



Buffalo United Methodist Church

June 2019

1000 30th Street NE
Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52402



Sermons in Stones and Good in Everything

Bishop Laurie Haller

I could hardly take it all in. For one who has spent much of my life reading, visiting the largest library in the world was just like I imagine heaven might be like. It was almost as amazing as huddling with my ipad in my sleeping bag in a stone hut at 17,000 feet in Nepal last summer, reading astronaut Scott Parazinsky's memoir *The Sky Below; A True Story of Summits, Space, and Speed*. Marveling at Parazinsky's summit of Mount Everest filled me with pure joy, wonder, and gratitude

I love books! It's just that there are too many wonderful books to read and too little time. When I was growing up, my mother was our church's librarian. This was during the years when our church library was the only public library in our small town. I read every children's book we had, plus all the Hardy Boys books, which were much more exciting than the Nancy Drew series. Beginning in childhood, I kept a list of all the books I read, a practice that I unfortunately let lapse over the years when pastoral ministry became more intense.

I still wonder, however. What would my life be without books? And what would our world be without books? In December, Gary and I had the opportunity to take a tour of the Library of Congress (LOC) in Washington D.C. The statistics are mind boggling. The LOC contains more than 167 million items in 470 languages. This includes 40 million books and other print materials, 3.6 million recordings, 14 million photographs, 6 million maps, 8.1 million pieces of sheet music, and 70 million manuscripts.

The Library of Congress, which is the oldest cultural institution in the US, is not a lending library. Rather, it is located on Capitol Hill primarily to serve Congress. The Library of Congress was established in 1800 when President John Adams signed a bill declaring that Washington was the seat of the US government. Included in the legislation was the establishment of a library "of such books as may be necessary for the use of Congress"

Of course, no library is complete without a Bible collection, and the LOC does not disappoint! I was fascinated by an exhibition that explores the significance of two particular Bibles, the Giant Bible of Mainz and the Gutenberg Bible. Both Bibles were produced in Mainz, Germany at around the same time, but they represent different eras. The Giant Bible of Mainz signifies the end of manuscript writing by hand, whereas the Gutenberg Bible signals the beginning of the printed book and the explosion of knowledge that the development of moveable would allow. . . .

Despite the proliferation of e-books, my bookshelves are overflowing. I love books! Even when I can only read on planes and trains and in stone huts at high altitudes. God has made you and me with a thirst for knowledge that helps us be more compassionate and informed, better equipped to become who God created us to be, and, most of all, to become sermons in stones, modeling good in everything.

[Bishop Haller's complete text is available in her April 29 posting to her blog [Leading from the Heart](#).]

United Methodist Women

On Thursday, June 20, at 11:30 am we look forward to revealing our Secret Pals during lunch in the Fellowship Hall. One month later—on July 18, we will take a trip to the Masonic Library on 1st Avenue SE, eat lunch at Matthew 25 Groundswell, and tour the Cedar Rapids Art Museum. If you are interested in traveling with us let Judy Hackney or Barb Crawford know of your plans.

Administrative Board: Notes for May Meeting

- Pancake Revenue: The Board decided to donate \$250 to the Food Bank and \$250 to HACAP; the remaining income would be used to cover various event expenses, including advertising.
- Pest Control: the Church building has passed all inspections and deemed free of harmful pests.
- Discussion for Increasing Membership: Conversation focused on finding ways the worship service might more effectively address the multiple needs of the congregation, providing opportunities for social interactions with a time for solemn, spiritual engagement.
- Outdoor Worship Design: The down payment has been made from the Memorial Fund, and we expect the project to be completed before the end of the summer.
- Church Safety. Judy attended a district-wide session on church safety concerns and shared materials she had received at that meeting. Barb indicated that George or another member of the congregation would be responsible for ensuring the meeting room door (in effect, a back entrance into the worship area) would be locked during Sunday morning worship services. Board members noted the worship center has exits in each corner of the room, providing various routes in case people need to quickly vacate the room.
- Trunk or Treat. This event is currently on this year's calendar for October 27, but Board members agreed that such an activity may no longer serve the needs of the congregation and the community. After discussing other possible Halloween season events, the Board decided to consider further review of our options before making any final decision on the matter.

Annual Rummage Sale

The word "rummage" first appeared in written English in the 1520s and referred to the "act of arranging cargo in a ship." The word probably derives from the Old High German word *rum* (meaning "space") from which English obtained the word "room." The phrase "rummage sale" first appeared in 1803 and originally referred to the sale of unclaimed goods at a ship docks.

In contrast to a rummage sale, a "garage sale" is defined by Merriam-Webster as "a sale of used household or personal articles (such as furniture, tools, or clothing) held on the seller's own premises." The phrase "garage sale" is of quite recent origin, first appearing in print in 1964. Other phrases for such events include tag sale, car boot sale (common in Great Britain), jumble sale, bring and buy sale (Australia), and white elephant sale.

It is still not too late to donate items for Buffalo's world-famous Annual Rummage Sale, scheduled for Thursday, June 6 (8 am to 5 pm) and Friday, June 7 (8 am to 1 pm). Items for the mini-bake sale will be particularly appreciated because the baked goods disappear quickly. We will serve a hot dog lunch for both days. Donations of chips, hot dogs, buns, veggies, fruit, bars, or cookies are appreciated.

Special Offering in June

Peace With Justice Sunday (June 16) enables The United Methodist Church to have a voice in advocating for peace and justice through a broad spectrum of global programs.

Three D's for Contented Well-being

Declutter: Remove all unwanted items from your home.

Donate: Give items to the Buffalo UMC Rummage Sale.

Deduct: Claim donation on your tax return.



June 2019

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
<p style="text-align: center;">“Tongues in trees, books in the running brooks, Sermons in stones, and good in everything.” ~William Shakespeare</p>						1
2 8:45 am: Worship Service <i>Communion</i> <i>Sunday</i>	3	4 11:30: Mission of Hope	5	6 Rummage Sale (8:00 am - 5:00 pm) Hot Dog Lunch	7 Rummage Sale (8:00 am - 1:00 pm) Hot Dog Lunch	8
9 8:45 am: Worship Service	10 9:00 am: Clean Church	11	12	13	14	15
16 8:45 am: Worship Service Father’s Day	17	18	19 4:00 pm: Admin. Board Meeting	20 11:30 am: UMW	21 First Day of Summer	22 Second Day of Summer
23/30 8:45 am: Worship Service	24	25	26	27	28	29

June Birthdays

1 – Noah Terpin
2 – Tom Fredericksen
4 – Tom Houlahan
16 – Wayne Rayman
25 – David Seufferlein

June Anniversaries

27 – Tom & Kathy Houlahan
29 – Larry & Joyce Hartmann

Library of Congress Data (from Bishop Haller’s blog post on the LOC)

- The Library buys 15,000 books a day and adds 11,000 of them to the permanent collection.
- Everything is stored on 883 miles of bookshelves.
- Almost half the books are written in languages other than English.
- Congress members drafting legislation don’t need to do the nitty-gritty research themselves: There’s a whole team of lawyers, librarians, economists, and scientists employed through the Library of Congress to do it for them.
- The Congressional Research Service is staffed with 600 analysts and supplies reports briefings, and presentations.
- The Current Librarian of Congress (they have not always been librarians by profession) is Carla Hayden, the first woman and the first African American to hold this title. She is the 14th Librarian of Congress.
- In 2010, Twitter agreed to donate every public tweet to the LOC’s archive, which amounts to several hundred million tweets a day!

Buffalo UMC: June Calendar

- June 4: Help Bertram UMC prepare and serve lunch at Mission of Hope
- June 6: Annual Rummage Sale, Day One
(8:00 am to 5 pm)
- June 7: Annual Rummage Sale, Day Two
(8:00 am to 1:00 pm)
- June 10: Monthly Meeting of the Spic & Span Church
Cleaning Crew (9:00 am)
- June 19: Administrative Board Meeting (4:00 pm)
- June 20: UMW Secret Pal Revelations and Lunch
(11:30 am)

Neighborhood Potluck

NO meal in June, resting from the rummage sale. See you in July.

“Give instruction unto those who cannot procure it for themselves.” ~Confucius (quote at the Library of Congress)

Pastor Kathryn's Office Hours
Every Thursday: 9:00 am to 1:00 pm
Phone: 319-389-3187

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1000 30th St
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Rummage Sale:

An Opportunity to De-clutterize Your Life

- “The first step in crafting the life you want is to get rid of everything you don't.” ~Joshua Becker
- “Clutter is the physical manifestation of unmade decisions fueled by procrastination.” Christina Scalise
- “The best way to find out what we really need is to get rid of what we don't.” ~Marie Kondō
- “Clutter is symptomatic of delayed decision making.” ~Cynthia Kyriazis
- “Clear your stuff. Clear your mind.” ~Eric M. Riddle
- “If someone doesn't live with you, neither should their stuff.” ~Monika Kristofferson

