

Buffalo United Methodist Church

July 2022

1000 30th Street NE
Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52402



Pastor Carol's Desk

We sure can tell summer here. With no rain for the past two weeks, the grass is not growing, but it seems the weeds are still growing. In this summer heat, please check in on your neighbors and family. We want to make sure our friends and family are safe.

At the church's big rummage sale, I purchased some wonderful things. I bought some small geraniums and have been watering them faithfully. This morning as I was leaving for our Bible Study, I looked at the plants and thought they are looking pretty good. Watching such a tiny plant grow can bring so much joy. And when the flowers appear, it is even more beautiful.

Looking at the trees and flowers, one can see how wonderful God is. God gave all of this for us to enjoy. We are blessed that we have a home to live in, food to eat, clothes to wear. But most of all we have God with us each and every day, carrying us through bad times and good times.

In our Bible study, we are having a great time discussing and sharing. What makes a Bible study so exciting is how we can learn and feel and wonder. In July we will continue our Bible study and it's likely to continue with the women of the Bible. Everyone is welcome.

I do hope everyone has a wonderful summer—and may it be a special blessing for those of you who have opportunities to have fun with children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren.

I leave you with this passage from Psalm 28:

"The Lord is my strength and my shield; my heart trusts in him, and he helps me. My heart leaps for joy and with my song I praise him."

Blessings,
Pastor Carol

Summer Bible Study

The Spring Bible Study, conducted by Pastor Carol, was so well received that it has evolved into the Summer Bible Study. A special thanks to Dani Lacy, who has served as Pastor Carol's assistant, and to Mary Fredericksen and her lesson on Rahab, who lived in Jericho and helped spies escape. Two sessions are now scheduled in July on Tuesdays, July 12 (focusing on the OT prophet Hulda) and 26 (on Lydia, a fabric merchant who converted to Christianity). Each session will begin at 9:30. Everyone is welcome; attendance at the previous meetings is not required.

"Faithfulness will spring up from the ground, and righteousness will look down from the sky. The Lord will give what is good, and our land will yield its increase."

—Psalm 85:11-12

Rural Life Sunday Special Offering for July

Rural Life Sunday celebrates the rural heritage of The United Methodist Church. During one of our Sunday morning worship services we will be collecting a special offering to help the church address "the ongoing crisis occurring in rural areas of the nation and the world."



We Done Right Good

At the Primary Election Bake Sale on June 7, our baked goods brought in a profit of \$98.50. Thanks to everyone who donated baked items. The poll workers really enjoyed the treats.

The Rummage Sale on July 16 & 17 was also a great success. The "Free" Lunch earned \$172.30 and the sales of the rummage items produced \$1,024.71. The success of the two-day event would not have been possible without the donations of so many attractive items, and the volunteers did a great job setting up everything for the sale, handling the sales, and serving lunch on both days. Many items sold very quickly, and the Salvation Army received the treasures that were not sold.

"Won't You Be My Neighbor?"

In Fred Rogers' TV series on PBS, it was always a beautiful day in the neighborhood, and in every episode all viewers—regardless of age or ethnic heritage or physical characteristics—were assured that Mr. Rogers had always wanted to have a neighbor "just like you."

Buffalo's Neighborhood Potluck has a similar commitment to an ideal neighborhood. All are welcome for the monthly noon meal, which in July will occur on Thursday, July 7, beginning at 11:30 a.m. Beverages and tableware will be provided. Feel free to invite a neighbor to join with you for this monthly celebration of neighborly love.

The Large Glass Jar

- In the back of the sanctuary is the Large Glass Jar.
- The glass jar is where you place your Hy-Vee receipts.
- The receipts will be submitted to Hy-Vee in order to obtain funds and Hy-Vee gift cards for students at Garfield Elementary School.
- Please save your Hy-Vee receipts and place them in the glass jar.
- Your donations make the Large Glass Jar very happy.

Buffalo Labyrinth

The Labyrinth path has been mowed, the wind chimes are humming, the benches are in place, and the tulip tree with its beautiful tulip-shaped leaves is ready for visitors. This is the perfect time of the year for walking through the waving grass, listening to the birds in the neighborhood, and enjoying a wonderful space for peace, meditation, reflection, and prayer.

Dust Bunnies

In Finnish they are called *villakoira*, which translates "wool dog." In French they are *moutons*, which means "sheep." In German they are known as *Wollmäuse* ("wool mice") and in Swedish *dammrättor* ("dust rats"). According to Wikipedia, "Dust Bunnies" are "made of hair, lint, flakes of dead skin, spider webs, dust, and sometimes light rubbish and debris and are held together by static electricity and felt-like entanglement. They can house dust mites or other parasites."

Once a month, members of the congregation gather to eradicate dust bunnies and any other disgusting critters. All Buffalo guys and gals are invited to participate in the next church cleaning on July 20, beginning at 9:00 a.m. with dusting, sweeping, vacuuming, cleaning bathrooms, emptying waste baskets, and eliminating all dust bunnies and their cousins. Thanks for helping to make Buffalo Church sparkle.

Buffalo - United Women in Faith

- RADA items were sold at the Rummage Sale in June. There are still dishcloths, paring knives, and bagel knives, cheese slicing knives, bread slicers, ham slicers and vegetable peelers available. Contact Barb Crawford if you are in need of new utensils (319-826-2468).
- A supper was served on Thursday, June 23 (not June 22, as erroneously listed in the June newsletter's list of upcoming events) to honor the thirteen Secret Pals. The Secret Pals discovered who had sent messages monthly to brighten their days, and they received Hy-Vee gift cards. As expressed in a phrase that became popular in the 1930s, "A good time was had by all."

There Should Be a Law

Perhaps not everyone would agree, but some members of the congregation believe there should be a law against plastic flowers. Flowers are by their nature ephemeral, emblematic reminders of the passage of time, symbols of the seasonal patterns of our lives and of the church calendar. Please help fight the insidious influence of plastic flowers (known for attracting dust bunnies) by volunteering to bring fresh flowers to one or more Sunday morning worship services. The sign-up sheet is located at the back of the sanctuary, not far from the happy Large Glass Jar. When signing up to bring flowers, also consider volunteering to read the scripture at a worship service.

July 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p><i>On the Sabbath we [Paul & his companions] went outside the city gate to the riverbank, where we thought there might be a place for prayer. We sat down and began to talk with the women who had gathered. One of those women was Lydia, a Gentile God-Worshipper from the city of Thyatira, a dealer in purple cloth. As she listened, the Lord enabled her to embrace Paul's message. (Acts 16: 13-14)</i></p>					1	2
3 9:00 am Worship Service Communion Sunday	4 The 4th of July	5	6	7 Neighborhood Potluck (11:30 am)	8	9
10 9:00 am Worship Service	11	12 Summer Bible Study (9:30 am)	13	14	15	16
17 9:00 am Worship Service	18	19	20 Clean Church (9:00 am) Administrative Board Meeting (10:00 am)	21	22	23 Ice Cream Supper (4:00 pm)
24/31 9:00 am Worship Service	25	26 Summer Bible Study (9:30 am)	27	28	29	30

July Birthdays: 31 - Fred Himes

Wedding Anniversaries: Zip; no one got hitched in July.



Buffalo Calendar

July 3: Communion Sunday
July 7: Neighborhood Potluck (11:30 a.m.)
July 12: Summer Bible Study (9:30 a.m.)
July 20: Cleaning Church (9:00 a.m.), followed by an
Administrative Board meeting(10:00 a.m.)
July 23: Ice Cream Supper (4:00 p.m.)
July 26: Summer Bible Study (9:30 a.m.)
July 27: Widows and Widowers Meeting (4:00 p.m.)
October 22: Fall Bazaar with Lunch



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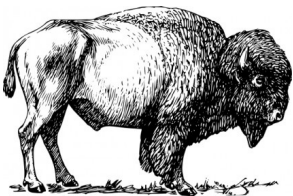
Ecumenical Center Donations

The Ecumenical Center is in need of donations of money, personal care items, clothing, toilet tissue, dish soap, and dry laundry soap. Judy Hackney (319-393-0188) will be glad to transport the donations. Thanks for the donations already received.

Gifts, Gifts, and More Gifts

At the Sunday Morning Worship Service on Father's Day, the congregation witnessed a series of gift exchanges:

- Barb Crawford received from Pastor Carol the "fluffy pen award," expressing the congregation's appreciation for the "Joys and Concerns" message that Barb distributes via email after each Sunday's service.
- "Golden Shovels" were presented to Gary Hackney and Bob Marrs in recognition of their labor in repairing the playground and spreading five cubic yards of hardwood chips.
- Fresh, organic strawberries and rhubarb were available for members of the congregation who enjoy fresh fruit from the Buffalo gardens.
- Several lucky people had gold stars on their bulletins, enabling them to receive free goodies from the treats basket.



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