



So All May Know Joy

BUMC Weekly Connection—March 19

This Sunday, March 21, 9:00 am

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

Sunday — Love Brings Us Together

Our life together is increasingly marked by polarization: racially, economically, sexually, and politically. The stress of these deep divisions is threatening the existence of the communities we've long relied on to hold us together: the family, the church, and the government. As unlikely as it seems, the way of love can still unite us.



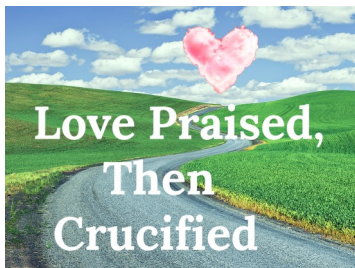
Sunday Scripture

Therefore I, a prisoner for serving the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of your calling, for you have been called by God. Always be humble and gentle. Be patient with each other, making allowance for each other's faults because of your love. Make every effort to keep yourselves united in the Spirit, binding yourselves together with peace. For there is one body and one Spirit, just as you have been called to one glorious hope for the future. There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is over all, in all, and living through all. Get rid of all bitterness, rage, anger, harsh words, and slander, as well as all types of evil behavior. Instead, be kind to each other, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, just as God through Christ has forgiven you.

Ephesians 4:1-4, 31-32 (NLT)

Wednesday Devotion — March 24

Tune in on Facebook Live at 6:30pm to watch the next video on Chapters 9 & 10 of "Love Is the Way" and share a devotional from Curtis Rieck. An optional Zoom Discussion Group will follow on Zoom at 7:00pm (see following article for the Zoom link).



Next Sunday March 28 — Love Praised, Then Crucified

Jesus was welcomed to Jerusalem by cheering crowds waving palm branches, witnesses to the power of love demonstrated in the teaching and actions of Jesus. Only one week later, the same crowd abandoned the way of love, crucifying love on a cross.

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=SXVvNkZibHdPZlZ6WnFLL3p0cDRQZz09>

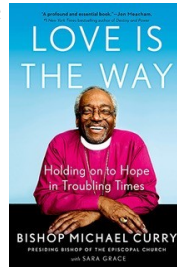




Other Ministry Updates

Wednesday Lenten Discussion Group

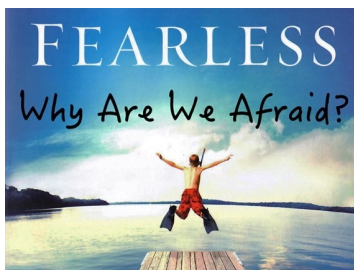
Zoom conversations on Love Is the Way, continue at 7 p.m. after the Wednesday evening services through March 31. We are posting here the discussion questions that will be used at the upcoming discussion. We look forward to having you join us. If you are not available each Wednesday, please join when you can. We have had thoughtful conversation on the topic of Love and the power it has in our lives. Here are the questions to think about for March 24: Chapters 9 and 10



1. Where do you see and feel hopeful about our children showing us the way of love?
2. Our stories have power. When has learning another's story changed your perception of them as a person?
3. Bishop Curry asks us to bless someone we disagree with and someone you agree with this week, and to pray for our nation - that we will have the courage to love. Can you commit to that this week?

The Zoom link for Wednesday conversation is: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85053324369?pwd=NEFpdkN1YlRocjV4aGU2eVoybFNFdz09> Meeting ID: 850 5332 4369. Passcode: 209482 You can also go to the UM conference website at <https://www.minnesotauc.org/2021-lenten-study> if you would like to read the full study guides or preview the videos.

Call for Pictures for FEARLESS Worship Series



On April 18, we'll be starting a new worship series about living the resurrection life as fearless Easter people. We'd love to be able to share your photos of living

fearlessly! Please send in a photo (or a scanned photo) of you or someone you know doing something fearlessly, however you want to

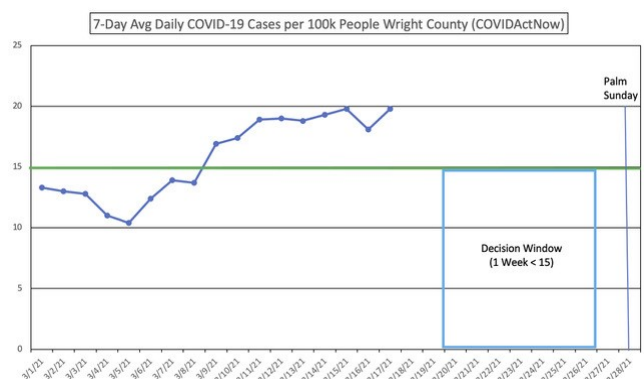
define it. Please include a brief paragraph caption that gives us the "who, what, where, when, and why" of the photo. Submission of your photo constitutes permission to share your story in our livestream worship.

Online Worship Technology Changing on March 28

Beginning March 28, Sunday worship will be moving from Facebook Premier to YouTube Live and Facebook Live. Consequently, you'll no longer see the Premier announcements. The livestreams will appear five minutes prior to the beginning of worship. Finding them at <https://www.facebook.com/BUMCMN> and YouTube <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCBfdHMUJ8yfF1cCyEcLSW5g/featured>

Will We Worship In-Person on March 28 and Easter?

Per the new BUMC Regathering Plan, we are monitoring the per capita daily COVID rate for Wright County (using a seven-day average). The threshold for resuming in-sanctuary worship on March 28 is seven consecutive days below 15 cases/100k. We are all hoping for those vaccines to kick in! Meanwhile, case rates are currently trending higher in Wright County and Minnesota as a whole, but we will continue to monitor the situation and we'll try again after Easter if we don't make it this time around. Don't give up hope!





Other Ministry Updates

Play with Cool Tech in the Sanctuary

Have you sat in worship thinking how fun it would be to run the projections during the service? If yes, now is your time to shine!!! We have implemented our new video/live streaming system and are looking for people to volunteer to run it during worship! The best part?? You don't even have to be a "techie" to help!! Debbie Bishop will be training anyone that is interested in helping, so send her an email letting her know you'd like to be on the list (debbie@buffaloum.com)!

Palm Branches for Palm Sunday (March 28)

Good news! We will have palm branches for you, regardless of whether you'll be celebrating Palm Sunday in our church sanctuary or online. If we are able have in-person worship, please pick up your palm branch as you enter the sanctuary on that day. If you are worshipping online, you'll find palm branches by the outside door nearest the church office beginning Friday, March 26.



rsvp. church

We will be using rsvp.churh through Breeze, our current church database for a reservation system when we resume in-person worship. This allows our church to reopen safely in the age of the coronavirus by providing a simple RSVP form. RSVP registration will be available on Tuesday, March 23rd at 9:30am for Palm Sunday, March 28th. You will be sent an email with a link to RSVP. If you would like to sign up to use Breeze, please respond to this email. If you would rather RSVP for in-person worship by phone, please call M-Th 9:00-3:00, Fri 9:00-1:00.

Minnesota FoodShare

The 2021 Minnesota FoodShare March Campaign will run until Sunday, April 11. If you would like to support our local food shelf, food donations may be brought to church and we will deliver them to the food shelf. Monetary donations are accepted! .

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!

Coming Up in Ministry

- March 21 **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
- March 24 **6:00 pm Confirmation Focus Night**
- March 24 **6:30 pm Senior High Youth**
6:30 pm Lenten Livestream Service
7:00 pm Lent Zoom Discussion Group
- March 26 **Pick up Palm Branches for Online Worship thru Sunday**
- March 28 **9:00 am Worship Service-** Palm Sunday Online, in-person tbd
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

Update on Summer Camp 2021!

All BUMC children and 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 normally cover another \$100 off for fifth graders. Because camps were closed last year due to COVID, this year we're offering that \$100 scholarship for both fifth and sixth graders! Exciting! Check out the current offerings, COVID-19 Safety protocols and learn more information online! Visit the site if you are interested as registration is OPEN. <https://www.campminnesota.org/campsessions>.

