



July 14, 2023

Reminder: Please have information for the weekly newsletter by 9 am on Monday mornings! Send to office@umcburg.org.

Congratulations to John Culp, Tom Shaw and Cindy Fitterling on receiving the Clarence Bailey Service Award from Survival!



Sri Starts a New Chapter

Sri, our Praise Band director, has accepted a job opportunity with the production company Gateway Studios and Production Services in St. Louis. He completed his master's degree from UCM in Music Technology this May and has found a full-time position that will support him in the next chapter of life. We will miss Sri's music, love for people, and faith. Let's pray for him as he starts the next chapter of life and connects with another United Methodist Church in the St. Louis area.

Finding Joy at UMCburg: Ashley and Dustin Bergman and family

Throughout the past three years our family has found UMCburg to be a place of warm welcome and joy! During the COVID-19 pandemic we started watching online church services.

Watching together at home quickly became an uplifting part of our weekly routine. Our son, Parker, who was a year old at the time, especially enjoyed listening to Alice Coleman's organ music. We now have two children, and recently we have been happy and excited to become more involved in the church community through worship services, Bible study, and children's ministry. Both Madeleine and Parker have had so much fun at VBS and Children's Church this summer making new friends and interacting with members of the congregation. Each Sunday when we ask Parker if he's ready to go to church his answer is always an enthusiastic "YES!"



July 2023 Disciple Giving: Undies Sunday's: John Culp announced at both services this past Sunday that the Undies Sunday benefits the children of the Head Start program (under MVCAA) and the Warrensburg R-VI schools. Sizes needed 4, 6, and 8.

The Disciple Gift Committee is beginning to plan for next year's Disciple Gift recipients and are interested in any recommendations from the congregation. Please send any suggestions to glendagoetz@gmail.com.

August Disciple Giving: Food Center Sign up will start on Sunday July 16, 2023, in the Atrium

Upcoming Events:



United
Women
in Faith

Mission u July 20-22, 2023 Sponsored by United Women in Faith For more information contact: office@umcburg.org or 660-747-8158

Road Trip Opportunity: Please join us for an all-church family trip to see Queen Esther at the Sight & Sound theatres in Branson Missouri. We are planning to take the church bus and leave at 10:30 am on Saturday September 16, 2023, and will return after 8:30 pm that evening. Contact the office 660-747-8158 to reserve tickets by August 2, 2023.

Active in ministry

Preparing for worship:

Join our church family in person on Sundays at 9:30 a.m. or 11:00 a.m. Services are also available online through the church's Facebook page. Click here for the link: [UMCburg FB](#).

*July 16 Fruit of the Spirit: **Faithfulness** Galatians 5: 22-23, Lamentations 3: 22-23*

*July 23 **Mission u Sunday** Fruit of the Spirit: **Love** Galatians 5: 22-23 1 John 4: 7-12*

*July 30 Fruit of the Spirit: **Self Control** Galatians 5:22-23, James 3: 1-5*

Upcoming Sermon Series: "Why I Love Being a United Methodist". The United Methodist movement began over 250 years ago as men and women were inspired by the Holy Spirit to spread scriptural holiness across the world. Millions of people across the globe have come to know the love and forgiveness of Jesus and have gone out in mission as a result. We will be celebrating how this story continues at the First United Methodist Church in Warrensburg **August 13 -September 3, 2023**, with a message series entitled, "**Why I Love Being a United Methodist.**" Please share with us your story about why you love being a United Methodist. Email stories to Pastor Peter at peter@umcбург.org

Small Group Start Up Meeting: Wednesday July 26, 2023, at 6:00 pm.

Sign-up sheets for these small groups will be available starting August 13, 2023.

The Road Forward Committee Update:

The Road Forward team has reviewed the church's many important ministries, missions and priorities. The purpose of the team is to determine how we best maximize our energy and resources to bring the most people to Jesus Christ and move our church forward. The team has discerned the following focal points as the most pertinent to address in the next 12 months -- some improvement actions you'll begin to see immediately.

- Worship experience
- Children's ministries
- Hospitality
- Technology staffing
- Office administrator
- Thank you for your trust and participation as we journey together on our Road Forward. We must make our church better, there's no looking back. All for Christ, John Culp

The next meeting for The Road Forward committee will be Thursday July 13, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. in Room 230.

Children's Ministry Update: Next Listening session meeting Tuesday July 25, 2023, at 5:30 pm in Aldersgate Room.

Next Generation Ministry: Get the WORD Out

It's a great time to celebrate the addition of a new program for the First United Methodist Church children, youth, and families on their journeys as Christians. Our Next Generation Ministry has been granted \$2,500 from Missouri United Methodist Foundation to fund a new program. **Get the WORD Out** is an initiative to further enhance our goals of scripture-based instruction with an understanding and appreciation of God's words and teachings. The **first component** will ensure that the use of common resources for all will build a strong working vocabulary of Christian knowledge and tenants. The **Bible in Hand portion** will provide age-appropriate Bibles directly into the hands of our children, older youth, and volunteer educators to aid all in their journeys as Christians, church members, and church leaders, in addition to, allowing for further at-home family study. Finally, new families with children will be welcomed into the church with the gift of Bibles. Please say a prayer of thanks to the Missouri United Methodist Foundation for their investment in our Next Generation Ministry and for those within the church who worked to make this grant possible and **Get the WORD Out** for our children, youth, and volunteer educators.

First United Methodist Church 141 E. Gay Warrensburg, MO 64093

Rev. Peter Norton Pastor Contact: 660-747-8158 office@umcburg.org