

From the Pastor...

Why Christian?

A conference I attended in late September had a dozen or so speakers talk about why they were Christian. In a land that is becoming increasingly indifferent to the message and belief system of Christianity, why do they still cling to the belief that Jesus Christ is Lord of their life and the understanding that worshipping the Creator of the Universe is still relevant and meaningful?

I heard many answers at this conference about why they cling to the truth told in the Gospel. One speaker, Rev. Tiffany Thomas from Charlotte, North Carolina, talked about her congregation and the challenges they face every day, but then Sunday comes and there's a choir filled with addicts and the homeless, but despite all the hardships they face they can sing out in praise to God. "Because they believe it, they make me believe it," she said. She also said you don't have to walk in the door of a church to find grace, But if there's one place you can almost always find it, it's the church. She posts her thoughts regularly on a blog, because, she said, "It's important for me to have a voice that 'sells' Christianity in a different light than the ones screaming."

Rev. Lydia Scott, pastor of a church in Brooklyn, New York, talked about growing up playing trombone and wanting to play professionally. She loved playing her trombone and she got lost in the playing. But one day, when she was told one too many times that girls don't play trombone, when she was approached, while practicing, by her band teacher who put his foot on hers to stop the tapping and pinned her shoulders to the wall to stop the swaying, he effectively silenced her song. She said, "It's not being good at something that makes me worthy. It's that I am a child of God. You may have been told that there is something wrong with your song. Your hair is too curly, your skin is too dark...you may have been told your voice is too much, too loud, too baritone. I'm here to tell you, you were told wrong. There is nothing wrong with your voice. There is nothing wrong with your song."

Why Christian? Each one of our answers will be different. Here's mine: I am a Christian because that is the only place I am consistently told I am valuable, I am beautiful, I am beloved. The church is the place that has so many of the people that I enjoy associating with, that I need to keep me in balance and realize that my life isn't all about me. The Christian faith, the following of Jesus, is the only way I can consistently remember and be reminded that I am beloved and everyone else is too. I get so much from worshipping God, from having that relationship, that I can't imagine life without it, without loving and being loved by the Creator of the Universe who cares about little ol' me.

I would rather spend a lifetime worshipping God with other sinners and saints and find out, in the end, that I was wrong, rather than not worship God and find out that I was right, that God didn't exist. It's a pursuit I'm willing to risk, for the sake of the good news.

~Pastor Holly

Guest Speaker, October 11

Sunday, October 11, Tammy (Metcalf) Filzen will be our guest speaker during worship. She will talk about her ministry called Whispers of Hope, which is a Christ-centered facility designed to help women heal from past hurts such as physical, emotional, and sexual abuse, self-harm, depression and un-planned pregnancy. Whispers of Hope is a licensed Board and Lodge located on a farm outside of Northfield, Minnesota. On Sunday, October 11 we will also be receiving a free will offering to support the work of Whispers of Hope.

All Saints' Sunday

Sunday, November 1, during worship we will be remembering those we have lost to death in the past year. As we participate in this time of remembrance we will invite any who wish to come forward, tell the congregation for whom they are lighting a candle, and then that person will light a candle. Please invite to this worship service any you know who might appreciate being a part of this time of remembrance.

"Always be ready to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you."

-1 Peter 3:15

October Celebrations

Birthdays

10-01 Alex Boettcher
10-06 Nathan Aastuen
Zachary Pampusch
10-07 Shirley Johnson
Zana Juberigan
10-09 Connie Warneke
10-10 Sandy Boyer
10-11 Don Metcalf
Jennifer Muellner

10-16 Tom Warneke
10-18 Allie Boettcher
Gordy Pietruszewski
10-19 Nicki Anderson
Bud Johnson
10-20 Angie Mueller
10-24 Aayden Anderson
10-25 Joyce Metcalf

10-28 Carrie Myers
Abby Thomson
10-31 Amanda Johnson

Anniversaries

10-02 Craig & Jane Rylander
10-05 Steve & Cyndi Turbeville

*If you do not see your special date listed, please let Michelle in the office know!



Kids from one to one hundred enjoyed the pie!



Our own Pastor Holly belts out a tune with the Guitar Guys.



Whoever said, "Too many cooks spoil the broth" was mistaken!

Stagecoach Days Recap

The Stagecoach Days Celebration was a HUGE success!

Last year the day was cold & cloudy but God blessed us by holding the rain until our events were finished!

This year the day was almost too beautiful to believe, thank you, dear God.

Many thanks to everyone who participated in providing the Booya ingredients & labor, pies, music, supplies, cleaning, set-up, but most of all the LOVE you showered on our friends and neighbors by serving them. God calls us to love, love, love & so many of you gave your Saturday to do so. We served about 750 slices of pie and collected over \$600 to be used for one of our local mission projects. Congratulations, good & faithful servants! Well done.



Many hands make light work!

"For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways," declares the Lord. -Is. 55:8 NIV

New Pathways Hosting

Starting Sunday, October 18th through Sunday, October 25th, we will be hosting several homeless families through our partnership with New Pathways. This is a valuable ministry of our congregation who, in partnership with several other churches and organizations in the area, hosts several homeless families a week at a time. We host families approximately two times a year. We can use help with a variety of tasks, from setting up the church to cleaning up the church, from providing a dinner one evening to being a part of the hosting crew for an evening. We also need people to be overnight hosts each night we have our guests. Please look for the signup sheet in the entryway of the church or contact the office to volunteer.

Visit Our New Website!

Our new website is up and running and it is beautiful! Thanks to Kristine Cotterman of Exodus Design who helped us launch this website and get all the information up to date. There are still a few pages that need to have information put on them and Michelle, our secretary, will then be trained on how to update our website regularly. If you haven't taken the time to take a look be sure and do that soon:

www.wyomingunitedmethodist.org

Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ. -Gal. 6:2 NIV

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Senior Game Day

You are invited to join in the fun with us for Senior Game Day on Thursday, October 1st from 1-3pm in the church fellowship hall. This is a fun afternoon—we play cards and other games, have a snack, talk and laugh! Watch your calendars as this group sometimes moves to the second Thursday of the month.

Thursday Women's Bible Study

The Thursday evening Women's Bible Study will begin this Thursday, October 1 at 6:45pm. We will be doing another Beth Moore Study, this time on Esther: It's Tough Being a Woman. Beth shares a video lesson and then students have 'homework' to complete on their own the following week. Several women aren't able to make our first meeting, so pick up a book and join us when you're in town!

Confirmation Classes Begin Sunday

Confirmation classes will begin Sunday, October 4 with any kids who are ready to explore their faith and learn for themselves what it means to be a Christian. Usually confirmation kids participate in this two year program in 7th and 8th grades, but any youth in 6th grade and above is welcome to join. We meet twice a month immediately following worship. Please talk to Pastor Holly if you have any questions or want to sign up your child or grandchild.

Sweatin' Sweeties Resumes!

Sweatin' Sweeties will begin on October 6th at 1:00pm and meet every Tuesday and Friday from then on. We will begin a new video by Miranda Esmonde-White which is a stretching exercise for anyone from 9 to 90. There will be a small, one-time fee to cover the cost. Please join us! Contact Karen K. at 651-462-4979 with any questions.

Fall Turkey Dinner

Our Annual Fall Turkey Dinner is this Saturday, October 3 from 4-7pm. We need all kinds of helpers from food makers to wait staff to set up and clean up. Please contact Gordy Pietruszewski if you haven't yet signed up to help. Also be sure and invite your friends and neighbors to come and enjoy this wonderful dinner that is a gift to the community. All proceeds go to benefit The Refuge and the Lakes Area Youth Service Bureau.



Worship Services in October

On the first Sunday of October we finish up our series on Finding Home and how we can find God, our true home, in everyday living. The middle two Sundays we have guest speakers, one (Tammy Filzen) is from Whispers of Hope, the other is our own Mike Harwell! Beginning in October and for three weeks in November, we will have a series called Free! which explores how we can spend our time and money on what matters most.

Sunday, October 4:

Finding Home:
Getting Lost
Genesis 12:1-9

Sunday, October 11:

God is Plan A... and We Don't Have a Plan B
Guest Preacher,
Tammy Filzen

Sunday, October 18:

There Are Still Ten Commandments
Exodus 20:1-17 and
Matthew 22:34-40
Guest Preacher,
Mike Harwell

Sunday, October 25:

Free! Created for a Purpose
Matthew 5:13-16