

# News from the



November 2020  
Circuit Rider

The other day I was online and heard Dr. Michael Osterholm, the director of the Center for Infectious Disease Research and Policy at the University of Minnesota, state that "**the next 6 to 12 weeks are going to be the darkest of the entire pandemic.**" I have to be honest, my heart sank a little. It was snowing out as I read the article quoting Dr. Osterholm. I was also being the online support staff for my two kids going through distance learning. I was having some technical issues with getting my sermon posted and for some reason, our church's phone service was not allowing me to upload my message. I'm trying to keep the house up while my wife is full-time teaching onsite and finishing up her Master's degree as a full-time student. My dad was put into the hospital (pancreatitis) for a few days and no one from the family can even go up and visit him. Plus our family has decided to not gather at all for Thanksgiving or Christmas this year. Needless to say, when I watched them read Dr. Osterholm's comments about the pandemic I was feeling sorry for myself and more than a little tired of this Pandemic. But, then I began to realize that I still have so much to be thankful for! I have a roof over my head and food in my pantry, my kids are safe and their teachers are doing their best to educate them. Though I can not see my dad in the hospital I can call him and talk with him, and I get to spend a lot of time with my family these days. And the church... the church is still a church, my faith is still able to grow, and I am still able to love God and Neighbor as I am the Heart of the Brooklyns. Everyone, even though we are about to go through some of the darkest weeks of this pandemic I encourage you to do the following:

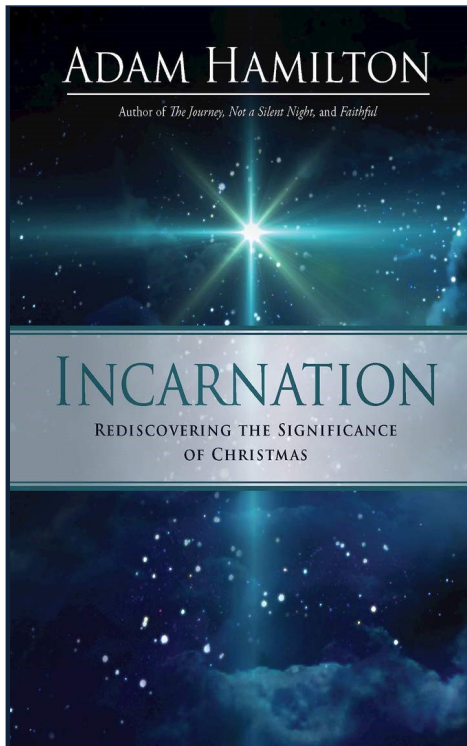
- \*Wear a Mask \*Be socially distant \*Wash your hands \*Get a flu shot \*Stay at home as much as possible \*Clean the surfaces around you often \*Get some fresh air \*Be the Heart of the Brooklyns within your Covid circle \*Worship: Digitally or through our phone service is best, in-person if you are healthy and have not been in contact with anyone who has been exposed to Covid-19.
- \*Give a portion of what God has made possible to the ministry of BUMC \*Limit your in-person contacts as much as possible \*Make two phone calls a day with someone from BUMC \*Talk with distant family members once a day \*Shut off the news when it is stressing you out and read some scripture instead
  - \* Practice our Faith5 every day—share, read, talk, pray and bless your way each day
  - \* Pray our new Breakthrough Prayer daily \*Check on a neighbor
  - \* Deliver a food pantry box to a neighbor if needed

Though Dr. Osterholm's comments are hard to hear and we all wish it were not true, we have a few weeks that are going to be hard. Remember Christ is with us always...always! Be safe, keep others safe and we will experience the Light of God breaking into our lives.

Pastor Rich



BROOKLYN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
7200 BROOKLYN BLVD., BROOKLYN CENTER, MN 55429



Order a copy of **Incarnation** by Adam Hamilton from your favorite book seller (Cokesbury) or download a copy to your e-reader. We will be taking a look at **Incarnation : Rediscovering the Significance of Christmas** this Advent.

Our Pastors will not only be preaching on the themes of Incarnation but leading an online Advent Study of the book. So order today if you would like to partake in the studies.

Sunday, Nov. 29th: Presidents and Kings

Sunday, Dec. 6th: The Savior and Our Need for Saving

Sunday, Dec. 13th: Emmanuel in the Midst of a Pandemic

Sunday, Dec. 20th: The Light of the World

Together, let's rediscover the significance of Christmas



## Thanksgiving Day

Thanksgiving is going to look very different for so many of us this year, especially at BUMC. Due to the Pandemic our United Methodist Men will not be serving their meal for seniors and many will not be traveling or having guests over. But that does not mean we do not give thanks.

### Thanksgiving Day, Nov. 26th at 10am

Pastor Rich will be on Facebook Live to call us into a few minutes of thankfulness. He will also record a message on our phone service, (877 447 2862) so expect a call at 10am Thanksgiving Day.

And Linda, our Children and Families Ministry Director, will also post to Facebook some ways for our families to give thanks.

But on that day, we are asking every BUMC member and friend to plan on taking a plate of food to a neighbor or family. It will take some preparation on your part by letting a neighbor know that you will bring a "Thanksgiving Feast" over to them (complete with dessert by the way) and bring some joy to their lives.

And to some of our members and friends, if you would like a meal brought to you that day, let us know ASAP and we will arrange for someone to share a Thanksgiving plate with you. Remember, pandemic or not, we will take some time and give thanks to our God. See you Thanksgiving Day on screen or by phone at 10am.

## BUMC CHILDREN'S MINISTRY NEWS

Linda Browning, Director

As I watch the snow fall--  
again--and work from  
home due to COVID-19,  
I am staying warm and

positive because of all the exciting plans BUMC has  
for our children and families.

Because CDC guidelines recommend small family  
groups only for the upcoming holidays, how can  
they be more fun? Well, for Thanksgiving, we're  
working on a way to get ideas for activities and  
games to families. Also, organizing a safe, no  
contact service project for families. Maybe some  
sweet potato pie!

After Thanksgiving, on Sunday, November 22nd,  
there will be Advent candles and holders available at  
all services with the remainder being mailed out to  
arrive before Sunday, November 29th. Family  
Advent calendars or kits will go with them. If you  
have any ideas on how to do a virtual children's  
Christmas program let Linda know. Maybe we'll  
have a special Christmas story read on Christmas  
Eve or Christmas Day on Facebook live?

There are worship bags (with a treat) for kids at all  
services on Sundays. F@ith@home for Families  
continues Sundays and Wednesdays at 6 PM on  
Facebook. Look for updates there, in emails and in  
your mailbox!

### Would you like HOLY communion?

We will be offering a brief liturgy for Holy  
Communion via the same phone service that  
provides our Sunday morning worship.  
They will be available on the 1st Wednesday  
of each month, beginning WEDNESDAY,  
NOVEMBER 4 @ 10:00 am.

Just call (877) 447-2862 to subscribe to our  
"Worship by Phone" service (if you haven't  
already) and contact Mim to receive  
"Communion-to-  
Go" resource packs  
prior to that time.  
(612) 791-3969 or  
mim@bumc.org.



## Prayers of the People

- ◇ Lewis Logan @ Good Samaritan -  
recovering from surgery
- ◇ David Steiskal - settling into Autumn Glen  
Senior Center in Coon Rapids
- ◇ Howie Baird @ home - Stage 4 Leukemia  
and ongoing infection
- ◇ Jim & Karen Hoffner's daughter, Jenny,  
moving through Chemo treatment
- ◇ Sherry Lindner - ongoing pain & arthritis  
in her shoulder & legs.
- ◇ Mark, Mim's husband - awaiting rotator  
cuff surgery on Oct 30



## Christmas Shoeboxes

We will once again be collecting assembled shoeboxes for Spirit Lake Ministry in North Dakota. Mark your boxes with "girl" or "boy" and roughly what you think the appropriate age is. Please do not include oils, lotions or anything that can freeze. Candy can be included along with other suggestions of winter wear, socks, footies, masks, t-shirts, sanitizing gel. Be sure that the cover is removable. Bring the boxes to church and place them in the hallway by the elevator on the main floor. Donations will be collected through Nov. 20th.



**Change4Change** for the weeks ahead looks like:

November 1, 8, 15 - Christmas Shoeboxes;  
22 & 29 - Feed My Starving Children

December - Heifer Project & GIPO

Are you missing the Upper Room? If you'd like to have one mailed to you, please email [admin@bumc.org](mailto:admin@bumc.org) and let Mindy know which issue you'd like. They are available to pick up in either literature rack M-F from 10-5 or on Sunday mornings.



## A Request from Brooklyn United Methodist Women

If this were an ordinary year – and we are all very much aware that 2020 is anything but an ordinary year – members of Brooklyn United Methodist Women would be busy getting ready for the annual Bazaar. The Bazaar has been happening here at BUMC for over 40 years. It has been an event showcasing many crafters and local small businesses, as well as a wonderful way for the women of the Brooklyns to spend the day with friends while the men in their lives enjoyed the first day of hunting. But that is only one aspect of the Bazaar. Most importantly, it has been the major fundraiser supplying BUMW with the money needed to support mission giving that benefits women and children locally, nationally and around the world.

This is not an ordinary year and so BUMW is asking for your extraordinary help. BUMW is requesting donations which will be used to fund the support given to mission projects such as Emma Norton Services, Garden City Elementary, CEAP, Avenues for Youth, and Feed My Starving Children to name just a few. Donations in any amount are welcomed, but anyone giving a donation of \$25.00 or more will receive a "Thank You Gift". The gift bag contains a unique cookbook, a handmade dish cloth, a holiday themed face mask and 5 handmade cards. Pick up or delivery of each gift bag will be arranged with the donor.

Donations can be mailed to Brooklyn United Methodist Women in care of the church office. Checks should be made payable to **BUMW** with a notation in the memo line stating "**Bazaar**". Please be sure to include a phone number so arrangements can be made for delivery of your "Thank You Gift."

United Methodist Women has a 150+ year tradition of giving to missions benefitting women, children and youth. Through your generous donations this tradition will continue to go on even during a pandemic.

## HELP SUPPORT OUR MINISTRIES

You can give to both our General Budget or Change4Change online through:

- 1) our website - [bumc.org](http://bumc.org) (clicking link takes you directly there)
- 2) download **Church by MinistryOne** on your smart phone and search for Brooklyn UMC
- 3) text "give" to 651-240-2862 (BUMC)

Mail an offering (checks only please) to:  
**Brooklyn UMC, 7200 Brooklyn Blvd.  
Brooklyn Center MN 55429**

