day. Please remember to return your hymnals, songbooks and Bibles to the bookshelf after the service.

Secure Giving



Worship Registration





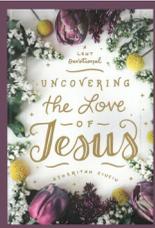
Other Ministry Updates

Palm Sunday

Holy Week is just around the corner. We'll be observing Palm Sunday on **April 2 at 9:00 am**.



Come join the palm parade as we shout Hosanna to the King!



Holy Thursday
April 6, 6:30 pm

Holy Thursday

Holy Week will continue with Holy Thursday on **April 6 at 6:30 pm** in the sanctuary. We'll wind up our

"Uncovering the Love of Jesus" series, including communion in the Upper Room with Jesus and the disciples. Please note that we will **not** be serving a mid-week meal before this service.

Easter Sunday

To accommodate the extra people that Easter worship usually draws, we'll be offering two Easter Sunday worship services: a **contemporary** worship experience at **9:00 am** and a **traditional** worship service at **10:30 am**. Caramel and cinnamon rolls as well as a special children's craft activity in the back fellowship hall will be offered during the half hour between services.

Two Easter Services!

Sunday, April 9

9:00 Contemporary
10:30 Traditional

Grief Journeys—Living and Moving Forward After Loss

All of us will face losses in life, but sometimes we feel as if we are left alone in the darkness of grief without any idea how to move forward. In this group, we invite you to learn and discuss four ideas for living with grief based on J. William Worden's *Four Tasks of Mourning*. Together, we will share education and experience to help us move forward in life while keeping a connection with the ones we love.

This four-session series of interaction, discussion and education on grief and healing will be led and hosted by Steve Timm on **Thursday mornings, 10:00 am, April 13 & 20 and May 4 & 11** (note: no meeting April 27). This class is limited to 10 people. Please email Debbie Bishop at debbie@buffaloumc.com to sign up.

Summer Camp

Summer 2023 camp registration is open! Don't forget about the Early Bird incentive. Register before **April 30** and receive a \$25 Camp Store Credit. Save even more by bringing a friend with you to camp. [Click here for details](#). All BUMC youth who register for a UMC camp this summer will receive 50% off the tuition, as well as all 1st-time adults. In addition, we



cover another \$100 off for fifth graders. Financial aid is also offered through the conference. Call Andrea Gravley for more information.

Lawn Crew Needed

The Property Team is gearing up for lawn mowing and we have saved a lot of money annually by using volunteers to mow May through October. The church has mowers on site that you can use. Would you consider volunteering once or twice this year? Contact Michelle at the church office to volunteer. Thank you!



Coffee and Worship



The two best things on Sunday morning are coffee and worship, and we welcome you to bring yours in to the sanctuary. However, in order to preserve our beautiful newly remodeled sanctuary we ask that you bring a covered coffee cup from home when bringing your cup into the sanctuary.