BUFFALO UNITED METHODIST

So All May Know Joy

BUMC Weekly Connection—April 17

Worship: Sunday, April 19 @ 9:00

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

Relaxed—New Sermon Series

Our sermon series, *Relaxed*, invites us to step out of anxiety and into trust as we reflect on Proverbs 3:5–6, supported by *Relaxed: Walking With the One Who Is Not Worried About a Thing* by Megan Marschman. In a world driven by pressure, uncertainty, and the need to control outcomes, Scripture calls us to rest in God's wisdom and guidance. Each week, we will explore what it means to trust God with what we cannot solve, recognize God's presence in every place we go, and follow the straight paths God makes through life's crooked places. Together, we will find peace and faith daily.

This Sunday, Relaxed: Every Road, Every Room Proverbs 3:6a

Join us as we reflect on how God is present with us in every place we go and in every circumstance we face. We will consider what it means to surrender our plans and submit every part of our lives to God's leading. This sermon will encourage us to acknowledge God not only in worship, but also in our daily decisions, relationships, and routines, trusting that God walks with us through every road and every room.

Scripture Reading | Proverbs 3:5-6

Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding;
In all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

Next Sunday—Relax: Straight Paths Through Crooked Places Proverbs 3:6b

This Sunday, we will hear the promise that God makes our paths straight, even through life's confusing and difficult turns. We will reflect on how God's grace helps redeem every path we might take, no matter how uncertain or challenging. The message will focus on trusting that, through every crooked place, God is able to lead us forward with clarity, purpose, and hope.

Sunday Fellowship

Check out the coffee, treats and great conversation after worship in the Fellowship Hall at 10:00 am.

BUMC 2026 Directories

If you need an updated 2026 BUMC picture directory, pick up a copy on the wall in the entryway.

Other Ministry Updates

April 19	**9:00 am** Worship
	10:00 am Fellowship Hour
April 21	**4:00 pm** SPRC Meeting
April 22	**6:00 pm** Sloppy Joe Dinner
	6:30 pm Community Speakers
April 26	**9:00 am** Worship
	10:00 am Fellowship Hour
	10:30 am Congregational Care Team

Easter Flowers

If you ordered an Easter flower, please remember to take it home with you this Sunday after worship. This will be your last opportunity.

Sunday School

This Sunday, kids will continue learning about how God is good through the story of Jacob, Leah, and Rachel. They'll see how a story of sibling rivalry can turn into something meaningful through God's power. Also, current 6th graders will be sent home with a letter about Confirmation, so parents, please keep an eye out for that.

Confirmation

This Sunday, Confirmation students will focus on the lesson Remembrance. They will learn about the elements and meaning of Holy Communion in the United Methodist tradition, as well as what makes our understanding of Communion unique.

Beyond the Holidays: Loving Our Neighbors All Year Long

This is a community event focused on continuing acts of kindness and service beyond the holiday season. **On Wednesday, April 22** the evening will include a Sloppy Joe dinner at **6:00 pm** followed by a presentation at **6:30 pm** from local leaders who are making a positive impact in the community. Speakers will also address homelessness, sharing insights on the challenges individuals face, and how we can respond with compassion and support. This event is an opportunity to come together, learn, and be inspired to care for our neighbors throughout the year.

National Day of Prayer

The Prayer Ministry Team will be hosting a Prayer Vigil in connection with the National Day of Prayer, **Thursday, May 7th from 6:30 pm- 7:15 pm** at the Church. Please come anytime and stay as long as you want. There will be a short "Welcome" at **6:30 pm**. This is the 75th annual National Day of Prayer.

Handbell Concert at Park Terrace

You are welcome to join the Park Terrace residents as the BUMC Handbells will perform a concert on **May 6 at 6:30 pm**.

Wrapped in Love

Support adopted and foster children by donating new socks and underwear (men's medium boxer briefs needed). Place items in the coat room box. Cash donations welcome— contact Michelle or Rita Varner Otness.

Other Ministry Updates

From the Pastor

I would like to share an update on my health with all of you.

Last Thursday, I went to Buffalo Hospital and received a cortisone injection for shoulder inflammation and the associated pain. I was finally able to distinguish significant pain in my shoulder, separate from the neck pain, and recognize that it was not resolving on its own. The cortisone shot has helped.

When I slipped on the ice, I really did a number on my right side. I've since learned there were multiple layers and sources of pain that needed to be identified, understood, and addressed.

As for my neck, the disc extrusion at C6–C7 has not resolved. It is still pressing on the radial nerve, causing significant nerve pain down my right arm, hand, and fingers. In two weeks, I will meet with a neck specialist to discuss next steps, which may include surgery. In the meantime, I will continue physical therapy and stay consistent with my exercises.

Overall, I'm grateful to be healing from a range of aches and pains and getting stronger each week. I was especially thankful to be back in the pulpit last Sunday to preach and lead worship. I anticipate continuing in the pulpit moving forward. I also hope to begin driving again next week and return to the office.

If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to me or to Lori Olson, chair of the SPRC (Staff-Parish Relations Committee).

Thank you for your patience, prayers, and continued support—they truly mean a great deal to me.

UMC Summer Camp

Check out the upcoming camp sessions and pick your favorite camp location: Northern Pines, Koronis Ministries, or Kowakan Adventures. Camp listings and registration information are on the Camp Minnesota website. Registration forms can be found in the Church entrance!

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.

Hymnals and Bibles

Hymnals, Bibles, and other songbooks are 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.

Nursery

Our church nursery is for children six and under and is staffed. You'll find the nursery on the right side of the hallway past the church office and restrooms.