

## From the Pastor...

One of the things I do when I write my newsletter article is look back at what I had said a year ago. In January of 2021 I wrote about how, in turning the corner to 2021 I was hopeful that 2021 was going to be a better year than 2020, and that I was looking forward to being back together again.

We are back together again, but not in the way that we had imagined. We've had worship online for most of 2020 and all of 2021, and worship in-person in the worship space since February 14, 2021 (we were able to worship in the worship space, in part, because we got UV filters installed in the church). And even though 2021 didn't look exactly as we had hoped, we still have each other, and we still have our God.

About half the pre-pandemic crowd has returned to worship and the other half is worshipping online. We are grateful for both communities and pray that all are experiencing the love of God through their time in worship.

In this coming year we promise to be there for one another and for our God as we move forward with hope.

I offer for your consideration John Wesley's (the founder of the Methodist Movement) Covenant Prayer, a prayer that is helpful as we reset our sights on following God in the coming year.

### A Covenant Prayer in the Wesleyan Tradition

I am no longer my own, but yours.

Put me to what you will, place me with whom you will.

Put me to doing, put me to suffering.

Let me be put to work for you or set aside for you,

Praised for you or criticized for you.

Let me be full, let me be empty.

Let me have all things, let me have nothing.

I freely and fully surrender all things to your glory and service.

And now, O wonderful and holy God,

Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer,

you are mine, and I am yours.

So be it.

And the covenant which I have made on earth,

Let it also be made in heaven. Amen.

As we move forward into the year 2022, may we remember that God is with us, supporting us in our challenges, encouraging us when we are hesitant, unconditionally loving us always. May you find renewed strength and hope in the coming year as you pray, "And now, O wonderful and holy God...you are mine, and I am yours...Amen."

~Pastor Holly

## Celebrations

### Birthdays

- 1-1 Tom S.
- 1-2 John K.
- 1-3 Lois J.
- 1-9 Kim B.
- 1-11 Kayla B.  
Johnny K.
- 1-14 Steve T.
- 1-15 Ben P.
- 1-17 Pat K.  
Virginia M.
- 1-18 Axie T.
- 1-19 Jessa E.
- 1-26 Dorothy B.

### Anniversaries

- 1-1 Taylor & Kim B.
- 1-3 Gary & Chris S.
- 1-7 Dave & Holly A.



## Just for Fun

Search across, down, and diagonally.

```

O O A O C E L E B R A T I O N S T T
S H O V E L B L U S T E R Y H P E B
B J N E W Y E A R F I R E P L A C E
H I A S R F G H S S A T S T M E B C
A A L C W E P Y N C S C O T E A F O
S E T N K T O H O A N A L W O O L L
D F R O Z E N A W R O E U S I R S D
T R R E I O T U F F W E T D S T M O
T R G L O V E S L I B L I Z Z A R D
C A R C T I C A A E A G O E H G S O
L J A N U A R Y K B L A N K E T A N
H W O S H E A T E R L M I T T E N S
    
```

## Thank You

Thanks to all who gifted my family and me with Christmas gifts and cards and goodies. You were very generous and thoughtful. I really appreciate them and I really appreciate you!



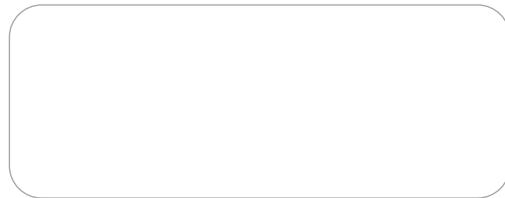
ARCTIC	COLD	JACKET	SHOVEL
BLANKET	FIREPLACE	JANUARY	SLED
BLIZZARD	FROZEN	MITTENS	SNOWBALL
BLUSTERY	GLOVES	NEW YEAR	SNOWFLAKE
CELEBRATION	HAT	RESOLUTION	STORM
COAT	HEATER	SCARF	WOOL

## Joy Bells Joy!

Thanks to all for your overwhelming support of families in need this Christmas. You stepped up this year to help 12 local families with 31 children and your contributions even exceeded our wildest dreams. We were not only able to provide \$50 for each child and youth in the family and provide the family a full Christmas Dinner, we were also able to provide them with a \$100 gift certificate to Bruce's to buy groceries for the following week. You are overwhelmingly and amazingly generous, Wyoming Church, but this time you outdid yourself! Thanks to all who put everything together in the midst of a pandemic and especially to Bea who coordinated all of the gift giving!



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)



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



Wyoming United Methodist Church

Messenger



## Christmas Offering (by Jane Rylander)

Many thanks to those who have already contributed to the Christmas Offering which will go to Strong Missions in Costa Rica. We will continue to collect contributions until January 16, 2022 so please be generous! The need is great and it's our chance to support an international charity and our own church member (Dave F.) making the trip. Mark your donation "CHRISTMAS," please. Thank you!

## 2021 Annual Church Conference

On Sunday, January 23 we will gather immediately following worship for our annual church conference to hear reports on what we've accomplished in 2021 and look forward to what lies ahead for 2022. We will remain in the sanctuary for our meeting and begin soon after the postlude is over.

## New Member Class

Several people have approached me in the last months and asked if they can join the church. Joining the church involves a one-hour class sometime during the week to learn more about the church as well as ask any questions you might have, and then, on a Sunday morning, officially joining the church with a short ritual during worship. If you are interested in learning more—about the class or about joining the church—please contact me via email ([hollyaastuen@gmail.com](mailto:hollyaastuen@gmail.com)) or phone (651-462-5276) and let me know. We hope to have a new member class in January or early February.

## January Worship

God's mercies are new every morning. But sometimes it's easy for us to get stuck in the same old routine. As we begin 2022, we will hit the "reset" button so that we can seek anew the fresh start God offers us. We will discover our identity as beloved children of God and recommit to living with purpose, guided by God's values as together we head into our new future.

### January 2

Bea Zaruba, guest preacher

### January 9

Soul Reset  
Luke 3:15-17, 21-23b

### January 16

Reset Purpose  
Mark 1:32-39

### January 23

Reset Values  
Galatians 5:24-6:10

### January 30

Reset Direction  
Acts 9:1-15