

Confirmation Classes Beginning Soon!

This fall marks the beginning of a new two-year confirmation class season. Two years ago, we decided to start a new confirmation class every two years with all 7th and 8th graders (older High School students are also invited) starting the two-year program together. Confirmation class meets after worship every other Sunday during the school year. If you have a 7th or 8th grader in your family (a child or grandchild, etc.) please let Pastor Holly know. Our first confirmation class will be after worship on Sunday, September 17. Parents and confirmation youth are invited to this first confirmation class.

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
umc.org



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Wyoming United Methodist Church

Messenger



Worship Services in September

Beginning September 10, we are launching into a series that examines the things that most people are afraid of. Fear of being alone, fear of strangers, fear of where our country and world is heading, all of these fears can take over our lives if we let them. In this six-week series we'll look at many of our common fears, consider practical steps for overcoming our fears and reflect upon fear in the light of scripture and a faith that promises again and again that we do not need to be afraid.

September 3

Life's Scathing Reality
Matthew 16:21-27

September 10

Unafraid: An Age of Anxiety
Isaiah 41:8-10

September 17

Unafraid: Fear of the Stranger
Psalm 27

September 24

Unafraid: When You're All Alone
Psalm 139:1-12

Kick Off Sunday

Kick Off Sunday this year is Sunday, September 10. It's the kick off to our fall season programming and a celebration of all that is beginning this fall season. Sunday School (for pre-school through 6th grade kids) will begin with Jane as our Sunday School teacher as together they explore the curriculum Celebrate Wonder! The kids begin their morning sitting up front with the Sunday School teacher as we begin our worship with the Children's Message. We'll offer a blessing for our kids following the Children's Message, as we celebrate their completion of their first week of school. Come join us for Kick Off Sunday!

New Pathways Hosting

This month we are, once again, hosting families who are unhoused. We have the privilege of giving families who have fallen on hard times a comfortable and safe place to rest. Our time will begin after worship on Sunday, September 17 where we encourage people to stay after worship and help set up the guests' rooms (bring in cots, make the beds, stock each room with a nightlight and fan). You can sign up at church or call the office to see what opportunities are still available. We have need for overnight hosts, meals, and evening hosts. We could also use your help in cleaning up and putting away cots, etc. early Sunday morning, September 24.

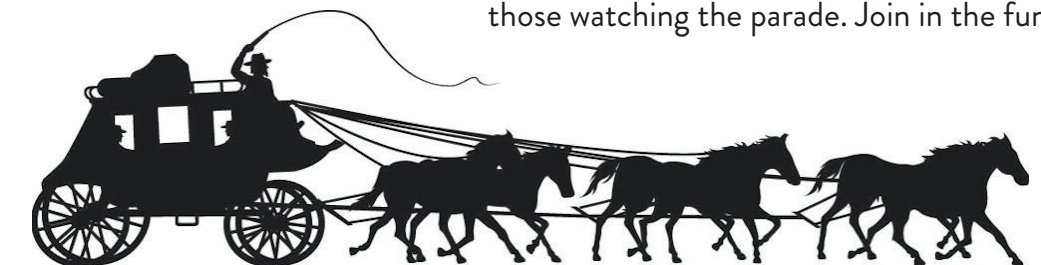
Stagecoach Day is Saturday, September 16

Pie Extravaganza

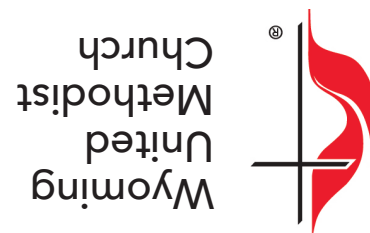
This year our church will once again be serving pie from 11AM to 1PM in our Fellowship Hall and out on the front lawn. Pie donations can be dropped off Friday morning (between 8AM-noon). Those who want to help should arrive between 9:30 and 10AM Saturday morning to get the pie and the place ready for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

Parade

If you want to be a part of the parade, please be at church by 9:15AM 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 the parade. Join in the fun!



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From the Pastor...

As we enter the month of September, we move into a season of transition and transformation and are reminded that as is true of much of life, things change. The leaves change color, the air grows crisper, kids go back to school and people come back to church following summer vacation travel.

Change is a part of life, but God's love for us is a constant that never changes and our faith in God is an anchor that holds firm in times of transition.

In this season of change, many of us may be experiencing personal transitions—a new school year, a change in health, or adjustments within our families. But God walks with us every step of the way.

I'm excited to start a new year with a new batch of confirmation kids and begin with them this two-year journey of learning about God's love and wisdom so that at the conclusion of confirmation they can confirm for themselves the vows made at their baptism.

I'm looking forward to starting a new grief support group for those going through their own personal grief. As they have already faced a season of great and heart-wrenching pain, I hope that this group can support them in this season and remind them of God's constant and consistent love.

I'm also looking forward to starting up the choir again.

In October we'll be looking at starting another Women's Bible Study as we have done in years past. We'll also be starting up Reading Buddies at the Wyoming Elementary School.

In this time of new beginnings, let us remember that we as a church community have been here for years as a steadfast beacon of hope and love. In 2024 we will celebrate our 150th anniversary as a faith community here in Wyoming!

As we welcome all the change that September brings, let us remember that God's love for all remains constant, providing us with the strength and courage to face whatever comes our way.

-Pastor Holly

"Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever."

Hebrews 13:8

September Celebrations

Birthdays

9-1	Joshua S.	9-14	Bernie S.
9-2	Gay G. Mary S.		Lois S. Myron Z.
9-3	Denny H.	9-15	Val S.
9-12	Cyndi J.	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.

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.

Nursery Volunteers

We need Sunday morning helpers in the nursery. If you are interested in helping out in the nursery, please talk to Jane R.

School Supplies Drive

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



Congrats Alex!

Alex B. graduated from Navy bootcamp on August 25! He will now be attending a school in Pensacola.

We'll share his address ASAP.

September Mission: UMCOR

Originally founded in 1940 in response to displaced and vulnerable populations in the wake of World War II, The United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) is a ministry of The United Methodist Church through the General Board of Global Ministries. Our goal is to assist the most vulnerable people affected by crisis or chronic need.

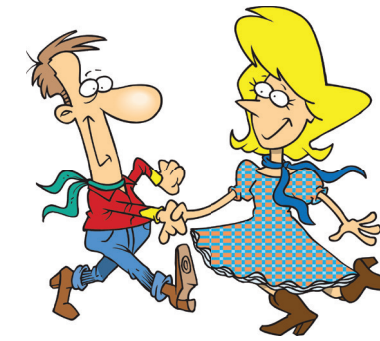
With a "communities own their recoveries" philosophy, UMCOR supports local efforts to accomplish immediate relief and long-term recovery while providing for volunteers to offer compassionate ministry in the aftermath of disasters.

In partnership with disaster response ministries and coordinators in U.S. annual conferences, UMCOR journeys with affected communities throughout a disaster's cycle, including disaster preparedness, relief, response, recovery and mitigation.

UMCOR's Early Response Team (ERT) training program supports conference preparedness and immediate response efforts. Key activities for conference ERT and other response teams are supplying survivors with food, water, shelter and help with mucking out and cleaning up. UMCOR offers emergency financial assistance in the aftermath of a disaster to support local relief work.

For disasters that require long-term strategies, UMCOR provides conferences with expertise, grants and training for more extensive programming, such as disaster case management, materials and construction management, volunteer management and psychosocial support for survivors.

The need is great for current help! Please consider a financial gift to UMCOR in September. You can mark your check or envelope with "UMCOR" to help those in Maui, Florida, the Carolinas and beyond. Thank you!



Jolly Promenaders Square Dance Lessons

You are invited to come to our church's Fellowship Hall on Sunday, September 24, at 6PM to a Jolly Promenaders Square Dance Lesson. From 6-8PM 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 \$3. It's a great way to have some good, clean fun! Questions? Call Denny (651-270-4041) or Nancy (651-270-4042).

Grief Group

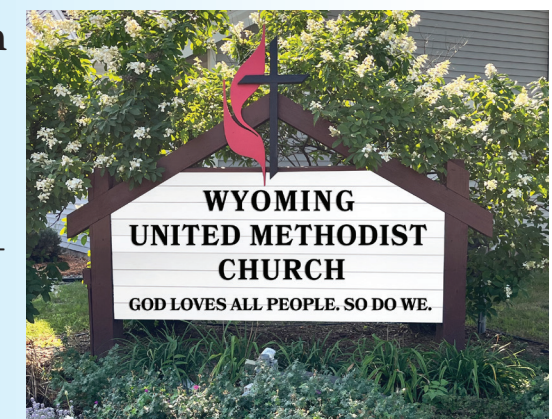
We are planning to start a grief support group for all who are going through a season of grief. Our hope is that this monthly gathering of those who are going through this difficult time will find comfort in being with others who are going through some of the same experiences and that we can, by our very presence, remind one another that we are not alone. The start date and time will be announced soon. We'll keep you posted!

Join the Choir!

We're always looking for new folks to join our church choir! We sing in three- or four-part harmony and sing in the worship service about once a month during the school year. Our first rehearsal is Sunday, October 1 after worship. If you have any questions talk with Nathan A., our pianist, or with Pastor Holly.

New Church Sign

Our outdoor sign is in need of improvement. Parts of the wood are starting to deteriorate and as we make improvements to the sign, we're considering adding to the sign (in addition to the church's name) the phrase, "God loves all people. So do we." This proposal comes from our Inclusion Team and Administrative Council as we seek to let the community know that all are welcome.



You are invited to attend after worship on Sunday, September 24, a discussion about these proposed new phrases on our church sign. We will have a vote on the addition of these phrases to the church sign on Sunday, October 8 following worship.