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

Phone:
(307) 686-7339

Email:
admin@imaginefaith.com

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

Friend us on Facebook &
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

Childcare is available. Children are also welcome to attend the service.
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: Rev. AJ Bush
Administrative Assistant: Meghan Davies
Lay Leader: Rose Rennell

Open Hearts

Open Minds

Open

A Monthly Publication of

First United Methodist Church

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GRACE NOTES

November 2017 Volume 13, Issue 11

The Pastor's Door Rev. AJ Bush

The past few weeks I have found myself thinking about the burdens of life. Turn on the news and you are bombarded with things that feel heavy. Natural disasters, violence, loss of innocent life, international tension. Not to mention the burdens we each carry inside ourselves. Stress, grief, family tension, overwhelm. Even as we enter the Thanksgiving and Christmas season there is a mix of both fun and stress, joy and struggle, which accompany these seasons.

Even in the midst of all of this, the good news is that God is with us. Even in the midst of overwhelm and stress, God provides enough strength and hope to carry us through. Even when we feel stuck or afraid, God provides creative ways to help us re-imagine a different way of being. Even when we feel like nothing good will ever happen, God provides us with what we need to transform even the most difficult moments into something beautiful.

One way to think about God's transformative abilities in our life is to think about popcorn. That's right, popcorn! Un-popped popcorn is hard and inedible. It doesn't taste very good and isn't good for your digestive system. But once that un-popped kernel is popped, all that changes. Once popped, the kernel is transformed into something delicious, something edible, something even enjoyable.

That's what God can do in your life. When we give the hard, difficult, and challenging parts of our life to God, God can transform them into something useful, something life giving, something beautiful. When we turn over our fears and struggles to God, we have the opportunity to have those fears and struggles shaped and reshaped by an encounter with the holy.

Like popcorn, God can change our lives for the better. So this holiday season, bring your stress, your fear, and your struggle. Lay them down and let God transform them in ways you could never imagine. For God is always waiting to receive whatever we are carrying with open arms, an open heart, and a giant popcorn popper.

Pastor AJ

All Church Conference

Join us as we celebrate another year of ministry at our all church conference. This year, the conference will be a little different as it will be a combined conference with the UMC churches of Sheridan, Buffalo, Gillette, Sundance, Upton and Newcastle. Because of the combined conference, there will be LESS business, and MORE fellowship! Potluck lunch begins at 12:00pm followed by shared worship led by our District Superintendent Jeff Rainwater and a short business meeting. Come help us welcome our United Methodist Neighbors in North East Wyoming as we get to know them and do the business of the church together.

Saturday November 18th

12-3pm

Lunch: Soup provided

Please bring salad or bread to share

(the other churches are bringing dessert)

Let's celebrate all God has been doing among us!

To turn in your pledge cards!!

Confirmation

Confirmation is for youth 6th grade and older. It is an opportunity for young people to respond to the grace of God, make their own faith commitment, and become members of the church. Confirmation is not the completion of faith, but rather the beginning of a life long journey with God.

November Field Trip

November 11th, 5:00pm at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church

December Field Trip

December 12th, 5:15pm at St. Matthew's Catholic Church

Sunday School

Luke 6:31(NIV)

Do to others as you would have them do to you.

Primary

It's Good to Read The Bible Stories of Jesus

Intermediate

Bible Detective

Old Testament

Junior/Senior High

Making Choices

ACOLYTES

Nov 5 Jadeyn

Nov 12 Sawyer

Nov 19 Kylie

Nov 26 Meghan

Sunday Worship Schedule

8:00 am Contemplative

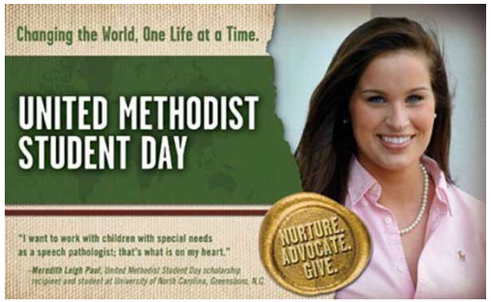
9:15-10:15 am Blended Worship

10:30-11:30 am Sunday School

Salvation Army Bell Ringing

Saturday Dec. 2nd at Smith's 9am-9pm

Sign up to work a shift!



November 26th

November 10th at 6pm

November 11th at 1pm

Susan, family of Robert Jordan and Jerral Rainwater, Jeanie, Donnie Sneathen, Gage Mefford, Kathy Quinn, those affected by Las Vegas shooting, Keith family, Allison family, Steve Richter, Geniva Hanson family, Sherri, Jeff Lamb, Kim & Jim Karas , Nicci and Shea, Kathrine, Sheila, Butch and Ricki, Becky Brazelton family, Guy, Marge Robinson, Newman family, Shayla Graham, Bob Stowe, Kimm Stilwell, Kim, Nathan, Brian, Susan's mom, those affected by natural disasters

Kim Messenheimer	11/01
Charlotte Terry	11/01
Scott Bruce	11/03
Sheila Jeremiah	11/05
Mary Dickey	11/11
Thayne Gray	11/11
Craig Jennings	11/11
Marge Tarno	11/11
Dale Dickey	11/13
Kelly Glasser	11/13
Laura Murphy	11/17
Wesley Brunelli	11/22
Annette Halverson	11/23
Michelle Stowe	11/23
Carrie Snyder	11/24
Georgeen Pierre	11/26
Kathy Nuzum	11/29
Rochelle Christensen	11/30

Mark & Paula Petry	11/06
Justin & Kim Strub	11/11
Annette & Steve Bishop	11/13
Steve & Shawna Schrater	11/19
Greg & Kelly Tryon	11/25
Del & Deb Barber	11/28
Steve & Susan Shurtz	11/29

Date	Topics	Usher's/Greeter's	Worship Leaders
November 5	AnDee Steiner Preaching	Gray Family	Claudia Urlaub
November 12	Pastor AJ Preaching	Tarno Family	Donnie Sneathen
November 19	Pastor AJ Preaching	Susan Shurtz/Joy Beattie	Juli Pierce
November 26	Pastor AJ Preaching	Lyla and Julie Pierce	

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3 Clothes Swap 1-3 Pastor AJ Gone	4 Soup Kitchen 10am
5 Pastor AJ Gone	6	7 Election	8	9	10 Office closed Prayer Journaling 6pm	11 Clothes Swap 11-1 Prayer Journaling 1pm Confirmation field trip 5pm Prince of Peace
12 All Church Potluck and Leadership Event	13	14 Coffee Hours 7-9am Ad council 6pm	15	16	17	18 All Church Conference 12-3pm
19	20	21	22 NO YOUTH GROUP	23 	24	25
26	27	28 Coffee Hours 7-9am	29 Clothes Swap 11-1	30		