



So All May Know Joy

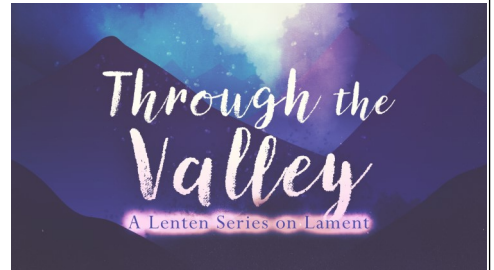
BUMC Weekly Connection—March 1

This Sunday, March 3 @ 9:00 am

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

Sermon Series—Through the Valley: A Lenten Series

Just as Jesus wandered in the wilderness for forty days, so too can we feel like we are wandering in the wilderness, as we face hardships, grief, temptations, and injustices. This Lent, we will discover what it means to wander these parts of life in honesty with God through the practice of lament. We will learn how crying out to God in our need can help us to fully embrace what it means to be human beings held and loved by a God we can trust. We will learn that even through the darkest valleys, Jesus both goes ahead of us and walks with us.



This Sunday — Being Honest With Ourselves - Surrender

Jesus did not always love his options and in the midst of lament, he still freely chose to surrender to God.

Communion This Sunday

Our worship this Sunday will also include Holy Communion. In the United Methodist Church, all are welcome at the table, as we understand Communion to be the gift of Jesus Christ to anyone of any age who desires a closer relationship with Him. If you are worshipping at home, remember to gather your items representing the bread and the wine as we gather in spirit around Christ's table. If you don't have bread and grape juice, crackers and water are a great substitute.

Scripture Reading | Matthew 26:36-46

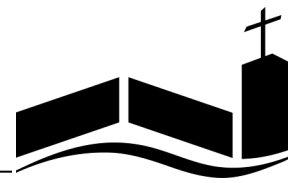
Then Jesus went with his disciples to a place called Gethsemane, and he said to them, "Sit here while I go over there and pray." He took Peter and the two sons of Zebedee along with him, and he began to be sorrowful and troubled. Then he said to them, "My soul is overwhelmed with sorrow to the point of death. Stay here and keep watch with me."

Going a little farther, he fell with his face to the ground and prayed, "My Father, if it is possible, may this cup be taken from me. Yet not as I will, but as you will."

Then he returned to his disciples and found them sleeping. "Couldn't you men keep watch with me for one hour?" he asked Peter. "Watch and pray so that you will not fall into temptation. The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak."

Next Week — Being Honest in Community | Esther 4:1-5

When we recognize or experience injustice, crying out together in words and actions can move us closer to God's vision for humanity and stir us to make change.



Other Ministry Updates

March 3 9:00 am Contemporary Worship with Communion

10:00 am Fellowship

10:00 am Education Hour

10:30 am Traditional Worship with FSS Blessing and Communion

March 4 9:00 am Commodity Distribution

March 5 7:00 pm Property Team Meeting

March 6 3:00 pm Guest Connection Meeting

6:00 pm Lenten Meal

6:35 pm Lent Service

6:35 pm Lenten Series for kids

7:15 pm Handbell Rehearsal

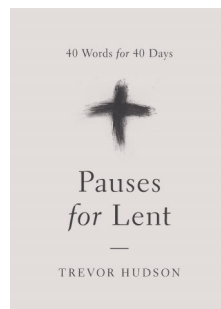
March 10 9:00 am Worship with Handbells

10:00 am Fellowship

10:00 am Education Hour

Lent Series

We will be having Wed. night services, with a congregational supper at **6:00** and then a short service from **6:35-7:15**. The book we will be reading from is called *Pauses for Lent – 40 Words for 40 Days*. Join us each Wed as we hear readings, reflect on our journey, and sing our way to the cross.



Children's Ministry will continue our tradition of hosting a Lenten Series for kids and youth ages 3+. We are planning some awesome activities to help our kids experience the walk to the cross as well each **Wednesday** evening from approximately **6:35 - 7:15pm**. Feel free to reach out to [Andrea](#) directly with any questions!



Faith Stepping Stone

Fifth & Sixth Grade Faith Stepping Stone

This **Sunday, March 3** at the second service we will bless the fifth and sixth grade students and they will help serve

communion. As part of their Faith Stepping Stone, they also receive an additional \$100 gift toward UM church camp registration.

Help Make Our Easter Garden Happen

Our beautiful, Easter Resurrection Garden on **March 31** only happens with your



generous donation of flowers! Your flower or cash donation may be given in honor or in memory of someone if you wish. Flowers will be available for pick up after the service on **April 7**. You will find order forms in the back of the chairs.

Easter

Celebrate Easter in our Resurrection Garden at either **9:00 am** or **10:30 am** on **March 31**.

March is Minnesota Food Share Month:

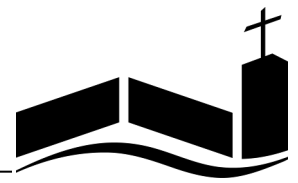


The 43rd March campaign for 2024 runs from **February 26–April 6**. Any food or monetary donations made during this time will be complimented with a percentage of dollars from the “food fund.” The food

fund is funded by local corporations, foundations, businesses, and individuals, as part of Minnesota FoodShare. Please consider donating food, personal care items, or money. The most needed items are currently canned fruit, canned tuna or chicken, flour, cereal, ketchup, personal care items, or any of your favorite snacks. Place items in the red wagon outside of the church office. Let’s repeatedly fill the wagon! Money can be given through the church by designating “food shelf” in your check memo or note on your cash. You can also donate on line at Buffalofoodshelf.com They are always looking for volunteers also.

Blankets for Beds

Donate new or gently used blankets/linens by calling the church office for drop off or if you need them picked up, call Dianne McLain 763-682-2260. The need is still great.



Other Ministry Updates

UMCOR Sunday March 10

Next Sunday we'll receive our annual UMCOR offering. Your gifts make the global disaster relief work of the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) possible by covering staff and administration costs, allowing your donations throughout the year to go directly to the causes you request. UMCOR has an excellent reputation world-wide for being one of the first agencies to arrive and last to leave at the scene of disasters. With recent tornado and flood disasters on our minds, this is an opportunity to generously support those who are suffering.

Congratulations

Congrats to our first place winner of the annual Chili Cook-off, Vicki Kobbe. She was generous enough to share her award winning recipe with us.

Crockpot Cream Cheese Chicken Chili

INGREDIENTS:

- 1 can black beans drained and rinsed
- 1 can corn, undrained
- 1 10-oz. can Rotel tomatoes w/green Chilis, undrained
- 1 package ranch dressing mix
- 1 t cumin
- 1 T chili powder
- 1 t onion powder
- 1/2 cup water
- 2 chicken breasts
- 8 oz cream cheese



DIRECTIONS:

Put 2 chicken breasts in the crock pot
 Mix up the rest of the ingredients.
 Then add 1 8-oz package light cream cheese
 Cook on low for 6-8 hours then stir and then shred the chicken.



Summer Camp

Summer 2024 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 tuition, as well as all 1st-time adults. You will find additional information in the front entry.

Staff Spotlight (shining a light on our gifted BUMC staff)

Jill Starr, our Handbell Director, has been involved in Bells for 41years. She took over from Gloriane Kobbe in 2006 and brought with her, Gerry, her talented husband of 45 years. Jill met Gerry as a Sophomore in Chisago lakes High School, when the English teacher told her to sit next to the red headed guy, and the rest is history. Jill and Gerry live in Buffalo; they have 4 wonderful adult children (spouses equally great); 3 live in Minnesota and their oldest daughter lives in Kenya, Africa; and they have 11 grandchildren to help fill their calendar. Jill also co-directs with Sherilyn Burgdorf, the wRight Ringers Community Handbell Ensemble. Gerry taught in Rockford and their first landlords in Buffalo were Neil and Marilyn Hammer.



A little over a year ago, Jill retired from being a valuable and respected member of the Buffalo High School Music Department for 22 years, where her many musical talents (choir accompanist, office manager) included being "mom" for the bands, choirs and orchestras.

Jill, Gerry and family have traveled extensively both in the U.S. as well as abroad. Ireland is on their "bucket list" -anyone have any connections?

Jill says "Jesus grabbed a hold of me in high school and I am so glad he hasn't let go. He is my lord and Savior. Romans 8:29 is my life verse. 'And we know that all things work together for good to those that love God, to those who are called according to HIS purpose.'"