

## Exercise Class is Back in October!

Join us in the Fellowship Hall on Tuesdays and Fridays at 1 PM, starting Friday, October 3. Join us for a fun and friendly group workout as we follow along with a walking-style, low-impact exercise video—perfect for all fitness levels. All are welcome!

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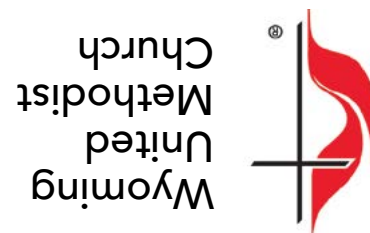
## Coming in November...

### All Saints' Sunday

During worship on Sunday, November 2, we will take time to remember and honor loved ones we have lost in recent years. As part of this remembrance, those who wish may come forward, share the name of the person they are remembering with the congregation, and light a candle in their honor. Please feel free to invite anyone who might find comfort in being part of this meaningful service.



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Wyoming United Methodist Church

# Messenger

October 2025

## October Lectionary Readings

### October 5

Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4  
Psalm 37:1-9  
Luke 17:5-10  
2 Timothy 1:1-14

### October 12

2 Kings 5:1-3, 7-15  
Psalm 111  
Luke 17:11-19  
2 Timothy 2:8-15

### October 19

Genesis 32:22-31  
Psalm 121  
Luke 18:1-8  
2 Timothy 3:14-4:5

### October 26

Jeremiah 31:31-34  
Psalm 46  
John 8:31-36  
Romans 3:19-28

## Turkey Dinner - Saturday, October 11 | 4-7 PM

Join us for our annual Turkey Dinner on Saturday, October 11, from 4 to 7 PM! All proceeds from this event will go to support the Lakes Center for Youth & Families — a wonderful local organization doing meaningful work.

We still need many hands to make this event a success! There are still open volunteer spots, so please check the sign-up sheets in the entryway. Every bit of help counts — thank you in advance for your generosity!

### Turkey Pickup Info

Turkeys can be picked up starting on Sunday, October 5, from Bruce's Foods. The turkeys are set aside in a cooler in the back — just ask an associate — they'll have a list from Cathy and will go get your bird.

The turkeys for the Turkey Dinner sometimes arrive at the church not fully cooked, so if you'd like some guidance, turkey cooking instructions are available on the sign-up table in the entryway. These are especially helpful—please feel free to take one!

### Frozen Pie Reminder

If you have frozen pies left from Stagecoach Day, please thaw them out and bring them to the church on Friday, October 10, between 8 AM-1 PM, or on Saturday, October 11, starting at noon.

Let's all pitch in to make this event a great success and bless our community together!

# Turkey Dinner!

Saturday, October 11th from 4-7 PM

**Freewill Offering**

All proceeds go to  
Lakes Center for Youth & Families!





From the Pastor...

As I prepared this newsletter it struck me what an odd month October is. We begin with a celebration of church unity on October 5th (World Communion Sunday) and end with a celebration of an event that divided the church on October 26th (Reformation Sunday). I am a Protestant. I love reading the Protestant Reformers, including Martin Luther. My academic scholarship places theologians from the Swiss Reformation in conversation with contemporary philosophy. I teach a seminary course on the theology of the Protestant Reformation and have taught a similar course for lay adults in my previous church. All that is to say, I take the Reformation seriously and it is a significant part of my identity as a Christian, a theologian, and as a pastor.

Yet the Reformation was not without its downsides. It would fundamentally divide the church in a more radical and lasting way than the earlier divide between the western (Roman Catholic) and eastern church (Orthodox) centuries before. The fracturing of the church is hardly something to celebrate. It is a loss to be mourned. Furthermore, the kinds of reforms championed by Luther and his contemporaries would lay the ground work for further schism and fracturing – where churches solve their disagreements by endlessly splitting off into new sects and new denominations. This is something with which we, as United Methodists, are painfully familiar. Clearly, there is an ambiguity to the heritage of the Reformation.

Yet uncritical championing of the necessity of church unity is not necessarily a good thing, either. It leads to a centralization of authority and an unwarranted confidence in all-too-human popes,

church councils, and traditional practices. It can lead to the kinds of abuses of church power that led to the Reformation in the first place.

Perhaps, we need to take our cue from the month of October and hold these two ideals (unity and reform) in a kind of tension, reflecting that the Church needs both of these impulses to be preserved. We need to think of ourselves as part of the universal Church, as small-c catholic Christians. We need to remember that our denominations and our sects are all subordinated to our loyalty to the Lordship of Christ – that as Christians, whether Protestant, Catholic, or Orthodox, we are united in the waters of baptism and in the body and the blood of Christ at the Lord’s Table. We need to respect the historical continuity of our tradition, a conversation and process of discernment that spans the centuries, and not to falsely think that Christianity was invented in 1517. However, we must remember that this Church is populated by human beings. We are fallible. We make mistakes. We make errors. We need to always struggle to be faithful to what God has done for the world in Jesus Christ. *Ecclesia semper reformanda est* – the Church must always be reformed. Let October be our reminder of this ideal: to always strive to be both reformed and catholic.

- Pastor Jeff



Teach us to number our days, that we may gain a heart of wisdom. –Psalm 90:1

October Celebrations

Birthdays

- 10-1 Alex B.
- 10-4 Noah Z.
- 10-6 Nathan A. Zachary P.
- 10-9 Connie W
- 10-10 Sandy B.
- 10-11 Don M.
- 10-16 Tom W.
- 10-18 Allie B.
- 10-19 Nicki A.
- 10-22 Evelyn L.
- 10-23 Lonnie N.
- 10-25 Joyce M.
- 10-27 Karen P.
- 10-28 Carrie M. Abby T.
- 10-31 Amanda J.

Anniversaries

- 10-2 Craig & Jane R.
- 10-5 Steve & Cyndi T.
- 10-21 Jason & Valerie V.

\* If we don't have your special date listed, please contact the church office!

Prayer Chain

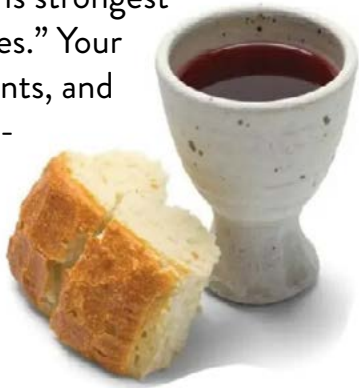
If you have a prayer request, please send it to Nancy H. at: (651) 270-4042 - or - eldonlee1@q.com

If you'd like to be part of the prayer chain to pray for others' requests, please let Nancy or the church office know. Thank you for being part of this important ministry!

World Communion Sunday/Offering

On Sunday, October 5th, we will be celebrating World Communion Sunday here at Wyoming United Methodist Church. This is a day in which we think bigger about what the Church is. Church is not our community in Wyoming, nor is it our denomination. The Church is so much larger. It is the collective of all of those around the world and spanning the years and centuries and millennia who confessed the lordship of Jesus Christ. It is a celebration of Christian unity and ecumenical cooperation. This day was first celebrated in 1933 by a Presbyterian Church in Pittsburgh, but it would become an international ecumenical movement amidst the horrors and division of the Second World War. On this day, as we participate in the divine banquet that is the Lord’s Supper, we are reminded that our brothers and sisters in Christ around the globe are gathering with us – to worship the triune God and to encounter the risen Christ at His table. We take the time to pray for the Church catholic, the universal Church, that it may faithfully serve our God.

Additionally, World Communion Sunday is one of the six Sundays each year that the United Methodist Church invites us to take part in a special offering. The offering on World Communion Sunday helps provide educational support to train up the next generation of church leaders – specifically those who are underrepresented in our church. As the United Methodist Church says, “The Church is strongest when its leadership reflects the people it serves.” Your generosity will go to support scholarships, grants, and training programs for ethnic and racial minorities in the United States as well as international students. I encourage you to prayerfully consider donating to this wonderful cause and show generosity on this World Communion Sunday.



Reformation Sunday

Although my children look forward to October 31st to celebrate Halloween, for the opportunity to show off their costumes and hit up the neighborhood for as much candy as they can carry, it is also a day to honor our heritage as Protestant Christians. On October 31st, 1517, Martin Luther nailed his ninety-five theses to the door of the cathedral in Wittenburg, Germany, kicking off the historical period we know as the Reformation. This historical moment, grounded as much in a critique of the abuses of church power and authority as it was in a radical conception of God’s grace, is a momentous event in the history of the church. The church will celebrate Reformation Sunday on October 26th, honoring the revolutionary nature of Luther’s gospel and the historical genesis of our identity as Protestant Christians.