



*So All May Know Joy*

## **BUMC Weekly Connection—Sept. 5** **Sunday, Sept. 7 @ 9:00**

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

### **New Sermon Series — Transformed by Grace**

Grace is not merely a gift but God's invitation to a relationship that can change our lives and transform the world. In this series, we will delve into stories of transformation, connecting them to our everyday experiences. You'll be encouraged to see God's presence in unexpected places and recognize the surprising ways God shows up in our lives.



### **This Sunday — Called by Love**

Our journey begins with the story of Zacchaeus, a tax collector whose encounter with Jesus transformed him from an agent of the state to an agent of grace. This week, we'll reflect on how Jesus calls us by name, inviting us into a life-changing relationship. Like Zacchaeus, we are called out of our comfort zones, seen and valued by God, and invited to respond with generosity and love.

### **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.

### **Scripture Reading** | Luke 19:1-10

Jesus entered Jericho and was passing through. A man was there by the name of Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector and was wealthy. He wanted to see who Jesus was, but because he was short he could not see over the crowd. So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore-fig tree to see him, since Jesus was coming that way.

When Jesus reached the spot, he looked up and said to him, "Zacchaeus, come down immediately. I must stay at your house today." So he came down at once and welcomed him gladly.

All the people saw this and began to mutter, "He has gone to be the guest of a sinner."

But Zacchaeus stood up and said to the Lord, "Look, Lord! Here and now I give half of my possessions to the poor, and if I have cheated anybody out of anything, I will pay back four times the amount."

Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, because this man, too, is a son of Abraham. For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost."

### **Next Sunday — Confirmation Sunday**

On Confirmation Sunday, we gather to celebrate a significant milestone in the faith journey of our confirmands as they affirm the vows made at their baptism, share their faith statements, and commit to following Christ. Surrounded by the support of the church, these young disciples step into a lifelong relationship with God, empowered by grace and welcomed fully into the life of the Christian community.



## Other Ministry Updates

- Sept 7** 9:00 am Worship Service with Communion & FSS Start of Sunday School  
 10:00 am Breakfast Potluck  
 10:00 am Sunday School Orientation
- Sept 9** 7:00 pm Leadership Team Meeting
- Sept 10** 6:30 pm Handbells
- Sept 14** 9:00 am Worship Service with Confirmation Blessing  
 10:00 am Fellowship with cake

### Did You Know?

Did you know we will have church merch? Soon we will have t-shirts and sweatshirts for sale. Be on the look out.



### Register Soon for Sunday School

Sunday School starts this Sunday and registration is open!! You should have received registration in the mail or you can [Click Here](#) to register!!

### Confirmation Dates

- **Sunday, September 7, 10:15am** in the Sanctuary, Confirmation Sunday rehearsal which includes the kids, F.P.'s and parents
- **Sunday, September 14, 9:00am** in the worship service, Confirmation Sunday
- **Sunday 21, 9:00am** in the worship service, Confirmation Faith Stepping Stone when we welcome new students into Confirmation
- **Sunday, September 21, 10:00am** in the Youth Room, Confirmation Orientation for students, F.P.'s and parents

### Save the Dates!

There are some upcoming dates that you won't want to miss in the life of our church this fall. It all begins on Sunday, **September 7**, when we kick off our fall programs and celebrate together, also our start of Sunday School FSS blessing. This will include Sunday School Open House/Orientation followed by a breakfast potluck for all. **September 14** will be Confirmation Sunday, and on Sunday, **Sept 21** we will be blessing our new Confirmands.

**October 8th** will be our very first Wednesday night Meals and Missions Night and don't forget

our annual Cribbage/Uno/Fast Track tournament on **Oct. 12** with a potluck. Fall is such an important time for us to be coming together as the church. Please make a point of saving these dates and giving the gift of your presence.

### Welcome New Staff



Amy Austin

Worship Coordinator

Office Hours:

- Sundays 8:00-10:00am
- Tuesdays: 9:00 - 3:00 PM
- Wednesdays: 9:00 - 3:00 PM
- Thursdays: 8:00 - 10:00 AM (by appointment)

- Fridays: 8:00 - 10:00 AM (by appointment)

Feel free to reach out or schedule a time to meet! Contact: [Amya@buffaloumc.com](mailto:Amya@buffaloumc.com)



Taylor Ryan

Children's & Youth Coordinator

Office Hours and Availability

I typically work Tuesday-Thursday and Sundays. Hours may change based on availability and needs of the church. Here

is my general weekly schedule:

Tuesday: 9:00am-2:00pm In Office

Wednesday: 10:00am- 3:00pm In Office

Thursday: 9:00am-2:00pm In Office

Sunday: 8:00am-11:00am Helping in Sunday School Classrooms and Confirmation Class.

To reach me via email [taylor@buffaloumc.com](mailto:taylor@buffaloumc.com)

### Thank you

*A sincere thank you for your donation of \$270 for Buffalo Food Shelf. We will act as good stewards to share food and basic needs to our friends and neighbors at their times of need.*

Sincerely, Buffalo Food Shelf Council, Volunteers and Staff.

### Secure Giving



### Worship Registration





## Other Ministry Updates

### Red Cross Blood Drive

Buffalo United Methodist Church will host a Red Cross Blood drive on **Wednesday, September 17 from 10AM to 4PM**. There is currently a critical need for blood. Donating at this drive will help supply blood for accident victims, surgical patients and others for whom blood transfusions can be life saving. To make an appointment, please visit [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org), you can call 1-800- 733-2767 and request a blood donation appointment for the Buffalo blood drive on July 1 or if preferred to sign up online [Click Here](#). Walk-ins are welcome, however, waiting times will vary as these donations will be worked in as time permits.



### BUMC Outreach Continues

Wrapped In Love is a non-profit, charitable clothing store in downtown Buffalo that provides a shopping experience to families with foster and adopted children. They provide new and gently used clothing free of charge. By providing clothing to foster and adopted children, Wrapped in Love hopes to help ease their transition and give them something to call their own as well as being a much-needed resource for families to visit quickly after receiving a placement. Clothing ranges in size from newborn to adult.



BUMC has agreed to be a collection site for two specific clothing needs only. We will have an ongoing collection box for **NEW** socks and “skivvies” (underwear). These are clothing items that are in high demand throughout the year for all ages.

Please look for the large white donation box labeled “WRAPPED IN LOVE” outside of the office area and place your donation there. If you would like to make a monetary donation, please make your check to BUMC with Wrapped in Love in the memo. Rita Varner-Otness can answer questions you may have.

### From the Finance Team

Through July our year-to-date income, minus expenses is negative (4,507). As Jason stated in his verbal report during Sunday service ,it is not uncommon for summer months to show negative and we anticipate those numbers to bounce back in 4<sup>th</sup> quarter. The easiest way to consider giving is through automatic online giving. Please reach out if you would like more information about online giving. Thank you for blessing our church with your faithful and generous offering!

#### INCOME/EXPENSE COMPARISON

	2025			
	YTD INCOME	INCOME	EXPENSE	NET YTD
JANUARY	27,058	27,058	27,271	(213)
FEBRUARY	56,031	28,973	24,826	3,934
MARCH	82,288	26,257	26,028	4,163
APRIL	106,570	24,282	23,671	4,774
MAY	125,045	18,475	26,167	(2,918)
JUNE	151,760	26,715	27,700	(3,902)
JULY	174,776	23,016	23,621	(4,507)

### Hymnals and Bibles

With the sanctuary renovations, hymnals, Bibles, and other songbooks are now located on a book shelf outside of the sanctuary. The words of the songs will still be projected on the screen, but if you prefer to read music, you can pick up a hymnal or songbook on your way in. Please remember to return your hymnals, songbooks and Bibles to the bookshelf after the service.

### Coffee & Worship

Two of the best parts of Sunday morning are coffee and worship—and we welcome you to enjoy both in the sanctuary! To help protect our beautifully remodeled space, we kindly ask that you bring your coffee in a covered cup from home.

### BUMC Prayer Labyrinth is Open

Find the labyrinth on the grounds behind the church on the north side. Resources to help guide your experience are available in the box. You are welcome anytime!