In with the Old ...And the New!!

Here we are, looking back on a great year and ahead into one unique year full of exciting events commemorating yesteryear and pioneering promising ministries. On the heels of a uniquely memorable Christmas celebration, once in 1865 and once in 2014, find out in this issue what's coming up at Wyoming Church… at the heart of it all!
"Old to New" Card Makers are seeking new leadership.
This ministry began 8 years ago and during that time many cards have been made by recycling "old" cards and over $1000 has been given to our mortgage reduction as a result. We consider this little ministry important as it provides a bargain card for those looking for an all occasion card and it supports our church. Those of you who have purchased these cards know that they are low cost and also tastefully done with a minimum of detail and time involved (different from some of the time-consuming cards made by professional card makers). We, along with a few helpers, have faithfully cut, glued and designed hundreds of cards but it is time for us to pass this on to others so PLEASE prayerfully consider stepping up so we can continue our Old to New card ministry here at WUMC.

Thanks!
Sharon Duncan and Renate Purdy

Super Bowl Sub Sale
The Jr/Sr High MYF will be selling subs to raise funds to cover the yearly cost to sponsor Jan Marie Macon through the Compassion International program. The cost will be $6 for Italian or Turkey sub. Please watch for our narthex display or you can order online through the CCB link. The subs will be available for pick up Saturday, January 31st from 2:30 until 4 p.m. or after services on Sunday, February 1st.

The new Altar Flower Book for 2015 is at the Welcome Desk. Arrangements are $50. Please enter your dedications now.

White Elephant Christmas Party
Friday, January 16th at 5:30 PM in the Family Life Center. Start browsing your house now for the perfect gift you'll bring - wrap it lovely, too! And bring a covered dish to share. For questions call Family Ministry Director Jack Freidel at 697-8400 or email him at jfreidel1@wyomingumc.com

We Need 15 Minute' Sunday Morning Greeters!
One of the most rewarding, shortest, easiest opportunities to serve at our Wyoming Church is to volunteer for 15 minutes, once a month, for up to six months at a time, to attend on Sunday morning. Prayerfully consider this request to add your name to the great folks that are now serving as Greeters and whose dedicated presence contributes to our Wyoming Church's outstanding reputation as a congregation that welcomes all with 'open hearts, open minds and open doors'. Should you have any questions, please contact Lisa Rossi, mamabear932@hotmail.com or 883-2975 for the 8:30 and 9:45 AM services, or Terry Higgins, tmhiggins59@hotmail.com or 492-3354 for the 11:00 AM service. You will give and receive 'great blessings' for your efforts!

Would you be able to spend a few hours in the church office with Angela while I'm out? Answering the phone, help with the occasional 'odd job', etc... 697-8400 if you're interested. Thank you! Renate Purdy, Office Manager
NEW TIMES REQUIRE A LOT FROM US

The older I get, the more memories I have, and sadly, it is true that every year I have more and more memories of times that I can’t return to and people I can’t see anymore. This is something that can get a person down if they’re not careful.

Here in the beginning of 2015 and the 21st Century as well as the earliest years of the 3rd Millennium (!), we are living in times like no other before. But this is not a new circumstance. Every era is in many ways unlike the one before. And yet, this does not mean that with every new baby born, we should throw away everything that came before and start over. Our 150th anniversary celebration is calling us to “Remember, Rejoice, Renew”. I feel like these words invite us further into a healthy way of stepping into our future as individuals as well as in the church.

GRATITUDE, NOT TEARS, FOR PAST JOYS

The real trick to any memory is to be thankful. For example, when I remember my mother, I miss her, but I have learned to turn that “missing” to remembering her with joy and gratitude. My mother was an amazing blessing to me. She loved me unconditionally. She taught me everything from how to iron shirts to how to peel potatoes. She took me to church, bought me little presents when I was sick, introduced me to the pleasure of kitty-cats, and she provided me with the stability of a well-cleaned and organized home and a routine that sometimes annoyed me, but which I know now, gave me a sense of security throughout my growing up years. And so, when I think of her, I no longer cry. Rather, I smile, because she was a beautiful person, and I’m grateful that God gave her to me as my mother for those many important years of my life.

WHAT TO KEEP AND WHAT TO CHANGE?

It’s the same, I think, for the church. We look back on our past in the church sometimes with tears in our eyes, missing something that was familiar or someone who was instrumental in our spiritual development. But, life goes on for us as individuals and as a church community. My mother’s 86 years were over in 1994, but my time was still ahead of me. And new things have since come into my life, like this wonderful congregation at Wyoming, and friends and special others, and new teachers, new books, new ideas and new ways to worship. Paul must have struggled with all this too, for he wrote in his letter to the Philippians, “... one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal...”

TURNING OVER NEW LEAVES

We think about turning over new leaves at this time of the year, but every day turns our life activities into memories AND new paths to walk toward our future. We can walk backwards, crying and longing for things we can’t have anymore, or we can hold our memories as spiritual treasure with thanksgiving, while we turn our eyes to the next exciting thing that God has in store for us. Let’s join Paul in pressing toward the goal that God has in mind with thanksgiving in our hearts for all that has gone before!
Who do you love?
“For I have come to turn ‘a man against his father, a daughter against her mother’…” Matthew 10:35-36

While no two days are alike in the counseling office, there are some very common emotions that accompany many who come bearing their individual, heavy burdens. Whatever the reason may be to seek help, whether marriage, family, work, or friendship issues, the depleted feeling of disappointment seems to prevail in most client cases.

The statements are rather common; so very easy to understand: “If he would only…”, “If she would just stop…”, “If my boss were just a little more…”, “She’s really a nice person except for…”. The what if, if only, maybe next time type statements are simply routine adages in our language, but laden with emotional and spiritual hurt and pain.

Intellectually we know that the world in which we live, a world inundated with the shortcomings of our humanness, is a world perfectly imperfect. The depth and enormity of God’s love is no great secret and not reserved for a select few. His love is for all. While no two days are alike in the counseling office, there are some very common emotions that accompany many who come bearing their individual, heavy burdens. Whatever the reason may be to seek help, whether marriage, family, work, or friendship issues, the depleted feeling of disappointment seems to prevail in most client cases.

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Intellectually we know that the world in which we live, a world inundated with the shortcomings of our humanness, is a world perfectly imperfect, in virtually every way possible. The only break in the consistently imperfect world that we know so well was the birth we just celebrated, the perfect disruption to a world destined to fall. Outside of our savior, and the promised eternity that He came to bring, all that surrounds us in life, all the people that are a part of our life story, each represent the shortcomings of an incomplete world. Heaven this is not!

If a survey were taken, most folks would be in agreement that this life is definitely not the promised heaven that many of us dream of experiencing one day. Ironically, that knowledge often doesn’t effect the expectations we place on the people that are a part of our life journey. So very often what we seek from someone and what we receive are very different. We want so much to be listened to, to be thought of, to be held in esteem, to feel special, to be recognized…we want so much to be loved.

Our greatest challenge in this life is to realize the truth that all who occupy a role in our individual life story, whether family member, spouse, or friend, will fall short of the expectations we place upon them at some point. How difficult it is to accept someone, a person of significance and prominence in our lives, as is, and not hold them in judgment for being less than what we want…less than perfect. How hurtful it is to be disappointed.

Jesus said he did not come to bring peace to the world, but to turn the people of the world against one another. God does not mean to encourage or incite conflict between those we know and love, but merely to remind us that any thing, any person, even a family member or spouse, can block or impede the pure and unlimited love that God holds for each of us, His children. If ever our affections are more inclined to another person, our attention focused more intently on someone or something, two things are sure to happen: the essence and completeness of God’s love will be constricted and squandered, and the recipient of our attention is certain to fall short of the desired expectations. Disappointment has been welcomed into our lives.

The depth and enormity of God’s love is no great secret and not reserved for a select few. His love is for all. But as scripture reminds us, our God is a jealous God. God will not force us to relinquish the false idols, whether things or people, from our lives. He will merely allow us to feel and wrestle with the disappointment that results from wanting what is not possible; from wanting less than the available best.

Let’s not forget that Christ came to save us from ourselves. Christ came to reorient us, to turn us away from the world that surrounds us, and point us down the path that he forged so many years ago.

The love of God, so graciously displayed in the person of Jesus, is available for all who live in this incomplete life.

Dear God, may we be made complete in this world by daily making You the loving focus of our lives. Amen.
Pastor Dave’s Ministry Minute
January 2014

It’s a New Year that brings with it a new path of learning for Pastor Dave… I’m starting the new year off with my first class at Wesley Theological Seminary in the Course of Study… The Course of Study is a certificate program that is required by the United Methodist Church for Licensed Pastors of a certain age who are not planning to pursue a seminary degree… The first class for me is “Bible I” which seems like an appropriate place to start… I’ve been doing some of the pre-class work which includes much reading and writing… The first assignment was to write a 5 page paper describing the book “The Unfolding Drama of the Bible” which is required reading for the class… This book was written in 1957 by Dr. Bernard Anderson who positions the Bible as a dramatic presentation much like a play or a movie where God is the “Chief Actor” and each person down through the ages has a role to play including us today… The opening scene provides incredibly beautiful images for us as we read the creation story… The narrative continues with story after story of how God provides safety and salvation for all of mankind time and time again, until we see the image of the glory of heaven in John the Beloved’s great Revelation through his dreams on the Isle of Patmos… And the saga continues with each of us as the Lord continues to woo each of us into a closer relationship with the One who loves us the most… So, as you read your Bibles, take time to enjoy the splendor of the unfolding drama and be blessed!!

Peg Ciminera, in her function as member of ‘Quilting For Others’, presents Joan ‘Nana’ Breault with a beautiful quilt for her tireless and dedicated needle-clicking love on the ‘Knitting to Nurture’ group. The knitters meet every first and third Wednesday from 10:30AM to 12:30PM in Room 219.
My Christmas Miracle
By Diana Moore

How many times do you get to have that mind blowing, super emotional, jaw dropping moment? They are few and far between by my standards but, that’s what recently happened to us.

My story goes back a few years to a time when my son, Logan, our pet and I were moving from New Mexico. The move itself was emotional because we were leaving dear friends and an area we loved. The upside was I was moving back to where my daughter was living and struggling with being a single mother and being closer to my parents who were living at Westminster Village.

My daughter and I had decided to share a home and work out the kinks of all our needs. That decision lead us to share a large home. As luck would have it, the only place within our budget was a place that required a pet deposit of $500.00. We both were struggling with moving and it was just impossible. Sadly, I had to give up my year and a couple month old cat who I still felt was a kitten.

She was a special cat to us and had a most unusual way about things. Her name was Ba- by. This name was picked because my son, who is deaf, could vocalize the "b" sound and was able to call her "baba". Baby came to us through the sister of our dear friends the Barrett’s. He was our former pastor and she was the Special Education Director at the high school Logan graduated from. Baby could catch a humming bird ..which I was not happy about, but she never killed them. New Mexico has a huge humming bird migration. /Baby also would “use” the bathtub drain as her “potty” and most of the time went outside for the rest of her “business”. She used the trees as “scratchers” and never gave us any trouble. She loved her “mousy mouse” and she traveled with us twice as we drove back to Delaware to visit our family. She was the best and had learned her boundaries. We all lived in harmony.

I took her to the SPCA back then in March of 2012 it was a very sad day but because they recognized her as special too they were able to take her for adoption to Pet Smart. While sad, I was hopeful that someone would love her like we did.

Our story continues with yet another blow to harmony. My daughter and I found we could not live together and my son and I moved into an apartment the first of December. 2012 was a very sad year for us. Off and on I have been in Pet Smart looking at the pets. It took me about 9 months before I could ever go in there but ...one day I took the leap. I wondered about perhaps finding a new pet.

This year our friends from New Mexico decided to vacation here with us over the Christmas holidays. When they return home they have a new puppy waiting. They decided to exchange puppy gifts to each other here with us on Christmas morning. So off to Pet Smart we went. I told them I had been in and out of Pet Smart off and on for a while looking and never saw anything. So I sent them off for puppy presents and I headed for the adoption area.

I walked in to the cat area first and as I scanned down the aisle of cats I see a tortie and left the area and went to the adoption desk and said I think that’s my cat in there and if it is I want her back. I surrendered her to the SPCA and I need to know if that’s her. They said m’am we can’t give you that sort of information its private. I said I don’t want anyone’s information I will give you mine and you track it back. So they proceeded to look and ask me questions all the while I have to tell you I am shaking. My friends had come up and had gone to look at her too. One of the girls said is there a picture in the something packet ..I didn’t understand and she said yes and proceeded to pull a packet out taking it to the woman at the computer. They compared pics and both at the same time looked at me and grinned ...I pretty much lost it. We went on to do the paperwork and I brought her home in about an hour.

Logan is happy, I am still in shock when the impact of what happened to us replays in my mind. Baby is settling in nicely and with no issues so far.

ANNUAL LADIES RETREAT

Have you... saved the dates? May 17 - 18, 2015

Have you ... invited friends to join you?

...to the Riverview Retreat Center at Pecometh, Centreville, MD

Have you ... decided how you can contribute to the retreat by being part of the leadership team?

It's time to think about these questions and make your plans for this annual meaningful time away with Christian friends.

COMPLETE DETAILS AND REGISTRATION FORM IN THE FEBRUARY MESSENGER

Contact Barbara Shaw at (302) 538-6772 with questions or concerns and to discuss this opportunity to be part of an important ministry to all women at WUMC.
"How the Congregation is to behave in worship"

The Methodist Protestants in their Constitution and Discipline 1830 said this:

During public worship, the congregation is expected to attend with becoming gravity, abstaining from all salutations of persons present, or coming in; and from gazing about, sleeping, smiling, whispering, and all other indecent behavior. (It is expected of all standing about the church doors before service, and of leaving the house before the congregation is regularly dismissed.)

While the minister is addressing the throne of grace, the whole congregation should meekly kneel before God; and during the singing of the first hymn, stand up with their faces towards the minister, and assist in this delightful part of divine worship. The verses of the second hymn should be read over by the minister, and then sung by the people while seated.

Be sure to browse through our constantly changing Church History Display
Peruse old directories for familiar faces, look at scrapbooks, old bulletins…

and Commemorative Items for sale:

*Suncatcher in aqua*, made from recycled glass ($7.50/each)…will be available in 3 more colors

*The Clinging Cross* ($20/each), a wonderful prayer tool!

*NEW! Handcrafted Clay Mug* ($15/each)
Youth Mission Trip, 2015

The 2015 Youth Mission Trip is set! We will be traveling to Elkhorn, WV. The dates for the trip are Monday, July 20th through Saturday, July 25th. The organization we will be working with is SWAP (Sharing with the Appalachian People), which is associated with the Mennonite Central Committee. This organization is recommended by the United Methodist Volunteers in Mission website. This is a home repair ministry for low-income families. Projects could include replacing roofs, floors, siding; painting inside and out; building wheelchair ramps and stairs; and repairing porches. This mission trip is intended for senior high youth (those going into 9th grade through those who just finished 12th grade), youth workers at the church, and the parents of the youth. We can have a maximum of 32 volunteers.

The cost for the trip is $325. This year we are requesting that each person who attends pays a minimum of $50. The remainder of the cost will depend on the money raised in mission trip fundraisers and individual participation in those fundraisers along with any donations given to the mission trip fund. (If financial hardship would prevent a youth from going, please see me, Jack Freidel, because we do have access to some funds to help a youth out in such a situation.)

There are some requirements, besides grade level, in order for a youth to attend the trip.

☑ Mission trip participants are encouraged to attend all mission trip meetings. Important and necessary information is given at these meetings. (Circumstances requiring that a person must miss a meeting are to be presented to the trip leader, preferably prior to the meeting.)

☑ Participation in a minimum of three Wyoming Church sponsored local service projects.

☑ Regularly attend (an average of twice a month) worship services at Wyoming Church.

☑ Regularly attend (an average of twice a month) a Wyoming Church Bible study group and/or Wyoming Church Sunday school.

The first mission trip meeting will be held on Saturday evening, 1/24, from 5:30 pm to 6:30 pm. At this meeting more detailed information about the trip will be made available and we will attempt to answer any questions that you may have. A decision about participating in this trip and the $50 deposit is due by February 6th as I have a February 10th deadline for submitting the number of people coming and the deposit for each person participating.

I am excited about the mission trip and look forward to working and fellowshipping with the youth and adults who will be answering God's call to serve others in Jesus' name.

Jack Freidel

The annual Jr/Sr High MYF Ski Trip to Jack Frost will be held on January 25th.

We will meet at 6am at the church and return approx 8pm.

Cost for Ski/Snowboard is $45 (this includes equipment rental, and optional lesson).

Helmets are $10 extra.

Cost for Tubing:

- All Day $35
- Half Day $20

Families/Adults are welcome to join us for the group rate.

Contact Betsy Freidel at bfreidel1@yahoo.com if interested.

**There will be a worship service for those attending on the trip on Saturday evening, January 24th.
MERRY CHRISTMAS ... from the Jr. and Sr. High MYF! **We wish to thank our church family for supporting our many events and fundraisers this past year.** Our recent "Breakfast with Santa" raised over $500 for our summer youth mission trip. Special thanks to Santa and Mrs. Claus for coming for a visit from the North Pole!

**YOUTH CALENDAR, January**

**Jr./Sr. High MYF**
- Sunday, 1/25/15, Skiing/Tubing/Snowboarding Trip, 6:00 AM-8:00 PM

**Sr. High MYF**
- Friday through Sunday, 1/9/15 to 1/11/15, Ocean Youth Rally, 4:30 PM-1:00 PM

**Jr. High MYF**
- Sunday, 1/11/15, Board Games, 2:00 PM – 3:30 PM

**Service Projects**
- Saturday, 1/24/15, Youth Mission Trip Information Meeting, 5:30 PM – 6:30 PM
- Saturday, 1/31/15, Making of Super Bowl Subs, 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM

**Worship**
- Saturday, 1/24/15, Special service for those going on the ski trip, 6:30 PM – 7:30 PM

**OH WHAT FUN...** we had at the annual youth **White Elephant Christmas Party!**

Join us again if you like for the church-wide version on **Friday, January 16, 2015 at 5:30PM.**
Thanks To The Lawn Crew

By Terry Higgins

The following good folks braved heat, humidity, chilly winds, and blistering sunlight to keep our extensive Wyoming Church lawns looking 'their best' during the 2014 Green Season. Therefore, when you have the opportunity, please consider giving Chuck & Barbara Nichols, Warren Field, Rich Harper, Bill McMahan, Bert Riley, Tim Shepperson, Jack Mitchell, and Ed Norcross a word of sincere appreciation and thanks!

Thank You To The 11:00 AM Sunday Morning Greeters

By Terry Higgins

For those of our Wyoming Church Brothers & Sisters that attended any of the 2014 11:AM Sunday Services, you were undoubtedly warmly greeted by one or more of the great folks who have volunteered their time to meet and greet those of you leaving the 9:45 AM Service and those of you arriving to attend the 11:AM Service. When you have the opportunity and when you think of it, please extend a sincere word of thanks to the following dedicated, friendly, individuals that ‘go a long way’ in making Wyoming Church a ‘truly welcoming experience’. Gloria Barker, Peg Ciminera, Liz Clements, Dan & Kathy Deckard, Judy Field, Lee Gabler, Robert & Carolyn Gomeringer, Rich & Dottie Harper, Sig Kelsey, Mike McDevitt, Theresa McGee, Chris Mikkelson, Diana Moore & Logan, Linda Pape, Charlotte Pepper, Dave Schoettinger, Barbara Shaw, Steve & Rose Ann Townsend, Josh Turner, Cheryl Weil, and Ed & Priscilla Young.

Thank You To The ‘Finance Crew’

By All of Us!!

The Finance Team and Staff of Wyoming is undergoing a big change for 2015. Our wonderful treasurer for almost ten years, Kelly Seip, is stepping down to concentrate on her role as mother to four great boys who are moving faster and farther as they grow older. Kelly has been of enormous help to this church, and we are grateful for her generosity with her expertise over this past decade. Our bookkeeper, Donna Zerhusen, is also stepping down. She has been a true asset to our team and we will miss her. Our Finance Chair, Carole Pearce, is the third member of our team to step down for 2015. Carole has done an outstanding job, but feels it’s time to pass the mantel to another. We’re happy that she’s staying on the team.

When you get the chance, please let these wonderful people know how appreciated they are.
Linda Booher, Sexton Kitchen Team (SKT) Chair, is delighted to extend a sincere ‘Thank You’ to all of the '120 plus' dedicated folks that served as pastry bakers, chefs, servers, cleaners, clearers, sellers, and washers who were kind enough to volunteer their outstanding services during the SKT’s 2014 calendar year of Soup Days, Church Dinners, Church Luncheons, Concert Meals, Bake Tables, Picnics, Food Services to Community Groups, and Church Breakfasts. At the core of all of these many activities stands a group of highly dedicated, highly trained, and highly educated SKT members who expertise ensure the outstanding successes of all of these year long activities. If you have the opportunity, please take a moment to say 'thanks' to Dot Adams, Linda Booher, Sharon Burge, Kathy Chalmers, Warren Field, Larry Gant, Martha Higgins, Nancy Hughes, Tina Klecan, Ruth Leister, Pauline Liston, Nikole Moore, Peg Mosher, George & Barbara Pettyjohn, Kathy Swift, Shelby Truitt, and Vonnie Williams.

Your generous financial response to the many food-related SKT Fundraisers, has enabled the SKT Team to make the following donations; $1,000.00 SKT College Scholarship, $1,000.00 Youth Mission Trip, $3,000.00 WUMC Camp Pecometh Camper Scholarships, $1,000.00 WUMC Vacation Bible School, and $1,100.00 SKT Grant for the purchase and electrical service installation of a kitchen range in the Little Kitchen of the Family Life Center.

And finally, don’t forget that our next Soup Day is on Wednesday, January 14, 2015 beginning at 11:30 AM and ending at 1:00 PM in the Family Life Center. At the January Soup Day for a donation of $4.00 you will receive your choice of 'Winter Hearty Chili' or a 'as yet to be determined gourmet soup appropriate for the season', plus rolls/bread, beverage, and dessert.

Adult Fellowship...

...will begin a new year on Wednesday, January 7 at 6 PM in the Family Life Center with a "soup" dinner. Soup and dessert providers have been appointed by our January hostesses… so all you have to do is show up with your own soup bowl and spoon and be ready for some great soup and outstanding Christian fellowship. The program, including devotions and other business usually ends by 7 to 7:15 PM.

On February 4 at 6 PM we will celebrate our annual Spaghetti Dinner followed by the always entertaining TUCKER BROTHERS BAND. They will perform old favorite gospel and blue grass music. Since the admission is "free" you cannot beat that; we will accept a "love offering" to reimburse Jim and Kathleen Torbert for their expenses for the spaghetti. "Torbert's Spaghetti" is well known as one of the very best anywhere. It is always a big hit with the Adult Fellowship crowd.

Do not hesitate to bring friends and guests to hear the Tucker Brothers and to eat spaghetti. We usually have our largest turnout of the year during that event.

If you have not tried Adult Fellowship or are looking for another fun way to worship God with other Christians, give us a try. We meet at 6 PM the first Wednesday night of every month, September through June. Look for current information on meetings and activities in the WUMC monthly newsletter.
A 'Rekindling'

Josh Turner is interested in meeting with those men who have expressed a desire to consider a 'rekindling' of our Wyoming Church's United Methodist Men's Chapter. Starting in January of 2016 Josh will place a series of Sunday Bulletin 'tickler announcements' as well as a reminder in the forthcoming February and March 2015 'Wyoming Messenger Newsletters' that will invite men interested in 'rekindling' the men's group to a 'brainstorming' meeting in mid-March that will explore all the possibilities for an active program.

In the meantime, should you have any ideas and/or thoughts on this matter, please contact Josh at tool2002@hotmail.com or (302) 678-9818.

The WUMC FUNdraising Team will be holding its annual CLOTHING/ACCESSORY SALE on Saturday, January 24, from 8:30 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. in the Family Life Center. Stop by and pick up a few bargains for the entire family to either perk up their wardrobes for the remainder of this cold winter or to get ready for the upcoming spring season. We have many name brand items to choose from such as Aeropostale, Land’s End, Tommy Hilfiger, Chicos, Talbots, Gymboree, Janie and Jack, and Crazy 8 just to name a few.

Don’t miss out on this wonderful opportunity to save some money and get some fantastic deals for the family. We look forward to seeing you on January 24th.

Also, we will be taking your clean and gently used/new clothing items until Monday, January 19th. Please place all of your donations into the “Clothing Bin” located in the Narthex. All donations are tax deductible. If you need a donation form or have any questions, please call Debbie at 302-423-4733.
Wyoming Church is now a Code Purple Sanctuary!

Thank you to all the volunteers who trained to welcome our community’s homeless women and children as temperatures drop below 32 degrees this winter. And thank you to Amy Faircloth for coordinating it all so efficiently!

Call Amy with any questions (302) 745-8648.

Mark your calendars for Sunday, February 8th! Ken Wood, from Lifetime Wells, Denton, MD will speak at all three services to tell us about his phenomenal mission, Lifetime Wells for Ghana, providing clean water for its people.

Ken has an inspirational story surrounding his decision to take on this epic project!!

A hearty “THANK YOU” goes to all of those who participated in our Giving Tree project this year. We were able to wrap and deliver 151 gifts for children in need. It never ceases to amaze me what response the Outreach Team gets when we have a project! The generosity of this congregation is overwhelming!

May I take this opportunity to thank you all for your wonderful support throughout 2014! Look for lots of opportunities in 2015, as the need for outreach never goes away! May God continue to bless this church!!

In His Service, Judy Field, Outreach Team
Happy Faces at Wyoming Church *2014*

Nurses Christian Fellowship Award

Office Volunteers

Habitat Family

Wonder-full VBS

Youth Ski Trip

Baptism

Ladies' Retreat

Hershey Park

DAPI Graduation in May

Harvest Festival
Youth Mission Trip

2014 Confirmands

* 2014 *

Happy Faces at Wyoming Church

Consecration Sunday Team

Craft Show

Sunday School Closing

Moses @ Sight & Sound

Youth Mission Trip

‘Renewed!’

Puppets of Praise

...more VBS

www.wyomingumc.com
Coming up in 2015:
Three historic Sunday worship services

(1) February 15
(2) May 17
(3) August 16

Sunday morning worship at 11AM with special emphasis on the music and the church service format as it would have occurred in 1865.

Christmas Eve, 1865 at the Methodist Episcopal Church of West Camden

Logan and his mom Diana Moore with friends visiting for the occasion

Mrs. Carol Abbot & son Jonathan with Church Historian Mrs. Mary Schoettinger

Mrs. Kathleen Deckard & Mrs. Susan Hajec

Mrs. Leona Hutchins

The Rev. Patti Collett

Soloist Valarie Boyer

The Fort Delaware Cornet Band
Consecration Sunday Update
by Carole Pearce, Finance Chair

A total of 160 giving units (husbands and wives or single persons) completed Estimate of Giving Cards this year committing $331,270 towards the General Fund and $141,005 for the Building Fund. Based on 2014 giving records, we are anticipating an additional $63,665 for General fund and $15,645 for Building fund during the coming year from people who have consistent giving patterns during the past 12 months, but were not present at Consecration Sunday services. Also, based on the past year loose plate offerings, we are anticipating an additional, $20,000 during the coming year from that source. In addition, Church income from non-donor sources such as interest, rentals and fees is estimated at $88,310. Based on these assumptions, we still anticipate needing to use $9,700 of our savings. Thus, all of these totals equal $669,595 of anticipated income for the fiscal year 2015. This budgeted figure was approved at Church Council in December. When compared to 2014, we experienced a decrease in our operating budget income of $19,670.
~~ Our People ~~

~~ Birth ~~

**Madelyn Joy Flaherty** was born to Jessica and Ryan Flaherty on December 23, 2014, a little sister to Aidan and Seth. Congratulations also to proud grandparents Dana and Rick Sharpe and Aunt Sherry and Uncle Mike Kijowski!

~~ Death ~~

David Bilow on December 22, 2014.

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**Dear Greeters, Ushers, and Welcome Desk Attendants!**

A recent prayer request that someone dropped into our church prayer box (in the 'vending' area) on Sunday morning revealed the following. A prayer request is sent out to our church prayer chain, and if the person leaves a phone number, Sue Hajec is kind enough to call them and pray with them, too. We hear comments like this so often. Newcomers and strangers especially, but everybody across the board in general tell us time and again how warm and welcoming Wyoming Church receives them. I can't begin to express how much your friendly and dedicated service is appreciated! You make all the difference in so many people's lives!

So here now is what Sue tells us:

Hi Renate!

Thank you for sending this prayer request on to me to pray over and to call the person who submitted it! God is so awesome! When I called this person, and identified myself she immediately stopped me and revealed her full name to me because we know each other through teaching! She gave me a very brief explanation of her situation because she was not able to talk at that time, but wants to talk with me again in detail and for prayer!

I'm sharing with you what she told me because there was no personal or confidential information. She has high regard for the way she has been received, welcomed and followed up at our church! Please pass that on to the people that do the greeting and welcoming and follow up for visitors!

This is what she told me: She has a church home but it has not been meeting her needs, so she has been coming to Wyoming for a few weeks and was absolutely blessed by the love and warmth she immediately felt! She also said it was too good to be true that not only did she get a letter from the church, but now a phone call offering to pray for and with her and her requests, and that it was me calling her whom she so much wanted to talk to after being in the service when I was Worship Leader! She didn't get the opportunity, so God arranged another way for us to talk! (I never even saw her there Sunday!)

When I called she was not able to talk then but wants very much to be in contact again with me to pray! She said she has many things going on in her life now and doesn't have much time, but wants to talk and pray with me. I assured her that I will be praying for her and her requests until we talk again! She so much appreciated that!

God's plans are so much better than we can imagine! Wyoming Church is reaching souls!

God's continued Blessings, Sue
**10 Life Lessons Kids Can Teach Us**

What do children know that adults seem to have forgotten? Children are more confident, more courageous and enjoy life far more intensely than adults. Sometimes it feels that we spend our entire lives trying to return to who we were as children. Here’s what we can learn from our younger selves to bring more clarity and joy into adulthood.

Over the next 10 months, join us in refreshing our memories and reviving the 'good ole days'!

**4. Be active.**

"Play energizes and enlivens us. It eases our burdens. It renews our natural sense of optimism and opens us up to new possibilities." - Stuart Brown

When you were young, playing outside was the highlight of your day. You would run and chase your friends until you were out of breath and your cheeks were rosy. You would jump and do cartwheels at the drop of a hat and you never thought of it as "exercise" or "daily fitness." It was just playing. And it was fun. "It is a happy talent to know how to play." Ralph W. Emerson

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*by Jocelyn Kelley, syndicated from huffingtonpost.com, Jul 25, 2014*
Anyone interested in becoming a church member is invited to an INTRODUCTION to WUMC for prospective new members on Sunday, January 18th, 2015 at 11:00 AM.

This is an opportunity to hear from some of our church leaders about our ministries, get to know Patti and ask any questions you might have about church membership answered.

You may have recently started attending or perhaps you have been attending regularly for sometime - all are welcome. We will meet in room 101 (south end of the narthex near the Family Life Center). A light lunch will be provided.

Please call the church office 697-8400 or email to office@wyomingumc.com if you plan to attend.

For questions, call Barbara Shaw 538-6772.