

August 2017

Buffalo United Methodist Church



RAGBRAI, 2017: Day Two by Bishop Laurie Haller

Would you like a tissue?" she asked as I stood in line at the porta-potties. "There isn't any toilet paper left."

"Sure," I said gratefully, thinking to myself, "Now there is a difference maker."

Wayne and I cycled 103 miles today, with the other riders completing a shorter loop. Starting in Spencer, we rode through the towns of Ayrshire, Curlew, Mallard, West Bend, Plover, and Whittemore to reach Algona. Three things caught my attention today.

First, difference makers abound. RAGBRAI riders are unfailingly polite and upbeat. RAGBRAI is not a race, so there is no need for riders to compete with each other. Everyone is out to have fun at the same time as they test their physical endurance. Every minute I hear someone say, "Rider out. Rider in. On your left. Car up. Car back. Good job!" Whenever someone goes down on their bike or has a mechanical issue, riders always stop to help and support one another. Because I am trying to be polite as well, I purchased and tried to eat a "walking taco" in a Doritos bag for breakfast. Regretfully, it will be my last walking taco ever.

My favorite words of support are, "Rumble strip ahead!" On many rural roads in Iowa, there are three sets of rumble strips that warn drivers of a stop sign ahead. The problem is that they cover the entire lane and are very hard on bike tires.

Warning riders ahead of time about rumble strips prevents many falls. More discerning riders will even say, "Good rumble strip!" or "Bad rumble strip!" depending on how deep the grooves are.

Second, the "church ladies" of United Methodist churches along the way have been very hospitable to RAGBRAI riders. Men are helping too, but lots of signs talk about the food that church ladies are selling. This morning we stopped at a roadside concession sponsored by Emmetsburg United Methodist Church and greeted their new pastor, Hojin Shin, and church members. Later in the day, we stopped at a park in Plover to eat the famous ham balls cooked by the Plover Hope United Methodist Church. All proceeds are going to mission. Difference makers.

Third, our host churches and families have been unfailingly gracious to our RAGBRAI team of five riders and Wendy, our driver. Tonight we enjoyed a wonderful spaghetti dinner at Algona United Methodist Church, which is located in the center of town and welcomed hundreds of visitors to their Fellowship Hall. Again, proceeds are going to mission. We were graciously hosted overnight by Tom and Pat Larson. Difference makers.

How will you be a difference maker today?

[Posted to Bishop Haller's blog "Leading from the Heart" on July 25, 2017.]

United Methodist Women Trip

On Thursday, July 20, twelve men and women journeyed to Festina in northeast Iowa to see the smallest church. There were only four pews in the building. Because of a wind storm in the area the night before, trees were uprooted and many branches were done, but the roads were all passable, enabling the group to enjoy a wonderful trip.

We then proceeded to Spillville to visit the Bily Clock Museum. The knowledgeable tour guide did a very good job. Since the phone connection to Gunder was poor, we ate at the Farr Side Grill in Spillville. The food was good and served promptly.

We drove to Montauk, the home of Governor William Larrabee, Iowa's twelfth governor from 1886 to 1890. The mansion is a lovely home with all of the original furnishings, many original works of art, and a wonderful library. All seven of the children attended college. The governor was a banker and a wealthy man, able to purchase over 200,000 acres of land. A daughter, Anna, lived in the home until her death at age 95. The State of Iowa has assumed responsibility for the care of the mansion.



Special Offering Totals for 2017

Human Relations	\$104
Disability Awareness	\$75.50
One Great hour of Sharing	\$100
Tornado Offering	\$220.50
Golden Cross	\$37.50
Native American	\$43.00
Peace with Justice	\$62.60
Rural Life	\$94.50

Our small congregation deserves a big note of congratulation for consistently supporting such diverse local and national causes.

Golden Age Potluck

Come join us on Thursday, August 10 at 11:30 am at the Buffalo UMC for fellowship and good food. Bring a friend (or friends) and a dish to share. Place settings and beverages will be provided. Hope to see you August 10.



Ice Cream Supper Saturday, August 12, 2017 4:00 to 7:00 pm

Come and enjoy the good food:

Sloppy Joe's	Potato Salad
Baked Beans	Beverages
Pie	Cake
Ice Cream	

Adults - \$7.00

Children 12 and under \$2.50

Children 5 and under are free



Save Hy-Vee Receipts and Box Tops for Education

Please continue to save box tops and Hy-Vee receipts, which can be placed in a glass jar in the back of the church sanctuary. Thanks!



Buffalo Garden

Thanks to everyone who has been helping with the Buffalo garden, including the dedicated weed pullers. We now have green beans, sweet bell peppers, cucumbers, beets, swiss chard, tomatoes, eggplants, and many fresh herbs (basil, mint, oregano, thyme, rosemary, sage, chives). Please feel free to harvest items as they ripen and become available.

August Calendar for Buffalo UMC

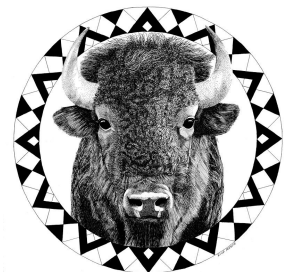
August 2017						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Buffalo UMC exists to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.		1 11:30: Mission of Hope 6-8 pm: National Night Out	2	3	4	5
		6 8:45 am: Worship Service 9:45: Harvest fresh basil from Buffalo Garden.	7	8	9	10 11:30 am: Golden Age Potluck
12 4-7 pm: Ice Cream Social	13 8:45 am: Worship Service; Special Offering for Linn Community Food Bank	14	15	16 4:00 pm: Administrative Board Meeting	17	18
19 Bertram Homecoming, Bertram City Park	20 8:45 am: Worship Service Worship in the Park, Bertram City Park	21 Deadline for submission of September Newsletter Items; send to Bob Marrs at rmarrs@coe.edu	22	23 Don't forget the fresh produce and herbs in the Buffalo Garden.	24	25
26	27 8:45 am: Worship Service	28	29	30	31	The Buffalo congregation believes in building relationships with those in our community through prayer, personal invitation, and relationship building.

August Birthdays

5 - Rose Schloss
10 - Hugh Weiss
12 - Cameron Kelley
17 - Jamie Fredericksen
23 - Pauline Hall

August Anniversaries

24 - Tom & Pat Ferguson



Buffalo UMC
Summer and Fall Events

August 12: Ice Cream Supper, 4 to 7 pm
August 13: Special Offering for Linn
Community Food Bank
August 16: Administrative Board, 4 p.m.
October 14: Fall Bazaar, 8 am to 3 pm
October 29: Trunk or Treat, 4 to 5 pm

Bertram UMC
Summer and Fall Events

August 19: Bertram Homecoming , Bertram
City Park
August 20: Worship in the Park, Bertram
City Park
October 14: Fall Supper at Bertram Township
Hall

National Night Out

Tuesday, August 1 - 6:00 to 8:00 pm

*Buffalo is hosting a neighborhood gathering,
which will include watermelon, lemonade, games, and music.*

*Chris and Laura Swiser will be performing,
CR Police Department will be stopping by,
and who knows what else?*

If you would like to help, contact Kathy Houlihan or Pastor Kathryn.

Buffalo United Methodist Church
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