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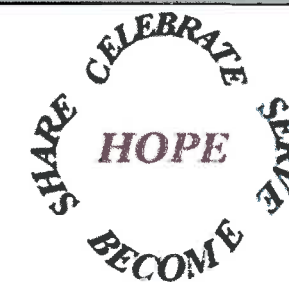
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A Monthly Update for First United Methodist Church Burlington Iowa Volume 88 Issue 3

*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

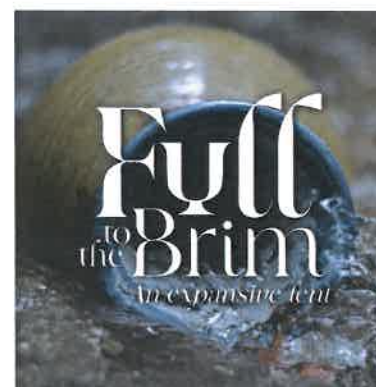
Missive from Mel

The last couple years haven't been easy. It seems everyone has been struggling to hold onto joy in the midst of so many challenges. I have had countless conversations with people who are struggling to find hope in the midst of a world that comes across as angry, divided and hopeless. If you have or are feeling this way, know you are not alone. These compounded difficulties have led me to approach Lent differently this year.

Traditionally when we think of Lent we think of less. We come up with something to give up, as though chocolate is really getting in the way of our relationship with God. But in the last couple years we have already given so much up that this year during Lent we are going to have an Expansive Lent. This year our Lenten theme Full to the Brim will invite you into a full life. Not a journey of giving up but a journey of being filled up with God's overflowing love and abundant grace.

Lent is meant to prepare our hearts and minds for Easter. What better way to do that than by embracing the ways in which God's love and abundant grace are already present in our lives. Love and grace that are available to us just as we are, right now, unpolished and unfinished. Together may we rediscover the expansive life God dreams for us. May God's peace and love spill over into your lives.

Pastor Mel



Youth Education in March>>>

PB&J (Prayers, Blessings, and Jesus):

Meeting again on Wednesdays from 5:30 P.M.-7:00 P.M. Grades Pre K-5th Grade. Dinner is at 5:30 P.M. Bible lesson is "Holy Moly" Series. Music, games, and fun!

JUMP (Jesus, You, & Me, Praying):

Meeting every Sunday after the Children's Sermon for Bible lessons and crafts!

Confirmation Classes:

Meeting Sundays at 10:10 A.M.-11:00 A.M. in the Church Basement Room #1. We have 12 Confirmands in the class. We have recently learned all about the United Methodist Church and we will be starting Lenten studies soon.

VBS (Vacation Bible School):

Mark your calendars for July 18th-July 22nd. Theme is "Food Truck Party." Come meet "Chef Dane" and "D.J. Cupcake." Picnic every night and eat from a real food truck! God is Good-God is Great. God is Great-God is Good. By God's Hands we all are Fed. Join us and bring your friends!

Also, please remember to "Spring Forward" on March 13th!

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.

Celebrations >>>
Birthdays

Ann Hills	03/02
Victoria Almack	03/04
Leroy Bickel	03/04
Dianna Fenton	03/04
Gerald Lancaster	03/04
Gary Williams	03/04
Shauna Freitag	03/05
Andy Kincaid	03/05
Pati Toops	03/05
Cheryl Almack	03/06
David Gray	03/07
Ryan Readinger	03/09
Andree Halden	03/10
Megan Feenstra	03/10
Owen Gach	03/11
Patty Jaeger	03/11
Jerry Anderson	03/12
Joe O'Brien	03/13
Amy Camp	03/14
Randy Schulte	03/14
Cindy Spear	03/15
Carver Crose	03/16
Jed Cone	03/17
Gene Davis	03/17
Melanie Sullivan	03/17
Andy Crooks	03/18
Ann Thompson	03/18
Elayna Zaiser	03/19
Melinda Bickel	03/20
Sandy Hendrichsen	03/20
Jessica Johnson	03/21
Cody Stauffacher	03/22
Julie Warner	03/22
Cadence Crose	03/23
Melisa Bracht-Wagner	03/25
Julie Kniffen	03/25
Lois Rice	03/26
Helen Weitzel	03/27
Julia Pilger	03/28
Judy Adams	03/29
Daniel Crooks	03/30

Anniversaries

Chris & Charlene Robbins	03/01
Leroy & Sandie Bickel	03/04
Greg & Dawn Cameron	03/06
Colton & Alizabeth Malone	03/17
Phil & Becky John	03/27
Don & Mary Taeger	03/31

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 >>>



Thank you for your donations for the **Mitten Tree!** There were 44 articles of outer winter clothing for children delivered to North Hill School and 37 adult items to the Burlington Homeless Shelter!

The real winner of Sunday, February 13th's, football game (for First UMC's **Souper Bowl**) was . . . the Cincinnati Bengals!! The score was Rams 39 cans and \$30 to the Bengals' 57 cans and \$36. The 96 cans have been taken to the Community Action Food Pantry, and the monetary donations will go to the Shared United Methodist Ministry end of the month meal fund. Thank you for playing (and sharing) along!

Thank you to the **Brunch Bunch** Sunday School class who served the Tuesday, February 1st, evening meal to Building Bridges group! The **Mission Committee** will serve the March 1st meal, and the **Balcony Dwellers** are scheduled to serve in April.

First UMC will be serving the dessert for the Thursday, February 24th, end of the month meal at Grace UMC. This meal continues to be a drive through service. Our congregation is responsible for serving the entree for the April 28th meal.

An email message from Salvation Army was received this week, thanking us for ringing their bell on December 11th. They reported that the donations at our kettle at the Agency HyVee that day earned them \$817.58! Thanks, **Bell Ringers!**

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 Men will accept **Ken Koch Memorial** and **Westfall Trust** college scholarship applications for the Fall 2022 semester, from now until April 1st. We encourage students to apply for both **KKM** and **Westfall** options. Forms are available on the church website, or in the office. Direct questions to Jim Corder at redrocjc@gmail.com or text 319-750-2824.

United Methodist Women >>>

Events/Meetings for the month of March:

Executive Board-03/14 at 3:00 P.M. LOFT Library
Miriam Circle-03/21 at 7:00 P.M. at Marilyn Lancaster's
Sarah Circle-No Meeting



Adult Education in March >>>

The Brunch Bunch will finish studying "The Space Between Us" in March. They meet in Room 217 at 10:10 on Sundays.

The Life and Laughter class continues their travel in the Holy Land with Dave Stotts' videos. They are in the midst of the Gospels. All are welcome to join this video series at any time. The Life and Laughter class meets in the Choir Room after church.

Softball Update-Despite the crisis our nation faces today with Major League Baseball's pitchers and catchers not yet able to report to Florida or Arizona, we will be having softball at FUMC this year! Our church league plays Tuesday evenings from roughly the last week of April to the middle of July.

We shall be fielding at least one team this season, but I still hold out the prayerful hope we can again manage a pair of squads. Contact either Duane Hartman at 319-383-8263 or myself, David Ure, at 319-759-3911, or, as always, Dane Feenstra in the office. Let us know your interest, what questions you may have, and so on, but please, please, please let us know sooner than later. And let us wave the flame and cross proudly for all to see!

Wednesday Ministry Night

5:30 pm Meal in the Lower Level Church
5:50 pm Children Ministry—PBJ (Prayers, Blessings, Jesus)
6:30 pm Bell Practice—Room 215

"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	\$ 52,853.28
Actual Income	\$ 25,745.27
Event Income	\$ 4,408.00
Total Income	\$ 30,153.27

Budgeted Expenses	\$ 55,490.91
Actual Expenses	\$ 31,812.83



LOFT Market News—

New black, ebony earrings from Novica are one of the unique items that has been received at the LOFT Market this month. Novica is a distributor who sends items made in Ghana and other African nations to the LOFT Market.

Many of the LOFT Market's distributors work with cooperatives who employ women who have escaped human trafficking and are able to make a sustainable living from their work creating unique, fair trade goods.

Your purchases support their livelihood and provide the producers with hope for the future. On behalf of those whose voices are unheard, thank you for your patronage and business!

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,

Live Stream and Tech
Shawn Johnson
Rohit & Savannah Bhawle

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
27 7:30am - Chancel Choir 9am - Worship Service 10:15am - Confirmation 10:15am - Sunday School 3pm - Basketball 5pm - N.A. Group 6:30pm - Evangelistic Bible	28 4pm - Volleyball 5:30pm - Pickleball 7:30pm - Basketball	1 9am - Heritage Baptist 9am - Mahjong 3:30pm - HB Volleyball 4pm - BACC 5:30pm - Bridges	2 8am - UMM Breakfast 8:45am - Quilters 10am - Hope Haven 3pm - Silver Singers 4pm - Basketball 5pm - Ash Wednesday 5:30pm - Wednesday	3 1:30pm - Bible Study 5pm - N. A. Group 5:30pm - Pickle Ball 7pm - Bel Canto 7:30pm - Basketball	4 4pm - Basketball 6pm - Volleyball	5 1pm - Baby Shower
6 7:30am - Chancel Choir 9am - Worship Service 10:15am - Confirmation 10:15am - Sunday School 3pm - Basketball 5pm - N.A. Group 6pm - Puppets of Praise	7 9am - P.E.O. 2pm - NAMI 4pm - Volleyball 5:30pm - Pickleball 7:30pm - Basketball	8 9am - Mahjong 12pm - P.E.O. 3:30pm - HB Volleyball 5:30pm - Bridges 5:30pm - Treble Clef 6pm - Missions 7pm - Education	9 8am - UMM Breakfast 8:45am - Quilters 3pm - Silver Singers 4pm - Basketball 5:30pm - Wednesday 7pm - Basketball	10 1:30pm - Bible Study 5pm - N. A. Group 5:30pm - Pickle Ball 7pm - Bel Canto 7:30pm - Basketball	11 4pm - Basketball 6pm - Volleyball	12
13 7:30am - Chancel Choir 9am - Worship Service 10:15am - Confirmation 10:15am - Sunday School 3pm - Basketball 5pm - N.A. Group 6pm - Puppets of Praise 6:30pm - Evangelistic Bible	14 1pm - Hawkeye Heritage 3pm - UMW Exec. Board 4pm - Volleyball 5:30pm - Pickleball 7:30pm - Basketball	15 9am - Mahjong 3:30pm - HB Volleyball 5:30pm - Bridges 7pm - Ministry Team	16 8am - UMM Breakfast 8:45am - Quilters 10am - Hope Haven 12:15pm - BLCMS 3pm - Silver Singers 4pm - Basketball 5:30pm - Wednesday 7pm - Basketball	17 12:15pm - SEISO Concert 1:30pm - Bible Study 3:30pm - Fair Trade 5pm - N. A. Group 5:30pm - Pickle Ball 7pm - Ad Council 7pm - Bel Canto 7:30pm - Basketball	18 4pm - Basketball 6pm - Volleyball	19 5pm - BSA District Dinner
20 7:30am - Chancel Choir 9am - Worship Service 10:15am - Confirmation 10:15am - Sunday School 3pm - Basketball 5pm - N.A. Group 6pm - Puppets of Praise	21 12pm - P.E.O. 2pm - NAMI 4pm - Volleyball 5:30pm - Pickleball 7pm - Miriam Circle 7:30pm - Basketball	22 9am - Mahjong 3:30pm - HB Volleyball 5:30pm - Bridges	23 8am - UMM Breakfast 8:45am - Quilters 3pm - Silver Singers 4pm - Basketball 5:30pm - Wednesday 7pm - Basketball	24 1:30pm - Bible Study 5pm - Girl Scouts 5pm - N. A. Group 5:30pm - Pickle Ball 7pm - Bel Canto 7:30pm - Basketball	25 4pm - Basketball 6pm - Volleyball	26 9am - Four Oaks 2pm - Bridal Shower
27 7:30am - Chancel Choir 9am - Worship Service 10:15am - Confirmation 10:15am - Sunday School 3pm - Basketball 5pm - N.A. Group 6pm - Puppets of Praise	28 4pm - Volleyball 5:30pm - Pickleball 7:30pm - Basketball	29 9am - Mahjong 3:30pm - HB Volleyball 5:30pm - Bridges	30 8am - UMM Breakfast 8:45am - Quilters 3pm - Silver Singers 4pm - Basketball 5:30pm - Wednesday 7pm - Basketball	31 1:30pm - Bible Study 5pm - N. A. Group 5:30pm - Pickle Ball 7pm - Bel Canto 7:30pm - Basketball	1 4pm - Basketball 6pm - Volleyball 7pm - Bel Canto Dress	2 7pm - Bel Canto Concert

Bridges Update

First United Methodist Church Family, we are so grateful for your loving support! I just wanted to share one of our successes!! You have a big part in Ms. Nicole's story, and your continued support makes the miracles happen in the lives of our neighbors!

Ms. Nicole achieved ALL of these things within an 18 week period!! That is a ton of growth!! Within 18 weeks Nicole built all these resources:

- Spiritual
- Mental
- Emotional
- Financial
- Physical
- Role models/Relationships/Social Capital

She was able to find employment, learn money management skills, work on debt relief, start healing through her faith and mental health resources, work on health through diet and exercise, and build many friendships through Bridges, the gym, and at her new job! This was just while she was taking the Getting Ahead class.

We had the opportunity to meet this week, and she shared about her latest achievements. She continues to be amazing! She is celebrating almost 2 years of sobriety, is continuing her health journey, and is now helping others to have the courage to do the same. She helps regularly in Bridges as a leader with meetings, shares her story during presentations, and co-facilitates the Getting Ahead Workshop. She also completed two classes through one of our partnerships with Goodwill for basic computer skills.

We are over the moon proud of her, and all of the hard work that she has put in! We can't wait to see what she does next in her life. We are blessed to sit front row in our peoples' lives, and could not do this without the support from our community!!

