



The Tidings is published monthly by
First United Methodist Church
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A Monthly Update for First United Methodist Church Burlington Iowa Volume 88 Issue 2

*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

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

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



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.*

Missive from Mel

Greetings Burlington Beloveds,

I look forward to meeting each of you and serving as your pastor! In the meantime, here's a bit of my story to get us started. My name is Melanie Greengo. I grew up in a rural area of Southern Minnesota. My childhood was filled with dogs, cats, sheep, cows, pigs, some goats, lots and lots of books, and of course my parents and two siblings.

After high school, I obtained my nursing degree and worked as a RN, then got married and had a couple kids. I have two adult children: Dylan lives in Minnesota near his dad, and Oliver lives in Waterloo. They are both young enough to still be figuring out what life is going to be for each of them.

We were blessed to live throughout the United States, as the U.S. Navy moved us around from Washington state, to Hawaii, back to Washington state, and then off to Virginia. After retirement, we ended up in Osage, Iowa, where I discovered the call of the United Methodist Church. I grew up in the Christian Reformed Church, but never felt at home there. When we tried out the First UMC in Osage, we found my true theological home. There was so much more room for questions, and growth, and grace upon grace, than anything I had experienced in previous churches. I went from UMW Secretary, to Sunday School Superintendent, to SPPRC member, to School for Lay Ministry, to being a seminary student at the United Theological Seminary of the Twin Cities, and finally into pulpits of the UMC. And now, here I am, beginning a new appointment with all of you.

Pastor Joan and Rev. Melisa have both done a great job of sharing information with me as this transition happens, and I am sure will continue to do so as I learn the ins and outs of this church. It is so heartening to see all the amazing work you are already doing, and I look forward to joining the team.

I would be remiss if I didn't acknowledge that this transition is more difficult than many. I pray my training as a spiritual director will be helpful in accompanying you in your pain and grief in this pastoral transition. Letting go of a beloved pastor is always hard. Having to do so because of cancer heightens the grief. I understand that the usual Methodist boundaries between former pastor and parishioners will be a little looser than normal, and caring for Pastor Melisa will continue even as her formal role as pastor is finished. I commit to walking with all of you in this unusual and difficult time.

May God's love and peace surround us, strengthen us, and embolden us in ministry together.

Rev. Melanie Greengo

Encouragement from Pastor Joan

January 20th, as I was thinking about what to share in my last Tidings article, I received the newsletter "See All the People" The article was about the rescue of 12 young Thai soccer players and their coach, stranded in a deep cave for 17 days in July of 2018. You probably remember hearing the story at that time.

The author shared three insights from that story for us as church congregations. "First, when we are in a difficult situation, we should take care of each other. We can encourage one another, stay close together, and be patient and expectant for the answer to our situation to come." I have observed and experienced this congregation taking care of each other. Cards (including the card ministry), phone calls, texts, visits, pew partners, sharing concerns with me so I could offer support and encouragement to others. Keep up the good work-our task to care for each other never ends.

"Second, we need to be trained, ready to go out and rescue the people we see who need our help. Learn how to talk to people about spiritual things. Be ready to put aside fear and hesitation so you can lead someone from spiritual darkness to spiritual light. Understand it isn't easy. But, know, too, that with God, all things are possible." Involvement in worship, Sunday School, bible studies, using the library resources, small groups. COVID has squelched some of this, but don't forget to get back to it or find new ways to keep yourself ready to share Jesus with others. Even children and young people have a calling to share Jesus. Help and support their training. Involve your kids, and encourage kids even if they are not yours to be in worship, JUMP, PB&J, VBS, church camp, Puppets of Praise-all that is going on now and help support new ventures for youth.

"Third, be willing to work together with other churches-even other denominations-to save people who are desperate for hope. The job is huge, and we can all learn from each other." Burlington First has a strong presence in the Burlington Community. Keep working together as a church, with the other churches, and with the community-it really shows you understand Jesus calling of what the church is to be for the world.

I have been truly blessed being with you. Your kindness, generosity, and your ability to continue the work of the church with minimal pastoral leadership has been amazing. Your love for Melisa is clear, your love for me was felt, and now you will have Pastor Melanie to love too. It sure is wonderful of Jesus to never run out of love and teach us we won't run out either!

God be with you till we meet again
Love and Blessings,
Joan, Interim Pastor

Celebrations >>>


Birthdays

Jim Farr	02/01
Isabella Murphy	02/02
Mary Priebe	02/02
Sarah Roark	02/04
Roger Stauffacher	02/05
Tim Votaw	02/05
Abby Weyls	02/05
Jim Corder	02/08
Blake Spear	02/08
Ryker Spear	02/08
Joan Rodgers	02/08
Gloria Jewett	02/09
Cory O'Brien	02/09
Wendy Zick	02/11
Mary Taylor	02/12
Tyler Bickel	02/15
David Camp	02/15
Lara Kendall	02/15
John Riessen	02/15
Paul Babcook	02/16
Virginia Ford	02/18
Aila Plein	02/18
Frank Hills	02/21
Bob Alberts	02/22
Kiersten Jamison	02/23
Katie Taylor	02/24
Max Owens	02/25
Greg Johnson	02/26
Diana Wells	02/26
Molly Cockrell	02/27
Denise Johnson	02/27
Chris Robbins	02/28
Rich Thompson	02/28
Alexander Toops	02/28

Anniversaries

Dennis & Vicki Wischmeier	02/01
Burr & Connie Japsen	02/02
Alan & Kris Hanks	02/10
David & Sarah Crose	02/16
Garvin & Helen Weitzel	02/19

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



Confirmation Updates

SUNDAYS—January Confirmation at 10 am

Mission Corner >>>



The weather outside has been frightfully cold, but **the Mitten Tree** in our sanctuary demonstrates the warmth of the hearts inside our church! It is being covered with winter caps, hats, socks, mittens, scarves, and gloves that will soon be taken to new owners at North Hill Elementary School and the Burlington Homeless Shelter. Thank you for your gifts to keep our neighbors warm!

The first Tuesday each month is the date when groups in our church take turns providing a **warm, evening meal for the Building Bridges** class, their children, and the past graduates, a group of about 100. In January, the Bell Choir served a meal of ham, rice casserole, and brownies. The Brunch Bunch Sunday School Class will be serving the February 1st meal.

Thank you to all who have served and those who will be serving! If you would like to help serve a meal, please contact Ann Ure or the church office.

Souper Bowl Sunday will be Sunday, February 13th! Will your team win? You are invited to support your favorite Super Bowl team by bringing cans of soup with protein and placing them in a tub decorated with your team's logo at the back of the sanctuary. Or you can place a monetary donation in your team's soup kettle!

The number of cans donated for each team and the monetary amounts given will be published in the following week's Pew News so you will know which team wins!

The soup will be donated to the Community Action Food Pantry, and the cash will support the Shared United Ministries end of the month meals.

Help you team win! Show the Spirit in your spirit!!

On Thursday, February 24, First UMC will be providing and serving **the dessert for the SUMM end of the month meal** at Grace United Methodist Church. Since the meals are being served by through a drive up, we will need 100 baggies containing two or three cookies each. If you are able to bake and supply some of these baggies of cookies, or if you would like to help serve them from 5:15 to 6:30 P.M. on the 24th, please contact Ann Ure at 319-759-2990.

A prison ministry gives those imprisoned pastoral guidance and teaches about the love, comfort, and solace of God's love. Rev. Paul Witmer from Women at the Well spoke to our congregation on Sunday, January 23. Women at the Well is **our prison ministry** at the Iowa Women's Correctional Facility in Mitchellville, which we support with our prayers, our service, our testimony, and our gifts.

If you would like to insure that our prison ministry continues, please give an offering, whatever your heart dictates, to FUMC with Women at the Well in the memo.

J.U.M.P
Jesus You and Me Pray
Sundays following the
Children's Message

Church Lower Level with Sue
Bible Lessons and Games

United Methodist Women >>>

Events/Meetings for the month of February:

- Executive Board-02/14 at 3:00 P.M. LOFT Library
- Miriam Circle-No Meeting
- Sarah Circle-No Meeting



Education in January >>>

The **Brunch Bunch** will resume studying "The Space Between Us" in January. Even if you haven't been part of this study, you are welcome to join the conversation on using the Bible as a guide to help close the divide between us when we hold different viewpoints. The **Brunch Bunch** meets in Room 217 at 10:10 on Sundays.

The **Life and Laughter** class continues their travels in the Holy Land with Dave Stotts. In February, he'll help us cement stories from the New Testament with his videos. Stotts' adventures are not only enlightening but also entertaining. Hop on whenever you can by coming down to the Choir Room after church.

JUMP will continue to meet during the worship service with Sue after the Children's Sermon.

PB&J will resume Wednesday, February 2nd. The new curriculum, "Holy Moly", includes several Bible stories including some of the parables.

Puppets of Praise will also be taking a break through February.

VBS will be the week of July 18th-22nd. Save the date and mark your calendars!

Confirmation classes will continue. They meet at 10:10 on Sunday mornings. Lucy, our Ministry Intern reports: The Confirmation Lock-In event was a success! Our confirmation students gathered on January 16th and stayed overnight in the LOFT (lots of fun and little sleep!). They spent time playing games, learning about the Trinity, and growing their faith foundations as a community. Fun was had by all, and the Nerf war was a success thanks to everyone who donated boxes to make the obstacle course! Thank you also to the United Methodist Men for providing a great breakfast for us the next day! This confirmation class has a great bond and is going to do great things for our congregation.

"Adventure of a Lifetime"

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 again this year. 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>. Don't miss the video on how God changes lives at camp. Please contact Sue Dichraff with your questions.

Our Financial Health >>>

Financial Numbers as of
January 25, 2022

Budgeted Income	\$ 22,372.45
Actual Income	\$ 10,175.57
Event Income	\$ 2,875.50
Total Income	\$ 13,051.07

Budgeted Expenses	\$ 25,679.43
Actual Expenses	\$ 20,105.32



LOFT Market News—

Valentines Day is coming!

If you are looking for a unique gift for your special someone, stop by the LOFT Market to see our handcrafted goods. New items from around the world are being stocked. The LOFT Market is an international bazaar, full of wonderful, artisan made fair trade gifts!

When you give a fair trade gift, it is a gift of love for your recipient, a gift of love providing the producer with a sustainable life, and an intrinsic gift of love to yourself, acknowledging that you care about the needy in God's world.

Office Hours

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

Reverend Melanie Greengo
pastor@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
<p>9am - Worship Service</p> <p>10:15am - Confirmation</p> <p>10:15am - Sunday School</p> <p>3pm - Basketball</p> <p>5pm - N.A. Group</p> <p>6:30pm - Evangelistic Bible</p>	<p>4pm - Volleyball</p> <p>5:30pm - Pickleball</p> <p>7:30pm - Basketball</p>	<p>9am - Heritage Baptist</p> <p>9am - Mahjong</p> <p>3:30pm - HB Volleyball</p> <p>5:30pm - Bridges</p>	<p>8am - UMM Breakfast</p> <p>8:45am - Quilters</p> <p>10am - Hope Haven</p> <p>3pm - Silver Singers</p> <p>4pm - Basketball</p> <p>5:30pm - Wednesday</p> <p>7pm - Basketball</p>	<p>10am - Fluid Movement</p> <p>1:30pm - Bible Study</p> <p>5pm - N. A. Group</p> <p>5:30pm - Pickle Ball</p> <p>7pm - Bel Canto</p> <p>7:30pm - Basketball</p>	<p>4pm - Basketball</p> <p>6pm - Volleyball</p>	
<p>7:30am - Chancel Choir</p> <p>9am - Worship Service</p> <p>10:15am - Confirmation</p> <p>10:15am - Sunday School</p> <p>3pm - Basketball</p> <p>5pm - N.A. Group</p> <p>6pm - Puppets of Praise</p>	<p>9am - P.E.O.</p> <p>2pm - NAMI</p> <p>4pm - Volleyball</p> <p>5:30pm - Pickleball</p> <p>6pm - Four Oaks</p> <p>6:30pm - Prayer Group</p> <p>7:30pm - Basketball</p>	<p>T.C.A.B.</p> <p>9am - Mahjong</p> <p>12pm - P.E.O.</p> <p>3:30pm - HB Volleyball</p> <p>5:30pm - Bridges</p> <p>6pm - Missions</p> <p>7pm - Education</p>	<p>8am - UMM Breakfast</p> <p>8:45am - Quilters</p> <p>3pm - Silver Singers</p> <p>4pm - Basketball</p> <p>5:30pm - Wednesday</p> <p>7pm - Basketball</p>	<p>10am - Fluid Movement</p> <p>1:30pm - Bible Study</p> <p>3:30pm - Fair Trade</p> <p>5pm - N. A. Group</p> <p>5:30pm - Pickle Ball</p> <p>7pm - Ad Council</p> <p>7pm - Bel Canto</p> <p>7:30pm - Basketball</p>	<p>4pm - Basketball</p> <p>6pm - Volleyball</p>	<p>Chess Tournament</p>
<p>7:30am - Chancel Choir</p> <p>9am - Worship Service</p> <p>10:15am - Confirmation</p> <p>10:15am - Sunday School</p> <p>3pm - Basketball</p> <p>5pm - N.A. Group</p> <p>6pm - Puppets of Praise</p>	<p>3pm - UMW Exec. Board</p> <p>4pm - Volleyball</p> <p>5:30pm - Pickleball</p> <p>7:30pm - Basketball</p>	<p>9am - Mahjong</p> <p>3:30pm - HB Volleyball</p> <p>5:30pm - Bridges</p> <p>7pm - Ministry Team</p>	<p>8am - UMM Breakfast</p> <p>8:45am - Quilters</p> <p>10am - Hope Haven</p> <p>12:15pm - B.L.C.M.S</p> <p>3pm - Silver Singers</p> <p>4pm - Basketball</p> <p>5:30pm - Wednesday</p> <p>7pm - Basketball</p>	<p>10am - Fluid Movement</p> <p>1:30pm - Bible Study</p> <p>3:30pm - Girl Scouts</p> <p>5pm - N. A. Group</p> <p>5:30pm - Pickle Ball</p> <p>7pm - Bel Canto</p> <p>7:30pm - Basketball</p>	<p>4pm - Basketball</p> <p>6pm - Volleyball</p>	
<p>7:30am - Chancel Choir</p> <p>9am - Worship Service</p> <p>10:15am - Confirmation</p> <p>10:15am - Sunday School</p> <p>3pm - Basketball</p> <p>5pm - N.A. Group</p> <p>6pm - Puppets of Praise</p>	<p>12pm - P.E.O.</p> <p>2pm - NAMI</p> <p>5:30pm - Pickleball</p> <p>6:30pm - Prayer Group</p> <p>7:30pm - Basketball</p>	<p>9am - Mahjong</p> <p>3:30pm - HB Volleyball</p> <p>5:30pm - Bridges</p>	<p>8am - UMM Breakfast</p> <p>8:45am - Quilters</p> <p>3pm - Silver Singers</p> <p>4pm - Basketball</p> <p>5:30pm - Wednesday</p> <p>7pm - Basketball</p>	<p>10am - Fluid Movement</p> <p>1:30pm - Bible Study</p> <p>5pm - N. A. Group</p> <p>5:30pm - Pickle Ball</p> <p>7pm - Bel Canto</p> <p>7:30pm - Basketball</p>	<p>4pm - Basketball</p> <p>6pm - Volleyball</p>	<p>1pm - Baby Shower</p>
<p>7:30am - Chancel Choir</p> <p>9am - Worship Service</p> <p>10:15am - Confirmation</p> <p>10:15am - Sunday School</p> <p>3pm - Basketball</p> <p>5pm - N.A. Group</p>	<p>4pm - Volleyball</p> <p>5:30pm - Pickleball</p> <p>7:30pm - Basketball</p>	<p>9am - Heritage Baptist</p> <p>9am - Mahjong</p> <p>3:30pm - HB Volleyball</p> <p>5:30pm - Bridges</p>	<p>8am - UMM Breakfast</p> <p>8:45am - Quilters</p> <p>10am - Hope Haven</p> <p>3pm - Silver Singers</p> <p>4pm - Basketball</p> <p>5:30pm - Wednesday</p> <p>7pm - Basketball</p>	<p>10am - Fluid Movement</p> <p>1:30pm - Bible Study</p> <p>5pm - N. A. Group</p> <p>5:30pm - Pickle Ball</p> <p>7pm - Bel Canto</p> <p>7:30pm - Basketball</p>	<p>4pm - Basketball</p> <p>6pm - Volleyball</p>	