

From the Pastor...

I love this time of year!

I have so many reasons to love this time of year. One is the change of seasons, with fall being my favorite season, where the leaves turn to golden yellow, orange and red (and let's face it, just outside the windows of our Fellowship Hall are some of the most glorious yellow/orange trees of the whole community!), and the weather cools but isn't yet too cold, where we go back to school (I always loved going back to school and meeting new friends and learning new things) and friends come back from the far-flung places they were over the summer. With all these gifts, what's not to love about fall?

I also love November with its Thanksgiving holiday, where we gather with family and friends and share thanks for all God has given us. It's the season where I have the best chance to have my favorite kind of pie, pecan. And even better yet, we give ourselves permission to start singing Christmas songs as soon as the turkey dinner is done.

The month of November is also the time we talk about what we value and how we show that we value such things. I love the way I am stretched by challenging questions like "How will you measure your life?" "What advice would you give your younger self?" "What do you most value in this life?"

What we value is reflected by where we spend our time, money and attention. We are called to be good stewards of all that we have been given. Stewardship is, at its heart, a question of what we are to do with all that God has entrusted to us. How are we good stewards of the land we are given to tend? How are we good stewards of the trust people have given us? How are we good stewards of the financial means God has given us?

We are asked, in this month, not only to give thanks for the fall harvest, but to give thanks for all that God has given us—abilities, friends, material things.

How do we, in a practical way, give thanks to the one who has given us our bodies, our abilities, our sense of humor, our intelligence, our very lives? How do we give thanks for all of that?

You will receive a mailing in the first week of November, with a letter that we hope you'll read and a pledge card that we hope you'll prayerfully consider filling out and bringing to church with you on Sunday, November 12. We also hope that you'll prayerfully consider increasing your gift this year, as we consecrate the gifts we are giving back to God as a way of saying thanks for all that God has given us.

I'm glad that I've never heard from any member of this congregation "This congregation is always asking for money," because that sort of statement doesn't reflect the reality of the congregation; it reflects the reality of the person. People who make that comment, generally (though not always) are those who are uncomfortable with giving and who often give very little to the church.

Thank you for all the ways you give; thanks for being church.

~Holly

Guitar Guys Jam Sessions

You are invited to come to the Guitar Guys Jam Sessions on the second and fourth Thursday evenings of the month. They have many guitar players, but few singers, so if you'd like to simply sing along with them, they'd be happy to have you there. Men, women, boys, girls, singers, non-singers, guitar players, non-guitar players, all are welcome to sit in on a session or on several of these jam sessions. They especially are hoping to have more singers who would be willing to help out on Guitar Guys Sundays. Consider coming to a jam session soon!

Thank You

Many thanks for the gift card to Acqua Restaurant that you gave me for Pastor Appreciation Month. I appreciate YOU and your faithful ministry through Wyoming Church and beyond. I am blessed beyond measure to be your pastor!
—Pastor Holly

Volunteers Needed

The St. Andrew's Family Shelter could use some help with the renovation of the interior of the shelter. If you are interested, please contact Liz Scheier at St. Andrew's Lutheran Church: lschreier@saintandrews.org.



Calling All Ladies!

You are invited to a "Meet & Greet" Thursday, November 16, at 2:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall. We will share coffee, tea, and treats and spend this special time getting to know each other better. Come and make some new friends!

November Celebrations

Birthdays

11-01 Scott K.
11-03 Audrey B.
11-05 Nicholas J.
11-06 Becky H.
11-07 Ben A.
11-08 Karl L.
11-09 Emma A.
11-18 Yvonne B.

Anniversaries

11-06 Steve & Jenny W.



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



Fall Dinner Mission Success

Thanks to all of you for your donations and work toward making this annual event even more successful each year. This year we welcomed over 530 people into our Fellowship Hall and over \$5200 to date has been collected to be divided between the Lakes Center for Youth and Families (formerly Lakes Area Youth Service Bureau) and The Refuge (a shelter for domestic assault victims and their children). Thanks to all who cooked/baked/ate/worked/donated/prayed/served/cleaned up!

To see more photos from the Fall Dinner and other events, visit our website at: www.wyomingunitedmethodist.org.

UMCOR Update

Many, many thanks to all who contributed to United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) for the hurricane victims in Texas, Florida, Puerto Rico, and other areas.

\$4,329 in cash was raised as well as cleaning supplies to include five complete cleaning buckets plus 92 other assorted items to be sent to people trying to put their lives and homes back together.

As you will recall, 100% of the money and supplies will go directly to the need as all administrative costs are covered by our winter offering to One Great Hour of Sharing.

If you have not yet made a contribution and still wish to do so, just mark your check or envelope with UMCOR and your contribution will be counted, too. Thank you again, good and faithful servants of WUMC!

I will give thanks to you, Lord, with all my heart; I will tell of all your wonderful deeds. -Psalm 9:1

E-Giving Still Available

Last year at this time, we set up a convenient new way to make your regular or special offerings by placing a 'Donate' button on our website. With the donate button you can easily set up a recurring giving schedule or make one-time contributions. Some of the benefits of electronic giving include: fewer checks for you to write, ease of keeping up with your financial pledge when you are out of town, consistent income for the church. The Donate button is now on our website. If you click it you will be directed to a secure site where you can create your profile, give a one-time donation, or set up recurring contributions. Go on our website at www.wyomingunitedmethodist.org today and give it a try!

If you would like to set up automatic payments to the church, please talk to Cathy West, or put a check mark in that box on your pledge card (which will be mailed to you the first week of November).



Volunteer Coordinator Needed

We are looking for a person who is willing to coordinate the scheduling of coffee fellowship, ushers and greeters. We have many volunteers in place, we simply need someone who will make up the schedule. Bernie S. has been the coordinator for the last several years; she would like to train someone to take over in the new year. Please talk to Bernie or the church office if you are interested in coordinating the volunteer schedule.



Joy Bells Ministry

The Joy Bells Ministry enables families in the Linwood and Wyoming communities to have a little more joy in their Christmas celebrations. We receive the names of families from Wyoming and Linwood Elementary schools, then people or groups from the church "adopt" a family and buy Christmas gifts for the children. The church provides a basket of food with everything needed for Christmas dinner.

Joy Bells will be available on Sunday, November 26, for those who wish to adopt a family. We also encourage people to make cash donations to purchase food for the dinners. Please bring your gifts to church no later than Friday, December 8. Thanks for your part in bringing Christmas Joy to these families!

Women's Retreat

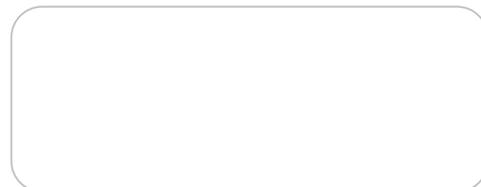
We have been invited to join Eden Prairie United Methodist Church in their annual Women's Retreat, 7 p.m. Friday, January 26, through 11:30 a.m. Sunday, January 28, at a Franciscan Retreat Center in Prior Lake (16385 St. Francis Lane, Prior Lake 55372). Pastor Holly will be the retreat leader and her topic is "Braving the Wilderness: The Quest for True Belonging and the Courage to Stand Alone." The cost is \$155 for two nights in a private room (shared toilet and shower with one other person), 4 meals and exclusive use of the facility for the group.



Save the Date!

The Annual Christmas Tea is scheduled for Thursday, December 7 at 1:30 p.m.

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

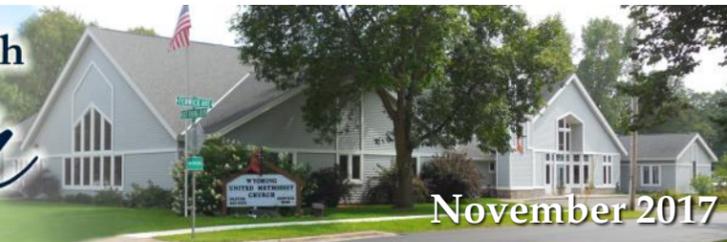


Wyoming United Methodist Church
5459 E Viking Blvd., PO Box 247
Wyoming, MN 55092



Wyoming United Methodist Church

Messenger



November 2017

All Saints' Sunday

Sunday, November 5, is All Saints' Sunday, when we remember all those we have lost to death in the past year. As we remember these "saints," these faithful servants of God who we have lost from our church or from our families, all who wish can come forward at that time during the service, share the name and relationship of the saint for whom you are lighting a candle and light one of the candles in the front of our worship space. Please invite to this service any you know who might appreciate being a part of this time of remembrance.



Worship Services in November

In the beginning of November we finish up our series on Dear Younger Me as we share the wisdom we want to share with the younger version of ourselves. For the second half of November, we will focus on being thankful and how we might write a thank you note to those who have blessed our lives. What would we say to those who have given us such blessings?

November 5

"Dear Younger Me: Relationships Matter"
Luke 11:1-13

November 12

"Dear Younger Me: Trust God"
Genesis 18:1-15

November 19

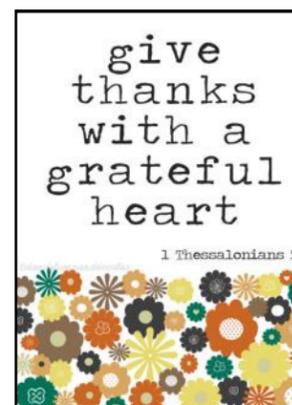
"Thank You, Faithful Servants"
Matthew 25:14-30

November 26

"Thank You, God"
Matthew 25:31-46

Give Thanks With a Grateful Heart

What a blessing it is to all of us to be part of such a generous congregation! With the money we raise and then give away to worthy causes through such venues as Stagecoach Days, the Fall Dinner and Joy Bells, we are constantly and consistently making a difference in our local community.



In November we also take time to consider what percentage of our income we choose to give back to God through the ministries of Wyoming United Methodist Church. Soon you will be receiving your 2018 Estimate of Giving Card. When you receive the card, take time to prayerfully consider how you would like to support the ministries of your church with your financial gifts. Those who have formally joined this church have promised to support its work through our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service and our witness. Those who are friends and regular attenders of this church also pledge their prayer and financial support to God's work through this church. Please prayerfully consider what God is calling you to give as a way of saying thanks to the one who gives us life. We are so greatly and generously blessed by God. Let us prepare our hearts to give thanks!

United Methodist Student Day

November 26 is United Methodist Student Day, one of six church-wide Special Sundays of The United Methodist Church. Funds collected for United Methodist Student Day provide scholarships for United Methodist applicants who might not have any other way of being able to attend college. When you give to United Methodist Student Day, you support qualified students as they prepare for a life that unites faith with knowledge.

