

From the Pastor...

We have officially entered the season of what I like to call HallowThanks-mas (Halloween, Thanksgiving, Christmas), the time when families gather, celebrations ensue and much food is consumed.

The holidays are also a time when we are encouraged to give to coat drives, toy collections and other worthwhile causes for those less fortunate.

It feels good to give. In fact, giving actually stimulates the reward centers in your brain. God created us to be giving people, which makes sense because God created us in God's image and our God is a giving God. God gives all that we have and all that we are—gives us life, breath, skills and abilities—and God joyfully gives us all these gifts. In fact, the story of creation repeatedly says, "And God saw that it was good."

Our joy in giving isn't restricted to just money. Our joy also increases when we give time and effort to causes and people we value. Giving and volunteering helps us and helps our families improve our communities and our world.

When we are asked to give, it is an invitation to find greater joy, to intentionally invest in what we value and to show, by our example, what has the greatest priority in our lives.

How we spend our time, money and attention demonstrates what we value and we are called to be good stewards of all that we have been given. How do we take good care of all that God has entrusted to us? How do we show we value the relationships, the trust, the responsibilities we have been given?

How do we give thanks for all of our blessings?

This month you'll receive in the mail a letter that we hope you'll read and a pledge card that we hope you'll prayerfully consider filling out and bringing with you on Sunday, November 24. As you consider all you've been blessed with this year, we hope this pledge is a joyful response to the blessings you've been given, a grateful response to God's overwhelming love.

This congregation is generous time and time again through Stagecoach Days, Fall Dinner, Joy Bells, and hosting guests experiencing homelessness.

Our pledges ensure that we continue to get spiritually fed so that we can continue to feed and give generously to the community.

It feels good to give. We give thanks for all that has been given to us.

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

~Pastor Holly

Thank You

Many thanks for the gift card to Mallards Restaurant that you gave me for October's Pastor Appreciation Month. Many thanks, too, for all the cards and well wishes you sent me. I am blessed to be your pastor!

~Pastor Holly

Fall Dinner Mission Success

Thanks to all of you for your donations and work toward making this annual event a success. This year we welcomed over 400 people into our Fellowship Hall and collected nearly \$4000 to be divided between the Lakes Center for Youth and Families and The Refuge (a shelter for domestic assault victims and their children). Thanks to all who cooked, baked, ate, donated, worked, prayed, served and cleaned up. Thanks especially to all of you who offered hospitality and welcome to people coming into our building. You made a difference.



Birthdays

- 11-1 Scott K.
- 11-3 Audrey B.
- 11-5 Nicholas J.
- 11-6 Becky H.
- 11-7 Ben A.
- 11-8 Karl L.
- 11-9 Emma A.
- 11-10 Glenna Q.
- 11-18 Yvonne B.



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

Electronic Giving Available

Several years ago, 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 and 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 later in November).

United Methodist Student Day

Sunday, November 17, is United Methodist Student Day. You'll have the opportunity to give to this special offering (one of six Special Sunday offerings of the year) that generates scholarships for United Methodist young people who might not otherwise be able to attend college. When you give generously you are supporting these students as they prepare for a life that unites faith with knowledge.



Joy Bells Ministry

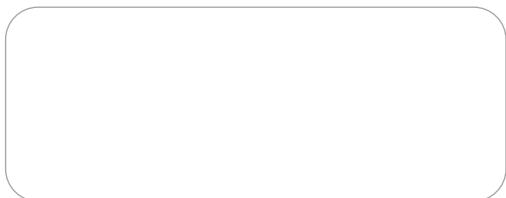
Joy Bells Ministry enables families in the Linwood and Wyoming communities to have a little more joy in their Christmas celebrations. We receive the names of families from the Wyoming and Linwood Elementary schools, then people or groups from the church "adopt" a family and buy Christmas gifts for the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

Joy Bells will be available on Sunday, November 24, 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 Wednesday, December 4. Thanks for your part in bringing Christmas Joy to these families!

I give you thanks, O Lord, with my whole heart. – Psalm 138:1a (ESV)

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Mark Your Calendars

Ladies: We have a special treat waiting for you—the Annual Christmas Tea by the women of the church. Begin the Christmas season with the gathering on Thursday, December 5, at 1:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Invite your friends and neighbors to join us for this joy-filled afternoon.



Wyoming United Methodist Church

Messenger



November 2019

Worship Services in November

November 3
Stepping Into Heaven
Luke 6:20-23

November 10
Made for Gratitude
Luke 17:11-19

November 17
Give Thanks in EVERY Situation?
Matthew 26:26-30

November 24
Cultivating Gratitude
Philippians 4:1-13

November often conjures up thoughts in us of Thanksgiving and giving thanks. As we realize that God has given us all that we have and all that we are, we pause to remember all that we have been given. All that we have been given isn't meant for us alone, but is meant to be shared. Come with us as we celebrate the bounty of God's grace and give thanks with grateful hearts.



All Saints' Sunday

Sunday, November 3, 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.

Give Thanks With a Grateful Heart

What a blessing it is to all of us to be a 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 2020 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. Consecration Sunday is Sunday, November 24. In the worship service on that Sunday we will consecrate our gifts to God through Wyoming United Methodist Church. 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 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!

