



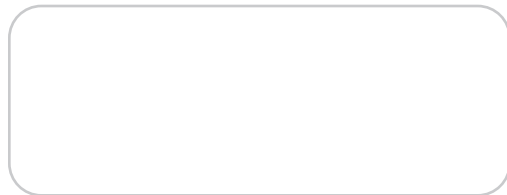
Image by Aaron Burden on Unsplash

Bible Sunday

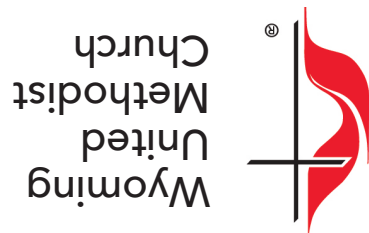
Every third grader associated with our church is given a Bible of their own. We are still working on finding a Sunday morning that works for those in our congregation that we know are third graders, but if you have a third or fourth grader in your family and did not get an email from Pastor Holly, please let her know.

When we find a date in May or June that works for most people, we will present them with their very own Bible during worship and then have a 45-minute session with them and a parent following worship to help them become acquainted with their new bibles. We'll have a word-search puzzle, review the Top Ten Bible Stories and mark these key stories with post-its so they know where to find key stories they can read for themselves. If you have a third or fourth grader in your household that doesn't yet have their own bible, please contact Pastor Holly as soon as possible so we can contact you when we set a date.

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Wyoming United Methodist Church

Messenger



May 2024

Worship Services in May

In May we have several celebrations that will focus our services on the theme of the day, as the month of May brings us the gifts of Ascension Sunday, Mother's Day, Trinity Sunday and Pentecost—a host of celebrations in the Christian church. We'll hear stories of the Early Church and how they fared in the days after Jesus' resurrection.

May 5

A New Day
Acts 10:1-17

May 12

Mother's Day/Ascension Sunday
Generation to Generation
Acts 1: 9-11, 15-17, 21-26

May 19

Pentecost Sunday
Filled with the Holy Spirit
Acts 2:1-8, 12-21

May 26

Trinity Sunday
No Judgment Here
John 3:1-17



UMCOR Sunday

UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief) Sunday is on Sunday, May 12 this year. The UMCOR Sunday offering in our churches throughout the world-wide United Methodist Church underwrites UMCOR's administrative costs. This offering allows UMCOR to use 100% of all funds given to humanitarian response and recovery efforts directly to

communities in need. These gifts ensure UMCOR can respond swiftly to disasters around the world and continue as a source of hope and healing for those left most vulnerable.

Please pray for those impacted by severe storms in Nebraska, Iowa, and Texas. As is true when any natural disaster strikes, UMCOR will work in concert with each United Methodist Conference that is affected and partner with them to bring aid to the areas most in need.

Walk & Talk

Have you been meaning to get out and walk more, but haven't taken the first step? Join Chris S. and Jane R. Tuesdays at 10:00AM and stretch your legs with a group of friends! We'll meet to walk on the paved path that parallels Forest Boulevard. Meet at the parking lot across the road (west) from the Library and Post Office. We'll meet in the parking lot for the trail promptly at 10 and walk together at a pace that's comfortable for everyone. Talk to Jane or Chris if you'd like to learn more. We look forward to seeing you there!



Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things. -Col. 3:2

From the Pastor...

For two weeks, from April 23 to May 3 I've been "attending" worship services at General Conference online. Their morning worship starts at 8AM Eastern Time, so I watch starting at 7AM each morning as I get ready for the day. The worship services have been inspiring, the preachers outstanding and the music uplifting. One worship service commissioned a class of deaconesses to do their work as laity in service of the church, another service remembered and honored all the bishops who have passed away in the last 8 years since we've had a full General Conference of the United Methodist Church, another worship service commissioned new missionaries to go do God's work in the mission field.

It's been a privilege to be able to worship with a thousand people in Charlotte, North Carolina on a daily basis, but it also made me aware of how much I get out of worshipping in person with living, breathing people around me. Online worship is great for those who can't come in person, but there's nothing like being with fellow brothers and sisters in Christ in a worship space together. Because worship isn't an observational sport, it's a participatory, interactive time of focusing on God and being sent forth to do God's work in the world.

I'm so grateful that many of our church people are coming back to worship in the church building, while many others are coming into our worship space for the first time. We've had first- and second-time visitors many of our recent Sundays and it's a joy to welcome new people into the space.

We're hoping that sometime this month we can give our third graders their very first Bible and help them dig into God's word for themselves. We're also hoping to have a celebration of our graduates soon.

You are invited to come to worship and experience the joy of worshipping together with your brothers and sisters in the family of God!

-Pastor Holly

May Celebrations

Birthdays

5-7	Alex R. Taylor M.
5-19	Holly K.
5-25	Carole A. Gary G. Cathy W.
5-26	Jason V.
5-27	Ed K.
5-29	Peyton T.
5-30	Lucy K.

Anniversaries

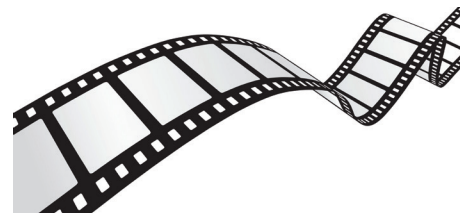
5-1	Andy & Shurene E.
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Unexpected Company Concerts

Unexpected Company Chorale is excited to present "Mix it Up!" concerts on Friday, May 3rd at Elim Lutheran in Scandia and Sunday, May 5th at Trinity Lutheran Church in Lindstrom. Tickets are \$15 and available at the door or through their website: ucchorale.org.

Free Movie Event

Join us on Sunday, May 12 (Mother's Day) at 2:15 PM at GTI North Branch Theater for "Moms' Night Out!" Tickets are free. The concession stand will be open for purchases but please bring cash as the theater is a cash-only venue. Movie compliments of GTI North Branch Theater and NorthBrook Church.



A Look at the Past...

- Rev. Adam Ringer was our first pastor when the church officially organized in 1874.
- May 7, 1956 was the start of the 1956 Building Program to expand the church.
- The church hosted a banquet in May of 1986 to celebrate mothers and daughters.
- May was the time of year the congregation gathered to clean up the church grounds and plant flowers together as a community.
- May 5, 1989 a spring concert was held to help with funding for the new building.

Did You Know That...

- Cradle rocking ceremonies (a Scandinavian tradition) were done during the Mother's Day service to celebrate new babies and new mothers/families?
- The church used to have a women's softball league?
- The United Methodist Women's group used to host a Spring salad luncheon/supper each year for the congregation?

Thanks to Valerie V. for finding these tidbits in our archives.

March Food Share

Thank you to everyone who donated to the March Food Share campaign. Together we raised \$2,028 to help the local food shelf provide for local families in need. Well done, good and faithful servants!

Easter Sunday

It was a joy to celebrate Jesus' resurrection in worship on Easter Sunday, March 31. Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Thanks to all who helped with the behind-the-scenes work, including Denny and Heather O. who helped put together the Easter Breakfast and Jane who helped the kids with the Easter Egg Hunt. We're also grateful to Nancy who acted as our communion steward for Easter and Good Friday. Thanks to the Tuesday Morning Prayer Group who purchased and arranged the flowers for our Easter Garden and purchased our cut flowers for the flowering of the cross.



Feed My Starving Children

On April 11-13, Hosanna Lutheran Church in Forest Lake once again hosted a food packing event in partnership with Feed My Starving Children (FMSC). We had 15 people from our congregation partic-

ipate in these packing events. At the 3 packing events that we were a part of, 119,502 meals were packed. The cost of those meals comes to about \$34,000, at a cost of only \$.29 per meal. FMSC partners with reliable workers in the areas they serve and have a record of 99% of all meals shipped getting to their intended destinations.

Thanks to all who donated to this worthy cause in the month of April and to all our workers who worked to make a difference for God's starving children.