



The Tidings is published monthly by
 First United Methodist Church
 416 Jefferson St.
 Burlington, IA 52601

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A Monthly Update for First United Methodist Church Burlington Iowa Volume 87 Issue 11

*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



Sunday, November 21
 Set up Team at 10:10 am
 Decorating Team at 11 am
 Soup Lunch at 11:45

Sunday, November 7th
 10:00 am in the Sanctuary
 with Jodie Cue



Contact us at 319-754-8421 www.umcburl.org Facebook: [fumcburlington](https://www.facebook.com/fumcburlington)

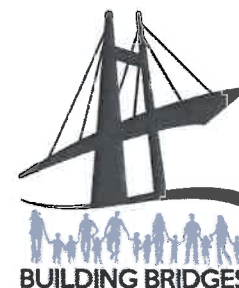
Come and Go—Open House
 Celebrating Pastor Melisa's Ministry
 October 31, 2:00-4:00 pm
 First Floor of the LOFT

Special Recognition during
 Worship 10/31 at 9 :00 am



Sunday,
 November 28

Treble Clef Concert December 12th
 Children's Christmas Program Dec 19th 9 am
 Community Christmas Cantata 19th 3 pm



Building Bridges— Community Ministry

- Interested call: 754-8421
- ⇒ Staying Ahead Partner
<https://burlingtonbuildingbridges.org/staying-ahead/>
 - ⇒ Child Care Support
 - ⇒ Basic Needs Assistance
 - ⇒ General Budget Funds

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.

Celebrations >>>

Birthdays

Carolyn Nelson	11/01
Xavier Haynes	11/02
Amy Cox	11/03
Nina Zaiser	11/03
Andrew Brueck	11/04
David Yotter	11/04
Velma Upton	11/06
Aurianna Davis	11/07
Connie Japsen	11/07
Kimberly Bickel	11/08
Darven Kendell	11/08
Kori Stotlar	11/09
Cade Cameron	11/10
Maverick Crose	11/10
Adra Johnson	11/11
Ron Eibes	11/12
John Jordahl	11/12
Janet Larson	11/14
Ilianna Murphy	11/14
Ross Murphy	11/16
Laverne Neal	11/17
Gail Ferry	11/19
Lillian Wells-Carter	11/19
Becky John	11/20
Emma Hutchinson	11/21
Don Lofgren	11/21
Nathan Fritz	11/22
Nathan Crooks	11/23
Alan Larson	11/24
Sue Stauffacher	11/24
Jim Waugh	11/27
Dawn Cameron	11/29

Anniversaries

Daniel & Gloria DeVilbiss	11/02
Dan & Lynn Egan	11/04
Jim & Joyce Corder	11/05
John & Maryann Jordahl	11/12
Willie & Cheryl Jones	11/13
Gary & Dana Williams	11/27

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



Mission Corner >>>



What a bounty of love gifts in the form of **Ingathering Kits!** Thank you for your generosity in giving school kits and personal dignity kits! At this time there are 74 school kits and 9 personal dignity kits. These will be taken to Mt. Pleasant for the Southeast District Ingathering on Saturday, November 6. All the Ingathering kits from the churches in our district will then be taken to Midwest Mission Distribution Center from where they will be shipped internationally to people needing the blessing of these gifts. In addition to the Ingathering school supply items, our church is donating more school supply items locally to North Hill Elementary as well!

On Thursday, October 28, our church is serving scalloped potatoes and ham, green beans, and French bread for the **Shared United Ministries end of the month** drive through meal at Grace UMC. Thank you to all the meal preparers and servers for working together in this ministry!

Thank you to the Balcony Dwellers who served the October **Building Bridges meal!** The Fair Trade Committee is serving sloppy joes, chips, and carrot sticks to the Building Bridges clients on their graduation night, Tuesday, November 2. On Tuesday, December 7th, the Life and Laughter Sunday School class will be responsible for the meal.

The holiday season is right around the corner! This year First UMC will be providing **Christmas Baskets** of food for 15 families to make their holiday bright! Check out the big sign up chart at the back of the church for the items that you wish to donate. When you bring your items, place them in the tubs in the back of the church and in the Loft Office and then cross out your name. Please have your items here by Sunday, Dec. 12 so that they may be packed up and distributed.

It's time to ring in the holiday season! On Saturday, December 11, First United Methodist Church will be ringing the **Salvation Army bell** at the Hy-Vee on Agency from 10 am to 6 pm. Enjoy the brisk December air and sign up to ring for a one hour shift! The sign up chart will be at the back of the sanctuary.



Fair Trade Market >>>

Sunday, November 7th, from 10 to 4, the LOFT Market will be open and participating in the downtown Burlington Holiday Open House. Stop in for cookies and a look at all the Artisan made nativities, ornaments, and holiday decor available at our fair trade store! The LOFT Market will be open Sundays from 10 to 3 between Thanksgiving and Christmas.

Twice annually the Fair Trade Committee donates monetary gifts to support worthy institutions or groups in their work of serving others. At the October meeting, the Fair Trade Committee voted to donate funds to the United Methodist Committee on Relief for resettlement of Afghan migrants, to UMCOR for disaster relief in Haiti, to Women at the Well, our Iowa women's prison ministry, and to the Burlington Homeless Shelter in lieu of providing the soup bowls for their annual fundraiser. These funds are made available from the purchases of fair trade products by you and others at the LOFT Market.

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-11/08 @ 3:00 pm in LOFT Library
Devotions: Debbie Jochims

Quilters-Every Wednesday @ 8:30-12pm on 3rd LOFT
Miriam Circle- **No Meeting**
Sarah Circle- **No Meeting**

Monthly Scripture-1 Corinthians 13:13: "And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love."



Education in November >>>

The Brunch Bunch continues studying "The Space Between Us" in October. The Brunch Bunch meets in **Room 217**.

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.

**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**

I'd like to thank everyone for all of your thoughts and prayers in this difficult time. I appreciate all the well-wishes, cards, phone calls, and visits. I am being well cared for at home by my granddaughter and hope to be back before the New Year.

God Bless,
Janet Armstrong

Our Financial Health >>>

*Financial Numbers as of
October 25, 2021*

Budgeted Income	\$279,483.92
Actual Income	\$235,654.36
Event Income	\$ 19,007.00
Total Income	\$254,661.36



Budgeted Expenses	\$279,927.93
Actual Expenses	\$221,882.95

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

Confirmation Updates

November 6—Leave the LOFT lot at 7:00 am for Mount Pleasant First UMC. 3 points

SUNDAYS—November
7 with Jerry & Sue
14 with Pati & Sue
21 with Cindy & Sue
Confirmation at 10 am

J.U.M.P

Jesus You and Me Pray
Sundays following the
Children's Message

Church Lower Level with Sue
Bible Lessons and Games

Office Hours

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

Interim Pastor Joan Rodgers
joan@umcburl.org

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,
Aeva Babcook

Live Stream and Tech
Shawn Johnson
Rohit & Savannah Bhawle

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
31 8am - Chancel Choir 9am - Worship Service 10am - Confirmation 10:15am - Sunday School 3pm - Basketball 5pm - Cantata Practice 5pm - N.A. Group	1 5:30pm - Pickleball 6:30pm - NAMI 6:30pm - Prayer Group 7:30pm - Basketball	2 9am - Heritage Baptist 9am - Mahjong 5:30pm - Bridges	3 8am - UMM Breakfast 8:45am - Quilters 10am - Little Dresses 3pm - Silver Singers 4pm - Basketball 5:30pm - Wednesday 7pm - Basketball	4 10am - Fluid Movement 1:30pm - Bible Study 5:30pm - Pickle Ball 7:30pm - Basketball	5 4pm - Basketball	6 12pm - Baby Shower
7 8am - Chancel Choir 9am - Worship Service 10am - Confirmation 10:15am - Sunday School 3pm - Basketball 5pm - Cantata Practice 5pm - N.A. Group	8 3pm - UMW Exec. Board 5:30pm - Pickleball 7:30pm - Basketball	9 T.C.A.B. 9am - Mahjong 1pm - P.E.O. 5:30pm - Bridges 5:30pm - Treble Clef 6pm - Missions 7pm - Education	10 8am - UMM Breakfast 8:45am - Quilters 3pm - Silver Singers 4pm - Basketball 5:30pm - Wednesday 7pm - Basketball	11 10am - Fluid Movement 1:30pm - Bible Study 5:30pm - Pickle Ball 7:30pm - Basketball	12 4pm - Basketball	13
14 8am - Chancel Choir 9am - Worship Service 10am - Confirmation 10:15am - Sunday School 3pm - Basketball 5pm - Cantata Practice 5pm - N.A. Group 6pm - Puppets of Praise	15 12pm - P.E.O. 1pm - Hawkeye Heritage 2pm - NAMI 5:30pm - Pickleball 6:30pm - Prayer Group 7:30pm - Basketball	16 9am - Mahjong 5:30pm - Bridges 6pm - Ministry Team	17 8am - UMM Breakfast 8:45am - Quilters 12:15pm - Burlington 3pm - Silver Singers 4pm - Basketball 5pm - Fair Trade 5:30pm - Wednesday 7pm - Basketball	18 10am - Fluid Movement 1:30pm - Bible Study 3:30pm - Fair Trade 5:30pm - Pickle Ball 7pm - Ad Council 7:30pm - Basketball	19 4pm - Basketball	20
21 Hanging of the Greens 8am - Chancel Choir 9am - Worship Service 10am - Confirmation 10:15am - Sunday School 3pm - Basketball 5pm - N.A. Group	22 5:30pm - Pickleball 7:30pm - Basketball	23 9am - Mahjong 5:30pm - Bridges	24 8am - UMM Breakfast 8:45am - Quilters 3pm - Silver Singers 4pm - Basketball 5:30pm - Wednesday 7pm - Basketball	25 Thanksgiving-Office Closed	26 Office Closed 4pm - Basketball	27
28 8am - Chancel Choir 9am - Worship Service 10am - Confirmation 10:15am - Sunday School 3pm - Basketball 5pm - Cantata Practice 5pm - N.A. Group	29 5:30pm - Pickleball 6:30pm - Prayer Group 7:30pm - Basketball	30 9am - Mahjong 5:30pm - Bridges	1 8am - UMM Breakfast 8:45am - Quilters 3pm - Silver Singers 4pm - Basketball 5:30pm - Wednesday 7pm - Basketball	2 10am - Fluid Movement 1:30pm - Bible Study 5:30pm - Pickle Ball 7:30pm - Basketball	3 4pm - Basketball	4



Beloved Congregation of First United Methodist Church,

Thank you for being my partner in ministry. Together, we have Served, Shared, Celebrated, and Become more like Christ. We have worked hard for a 7.4 million dollar shift in finances from the rebuild debt to a healthy endowment. We labored to grow Burlington Building Bridges to a community outreach that changes generational poverty one barrier at a time. We have learned, laughed, and lamented together.

You allowed me to enter into your lives during deep sorrow, illness, depression. You gifted me with great celebrations of accepting Jesus. You admitted struggle as we leaned into what faith means today. You accepted me into your families. Our time together becoming, serving, sharing, and celebrating have been some of the hardest and best moments of my life. Thank you.

Due to health complications, I am stepping away from leadership. If you would like updates of my health and life adventures, please log into <https://www.caringbridge.org/visit/melisabracht-wagner>. You need a pastor who is full of energy, great ideas that stretch our comfort zone, and challenge faith myths. You need someone to help you raise out of the languishing of COVID into the community centered ministry beacon you are ready to become.

Joan Rodgers will serve as the interim until the replacement arrives. She has served us well in the earlier this year as I recovered from radiation and surgery. She will serve us well now. I am so thankful for her steady and solid leadership. Her email remains: joan@umcburl.org

Dane, the office manager, will continue to serve as the hub of communication. Please be sure to loop him into calendar needs and celebration and concerns in your life. Dane has a team of volunteers ready to help, guide, and encourage.