

First United Methodist Church

2000 W. Lakeway

Gillette, WY 82718

Return Service Requested

To Our Friends:

First United
Methodist Church
2000 W. Lakeway Road
Gillette, WY 82718

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We're on the Web!
See us at:
www.imaginefaith.com

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now follow us on Twitter
@FUMCGillette

Join Us at First United Methodist Church!

Sunday Worship Services

8:00 a.m. Contemplative
9:15-10:15 a.m. Blended Worship
10:30-11:30 a.m. Sunday School

We love kids at FUMC!

*First United Methodist Church is building a Christian community
where followers of Jesus advance God's mission for all creation.
We do this by reaching up to God, across to our neighbor, and out to the
world.*

Office Hours

Tuesday–Friday 9:00am-2:00pm
and by appointment

Pastor: Cory Young

Administrative Assistant: Meghan Davies
Custodian: Sheila Huckins
Nursery: Sheila Huckins/Meghan Davies



Open Hearts

Open Minds

Open Doors

A Monthly Publication of

*First United
Methodist
Church*

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GRACE NOTES

August 2023

Volume 20, Issue 07

The Pastor's Door

Reverend Cory Young

Every year I get the same question “How was camp?” It is a simple question yet I often pause when asked this and think, how do I summarize a week of camp? The quick response is “Oh it was great!” But honestly, that doesn’t even cover half of what camp is.

If you have been to camp you know the feeling of stepping away from the world for a week and finding God. I think of Moses when he is up on the mountain with God, perfectly happy, very spiritual, and the worries of life just melt away. Moses was happy, the campers were happy, I was happy, and then we come back to life. Moses comes back to Israelites complaining, I came back to work, and the campers went back to their lives.

But what can I say about camp? I can tell you this, and if you have gone to camp you know it to be true, that camp is a place of acceptance and love that isn’t really found many other places in this world. Sure, we try to accept people for who they are, but we often fail. At camp, campers come in with a world of problems (to be honest, more problems than I had when I was in high school), bullying, social media, peer pressure, broken families, drugs, alcohol, sex, and the list goes on. Every one of these problems is multiplied tenfold because of social media and technology. When they put their phones away and just be present where they are, you see a change in them that is so rare in this day and age.

Again how do I answer “How was camp?” I say that it is a transformative time for many young people to laugh, learn, explore, talk with God, and be absent from a world that makes them grow up way too fast. They get to be teenagers and learn and grow about who God is and what it means to be a follower of Jesus Christ.

I will say that for me the joy of the week is that when we close camp, I have the honor of offering the sacrament of Holy Communion. It might seem like a small thing, but giving each person the opportunity to know God’s love and to see that they are accepted for who they are. This is something so rare in the world and I love the fact that they often leave camp knowing they are loved.

Camp is important for these campers, and for those of us who were leaders for the week! Sure, I had a bunch of laundry, a long drive to and from camp, exhaustion, hot sunny days without air conditioning, but every moment was truly enjoyable. I thank you from the bottom of my heart that you as a church allow me to continue to serve every year at camp. It is part of my call, it is part of who we are as a church, and it is what these campers need.

Blessings,

Cory

Trustees Update

We have had a few projects and expenses this quarter.

- 1. We replaced the lawn mower as the old ones wheels were falling off. Cost was \$350.
- 2. Working on filling some of the cracks in parking lot. Jim Hasting with Ric and Craig started on the lower parking area.
- 3. The doors for the shed in the parking lot need to be replaced as wind damaged them. Craig is working on getting them built for cost of materials. Estimate is below \$300.
- 4. We have added a new security camera in the East entry along with subscribed recording of the camera. \$60.00 and \$12 monthly. Another outside camera should be replaced as battery replacement did not fix it. cost \$300
- 5. The back flow valve for the sprinkler system may need to be replaced for the next year at approx. \$500.

Craig Speirs



Hydroponics Update

The summer heat is upon us, but unlike previous years, it is not effecting the growth of our lettuce. This is due to the hard work of Thayne who brought to life the old swamp cooler mounted on our ceiling. We used the monies from the vitality grant for new parts and updated the plumbing. We now have better environmental control and the crops are thriving.

With all the rain we have had, Is Your garden thriving?? If you have abundant crops, bring them to Living Water Produce to sell in our Farmer's Market. The proceeds from the sale will go to UMW. We also would like any baked goods you like to make: cookies, breads, pies, etc....All proceeds will also go to the UMW.

We were notified by our landlord that he wants to sell the building and he will not renew our rental lease. So we have made an offer and now await his response. We will keep you informed of how this proceeds.

We would welcome anyone who would like to join us in this project. "The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few" It has been a very rewarding experience, building this successful social enterprise.



No summer nursery attendant available. You may use the nursery, but you must stay with the child. Thank you!! Nursery will resume in September.

The Secret to Stewardship

(adapted from Pastor Tom at Firmly Rooted Church in Michigan)

Stewardship is tough for Christians to grow into. It challenges us between faith and reason. We need to know that God in His word always tells us that His word rules/wins. When it comes to stewardship – it involves math. “If I give a percentage of my time, talents, and treasures to the Lord, then the net result will be that I have less time, talents, and treasures to be used as I see fit.” If money or time is given, then we have less money or time. The problem here is human thought. God quantum transacts. When He touches one life, through that life millions more can be touched. God can take our time, talents and treasures and bless us in such a way that we never miss it. He can make it work out as He promises to do.

What is the secret to proper stewardship? Don’t start with your heart – start with your head. “True stewardship is a faith thing, not a reason and logic thing.” Give as the Lord moves us to give, and give freely as God’s grace is given freely. “Stewardship should be an opportunity, not an obstacle. We ought to be giving God back some of the time, talents and treasures He has given us in a spirit of Joy. We ought to be thankful that the Lord provides us the opportunity to thank Him in this awesome way.”

Thank you Pastor Tom for poking me – Claudia

A six month report on our finances (at the time of this writing, July’s reports are not completed) show we are at 94% of our budgeted giving needs. We are at 97% of our budget for expenses. Between snow removal and heating bills this winter, we have moved through our budgeted expenses a little faster, but overall a good first 6 months. Thank you for your faithfulness in giving of your treasures! Stay cool and dry!



Sunday Worship Schedule

NO 8am Service for the month of June

9:15-10:15 am Blended Worship

Sunday School 10:30am all ages



Friendship Circle

We will meet Aug 10 @ 10:00am at the church. We'll be finishing up projects and planning for the fall. Come have a snack and something cool to drink

Home Visits

If you would like a home visit please contact Rev. Cory

It's Bazaar Time!!!



It's that time of year to start thinking about the fall bazaar. Now is a good time to start working on those homemade crafts.

School Supply Drive

We are in full swing in collecting school supplies. Supplies can be dropped off anytime at the church. The giveaway is on August 12th. If your not sure what to buy you can make a monetary donation to GAL and we will shop for the items we are in need of.



Hastings family, Fonna, Mr. Wood, those involved in the plane crash, library staff, Living Water, Hanson family, a colleague involved in a bus crash, Dale Dickey, John, Rainwater family,



Kelly and Sarah	August 07
Chris and Barb Anthes	August 08
Chad and Susie Hooker	August 11
Bob and Ruth Stowe	August 11
David and Julie Fall	August 12
John and Susan Howard	August 19
Rusty and AnDee Steiner	August 26
Charles and Cheryl Land	August 27
Al and Linda Blakeman	August 29
Ross and Tammy Huber	August 30



Bob Stowe	August 03
Brylie Topping	August 11
Carol Hanson	August 13
Alexander Howard	August 14
Trey Christensen	August 14
Claudia Urlaub	August 22
Roy Gillman	August 23
Luka Zeleski	August 24
Jed Davies	August 25
Koryn Urlaub	August 25
Shone Gray	August 29
DeeBee Worthington	August 30

Reminder to watch us live on Facebook Sunday morning for worship!!!
<https://www.facebook.com/FirstUnitedMethodistofGillette>



Date	Preaching	Worship Leaders	Ushers
August 6	Rev. Cory Young	Luka Zeleski	Gray's
August 13	Rev. Cory Young		Bosecker's
August 20	Rev. Cory Young		Fox's
August 27	Rev. Cory Young		Kelsey's

AUGUST




Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3 Hydroponics Meeting @ 4pm	4	5 Soup Kitchen @ 10am
6	7 Boy Scouts @ 6pm	8 Cub Scouts @ 6pm	9	10 Friendship Circle @ 10:00am	11	12 School Supply Giveaway 9-2pm
13	14 Boy Scouts @ 6pm	15 Cub Scouts @ 6pm	16	17	18	19
20 Ad Council Meeting @ 10:30am	21 Boy Scouts @ 6pm	22 GAL Meeting @ 11:30am Cub Scouts @ 6pm	23	24	25	26
27	28 Boy Scouts @ 6pm	29 Cub Scouts @ 6pm	30	31		