

From the Pastor...

Open hearts, open minds, open doors... it's the national United Methodist Church motto. On the Re-Think Church website (which is a United Methodist website), it says: "We think church is more than a place to go. We think church can happen anywhere. Church can happen when we:

- 1) Open our hearts: We believe that living a life inspired by God's love compels us to offer help, hope, and healing to those looking for more meaning in their lives.
- 2) Open our minds: We believe that grace is available to all people, no matter where you're from, what you look like, or who you love.
- 3) Open our doors: We believe in welcoming others into our lives, but also in taking action outside the walls of the church to serve our neighbors, next door and around the world."

John Wesley and the early Methodists emphasized Christian living, putting faith and love into action. This emphasis, what Wesley referred to as "practical divinity" has continued to be a hallmark of the United Methodist Church today.

As we celebrate our growth with 13 new members joining in April and a total of 8 youth and children baptized since the beginning of the year (January-May), we are overjoyed that these people are making a public commitment to Christ in the context of Wyoming United Methodist Church and thrilled to be in partnership in ministry with them.

But we also need to remember how many more people in the area are seeking a nurturing environment in which to grow their faith. Some of them are raising children and looking for a place to help reinforce the value of doing unto others as you would have them do unto you. Some are dealing with a recent loss of a life partner through death or divorce. Some are facing a health crisis. We can never stop letting people know that God's love is for them, too, and that we are here as a faith community to walk beside them on their faith journey.

Years ago we sang in our churches the praise chorus called 'People Need the Lord.' There is a God-shaped hole in each and every one of us, a hole that only God can fill.

People need to know that God loves them no matter what, that we love them no matter what. As a congregation of the United Methodist Church we are called to share the good news of God's love with everyone. People need the Lord.

With joy,
Pastor Holly

Celebrations in May

	Birthdays
5-05	Jeremy S.
5-07	Alex R.
5-08	Taylor M.
	Ersileen M.
5-16	Kyle R.
	Mava K.
5-19	Holly K.
	Carole A.
5-25	Gary G.
	Julie R.
	Cathy W.
5-26	Jenna W.
5-27	Ed K.
5-29	Peyton T.
5-30	Fran F.
	Lucy K.
5-31	Larry M.

Anniversaries

5-01	Andy & Shurene E.
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On Sunday, May 29 it will be our joy to welcome through baptism Kyle and Kody Readinger. Their parents, Eric and Julie Readinger joined our church in April.

UMCOR Health Kits

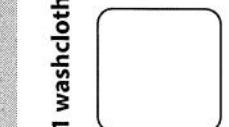
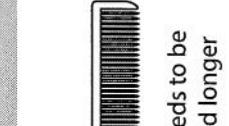
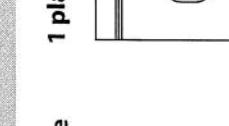
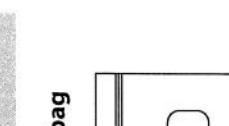
We are gathering materials for UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief) Health Kits which, once assembled, will be sent to their Sager Brown Depot in Baldwin, Louisiana. Health Kits provide basic necessities to people who have been forced to leave their homes because of human conflict or natural disaster. Health Kits are also used as learning tools in personal hygiene, literacy, nutrition and cooking classes. If you are interested in shopping for materials for these kits, please see the materials list (which is very specific in what they do and do not need) on the following page. We have a collection box at church for your donations. One Health Kit costs approximately \$12.

United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR)

Health Kit Materials and Assembly Instructions

As part of the 2016 Love Offering for Missions, the Minnesota Annual Conference hopes to collect at least 10,000 health kits for people around the world who have been forced to leave their homes because of human conflict or natural disaster. Churches and individuals are encouraged to assemble health kits and bring them to the 2016 Annual Conference session, taking place June 21-23 in St. Cloud. The United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) distributes the health kits, which are also used as learning tools in personal hygiene, literacy, nutrition, and cooking classes.

Materials*:

1 hand towel		1 washcloth		1 comb		1 metal nail file or clipper		1 bath-size soap		1 toothbrush		6 adhesive bandages		1 plastic bag	

*Each health kit requires \$1 for toothpaste (to be purchased by UMCOR in bulk just before shipping so that the product doesn't expire before it's sent), and the kits must be shipped to a distribution center. Both of these costs will come out of the 10 percent of the Love Offering that's dedicated to health kits. Please give generously to ensure that there's adequate funding to pay for the toothpaste and shipping for each health kit collected.

Assembly Instructions:

Lay out the hand towel flat on a table. Lay the washcloth flat in the center of the hand towel. Place all remaining items on top of the washcloth. Fold over the sides of the hand towel to cover all of the items. Fold over one end of the hand towel so that it covers all of the hand towel tightly. Place the tightly rolled bundle in the plastic bag. Remove as much air as possible and seal the bag.

Important Notes:

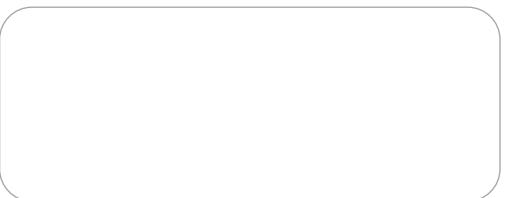
- All items must be new.
- Do not wash any of the items as they will be considered used.
- Please remove all packaging.
- All emergency kits are carefully planned to make them usable in the greatest number of situations. Since strict rules often govern product entry into international countries, it is important that kits contain only the requested items – nothing more.
- DO NOT include any personal notes, money or additional material in the kits. These things must be painstakingly removed and will delay the shipment.



Holy Humor Sunday

The Sunday after Easter, on April 3, we celebrated Holy Humor Sunday, the celebration of the Resurrection Laugh. We had a number of people who remembered to dress up that day and who went all-out with their goofy costumes. All of us were encouraged to wear something that would make someone smile, and many of us did a lot of smiling. Thanks to all who came in costume on Holy Humor Sunday! There are even more funny pictures on our website at www.wyomingunitedmethodist.org/media-photo-gallery/.

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Volunteer Opportunity

Community Helping Hand is a faith-based organization that has been serving people in need in the Forest Lake School District community for over 37 years. We provide financial assistance, food, furniture, clothing and household items. The profit we make from our Thrift Store plus donations from the community help us fund our outreach to the community.

We need volunteers to help in the Thrift Store on a weekly or monthly basis, working 3-6 hours at a time. Our volunteers are the glue that holds everything together. If you can help or would like more information please call Angela at 651-464-0061. Training is provided for all positions.

Be still
and know
that I am
God - Psalm 46:10

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Wyoming United Methodist Church



Wyoming United Methodist Church MESSENGER

May 2016

Worship Services in May

Through the first half of May we continue our celebration of the good news of Easter as we hear the echoes of the resurrection in our lives and in the promises God gives that we can be new every day that we follow in Christ's footsteps.

In the middle of May we begin a series on some of the characters in the Bible that don't seem to be the most stellar examples of humanity, but are still able to do great things for God. God often chooses the ordinary to do something extraordinary. Could it be that God would choose to do something extraordinary through ordinary people like us?

Sunday, May 1st

"Easter Echoes: A Call to Rise"
Acts 9:36-43

Sunday, May 8th

Ascension Sunday/Mother's Day
"Easter Echoes:
We've Got the Power"
Acts 1:1-11

Sunday, May 15th

Pentecost Sunday
"Finding God in All the Wrong People: Isaac"
Genesis 22:15-18;
Genesis 27:30-33

Sunday, May 22nd

"Finding God in All the Wrong People: Rahab"
Matthew 1:1-17

Sunday, May 29th

"Finding God in All the Wrong People: Gideon"
Judges 7:1-8

National Day of Prayer

National Day of Prayer is Thursday, May 5. On that day and the days leading up to it, the Lakes Area Body of Christ is hosting prayer walking opportunities throughout the community. You are invited to join people of all ages and all Christian denominations in saturating our community with prayer.

Prayer events:

- May 1: Prayer Walking and Fellowship Meal
Forest Hills United Methodist Church, Forest Lake at 4pm
- May 2: Prayer Walking and Prayer Driving
Crossroads Covenant Church, Forest Lake at 6pm
- May 3: Prayer Walking and Prayer Driving
St. Peter's Catholic Church, Forest Lake at 10am
- May 4: Fellowship Meal and Prayer Walking
Hope Lutheran Church, Coon Lake at 5:30pm
- May 5: Prayer Walking at Birchwood Chapel, Forest Lake at 10am
- May 5: Lakes Area Unity Prayer Meeting
Forest Lake American Legion at noon
- May 5: UNITE National Day of Prayer and Worship
Mariucci Arena in Minneapolis at 7pm

For more information go to facebook.com/pray14mn.



Emma Norton

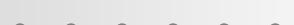
For the month of May we're collecting pocket change for the Emma Norton Shelter. Emma Norton Shelter is a shelter for women and children that also offers chemical dependency and mental illness counseling. A jar will be in our church entryway to collect your coins for this important mission.

With Gratitude

Many thanks to all who participated in the Hosanna Lutheran Feed My Starving Children Mobile Pack on April 2. Our church provided 11 packers who worked to help pack 35,000 meals!



Thanks to all who donated to Native American Ministries Sunday. We collected \$307 for scholarships for Native American seminary students.



Thank you all for every one of your prayers, thoughtful cards, and heartfelt hugs during my Dad's illness and passing. What a blessing you have been!
~Michelle Johnson

Commit your way to the Lord, trust also in Him, and He shall bring it to pass. ~Psalm 37:5