

## From the Pastor...

I was talking with a friend the other day who, during the hottest week in July, had her air conditioner stop functioning. It also happened to be the first day of her planned vacation, but because it was the weekend, she had to wait until the early part of the following week to have the repair company come out and install a new air conditioner. This cut her 7 day vacation down to 4 days and the 4 days she had weren't nearly enough.

August is a good time to take time to be renewed before the busyness of the academic year comes upon us. Many who have paying jobs find their work increases as fall arrives, but even those who are retired find the pace picks up in the fall.

Take time to enjoy dinner with your family or call up a friend to meet for coffee. Give yourself the gift of renewed relationships, especially the relationships that matter the most to you.

Renewal is important for all of us. Jesus took time to be renewed when he went off into the wilderness alone to pray. He even encouraged his followers to renew themselves when he said, "Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart and you will find rest for your souls." (Matt. 11:29)

One of the ways that I have found renewal in the past year is through knitting. After a 20-plus year hiatus, I took up knitting again, knitting Lydia scarves for our Minnesota Annual Conference's Lydia Project. When the word came out earlier this year that we needed to stop knitting and crocheting because we had collected the 10,000 scarves needed as gifts for those coming to the Minneapolis 2020 General Conference, I felt something was missing when I stopped knitting.

I stumbled, quite by accident, on a knitting group at the Wyoming Library, and now I have joined their ranks, knitting prayer shawls for the people going through cancer treatment at a Maplewood clinic where one of our knitting members goes for monthly cancer treatments. I find the hour that I spend with these women every other week to be a break from the usual and a great chance to make some more community connections.

Take time to renew. Connect with God, connect with nature, connect with the ones you love.

"Even youths grow tired and weary, and young ones stumble and fall, but those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles, they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint." Isaiah 40:30-31

~Pastor Holly

## Journeys of Paul

Thanks to all who inquired about the Highlights of Paul's Missionary Journeys cruise to Greece this coming October. This 10 day spiritual pilgrimage (for which Pastor Holly is a tour host and Bishop Ough is a featured speaker) has filled to capacity and is now accepting names on their waiting list. Thanks again for your interest!

## Reminder

Hey friends! This is a friendly reminder to keep current in your financial gifts to the church. Over the summer, giving often decreases, but our expenses don't stop. If you're unable to make it to worship, consider giving online or mailing your contribution. Many thanks!

## Making a Difference

Thanks to all who dropped your pocket change and checks and paper money into the jar in the entryway of the church to help the Emma Norton women & children's shelter. Thanks for your generosity! Emma Norton ministry offers housing along with chemical dependency and mental illness counseling for women. Thanks for making a difference in people's lives.

## Thank You

A member of the community stopped by the church office in late July to thank us for being a church that continues to offer hospitality to homeless families. He said that earlier in his life, when he was more able to offer housing to others he had occasionally housed a homeless person until that person could get back on his feet. As this community member stopped by to share his thanks, he said it made him proud to be a part of a community like Wyoming that gives generously to those in need. Thanks to all who helped with this most recent New Pathways hosting June 30-July 7!

## August Celebrations

### Birthdays

8-1	Shirley F.	8-13	Jim L.
8-2	Shelley B.		Karyla P.
8-4	Hazel N.	8-14	John S.
8-5	Kaylin F.	8-17	Chris S.
8-6	Devantay K.	8-19	Pam T.
	Monique K.	8-21	Jenny W.
8-9	Alex I.	8-27	Rita P.
	Carol S.	8-30	Augustus L.
			Lee P.

### Anniversaries

8-4	Erik & Katie N.
8-6	Larry & Angie M.
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!



## Baby Shower

On July 9 we had the joy of having a baby shower in honor of Kiara and Pierce. The two of them slept through most of the party, but those of us who gathered to celebrate them had a fun time with games, sharing stories and, of course, good food. Congratulations to Kim and Taylor and big brother Jasper on these wonderful additions to their family and our church family.

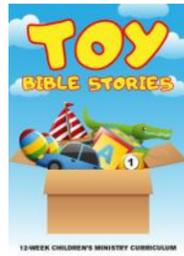


## Discovery Time Continues in August

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!

## Reading Buddies

You are invited to consider becoming a Reading Buddy at the Wyoming Elementary School this fall! All those who have participated this last year (Holly A., Jane D., Donna K., Joyce M., Karyla P., and Carol S.) would love to talk with you about their experience and answer any questions you might have. Being a Reading Buddy is a commitment to visit the school weekly (most weeks during the school year) for an hour to an hour and a half and listen to young children read to you, while you help them with some of the bigger words. You will gain so much more than you give. If you talk to any one of the Reading Buddies, you will hear stories of the joy of helping a child get more proficient at reading. As one of the Reading Buddies said after her first Reading Buddy day: "After my first time with them I had a smile on my face for a week." If you are interested in learning more, please contact Pastor Holly.



## Sunday School

Sunday School begins Sunday, September 8! This year's theme is "Toy Bible Stories." Spinning off the popularity of the Toy Story series of movies, this year's curriculum will show our children how just like we use different toys for different reasons, though their main purpose is to help us play, God used very different people to carry out God's main purpose: to let the world know who God is and how much God loves us. Children begin their time at 10 a.m. in worship with everyone in the sanctuary, then are dismissed to go to Sunday School following the Children's Message about ten minutes into the worship service. All are welcome!

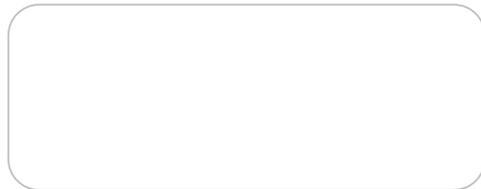
## Did You Know?

Sunday school began in England as early as 1751. Better known is Robert Raikes' work in Gloucester 30 years later. Concerned about poor children who worked in factories six days a week and often turned to crime, he offered classes on the only day kids were free. Soon various organizations offered a loose network of such Sunday schools, which taught basic reading and writing, using the Bible as a text.

Ten years later, Samuel Slater started the first U.S. Sunday school in his Rhode Island textile mills. By the mid-1800s, Sunday school attendance was an almost-universal childhood experience. As society became more secular and public education was mandated by the 1870s, Sunday schools focused on spiritual practices: prayers, hymns, catechism knowledge and Scripture memorization.

Well into the 20th century, Sunday school served as the church's main outreach tool. Many adults fondly remember their teachers and lessons, and Sunday school continues to play a significant part in faith development.

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# Wyoming United Methodist Church Messenger



## Family Fun Night

Our final Family Fun Night of this summer is the second Wednesday of August, the 14th, at 6pm. This last Family Fun Night of the summer will be held at our church. With the theme "Splish-Splash" we will have water fun games in our south parking lot. Our last two Family Fun Nights have had great attendance (over 50 each time) and a great spirit as we have gotten to know our neighbors in the Goodview Park area. We hope families will come to the church, enjoy a free meal in the Fellowship Hall and head on outside for some fun and games. If you want to help with this community party at our church, please talk to Lois Janke or Pastor Holly. We'd love to have you come!

## Pray for the Children

Each time we have hosted a Family Fun Night in the community, we have asked the children to put their name on an object and post it on a decorated board. This July when we did our Stars and Sparkles theme, we asked them to put their star on a board that was decorated as the night sky. Please take time to look at the stars on this night sky board outside of our worship space and pray that each child named on that board might know that God loves them no matter what.



## Family Fun Night!

Join us for a light supper, games, crafts, songs and story- FREE! Hosted by Wyoming UMC.

**'Splish-Splash'**  
Wednesday, August 14th  
6:00 - 8:00 p.m.  
at Wyoming UMC  
5459 E. Viking Blvd, Wyoming

\* Children must be accompanied by an adult. \*

**God has given us two hands:  
one to receive with and the  
other to GIVE with.**  
**We are not cisterns  
made for hoarding;  
we are channels made  
for SHARING.**  
- Billy Graham

## Worship in August

In August we conclude our series on "Option B" as we continue to look at how we are to live when life takes a turn. Based on the book *Option B: Facing Adversity, Building Resilience and Finding Joy* by Sheryl Sandberg and Adam Grant, each week we examine how to navigate life's trials, using the Bible's wisdom as our guide.

**August 4**  
Option B: Taking Back Joy  
Nehemiah 8:1-3, 6, 9-10

**August 11**  
Option B:  
Resilience in Community  
Acts 4:32-37

**August 18**  
Option B: What is It?  
Exodus 16:2-15

**August 25**  
Seeing our Neighbors  
Luke 13:10-17