

October 2017

Buffalo United Methodist Church



Our Hearts Were Full

by Bishop Laurie Haller

[Bishop's Haller September 25 blog posting describes her long-time association with Bishop Judy Craig, one of the first women to become a UMC bishop. Bishop Haller describes a recent meeting with Bishop Craig when the discussion turned to the Commission on a Way Forward and its effort to find a compromise which will avert the possible fragmentation of the United Methodist Church. The complete blog posting is available at www.lauriehaller.org.]

Lamenting the divisions in the denomination that she loves so deeply and has served so faithfully, Bishop Craig said, *"What must poor John Wesley think about the state of the church today? He was not concerned about opinions but about whether our hearts were right with God and each other. Would he say, 'Oh, my sons and daughters, what are you doing?'"* I had to hold back the tears.

Bishop Craig knows that this is a seminal moment in The United Methodist Church and expressed grief that our differences center around what she called "human theology." *"God made us as these wonderful sexual beings, and now we're afraid of it. And now we are going to wreck the church over this."*

Then Bishop Craig challenged us. *"What is your hope level?"* Our College of Bishops reflects

the diversity of The United Methodist Church, yet we were united in our expressions of hope for the church. We see hope in dying churches that choose to live by adapting and reaching out to the needs of their communities. We see hope in United Methodists who seek out those with whom they disagree and dialogue in love. We see hope in vibrant congregations that choose to grow by starting new worshipping communities and reaching new people for Christ. We see hope in the vibrant faith and joyful worship of our Central Conference churches.

We see hope in United Methodists who continually seek to deepen their own spiritual lives and engage others with grace, not judgment. We see hope when people join together in mission relief for Hurricanes Harvey and Irma, wildfires in the western US, and earthquakes in Mexico—and no one asks what "side" they are on. We see hope when congregations create a culture of call that inspires children, teenagers, and young adults as well as second career persons to say, "Here I am, Lord. Send me." We see hope in ordinary people, rising up to say, "Because we love Jesus, we stand together in loving all of God's one-of-a-kind creatures."

Bishop Craig shared with the women bishops about her own election and consecration in 1984 in Duluth, Minnesota. She was finally elected on the 47th ballot, well into Friday night. . . . Bishop Craig reminded us that her first cabinet was all male. When she discovered that the district superintendents were occasionally engaging in “decision-making” in the men’s room, she did not hesitate to stand outside the door until they came out! . . .

At the end of our time together, Bishop Craig emphasized that there is room for everyone in Christ’s church. God calls us to get on our knees and ask for the Holy Spirit and then spend our energy praying, teaching, mentoring, and embodying love for all rather than focusing on differences. Again, she said, *“What is going on in our church today will not be solved by politics. The real issue is our hearts, not our opinions. I see an uprising. The church is of God and will endure to the end of time.”*

As Bishop Craig reminded us, what might The United Methodist Church look like if there were room for everyone? What might happen if we recognize that God claims each one of us and still has work for us to do? And how might we reclaim, along with Bishop Craig, the mystery of connectedness, that in the midst of our diversity, there remains a belonging? Thank you, Bishop Craig, for your wisdom, encouragement, joy, and prayers. Our hearts are still full.



United Methodist Women

At 9:30 am on Thursday, October 19, the UMW will meet for a brief business meeting and a lesson (plus treats) provided by Pastor Kathryn. Everyone is welcome.

Bazaar and Soup Luncheon

Date: Saturday, October 14, 2017

Time: 8:00 am to 3:00 pm

Menu: Homemade chili or chicken noodle soup, ham sandwich, cinnamon roll, beverages

Adults: \$7.00 Children 6-12: \$2.50

Children 5 & under: FREE

Bazaar Items:

- Bake Sale, Crafts, and White Elephant Treasures
- RADA Knives
- Soaps by SHA
- Handmade Earrings
- Cards by Nancy

Tables to rent for \$25.

October is the perfect time for removing clutter from your home and donating them to the Buffalo White Elephant Shop. Small household items, craft creations, baked goods, and holiday décor are appreciated--but no clothing. If you have items to pick up, you can call Chris Gochenouer (363-5000).

If you are able to help on Saturday, the 14th, please contact Marlene Himes or Barb Crawford. The luncheon hours are a critical time when many hands are essential. We will also be making noodles, so contact Marlene Himes if you can help with that project.



Golden Age Potluck

We will gather on Thursday, October 12, 11:30 am for fellowship and good food! Bring a friend(s) and a dish to share--place settings and beverages are provided.

Garfield Projects

The backpack program at Garfield School is not yet underway, but we will soon be delivering bags of food once a week throughout the school year. We will have some new procedures to follow. We cannot use recycled plastic bags so we will be purchasing new bags.

Although there is no Halloween celebration at school, we would like to give each child a treat bag. Donations of wrapped candies, pencils, erasers, or stickers would be greatly appreciated. Please bring items to church by Sunday, October 22. By the first week in October we should know the number of children receiving these treat bags.

We will continue to pop corn once a month at Garfield. The students can buy a bag of popcorn for 50 cents. The proceeds are sent to HACAP for the backpack program; last year we donated \$602. If you would like to help, contact Marlene Himes or Barb Crawford.

The health office at Garfield School is in need of the following items:

- Girl's underwear, sizes 4 to 6
- Boy's and girl's shoes, any size or style
- Boy's athletic or jogging pants, small adult or youth size, 14 to 18.

Used items are acceptable if the items are in excellent shape. There will be a collection box in the back of the sanctuary.

September Administrative Board Meeting Report

The Board meeting covered many diverse topics:

- The bioretention cells installation has been delayed but their installation is now scheduled for late September or early October.
- Tom Ferguson has organized the tools in the shed.
- Bids were obtained for trimming and/or removal of several trees on the church property. Price estimates were as follows:
 - (1) Trimming the large red oak (\$500)
 - (2) Removal of the ash tree at the southwest corner of the church property (\$875).
 - (3) Removal of several large limbs on the mulberry tree next to the shed (\$250)
 - (4) Removal of a tree of heaven (\$250).
 - (5) Removal of cedar at the northeast corner of the church building (\$250)

The Board decided to give top priority to trimming the red oak but delayed a final decision until after the bill for the parking lot and bioretention cells has been paid.

- Pastor Kathryn and Bob Marrs have met to discuss options for developing a new adult education effort, but no specific proposal is near at hand.
- The Board approved scheduling in November a Taizé Prayer Service that would co-sponsored with the Chaplain's Office at Coe College.
- The exterior of the church will be painted before winter and the arrival of cold weather.

November Newsletter Items: Submit to Bob Marrs
(rmarrs@coe.edu) by Monday, 23 October

2018 Church Officers List Buffalo UMC

Administrative Council Chairperson	Barb Crawford
Recording Secretary	Margie MARRS
Lay Leader	Mary Fredericksen
Worship, Music,& Education	Marlene Himes, Judy Hackney, Margie MARRS
Outreach, Mission & Evangelism	Sheryl Arnett, Faye Reynolds, Chris Gochenouer, Rose Schloss
Church Treasurer	Judy Hackney
Financial Secretary	Chris Gochenouer
Council Members-at-large	Sheryl Arnett, Gloria Clinton, Bob MARRS

Committee Assignments

Board of Trustees (Minimum of 3: Chairperson and two members):

Chairperson: Marlene Himes

Members:	2018	Tom Ferguson	2019	Gary Hackney	2020	_____
		Verna Cartano		Bob MARRS		_____

Pastor-Parish Relations (Minimum of 3)

Chairperson: Judy Hackney

2019 Chris Gochenouer 2020 Gloria Clinton & Bob MARRS

Nominations

Chairperson: Pastor Kathryn Newhall

Members:	2018	Marilyn Carpenter	2019	Nancy Carter	2020	_____
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Memorials: Barb Crawford, Marlene Himes, Judy Hackney, Sheryl Arnett

Communion Steward: Mary Fredericksen (with Verna Cartano and Char Stanford)

Audit Committee: Barb Crawford, Chris Gochenouer, Joyce Hartmann

Conference Lay Delegate: 2018 Bob MARRS

Buffalo Calendar

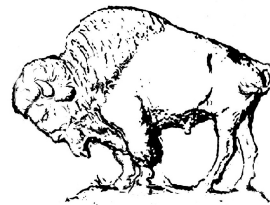
October 2017						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 8:45 am: Wor- ship Service	2	3 Serving Lunch at Mission of Hope	4	5	6 8 am: Popping Corn at Garfield	7
8 8:45 am: Wor- ship Service	9 Columbus Day 9 am: Church Cleaning	10	11	12 11:30 am: Gold- en Age Potluck	13	14 Fall Bazaar (8 am - 3 pm) Fall Supper at Bertram (5-7 pm)
15 8:45 am: Wor- ship Service	16	17	18 4 pm: Admin. Board Mtng	19 9:30 am: UMW	20	21
22 8:45 am: Wor- ship Service	23 Last day for sub- mitting Novem- ber Newsletter items	24	25	26 9:30 am: NOOMA Study	27	28
29 8:45 am: Wor- ship Service 4 pm: Trunk or Treat	30	31 Halloween	Notes: <i>“What is going on in our church today will not be solved by politics. The real issue is our hearts, not our opinions.” ~Bishop Judy Craig</i>			

Birthdays

2 Ada Olmsted
15 Mary Richman
18 Bobby Kelley; Shannon Kelley
19 Beverly Brooks
22 Ivy Seufferlein
26 Gloria Clinton
31 Richard Stanford

Anniversaries

14 Gary & Judy Hackney



Buffalo Calendar Important Dates for 2017

October 6: Popping corn at Garfield (8 am)
October 9: Church cleaning (9 am)
October 14: Fall Bazaar (8 am to 3 pm)
Fall Supper at Bertram Township Hall (5-7 pm)
October 18: Administrative Board Meeting (4 pm)
October 19: UMW (9:30 am)
October 26: NOOMA Study (9:30 am)
October 29: Trunk or Treat (4 to 5 pm)
November 7: City Elections Bake Sale

Buffalo Calendar Important Dates for 2018

Pancake Breakfast: Saturday, April 7 (7-11 am)
Yard Sale: Thursday, June 7 (8 am to 5 pm) and
Friday, June 8 (8 to 12:00 noon)
National Night Out: Tuesday, August 1
Ice Cream Supper: Saturday, August 4 (4 to 7 pm)
Fall Bazaar: Saturday, October 13 (8 am to 3 pm)
Trunk or Treat: Sunday, October 28 (4 to 5 pm)

Taizé Service at Buffalo

On Wednesday evening, November 29, at 7:00 pm, Buffalo UMC and the Chaplain's Office at Coe College are co-sponsoring a Taizé Service at the Buffalo Church. This hour-long prayer service, using music and a worship format developed by the Taizé Brothers community in France, should be an excellent opportunity for our congregation to worship with young people as we enter the Advent Season.

Buffalo United Methodist Church
1000 30th St
Cedar Rapids, IA 52402

