THE MESSENGER

November 2026

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
23 N. Seneca Avenue
Newcastle, WY 82701
Office 307-746-4119

REVEREND CALVIN HILL

Our mission statement: *Passion for Christ, Compassion for all.*



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PASTOR'S MESSAGE: SHARING THE HARVEST

Pastor Calvin Hill

As November comes around, I often think of harvest times with my family. One harvest, Grandpa watched from the distance as the day grew late. He told us to leave one box behind. I asked, "Why?" He said, "I want to take it to the family who had struggled with their harvest." I replied, "Will we have enough for the winter?" Grandpa smiled, saying, "Son, a harvest is not measured by what we bring home; it is measured by how many people we help feed."

That next weekend, the family and ours shared a meal together. We were all grateful not just for the corn but in the relationship we had strengthened that harvest. The relationship got us through the hard winter that year.

For many generations, harvest has meant more than collecting food. It has been a time of gathering, sharing what God has provided, and remembering loved ones. It is a time of love and laughter, a time that inspiration prepares for the days ahead. It is a time to welcome all to gather together, and a time where the Psalmist states, *"O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever!"* (Psalm 107:1)

As believers, we see the spirit of gratitude in the life Christ has given as He welcomed people to the table and fed the hungry. He invites us, as his disciples, that the harvest of life is meant to be shared.

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PASTOR'S MESSAGE

(Continued)

Thanksgiving dinner is not just about gathering; it is about what we are willing to offer to one another.

Perhaps, this year's harvest will not only be about gathering from the fields or gardens. Rather it will be a harvest of kindness, forgiveness, compassion, and renewed relationships. It might be a time to discover that someone needs support during these struggling days, a word of encouragement, or an invitation to join us.

My prayer for harvest this year is that we bring not simply gratitude but faithful service, inspiration, and God's love to one another. It might just be what someone needs this year.

MEN'S BREAKFAST WITH PRAYER & DEVOTION

Saturday, November 7

All men of the church are invited to a breakfast with prayer and devotion on the first Saturday of each month in the Fellowship Hall at 7am.



Breakfast will be provided for the men to enjoy during this time of fellowship.



Luke and Stella light the alter candles for Sunday church service.

COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING DINNER



Thursday, November 26
FUMC Fellowship Hall
Beginning at Noon

Volunteers at First United Methodist Church will be hosting a FREE Thanksgiving Day dinner for the community. Turkey, dressing, potatoes and gravy, and beverages will be provided. Additional food items are welcome to complete this feast.

If you can help prepare the food and/or work at this event, please contact the church office.

Everyone is invited to join in this time of fun, food, and fellowship!

Happy Thanksgiving!

A WHISPERING PRAYER

Submitted by Reverend Hill

"Let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven."
(Matthew 5:16)

Lord, strengthen me today and let your love shine through me. May your light of peace shine through me and your light of grace reach someone today. Help me to be compassionate to those of need, be encouraging to those who are weary, and be able to share your Good News of life. May every person I encounter feel your loving grace. Use me, Lord, to bring someone closer to you. Walk with me this day and make me a blessing. Amen

TRUSTEES' CHAIR REPORTS

Submitted by Carl Sundstrom

The Trustees met October 6. We continue to find air conditioners and lights left on throughout the building after areas have been used. This is expensive and wasteful! *Please show respect for the people who support this church by being responsible and turning off the air conditioners and lights* when you are finished with the rooms they support!

Sharon reported that the YouTube connection for Sunday Service has been used successfully! Thank you to Sharon for the persistence it took to make this outreach work!

Adam has done a masterful job completing two of three masonry repairs in the furnace room walls in the basement. Thank you, Adam, for all the things you do to help the church!



The Plexiglas over the large stained-glass window in the parlor was removed and an inspection revealed the framework supporting it was never correctly installed. Only minor repairs were needed to facilitate the installation of the replacement tempered glass. Those repairs have been completed. (See picture) We are waiting for word that the glass has been cut, tempered, and shipped to Hagen Glass. The work will be scheduled when they have the glass.

Final bid/estimate revisions have been requested for the RAN Grant project, and the grant request should be finalized Tuesday, October 26. Final bid/estimate revisions have been requested for the cross-lighting project. Work will be scheduled when they have been received. We hope to have both projects completed this fall!

Due to a leak, the water heater at the parsonage was replaced. A replacement window is on order to replace the dining room window, which is failing.

The sprinkler system has been winterized. Thanks are due Tanner Lenardson and Denette Price for mowing the lawns. They are looking GREAT!

The monthly test of the smoke alarms, carbon monoxide alarms and exit/egress lighting was completed. The alarms in one room had been tampered with. We would like to remind everyone that *tampering with life-safety equipment violates state statute* and puts our membership at risk!

CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

Submitted by Carl Sundstrom

We've moved! Children's Sunday School is meeting in the back of Fellowship Hall to facilitate having a second adult for the class. We pray that our new arrangement will help the future generations of our church to grow in God's promise and love!

Topics included the Parable of the Sower and worshiping the golden calf. The story of the origin of the Lord's Prayer was presented. An explanation of the Lord's Prayer was started, focusing on the meanings of "Our Father" and "our daily bread" in our lives. The explanations of other parts of the Lord's Prayer will continue in future weeks.



UMW MAKES PLANS

Submitted by Chris French

The United Methodist Women (UMW) met on Wednesday, October 7, with thirteen women in attendance. Lavonne Roberts gave the devotion prior to the meeting. At the meeting, decisions were made to:

- Pay $600 quarterly pledge to the church
- Keep the price the same as last year for the bazaar lunch of soup and pie
- Finish setup of bazaar tables on Sunday, November 15, following the church service
- Provide a collection tub and supply list in the church narthex for the OCC Shoebox project; set a goal of filling 50 shoeboxes; UMW will pay postage for completed shoeboxes
- Continue preparations for the "Christmas in Wyoming" bazaar, November 21
- Honor veterans on Sunday, November 8, with cake and poppies
- Research gift options for residents of Weston County Manor and Mondell Heights

All women of the church are invited to the next meeting on Wednesday, November 4, at 9:30am in the Fellowship Hall.



SPECIAL OFFERING

Starting the first Sunday of Advent, November 29, and continuing for all Sundays in the month of December, a special offering will be taken for Pastor and staff appreciation gifts. Donations can be placed in the special offering basket at the back of the Sanctuary, or they can be mailed to the church. Make checks payable to FUMC with Pastor/Staff gifts in the memo line. Let's be generous in showing our thankfulness for our Pastor and our staff.

Your Holiday shopping starts at the

"Christmas in Wyoming"

First United Methodist Church

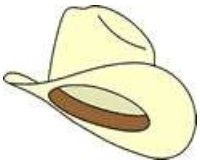
Bazaar 2026



SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 21
23 N. SENECA

9 A.M.—1 P.M.

COFFEE BREAK @ 9:30 A.M.





Drawings

Pecans

HOLIDAY DECOR

Homemade
Christmas Gifts



Boxed Cards
and Dishcloths

Baked Goods

Plants



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

1: All Saints Sunday
1: OCC Shoeboxes Due
1: Media Ministries Meeting, 11:30am
Sanctuary
3: Worship & Outreach Committee
Meeting, 10am, Church Parlor
3: Trustees Meeting, 6pm, Church Parlor
4: Gigi's Closet Open, 9am-1pm
4: UMW Meeting, 9:30am, Fellowship Hall
7: Men's Breakfast, 7am, Fellowship Hall
7: Trustees Work Day, 9am
8: Finance Committee Meeting, 11:30am
Church Parlor
8: Grief Support Group, 2-4pm
Church Parlor
10: Action Task Force, 9-11am
Fellowship Hall
11: Veteran's Day
11: Gigi's Closet Open, 9am-1pm
16: Relational Care Team, 11am
Church Parlor
19: Gigi's Closet Open, 9am-1pm
21: "Christmas in Wyoming" Bazaar
9am-1pm, Fellowship Hall
22: Christ the King Sunday
22: Hanging of the Greens after Church
22: Grief Support Group, 2-4pm
Church Parlor
26: Thanksgiving Day
26: Community Thanksgiving Dinner
Noon in Fellowship Hall
29: First Sunday of Advent

BIRTHDAYS/ANNIVERSARIES*

1: Derek Malsam
2: *Harold & Dana Tysdal
*Geoff & Audrey Knight
*Chuck & Patricia Bartlett
5: Tim Bertsch
7: Carol Cargill
8: Lenora Sundstrom
Sally Hoover
Nicole Gregory
9: Sharon Roness
Nancy McFarland
Emmit Gregory
12: Tammy Johnson
22: *Dean & Tammy Johnson
24: Patricia Bartlett

CHURCH INFO

Office Hours:
8am-noon M-TH

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Radio: Sunday Service at 10am on KASL