



Tidings

March 2019 Volume 85 Issue 3



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



March 23, 2019 is the 150th birthday of United Methodist Women! We will celebrate this anniversary during worship

on March 17, with special music, the Puppets of Praise, Special Mission Recognition and guest speaker, Lynn Calvert, the Iowa Conference United Methodist Women President. UMW members will provide and serve the after church fellowship time, as well. We look forward to sharing this special day with you.



Ash Wednesday

March 6 7:00 pm

Spring Grove UMC

“Come to the Waters” – Women’s Spiritual Growth Retreat

You are invited to join us for a women’s spiritual growth retreat on

Saturday, March 16th from 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM

at First United Methodist Church! As we enter the season of Lent and look ahead to spring, this is a great time to come away and spend time experiencing God’s love, presence, and movement in our lives. Come yourself and bring a friend – all women are welcome!

The theme for this retreat is “Come to the Waters” based on Isaiah 55:1-3, and we will spend our time together in faith-building fellowship while we experience a variety of forms of prayer together and on our own. Other activities will include reflective scripture reading, discussion of devotional texts, and creative ways of connecting with God. There will be time for group activities and conversation as well as brief personal times of silence. Lunch will be provided. Come, be in community, be refreshed by a time of retreat!

Please RSVP to Rachel Yochum at Rachel.a.yochum@gmail.com or phone:515-509-3513. Mary Taeger at mktaeger@gmail.com or (319) 572-0115. We hope you will come and join us!

First United Methodist Church

421 Washington St.

Phone – 319-754-8421

E-mail – admin@umcburl.org

Website – www.umcburl.org

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

Traditional Worship

Sundays 9:00 am

Education Hour

Sundays 10:10 am

Children's Wednesday Night

Meal, Lesson, Music, Games

5:30-7:00 pm

LOFT

416 Jefferson St.

Burlington, IA 52601-5143

Facebook—[LOFTEventsBurlington](https://www.facebook.com/LOFTEventsBurlington)

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
pastor@umcburl.org 929-3281

Event and Office Manager

Jackie Brockert 319-754-8421
admin@umcburl.org

Organist & Handbell Director:

Roxy Riessen

Choir Director: Jacob Yochum

Custodians: Tim Votaw,
Nikcole Landon

Assistant Children Director

Lucy Cockrell
education@umcburl.org

Childcare Providers:

Nikcole Landon, Cameron Kelly
Abby Peters

Monday, February 25—As I sit at my cluttered desk, our General Conference in Saint Louis is working on Human Sexuality. Facebook is lighting up with our delegates as they try to pass along information. The Tidings will be printed prior to any decision being voted. The issue is heavy on our hearts. Sunday, March 3 at 10:10 am we will unpack the General Conference action or inaction during Life and Laughter. For current information, check out our Annual Conference Website—iaumc.org.

No matter what happens. I know two things. One: I love God. Two: I love the image of God in you. While we may not always agree on what it takes to live into the Kingdom of God, we do agree to love God and each other.

Together, we pray for our brothers and sisters around the globe that we might be able to treasure our love for each other and stay rooted in our love for God. Rev Melisa BW

“Tenebrae” – A Good Friday Cantata

The season of Lent is right around the corner, which means your church choir at First UMC, along with other choirs in our community, will soon begin preparations for our annual Good Friday cantata! Our community has the wonderful tradition of the combined church choirs of the six United Methodist congregations here in Burlington gathering each Sunday evening in Lent to prepare for a cantata to be presented on Good Friday. Last year our mass choir included other churches in the Burlington area as well, for a total of 55 singers from 10 congregations! We hope we will have many singers join in again this year.

This year's cantata is called “Tenebrae,” after a form of worship from the ancient Christian church. Tenebrae is from the Latin word meaning “shadows,” and this dramatic style of worship service features candles being extinguished and lights being dimmed in the sanctuary to represent the approaching crucifixion. The music of this cantata utilizes the text of familiar Lenten hymns set to original music by respected 20th- century composer Lani Smith. Songs are accompanied by organ and interspersed with scripture readings that tell the story of the final days and hours of Jesus' life. I'm sure this will be a memorable experience for everyone involved!

This cantata is led by our church choir but is open to any of you in our congregation or anyone in the community who would like to take part. All ages and abilities are welcome to participate! So, we hope you will take this opportunity to join in this larger choral event even if you are not able to join us on a weekly basis for choir. These rehearsals will be from 5:00 – 6:00 on Sunday evenings starting on March 3rd.

Even if you are not able to sing with us, we hope you will join us for worship on Good Friday, April 19th at 7:00pm. Our worship that evening will be here at First UMC. Please let me know if you are interested in singing so I can be sure we have enough music on hand for all involved. Thanks-Jacob

- Thanks! Jacob

Serve: Mission

Prayer Shawl Meeting

MARCH 27

Will meet from 10-11 A.M.

Please Bring the Shawl you are making!

Anyone that would like to start making prayer shawls is warmly welcome! If you need assistance or yarn we can help you with that!

Ordinarily we knit at home, but we gather to hear updates about our ministry and to encourage each other.

Ragbri is coming

July 26

We are doing a

Homemade Meal, Lemonade Stand, and Sleeping a team

Help in many ways are needed. Please Save the Date to Serve.



Summer Games University July 8-12

SGU is a Christian summer camp for students who have completed grades 6-12. This one-week camp is an experiential, relationship focused camp where students will have the opportunity to learn more about who Jesus is and build relationships with other Christian students. Church will pay 1/2 of the fee.

Pastor Melisa recommends this camp for youth.

Iowa UM Conference Camp Catalogue has not been released yet.



Save the Date

July 15-19 5:30-7:00 pm

March 3 at 7:00 pm in the LOFT Third Floor



Puppet Practice on March 3 with performance on March 17 and May 5.

Become: Christian Education

Sunday Small Groups

Life and Laughter Sunday School Class in the Choir Room at 10:10 am facilitated by

- March 3 General Conference with Pastor Melisa
- March 10 "Search for Identity" Andree will tell the story of her mother, Jane Parrott, discovering at age 45 that she had been adopted as an infant.
- March 17 Barb Cameron and Barry Halden discuss CASA.
- March 24 Jeff Moehle from Mount Pleasant Midwest Precast Concrete about the Federal, State local agents and ICE.
- March 31 "Called of God" The story of Andree's great aunt Florence, the first woman to be ordained in the Methodist Church in Minnesota. Her story is of the joys of ministry and her struggle to attain full clergy rights for women at General Conference in 1932.

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.

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

Biblical Based Spiritual Formation Conversations Room 213 Jerry Rigdon will lead those attending into conversations about belief, faith, spirituality, the idea of being, or becoming spirit led people. The fullness of scripture will be the platform.

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.

Wednesday Small Group

The Crew 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.



Interested in a Small Group

We are looking to start four more small groups. Are you searching for community? Do you like to eat out? Could we connect with others? Please contact Pastor Melisa 319.929.3281 or indicate your desire on the connection card.

March Worship Leaders

	March 3	March 10	March 17	March 24	March 31
Greeter, Usher	Pilgers	Barb/Dave Miller	UMW	Mary/Jim Priebe	Freitags
Liturgist	Karen Piper	Katie Taylor	UMW	Barb Carter	Olivia
Acolyte 9:00	Kayleigh	Katie Taylor	UMW	Norah	Olivia and Carson
Children's sermon	Melanie Sullivan	Mark Taylor	Lucy	Melanie Sullivan	
JUMP	Deb Jochims	Fentons			
Fellowship Time	Neals	Dichraffs	Bawhles	Evans	Marilyn & Gloria
Altar Flowers	To the Glory of God				

Finance Committee Update



In our efforts to be Christ's Light of Hope, our goal is to take our monthly budget of \$27,300 and LIGHT IT UP! As you consider how generous God has been to you, and how extravagantly you want to give to His church, I encourage you to spend time reading the Bible and praying over your decisions.

If you need wisdom, spend some time in the book of Proverbs. There are 31 Chapters... read the one that corresponds to the day of the month!

Proverbs 2:6 says, "For the LORD gives wisdom; from his mouth come knowledge and understanding."

God does tell us what we should do with our money and helps guide us to live a life focused on Him. Generosity begins with God. Generosity begins not with what we give to God, but with what God has given to us. We have abundance.



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Our <u>Budgeted</u> Giving to date (2/28/19)	\$ 54,600
Our <u>Actual</u> Giving to date (2/25/19)	\$43,793.86
Our <u>Actual</u> LOFT Income to date (2/25/19)	\$ 3,450.00
Our <u>Actual</u> Expenses to date	\$46,985.35

Lenten Moments. For years, the United Methodist Churches of the greater Burlington area have gathered on Sunday nights for Lenten Moments. A time of worship, music, fellowship, and food the Sundays of Lent. With great sadness, the Lenten Moments will not happen this year as two congregations have chosen not to participate. We will gather together for Ash Wednesday, Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, and Good Friday Cantata. Please join us as we know God's Kingdom Building does not happen alone nor separate from community.

First United Methodist Church, LOFT & Church EVENTS

Mar 2019 (Central Time - Chicago)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
24 7:30am - Choir Practice 9am - Worship Service 10:15am - pot Luck 12pm - Loft 1st party 5pm - Cantata Practice	25 9am - Mah Jong	26 8am - Abraham Men's 8:45am - Quilter's 5:30pm - PB&J @ Church 6:30pm - Inspiration	27 9am - Card Playing 7pm - Bel Canto Practice	28 9am - Card Playing 7pm - Bel Canto Practice	1 1pm - Loft Event	2 8am - Loft Event
3 7:30am - Choir Practice 9am - Worship Service @ 10:10am - Sunday School 12:30pm - Loft Event 1pm - Event 5pm - Cantana Practice 6pm - Puppets 7pm - Youth	4 9am - Mah Jong 5pm - PANCAKES 5:30pm - Treble Clef	5 Ash Wednesday 8am - Abraham Men's 8:45am - Quilter's 6:30pm - Inspiration 7pm - Worship at Spring <i>Grow - Ash Wednesday</i>	6 9am - Card Playing 7pm - Bel Canto Practice	7 9am - Card Playing 7pm - Bel Canto Practice	8 1pm - loft event	9 1pm - loft event
10 7:30am - Choir Practice 9am - Worship Service 10:10am - Sunday School 5pm - Cantanta Practice 6pm - Puppets	11 3:15pm - UMW Exec. Board	12 OCL Dedicated Class 8am - Foster Care Board 9am - Mah Jong 5:30pm - Trustees 6:30pm - Endowment 6:30pm - Mission	13 8am - Abraham Men's 8:45am - Quilter's 5:30pm - PB&J @ Church 6pm - Griefshare 6:30pm - Inspiration	14 9am - Card Playing 9pm - Bel Canto Practice	15 6pm - Event	16 9am - Womens retreat 11am - Loft Event 11am - Mezzaine Event 12pm - Event 12pm - Loft 2
17 7:30am - Choir Practice 9am - Worship Service 10:10am - Sunday School 12:30pm - LOFT 1Event 5pm - Cantata Practice 6pm - Puppets	18 9am - Mah Jong 5:30pm - Bridges 7pm - Finance Cmte 7pm - Miriam Circle	19 8am - Abraham Men's 8:45am - Quilter's 12pm - Lunctime Chamber 5:30pm - PB&J @ Church 6pm - Griefshare 6:30pm - Inspiration	20 8am - Abraham Men's 8:45am - Quilter's 12pm - Lunctime Chamber 5:30pm - PB&J @ Church 6pm - Griefshare 6:30pm - Inspiration	21 9am - Card Playing 3:30pm - Fair Trade 5:30pm - Loft Event 6pm - SPRC 7pm - Ad Council 7pm - Bel Canto Practice	22 LOFT 2nd Wedding	23 1:30pm - Loft Event 2:30pm - Loft Event
24 7:30am - Choir Practice 9am - Worship Service 10:10am - Sunday School 5pm - Cantanta Practice 6pm - Puppets	25 9am - Sarah Circle	26 9am - Mah Jong 5pm - Loft 1 Event 5:30pm - Bridges	27 8am - Abraham Men's 8:45am - Quilter's 5:30pm - PB&J @ Church 6pm - Griefshare 6:30pm - Inspiration	28 9am - Card Playing 7pm - Bel Canto Practice	29 11am - Loft event	30 11am - Loft event



UMW MEETING REMINDERS....

Wednesdays:

8:45 am - Quilters at the Loft

1:00-2:00 pm Women's Bible Study Loft Library

The UMW Executive Board will meet on March 11 at 3:15.

March 16- Women's Retreat at the church 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Miriam Circle- March 18-(7pm) Carolyn Nelson (at Loft) Co-Hostess Mary Taeger: Program: Mary Taeger

Sarah Circle March 25- (9 am) Devotions:

Marilyn Garrett: Hostess: Janet Armstrong: Program: Mary Jannings

***All women are invited and encouraged to attend any of the above listed meetings.**



Charlene and Chris Robbins	March 1
Leroy and Sandie Bickel	March 4
Ruben and Carolyn Cloke	March 7
Donald and Mary Taeger	March 31



Velma Johnson	March 1
Ann Hills	March 2
Victoria Almack	March 4
Leroy Bickel	March 4
Dianna Fenton	March 4
Gerald Lancaster	March 4
Gary Williams	March 4
Martin Wozniak	March 4
Shauna Freitag	March 5
Andy Kincaid	March 5
Patti Toops	March 5
Cheryl Almack	March 6
David Gray	March 7
Ryan Readinger	March 9
Andree Halden	March 10
Patty Jaeger	March 11
Jerry Anderson	March 12
Grant Whipple	March 12
Amy Camp	March 14
Jim Nelson	March 14
Randy Schulte	March 14
Cindy Spear	March 15
Carver Crose	March 16
Henry Whipple	March 16
Jed Cone	March 17
Gene Davis	March 17
Melanie Sullivan	March 17
Andy Crooks	March 18
Ann Thompson	March 18
Elayna Zaiser	March 19
Melinda Bickel	March 20
Sandy Hendrichsen	March 20
Jessica Johnson	March 21
Cody Stauffacher	March 22
Julie Warner	March 22
Cadence Crose	March 23
Julie Kniffen	March 25
Malachi Landon	March 25
Lois Rice	March 26
Helen Weitzel	March 27
Jonah Fourdyce	March 28
Julia Pilger	March 28
Judy Adams	March 29
Abby Landon	March 29
Daniel Crooks	March 30

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. 572-5914 **Gift Certificates Available**

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.



David Ure will not be doing Tech Time 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.

The Tidings is published monthly by

First United Methodist Church

416 Jefferson St.

Burlington, IA 52601

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March 5—Pancake Supper 5-7:00 pm

UMM SPONSORED SHROVE TUESDAY United Methodist Men will prepare and serve an “All You Can Eat” pancake supper on Tuesday, March 5, 2018 at the Loft from 5-7 PM. The menu will include pancakes, sausage, apple sauce, coffee, orange juice and milk. The ticket price is \$8.00 for adults age thirteen and above, children age 4-12 \$4.00, and under are free. Tickets will be sold after church services, at the door, and in the church office. All proceeds from the pancake supper will go to support the Ken Koch Memorial Scholarship.