



# TIDINGS

January 2019 Volume 85 Issue 1



## As Christ's Light of Hope, together we Become, Serve, Celebrate and Share

### Charge Conference January 27 10:10 am

Let us explain. In preparation for our January 27, 2019, charge conference the following is a short summary of our Endowment Fund, the loans from it, the amounts received from the State of Iowa tax credit program, and the current status of that Fund. The purpose of the charge conference is to vote to change the amount of money still owed to our Endowment from a loan to a grant.

In reviewing the history of our FUMC reconstruction project and our projected financial deficits in 2011-2013, we applied for and were granted Iowa State Historical Preservation Tax Credits. Our project complied with extensive specific historic standards and was fully approved by review from our architects and by the Iowa State Historical Society for funding in 2013-2014. However, when funds in the Iowa Treasury for numerous such projects ran short, the State Treasurer carefully audited all projects and excluded many items previously considered qualified "costs" in the original tax credit program. Therefore, we received less (although a major sum) than we anticipated in the tax credit program.

To meet continuing construction needs in 2012-2013 other sources of funding included two major loans (approved by charge conference) from our Endowment Fund for \$300,000 and \$800,000. The building committee intended the loans to be repaid by the anticipated Iowa Tax. However, the shortfall in anticipated revenue from Iowa Tax Credits and overruns in construction costs did not allow full repayment. We did receive enough money to complete our construction on both church and loft projects and pay all external loans, but not enough to fully repay the Endowment Fund..

Endowment value 2011:	\$1,334,998.41	
Repaid from Tax Credit:	\$ 417,367.00 (March 2018)	
Remaining owed:	(\$ 560,222.15)	
Other sources:	\$185,021**	** (Other sources include interest/gifts/memorials, etc.)
Current Balance:	\$1,137,386.89	

The shortfall in repayment of the loan is \$560,222.15. In light of this shortfall it is proposed the Endowment Committee via charge conference forgive the unpaid amounts of the loans and classify them as a grant.

We all acknowledge the beauty of our facilities, the multiple missions we sponsor, our presence in the community, and the fact that we completed all the projects with no outstanding FUMC debt. Without the generous Endowment Fund loans our project would have bankrupted. The Endowment Fund exists for the very reason that we needed it; to rescue unforeseen events from disaster: in retrospect a grant would have been a more appropriate vehicle in 2012-2013 vs. a loan.

Truly, it is a miracle for to have no external debt. Hundreds of hours were completed by our team to secure and apply the denied tax credits. A legal team in Des Moines worked to aid in this Tax Credit claim. This team negotiated on our behalf (as a charitable organization) at NO CHARGE. We owe them a large debt of gratitude.

If you have any questions, please seek out myself, Tim Seibert, or Pastor Melisa. Thank you in advance for your attendance.

Jerry Jochims and Melisa BW

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Facebook—[www.facebook.com/fumcburlington](http://www.facebook.com/fumcburlington)

## Office Hours

Monday-Friday 8:30 am-4:30 pm

## Fair Trade Market

Monday-Friday 9:00 am-4:30 pm

Saturday 11:00 am-3:00 pm

Facebook-Loft Market

Rev. Melisa Bracht-Wagner  
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**Office Administrator & Treasurer**  
Sharyn Blake [admin@umcburl.org](mailto:admin@umcburl.org)  
319-754-8421

**Organist & Handbell Director:**  
Roxy Riessen

**Choir Director:** Jacob Yochum

**Custodians:** Tim Votaw,  
Nikcole Landon

**Childcare Providers:**  
Lucy Cockrell, Nikcole Landon  
Cameron Kelly & Abby Peters

### Hebrews 10:24-25

And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.

### 1 John 4:11-13

Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and his love is perfected in us. By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit.



change happens in circles, not rows  
deepen discipleship.

Connection. What is church? One could say church is a group of people who are *connected* through love for Jesus that care of each other, and create opportunities to

For years, Burlington First United Methodist Church has longed to formally engage in small group ministry. Have an “on ramp” for people to gather together for fellowship. A place to start without feeling as though they were intruding on a long established group. Get Connected. An opportunity to be in community.

As our global church prepares for the Commission on the Way Forward February 23-26, my desire as your pastor is take intentional moments to form small groups. I recognize our opinions on human sexuality are vast in many directions. Yet, our love for God and each other is most important. Treasure the image of God in you as you treasure the image of God in me.

Let’s gather together in small groups. Different groups, different days, different times, different studies. Same God. Same love for each other. Same mission—love God and each other more.

The one complication is—my health that will limit my creative and productive mind, plus we still don’t have a Director of Christian Education. Therefore, I’m asking for people to come alongside to help **find** hosts and facilitators, **encourage** individuals/couples/families to sign up, and **re-source** study materials if desired.

The goal is to start four small groups by February 14. I recognize that some small groups already exist. The push to create new small groups is to create community—connection—with people who are not in a small group, yet.

More information will be disseminated shortly. Statistics explain that to grow as a church we must get small. Small groups are the way to make that happen.

In church, we recognize small groups, at homes, around kitchen tables, and at restaurants. Connecting to each other. We are created to do life together—created to live in community. Not Alone. Together. Listening. Encouraging, Lamenting. Rejoicing. Being. Becoming. Sharing. Serving. Celebrating.

Please truthfully pray about joining a small group. God has never abandoned us—desires us to live in this community. Maybe a newly formed small group is exactly what your heart has been desiring.

Rev Melisa BW

# 2019 Leadership Team for Burlington First United Methodist Church

<b>Church Council</b>		
Chair	Duane Hartman	19
Secretary	Barb Schulz	
Lay Leader	Mark Taylor	19
SPRC Chair	Pati Toops	19
Finance Chair	Amy O'Brien	
Trustee Chair	John Phillips	19
Treasurer	Sharyn Blake	
Lay Member AC	Jerry Ridgon	19
Equalization AC	Marek Patejak	
UMM	Jim Corder	
UMW	Mary Taeger	
	Marilyn Lancaster	
Endowment		
Mission Chair	Ann Ure	
Financial Secretary	Tim Votaw	19
At Large	Ryan Freitag	19
	Linda Pilger	19

<b>SPRC</b>	
Jim Evans	21
Pati Toops	19
Jesse Saar	21
Claudine Capps	20
Cheryl Almack	20
Wendy Zick	19
Randy Schulte	19

<b>Endowment</b>	
Sue Stauffacher	21
Barb Carter	21
Lin Phillips	21
Cheryl Green	19
Don Lofgren	19
Melinda Bickel	19
Jim Corder	20
Deb Jochims	20
John Schulz	21

<b>Trustees</b>	
Gale Lofgren	20
Maryann Jordahl	19
John Phillips	19
Roger Stauffacher	20
Howard Toops	19
Scott Hoschek	21
Jed Cone	21

<b>Memorial</b>	
Jeanette Gallagher	21
Barb Miller	19
LaVern Neal	21
Carol Zaiser	19
Carolyn Bouquet	19

<b>Passion Team Leaders</b>	
Altar Flowers	Carol Zaiser
Card Ministry	Gloria Jewett
Christmas Basket	Ann Ure
CROP Walk	
Home communion	Gloria Jewett
Library & Prayer Shawl	Barb Evans
Puppets	Andrea Hartman
Reading	Barb Cameron
Softball	Dave Ure
Tuesday Team	Dave Miller
Welcome Team	
Women at Well	Ann Ure

<b>Finance</b>	
Amy O'Brien	20
Rohit Bhawle	21
Darven Kendell	19
Jim Priebe	19
Amy Cox	19
Jerry Zick	19
Taylor Tucker	20
Lisa Hill	19

<b>History</b>	
Gail Ferry	
Ron Nelson	
Dave Camp - Historian	

<b>Gym Team</b>	
Tim Seibert	
Joe O'Brien	
Brian Kobliska	
Kara Jameson	

<b>Nominations</b>	
Jerry Jochims	19
Sue Dickraff	21

<b>Fair Trade Team</b>	
Ann Ure - Chair	
Amy Camp	
Marilyn Lancater	
Sue Dickey	
Cheryl Jones	
Mary Taeger	
Terri Elliott	

<b>Mission</b>	
Gloria Jewett	
Marilyn Garrett	
Patty Neal	
Marek Patejak	
Savannah Bhawle	
Cindy Seibert	
Ann Ure - Chair	

<b>Meeting Schedule</b>	
Church Council	3rd Thursday 7p
Fair Trade	3rd Thursday 3:30 p
Finance	3rd Tuesday 5:30 p
SPRC	3rd Thursday 6 p
Trustees	2nd Tuesday 5:30 p

# Become: Christian Education



**Life and Laughter Sunday School Class** in the Choir Room at 10:10 am facilitated by Barb/John Schulz and Deb/Jerry Jochims will focus on their travels of Russia.

**Brunch Bunch**, facilitated by Jim Corder, room 217 of the second floor of the church. At the close of class, many journey to a restaurant for fellowship and food.

**1111Small Group**, facilitated by group members, southwest corner of the sanctuary of the church. Devotions with a time of sharing and intentional prayer.

**Soncatchers**, located in room 214 (second floor of church), with Julie Anderson and Melanie Sullivan as we continue to develop our relationship with Hope Haven.

**Children's Sunday School**, meets in the lower level of the church, Room 3.

## PBJ—Wednesday Children's Ministry

PB&J will not occur on Wednesday, December 26 or January 2



## Wednesday Small Group for Young Adults & Parents Church Second Floor 213

First/Fifth Wednesday	No Meeting.
Second Wednesday	Study group 5:30-7 while kids in PBJ.
Third Wednesday	We all go out to dinner together.
Fourth Wednesday	Study and/or service project.



## Church Committees

In January, our congregation welcomes a few new members to each of our committees. During our committee meeting, we review job descriptions, chat about the Burlington First UMC uniqueness, and get to know each other. The majority of our meetings are open to the public, one exception is SPRC when discussing personnel matters.

**Finance** "to propose, rise, manage, and distribute the financial resources of the congregation to support and strengthen the mission and ministry of the congregation." Chair: Amy O'Brien 319-208-4382

**SPRC (Human Resources)** "to support your pastor(s) and other staff so that these people can work effectively in managing the ministry of your congregation for witness and service." Chair: Pati Topps 319.759.5043

**Trustees** "to supervise and maintain all property belonging to your congregation so that the ministries of the congregation can be effective." Chair: John Phillips 319.759.2708

**Ad Council** "to oversee the ministry and administration of your congregation by setting direction and objectives, initiating and authorizing plans, determining policy for congregation to carry out its primary task effectively." Chair: Duane Hartman 319.383.8263

**Endowment** establishes policies to receive gifts, direct investments, maintain proper records of transitions, and recommend distributions. 2019 Chair not elected yet.

# January Worship Leaders

	January 6	January 13	January 20	January 27
Greeter, Usher	Croose Family	Williams	Kobliskas	Hemphills
Liturgist	Melanie Sullivan	Cheryl Green	Kobliskas	Maggie McKee
Acolyte 9:00	Cooper/Cadie	Katie Taylor?	Kobliskas	Maggie
Children's sermon	Melanie Sullivan		Rachel Yochum	Barb Evans
JUMP	Deb Jochims	Kahri Plein	Janet Brissey	Cindy Brown
Fellowship Time	Patty & Lavern	Bruce & Sue	Savannah & Rohit	Barb & Jim
Altar Flowers	Christmas Poinsettias	Gary & Dana Williams	Brian & Lindi Kobliska	Cynthia Brown

*faith and finances*

## Financial Numbers as of December 17, 2018 (change)

Budgeted Income \$349,770 Giving Income \$269,208 plus LOFT Income \$19,547 Total Income \$288,755

Budgeted Expenses \$374,495 Actual Expenses \$286,069 we are not current on apportionments

Thank you for taking the time to fill out the stewardship finance and service form. Our teams are excited to plug you into passionate ministry. Someone recently told Pastor Melisa—I've wanted to do that forever. Yet, Pastor Melisa had no idea. This service stewardship is a perfect way to share where you want to try new ministries and faithfully work in longtime ministries.

The Finance Committee has contacted some members who had not turned in Stewardship Forms for 2019. The response has been very positive. For those who still need form, they are available at the welcome center at the back of the church or on line at [umcburl.org](http://umcburl.org). <http://umcburl.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/2018-Stewardship-Pledge.pdf>

Please know our church needs people to help in many positions as well as a 5% increase in giving for the coming year to meet our expenses. The 2019 budget is lower than the 2018 budget. Our love for Jesus is in shown our calendar and checkbook. Thank you for loving Jesus with your time and finances. Jerry Zick and Melisa BW

## Gym Update—Whoot Whoot

### Celebrate—God's Goodness and Congregation Faithfulness


The day before the Tiding was printed—we received enough funding (assuming our pledges are paid) that the **GYM IS PAID IN FULL**. WHOOT WHOOT. Our 2019 goal to finish the gym **will** happen. Praise God. THANK YOU!!!!!! The placement of the article is only due to the timing of the mail. Happy Dances and Large Smiles all around.

The Tuesday team almost has the south storage floor built. Next comes the ramp and the wall. It is super exciting to smell sawdust and see new lumber. Please let us know if you want to join the fellowship and fun.



## Wednesday Schedule

8:00am Abraham Men's Group  
 8:45am Quilter's at The Loft  
 1:00 pm Women's Bible Study  
  
 5:30 pm PB&J  
  
 6:30 pm Inspiration Ringers

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SAT.
	<b>31</b> New Year's Eve Church office opened 8:30 am to 10:30 am	<b>1</b> Church Office Closed   <i>New Year's Day</i>	<b>2</b> NO PBJ	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>6</b> 7:30 am Choir Practice 9:00 am Worship 10:10 am Sunday School	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> 8:30am—4:30pm Foster Care Review Bd. 5:30 pm Trustees 6:00 pm Griefshare	<b>9</b> 6:00 pm ARC Training	<b>10</b> 6:00 pm Foster Care	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> Noon—10:00 pm Cub Scout District Banquet
<b>13</b> 7:30 am Choir Practice 9:00 am Worship 10:10 am Sunday School	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> 5:00 pm Loft Event 5:30 pm Finance	<b>16</b> **See Wednesday Schedule	<b>17</b> 12:15 pm Burlington Chamber Music 3:30 pm Fair Trade 6:00 pm Foster Care 6:00 pm SPRC 6:00 pm Cub Scouts 7:00 pm Ad Council	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> 1:00 pm Loft Event
<b>20</b> 7:30 am Choir Practice 9:00 am Worship 10:10 am Sunday School 1:00 pm Loft Event	<b>21</b> 12:30-6:00 pm Blood Drive Church Basement	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> **See Wednesday Schedule	<b>24</b> 6:00 pm Foster Care	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> 8:30 am CPR/First Aid training Foster Care
<b>27</b> 7:30 am Choir Practice 9:00 am Worship 10:10 am Sunday School  10:10 <b>CHARGE            CONFERENCE</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>  **See Wednesday Schedule	<b>31</b> 6:00 pm Foster Care  7:00 pm BelCanto		



## UMW MEETING REMINDERS....

**Wednesdays: 8:45 am -**  
**Quilters at the Loft**

**1:00-2:00 pm Women's**

**Bible Study in the Loft Library**

**The UMW Executive Board will meet at 3:15 pm.**



Shop the **Fair Trade LOFT Market** located in the LOFT first floor. Unique gifts from around the globe are gifts that give twice. Once to your loved one. Once to the artisan who can sustain their family or send their child to school. If you would like to volunteer at the LOFT Market, please contact Cheryl Jones.

### Gift Certificates Available

David Ure will be ending his regular TechTime sessions after Valentine's Day. If you need some help with your smartphone, tablet, laptop, software, etc. after that, please call the church office, leave your name and number and David will get back to you to schedule a get-together.



Hy-Vee cards are available in the

church office or in the Welcome Center on Sunday mornings. The proceeds help support our missionary, Larry Kies at African University in Zimbabwe.



Jan 10 Jim & Jane Adams  
Lennis & Alicia Kelley  
Jan 12 Bob & Dee Alberts



Jan 1 Fran Tillmann  
Jan 3 Sarah Crose  
Jan 5 Russell Brissey, Alexis Davis  
Jan 7 Verla Canfield  
Jan 9 Wilma Groe, Beverly Reeder  
Jan 10 Christine Ray, John Wozniak  
Jan 11 John Phillips  
Jan 12 Braden Jochims, Cheryl Jones  
Mildred Schleif  
Jan 13 Charles Anderson, Edward Bickel  
Jan 14 Lois Fort, Gale Lofgren  
Jan 16 Wanda Abernathy  
Jan 19 Sue Dichraff  
Jan 20 Pam Farr, Marilyn Lloyd  
Jan 21 Marilyn Garrett, Benjamin Sliwinski  
Jan 23 Bannen Davis  
Jan 24 Kayla Brueck  
Jan 26 Deb Jochims  
Jan 28 Sue Dickey, Donald Taeger  
Gavin Weitzel  
Jan 29 Jane Adams, Debra Olsson  
Jan 31 Donnar Bonar, Blake Hagen

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Monday, December 24

5:30 pm with the Puppets of Praise

8:00 pm with Communion