

From the Pastor...

I've been getting into the Pokémon Go craze lately, not because I particularly like the Pokémon game or am particularly good at it, but because it has presented our church with an unusual opportunity.

A large number of people, sometimes as many as a dozen in one day, have been coming through our church parking lot, looking intently at their cell phones, sometimes tapping at their screens, sometimes standing in one place for 10 to 15 minutes as they look at their phone screen. Most of these people are young men in their late teens and early 20s.

They come by car, by bike, by foot to play in the Pokémon Gym which is accessible through their smart phones when they are near our church. I've sometimes had a chance to converse with these people as they've stopped by.

Churches across the nation are either a Pokestop or a Pokémon Gym and they are doing a variety of things to welcome these people, including offering a cup of cold water on a hot day, hosting 'Lure Events' where for 30 minutes multiple Pokémon are attracted to your location for anyone to catch, and posting signs that welcome Pokémon Gamers/Trainers.

My favorite sign seen so far on Social Media was on the sign of Trinity United Methodist Church: "Visit our Pokestop and you can tell your mom you went to church."

Pokémon Go is providing us an opportunity to meet new people from the neighborhood. One woman, who I met by our church fish pond, has been visiting regularly and I've gotten a chance to know her, her boyfriend and her three year old daughter. We know little about each other beyond our names, but I've had a delightful time playing with and talking with the daughter about the fish.

Though Pokémon Go is not on my list of top ten things I love to do, meeting new people is on that list and I hope we can all welcome this vehicle of meeting new people and loving them with the love of Christ.

"Though I am free and belong to no one, I have made myself a slave to everyone, to win as many as possible. To the Jews I became like a Jew, to win the Jews. To those under the law I became like one under the law...so as to win those under the law...To the weak I became weak, to win the weak. I have become all things to all people so that by all possible means I might save some. I do all this for the sake of the gospel, that I may share in its blessings." 1 Corinthians 9:19-23

~Pastor Holly

Discovery Time

Don't forget to bring your children to Discovery Time in August. Children stay in worship until right after Teaching Time (a children's sermon about 10 minutes into the service) and then are dismissed to go experience Discovery Time where the kids and a teacher join together in crafts, fellowship, games and even some outside time if the weather is nice! Bring your children and grandchildren!

School Supply Drive

Now is a great time to buy school supplies at a huge discount at your local store! All of the local school supply stores make deep discounts on their merchandise in August as hundreds of children in the area get ready to go back to school. While you're shopping, stop by the back to school aisle and pick up some supplies to bring to church. We will be sending your supplies with our Costa Rica Mission Team when they leave in January. Boxes ready for your supplies will be in the church narthex/entryway throughout August.

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., in Forest Lake, MN. Their phone number is 651-464-5249.

August Celebrations

Birthdays

8-01	Shirley F.	8-14	John S.
8-02	Shelley B.	8-17	Chris S.
8-04	Hazel N.	8-19	Pam T.
8-05	Kaylin F.	8-21	Jenny W.
8-06	Devantay K.	8-23	Dick D.
	Monique K.	8-27	Rita P.
8-09	Alex I.	8-30	Augustus L.
8-13	Jim L.		Lee P.
	Karyla P.		

Anniversaries

8-04	Erik & Katie N.
8-10	Steve & Mary Jo B.
8-12	Jim & Donna K.
8-14	Paul & Lisa S.
8-25	Dennis & Lisa R.
8-28	Ben & LeAnne P.

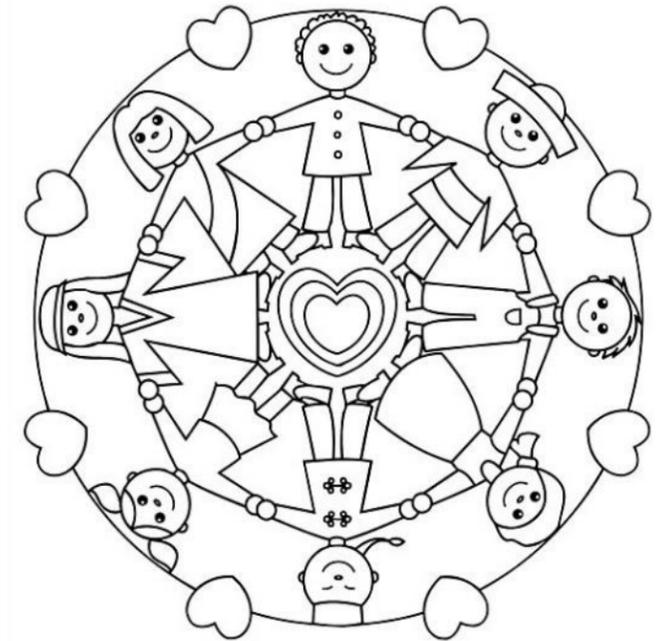


*If you do not see your special date, please let Michelle know!

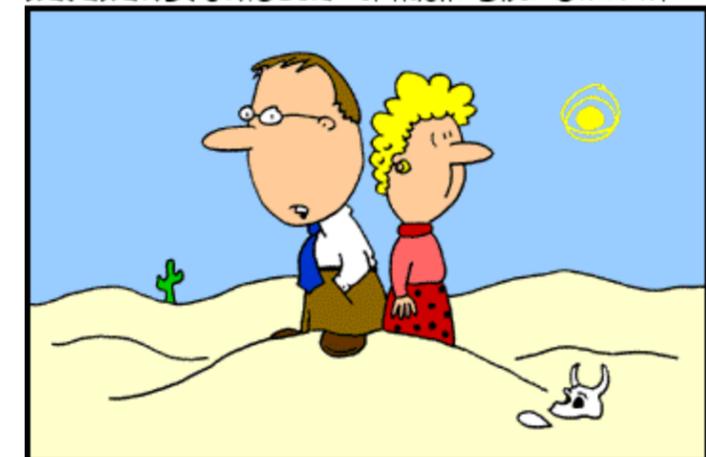
Missions

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 B T J T F A S V I H J L X G W C
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BACKPACK	FOOD	MISSIONARY
BIBLE	GENEROSITY	NATIONS
CHILDREN	GLOBAL	POSTCARDS
CHURCH	HOPE	SCHOOLS
COMPASSION	JESUS	SHARING
DONATIONS	LANGUAGE	TESTIMONY
FAITH	LOVE	WORD



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(See Matthew 28:19) 09-25-1998

WELL WE FINALLY BROUGHT THE GOSPEL TO A PLACE IT HAS NEVER BEEN ... BUT WE SHOULD'VE CHECKED TO SEE IF THERE WERE PEOPLE HERE FIRST

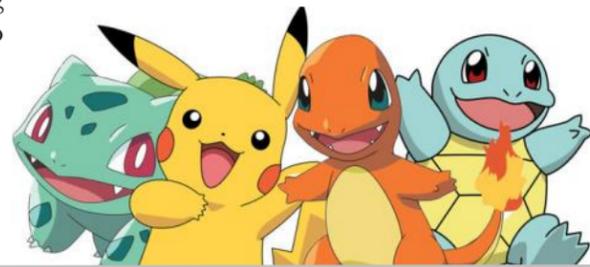
And he said to them, "Go into all the world and proclaim the gospel to the whole creation." -Mark 16:15



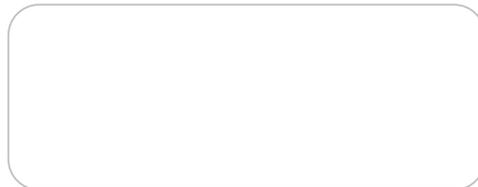
Wyoming UMC is a Pokémon Gym AND a Pokestop!

If you have come into our church in recent days, you may have noticed the signs we posted on the doors, welcoming Pokémon Go players to our building. The signs invite them to visit us again for Sunday morning worship at 10 a.m. At the bottom they say "Jesus Loves Pokémon Players." Pokémon Go is a cultural phenomenon based on the popular video game, coupled with an augmented reality form of geocaching. This smartphone app has attracted dozens of people to our church as they come to our church's Pioneer Church, which is a Pokestop (where they can

collect items that help in their search of Pokémon creatures) and to come to the Pokémon gym housed in our church (where a virtual reality gym is placed in the real church setting. The gym can only be seen on their phones.) Depending on the ages of your children and grandchildren, the news of our church being a Pokestop and a Pokémon Gym may be music to their ears! Though as of this writing none of the Pokémon Gamers has taken us up on the offer to join us for worship, we pray that these signs are spreading good will among the teens and twenty year olds who are frequenting our building. If nothing else, all these people now know how to find our church!



Wyoming UMC • 651-462-5276 • Care Crew North: 651-462-4890 • www.wyomingunitedmethodist.org
Pastor Holly's email: hollyaastuen@gmail.com • Church email: office.wyomingumc@gmail.com



Wyoming United Methodist Church
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Youth Missions

By the time you read this, both our youth missionaries will have returned from their week at mission camp. Allie Boettcher served at STORM Camp (Service to Others in Relational Ministry) in Faribault, Minnesota and Alec Aastuen served at ASP (Appalachia Service Project) in Fentress County, Tennessee. Many thanks to all of you for your support for our youth missionaries! Be sure and come to church on Sunday, August 14 and hear about the adventures at STORM Camp!



Allie Boettcher outside of Fourth Avenue UMC

A Brush With Kindness

A Brush With Kindness (ABWK) is a chance to do local mission work right here in Chisago County. ABWK 2016 is scheduled for Aug. 13-20 (no work done on Sunday, Aug. 14). Families who have work done in their homes financially partner with ABWK to pay for the materials needed to do the work. They have several projects that could use your help, even if you can only give an hour of your time:

- Forest Lake Project: Replace damaged exterior patio doors and a window
- Chisago City Project: Replace damaged siding and paint home
- Lindstrom Project: Replace lower rotted siding, paint house and garage, some landscaping
- Wyoming Project: Stain wheel chair ramps and decks

If you are unable to help with ABWK's work, but would like to make a donation, we will be taking an offering on two Sundays (August 14 & 21) to support ABWK. Mark your offering envelope or check memo 'ABWK.' We also ask for your prayers for the workers and for the families being served.

If you are a first time volunteer with ABWK or want to help with meals, please go to their website at ecmabwk.org (East Central Minnesota A Brush With Kindness) or call ABWK at 651-361-0229. Someone will contact you and help answer any questions you may have.

Emma Norton

Thank you to all who donated to the Emma Norton Women's Shelter by putting your pocket change in the collection jar. We collected \$200, exceeded last year's total of \$191!

New Pathways

Thanks to all who helped us host New Pathways families July 24-31. We couldn't have done it without you! We had many volunteers help with hosting these families who are on the path to finding new homes. Thanks to: Jane & Craig, Linda & Richard, Pat & Alan, Mary Jo & Steve, Jessica S., Denny H., Rita P., Lisa S., Bea Z., Donna K., Karen & Ed, Connie W., Debbie M., Audrey B., Lonnie N., Holly A., Jane D., Alyssa K., Monique K., Pam A., Ruthie, Michelle D., Janet R., Carol A., Chris S., Jan & Dave, Tom S., and anyone else we may have (regretfully) missed!

Worship Services in August

Throughout August we'll hear from a variety of voices, helping us to get better in touch with God's love and what we are called to do as Christians. Come and see!

Sunday, August 7th:

Mike Harwell, guest preacher
"If Faith Was Easy It Wouldn't Be So Darn Hard"
Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-19

Sunday, August 14th:

Annie Harwell, guest speaker
(Plus a report from STORM Camp)
"God as the Ultimate Motivation: My Summer as an Athlete's in Action Intern"
Hebrews 11:29-12:2

Sunday, August 21st:

Linda Richnofsky, guest preacher

Sunday, August 28th:

"Humility not Humidity"
Luke 14:1, 7-14

