

Minnesota Foodshare Month

Family Pathways will again be joining the Greater Minneapolis Council of Churches in the Minnesota Food Share March Campaign. This campaign is the largest grassroots food and fund drive in the state, bringing together organizations, businesses, faith communities, and individuals to help stock and support the nearly 300 food shelves. The nine Family Pathway Food Shelves work year-round to bridge the gap of food insecurity during tough times. Donations made to our local Family Pathways Food Shelf in March qualify them for a financial incentive from MN FoodShare, stretching our donation dollars even more! We can be part of the MN FoodShare by donating money during the month of March! Our support means we can keep food on the table for our neighbors in need. Family Pathways supplies the weekend “backpack” food we bring to Wyoming Elementary School every Wednesday so our financial donations help to cover the cost of this program. Please mark your check or envelope with “FOOD” so it will go to the food shelf. Thank you for your continued support!

Know that the Lord is God. It is he who made us, and we are his. -Ps. 100:3a (NIV)

Wyoming UMC • 651-462-5276 • Care Crew: 651-462-4890 • wyomingunitedmethodist.org
 Pastor Holly's email: hollyaastuen@gmail.com • Church email: office.wyomingumc@gmail.com



Wyoming United Methodist Church

Messenger



Worship Services in March

This Lent we're looking at a “Good Enough” life as we live in a culture bent on defining “The Good Life” as one where we are living our best life ever. But most of the time we are not living our best lives ever, but are muddling along as best we can. So, what if we stop reaching for something better and focus on fertilizing, watering and blooming right where we are? Welcome to a Lent of affirming a faith in which we are blessed, regardless, and where we can lean into embracing our “good enough” lives.

March 3:
 Bloom Where You're Planted
 Luke 13:1-9

March 10:
 Is it Me?
 Luke 15:11-32

March 17:
 We are Fragile
 John 12:1-8

March 24 (Palm Sunday):
 You are a Group Project
 Luke 19:28-40

March 31 (Easter):
 A Good Enough Faith
 John 20:1-18



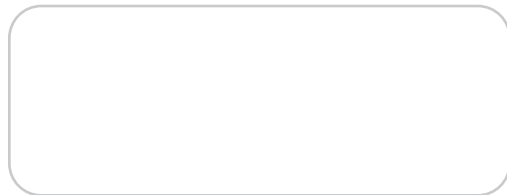
NEW PATHWAYS
 SHELTER & SUPPORT

New Pathways

The first full week of March we are hosting families who are unhoused. We have the privilege of giving families who have fallen on hard times a comfortable and safe place to rest. Our time will begin after worship on Sunday, March 3 where we encourage people to stay after worship and help set up the guests' rooms (bring in cots, make the beds, stock each room with a nightlight and fan). You can sign up at church or call the office to see what opportunities are still available. We have need for overnight hosts, meals, and evening hosts. We could also use your help in cleaning up and putting away cots, etc. early Sunday morning, March 10.

Holy Week

Holy Week is the last week of March, beginning with our Palm Sunday celebration on Sunday, March 24. On Good Friday, March 29, at our 7PM service, we will share in communion as we remember Christ's Last Supper with his disciples and his crucifixion. The service will be in the form of a funeral service as we hear testimonies from Jesus' companions, sharing how he impacted their lives. It will also be a service of descending darkness. On Easter morning, March 31 we will celebrate Christ's resurrection from the dead! You are invited to this Holiest of Weeks as we remember the depth and the height of God's great love for us.



5459 E. Viking Blvd, PO Box 247
 Wyoming, MN 55092



Celebrate with us

SUNDAY, MARCH 31, 2024

8:30 AM Easter Breakfast
 9:30 AM Easter Egg Hunt
 10:00 AM Easter Worship



Wyoming UMC | 5459 E. Viking Blvd., Wyoming, MN 55092 | 651-462-5276

From the Pastor...

I'm enjoying my second read through of "Good Enough" by Kate Bowler and Jessica Richie. I read it the first time on my spiritual renewal retreat in January and now I'm reading it during Lent.

One of the devotions particularly caught my eye. It's devotion number 16, entitled "The Bad Thing." She talks about sitting with a friend who's going through treatment for a sudden cancer diagnosis and how the friend changes the subject in order to not be too much for Bowler, in order to not be "the Bad Thing."

Bowler writes: "There is tremendous pressure in our positive-thinking society to avoid sad stories...But unfortunately for Christians, we are handed a deeply sad story. Our God came to earth and took on full humanity just long enough to be murdered. Jesus rose from the grave and death was conquered...The New Testament is brimming with courage and holiness because the early church understood that faith was not a pleasant guarantee...It is beautiful and terrible, but it is not 'positive.' At least not the way our culture imagines."

This month of March we get to acknowledge this beautiful and terrible truth of our faith as we continue our sermon series on Good Enough and see how our faith is good enough to sustain us through good times and bad, easy times and difficult ones.

This month of March also brings us the opportunity to help those who are going through difficult times as we are invited to support Minnesota Foodshare. Our financial donations to Minnesota Foodshare this month help our local food shelf support the needs of students in Wyoming Elementary School. We hope that you can be generous and help meet this local need.

Easter comes early this year and plans are already in place to joyously celebrate Easter on Sunday, March 31 with an Easter Breakfast, Egg Hunt and a new way of flowering the cross. We'll also celebrate communion on Easter (instead of Holy Humor Sunday, which is the first Sunday of April), so please invite your friends and family to join us on Easter.

All are welcome and wanted.

-Pastor Holly

March Celebrations

Birthdays

- 3-2 Laurie D.
- Sharron F.
- 3-3 Madelyn J.
- Madelynn K.
- 3-7 Valerie V.
- 3-18 Samantha Jo K.
- 3-19 Steve K.
- 3-24 Wendy C.
- 3-26 Rick C.
- 3-27 Tommy A.
- Andy E.
- Kaylee E.
- Donna K.
- 3-28 Janet R.
- 3-29 Linda R.

Anniversaries

- 3-31 Karl & Jeanne L.



Please Notify the Pastor

Please notify Pastor Holly if you hear of anyone from our congregation being in the hospital or in hospice care. Call or email the office or pastor and let them know of the need. Thank you!

Lenten Devotionals

We hope you are enjoying this year's Lenten devotionals in your book, "Good Enough" by Kate Bowler and Jessica Richie. March 1 is the day to read devotion 15 and you should complete devotion #40 on Easter Saturday, March 31. If ever you want to drop in on our Lenten small group, we meet every Thursday at 7PM. We hope your readings help you have a good enough lent and a good enough life!

Men's Prayer Breakfast

February marked the 45th year that the Wyoming Area Men's Prayer Breakfast Fellowship has been gathering to pray for the needs of members of the community and beyond. Starting as a dream of some of the area's business men and the then pastor of WUMC, the group has come to this church most Tuesday mornings to have breakfast and a time of prayer. Early on it was decided to offer financial support to World Vision and the Children's Shelter of Cebu. They have since added Minnesota Adult and Teen Challenge to that list. The only surviving member of the original group is Russell Mansmith one of the founding business men.



May the glory of the Lord endure forever; may the Lord rejoice in his works. -Ps. 100:31



Puzzle Lending Library

Do you like to do jigsaw puzzles? Members of the Tuesday Morning Spiritual Prayer Group, and a few other puzzle aficionados, have brought some of their puzzles to the library and hope that you will take some home for your enjoyment and maybe even bring other puzzles in exchange (not necessary, but appreciated!) Come and look at the puzzle lending library at the far end of the conference table in the library.

