



LOVE THY NEIGHBOR



The Chimes: Our Stories
May & June 2022

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Love Thy Neighbor: In All the Ways You Can...

I love swag! It's one of my favorite aspects of conferences and events, getting the swag. The church recently updated our swag with water bottles, reusable cloth bags, hand sanitizer, stickers, and magnets. You may think, "I'm not using a church water bottle because then I will have to talk about my faith or the church." This is a common response for many, but I would challenge that we are called to be evangelists of our community of faith. If this community is vital and important to you, consider the ways you need to share that hope with the world. A water bottle can be an easy option of expressing your faith.

But, our swag doesn't just have the church logo, it also states Love Thy Neighbor. A simple and succinct message about the life Jesus calls us to live. I recently read an interesting theological article that asked why we needed to make disciples of Jesus Christ. The phrase, go and make disciples, only appears in the Great Commission, which some scholars identify might have some redaction concerns. The theologian continued, the consistent message of Matthew's gospel is, love our neighbor. Jesus loved the disciples, the outcasts, the tax collectors, the sinners, the homeless...all his neighbors.

I personally love our new swag because it is focused on this aspect of loving our neighbor.
Love your neighbor who believes differently than you do.
Love your neighbor who challenges your approach to pandemic philosophies.
Love your neighbor who agrees with you politically, but lets their dog poop on your lawn.

And loving your neighbor isn't just about your "just over-the-fence neighbor or the apartment below you, it is your neighbor you encounter in everyday life.
Love your neighbor who you see at the grocery store.
Love your neighbor who is driving gives you a slight case of road rage.
Love your neighbor who you have nothing in common with, other than you are both are the beloved children of God.

You can find the swag in the Narthex; please consider a donation to the church.

Rev. Eric Strader
Lead Pastor for Worship & Administration

May Worship Overview:

We have no over-arching theme for the month of May. Instead, we are utilizing a process called the lectionary to give us scriptural direction. The lectionary was designed to lead churches through many passages in scripture over a year's time. Reading all the scripture for May it is clear the gospel of John gives us some direction, Jesus is calling us into being the church. Join us to hear this call.

May 1st - Celebrating communion, Youth Sunday, and Third Grade bibles. Elevate leading music.

May 8th - Who is this Messiah and why does he matter? Glory Ringers provides special music.
Lynn Kirtley leading music.

May 15th - Jesus calls us to love one another, but what do we do in an age of Christians behaving badly?
Elevate leading music.

May 22nd - What happens when we let Jesus down? The story of Judas. Elevate leading music.

May 29th - Memorial Sunday. Jesus prays for us, but what is his prayer?
Special musical guest to be announced.

Methodists in the Gallatin Valley Family Camp at Luccock September 2-4

Labor Day is a hard time to find a campsite, come spend it at the beautiful Luccock Park United Methodist Camp. Bring your camper or stay in a cabin. Fun for the whole family. Daily cost for cabin/RV rental and meals TBA once the new camp manager is settled in.

Pre-Registration available at: <https://www.bozemanumc.org/signup/>

Current Small Groups & Service Opportunities

Save the date: The return of summer Grill Nights is right around the corner! Look in the Monday email blast for more info soon! If you would like to host, contact Amy@bozemanumc.org

Summer Hiking Group: Every Wednesday this summer. Hike out. Devotion, prayer time together. Hike back. Schedule of locations coming out soon.

Senior Ministry Book Club:

Book Club will meet May 4, at 10 am, in the fireside room at the Christus Collegium to discuss, "The Cold Millions" by Jess Walter. On June 1, we will meet to discuss "Unsheltered" by Barbara Kingsolver. Both books are available in a Bozeman Public library book club kit. Check with Ann if you need a copy. Newcomers are welcome to join the discussion!

Senior Luncheon:

Our May Luncheon will be held on May 11 and will feature lunch and a program by David Baumbauer on the biology of Bees! Please join us at noon at the Christus Collegium. There will be no Senior Luncheon in June. Instead, please join us for an outdoor BBQ and game night on June 30, 5:30 at the Christus Collegium. Hamburgers and hot dogs will be provided. Please bring your favorite board game and a side or dessert to share.

Dine With Nine:

If you would like to participate in a summer Dine with Nine, [please contact Ann to sign up](#). There will also be another sign up for those wishing to begin meeting in the fall.

Mens Thursday Breakfast In Person & on Zoom

Men's Thursday morning group meets on Thursdays. We'll meet at the church at 7am for breakfast and coffee at Bozeman UMC and will have a Zoom link for those who want to meet online!

Link available at: www.bozemanumc.org/get-connected-online

United Methodist Women (UMW) now United Women in Faith (UWF)

The United Women in Faith (UWF) Noon Luncheon group meets May 26 at Noon at the Christus Collegium or if circumstances require, by Zoom link. Programs or discussion topics will be made available prior to the meeting. RSVP to Martha Hendricks myhendricks@icloud.com or 406-579-4305.

The Miriam Ruth Circle will be meeting on May 18 at 10 am in the Fireside Room. For more information, contact Jan Arnot at (406)873-4725. New members are welcome!

Fork & Spoon Cafe Volunteers

A team of 7 volunteers is needed to serve the evening meal from 4:30-7:30 pm at Fork & Spoon, the community pay-what-you-can cafe on the third Thursday of each month. Sign up here <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0b44a4a722abfd0-fork> Or you can volunteer other days of the week thru the HRDC volunteer portal! www.thehrdc.org/volunteer

Family Promise Welcome Home Baskets Donations Needed

During the month of May, we will be collecting supplies for the new Family Promise Resource Center and for Welcome Home Baskets given to families moving into housing from the shelters. Items needed include: Laundry detergent, dish soap, paper towels, toilet paper, hand soap, kitchen trash bags, Ziploc bags, bath towels, kitchen towels & sponges. Please place donations in the Family Promise laundry basket in the narthex.

Contact Lauri Taylor LHT927@comcast.net for more information.

Ongoing Support for Ukraine

UMCOR IS ON THE GROUND: Support for the people of Ukraine can be sent thru UMCOR's International Disaster Response & Recovery Fund: umcmmission.org/advance-project/982450

100% of your giving goes directly to the Response & Recovery Effort because of our UMCOR Sunday Offerings which cover the administration costs.

You also can donate thru the church offering each week Marked Ukraine UMCOR:

www.bozemanumc.org/giving

TNT Campus Ministry: Loving Our Neighbors thru Missions

By Pastor Alison Skillman

In March, TNT Campus Ministry headed to Santa Ana, California for our annual spring break mission trip. This trip was a little different than others as we really got to connect, interact, and grow in relationship with the people we were serving. Príncipe de la Paz (Prince of Peace) Church is where we served, and we were welcomed with open arms. We got to worship with the congregation and play volleyball. We helped with painting their building and with some of their roofing needs. The Campus Ministry group had the opportunity to spend a lot of time with the youth from the church and develop meaningful relationships. This trip taught the students the importance of community, building relationships, and that we can love our neighbors anywhere and everywhere!



Upcoming Activities for Youth

May 1st: Senior Banquet at BUMC
Seniors & Parents Contact Abbie@bozemanumc.org

May 15th: 5th Grade Fly-up & Last Youth Group

June 19-23: VBS Food Truck Party! We're still looking for Youth Assistants for Vacation Bible School this year! Get signed up at www.bozemanumc.org/vacation-bible-school-2022

June 25-26th: Float Trip! Join us for a join float trip with Great Falls and Billings on the Missouri River! Signups to come.

June 27-30: Youth Week! Give back to your community during a week of fun, service, and faith!

Upcoming: San Francisco Mission Trip
July 30-August 7, [contact Abbie](mailto:Abbie@bozemanumc.org) for more info!

MORE Activities for Children

May 1st: 3rd grade Bible presentation

May 8th: No Sunday school (Mother's day)

May 15th: 5th grade Fly-up! If you're a fifth grader and interested in joining youth group next year, join us for our final youth group of the year to get a taste of the youth group experience! 6:00-7:30pm in the Friendship room!

June 5th: Last Sunday school



This VBS invites children to pray as Jesus teaches us in Matthew 6:11;
"Give us this day our daily bread."

These words serve as a reminder that everything we have comes from God — and that it's by turning to God in prayer that all of our daily needs are met. At the center of the Food Truck Party is a special food truck called "On a Roll."

Kids (or "Chefs") will learn from the food truck's Top Chef, along with DJ Cupcake, about the Daily Specials (Daily Learnings), which are lines from the well-loved prayer that teaches us to turn to God to meet our needs. Join us for loads of fun this summer!

June 19th: VBS Food Truck Party Kick off! Join us for a food truck extravaganza, fun, and games to kick off our exciting week of VBS! More info to come!

June 20-23: VBS Week. If you are in grades Kindergarten - 5th or you'd like to volunteer check out www.bozemanumc.org/vacation-bible-school-2022

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SJAT: Deeply Connecting with Ourselves & Others

By Gloria Zimmer & Allie Zanieri-Hale

Were you sorry to miss the discussion of Brene Brown's new book Atlas of the Heart? If so, here's the good news! By popular demand, we have decided to extend our study of this book further into the year! There is a second chance on Thursday, May 19, at 7:00 pm, probably on Zoom. Watch the Monday BUMC emails for more details. If this time does not work for you or you have questions, contact Gloria Zimmer at gloriazimmer@mcn.net or 406-600-5988. Maybe we could set up a third session if there is enough interest!

Atlas of the Heart is a wonderful book the social justice action team has enjoyed a lot this year. Brene Brown identifies, describes, and presents research on 85 different emotions, in the hopes that her words can help us understand our own emotions, as well as help us connect with others—family, friends, neighbors. Understanding emotions is a crucial stepping stone for us to be able to look out for our brothers and sisters through all the ups and downs life has to offer. Emotions are crucial for change to happen.

United Women in Faith: Embracing Our Neighbors

By Martha Hendricks

Who is my neighbor? People have been asking that question for a really long time. In Luke 10 a follower of Jesus correctly states that "Love your neighbor as yourself" is one of the most important commandments. But, we get a glimpse into his heart when he asks Jesus "And who is my neighbor?" Yes, that is the hard and revealing question because it is human nature to put some limits on the definition of neighbor. It can certainly be that person who lives near you, but even "Dictionary.com" has it right when it says "one's fellow human being." Well, that certainly is a challenge, as it sounds like it means anyone!

United Methodist Women have been helping us to meet that challenge for over 150 years. With the goal to put their love in action on behalf of women, children, and youth, UMW has been the Biblical example of "loving your neighbor." You may have noticed that UMW is now United Women in Faith (UWF). Why change the name? The new name is designed to send the message that all women of any church affiliation or faith tradition are invited. No one is excluded if you want to be part of the challenge.

Through BUWF you may find a way to reach out to your neighbor. A recent example is that BUWF has adopted the Human Resources Department of Bozeman Health as part of a community effort to shower our health care workers with some much needed love and support. Donations of candy, homemade treats and seasonal items will be shared with these hard working neighbors.

We want to embrace each of you as well! Join BUWF at the Family Promise Resource Center, 1603 Tschache Ln. on Friday June 24 at noon for lunch and a "meet and greet." Then, if you are able, a field trip! We will tour the new Family Promise Resource Center and Rising Star Early Learning Center. This is the perfect example of the community working hand in hand to love our neighbors.

Later in the summer, be on the lookout for an ice-cream social as we stay connected and working together.

Meanwhile, in May check out our BUWF circles.

Miriam-Ruth UWF circle invites you to join them for their Wednesday May 18th meeting at 10am in the BUMC Fireside Room. Enjoy refreshments, a welcoming social time, and a scripture based discussion. For information contact Jan Arnot 406-873-4725 or geojanarnot@gmail.com.

Noon Luncheon UWF circle invites you to the Thursday May 26th meeting at the Christus Collegium, 714 S. 8th Ave. from noon-1pm. Although Noon Luncheon generally has a program with a community, service or faith theme, the May 26 meeting will be a kick off the summer social and get-to know-you time with lunch provided. For information contact Martha Hendricks 406-579-4305 or myhendricks@icloud.com.

Both circles will break for the summer and resume meetings in September.



Supporting Our Community thru Family Promise

By Lauri Taylor

Did you know that 1 in 30 children in America experience homelessness? It is happening right here in the Gallatin Valley and the sheer number of families in crisis in our community has risen at an alarming rate this past year. More families are sleeping in tents, RVs, hotels, and tripled up with other families, and even sleeping under the overpass. Each family's journey to homelessness is different, but one thing is certain, it does not discriminate and continues to be one of our nation's most misunderstood social problems. - Excerpted from the 2020-21 Family Promise Impact Report

Family Promise empowers families and engages the community to help families start on a new path to self-sustainability. A nationwide non-profit organization, Family Promise partners with churches and other community groups to help address the issue of family homelessness. BUMC has been actively involved with Family Promise of the Gallatin Valley (FPGV) since it was founded in 2005. Our own Gloria Edwards was their first Executive Director! Until Covid hit in 2020, FPGV used a rotational shelter model where homeless families would be housed at a different church nightly for a week with volunteers providing meals and overnight hosts, while professional staff provided case management at their Day Center on Story St. during the day.

When the Shelter in Place orders came at the beginning of the pandemic, St. James Episcopal let FPGV use their Rectory building as a static shelter for families during the length of their stay in the program, which has typically been about three months. With the increase in families seeking shelter, FPGV also converted the staff offices at the Day Center into another static shelter site. As the need for shelter kept increasing during the pandemic, FPGV partnered with HRDC to rent the top floor of the former Rodeway Inn as an extended stay option for families. They are able to house 12 families there. At the end of 2020, FPGV made the decision to stay with the static shelter model. And thanks to the tireless fundraising efforts by FPGV and the generosity of the community, they recently opened their newly-built Resource Center on Tschache Lane, which houses their new offices, Day Center, and Rising Stars childcare center. Here families will have access to laundry and shower facilities, a full kitchen, computers, and other resources, while FPGV staff provide case management.

BUMC still serves as a host church 3-4 times/year, but our duties have changed with the new static shelter model. Families are learning to budget for and cook their own meals using their SNAP benefits and the Food Bank, so host churches now only provide the evening meal twice per week. We are also given a list of supplemental groceries that the families request during our host week. If you would like to volunteer to provide a meal or buy groceries, our next BUMC host week begins May 15th. Sign up using the link: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0b44a4a722abfd0-bumc1>

We will also be coordinating some item drives for the new Resource Center, as well as offering some other volunteer opportunities such as clean-up days, visiting with families at the Day Center, or helping them move into housing, so watch for more information to come. If you have any questions, please contact Lauri Taylor, LHT927@comcast.net. And to learn more about Family Promise, go to their website: www.familypromisegv.org

Why I am a Stephen Minister

By Betty Merta

Growing up, I was frightened, depressed and self-absorbed. I focused on homework, TV, and wishing... Wishing that I was different, life was different, family was different. You get the idea. So in the summer what did I do with my free time? The same thing only without the homework. I've learned that wishing things were different doesn't solve my problems; I feel worse. What brings me joy and peace is helping someone else. That's one of the reasons why I am a Stephen Minister today.

Stephen Ministers at Bozeman UMC and Living Waters are lay congregation members trained to provide confidential one-to-one care to those experiencing a difficult time in life, such as grief, divorce, job loss, chronic or terminal illness, or relocation. They come from all walks of life, and share a passion for bringing Christ's love and care to people during a time of need. Stephen Ministers listen with compassion and without judgement.

All around us, people are hurting. Their load feels too much for them to bear. Stephen Ministers have said 'Yes' when they felt the call to listen, care, encourage, and provide emotional and spiritual support to the hurting.

Might you be feeling drawn to become a Stephen Minister? Contact Pastor Amy Strader, Bozeman UMC at 406-581-7206 or Shelly Batey, Living Waters UMC at 406-388-6433 to learn more about Stephen Ministry. We will be conducting a 50-hour training program late this summer and space is available!

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Mission: Loving Your Neighbors This Summer

By Vickie Wilkinson

Looking for a great way to LOVE YOUR NEIGHBORS this summer? BUMC Missions exists to help you find a place to love your neighbors. No matter the season...and SUMMER is a great time to start...we have ways to connect in love.

Fork and Spoon Cafe: Montana's only Pay-As-You-Can restaurant. For three special evenings this summer BUMC is providing not only the servers...but also hosting special entertainment! Everyone is invited to dine-in, pay it forward, meet new friends, and have a blast playing games, out smarting your table at trivia or listening to music! Pencil in these dates on your calendar: June 16, July 21 and August 18, 5:30 - 7 pm.

Gallatin Valley Food Bank: Like to garden? Organize? Stock Shelves? Deliver food to kiddos? Or to Seniors who are homebound? The Food Bank has multiple ways you can help and it is so easy to sign-up thru their volunteer portal. Register online at:www.thehrdc.org/volunteer. Or you can join others from BUMC and Living Waters on Senior Packing Day, July 19, 5-7pm.

The Warming Center: Coming August 21 our annual Ice Cream Social returns...with a Missions twist! Methodists in the Valley will be HOSTING the Social of yummy, delicious creamy summer goodness at the Warming Center! All are invited and all are encouraged to come join the festivities, meet new friends, see the excellent work Bozeman Warming Center is doing in our community! Pencil in Sunday afternoon, August 21 3-5pm for this fun event!

Want to help in a personal way? Be part of the upcoming BUMC Clothes Swap! Stay tuned for details.

Have extra time to sew or knit? Or just want to keep an eye out for bargains? We will again be taking donations of hats for the annual HUGGS tree this fall.

We will also need school supplies, Spanish language books, and always... feminine hygiene and personal care products for our young friends at Hays Lodgepole Schools.

BUMC Missions is so appreciative of EVERYTHING you do! Your donations, your volunteer hours, your questions! We are all the hands and feet of God in this world. Here are a few photos from our March Mission Trip to Southern California. Transforming and invigorating a church community is hard and rewarding work. Thank you!



Photos (Right to Left):

1. Margaret Brun & Lauri Taylor prepared food bags for delivery/pickup.
2. Students & Margaret preparing the walls of Iglesia Bautista Principe De Paz in Santa Ana for painting.
3. The BUMC Team (students from MSU, the Bruns, Taylors, Vickie Wilkinson & Phil Merta) prepped & painted the exterior of the church which included working on tall ladders!



**Bozeman United
Methodist Church**
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Photo Gallery: Lent Season 2022

Photos (R to L):

1. Church members from Living Waters UMC & Bozeman UMC gathered for a Maundy Thursday feast under a tent during holy week.
2. Kids and parents open easter eggs at the annual Easter Egg Hunt.
3. Easter Sunday Worship at BUMC was truly a beautiful experience. Thanks to all who made it happen!



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