



The Tidings is published monthly by  
First United Methodist Church  
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Burlington, IA 52601

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A Monthly Update for First United Methodist Church Burlington Iowa Volume 87 Issue 10

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

# Tidings



Traditional Worship 9:00 am or Live Stream with link on Facebook

## The Return of the Christmas Cantata and other Music News

Due to a decrease in COVID numbers for Des Moines County, the Chancel Choir will start rehearsing at 7:30 am and performing at regular church services again, joining the Inspirational Ringers and Puppets of Praise in October moving forward.

We have also chosen our 2021 Christmas Cantata, titled Candles & Carols: A service of hope, peace, joy, and love. We are excited to present this program for our church family and community after missing out on a year due to the pandemic. We will be inviting members of the community to join, extending offers of musical fellowship to our community Methodist churches, as well as Bel Canto and Silver Singer members. Our goal will be to rehearse every Sunday at 5:00 pm, starting on October 17th in the basement of the church, in our choir room. Our hope is to present our cantata on Sunday, December 19th, at 3:00 pm.

Please contact Dane in the office with interest in participation at [admin@umcburl.org](mailto:admin@umcburl.org) or 319-754-8421 so that we have an accurate idea of how many scores that we will need. We look forward to singing together, and helping our church usher in the Christmas season!

## Adult Education in October>>>

The Brunch Bunch is planning on studying "The Space Between Us" in October. The Brunch Bunch meets in **Room 213**.

The Life and Laughter class will continue meeting in the **choir room** at 10:10 on Sundays, but for the next few weeks we will be taking field trips to the Holy Land. We will be viewing videos where our guide will give us Biblical background regarding the areas we will be visiting. We will then hop into his little white Fiat for our exciting and sometimes humorous travels. Come join us. You don't even need a passport.

### Wednesday Bible Study

There's no better explanation for how to live out the Great Commission - following the instruction of the resurrected Jesus Christ to spread his teachings to all the nations of the world - than in the book of Acts. It is a unique and crucial book that chronicles the story of God's grace flooding out to the world through the lives of the early disciples. Pastor Melisa is leading a study on the book of Acts. This class is based on a video series and book by the New Testament scholar, Matthew Skinner. The class will be from 6-7.

**HOWEVER**, you are welcome to have supper with the kids at 5:30. We will meet in **Room 213**. All are welcome to join!

Contact us at 319-754-8421 [www.umcburl.org](http://www.umcburl.org)

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

World Communion Sunday  
October 3



Puppets give glory to God on  
October 10 at 9:00 am  
Join us for a morning of Praise!!

All Saints Celebration  
October 31, 9:00 am



Charge Conference  
October 3 5:30 pm

Church Sanctuary

(Annual Meeting  
of the Church)

## PB&J (Prayers-Blessings-Jesus)

Wednesday evenings 5:30-7:00  
PreK-5th grade!

We are learning about God's creation,  
Jesus and the Church!

Dinner @ 5:30  
Bible lesson, Games, Music time

Come join us and bring your  
friends for lots of fun!  
**\*masks required**

We are also in need of teachers/helpers for PBJ! Come along on the journey-shape hearts and change lives. Please contact Sue if you are able to help with a meal or a night or a month. Call 759-4884!

Up to date news found in *Pew News* >>>

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



Wednesdays beginning September 15

6:00 pm for six weeks

room 213 with Pastor Melisa

**Birthdays**

Miriam Winter	10/01
Randy Hemphill	10/02
Chip Readinger	10/02
Vera Anderson	10/04
Mary Jane Hemphill	10/06
Tobias Lunsford	10/06
Gabe Toops	10/08
Marty Distelhorst	10/09
Barb Solheim	10/10
Mark Alter	10/11
Jim Kniffen	10/11
Christian Yotter	10/11
Fern Latta	10/13
Racheal Fenton	10/15
Dave Miller	10/16
Carson Freitag	10/18
Philomena Crabtree	10/19
Rhianna Yotter	10/19
Janet Owens	10/21
Bev Siekman	10/22
Sharyn Blake	10/23
Lois Rigdon	10/23
Ann Ure	10/23
Dave Crose	10/24
Charlene Robbins	10/27
John Rockwell	10/27
Kory Taylor	10/27
Kohen Stotlar	10/28
Dawson Gach	10/30
Tracy Gach	10/30
Karen Piper	10/30
Cindy Seibert	10/31

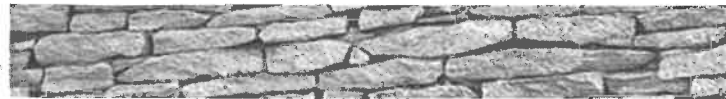
**Anniversaries**

Bob & Barb Cameron	10/05
Randy & Mary Jane Hemphill	10/08
Gary & Julie Warner	10/11
Jed & Emily Cone	10/15
Daryl & Cindy Brown	10/18
Chip & Dana Readinger	10/21
Jamie & Sarah Smith	10/23
Ron & Karen Piper	10/30

UMM will continue meeting Wednesdays at 8 AM at the All-Star Diner in West Burlington.



**Mission Corner >>>**



**Ingathering—**

Thank you to all who have donated School Kits or have sewn cloth bags to hold the kits for Ingathering! This is the last month for collecting the kits. The kits are due in the church office by Friday, October 22, so they can be packed up for the Saturday, November 6, Ingathering in Mt. Pleasant. There is still time to assemble a kit! Listed below are the supplies that are needed.

- 3 notebooks--1 subject spiral 8"x10 1/2      6 pencils—unsharpened
- 1 ruler—12" with metric                              1 box of 12 colored pencils
- 1 eraser—2" or larger                                      1 pair of student scissors
- 1 box of 24 crayons    1 pencil sharpener

**Food Pantry—**

Keep those canned goods and non-perishables coming! 132 items were taken to the food pantry on Jefferson Street. The shopping cart can be found at the back of the sanctuary on Sunday mornings. Whenever you go grocery shopping, please include a few extra non-perishable items, such as canned chicken or tuna, cereal, soup, pasta, or canned fruits and vegetables, to donate to the food pantry.

**SUMM or Shared United Ministries Meal—**

Thursday, October 28, is the date that First United Methodist Church is responsible for the entree for the End of the Month Meal at Grace UMC. If you would like to provide food or serve the 5:30 meal, please see Ann Ure (319-759-2990).

**UNDIE SUNDAY** In the past, Shared United Methodist Ministries or SUMM has collected packages of children's underwear to be distributed at "Toys for Tots." In the past we have provided for 450 to 500 children. We plan to continue this valuable ministry again this year. With all the disruptions of Covid, we've had a late start in gathering underwear, so instead of having an "Undie Sunday" each month, let's consider EVERY Sunday an "Undie Sunday." Either bring your contributions to church on Sunday or drop them off at The Loft during the week. If it would be easier for you, you could send a check and we'll do the shopping. Or you could order underwear and have it sent to the church. This has been a rough beginning of the school year for our children.

**Bridges Out of Poverty Meal—**

The Mission Committee served goulash, salad, French bread, and cookies and bars to the Bridges group for the 6 pm September meal. The October 5th meal will be served by the Balcony Dwellers. Please contact Cindy Seibert if you are able to provide food or serve that evening. The Fair Trade Committee will be responsible for the November 2 meal

**United Methodist Women >>>**

Unfortunately, the UMW Harvest Celebration for Sunday, November 7 has been cancelled due to high COVID numbers in our county.

**Events/Meetings:**

- Executive Board-10/11 @ 3:00 pm in LOFT Library
- Quilters-Every Wednesday @ 8:30-12pm on 3rd LOFT
- Miriam Circle-10/18 @ 7:00 pm on 1st LOFT
- Hostess: Claudine Capps
- Co-Hostess: Ann Ure
- Program: Cheryl Jones (World Thank Offering)
- Sarah Circle-10/25 @ 9:30am on 2nd LOFT
- Devotions & Program: Vicki Wischmeier
- Hostess: Janet Armstrong



September 27, 2021

Today is the deadline for this Tidings Article. Today is a hard day to write an article. Why? I hear you ask. Today, I have no answers to the questions many ask.

When will be my last day? Unknown. As of today, a replacement or interim has not been found. Over the weekend, I did communicate with Joan Rodgers. She is willing to help lead worship, once and awhile, if I restart the chemo process. Our district superintendent, Doug Cue, agreed to let Joan come in and assist as needed., while we wait for another to join our ministry.

Everyone is waiting for something. COVID to end. Kids to call. Deadlines. Grocery store checkout. Retirement. Grandkids.

*"Our soul waits for the LORD; he is our help and our shield." Psalm 33:20*

*"Wait for the LORD; be strong, and let your heart take courage; Wait for the LORD!" Psalm 27:14*

*"Be strong, and let your heart take courage, all you who wait for the LORD!" Psalm 31:24*

Let us remember that in our waiting, God asks us to be still. Climb up into the arms of Jesus. Engage in some internal control to "keep from getting our undies in a bunch." Refrain from worry and what ifs fears.

*"It is good that one should wait quietly for the salvation of the Lord." Lamentations 3:26*

*"For God alone, O my soul, wait in silence, for my hope is from him." Psalm 62:5*

*"I wait for the LORD, my soul waits, and in his word I hope; my soul waits for the Lord more than watchmen for the morning, more than watchmen for the morning." Psalm 130:5-6*

*"When I am afraid, I put my trust in you. In God, whose word I praise, in God I trust; I shall not be afraid. What can flesh do to me?" Psalm 56:3-4*

*"God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.*

*Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble at its swelling. Selah" Psalm 46:1-3*

Together, we wait. When the office staff knows something, anything, we will be sure to communicate through the Pew News. Thanks for being "chill" with me has we wait. As we continue to make a difference in our corner of the Kingdom. As we love Jesus back.  
Rev Melisa BW

**Our Financial Health >>>**

*Financial Numbers as of  
September 27, 2021*

Budgeted Income	\$253,650.05
Actual Income	\$190,753.98
Event Income	\$ 17,071.00
Total Income	\$207,824.98



Budgeted Expenses	\$254,277.57
Actual Expenses	\$195,702.49

**All funds have been paid toward the 2021 apportionment. Thank you!**

**Fair Trade Market >>>**

Fall purses are one of the many new items now on display at the LOFT Market. Other fall items and Christmas decorations are coming in for you to see.

The LOFT Market hours are 11 to 3 Monday through Saturday, or, if you have a special request, Dane is very kind to open up the store other hours when the office is open.



**Office Hours**

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

**Office & Event Manager/Choir Director**  
Dane Feenstra 754-8421  
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

**Custodians:**  
Bruce Dichraff & Tim Votaw

**Childcare Providers:**  
Isabella Murphy & Riley Richards

**Live Stream and Tech**  
Rohit & Savannah Bhawle

**Rev Melisa Bracht-Wagner**  
pastor@umcburl.org  
319.929.3281

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
9am - Worship Service 10:10am - Education Hour 1pm - Organ Crawl 5pm - Confirmation 5pm - N.A. Group	9:30am - Sarah Circle 5:30pm - Pickleball	9am - Mahjong 5:30pm - Bridges	8am - UMM Breakfast 8:45am - Quilters 3pm - Silver Singers 5:30pm - Wednesday 7pm - Basketball	10am - Fluid Movement 1:30pm - Bible Study 5:30pm - Pickle Ball 7:30pm - Basketball	5:30pm - P.E.O.	Wedding Reception
7:30am - Chancel Choir 9am - Worship Service 10:10am - Education Hour 2pm - Basketball 5pm - Confirmation 5pm - N.A. Group	9am - P.E.O. 5:30pm - Pickleball 6:30pm - NAMI 6:30pm - Prayer Group 7:30pm - Basketball	9am - Mahjong 2pm - Pickleball 5:30pm - Bridges 6pm - Missions	8am - UMM Breakfast 8:45am - Quilters 3pm - Silver Singers 5:30pm - Wednesday	10am - Fluid Movement 1:30pm - Bible Study 5:30pm - Pickle Ball 7:30pm - Basketball	5:30pm - P.E.O.	8pm - Cotillion
7:30am - Chancel Choir 9am - Worship Service 10:10am - Education Hour 2pm - Basketball 5pm - Confirmation 5pm - N.A. Group	9am - P.E.O. 1pm - Hawk Eye Heritage 5:30pm - Pickleball 6:30pm - NAMI 6:30pm - Prayer Group 7pm - Miriam Circle 7:30pm - Basketball	9am - Mahjong 5:30pm - Bridges	8am - UMM Breakfast 8:45am - Quilters 12:15pm - B.L.C.M.S. 3pm - Silver Singers 5:30pm - Wednesday	10am - Fluid Movement 1:30pm - Bible Study 3:30pm - Fair Trade 5:30pm - Pickle Ball 7pm - Ad Council 7:30pm - Basketball	5:30pm - P.E.O.	8pm - Cotillion
7:30am - Chancel Choir 9am - Worship Service 10:10am - Education Hour 2pm - Basketball 5pm - Confirmation	9am - Sarah Circle 5:30pm - Pickleball 7:30pm - Basketball	9am - Mahjong 5:30pm - Bridges	8am - UMM Breakfast 8:45am - Quilters 3pm - Silver Singers 5:30pm - Wednesday	10am - Fluid Movement 1:30pm - Bible Study 5pm - Girl Scouts 5:30pm - Pickle Ball 7:30pm - Basketball	5:30pm - P.E.O.	8pm - Cotillion
7:30am - Chancel Choir 9am - Worship Service 10:10am - Education Hour 2pm - Basketball 5pm - Confirmation	5:30pm - Pickleball 6:30pm - NAMI 7:30pm - Basketball	9am - Mahjong 5:30pm - Bridges 6pm - Missions	8am - UMM Breakfast 8:45am - Quilters 3pm - Silver Singers 5:30pm - Wednesday	10am - Fluid Movement 1:30pm - Bible Study 5:30pm - Pickle Ball 7:30pm - Basketball	5:30pm - P.E.O.	8pm - Cotillion

# Bridges Update

## First United Methodist Family,

We are so very grateful for the support that you are and have been since the beginning of Bridges. This year alone you have made meals for our families, created chairs for our auction, made it possible for kids to go to camp and to take part in opportunities in learning that they would not normally have, helped us to feed the hungry, assisted many that have faced covid related situations, covered a mom's roof with a tarp to keep her ceiling from falling in, and most recently helped one of my families by painting and doing some much needed maintenance on her house, and allow us to use your facilities and resources to continue this life changing work. We love your heart for people, and that you intentionally seek to help the hurting and those who need the love of Jesus. Thank you for your support in this work, I am so grateful to be an adopted part of what you all do here.

Mona 

## September & October Altar Flowers

- Sept. 5 Deb and Jerry Jochims
- Sept. 12 Cheryl Almack
- Sept. 19 Patty and Laverne Neal
- Sept. 26 Wanda Abernathy, in memory of my son Ron Rehkopf

- Oct. 3 Bob & Barb Cameron in honor of anniversary
- Oct. 10 Roberta Robbins for mother Melba Davilla
- Oct. 17 Velma Upton, in memory of Frank and family
- Oct. 24 Carol Zaiser in honor of family
- Oct. 31 Open for those interested 754-8421



Never in a million years would I have imagined that a group of kindhearted people would come together for a day, and paint my house. My house was considered the ugly duckling on the street and I did not have the way or means to give it a make over! I applied for the Paint-a-thon and prayed for it for months. After learning that I was not chosen, I felt very defeated, but God remained faithful. He saw my heart hurting and worked through you all to make my dreams happen. There are no words to express my gratitude. Thank you. **Amanda Ballou**



I want to say thank you to all of you who have sent cards, made phone calls, or visited me while I have been under the weather. I am so grateful for your caring. Hopefully things are going to improve soon. God bless all of you for caring. -Gloria DeVilbiss

