



Buffalo United Methodist Church



February
2017

What's the big holiday that we identify with the month of February? Valentine's Day, of course. Feb. 14th is one of the busiest days for cards, flowers, and candy. It can also be a day of rejection and misery, depending on our point of view.

The tradition started in Rome during the 3rd century CE, with a Christian priest who was willing to marry young couples, although the emperor had outlawed it. When he was caught, he was sentenced to prison and then tortured to death. While in prison, he prayed that the daughter of the man who had sentenced him might be healed from her blindness. This act of non-romantic love gave rise to the traditions of Valentine's Day. With the wonders of modern life, we have somehow managed to turn that into a romantic incentive to spend money!

We are commanded to love God and one another in the Scriptures. In the gospel of Mark, we are told to "Love the Lord your God with all your heart." And the second commandment is this: Love your neighbor as yourself. There is no greater commandment than these." And in 1 Peter 4:8 we read, "Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers a multitude of sins." Thomas Merton said, "Love is our true destiny. We do not find the meaning of life by ourselves alone - we find it with one another." This echoes John Wesley's teachings about the need to live in community with each other, to strengthen and protect and guide one another.

This month we will demonstrate our love for the shut-in members of our congregation on Sunday, Feb. 12, 2017 by caroling, visiting, and taking goodies to those members who find it difficult to attend church regularly. We will gather immediately after church to put together goodie bags and select some favorite (and familiar!) hymns to sing. After we complete the rounds, we will return to the church for a chili and soup lunch. Please join us - no special skills are required, just a heart for sharing the love of God!

Pastor Kathryn

United Methodist Women

Come join us Thursday, February 16th at 9:30 p.m. After a short business meeting Chris Gochenouer will share the program.

Buffalo UMC Upcoming Event Dates for 2017:

Pancake Breakfast - March 25
Yard Sale – Thursday June 8th & June 9th
Ice Cream Social - July 15th.
Fall Bazaar – October 14
Trunk or Treat - October 29

Mission of Hope Donation Box:

There is a box in the back of the sanctuary for food items for the Mission of Hope. Please consider donating a box of cereal, a can of fruit or vegetables, or a bar of soap once a month to those in need!

Upcoming Offerings for 2017

February – Disabilities Awareness

Spa Day for UMW Women & Guests

Give yourself a little love on Saturday, February 18 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Buffalo UMC. Cost is \$10 including lunch & supplies. Card making, nail painting, hand massages, prayer beads, cookie decorating & more! Send by Feb. 14 to Donna Jordan, 360 12th Ave. SW, Mt. Vernon, IA 52314. Checks payable to East Central District UMW



Golden Age Potluck

Come join us on Thursday, February 9th at 11:30 a.m. at the Buffalo UMC for fellowship and good food! Bring a friend(s) and a dish to share. Place settings and beverages will be provided.



Joys and Thanks:

Thanks to Bob Marrs for creating the Buffalo Website! The Bison Blog features interesting articles and poetry concerning timely topics of interest. Some topics include "Personal Spirituality or Organized Religion" and "With Both Hands." If you have items to share, please forward the items to rmarrs@coe.edu.

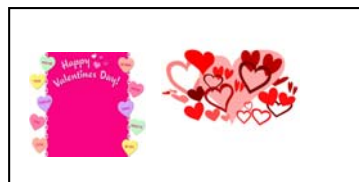
There is also a link in the *UMC Connections* to a Weekly Essay and Blog from Rev. Laurie Haller, the Iowa Conference Bishop.

Other upcoming dates:

February 9: Golden Age Potluck, 11:30 a.m.
February 12: Caroling after church
February 13: Cleaning at 9:00 a.m.
February 16: UMW meets at 9:30 a.m.
February 23: NOOMA bible study 9:30 a.m.
March 3: World Day of Prayer at Buffalo from 9 – 11 a.m. Continental Breakfast
March 6: Noodle making at 8 a.m.
March 12: Daylight Savings Time begins
March 25: Pancake Breakfast
April 9: Palm Sunday
April 16: Easter Sunday
April 29: "Spring Fling"

Valentine Treats Needed by Sunday, February 5th

Please bring 40 treats for the backpack children by Sunday, February 5th. Small wrapped candies, granola bars, wrapped cookies, gummy critters, fun erasers are always appreciated by the children!



Bertram & Buffalo United Methodist Churches continue to support the ministries of the Mission of Hope. They will be serving lunch 11:30 A.M. – 1:30 P.M. on February 7th 2017.

Volunteers Needed to Listen to Students Read

If you would like to listen to student's read, please contact Barb Hart at Garfield Elementary School. Phone 558-2169, bhart@cr.k12.ia.us. A third grade class is in need of a listener on Friday from 9 to 9:20 a.m.

Popping Corn at Garfield

The next popping date is Friday, February 17th at 8 a.m. Four volunteers are needed to open bags, bag the popcorn and deliver the ordered popcorn to the classrooms. Usually takes about 2 hours. If you are interested and would like to help - talk to the popcorn maker, Marlene Himes, or Chris Gochenouer (363-5000). Through January \$326 has been donated to HACAP from popping corn.



Delivering Backpacks to Garfield:

Backpacks continue to be delivered weekly. Once a month donated books are delivered to the backpack students. **Over 185 books have been donated to the backpack students this year!** Thanks for continuing to bring books to fill the boxes in the back of the sanctuary

Cleaning: Monday, February 12th at 9 a.m.



February 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2 Groundhog Day	3 Happy Birthday! Mary Lou Stepanek	4 Happy Birthday! Luke Kelley
5 8:45 Worship Communion	6 Happy Birthday! Margie Marrs	7	8	9 Golden Age Potluck 11:30 a.m.	10 Happy Birthday! Marlene Himes	11 Happy Birthday! Marilyn Carpenter & Chris Gochenouer
12 8:45 Worship Caroling after church- followed by a soup lunch!	13 Cleaning 9 a.m.	14 St. Valentine's Day 	15 Board Mtg. 4 p.m.	16 UMW 9:30 a.m.	17 Happy Birthday! Carla Lindball	18 UMW SPA DAY 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Reservations required
19 8:45 Worship Happy Birthday! Becky Durand	20 Presidents Day	21	22	23 NOOMA Bible Study 9:30 a.m.	24	25
26 8:45 Worship	27	28	Happy Leap Year Birthday! Nancy Carter			

March 3: WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 9-11 a.m. @ Buffalo

March 6: NOODLE MAKING 8 a.m.

March 25: PANCAKE BREAKFAST 7-11 a.m.

COLLECTING BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION & HY-VEE GROCERY RECEIPTS

Garfield School staff and students are collecting Box Tops for Education from General Mills products (cereals, etc.) & receipts from Hy-Vee store purchases.

There will be a container for the receipts in the Sanctuary at Buffalo UMC. Thanks!

Website Address

When entering the website address, keep in mind there are no spaces, all the pieces joined together in one single "word" (including colon, backslashes, and periods).

<http://buffalounitedmethodist.weebly.com/>

Face Book Page

Remember we now have a face book page. It is called Buffalo United Methodist Church. It is a good way to keep in touch with what is going on in the church. Don't hesitate to put on any news you might have.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1192792444092651/>

And what does the
LORD
require of you?
To act justly and to
LOVE
mercy and to
WALK
humbly with your God."
Micah 6:8



Buffalo United Methodist Church
1000 30th Street N.E.
Cedar Rapids, IA 52402

Church
Service
Sunday
@ 8:45 a.m.