



# The Joy Connection

June 2011

A monthly publication of Buffalo United Methodist Church

## Worship Events

**June 5**

*Still in the World*

John 17:1-11

**Holy Communion**

**June 11, 7 pm**

**Saturday Awakenings**

New Life Music & Message  
with Aaron Burks

**June 12**

**Pentecost**

*Rivers of Living Water*

John 7:37-39

**125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary  
Celebration**

**June 19**

*Parable of the Ten Virgins*

Matthew 25:1-13

**Peace with Justice Sunday**

**June 26**

*Parable of the Rich Man &  
Lazarus*

Luke 16:19-31

### **Sunday Schedule**

**8:15 am**

*Joyful Praise Worship*

**9:15 am**

*Fellowship*

**9:45 am**

*Traditional Celebration*

## Why Worship?

A couple of weeks ago one of the confirmation table groups picked up the age-old discussion about which came first, the chicken or the egg within a general conversation about God and science. Good points were scored by both sides though a definitive answer, of course, remained elusive.

A similar discussion might take place regarding reasons to make Sunday worship a priority, assuming that we do! I recently began reading a book titled, *The Hour that Changes Everything: The Way We Worship Is the Way We Live*, by John van de Laar, a Methodist minister from South Africa. The premise he unpacks for his readers is that Sunday morning worship does indeed have a positive, transforming impact in our personal lives and in our churches.

There is no doubt, our primary gathering as participants in our shared life and ministry here at Buffalo United Methodist Church is, week in and week out, Sunday morning worship. This is the hour when we are shaped and formed as disciples. This is the hour when we are reminded of the potential God has placed in each one of us. This is the hour when we lift our voices in unity, praising God and becoming the people and congregation or “body of Christ” that God wants us to be.

So, is it more important to be in worship as part of your journey to personal holiness and transformation, or more important to be here because we are called to gather together as Christians to support one another and be the body of Christ united?

I agree with John van de Laar and others that **personal holiness** is the launching pad for everything we do in Christ’s name, and the foundation of that launching pad is **communal worship** in which we rediscover true intimacy with God and embrace the live-giving transformation it offers. So in the next two months, we’ll explore further personal holiness and holiness of community as reasons to be in worship...together... regularly. As with the chicken and egg discussion, we may not be able to determine **which** is more important, but it will make for good discussion.

It’s really easy to think, especially in the summer, that we don’t need to be in worship at all. Do your children think that church doesn’t meet in the summer? This time of year, a fishing boat or a soccer field can easily become our “sanctuary.” But let’s be honest, are those moments really filled communing with God and going deeper in faith? Are we glorifying God or lifting our voices in songs of praise?

I believe Sunday worship is the most important faith practice a person, a couple, a family can do week in and week out. This summer, I challenge you to commit yourself to worshipping at BUMC every Sunday that you wake up in your own home.

Blessings, Pastor Jef



# Buffalo United Methodist Church



*...serving people for Jesus Christ so that we all may know joy!*

**As we celebrate 125 Years we take the next step in ...**

**growing** our relationship with God

**growing** in community presence

**growing** in passion and excitement

**growing** in number of participants

**growing** in staff and facilities

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## **Leadership Team – Setting the Agenda for our Ministries**

Larry Totten, Member at Large & Facilitator	763-516-3367
Holly Bernatz, Lay Leader & Facilitator	320-224-4594
Bruce Schmidt, Treasurer	763-477-5856
Peter Bedker, Finance Team Chair	763-682-9562
Jim Tool, Staff-Parish Relations Chair	763-684-1834
Del Smith, Property Team Chair	763-257-4773
Ronda DCamp, Recorder	763-682-6214
Robin Anderson, Education Team Chair	763-682-2396
Joel Wanner, Member at Large	320-224-8042
Laurie Schroeder, Lay Associate Minister	763-682-3538
Jeffrey Olson, Pastor (ex officio)	763-682-3538

## **Partners in Ministry (Nominations) Team**

Steve Lichtenberg	763-682-2718
Linda Sherman	763-682-2948
Pam Sieberg	763-682-4734
Kathy Varner	763-682-4992
Martyn Dibben	763-684-0527
Laurie Schroeder	763-682-4409
Pastor Jef Olson	763-682-3538

# *Spiritual Growth*

## **Saturday Awakenings Celebrations**



**Saturday, June 11,  
7:00 pm**

### ***New Life Concert with Aaron Burks***

Join us for a wonderful evening of great praise and gospel music featuring Aaron Burks and fellow members of the Twin Cities Community Gospel Choir. Aaron was a featured singer when the choir performed in Buffalo last summer.

Aaron and Dan Wickham, fellow graduates of the InnerChange Freedom Initiative, a Christian prison program at Lino Lakes Correctional Facility, will also share how their faith has led them to new lives in Christ. Refreshments will be served following the concert. Invite your friends to be inspired!

**Saturday, July 9**

### ***Celtic Music & Labyrinth Celebration***

Spend a unique evening exploring the meditative and spiritual gifts of a labyrinth and enjoying Celtic music. Refreshments will follow the program.

6:00 Learn the history and spiritual aspects of **labyrinths**, as well as some tools to help you experience it fully through songs, prayers, and meditations.

6:30 World renown harpist Ann Heymann shares a brief **history of the Irish harp** and her extraordinary personal journey with the instrument.

7:00 **Celtic music celebration** with Charlie and Ann Heymann of “Clairseach,” woven together with prayer, scripture and personal sharing. A review in the Scotsman News said “Arguably the outstanding Gaelic harp virtuoso is an American, Ann Heymann.” Don’t miss the opportunity to hear authentic Gaelic music including everything from ancient chants to modern jigs and reels with Irish harp, cittern, button accordion and vocals.

## ***A Guided Labyrinth Experience***

Did you try out our church’s prayer labyrinth last summer? To help you get started, Martyn Dibben has prepared meditation resources that are always available in the wooden box at the labyrinth site.

Perhaps you would like some personal guidance as a preparation to the July 9 Saturday service or to deepen your labyrinth experience. Marianne Kreitlow invites others to meet for prayer and meditation, utilizing the Labyrinth to deepen our connection to Spirit on **Mondays at 5:30 pm June 6, 13, 20, 27, & July 4.**

## ***Experience Unidos en Cristo***

Unidos en Cristo (aka Cursillo) is a three-day retreat encounter with God’s grace designed to strengthen and renew the faith of Christian people. In Minnesota, over 170 churches participate, including our church! Many from our church have attended a UEC weekend and we invite you to attend one, too!

### **Upcoming Unidos en Cristo weekends:**

Men: July 7-10, 2011

Women: July 14-17, 2011

at Peace Reformed Church in Eagan

Talk with Darla O’Flanagan or someone else who has attended a UEC weekend to learn more. Our UEC participants serve coffee every first Sunday of the month, so ask anyone in the kitchen on those days! You may also view an informational DVD or brochure or visit the website [www.unidosencristo.com](http://www.unidosencristo.com).

## ***Bible Study for Single Women***

We are forming a Bible Study for young adult single women. If you might be interested in participating, please talk with Laurie Schroeder, or call Amanda Rhoades at 612-644-0769. We’d like to get started as soon as possible, so don’t wait!

## ***Start a Small Group?***

If you are interested in starting a small group study, either short- or long-term, Laurie has plenty of resources for you to consider. Stop by and look through the file.

## ♥ *Ministry & Missions*

### ***Prison Ministry Worship & Picnic***

You won't want to miss worship on **July 17!** Members of our BUMC prison ministry team will join together with our special guests who are graduates of the Innerchange Freedom Initiative (IFI) program. at Lino Lakes Correctional Facility to lead worship. The men who will worship with us are all now released from Lino Lakes and are out re-establishing their lives. Several will share with us what God is doing in their lives, and how the prison ministry programs have helped them. Members of the IFI choir will sing.

At **10:45** following second service, we will have a **picnic potluck** with the men and their families. Come and be in fellowship with them if you are able! We'll have the grill going with hotdogs and burgers, and ask you to bring a dish or two to share, as the IFI families will be our guests. This has been a wonderful experience in the past, so please join us if you are able!

### ***Love Inc Clearinghouse Now Open***

The local Big Woods Chapter of Love INC (Love in the Name of Christ) has opened a clearinghouse to more readily meet the needs of the community. It is open for clients on Mondays and Wednesdays from 10 am to 2 pm, but make an appointment by calling 763-682-6820. This organization strives to meet a wide variety of needs from clothing to car repair to job counseling to housing. If you know someone who could use some help, encourage them to call and make an appointment.

### ***Plastic Mat Ministry Ongoing***

Students at Wright Choice, a new in-school suspension program at the Courthouse, continue to support our plastic mat ministry by cutting up bags and making them into balls of plarn for our crocheters.

Our crocheters continue to make mats! We now have another 10 or so that are ready for delivery to the homeless. If you would like more information on this ministry, please just ask!

## ***Disaster Response Opportunities***

It has been a difficult month with so many weather disasters across the country. If you wish to respond either financially or through volunteering, here are some options for you to consider:

- The United Methodist Committee on Relief's Spring Storms Advance #3021326 is in place nationally to help with storm relief across the country, including Minnesota. **Make checks to BUMC** and mark "Spring Storms" and we will forward the donations.
- North UMC in Minneapolis is being used as a staging ground for the UM Disaster Response team, city volunteers and emergency crews. They are providing meals for volunteers and crews and managing a clothing distribution. To support those efforts directly, **make checks payable to North UMC** and we will forward those checks to them.
- **To volunteer** as a worker, contact Heidi at Cross Connections (1823 Emerson, Minneapolis) at (612) 529-6542. This is an effort coordinated by Urban Homeworks, Sanctuary CDC, and Minneapolis Council of Churches. Volunteers will be deployed from there.



### ***Imagine No Malaria***

The Minnesota Annual Conference is launching an intensive **Imagine No Malaria** campaign over the next year (formerly known as "Nothing But Nets"). The conference has asked Pastor Jef to attend a training on this mission and bring along 10 lay people! He will attend at Brunswick UMC in Crystal on **Monday, June 21 at 7 pm**. If you would consider going along, please let him know by **June 13**. If a different date would work better for you, there is a St. Cloud training on June 14 and additional metro-area trainings June 15, 20, 22, & 23.

*Please check out the Connection Points page at the end of the newsletter for more events!*

## Did You Know?

### Graduation Stepping Stone

On **Sunday, June 5** we will bless and recognize our high school graduates during worship as their last Faith Stepping Stone. We pray for their safety, guidance and inspiration as they continue their educations and seek life vocations. High school graduates with ties to this church include:



Ashley Bayliss	Mark Johnson
Samantha Kemper	Alexis Lohse
Spencer Maiden	Nicole Miller

### Confirmation Wrap-Up

We give thanks for God’s faithfulness during this past year of confirmation as we learned and grew together. There will be 16 students presenting themselves to be confirmed on **September 18**. As this past year’s seventh-graders become the seasoned students in September, they will welcome nine new seventh-graders into the process of knowing and growing in Jesus as their Savior and Lord.

Letters to incoming 7<sup>th</sup> graders will be sent out in July, so be thinking about possible faith partners! If you know a youth who might want to participate in our confirmation program, please have them talk to us as soon as possible.



### It's 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Time!!

Here’s how we will celebrate our church’s 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary, and the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of groundbreaking for this building.

- **Sunday, June 12 Special Event** – Our primary, unified worship service will be held at 9:45 followed by a brunch “open house” and church history displays. We will still have an 8:15 am praise service if you can’t make the later one.

- **Notecard Invitations** – We have notecard invitations at church that you can use to invite people you think might be interested in attending our June 12 event.
- **A Historical Display** – will be put up for June 12 and remain through the month of June with pictures, clippings, stories etc.
- **Clothing Sale** – Clothing items with our BUMC name and logo on them are now for sale. All should be reasonably priced and are great “publicity” as we wear them around town.
- **Commemorative Items** – Mugs, cross ornaments, and dogtag keychains/necklaces will be for sale starting June 5 to commemorate our first 125 years.

### Website & Facebook

If you’re a Facebook user, have you checked out our church Facebook page? Did you know we had one? To receive notifications, simply search for Buffalo United Methodist Church and once you find us click “like” and you will receive notifications.

Have you checked out our remodeled church website? We’re trying to keep it updated and use it more than we used to, though it is still a work in progress. Your recommendations are welcome, or better yet, your ideas for postings!

## **Worship**

### Upcoming Worship Events

- June 5**    Holy Communion & Graduate Recognition
- June 12**    125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Worship
- June 19**    Peace with Justice Offering

*Remember, our summer worship schedules moves late service to 9:45 am (from 10:30)!*

### Worship Attendance

	Early	Late	Total
May 1	153	59	212
May 7 (Sat)			63
May 8	122	64	186
May 15	152	95	247
May 22	180	94	274

## *Fun and Fellowship*

### **UMW Will Visit Carousel Display**

On **Saturday, June 4** the UMW is heading to Skyrock Farms in Medina to visit their beautiful carousel and antique carnival organs display. We will leave from church at 10:30 am and return around 2:30 pm. A picnic lunch is included and there will be lots to see and do, inside and out. You can do as much or as little walking as you like. Cost is \$5.00.

You do not need to be a member of UMW to attend. Questions? Need a ride? Call 763-682-4964.

### **MN Twins United Methodist Day**

Come watch the Minnesota Twins play against the Detroit Tigers on **Thursday, July 21 at 7:10 pm.**



It's United Methodist Day 2011 and a chance to join friends and family for a night of big league fun and excitement! Grandstand tickets are \$21 and home plate view tickets are \$25. Please note that \$6 of each ticket purchased will benefit "Imagine No Malaria," a mission that purchases and distributes protective nets to combat malaria.

Order your tickets by calling 1-800-33-TWINS and be sure to reference the special United Methodist Day offer. More information is posted on the bulletin board at church.

## *Ministry Team Reports*

### **Finance Team Update**

Thanks to your faithful ongoing giving, we manage to be paying our bills and have stayed current on our apportionment payments. Our expenses are at or below the estimated budget year-to-date, but the income side of the equation has been consistently lower than our estimated income. In order to continue funding our shared ministry priorities, our giving cannot afford a "summer dip." As we head into summer and enjoy weekends at the lake or

vacations out of state, let us remember to be consistent and regular with our offerings so that we don't fall behind in our obligations.

One helpful tool for both you and the church can be automatic electronic giving so that your offerings remain regular even if you are away. If you are interested in information on electronic giving, please call the church office and talk with Sarah Klett.

### **Time, Talents, Gifts and Service**

#### **By Jim Norrix, Stewardship Team**

Several months ago I happened to be in the fellowship hall when I ran across two gracious ladies leaning over a stack of papers. Noticing what seemed to be newsletters (and I really like the newsletter) I asked them if they were proofing for spelling or other errors.

"Oh, no" they told me, "We're just folders. We leave the hard stuff to others."

"**JUST** folders," I asked? "I think you are **FOLDERS.**"

You see, there aren't any "JUST folders" in our Church, or in God's eyes, for that matter. When it comes right down to it, 90% of what it takes to make a church 'tick' is done just as these ladies were doing it - in the quiet of the morning, in the secret of the afternoon, or dreamed up in the dark of night, far out of sight of Sunday crowds. Nearly every day, **FOLDING**, fixing, laughing, loving and funding are done by young folks, older folks, staff folks, and people just like you.

Wanna' be a **FOLDER**? Find yourself something that needs to be done, ask the staff, and join my two gracious friends. **JUST** folders? No-way.

### **SS Education Team**

Anyone interested in volunteering to organize and maintain the SS Resource Room? Are there other things you would help with to make sure our SS program remains strong going into next Fall?

ALL are welcome to be part of the SS Education Team. The next meeting is on **Wednesday, June 15 at 6 pm.** Please join us if you are willing to help.

Thank you to all who helped in any way with SS this past year, and to Robin Anderson for her many years of leadership!

# ***Children's Ministries & Sunday School***

## ***Robin's Sunday School Update***

June is here – Sunday school is over, school graduations are on the forefront and vacations loom in the near future. Ah, summer is now here! Although it is wonderful to have a weekly routine, it's nice to have this break. We will all encounter new experiences with a little more freedom to do something “unexpected” at the last second. Or some of us will slow down to “stop and smell the roses” for a change. God wants us all to be happy and get “refreshed”. Our church needs us to be this way as well. Those of you who work with children also see this need in them too. So whatever you and your family decide to do this summer, it will not be wasted time. Just enjoy.

While catching up on some reading this week, I found the following in an article called “True Believers” by Bill Anderson in *Children's Ministry* magazine online:

### **“iPOD, iPHONE, iPAD...iDISCIPLE**

Although today's kids are entertained with an array of high-tech gadgets, they do know the difference between human interaction and a substitute. Love, peace, patience, humility, and service -- that's what we have the opportunity and the responsibility to teach them.

Each Sunday morning, we must choose what type of disciples we will create. Children are sponges; they soak up whatever they encounter...good or bad. If we show them peace and joy through giving and serving, we offer them positive alternatives to absorb. Our job is to lift, guide, protect, and propel them to be the disciples Jesus intended them to be. Think about it this Sunday. Put away all the "stuff" and disciple. Be Christlike.”

This is something for our entire church family to think about when the “call” for Sunday school teachers and helpers is announced. Even as a substitute teacher you can disciple to our

children. Be part of this ministry – the rewards are phenomenal!

There will be new leadership come this Fall with our Sunday school program. I have stepped down as of May 22 and opened the door for our new leaders. Although, I know there will be “bumps” in the road, I am still here to ask questions and be a “resource” when needed. I had been a Sunday school teacher for 3 years, had children and then came back to help mold this ministry since July 1988. During this time I never thought of stepping down. I loved it! It became my passion and I know my family took the back-seat many times. My nickname from them has always been “the church lady” and I really do not think that I will ever lose it.

As I leave my position and pass it on to new leadership, I want to say I felt it a privilege to be part of this church's ministry for so many years. I thank everyone for their willingness to volunteer, help serve and the friendship. I've watched children grow into wonderful adults and parents themselves, from the children they were when attending our Sunday school.

I never knew in my wildest dreams that in the summer of 1974 (or 1975-maybe Jane VanDorp remembers) that I would eventually be part of the Buffalo United Methodist Church so deeply. I went on a Youth Mission Trip to Fort Smith, Arkansas, with this church's youth group – and I was a Lutheran at the time! Thank you for all the memories. But there will be more – I'm not leaving the church yet! I just can't be “uninvolved”! Family and grandchildren are on my agenda now – maybe some “me-time” as well. Blessings to you all.

Robin Anderson

## ***Buffalo Days Parade Float***

Our preschool will again have their float in the Buffalo Days Parade on **Saturday, June 18**, and they will hand out flyers with information on the preschool, Club Destination, and our VBS program in August. If you'd like to help walk in the parade, please contact Pastor Melanie. Otherwise, just be sure to cheer them on when you see them go by!

## Vacation Bible School

Come be part of the fun with our “PandaMania” Vacation Bible School on Sunday through Thursday evenings, **August 7-11!**

We need volunteers to help with crafts, storytelling, snacks, games and cooking evening meals ASAP. We will also need some “shepherds” or group leaders to lead groups, though no prep is needed. Please sign up on the form in the entryway or call Suzanne Smith at 763-354-4557.



This year we’re going to try holding Monday planning/work sessions for several areas. **EVERYONE** is welcome to come and help in an area they enjoy!

Decorating Team	June 6, 7 pm
Games & Crafts	June 13, 7 pm
Snacks & Meals	June 13, 7 pm
General Meeting	June 20, 7 pm

There is a planning meeting for **all volunteers on Monday, June 20 at 7 pm** at the church! Registration forms for the kids are now available in the entryway. Who can you invite? Take an extra form for friends or neighbors. Please register as early as possible so our volunteers can prepare properly.

## Family Carnival Help Needed

Our family carnival is scheduled for **Saturday, August 27**, but we need volunteers to make it happen! It would be ideal to have a chairperson step forward to work with staff in planning. If you might consider helping with this great event or if you, have ideas for new carnival activities, please let Laurie Schroeder know ASAP. And remember to start saving items for carnival prizes.

## Happy June Birthday to these Sunday School Students:

5 <sup>th</sup>	Mara Docherty (11)
13 <sup>th</sup>	Kyle Ewer (11)
16 <sup>th</sup>	Maverick Gilson (7)
21 <sup>st</sup>	Luke Brings (11)

Happy Birthday also to our past volunteers Jenny Weese & Lisa Kemper.

## Our Church Family

### Prayer Ministries

For prayer requests that you wish to have on the Prayer Circle, please call the church office. Prayer requests are handled sensitively, but are considered non-confidential. We also have an e-mail option to receive prayer requests. If you wish to be part of the prayer ministries by phone or e-mail, contact the church office.

### Prayer Matters:

- Kris Uter’s aunt who is recovering from a mastectomy. Since breast cancer took the life of her sister (Kris’ mother), this is frightening.
- Martyn Dibben is recovering from prostate cancer surgery.
- For all who have lost homes and personal belongings to storms, pray for strength and hope to carry on and start over.

### Joys and Celebrations:

- We welcome Elaine Varner and Fiona Roeser to our Christian family as we celebrated their baptisms in May.
- Celebration that \$8,398.02 was raised at the Baby Animal Fair on May 1, which was matched by a Heifer International donor to become \$16,796! BUMC donated the profits from our popcorn stand towards the goal. About 2,500 pounds of food was also delivered to the food shelf!

### Thank You From:

- **Ruth Vail:** *“Thank you so much for the beautiful prayer shawl. I have used it many times. It is so cozy and warm. I also want to thank you for your prayers and those who visited me while I was recuperating at Park View Care Center.”*



# ***Families & Faith***

By Melanie Lichtenberg

Family Ministries Pastor

We have seen the rain, flowers blossom, and longer days of light. Do you think summer is finally here? A frequently asked question might be “**What will you do for the summer?**” Is your summer planned with things to do and places to go? (Don’t forget about worshipping!)

How does this season affect your family schedule? You might feel exhausted, just thinking of all the family reunions, camping trips, and other summer plans. Secretly, might you already anticipate the comfort of the Fall calendar and its routines? Not me; I’m ready for a change in our family’s daily schedule, at least for a few months.

Don’t forget this question: **How will you *choose* to grow in faith this summer?**

## **Do you want to have FITS this summer?**

We invite children 3 years old through 4<sup>th</sup> grade plus their friends, to come to **F.I.T.S.**, our new monthly “**Fun In The Sun**” events for families. You’ll meet new friends who are excited to laugh much, play hard, and have “fun in the sun!” Parents, could you volunteer? We’ll need some adults and youth 5<sup>th</sup> grade or older to help.

## **F.I.T.S. Wednesdays, 9:30 – 11:30 AM**

**June 22:** Bake cookies and take a fieldtrip to the Buffalo Fire Station.

**July 6:** Game fest, indoors and outdoors.

**August 3:** Family Service project.

**Vacation Bible School is August 7-11 and the Family Carnival is August 27.**

## **June 1 – 11<sup>th</sup> Week:**

**Read: Luke 24:50-53.**

**Conversation starter:** How would you feel, if you were one of the disciples seeing Jesus ascend into heaven? What do you think heaven is like?

## **June 12– 18<sup>th</sup> Week:**

**Read: Acts 2:1-21 and Galatians 5:22-26.**

**Conversation starter:** What do you know about the Holy Spirit? Do you remember the Holy Spirit at Jesus’ baptism (Matthew 3:15-17 for extra reading)?

## **June 19 – 25<sup>th</sup> Week:**

**Read: Matthew 28:16-20**

**Conversation starter:** Do you have pictures or memories to share about your own and your child’s baptism? How can we teach a child about God’s love, power and majesty?

## **June 26– 30<sup>th</sup> Week:**

**Read: Psalm 89:1-4**

**Conversation starter:** What is your favorite song to worship God? What story would you share, to talk about God’s faithfulness and always being with us?

*Contact Melanie Lichtenberg, Family Ministries Pastor, at [melaniebumc@bwig.net](mailto:melaniebumc@bwig.net) or call (763) 682-3538 with your ideas to support families to grow in their faith walk, their service opportunities, and their worship experiences.*



### **PRESCHOOL STAFF:**

Gloria Farwick, director & 3-year-old teacher  
 Jody Brings, 4-5-year-old teacher  
 Christine Hartke, teaching assistant

### ***What's Up in Preschool?***

Our preschool year has officially ended for 2010-2011, and what a wonderful month of May we experienced to conclude the year! We celebrated Moms and had fun crafting a "beautiful" Mother's Day gift filled with love. The rest of the month we enjoyed spring and "dug into dinosaurs." The children loved being paleontologists, whether plaster casting their own dinosaur bones (4/5s), digging for dino "eggs" and "bones" in the sand table, play acting with our numerous dinosaur models, or reading many stories about these fearsome, fascinating creatures of the past.

Another activity of May involved the outpouring of love and support for one of our families. The mom of this family is dying of stage 4 lung cancer, and with chemo treatments taking their toll, we assisted with providing meals twice a week. How generous many of our families and teachers were in volunteering to help in this most appreciated way.

With the weather finally changing to WONDERFUL the last 2 weeks of May, we spent lots of time outside riding our trikes and scooters, digging in the sand, playing ball, and swinging high into the sky! Our finale on the last day of school was a picnic outside on blankets, with families and friends attending. Before we ate, our preschoolers entertained with many of their favorite songs, teachers presented each student

with their own personal yearbook of photos, and then we ate and chatted, with preschool providing dessert and beverage for all.

Our next chance to get together with our preschoolers will be on Saturday, June 18, for the Buffalo Days Parade! We'll reassemble our Big Red Barn float that we debuted last year, and then all preschool cowpokes---past and present---dressed in logo t-shirts and Western gear, are invited to ride on our Preschool Round-Up float and pass out bookmarks with candy attached. Our kids had a ball last year, so we hope to have lots of participants again this year. Yee-Haw!

For the fall, our 4/5 morning class is full as of right now, so we are accepting students on a waiting list and will open a Tuesday/Thursday afternoon class if there is enough interest. Our 3 year old Tuesday/Thursday morning class still has openings, and I will continue to give tours all summer as needed.

As we conclude this successful year, we offer a sincere thank you to everyone in the congregation for your words of encouragement, your kind compliments, and your financial scholarship contributions. We feel very positive about the future of our preschool! All of our great staff is returning next year, our facility is top notch, new and fresh, we offer both indoor and outdoor learning/play space, we have leadership support from several church committees, we have scholarship support from many members, and we are a true outreach to the community as God's love shines through the eyes and hearts of our young ones.

Gloria Farwick, Director



# Connection Points

*Ministries and fellowship opportunities meeting at regularly scheduled times*

## United Methodist Women

Every 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month



All women are invited to come from 10:30-2:30 for a picnic at Skyrock Farms in Medina this month. There will not be a regular monthly meeting for June.

**This month: Saturday, June 4, 2011 at Skyrock Farms**  
**Cost: \$5.00**

## United Methodist Men's Fellowship

Every 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of the month

Men of the church interested in service, faith and fellowship are invited to come meet with other men for fellowship, devotion and fund raising projects. The meetings begin with breakfast at 7:30 am.



**This month: Summer hiatus – resumes in September**

## Prayer Shawl Ministry

Every 4<sup>th</sup> Monday at Arlene Nelson's home



Gather at 1:30 pm to knit or crochet shawls for people who might be homebound, in the hospital, grieving, or in other challenging situations. May participate in ministry even if you can't attend the sessions. Call Arlene Nelson (682-2384) with questions.

**This month: Summer hiatus – resumes in September**

## Grief Support Group

Every 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of the month



Sessions run from 6:30-8:00 pm including a brief presentation and opportunity for personal, confidential sharing and support. All are welcome. Call Gretta Nelson at 682-4137 if questions.

**This month: Tuesday, June 28, 6:30 pm**

## Diners Out Fellowship Gathering

Every 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month

Gather at Perkins at 5:00 pm for food and fellowship. Primarily active seniors, but all are welcome! Call Sara Gaeth at 682-4964 if questions.



**This month: Thursday, June 16, 5:00 pm**

# YOUTH

## NEWS TO HELP PUT YOU IN YOUTH MINISTRY

JUNE 2011

YOU ARE THE KING AND THE LORD. YOU HAVE ALWAYS BEEN MY HOPE. I HAVE TRUSTED IN YOU EVER SINCE I WAS YOUNG. PSALM 71: 5

One of the pitfalls that youth ministry sometimes falls into is being event driven. The goal sometimes seems to be to have the next big event: a fund raiser, a hunger relief effort or a mission trip. It is also easy to look for *the* curriculum: that one, elusive set of materials that will bring everyone to their knees and truly know Jesus.

However, it makes more sense to base a ministry around a purpose and a set of values. The over-arching purpose is always to love Jesus, but what does that look like? If YOU were designing a youth ministry, what core values would you want included?

As we continue to reflect on how to improve our ministry, we are asking these big questions of ourselves. We would also like input from you. Throughout June, there will be a Youth Ministry Suggestion Box in the entryway. The Buffalo UMC Youth Ministry wants to know your answer to the following question: What three lessons do you hope all BUMC "graduates" will carry with them through life?

### Parent Connection

*What lessons do you hope your kids take with them when they move out? How are you conveying these messages to them? How do you help youth incorporate their faith into every day life?*

### ValleyFair

Chaperones are needed for the Annual trip to Valley Fair on Wednesday, June 29. We'll be leaving the church at noon and returning around 8 pm. If you'd like a fun day in the sun with a great group of youth, talk to Jana.

### Summer Opportunities

Summer is a great time to pull together as a family and reach out in faith. Although it may not always feel like it, parents and other adult role models have a huge impact on teenagers. Use this. Find an opportunity to volunteer together (VBS is perfect for this!), attend worship as a family or ask questions about faith to the youth in your life. It matters because you are showing them that THEY matter.

**THE SENIOR HIGH YOUTH ARE ALWAYS IN NEED OF CARING ADULT VOLUNTEERS. IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN HELPING OUT WITH ANY OF THE EVENTS MENTIONED ABOVE, OR IF YOU HAVE AN IDEA/OPPORTUNITY FOR THE YOUTH, TALK TO MIKE OR JANA ANYTIME.**

**[JANABUMC@BWIG.NET](mailto:JANABUMC@BWIG.NET) OR AT HOME (320)286-2074 (LOCAL-METRO FOR MOST)**

# Schedules

Coffee Server Schedule	
June 5	Sandy & Jim Tool
June 12	Mary Johnson
June 19	
June 26	
Usher Schedule	
8:15 am	
June 5	Bruce Schmidt & Jan Heyerdahl
June 12	Dennis & Tracy Daleiden
June 19	
June 26	
9:45 am	
June 5	Ivan Erickson & Bill Augustin
June 12	Lloyd Link & Steve Lichtenberg
June 19	Mary & Bill Augustin
June 26	Ivan Erickson & Bill Augustin

Looking Ahead... Items to Put on Your Calendar	
July 6	Fun in the Sun Children's Program - cookie bake and field trip to the Fire Station
July 9	Saturday Awakenings - <i>The Labyrinth</i>
July 17	Prison Ministry Worship & Picnic
August 3	Fun in the Sun Children's Program - Service Project
August 7-11	Vacation Bible School
August 27	Family Carnival



## Information

### **Resources**

Current issues of the *Upper Room*, *Alive Now*, *Pockets (for children)*, and *DevoZine* are available in the entryway for a nominal donation.

### **Prayer Requests**

Use the cards available in the attendance pads to make prayer requests.

### **Prayer Circle**

Please call the church office at 763-682-3538 with prayer concerns or to be part of the prayer circle.

### **Flowers for the Altar**

Do you have a special event or person you want to honor with flowers some Sunday? Sign up on the flower chart posted by the office. Indicate if you will bring your own, or place your check for \$39 in the offering marked "flowers" and we will order.

### **Welcome Gatherings**

Welcome Gatherings to learn more about BUMC are held every first Sunday of the month at 9:20 am in the Fellowship Hall September through May.

### **Please let the church office know:**

- ✉ If your telephone number, e-mail address or mailing address change.
- ✉ When a member of your family is hospitalized or in need of pastoral care.
- ✉ If you would like Holy Communion brought to you.
- ✉ If you know of someone in the congregation that could use a delivered meal.

# June 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>Sunday Schedule</b> 8:15 am Joyful Praise Worship 9:15-9:45 am Fellowship 9:45 am Traditional Worship			<b>1</b> 3:30 pm Club Destination	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> 6:00 pm Lock-In Grades 4-6 8:00 pm AA	<b>4</b> 10:30 am UMW at Skyrock Farm, Medina
<b>5</b> <i>Holy Communion</i> <i>Recognition of High</i> <i>School Graduates</i> <i>FSS</i> 7:30 pm AA	<b>6</b> 5:30 pm Labyrinth session 7:00 pm VBS Décor 7:30 pm AA	<b>7</b> 10:30 am AA 7:00 pm Property Team Meeting	<b>8</b> 7:00 pm Joyful Praise Rehearsal	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> 8:00 pm AA	<b>11</b> 7:00 pm <i>Saturday</i> <i>Awakenings</i> – New Life Music & Message with Aaron Burks
<b>12</b> <i>Pentecost</i> <i>125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary</i> 8:15 am JP Worship 9:00 am Open House 9:45 am Celebration Worship 11:00 am Open House 7:30 pm AA	<b>13</b> 5:30 pm Labyrinth session 6:30 BeFrienders 7:00 pm VBS Food & Activities meeting 7:30 pm AA	<b>14</b> 10:30 am AA 7:00 pm Leadership Team Meeting	<b>15</b> 6:00 pm Sunday School Team Meeting	<b>16</b> 5:00 pm Diners Out at Perkins	<b>17</b> 8:00 pm AA	<b>18</b> Preschool & Club Destination Float in Buffalo Days Parade
<b>19</b> <i>Peace with Justice</i> <i>Sunday</i> 7:30 pm AA  	<b>20</b> 11:30 am – 3:00 pm MS Support Group 5:30 pm Labyrinth session 7:00 pm VBS General Meeting 7:30 pm AA	<b>21</b> 10:30 am AA 7:00 pm Staff Parish Team Meeting	<b>22</b> 9:30 – 11:30 am FITS Children's Program 7:00 pm Joyful Praise Rehearsal	<b>23</b> 7:00 pm Mom's Book Group	<b>24</b> 8:00 pm AA	<b>25</b>
<b>26</b> 7:30 pm AA	<b>27</b> 5:30 pm Labyrinth session 7:30 pm AA	<b>28</b> 10:30 am AA 6:30 pm Grief Support Group 7:00 pm Finance Team Meeting	<b>29</b> Youth at Valley Fair	<b>30</b>		



**Buffalo United Methodist Church**  
**609 8<sup>th</sup> Street Northwest**  
**Buffalo, MN 55313**  
**763-682-3538**

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<p><b>Buffalo United Methodist Church</b>  <i>...serving people for Jesus Christ          so that we all may know joy!</i></p> <p><b>Office Hours:</b>          Closed Mondays          Tuesday-Thursday – 9 am to 3 pm          Friday – 9 am to 1 pm</p> <p><b>Phone and Fax:</b>          763-682-3538</p> <p><b>E-Mail:</b>          BuffaloUMC@BWIG.net</p> <p><b>Website</b>  <a href="http://www.BuffaloUMC.org">www.BuffaloUMC.org</a></p>
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*The Joy Connection* is a monthly publication of The Buffalo United Methodist Church. Submission deadline is the third Thursday of every month.

<b>Staff</b>	
<b>Pastor</b>	Jef Olson
<b>Pastor Emeritus</b>	Del Kurtz
<b>Lay Associate Minister</b>	Laurie Schroeder
<b>Youth Leaders</b>	Jana & Mike Knutson
<b>Family Ministries</b>	Melanie Lichtenberg
<b>Bookkeeper/Admin.</b>	Sarah Klett
<b>Nursery Attendant</b>	Theresa Jacobs
<b>Custodians</b>	Dan/Traci Torgerson
<b>Handbell Director</b>	Jill Starr
<b>Chancel Choir Director</b>	Karen Argue
<b>Organist</b>	David Gaeth
<b>Accompanist</b>	Kathie Denison
<b>Preschool Director</b>	Gloria Farwick
<b>Preschool Teacher</b>	Jody Brings
<b>Preschool Assistant</b>	Christine Hartke