

# Buffalo United Methodist Church

January 2023

1000 30<sup>th</sup> Street NE  
Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52402



## Pastor Carol's Desk

Happy New Year,

When I was a child, it seemed that the year would drag on and on and on. I would keep asking myself, "Is this year ever going to come to an end?" As we get older, we don't look at the things the way we did when we were young. Now the months fly by and we're wondering, "Where did this year go?"

January is a new beginning for many. We may be hoping the new year will be better than the last one. What I think is important is that we enhance our love for Jesus. As I have said many times, we have a forgiving God who allows us to make mistakes and learn from them. I know when I make a mistake, it is an opportunity for learning. Do I want to make mistakes? Heavens no—but I will make mistakes. Fortunately, we have a loving and forgiving God.

As we go into the new year, we can seek out and help someone who is in need. Some times all someone needs is a life line, and we can provide that for them. When others see how God has changed our lives, we can hope and pray that maybe that will help someone. We learn by examples. God puts us in the path of someone who needs us. And God also puts people in our own path.

I am saddened to hear that Erin is leaving Buffalo, but I'm happy she will find a new church she can get involved in. We wish her all the best as she moves into a new home and continues her journey in Christ.

I pray for those who have not been able to attend church for medical reasons. I pray for those who are dealing with cancer or surgery or serious family issues. I pray for those burdened with mental illness. I pray for all those seeking comfort in the Lord. I pray for our world.

In Matthew 25: 35-36 we read: "I was hungry and you gave me food; I was thirsty and you gave me drink;

I was a stranger and you took me in; I was naked and you clothed me; I was sick and you visited me; I was in prison and you came to me."

*Blessings,*  
Pastor Carol



## Ecumenical Center Donations

For several years members of the Buffalo congregation have donated items to the Ecumenical Center (located at 601 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue SE). The center is in need of money, personal care items, clothing, toilet tissue, dish soap, and dry laundry soap. Judy Hackney (319-393-0188) volunteers at the center and will be glad to transport any donations.

## Collecting Hy-Vee Receipts for Garfield Elementary

We continue to collect Hy-Vee grocery and gas receipts to provide support for educational projects at Garfield Elementary School. There is a large glass jar in the back of the sanctuary for the receipts. Thank you.

## Noisy Offering for January

The Human Relations Day special offering on January 15 is to strengthen the United Methodist outreach to communities in the United States and Puerto Rico, encouraging social justice and work with at-risk youth. The majority of our financial donation will be sent to the UMC's General Board of Global Ministries. Thanks for the December Noisy Offering donations of money for shoes in honor of Bishop Laurie Haller's retirement.

## Everyone Is Welcome

Yes, everyone—and we do mean “everyone”—is welcome to the first United Women in Faith meeting of the year on Thursday, January 19 at 9:30 a.m. Our guest speaker will be Barb Oakland, who will present the Mission U Study “Who Can We Be Together?” Barb has been active in UMW for many years and has served the district board in many capacities. There will also be a short business meeting.



## Everyone is Welcome

We look forward to working together to clean the church. Please come and help dust and vacuum on Wednesday, January 11 at 9 a.m. One major task will be un-decorating the church as we enter our post-Christmas calendar.



## Everyone is Welcome

Join us at 11:30 a.m. on January 12 for a hot meal and good conversation at our monthly Neighborhood Potluck. Bring a dish to share, and also feel free to bring a friend or neighbor or new acquaintance. Beverages and table settings will be provided.

## Heavenly Recipes

Here are some of our favorite recipes posted to the Buffalo UMC website:

- Zucchini Quiche & Zucchini Cobbler (Bob)
- Mom’s Blue Cheese Dressing (Sheryl)
- Strawberry Pie (Verna)
- Lemon Krumkake (Marlene)
- Mary’s Banana Dessert (Mary)
- Chocolate Pretzel Rings (Barb)
- Beef & Tater Casserole (Chris)
- Pride of Iowa Honey Cookies (Judy)
- Zucchini Casserole (Bob)

## Everyone is Welcome

Sunday, January 15 has been selected as the date for the annual dinner. The cost is \$12 per person, and please consider inviting a friend or neighbor. The menu for the noon meal will include baked chicken, Swiss steak, steamed red potatoes, lettuce salad, green beans almondine, and chef’s choice dessert. There will be a sign up sheet for additional desserts. An envelope will be circulated for reservations and dinner payment. Please bring one or two inexpensive gifts for a game of Bingo. Thanks to Barb Crawford and Judy Hackney for arranging the meal, sponsored by the United Women of Faith.



## Two Thank You Paragraphs

- Thanks to Kim Griffith for donating spider plants for the October Bazaar. Several plants still need a new home; suggested price of \$1.50 per plant. You can contact Barb Crawford or Chris Gochenouer if you would like a beautiful addition to your home that requires minimal care and will rid the air of excess carbon dioxide (a major contribution to global warming) while adding fresh oxygen.
- Thanks to Margie Marrs and the United Women of Faith for their volunteer work, their leadership, and the delicious refreshments that followed the beautiful Taizé-Tradition Prayer Service on the evening of December 8.



John Wesley Preaching on a Village Street

# January 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 9:00 am Worship Service	2	3	4	5	6 Feast of the Epiphany	7
8 9:00 am Worship Service	9	10	11 Clean Church (9:00 am)	12 Neighborhood Potluck (11:30)	13	14
15 9:00 am Worship Service Christmas Dinner (noon)	16 <b>Martin Luther King, Jr. Day</b> (Federal Holiday)	17	18 Administrative Board Meeting (10:00 a.m.)	19 United Women of Faith (9:00 a.m.)	20	21
22 9:00 am Worship Service	23	24	25	26	27	28
29 9:00 am Worship Service	30	31	<i>We should be rigorous in judging ourselves and gracious in judging others. ~John Wesley</i>			

**January Birthdays:** 6 – Charlotte Stanford      8 - Ward Seufferlein  
14 – Hepburn Hentrich Jr      14 – Nancy Lacy      22 – Sheryl Arnett

**Wedding Anniversaries:** 1 – Hep Hentrich & Eileen Kaplan

## Midweek Meditation

Each Wednesday a new Midweek Meditation is posted to the Buffalo website; the short reflections are accompanied by a scripture reading, a music video, and a Buffalo UMC photo.

## Buffalo 2023 Calendars

The Buffalo calendars for 2023 have been printed and delivered to the church. Each family is entitled to one free calendar. Extras are available for \$10. The calendars include the group portrait from the 145<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration and color photos of the church building (exterior and interior), trees and flowers on the church property, and a February photo of cyclamen in bloom near Nazareth in the Holy Land.

## Gardeners Wanted

Buffalo UMC needs individuals to help maintain our grounds and several garden areas. Most of the tasks will involve weeding and/or watering. In the Worship Center in January a sign-up sheet will be posted where people can volunteer to take care of the following areas:

- Flower beds in front of the church.
- Two rain gardens.
- Circular flower beds around tree stumps and maple.
- Herb garden and strawberry bed.
- Labyrinth.
- Planters and pots.
- Playground.
- Trees and shrubs.
- Wild flower areas.
- Compost bins and mulching.

## Buffalo Calendar

**January 1 & 8:** Sunday Morning Worship Services will be led by lay members of the congregation.

**January 6:** Feast of the Epiphany

**January 11:** Church Cleaning Day (includes storing of Buffalo's Christmas decorations (9:00 a.m.)

**January 12:** Neighborhood Potluck (11:30 a.m.)

**January 15:** Worship Service Communion & Noisy Offering; Christmas Dinner at noon

**January 18:** Buffalo UMC Administrative Board Meeting (10:00 a.m.)

**January 19:** United Women in Faith (9:30 a.m.)

## What is the Feast of the Epiphany?

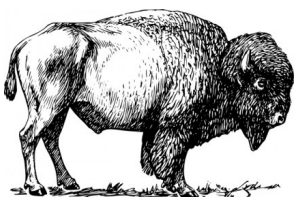
According to Wikipedia, Epiphany, also known as Theophany in Eastern Christian traditions, is a Christian feast day that celebrates the revelation of God incarnate as Jesus Christ. In Western Christianity, the feast commemorates the visit of the Magi to the Christ Child, and thus Jesus Christ's physical manifestation to the Gentiles. It is sometimes called Three Kings' Day, and in some traditions celebrated as Little Christmas. In some denominations, the feast of the Epiphany initiates the liturgical season of Epiphanytide. The traditional date for the feast is January 6.

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## Calendar for Special Events in 2023

At a short meeting after the Sunday Morning Worship Service on December 11, the Administrative Board approved these dates for Buffalo's special events in 2023:

- Pancake Breakfast on Saturday, April 15 (8 to 11 am)
- Rummage Sale on Thursday, June 8 (8 am to 4 pm) and Friday, June 9 (8 am to 1 pm)
- Buffalo Family Function on Saturday, August 19 (time TBA)
- Fall Bazaar on Saturday, October 28 (8 am to 2 pm)



**Since 1876**

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