

From the Pastor...

This fall we're having our first all-church book study in recent history.

Our entire congregation is being encouraged to read through and study with a small group (or on your own if you can't make it to a small group) *God Unbound: Wisdom from Galatians for the Anxious Church* by Elaine Heath. Just as Paul led the Galatians through a radical cultural change to expand their view of God, themselves, and the church's mission, Christians are challenged to do the same today. Elaine Heath urges the church to boldly follow the Holy Spirit's leadership beyond buildings and programs to join what Jesus is doing in the world.

As she goes through the book of Galatians, Heath helps us to understand the dynamic and flexible nature of the early church and how their flexibility enabled the church to address the needs of the community and grow in their influence of their neighbors. As organized religion continues to decline in numbers, Heath sees this time in history as a unique opportunity to get the church out of the church, to get people of faith talking with and relating to their neighbors in new ways, sharing the old, old story of Jesus and his love.

One of the questions that we are asked to consider these days is: If our church ceased to exist, would the community notice?

I think the answer is 'yes,' the community would definitely miss us. Through our Fall Dinner, Stagecoach Days Pie and Booya, and Christmas Tea, we are offering social opportunities for members of the community to gather. Through our New Pathways families hosting, Reading Buddies and Care Crew North, we make a difference to people in need in the community and surrounding area.

I wonder what's around the corner for our congregation, what new ways we might care for and impact our community. What ways can we make a difference? Where can our greatest joy and energy meet the world's greatest need?

If you were gone from WUMC for 5 years, what would you most hope to find when you return? What would you like to see the church community doing and being for Christ?

"So let us not grow weary in doing what is right, for we will reap at harvest time, if we do not give up. So then, whenever we have an opportunity, let us work for the good of all...May the grace of Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brothers and sisters. Amen." (Galatians 6:9, 10, 18)

~Pastor Holly

Join the Choir!

Starting Wednesday, September 5 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.

Book Donations Needed

As our New Little Free Library at Wyoming Elementary School is getting good use, we need to replenish the supply of books. If you have any picture books or chapter books in your home that are no longer being used, consider bringing them to church so we can put them in the Little Free Library.

New Member Class

We have some people in our congregation who would like to join the church and would like you to join with them! If you are interested in learning more about becoming a member of Wyoming United Methodist Church, please let Pastor Holly know. Becoming a member involves coming to a new member orientation class (one session), then joining the congregation during worship on Sunday. We're hoping to have the class and the New Member Sunday sometime in late September or early October.

Lydia Project Continues

The United Methodist General Conference (a group that gathers every 4 years) will be coming to Minneapolis in 2020 and people in the Dakotas-Minnesota Area are knitting scarves to welcome each of the 10,000 delegates, dignitaries, bishops and spouses. Karyla P. and Deb H. are coordinating our efforts at Wyoming Church. Please see them or go to www.minnesotaumc.org/lydiaproject to learn more.

Bring your printer cartridges, Box Tops for Education, and pop can tabs to church, so we can pass them on to Wyoming Elementary School to benefit their programs.

Birthdays

9-1 Joshua S.
9-2 Mary S.
Keegan S.
9-3 Denny H.
9-12 Cyndy J.
9-14 Bernie S.
Lois S.
Myron Z.

9-17 Steve W.
9-26 Jeanne L.
9-27 Norma S.
9-28 Chad W.
9-29 Annie H.

Anniversaries

9-10 Rich & Linda R.
Dave & Cathy W.
9-13 Rick & Wendy C.
9-16 Trevor & Abigail J.
9-17 Don & Joyce M.
9-23 Rick & Kelly K.

Don't see your special date? Please let Michelle in the office know.

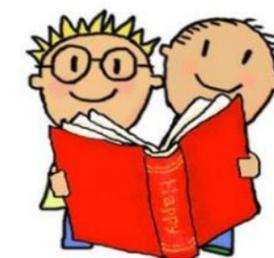


Women's Empowerment Luncheon

Family Pathways is hosting a Women's Empowerment Luncheon on Saturday, September 29 from 11:30-1:30 a.m. at Maranatha Church in Wyoming. The guest speaker is Kelly Swanson whose topic is entitled: "Who Hijacked My Fairy Tale?" To register, go to FamilyPathways.org or call 651-674-8040. There is no charge to attend. Guests will be asked to make a donation for domestic violence prevention and support. Please be sure to register in advance so they can prepare enough food for everyone.

Sunday School Teachers Needed

Every Sunday, ten minutes into the worship service, the children are dismissed and head back to the Sunday School classroom for some time of learning about faith and life in a way that speaks to them. Several members of our congregation help lead our Sunday School class, but we are looking for more to join the team! All the curriculum and ideas for leading Sunday School are provided for you. If you'd like to learn more about this opportunity, please talk to Lois J., our chair of Nurture and Discipleship.



You are Invited to Join our Reading Buddies!

Reading Buddies is a program we started in January, where individuals from our church go into Wyoming Elementary School and help first and second graders one-on-one with their reading. Usually consisting of an hour a week commitment, our Reading Buddies really enjoyed listening to the students read to them. If you have any questions or want to hear more about their experience, be sure and talk to one of our current Reading Buddies: Karyla P., Donna K., Lois S., Joyce M., Holly A., Jane D, Ann S. or Carol S. They would love to talk with you! Reading Buddies is slated to start the first week of October.

New Hosts Needed for Senior Game Day

Senior Game Day, held from 1-3pm the first Thursday of every month during the school year, is looking for some new hosts. Karen and Ed, who have been hosting this event for years, are no longer planning to lead the group. Senior Game Day is a time when people gather to play a variety of card games, some requiring skill, some requiring no skill at all! Please call the office or talk to Ed and Karen if you are interested in hosting this fun group.



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 14-16. On Saturday, September 15, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., 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).

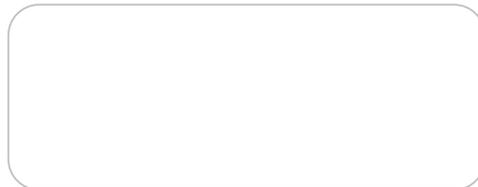
Third Grade (through Sixth Grade) Bible Sunday

Every year our congregation gives to its older elementary school children their very own Bible. This year our Bible Sunday will be October 14, with an orientation Sunday after worship on Sunday, October 7. If your household has a third through sixth grader who hasn't yet received the gift of a Bible from our church, please let Pastor Holly know, so she can prepare a brand new Bible for your child or grandchild.

Save the Date!

Our Annual Fall Dinner will be Saturday, October 13 from 4-7pm. Be sure and invite your friends and neighbors to save the date!

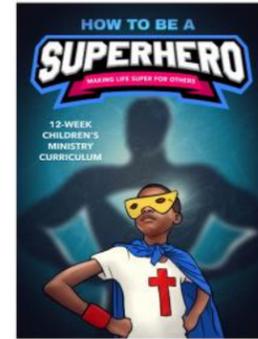
Wyoming UMC • 651-462-5276 • Care Crew North: 651-462-4890 • www.wyomingunitedmethodist.org
Pastor Holly's email: hollyaastuen@gmail.com • Church email: office.wyomingumc@gmail.com



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Wyoming United Methodist Church Messenger



September 2018

Kick Off Sunday

Kick Off Sunday this year is Sunday, September 9. 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. Before Teaching Time we will have a blessing of the Backpacks/Briefcases/Bags (including diaper bags). Bring your backpacks etc. to worship on September 9 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 ice cream and root beer and orange floats along with coffee and juice to celebrate the first Sunday of the new Sunday School year.

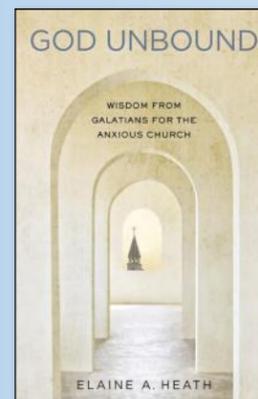
Join in Sunday School anytime this year. The theme for the fall is "How to be a Superhero!"

Confirmation Classes Begin

Starting Sunday, September 16, 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. We currently have three youth in our class and we have room for more! 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.

STORM Camp Recap

Two of our youth, Maddie and Allie, had a rich and rewarding experience this year at STORM Camp (Service to Others in Relational Ministry). Their week of mission camp in Elk River, MN gave them a sense of what it means to serve others and to make the world a better place. Be sure and come on Sunday, September 16 to hear their stories and how God used them to reach out to others.



All-Church Book Study

Beginning this fall, we will be having an ALL CHURCH BOOK STUDY. We will be reading *God Unbound: Wisdom from Galatians for the Anxious Church* by Elaine E. Heath. We are hoping that everyone can be a part of the book study and read through the book with the help of a small group. Books are only \$10 and are available in the nook. Small groups will be meeting Monday evening, Tuesday morning and Thursday evening, beginning the week of September 9. The book study will correspond with the sermons series on Sunday mornings and will last for 7 weeks.

Worship Services in September

In September we begin a series called *God Unbound*, based on the All-Church Book Study we will be studying in small groups this fall. As groups and individuals read through *God Unbound* by Elaine Heath, we will do a parallel sermon series on the book of Galatians and how it speaks to our church culture and our wider community today. As we seek to be relevant to this post-Christian society, what parts of our tradition will help us to speak life and hope into our current culture?

September 2:
Don't Worry, Be Happy:
Give to Others
Mark 10:17-31

September 9:
God Unbound:
Honoring Tradition
Galatians 1:1-12
Kick Off Sunday
Stained glass window dedication

September 16:
God Unbound:
Receiving Revelation
Galatians 1:11-24
STORM Camp Recap

September 23:
God Unbound:
The Road is Long
Galatians 2:1-2, 11-21

September 30:
God Unbound:
The Culture-Shift Challenge
Galatians 3:23-29