

# Buffalo United Methodist Church

July 2023

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



## Pastor Carol's Desk

My granddaughter, Bailey, recently came to my house for a couple of hours while her Dad was running several errands. I have some craft stuff for her to do. As we were doing a craft item, she told me that her Aunt was an art teacher. And then she said, "You would make a good art teacher."

I said, "Really?" She shook her head yes.

She then asked me, "What is a minister?" I think she is confused about my position because she is raised in a Catholic family and goes to a Catholic school.

I explained to her that I try and help spread the Good News about God. She looked at me and said, "God is really Good."

I replied "All the time."

It is interesting that she is curious about "my God" vs "her God." Through a child's eyes, everything looks different, unless it is identical to what they are used to.

There are times when I think we adults need to learn how to look at the world through a child's eyes. That might give us a good perspective about what is happening in our lives and why it is happening.

We don't have all the answers, but by reading the Bible we will find that many of our questions will be answered in the scripture. We need to seek and search, and that is what can be fun about reading the Bible. We can go on new journeys with God. And when in doubt, we might learn to look through a child's eyes.

Blessings,

**Pastor Carol**

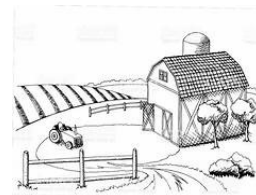
*A pastor was discussing the Ten Commandments with a Sunday School class. After explaining the commandment to "honor" thy Father and thy Mother, the pastor asked the children, "Is there a commandment that teaches us how to treat our brothers and sisters?" Without missing a beat, one little boy (the oldest in his family) answered, "Thou shall not kill."*

## June Rummage Sale A Resounding Success

Many, many hours were spent arranging goods for the sale, pricing items, reorganizing tables as more items arrived, etc. Fortunately, we had an excellent turnout at the sale, and we collected over \$1200. The baked goods, the garden & house plants, and the baby clothes were particularly popular.

Thanks to everyone who donated items and helped in the "set up" phase and the "tear down" phase, including those who took items to local nonprofits. A special thanks goes to Ed and Susie Harapat for the street corner Rummage Sale signs and to Judy Hackney, Joyce Hartmann, and Carla Lindball, who served as our wonderful cashiers.

At the two noon luncheons we served 80 hot dogs, and a number of generous donations (almost \$180) enabled us to cover the cost of the meal. To no one's surprise, Linda Otto did an exemplary job taking care of the food preparation and kitchen duties.



## Noisy Offering in July Rural Life Sunday

A special offering will be collected during the worship service on July 9, Rural Life Sunday. The Iowa Conference uses the collected funds to enrich ministries in towns and rural areas. An example of a project that received recent funding was Mobile United Methodist Missionaries, which serves churches in southern Iowa. MUMMS helps to provide VBS, after-school programs, work projects, and many other services for small rural churches and communities without a church.

## Administrative Board June Meeting Report

Issues addressed at our board meeting in June:

- The board is considering options for covering the lower windows in the sanctuary. Gary Hackney demonstrated the potential plywood for “boarding up” the windows. Estimated cost for the wood and paint would be about \$300. Hep Hentrich suggested we consider using vinyl, which would eliminate the need for painting. The Trustees continue exploring options before making a final decision.
- The Board is waiting for Cutting Edge to complete the brass plates for the new memorial board; however, the Marlene Hines brass plate for installing on a Labyrinth bench has been delivered. Two dwarf lilac bushes in memory of Marlene have been donated to the church and will be planted next to the old limestone street sign.
- At present Buffalo UMC does not have a “firearms policy” and Board members have not found a workable model for a policy appropriate for our church.
- The Board has discussed options for cleaning the exterior of the church building, including the use of a power washer. To date, no decision has been made.
- The Board decided to schedule a Family Hymn Sing and Outdoor Picnic for Saturday evening, August 19. We will be inviting neighbors, family members, and people on our special events mailing list. There will be no charge for the meal but donations will be accepted. This event will serve as our weekend worship service; no church service will be held on Sunday, August 20.
- The Board authorized Bob Marrs to continue negotiations with TNT woodworking in Iowa City on the construction of four benches for the Hahn Memorial. These wooden Leopold benches would be similar in design to the benches TNT has previously constructed for the Labyrinth and the Little Free Library.
- With the retirement of Mary Fredericksen as our congregation’s lay leader, the Board approved subsidizing the educational costs for Dani Lacy to seek training as a lay leader. Dani and her mother recently joined the congregation, and Dani has expressed a desire to become more involved in church programs. As part of her apprenticeship, she will have an interim position performing some lay duties. The Board discussed appointing other individuals to develop new programs. The Board confirmed that individuals must be members of the congregation in order to serve on the Administrative Board.

## Old Fashioned Hymn Sing and “Buffalo Frank” Picnic

Buffalo United Methodist Church  
Saturday, August 19, 2023  
5:00 to 6:30 p.m.



Hymn Sing at the Hahn Memorial.  
Chairs & benches provided,  
but feel free to bring your own  
folding chairs, blankets, etc.

After singing our favorite hymns,  
we will enjoy a picnic supper of  
Buffalo Franks (hot dogs), Chips,  
Beverage, Ice Cream, and Dessert.

There is no charge for this meal.  
Donations accepted.



Please invite friends, neighbors, &  
family members to join us for this  
summer-time celebration.



**SING**  
**UNTO THE LORD!**

# July 2023

| Sunday  | Monday  | Tuesday  | Wednesday                       | Thursday  | Friday | Saturday |
|---|---|--|---------------------------------|---|--------|----------|
| 2<br>Worship Service at Coe College (9:30 am) | 3   | 4<br>Independence Day  | 5                               | 6<br>Fellowship Hall Furniture Moving (9:00 am) | 7      | 1/8      |
| 9<br>Worship Service & Communion (9:00 am)    | 10<br>Fellowship Hall Floor Cleaning & Waxing | 11   | 12<br>Church Cleaning (9:00 am) | 13  | 14     | 15       |
| 16<br>Worship Service (9:00 am)               | 17  | 18<br>Bible Study (9:00 am)  | 19                              | 20  | 21     | 22       |
| 23<br>Worship Service (9:00 am)               | 24  | 25<br>Bible Study (9:00 am)  | 26                              | 27  | 28     | 29       |
| 30<br>Worship Service (9:00 am)               | 31  | <p><i>You have searched me, Lord, and you know me.<br/>You know when I sit and when I rise;<br/>you perceive my thoughts from afar.<br/>You discern my going out and my lying down;<br/>you are familiar with all my ways.<br/>~from Psalm 139 (scripture reading for July 23)</i></p> |                                 |   |        |          |

**July Birthdays:** 3- Pat Kelchen 6 – Ed Harapat 23 – Veryl Kelley  
25 – Mercedes Krahmer 28 – Pat Reid 31 – Fred Himes

**July Anniversaries:** 19 – Ben & Kim Griffith 24 – Ed & Susan Harapat

## Second Week in July: Church Cleaning Operations

Powell Carpet has been hired to scrub and wax the floor in Fellowship Hall on July 10. In preparation for their arrival, the congregation is responsible for removing from the Hall all the furniture in the room, except for the piano. At 9:00 a.m. on Thursday, July 6, we will start clearing the space. The more helpers that show up, the sooner the job will be done.

At 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, July 12—two days after the Fellowship Hall floor has been waxed—we will be returning furniture to the Fellowship Hall and engage in our monthly cleaning of the church building. Needless to say, any assistance on this effort will be greatly appreciated.

## July Thursday Potluck Cancelled

Because the Fellowship Hall is being scrubbed and waxed the second week in July, we have decided to cancel the July Potluck luncheon. We hope to see everyone at the next noon potluck on Thursday, August 10.



## United Women in Faith

Fifteen lucky people enjoyed the Secret Pal Revealing lunch on Thursday, June 15. The meal was very good. A sincere thanks to the six Secret Pals who attended and the folks who prepared the food.

## Buffalo Calendar

July 2: Sunday Morning Worship Service at Coe College  
July 6: Preparation for Fellowship Hall floor waxing  
(9:00 a.m.)  
July 4: Independence Day (Federal Holiday)  
July 9: Sunday Morning Worship Communion  
July 12: Church Cleaning (9:00 a.m.)  
July 18: Bible Study (9:00 a.m.)  
July 25: Bible Study (9:00 a.m.)  
August 19: Buffalo Family Hymn Sing and Picnic  
October 28 (Saturday): Fall Bazaar



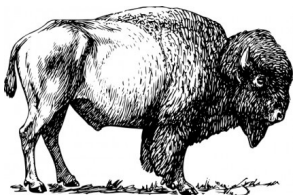
Scripture readings for the last four Sundays in July:

July 9: Matthew 11: 16-19, 25-30 & Psalm 45: 10-17  
July 16: Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23 & Romans 8: 1-11  
July 23: Matthew 13: 24-30, 36-43 & Psalm 139: 1-12, 23-24  
July 30: Matthew 13: 31-33, 44-52 & Psalm 105: 1-11

## Buffalo United Methodist Church

1000 30<sup>th</sup> St NE

Cedar Rapids, IA 52402



**Since 1876**

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

## The Bison Blog

One purpose of the Bison Blog on Buffalo's website is to encourage readers to reflect on challenging religious, spiritual, social, and culture issues. Listed below are items posted in the past three months. Readers are encouraged to submit responses to any postings.

- "Abortion and Faith After 1 Year Without Roe" (June 24; an article originally published on the *Sojourners* website)
- "The Christian Right Is Winning in Court While Losing in Public Opinion" (June 14; transcript of a National Public Radio report)
- "UMC Split over LGBTQ Issues: Some Worshippers Switching Congregations" (May 30; the author examines how Methodists are responding to LGBTQ issues)
- "In the Shadow of the El" (May 25; an essay on the experience of an Episcopal Priest working in a soup kitchen)
- "A Gospel of the Ground" (May 4; in an article originally published by *Plough* magazine, the author argues for the intimate connections between the Gospel and our engagement with the soil and the natural world)
- "Can Church Leaders Help Reframe the Gun Debate?" (April 25; introduces strategies for how Christians might help reduce gun violence in America)
- "Easter is Not Good News Without the Cross" (April 18; an article from *The Christian Century* magazine on the importance of the Resurrection in our Christian faith)