

# Buffalo United Methodist Church

January 2024

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



## Pastor Carol's Desk

As we say goodbye to 2023, I know many of us will cherish how wonderful it was when we came together on Christmas Eve and celebrated the birth of Jesus. It was so beautiful at the end of the service, standing in a circle around the church with our lighted candles and singing "Silent Night." We could all see each other while singing that beautiful hymn. I felt chills in that moment as we had all become one. It was a very emotional night thinking of the Christ child being born.

We have so much to be thankful for. God walks with us each and every day. I do hope that everyone had a wonderful time on Christmas day with family and friends. I want to wish everyone a Happy New Year, 2024. May we see the end of so many wars and the arrival of peace across the world.

*Blessings,  
Pastor Carol*

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## Neighborhood Potluck

Join us for a neighborly potluck at 11:30 a.m. on Thursday, January 11. Feel free to bring along a friend, neighbor, relative, or anyone who might benefit from a good meal and good conversation. As always, beverages and tableware will be provided. In December, we enjoyed playing Bingo with the help of Russ Swart and Sheila Gatewood.

## Buffalo Church Calendar

Copies of the 2024 church calendar are now available at the back of the worship center. All the photos in the calendar are of Buffalo church members and property, including many color photos of our flowers and trees. Each family is entitled to one free calendar; additional copies are available at \$10 each.

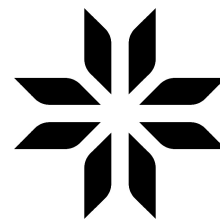
## Christmas/Holiday Luncheon

Our annual Christmas/Holiday Luncheon will be held at noon on Sunday, January 14. The cost is \$14 per person and reservations must be made by Sunday, January 7. This is a catered meal with a menu that will include chicken, Swiss steak, steamed baby red potatoes, green beans almondine, salad, rolls, and desserts donated by dinner participants.

A sign-up envelope can be found in the back of the worship center. Checks should be made out to Buffalo UMC. If you have any questions about the meal, contact Judy Hackney or Chris Gochenouer. Since we plan to play Bingo after our lunch, please bring 2 or 3 inexpensive wrapped gifts to be used as prizes.

## January's Special Offering

On Sunday, January 14, we will collect a noisy offering for Human Relations Day. Ninety percent of the donations will be sent to the General Board of Global Ministries for support of the Community Developers Program and the UMC's Voluntary Services Program. The remaining 10% will go to the General Board of Church and the Society for Youth Offender Rehabilitation Program.



## United Women in Faith

United Women in Faith will meet at 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, January 18. There will be a short business meeting followed by a timely program presented by Barb Crawford.

## A Good Morning for Cleaning the Church

The first church cleaning of the New Year is scheduled to begin at 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, January 10. We will be taking down the Christmas decorations and storing them away for another year. No special cleaning skills are required, and if all goes well we should be done by 10:30 a.m.

## Donations Wanted

- The large Mission of Hope donation box is at the back of the worship center. Donations of cereal, canned goods, personal hygiene products, and toilet paper are greatly appreciated.
- The Ecumenical Center needs donations of personal care items, toilet tissue, dish soap and dry laundry soap, and money. Contact Judy Hackney to arrange for the transportation of donations. And thanks for the gifts already received.
- We continue to collect Hy-Vee receipts for Garfield Elementary School. There is a large glass jar in the back of the sanctuary for the receipts.
- A new Teacher Resource Store is seeking donations of potential school supplies (see page 4 of this newsletter for more information on this opportunity).



## Photo Slideshow Buffalo Photos from 2023

If you visit the church website, you will find on the home page a slideshow with over 60 photos of the past year, featuring such events as the Christmas/Holiday luncheon in January and the Rummage Sale in June. Also represented are trees, shrubs, ornamental grasses, and many of our flowers marking the different seasons: daffodils, squill, milkweed, coneflowers, stonecrop, flag iris, serviceberry, black-eyed Susan, cranesbill, and snow-in-summer.

## Buffalo's Church Officers for 2024

### Members of the Administrative Board

*Chair:* Margie Marrs

*Lay Leader:* Dani Lacy

*Church Treasurer:* Judy Hackney

*Financial Secretary:* Chris Gochenouer

*Board of Trustees: Chair:* Becky Durand

*United Women in Faith Representative:* Barb Crawford

*Pastor-Parish Relations Representative:* Bob Marrs

*Board Members-at-large:* Gloria Clinton, Kim Griffith, Joette Lutz, Linda Otto

*Pastor (a non-voting board member):* Pastor Carol Mart

### Committees and Administrative Positions

*Recording Secretary:* Chris Gochenouer

*Worship, Music, & Education:* Judy Hackney, Eileen Kaplan, Margie Marrs

*Outreach, Mission, & Evangelism:* Chris Gochenouer, Kim Griffith, Allison Hall, Joette Lutz

*Board of Trustees:* Becky Durand (Chair); Ben Griffith, Gary Hackney, Bob Marrs

*Electronics & Sound System:* Hep Hentrich

*Pastor-Parish Relations:* Judy Hackney (Chair); Gloria Clinton, Barb Crawford, Bob Marrs

*Nominations:* Pastor Carol Mart (Chair); Becky Durand, Barb Crawford, Mary Fredricksen, Gary Hackney, Joyce Hartmann

*Memorials:* Barb Crawford, Judy Hackney

*Communion Stewards:* Becky Durand, Linda Otto

*Historian:* Barb Crawford

*Audit Committee:* Barb Crawford, Chris Gochenouer, Joyce Hartmann

*Conference Lay Delegate:* Dani Lacy

*Alternates:* Judy Hackney, Bob Marrs



# January 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31 December	1 <b>New Year's Day</b>	2	3	4	5	6 Epiphany
7 Worship Service & Communion (9:00 am)	8	9	10 Church Cleaning (9:00 am)	11 Neighborhood Potluck (11:30 am)	12	13
14 Worship Service (9:00 am) Holiday Lunch (12:00 noon)	15 Martin Luther King Jr Day – Federal Holiday	16	17 Administrative Board (10:00 am)	18 United Women of Faith (9:30 am)	19	20
21 Worship Service (9:00 am)	22	23	24	25	26	27
28 Worship (9:00 am)	29	30	31	<i>"To God your every Want In instant Prayer display, Pray always; Pray, and never faint; Pray, without ceasing, Pray."</i> ~Charles Wesley		

**January (and early February) Birthdays:**      6 – Charlotte Stanford                      8 - Ward Seufferlein  
    14 – Hepburn Hentrich Jr                      14 – Nancy Lacy                                      22 – Sheryl Arnett  
    February: 4 -- Luke Kelley                      6 – Margie Marrs

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

## Jobs Well Done

- Congratulations to the Buffalo congregation for the robust contributions to December's Noisy Offering, collecting \$715.50 for Matthew 25. Given the size of our congregation, that is a very impressive total.
- Thanks to everyone who donated candy to supplement the donation of apples, oranges, and peanuts by Fred Himes for the Christmas Eve service. A special word of appreciation for those members who stayed after a Sunday morning worship service to assemble the 40 bags of Christmas treats.
- Thanks for the delicious Christmas tree cookies baked and frosted by Becky Durand for the Christmas Eve Service.

- Thanks to everyone in December who donated poinsettias for the altar.
- At the worship service on Sunday, December 24, Carla Lindball received a gift certificate to Cedar River Nursery as a small token of our appreciation for the many, many hours she spent this summer and fall watering and caring for the church's trees and plants.
- Thanks to Ben Griffith for handling the microphone so adeptly as we share our Joys and Concerns at the beginning of each worship service.
- As we deal with so many cold, gloomy, overcast days of winter, a special thanks to everyone who helps to brighten the day for church friends and others with cards and phone calls.

## Buffalo Calendar

### January

- 10: Church Cleaning (9:00 a.m.)
- 11: Neighborhood Potluck (11:30 a.m.)
- 14: Human Relations Day; Noisy Offering in  
Sunday Morning Worship Service (9:00 a.m.)  
Christmas/Holiday Luncheon (12:00 noon)
- 15: Martin Luther King Jr Day (a national day  
of service)
- 17: Administrative Board Meeting (10:00 a.m.)
- 18: United Women in Faith (9:30 a.m.)

### February

- 14: Ash Wednesday

### Scripture Readings for Worship Services in January

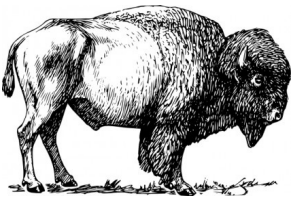
- January 7: Gospel of Mark 1: 4-11  
& Acts 19: 1-7
- January 14: Gospel of John 1: 43-51 &  
1 Corinthians 6: 12-20
- January 21: Gospel of Mark 1: 14-20 &  
1 Corinthians 7: 29-31
- January 28: Gospel of Mark 1: 21-28 &  
1 Corinthians 8: 1-13

## Teacher Resource Store

Chris's daughter, Amy, will be opening a Teacher Resource Store this summer. This endeavor will depend on donations of materials that teachers can use in the classroom. Listed below are items that would be good candidates. There is a box in Buffalo's meeting room for donations. If you have questions, contact Chris Gochenouer (319- 363-5000 or [goch1970@live.com](mailto:goch1970@live.com)).

*Baby Food Jars – Baskets – Binder Clips – Books (for children and teachers) – Bottle Caps – Brown Paper Bags (large & small) – Calendars with Pictures (2022 or newer) – Clean Peanut Butter Jars & Lids – Clothespins – Coffee Cans with Lids (plastic or metal) – Craft Kits & Crafting Items – Egg Cartons – Fabric (clean, 6" or larger) – Greeting Cards (Unused) – Golf Tees – Jewelry, Beads – Jigsaw Puzzles – Keys & Key Chains – Magazines – Magnets – Marbles – OJ Can Lids – Office Supplies (file trays, staplers, hole punches, sheet protectors, folders, tape) – Paper Towel & Wrapping Paper Tubes – Promotional Items (stress balls, etc.) – PVC pipe – Reusable Canvas Bags – Ribbon, Trim, Rickrack – Rocks & Shells – Sandpaper – School Supplies (pencils, pencil cases, rulers, markers, paint, glue, crayons) – Small mirrors – Smooth Wood & Wood Trimmings – Spools (empty or with thread) – Tape Measures – Teaching Supplies – Tennis Balls (& containers) – Vinyl, Leather Pieces, Scraps – Washers & Nuts – Wire – Yarn – Velcro – Zip Ties – 35-millimeter Film Containers*

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**Cedar Rapids, IA 52402**



**Since 1876**

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