

## From the Pastor...

When my parents died a couple of years ago, each of the three kids divided up the tasks involved in taking care of our parents' affairs. One of the tasks I took on was discontinuing all the mailings that they were getting, mostly from organizations to which they were donating.

I began with a list of over one hundred charitable organizations, first mailing back the enclosed postage paid envelopes with a request to take them off the mailing list. That stopped some of the mailings. I then made phone calls and went to websites to request removal. The mail has gone down from a high of a dozen a day to only one mailing a week.

One big motivation for my getting this done was that the election season is coming up and several mailings from political candidates were arriving on an almost daily basis.

I imagine you've begun to get some of those mailings, too, telling you that candidate A is the best person for the job and candidate B is the worst person ever.

Receiving mail from political parties is just one of the intrusions into our world, one of the ways we are influenced by the voices of this world.

What other voices do we listen to?

Sometimes it is the voices that are the loudest that get the most attention. We hear voices on the news that the world is full of tension—tension between races, tension between nations—that all sorts of conflicts and wars are going on around the world.

We hear on the advertisements that we are not good enough the way we are, that we need to improve ourselves and our condition by buying more things, by acquiring bigger and better toys in order to be complete.

We hear the voices of this world speaking to us loudly and clearly. And sometimes our preoccupation with them drowns out God's voice in our lives. It's a still, small voice, but it is a voice that tells you that you are enough, that you are a beloved and valued child of God.

You are a child of the King of Kings. And as children of the King of Kings, we are royalty, we are worthy.

This September as the seasons change and our grandchildren and children head back to school, we kick off the new school season with Kick-Off Sunday, September 11. During worship we will have a Blessing of the Backpacks, Briefcases and Bags (anything you take with you to help you manage at school, at work, at home). Be sure to bring your backpacks, briefcases and bags to worship on that Sunday.

Following worship we'll have a celebratory cake, welcoming our kids back to Sunday School and kicking off the Sunday School theme of Finding Jesus (keying off the theme of the popular Finding Dory movie).

God is still speaking to us—through Sunday School, through worship, through the times in our lives when we listen for that still, small voice. As we begin the fall season let us listen together and celebrate all the good things God is telling us!

~Pastor Holly

## An Invitation

Please consider joining Pastor Holly at the Big Waters District: Change the World Day on Saturday, Sept. 17. You can come for all or part of the day and join in the activities that you would most like to attend. Included in this newsletter is the complete flier for this event, with instructions on how to register.

## New Members

We will soon be welcoming new members to our church. If you would like to become a member of Wyoming Church, please talk to Pastor Holly.

## ABWK Donation

Thank you to everyone who donated to the collection we took for A Brush With Kindness (ABWK). A total of \$995 was collected on those two Sundays (August 14 and 21) and sent to ABWK for materials needed to repair homes for the elderly, ill, or people who have fallen on hard times. ABWK is an offshoot of Habitat for Humanity and does wonderful work making a gigantic difference in the lives of our Chisago County neighbors. Thank you also to the 8 people from Wyoming United Methodist who helped with the work or made lunches! May God bless our work and our donations that help those in need!

## School Supplies

Thanks to everyone for the ton of school supplies you brought in during the month of August. These supplies will be going with our missionary team, led by Dave and Jan Freemore, as they go to Costa Rica in January. These supplies you have given will go to good use by the children of Costa Rica.

## Old Settlers' Picnic

This year our church will host the annual Tri-County Old Settlers' Potluck Picnic at 12:30pm on September 25th. Members of the Wyoming Historical Society will be on hand with historical displays from the area. Please bring a dish to pass. Beverages and dinnerware are provided. For more information, contact Bernie Sausen at 651-462-5369.

## UMCOR Offerings

Floods in Louisiana have impacted over 40,000 homes and the people of Louisiana are just beginning to start the clean-up process. We are going to be taking an offering on two Sundays—September 18 and 25—to help the people of Louisiana recover from this catastrophic disaster. All money collected will go to UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief) U.S. Disaster Response Advance #901670. A video about the circumstances in Louisiana will be shown during worship on September 11. Please prayerfully consider how you want to support these people in need.

## September Celebrations

### Birthdays

9-01	Joshua S.	9-17	Steve W.
9-02	Mary S.	9-26	Jeanne L.
	Keegan S.	9-27	Norma S.
9-03	Denny H.	9-28	Chad W.
9-07	Sharon M.	9-29	Annie H.
9-12	Cyndy J.	9-30	Mike B.
9-14	Bernie S.		
	Lois S.		
	Myron Z.		

### Anniversaries

9-10	Rich & Linda R.
	Dave & Cathy W.
9-17	Don & Joyce M.
9-19	Archie & Kathy L.
9-23	Rick & Kelly K.



## Pie and Booya!

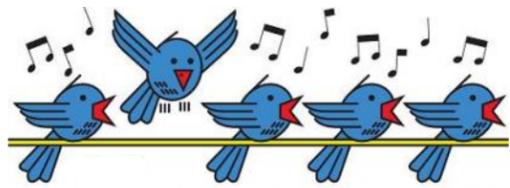
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apple	cheesecake	potatoes
banana	cherry	pumpkin
beans	chicken	rhubarb
beef	chocolate	spices
blueberry	crackers	stock
cabbage	cream	strawberry
carrots	onions	tomatoes
celery	peach	



**Saturday, September 10<sup>th</sup> - 11am-2pm**  
**Stagecoach Days Weekend**

**at Wyoming United Methodist Church**  
5459 E. Viking Blvd. (Behind First State Bank) 651-462-5276



### All Voices Welcome

Starting Wednesday, September 7 at 7pm we will start a new year of choir practice. We meet for an hour, sing in four part harmony, and generally enjoy one another's company. It's an hour you won't want to miss! Come and join the choir and see what you've been missing.

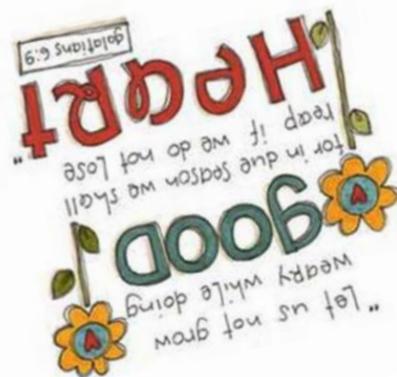
### Save the Date

Our Annual Fall Turkey Dinner will be Saturday, October 15 from 4-7pm. Be sure and invite your friends and neighbors to save the date!

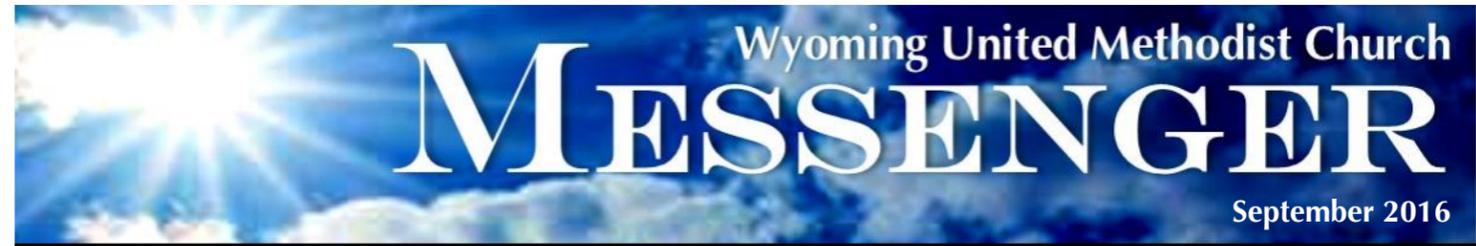
### Relay for Life

The American Cancer Society's Chisago County Relay for Life will be on Saturday, October 8th from 1:30-10pm at the Almelund Threshing Grounds on Hwy. 95 between N. Branch and Taylors Falls. The purpose of the Relay is to fight against cancer and raise money for cancer research, education and services for persons affected by the disease. This year the Relay will have a Fall Festival theme, will be open to the public and will have many fun family and children activities. Families and children can come in their Halloween costumes, come prepared to decorate pumpkins, see police canine dogs and police cars, climb on a fire engine, a car show, ride a hay wagon, bid at a huge silent auction, get a massage or a face painting, participate in a petting zoo and enjoy lots of delicious fall food. Come for lunch or supper. A survivor and caregiver reception starts at 5:30pm and the opening ceremonies will start at 6:30pm. Form a team, volunteer, sign up as a survivor or make a donation at [www.relayforlife.org/chisagoMN](http://www.relayforlife.org/chisagoMN). Contact Jen at 651-255-8142, or Tara at [TRLeivian@gmail.com](mailto:TRLeivian@gmail.com) or Martha at [marthaarnold@me.com](mailto:marthaarnold@me.com).

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



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### Stagecoach Days

Wyoming Stagecoach Days is an annual community event in Wyoming, MN, celebrating Wyoming's history as the first stop on the stagecoach route from Rice Street in St. Paul to Duluth. This year's Stagecoach Days are September 9-11. Our church is once again offering coffee and pie and booya to the community. The donations we receive will all go to missions, but our main purpose is to offer hospitality to the community. We need your pie donations, your booya ingredient donations and your cooking help to make this a success. Please sign up in the nook in the church narthex or talk to Jane R. (about pies) or Gordy P. (about booya).



Our Fellowship Hall was full of guests during last year's Stagecoach Days Pie Extravaganza and Booya.

We serve food starting at 11am Saturday, until 2pm. This year we're showcasing our Sunday School room as we are excited to start this fall's lessons called Finding Jesus (based on the popular Finding Dory movie). Be sure and invite your neighbors and friends to come enjoy the booya, pie and tour the 'underwater' Sunday School room!



### Kick-Off Sunday

Kick-Off Sunday is Sunday, September 11. It's the first day of Sunday School for our children pre-school through 6th grade. Following Teaching Time in worship, they leave worship with their teacher and begin their first session of class called Finding Jesus. Before Teaching Time we will have a blessing of the Backpacks/Briefcases/Bags (including diaper bags). Bring your backpacks etc. to worship on September 11 and we will ask God to bless the backpacks or whatever you take with you to help you manage your work (schoolwork, housework, office work, etc.).

We will also ask God to bless those who use those backpacks etc.

Following worship on Kick-Off Sunday we will have cake and ice cream and coffee and juice to celebrate the first Sunday of the new Sunday School year.

### Confirmation Classes Begin

Starting Sunday, September 18, we will begin confirmation classes 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.

### Worship Services in September

In September we begin a series called Healing a Broken World. In this time of divisive politics and mean-spirited social media posts, what can we as Christians do to help bring healing to all that seeks to bring us harm? We will look at teachings and stories from the Great Teacher and Storyteller, Jesus, as we seek to follow him in our daily lives.

#### Sunday, September 4th:

Healing a Broken World:  
Give Up Everything  
Luke 14:28-33

#### Sunday, September 11th:

Healing a Broken World:  
Seek the Lost  
Luke 15:1-10

#### Sunday, September 18th:

Healing a Broken World:  
Serve God  
Luke 16:1-13

#### Sunday, September 25th:

Healing a Broken World:  
Open Your Heart  
Luke 16:19-31



*Little children, you are of God, and have overcome them; for he who is in you is greater than he who is in the world. -1Jn 4:4*