

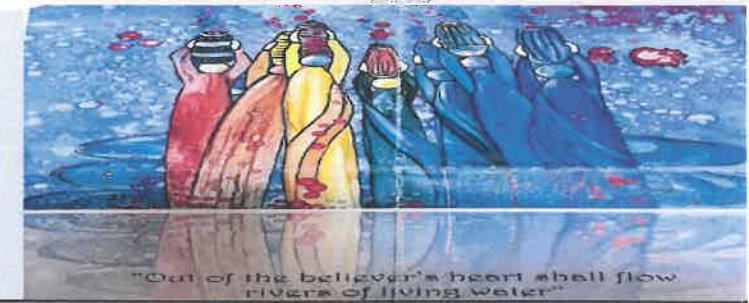


The Tidings is published monthly by
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416 Jefferson St.
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As Christ's Light of Hope,
together we Become, Serve,
Celebrate and Share



A Monthly Update for First United Methodist Church Burlington Iowa Volume 87 Issue 4

Tidings



Traditional Worship 9:00 am with masks or Live Stream

Contact us at 319-754-8421 www.umcburl.org

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

Join us for *in-person* worship with masks and
social distancing at 9AM each Sunday!

We will keep you posted when our
bishop removes more
COVID restrictions.

Up to date news >>>>

For congregational prayer concerns plus weekly updates, please contact
the church office to subscribe to the *Pew News*. Call 319-754-8421.

Worship with us Online

Website:
umcburl.org/recorded-services

Youtube:
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCf5Sk8GT07ZLVzqIP6qoN1w>

Facebook:
www.facebook.com/fumcburlington

<<<<Pew News

Young Disciples >>>>

JUMP: (Jesus You & Me Pray) is children's Sunday School during the last half of the church service. It is for PK through 4th graders with masks and has resumed along with in-person worship. Sue Dichraff is our leader.

PBJ: will restart in the fall, once COVID concerns have subsided and enough volunteers have been obtained.

TWEEN YOUTH: Sunday nights from 5-6 pm at the LOFT every week. Sue is also still in need of parents to take turns helping in Melisa's absence for April- lesson planning is already done. Please reach out to volunteer! **No Youth Group Easter Sunday.**

PUPPETS will be performing 04/11, and will possibly continue after some consideration. Please contact Andrea Hartman with any further questions.

Music Ministry >>>>

Inspirational Ringers continue to give God praise through practice and worship.

Chancel Choir will perform on Easter Sunday, with the hope of continuing regularly after. If you are interested in doing special music, please contact the church office at 754-8421.

Adult Education Opportunities in April

The adult Sunday School classes will start a new study in April. The topic and location of the classes will be announced in a future Pew News. Jerry Rigdon will continue to facilitate discussions on "Spirituality in the Gospel of Matthew." These discussions are held in the church's choir room at 10 am on Wednesdays. You can receive the week's agenda by emailing Jerry (ledguy@lisco.com).

United Methodist Church Camp

The Education Committee recognizes the impact church camp can have on a person's growth in Christianity. Therefore, they have decided to fully fund camperships for members and active participants of the church. FUMC will also fund 50% of camp for a friend of a member. Financial assistance is also available through the Iowa Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church. You can check out the summer camps for all ages at <https://www.iaumc.org/camps>.

Easter Special Offering

Each year First United Methodist Church gives its special Easter offering to Women at the Well, the United Methodist prison ministry at the Iowa Women's Correctional Facility in Mitchellville, Iowa.

Our church has a covenant to support this ministry in our prayers, our witness, our service, and with our financial support.

The two pastors at Women at the Well provide worship services, training to re-enter society following release, and religious guidance to incarcerated women who appreciate knowing that God is with them and that they are not alone behind bars. These women, who many times are victims themselves, are growing in their knowledge of God and are witness to the impact that a life of faith has on their own healing and lives.

Although we cannot visit the prison to attend a worship service at Women at the Well in person at this time, as our church has done in the past, we are still able to support the women in their religious growth.

Please include these children of God in your prayers and support the ministry of Women at the Well with a generous donation.

Matthew 25: 31-40- "For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me."

Celebrations >>>

Birthdays

- Terri Elliott 04/01
- John Youngquist 04/02
- Suzanne Lunsford 04/03
- Nancy Pilger 04/03
- Kelsey Schmeiser 04/05
- Jan Alter 04/07
- Janet Schupback 04/08
- Lin Phillips 04/09
- Chris Murphy 04/11
- Jeff Crooks 04/12
- Mary Saye 04/12
- Carolyn Bouquet 04/14
- Lennis Kelley 04/14
- Tom Bell 04/19
- Brenda Almack 04/20
- Jody Crooks 04/20
- Ryan Kendell 04/21
- Jeanette Gallagher 04/22
- Shelly Ahner 04/26
- Janet Eggenberger 04/26
- Gary Warner 04/26
- Tammy Yotter 04/26
- Angie Johnson 04/27
- Sarah Smith 04/27
- Derek Stotlar 04/27
- Rhonda Wynn 04/27
- Jody Goble 04/28
- Kinnick Crose 04/30

Anniversaries

- Roger & Gail Ferry 04/02
- John & Lori Rockwell 04/06
- Scott & Jo Williams 04/07
- Jim & Julie Kniffen 04/15
- Sally & Tom Parrott 04/24

Meetings & Events

- Good Friday April 02 @ 6:30
- Easter Sunday April 04 @ 9
- Education Tue April 13 @ 7
- Missions Tue April 13 @ 6
- Fair Trade Thu April 15 @ 3:30
- Ad Council Thu April 15 @ 7

Mission Corner >>>



Congratulations to both Mona Ash of the Burlington Bridges Out of Poverty and to Terri Elliott of the National Alliance of Mental Illness for Southeast Iowa who have written, applied, and won matching fund grants of \$3,000 from the University of Iowa College of Public Health for their organizations! Funds through our Mission Committee will be matching the grants. All of these funds will provide resources and support for the good works of these two organizations in our community.

Thank you to the 11:11 Sunday School group for providing the meal for the March Bridges Out of Poverty meal! The Bell Choir will be doing the honors in April. There will be no meal in May as Bridges is taking some time off from their classes.

Thursday, May 27th, will be the next date that FUMC will be providing the entree for the SUMM end of the month meal at Grace United Methodist Church. Our church is one of five area churches who take turns providing the entree or the dessert for these meals that help meet the hunger needs of people in our community at the each month. In March over 100 hungry Burlington residents were served! Stay tuned for the May Tidings for ways that you can help serve the hungry with other Methodists.

Help for Campers

Summer will come soon and going to camp is a great summer adventure for young people! But not every family is able to afford summer camp. First United Methodist Church will be paying the camp fees for five children, ages 10-14, with Bridges Out of Poverty parents to go to summer camp at Wesley Woods Methodist Camp near Des Moines the week of July 5-9 with Mission funds. During this week, they will swim, ride horses, make crafts, go creek stumping, study the Bible, sleep in a cabin, make new friends, and, in general, have the time of their lives! You can help make this a memorable week in the lives of these young people who would not otherwise be able to have this dream come true! There is a chart in the office where you can sign up to bring supplies, such as sunscreen, insect repellent, and beach towels, that the campers will need. Please write your name behind the items that you can provide, and then cross your name off when you have brought these things to the office. There will be a tub in the office to place your items. Please have your items there by June 10th!

United Methodist Men



UMM appreciates all of the applicants for the Ken Koch Memorial scholarships and Mildred Westfall grants. They will announce recipients after due consideration, and will look forward to Senior Sunday in May!

United Methodist Women



The First United Methodist Women are sponsoring a "Camp Sunday" on April 11, and invite everyone to attend church in person, if possible, on that date to meet the Director of the Iowa United Methodist Camping Programs, Bryan Johnson, and hear more about the benefits of camping and details about the camps that are offered at Wesley Woods and Camp Okoboji. And camping isn't just for children. Hear about the adult camping and retreat opportunities also offered at these wonderful facilities

Events/Meetings: Executive Board-04/12 @ 3pm in LOFT Library
 Quilters-Every Wednesday @ 8:30-12pm on 3rd LOFT
 Miriam Circle- 04/19 @ 7pm
 Sarah Circle-04/26 @9:30am at the LOFT

Thoughts from Joan

I cannot believe I am writing my third article for the Tidings! My time with Burlington First just flies by! I am enjoying meeting more and more of you in person as people are receiving vaccinations, COVID numbers are down, and we are more comfortable being together. It is also great to hear from those who are worshipping online as they choose or are not able to attend in person.

We are still wearing masks and there is plenty of room to social distance on Sunday mornings. We do encourage you to use the balcony if the socially distanced lower level looks full.

I am looking forward to Good Friday Service, and I am also pleased to have various readers and musicians participate. We will begin the service at 6:30 pm on April 2nd. Easter morning celebrate with joy at 9 am to praise God for the resurrection. We look forward to wonderful music including a small choir, uplifting scripture, and the beauty of an empty cross and empty tomb.

I organized a notebook when I started and on the cover I put, and keep adding, sayings, scriptures, and thoughts that encourage me. This month I want to share the entire back cover, which says:

**Do all the good you can,
 By all the means you can,
 In all the ways you can,
 In all the places you can,
 At all the times you can
 To all the people you can,
 As long as ever you can.**

John Wesley

Thank you for your support and blessings and please let me know how I can support and spiritually care for you.

Peace and Blessings,
 Joan Rodgers
 Interim Pastor

Order Your Easter Lilies

Easter is fast approaching! In celebration, the church has 2 large stem lilies for \$30 and 8 small lilies for \$15 that congregation members can purchase in memory of or in honor of someone. Please contact Dane in the LOFT Office if interested. If desired, anyone can bring a lily on Easter morning for our service. Feel free to take the lily following the service. How nice to be able to look forward to Spring and warmer weather!

Our Financial Health >>>

**Financial Numbers as of
 March 29, 2021**

Budgeted Income	\$83,661.47
Actual Income	\$43,234.38
Event Income	\$5,326.50
Total Income	\$48,560.88

Budgeted Expenses	\$84,171.32
Actual Expenses	\$46,919.00



2020 Apportionments have been paid in full. THANK YOU.

Fair Trade Market >>>

Bird houses, bee houses, and butterfly houses, Wind chimes with bells and wind chimes with butterflies, Flower pots and gardening hats—Get ready for spring by shopping at the LOFT Market where unique gifts are handcrafted by artisans from developing countries around the world! Helping others by shopping! What could be more fun! The LOFT Market is open Monday through Saturday from 11 to 3!



Office Hours

Monday-Friday 8:30 am-3:30 pm

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 319-754-8421 · joan@umcburl.org

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 admin@umcburl.org

Director of Christian Education
 Sue Dichraff 319.759.4884
 education@umcburl.org

Ministry Intern
 Lucy Cockrell 319 850-2469

Organist & Handbell Director:
 Roxy Riessen

Choir Director: Dane Feenstra

Custodians:
 Tim Votaw & Bruce Dichraff

Childcare Providers:
 Ilianna Murphy & Racheal Fenton

Live Stream and Tech
 Rohit & Savannah Bhawle

Rev Melisa Bracht-Wagner
 Medical Leave pastor@umcburl.org