BUFFALO UNITED METHODIST

So All May Know Joy

BUMC Weekly Connection—Jan. 9

Worship: Sunday, Jan. 11 @ 9:00 0 am

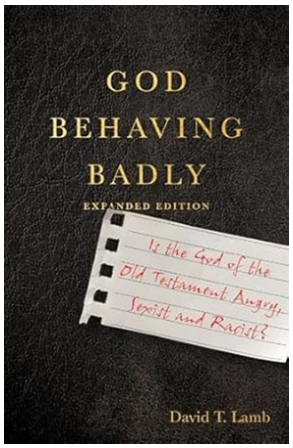
Also on Buffalo United Methodist Church's Facebook Page & YouTube!

This Sunday - Teen Challenge

Adult & Teen Challenge Minnesota

Teen Challenge will join us for worship, bringing powerful testimonies of God's healing and restoration. This Christ-centered recovery ministry walks with individuals overcoming addiction, offering hope, discipleship, and practical support. Their visit will deepen our understanding of God's transforming grace as they lead us in music, share stories of renewal, and encourage us in our own journeys of faith. We look forward to welcoming them and celebrating God's work in their lives.

New Sermon Series — God Behaving Badly?



Many people picture God as wrathful and angry—a deity who smites people left and right for reasons that aren't always clear. Parts of the Old Testament can seem to reinforce this image: the flood, nations destroyed, armies wiped out, judgment falling with what looks like extreme prejudice.

But wait—there's more to the story. Right alongside these troubling passages are some of the most beautiful portraits of God's love, mercy, patience, and forgiveness. We meet a God who is "slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love," even in the very same pages that challenge us.

So how do we hold these truths together? How do we make sense of what feels like a contradiction—not just intellectually, but emotionally and spiritually? Can a God who judges and is angry also be trusted? Can a God who forgives also be rightly feared?

This new series, God Behaving Badly, based on David T. Lamb's book, invites us to correct our vision of God. Together, we'll explore Scripture with fresh eyes, wrestling with the hard questions about God's anger, justice, mercy, and love. We'll see that God's character is rich, complex, and ultimately trustworthy. By looking carefully at the stories and words of Scripture, we begin to see God more clearly—not as harsh or distant, but as holy, loving, and faithful.

Over the coming weeks, we will learn to remove the distortions, put on the lens of Scripture, and encounter God as He truly is. Our hope is that by the end, our vision of God will be clearer, deeper, and life-changing.

Next Sunday — Is God Angry or Loving? | 2 Samuel 6:3-8

Many imagine God as harsh and quick to anger—and stories like Uzzah's only deepen the confusion. Yet Scripture also reveals a God overflowing with mercy and steadfast love. So, which is it? How do we reconcile a God who judges with a God who forgives? Is God angry or loving?

Other Ministry Updates

Jan 11	**9:00 am** Worship with Teen Challenge **10:00 am** Sunday School & Confirmation **10:00 am** Fellowship **10:30 am** Game Day
Jan 13	**7:00 pm** Leadership Team
Jan 14	**6:30 pm** Handbells
Jan 18	**9:00 am** Worship with Handbells **10:00 am** Sunday School & Confirmation **10:00 am** Fellowship

Children

This Sunday is Music Sunday! The kids will get to work on new songs that they will sing in Worship in April! Also exciting news is starting in February we will be having music every week to start class or finish class! This week kids will be learning about Growing in God's Word as another way to follow Jesus!

Confirmation

This Sunday the Confirmation students will be working though lesson 6, learning about The Early Church. They will learn about the history of the church from the beginning to just before the Reformation. They will work to connect the history of the church and how they can tie that to their faith today.

Movie Night

Join us on **Friday, January 23rd at 6:30 PM** for a Family Movie Night you won't want to miss! We will be watching A Dog's Purpose, a heartwarming movie that is great for all age groups. Invite your family and friends everyone is welcome to enjoy a fun evening with your church family. Popcorn will be provided, so bring your pillows and blankets, get comfortable, and come enjoy a cozy and memorable movie night together.

Ride Needed

We are looking for volunteers willing to provide rides for Sunday worship. A woman recently contacted the church seeking transportation to services. She uses a walker, lives at Woodmere in Buffalo, and recently moved from New Mexico, where she attended a Methodist church. She is hoping to reconnect with a church community. She prefers the second service on the first Sunday of each month but is flexible. If you are able to help—either regularly or occasionally—please let us know. A shared sign-up schedule can be arranged. Thank you for helping us extend a warm welcome.

Wrapped in Love

As people of faith, we are called to help create a world where there is room for all. Providing sanctuary is part of the Christmas story—and part of our ongoing story. Wrapped in Love is a continuing mission at BUMC that supports adopted children and foster families. By donating **new socks and underwear**, you offer a simple but meaningful reminder that they are seen, welcomed, and loved—by us and by Jesus.

Please place donations in the marked box in the coat room. Cash donations are also welcome; contact Michelle, and Rita Varner Otness will shop on your behalf.

Winter Survival Kits

In partnership with Love, Inc. and in support of our community's homeless, we are putting together Winter Survival Kits. These kits, to be distributed by Love, Inc. where they are most needed, will include essentials such as hats, gloves, socks, basic toiletries, nutrition bars, and a cozy throw. The Thrift Store has generously offered to provide socks, gloves or mittens, and stocking caps for this effort. A sign-up sheet on the bulletin board lists additional items needed to assemble at least 15 kits. We will gather to assemble the kits after church on **January 25**.

Thank you for your generosity and support!

Thank You!

- *Our Tuesday Morning AA group thanks you for the privilege of the use of your rooms, to share the message of HOPE and a salvation to those still suffering with addiction from alcohol and drugs, and maintenance for those in recovery. By God's Grace! We are grateful!*
  - Tuesday Morning AA