



So All May Know Joy

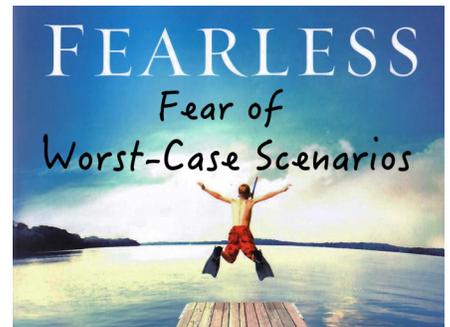
BUMC Weekly Connection—May 21

This Sunday, May 23 @ 9:00 am

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

This Sunday — Fear of Worst-Case Scenarios

Are you good at imagining the very worst-possible outcome when you're afraid of an uncertain future? Even the worst outcomes usually aren't as irreversible as we imagine. The prayer of Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane shows us that holding fast to God is a much better strategy than fanning the flames of our fears.

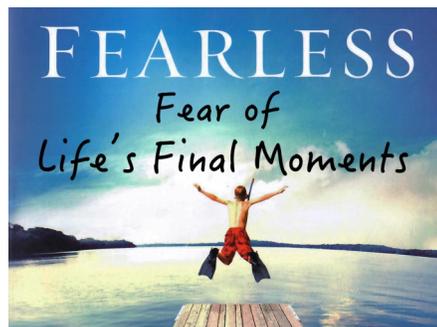


Sunday Scripture

"Don't let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God, and trust also in me. There is more than enough room in my Father's home. If this were not so, would I have told you that I am going to prepare a place for you? When everything is ready, I will come and get you, so that you will always be with me where I am. And you know the way to where I am going."

"No, we don't know, Lord," Thomas said. "We have no idea where you are going, so how can we know the way?"

Jesus told him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one can come to the Father except through me. If you had really known me, you would know who my Father is. From now on, you do know him and have seen him!"



Next Sunday, May 30 — Fear of Life's Final Moments

The process of birth, although it is usually filled with joy for parents, is also a traumatic experience for both mother and child. Is it any wonder then that our time of dying might also be a time of uncertainty and fear? Our hope comes from the fact that the inevitable death we face in this life is actually a rebirth into a new and more beautiful eternity.

Next Sunday, May 30 is Memorial Sunday—We will recognize the memorial gifts given to the church over the past year.



Other Ministry Updates

Staff Recognition

Congratulations and thank you to Michelle Jones on the 5-year anniversary of serving BUMC as Administrative Assistant! Michelle has been invaluable in her support of other staff as well as being the friendly person you're likely to first speak with when contacting the church. Please express your thanks to Michelle and let her know how glad you are to have her on the church staff.

Regathering Plan Update

Face coverings are no longer required at church, indoors or outdoors, staff or guest. However, it is the recommendation of the MN Department of Health that people who have not been vaccinated continue to wear a face covering.



Staff have resumed normal building office hours. Ministry teams are invited to choose whether to remain online, return to in-person meetings, or adopt a hybrid approach. The church nursery remains closed for the time being.

Sunday Fellowship is no longer on Zoom and is returning to in-person as of **Sunday, May 23**, with an outdoors fellowship time coinciding with the Walk for Hope event after church at 10:15.

Beginning **Friday, May 28**, there will no longer be physical distancing requirements at church and no need to make reservations for worship or other regular ministry events. Please note that we do still require making building reservations through the office for your activities planned at church other than worship.

Also beginning **Friday, May 28**, we will resume serving coffee and treats indoors during Sunday Fellowship Time. Serving food for funerals and other ministries will also resume.

Tornado Kit Collection and Packing Event

From June 1-20, you're invited to donate supplies and/or a monetary donation to make tornado kits for the Midwest Mission Distribution Center (MMDC), a depot of the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR). See the supplementary flyer. You can either purchase the supplies listed below or make a \$50 donation per kit to the church or directly to MMDC (please don't purchase plastic totes, as they prefer to have use the same totes for all the kits). We will meet after church on June 27 to box up the supplies at 10:15am.

- 2 pairs of work gloves
- 24 1 gallon size resealable bags
- 2 permanent markers
- 1 roll of duct tape—prefer colored
- 2 dust masks—no surgical
- 24 trash bags—heavy duty—33-45 gallon size
- 24 clear/white trash bags—20-33 gallon size

Join us for the 2021 Walk For Hope

Let's get together and show the world the power of walking the Extra Mile for students and families in Guatemala on our church grounds Sunday at 10:15am! We are going to complete 5 laps around either the park or the parking lot (depending on what kind of surface you prefer walking on). What a great way to also celebrate the end of our Sunday School year and also the day of Pentecost, when the Holy Spirit ignited a new missional movement among God's people. Weather permitting, everyone is invited to join us at church after worship for this fun missional challenge!

You can join our church team page [HERE](#). If you personally raise \$96, you will get a t-shirt!

1. There will be a table set up at the event so after you complete a lap, you can put some change in the jar as a donation.
2. You can make a donation directly on the team page above.

Do all of the above! After the walk we will have some pre-packaged snacks in the parking lot to celebrate being the feet of Christ! If you want to participate, but don't want to walk, that's ok too! You can cheer on the walkers!



Other Ministry Updates

Children's and Family Ministry Coordinator

Thank you to Maria Essen for serving as our interim Children's and Family Ministry Coordinator over this strange year of doing so many things remotely! Maria's last day on staff was **Tuesday, May 18**. The SPRC will begin a search for a new Coordinator, with an emphasis on developing a strong return to in-person ministries for the fall. If you're interested in exploring the possibility of serving our families in this way, please contact Debbie Bishop, Ministry and Worship Coordinator. Debbie will also be the central point of contact for Children's ministries until the position is filled.

Coming Up in Ministry

- May 23 **9:00 am Worship Service**—In-person or online
10:15 am - All Sunday School students
Walk for Hope
- May 25 **7:00 pm Finance Team Meeting**
- May 30 **9:00 am Worship Service—Memorial Sunday** In-person or online

Summer Reading in the Park June 23

Our Summer Reading in the Park program kicks off on **June 23** and continues **each Wednesday from 9:30 – 10:30 am** through August 18. More details will be coming, but please spread the word about this great ministry in "The Park!!"

Minnesota STORM!

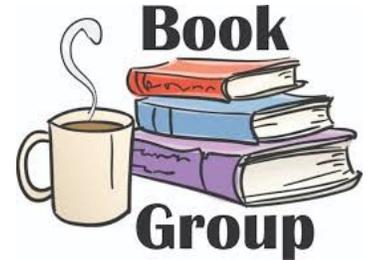
The UMC Youth unite for One day of serving across Minnesota so save the Date for - July 17, 2021! Youth in grades 7-12 are invited to spend a day safely serving Jesus by serving others at various sites across Minnesota. We'll begin the day with devotions and Major Group time, spend the day serving with your church, do lunch, devos, and end the day with Chapel in the church parking lot. All projects will be outdoors, social distancing may be required, and large group gatherings will be held outdoors.



BUMC Book Group

We are reading the book *Fearless – Imagine Your Life Without Fear* by Max Lucado as our first book.

One group will be meeting by Zoom on Monday evenings from 6:30-7:15 p.m. The remaining meeting date is May 31. The Zoom group host is Sheryl Lehman. Please use this Zoom link [Click Here!](#) Meeting ID: 895 0658 4238 Passcode: 873897 **NOTE:** Since May 30th is Memorial weekend, the Sunday Fearless book group will be meeting for its final time on **Monday, June 14, 6:00 p.m.** at the church



Blankets for Beds

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

Summer Camp 2021 is Currently Happening!

Each year the BUMC congregation has been able to offer a scholarship for summer camp registration at UMC camps. We want our children and youth to have the experience of attending a UM camp, and want to make sure that kids aren't staying home due to financial reasons. This is also a great way for us to support our UM camping programs at the same time! You can see 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> There will be a form to fill out for the BUMC portion of the registration fee.

