

## From the Pastor...

I recently had a prompt on my daily health and well-being app that said: "Friendships play an important role in our physical and emotional health. Few things are more gratifying than reconnecting with old friends. Friendships reduce stress, boost self-confidence and increase our sense of purpose. It's never too late to reconnect."

As we begin our fall programming, we need to reconnect. It's been several years since we've been able to safely gather in the fall, and now we have that opportunity to once again safely gather.

One of the weekly devotional email newsletters I subscribe to shared the story a couple of weeks ago about a man who was suicidal. He was a former Navy officer and had been out of the service for a few years. He was living with his mother and suffering from PTSD. He decided to climb out on the ledge of a building and jump until he was talked down off the ledge by a police negotiator.

*"I want to thank you for your service," the negotiator said. "I imagine it has cost you deeply. As a cop, I can understand that. Sometimes you just need a hug, you know? You just need to be reminded that you're not alone in the world. I could use a hug right now, in fact. I bet you could, too."*

*After a moment of hesitation, the young man took the police officer's hand and together they climbed through the window to safety. Once they were on solid ground, they gave each other a hug.*

*Without connection to each other, we lose something essential about being human. Our health suffers. Our minds play tricks on us. We lose ourselves. A friend who is in recovery from addiction often says, "The opposite of addiction isn't sobriety. The opposite of addiction is community."*

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We need each other. We need a community like the church that reminds us that we aren't alone, that we are in this together, that the one who gave us life also loves us beyond measure. While much of society seems bent on driving us apart, we see as a church community so much that pulls us together. We are bound together by the love of God and the mission to reach out to those in need as we together build bridges to Christ's love.

Come. You are welcome and wanted. We need each other.

~ Pastor Holly

## September Celebrations

### Birthdays

- 9-1 Joshua S.
- 9-2 Gay G.  
Mary S.
- 9-3 Denny H.
- 9-12 Cyndy J.
- 9-14 Bernie S.  
Lois S.  
Myron Z.
- 9-26 Jeanne L.
- 9-27 Norma S.

### Anniversaries

- 9-10 Rich & Linda R.  
Dave & Cathy W.
- 9-13 Rick & Wendy C.
- 9-16 Trevor & Abigail J.
- 9-17 Don & Joyce M.
- 9-26 Rondy & Jeannine Q.



\*If you do not see your special date, please let the office know!

## School Supplies Drive

We are collecting school supplies while the supplies are on sale and giving them to students in need. Please put your donations in the School Supplies box in the church narthex.

## New Pathways Homeless Shelter

WUMC has not hosted families experiencing homelessness since March of 2020. We have still been able to help them house families at a motel in Princeton (paid for with a government grant) by sending them \$1000 per year as was budgeted for the cost of breakfast and lunch food we would have spent had we been hosting. Plus, we designated \$1142.50 from our 2021 Christmas offering to help them further. Area Churches will begin to host families again this fall. It will be our turn to host in January of 2023 so please be watching for information on how you can once again be a blessing to this important ministry!

## Teaching Sunday School

Teaching Sunday School is so very rewarding! Our students are great and very willing to learn (and play & craft together). If you would like to join in the fun as a relief teacher on occasion, please speak to Jane R.

## Volunteering in the Nursery

We need Sunday morning helpers in the nursery. If you are interested in helping out in the nursery, please talk to Jane R. and let her know you're available.

## Unexpected Company

Attention all singers! If you love to sing, come sing with Unexpected Company Chorale (UCC). Fall Session rehearsals start Mon., Sept. 12 at 7PM at Trinity Lutheran Church, in Lindstrom. For the first rehearsal, please arrive at 6:30PM. If you have questions, check out the website at [ucchorale.org](http://ucchorale.org). UCC requires singers to be vaccinated and boosted.



## Join the Choir!

Starting Wednesday, September 14 at 7PM we will resume choir practice. You are invited to join in! We meet in the worship space 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! If you have any questions talk with Al J., our director, or with Pastor Holly.

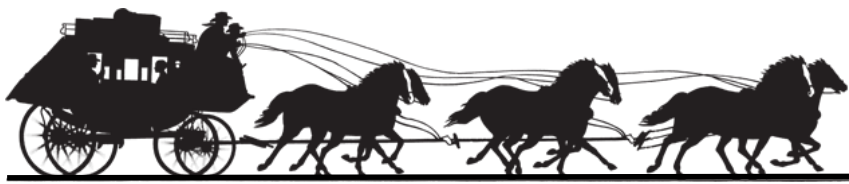
## Jolly Promenaders Square Dance Lessons!

You are invited to come to our church's Fellowship Hall on Sunday, September 18 at 6PM to a Jolly Promenaders Square Dance Lesson. From 6-7:30 you will dance and learn new skills while getting great exercise with new friends. Families welcome! No partner needed! Casual attire and a willingness to learn is all that is required. Your first lesson is free and if you decide to come back a second time it is \$5 a lesson, those under 18 are half price. It's a great way to have some good clean fun! Questions? Call Denny (651-270-4041) or Nancy (651-270-4042).

**A Back to School Prayer**

Loving God, sometimes a new school year seems exciting or scary or both. Help us remember to show our thanks for your gifts of learning by doing our best every day. We ask that you bless our schools, teachers, classmates, staff and friends. We ask that you bless those who prepare our lunches, those who drive us to school, and those who keep our schools clean and safe. We ask God's blessing on this new school year, that it may be a time when we appreciate and fully use God's gift of learning. Amen.

-from [www.umn.org](http://www.umn.org)



# STAGECOACH DAY 2022

## Pie Extravaganza

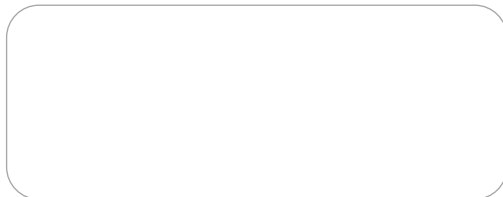
This year's Stagecoach Day is Saturday, September 17. Our church will once again be serving pie from 11AM to 1PM in our Fellowship Hall and out on the front lawn. Pie donations can be dropped off Friday morning (8AM-1PM). Those who want to help should arrive between 9:30 and 10AM Saturday morning to get the pie and the place ready for serving. Come and be a part of the fun as we bless our community!

## Parade

We are going to be in the parade on Stagecoach Day! If you want to be a part of the parade, please be at church by 9AM to be transported to the assembly area. This year we will have a tractor-pulled wagon as our float which we will decorate once we're at the assembly area. Come be a part of the parade and hand out candy to those watching. Join in the fun!

*Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you.—1 Peter 5:7*

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Wyoming United Methodist Church

# Messenger



September 2022



Sunday School Kick Off is September 11!



- Special worship with Blessing of the Backpacks
- Sunday School Kick Off
- Celebration Lunch

**INVITE A FRIEND!**

## Kick Off Sunday

Kick Off Sunday this year is Sunday, September 11. It's the kick off to our fall season programming and a celebration of all that is beginning, including some ministries that haven't been in place since March of 2020! Sunday School (for pre-school through 6th grade kids) will begin with a new curriculum called Celebrate Wonder! These days we are starting Sunday School with all the kids sitting up front with the Sunday School teacher as we begin our worship with the Children's Message. Right before the Children's Message we'll have a blessing of the backpacks. Bring your backpacks to worship on September 11 and we'll ask God to bless the backpacks and those who carry them. Following worship on that Sunday we will have a light lunch of hot dogs, chips and Jane's famous Calico beans (which includes bacon!) to celebrate this Kick Off Sunday. You are invited!

## Confirmation

Our second year of Confirmation classes for kids who started confirmation last year, begins Sunday, September 18. Moving forward, we will have confirmation classes form every two years instead of having new kids joining each year. This year's confirmation class began as seventh and eighth graders last year due to the pandemic pause (no confirmation class in academic year 2020-2021). In the fall of 2023, we will be having a new group of kids who are entering either 7th or 8th grade begin their two-year confirmation program together. If you have any questions please talk to Pastor Holly.

## Worship Services in September

This month we are examining some of Jesus' most familiar parables: the lost sheep, the dishonest manager, the rich man and Lazarus. As we continue our journey through the gospel of Luke, we will see some of the values that Jesus wants us to incorporate into our lives as we follow him. Join us this September for these rich and sometimes confusing stories that help us understand what it means to be a follower of Christ.

**September 4**  
Costly Discipleship  
Luke 14:25-33

**September 11**  
Kick Off Sunday  
Lost and Found  
Luke 15:1-10

**September 18**  
Honestly?  
Luke 16:1-13

**September 25**  
A Wide Canyon  
Luke 16:19-31

*Guide me in your truth  
and teach me, for you are  
God my Savior, and my  
hope is in you all day long.  
—Psalm 25:5*