

From the Pastor...

I'm no longer new here. The end of June marks the one year anniversary of my arrival at Wyoming United Methodist Church and what a year it has been!

I have been to my first Stagecoach Days (tasted my first Booyah!), my first Fall Turkey Dinner, my first Family Pathways Hosting, my first Joy Bells/Christmas Tea/Santa's Helpers. These and many other 'firsts' have given me a glimpse of the life of Wyoming United Methodist Church and what our church is all about.

Wyoming United Methodist Church is all about giving. We give away pie, we give away funds raised at our food events, we give pocket change for Emma Norton, take offerings for UMCOR, mission trips, food for kids, the list goes on and on. This is a giving congregation and not just monetarily, but physically and emotionally. We give hugs to one another, give time to visit, give rides to those who no longer drive, give handyman expertise to those who can't afford to pay us back. If churches were storybooks, we'd be *The Giving Tree* by Shel Silverstein, giving what we have for as long as we can, and backing it all with love.

Wyoming United Methodist Church is all about welcoming the stranger. I observe members of the congregation, time after time, welcoming others with open arms. We welcomed New Pathways Families to our building during Holy Week because what greater privilege can we have than to welcome Christ in the faces of these families during Holy Week? We welcome young children and quietly marvel with them at the beautiful fish in the fish tank. We welcome and sit beside the single person who has mustered the courage to walk through the doors of a place they have never been and enter into an hour long worship commitment with people they've never met before.

Wyoming United Methodist Church is a serving congregation. Each week we serve the needs of approximately 30 children who receive free or reduced cost lunches at their elementary school and need food to help them make it through the weekend. We assemble food packages that help these children come back to school on Monday and not suffer from a stomach ache because they are starving. We serve at Feed My Starving Children, Second Harvest, and serve as we assemble Health Kits for those in need.

I'm no longer new here. I've spent a year serving beside the serving, welcoming, giving people of Wyoming United Methodist Church. And, for me, it has been a great joy.

Thanks be to God!
Pastor Holly

June Celebrations

Birthdays

- 6-01 Ron L.
- 6-03 Lisa R.
- 6-06 Henry S.
- 6-10 Kathy L.
- 6-11 Kristin I.
- 6-13 Diane D.
Russ J.
David W.
- 6-14 Gracie A.
Jan F.
- 6-19 Barb B.
- 6-21 Dave A.
- 6-25 Pastor Holly
- 6-28 June D.
- 6-29 Corrie A.
- 6-30 Marti G.



Anniversaries

- 6-09 Dick & June D.
- 6-10 Bud & Shirley J.
Gordy & Rita P.
- 6-21 Denny & Nancy H.
Tom & Bernie S.
- 6-25 Myron & Bea Z.
- 6-29 Gary & Marti G.

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

Family Pathways Mobile Food Truck

Every third Saturday of the month from 7-11am, Forest Hills United Methodist Church hosts the Family Pathways Mobile Food Truck in their parking lot. Everyone is welcome to participate in the program, though they ask each family to give a \$20 donation to cover the cost of food and services.

They also have a dry food pantry at the church that is open to the public when the church is open.

Forest Hills UMC is located at 1790 11th Street S.E., Forest Lake, MN. Their phone number is 651-464-5249.



Sunday School Wrap Up

For the past 12 weeks our students have been learning Bible lessons with a different cereal each week as inspiration. The main themes have been:

CHEERIOS:

God wants us to share Jesus with everybody just like everybody eats Cheerios.

COCOA PEBBLES:

Jesus can transform our lives just like Cocoa Pebbles changes white milk into chocolate milk.

RICE KRISPIES:

We need to share Jesus with others (make some noise like the snap, crackle & pop).

LUCKY CHARMS:

Don't rely on luck – you have Jesus & he's better.

TRIX:

Christians need the fruit of the spirit in their lives. Trix has artificial flavoring but there's nothing fake about lives full of the fruit of the spirit.

CINNAMON TOAST CRUNCH:

Sometimes we have to give up something to obey Jesus. It may be hard to share good things but if we follow Jesus he asks us to share no matter how good something is & how much we want to keep it to ourselves.

APPLE JACKS:

God wants us to grow closer to God. As the cereal brings together the apple & cinnamon perfectly we can pair up with Jesus and do all things.

HONEY NUT CHEERIOS:

Slow down and take some time to get to know Jesus. Spend time with Jesus instead of rushing like busy honey bees.

CAP'N CRUNCH:

Stay faithful to Jesus when others try to talk us out of it. Don't have soggy faith.

WHEATIES:

Being a champion means serving others. Be a champion for God and serve others.

COCOA PUFFS:

Jesus lightens our burdens. Puffs are light and airy. When we follow Jesus he lightens our burdens.

FROSTED FLAKES:

Jesus makes life much sweeter. The cereal looks like corn flakes but when you take a bite, you get the sweetness. Jesus can make your life so much sweeter.

Thanks to all the students who attended & the teachers who led them. We will continue with "Discovery Time" for children throughout the summer during the worship service. It will be a relaxed time of fellowship, games, and crafts.

How sweet your words taste to me; they are sweeter than honey. -Psalm 119:103



Some of our hard-working crew members at Spring Clean-Up. We raked, trimmed, and cleaned up outside as well as cleaned windows and carpets inside.

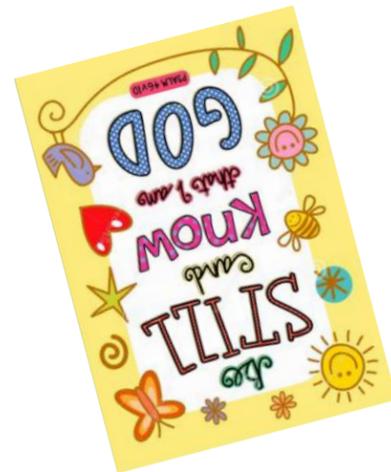
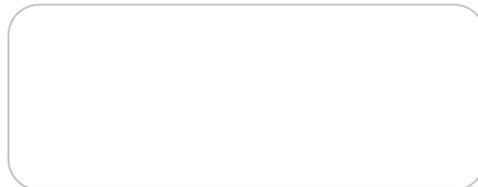
Spring Clean-Up Day

Thanks to all who helped with this year's Spring Clean-Up Day on Saturday, April 30: Lonnie Nelson, David Aastuen, Larry Mueller, Steve Bartsch, Mary Jo Bartsch, Buck Broadbent, Dave Freemore, Jan Freemore, Gary Gustafson, Mike Harwell, Jane Denovchek, Dennis Rodacker, Lisa Rodacker, Ryan Rodacker, Elizabeth Rodacker, Craig Rylander, Pat Rylander, Bernie Sausen, Cathy West, Cindy Turbeville, Don Metcalf, and Holly Aastuen.



David A. finds it an uplifting experience to have his son, Ben, down from Detroit Lakes for a visit.

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 Pastor Holly's email: hollyaastuen@gmail.com • Church email: office.wyomingumc@gmail.com



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UMCOR Health Kits

Thank you to all those who have contributed items or funds for the UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief) Health Kits which will be taken to the Minnesota Annual Conference gathering in St. Cloud at the end of June. We still need your help, so please consider gathering materials as listed in last month's newsletter. The complete list is available in the entryway or by visiting www.umcor.org/UMCOR/Relief-Supplies/Relief-Supply-Kits/Health. All materials for the kits need to be at church by Sunday, June 5. You are invited to come assemble Health Kits on Tuesday, June 14 at 9am. Come and join in the fun and fellowship of assembling Health Kits that will help people in need all around the world!



Jane R. and Jessica S. helped pack 100+ Health Kits at a "packing party" held at White Bear Lake UMC on May 21st.

Worship Services in June

Through the rest of June we continue to look at some of the characters in the Bible that give us an example of what it means to follow God with their whole selves. 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, June 5th:
 "Finding God in All the Wrong People: Martha"
 Luke 10:38-42

Sunday, June 12th:
 Guest Preacher: Mike Harwell
 "Finding God in Our Moral Compass"
 Leviticus 19:13-18

Sunday, June 19th:
 "Finding God in All the Wrong People: Judas"
 John 13:12-30

Sunday, June 26th:
 "Finding God in All the Wrong People: Anna and Simeon"
 Luke 2:21-38

Emma Norton Collection

Remember to drop your pocket change in the jar in the entryway at church to help the Emma Norton women & children's shelter. We've collected \$42 so far, so we have a long way to go to meet last year's collection of \$191. Drop your pocket change in the jar and watch the total increase as we together make a difference in people's lives.

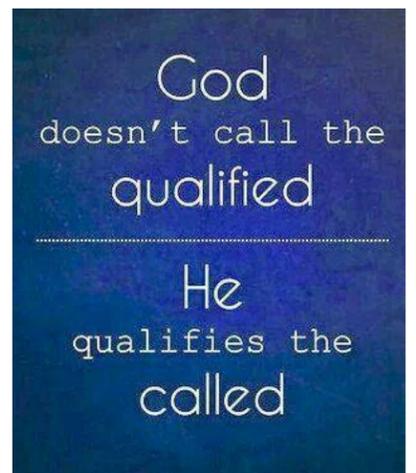


Costa Rica or Bust

Several of us are going to Costa Rica in January of 2017. We still have room for YOU to join this mission team. For more information, talk to Jan & Dave Freemore.

Upcoming Ministry Opportunities

Our next opportunity for hosting New Pathways families is July 24-31. Please mark this week on your calendar and start thinking about how you can be a part of loving your neighbor this summer. Also coming this summer is another week of service to others through A Brush With Kindness (ABWK) ministry. Wyoming Church has been helping with this ministry for several years as we band together with others to bless families with repair work, painting, weeding or roofing of homes that need a little care. The week for this summer's ABWK is August 13-20. You can volunteer for an hour, a day, or the whole week and many jobs, including providing food, are necessary for this to be a meaningful week. Please see the Pioneer Press article on the bulletin board then sign up in the nook where there will also be further information. If you or someone you know needs repair work done, talk to Dave Freemore, Jane Rylander, or any Missions Team member!



God has chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise. -1 Corinthians 1:27