

First United Methodist Church

2000 W. Lakeway

Gillette, WY 82718

Return Service Requested

To Our Friends:

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

First United
Methodist Church
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Gillette, WY 82718

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

Friend us on Facebook &
now follow us on Twitter
@FUMCGillette



Open Hearts

Open Minds

Open Doors

A Monthly Publication of

*First United
Methodist
Church*

2000 W. Lakeway Rd
Gillette, WY 82718

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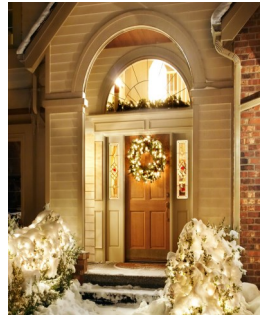
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The Pastor's Door

Reverend Cory Young

I remember the Christmas Eve tradition that we had as a family when I was growing up. We would gather with the extended family at our house, have dinner, play with the new toys that we were given by aunts and uncles, go to church (which felt like it was at midnight, but really was only 6pm), and then go out after the service and look at the Christmas light displays. Year after year that was tradition in the Young household, and only a few times did that tradition change till I was about ten years old.



Looking back on those days, as we often do, when we look back on earlier times in our lives, it was a tradition that I truly loved. Yet, as time passed things started to change and before I knew it there was no Christmas Eve party at our house; the extended family started drifting away to celebrate elsewhere; Christmas Eve service didn't start feeling so late; and Christmas light displays that were luminous extravaganzas, one by one became another dark house on a cold December night.

Things changed and yet there is something magical in the memory of those simpler times of my youth. But as much as I want to go back to those days, they have passed me by. My parents are no longer together, my extended family stopped talking to us, I moved across country, and instead of attending Christmas Eve services I now officiate them. But honestly the change isn't all bad.

Think about the world that Christ was going to be born into. Traditions were being changed with the census that Rome required. God's chosen people had not had a prophet in over four hundred years. And Herod was a man who only thought about his power and how he can hold on to it. Shepherds were just hanging out in the fields, doing the work they always do. Magi (or educated men if you prefer) from the East were reading and studying the night sky. Traditions that were not all that great, but with change came a new era of hope for the world.

Every year we read the birth story of Jesus Christ from Luke’s Gospel, and every year we can see how the world changed on that night. Hope, love, joy, and peace all came into the world that night! A tradition of sorrow was replaced with a tradition of celebration! Things changed!

Last December was rough. With personal health issues, and the health of my dad, every tradition I had was thrown out the window. It reminded me of the Christmas Eves so long ago that only exist in my mind. Things changed, last year for the worse, but other years tradition changed for the better. But what always remains is the reminder that Christ was born into a world of chaos and brought God’s love to all of God’s people!

As your traditions might change this year, I encourage you to not lament for the Christmases of yesteryear. I encourage to you to create new traditions and see how God is moving in your life in unexpected ways! Traditions are not always a bad thing, and this year we will still have Christmas Eve services and tell the story of the birth of Jesus one more time.

Happy Advent and Merry Christmas,

Reverend Cory



Christmas Giving Trees

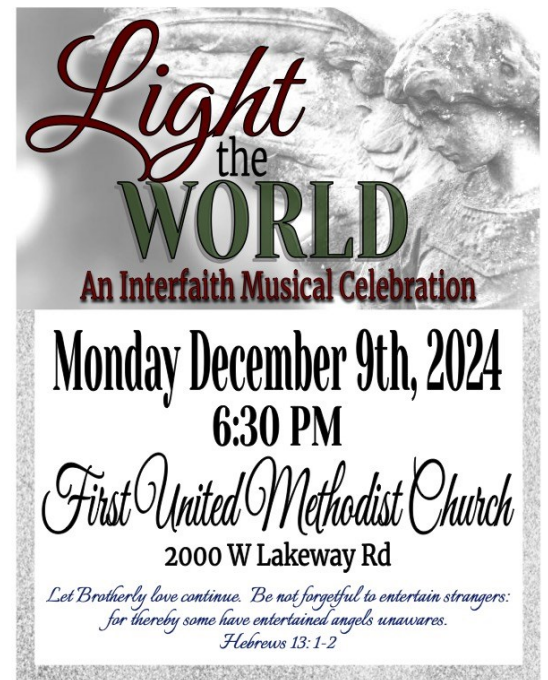
Angel Tree— gifts to children who have an incarcerated parent. Items are due on December 15th and delivered that day

Toili-tree— non perishable food items, toiletries, hygiene items. Will be donated to the Council of Community Services

Sock tree— socks of all sizes to be given out at the soup kitchen.

FUMC is hosting the 3rd annual “Light the World” ecumenical Christmas Carol Sing. Come and enjoy the spirit of the season with ten churches participating!

Choir practice will be on Sunday’s from 10:15-10:30. If you want to raise your voice in Praise , please join us. Ladies will sing their song December 8th and 9th. All members will sing December 15th.



Soup Kitchen Fundraiser

Sunday, December 22nd at noon

Ways you can participate:

- Bake cookies to go in goody bags
- Come and eat lunch at the Soup Kitchen that day.

Location: Rockpile community Building across the street from the Council of Community Services

- Free Will offering collected that day or you can donate at church with “Soup Kitchen” in the memo
- We always Welcome help with serving food and clean up



Sunday Worship Schedule

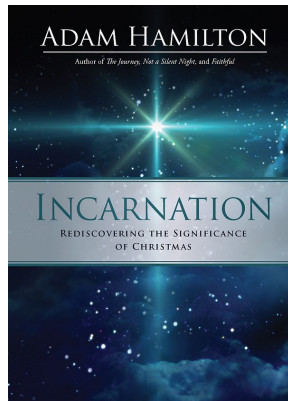
8am Contemplative Service
 9:15-10:15 am Blended Worship
 Sunday School 10:30am all ages

Christmas Services

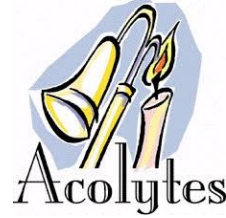
4pm Family
 7pm Candlelight



Advent Study
 for 2024 it is a book called "Incarnation" by Adam Hamilton. We will be meeting after church after church Dec 1-Dec 22



Those traveling, Mandy Reynolds family, Nuzum family, Karen, Shone and Thayne, Neal and Dee Gray and Kelzer family, Fonna, co worker with tumor, Guy, Uhler family, Caroline, Charles Reed Family, Tammy's niece



Dec 1 Luka
 Dec 8 Koryn
 Dec 15 Zelda
 Dec 22 Alora



Join us December 12th at 6:30pm.



Friendship Circle

Thursday, December 12th at 10am.
 We will have a cookie exchange.
 Bring two to three dozen cookies to exchange or donate to the soup kitchen.

OATH

Tuesday, December 17th at noon.



Home Visits

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

Reminder to watch us live on Facebook Sunday morning for worship!!!

<https://www.facebook.com/FirstUnitedMethodistofGillette>



Date	Preaching	Worship Leaders	Ushers
December 1	Rev. Cory Young	Luka Zeleski	Gray's
December 8	Rev. Cory Young	Janet Zimmerman	Bosecker
December 15	Rev. Cory Young		Fox's
December 22	Rev. Cory Young		Birr's
December 29	Rev. Cory Young		King

December



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Charge Conference @ 10:30am Advent Book Study @ 11am	2	3	4	5	6	7 Soup Kitchen @ 10am
8 Ad Council @ 10:30am Advent Book Study @ 11am Light of the World Rehearsal @ 8pm	9 Light of the World Celebration @ 6:30pm	10 Jesus and Jack 6pm @Grinners Scouts @ 6pm Girl Scouts 6pm	11	12 Friendship Circle @ 10am Blue Christmas @ 6pm Prayer Shawl @ 6:30pm	13	14
15 Advent Book Study @ 11am Angel Tree gift delivery	16	17 GAL @ 11:30am OATH @ 12pm Scouts @ 6pm	18	19	20	21
22 Advent Book Study @ 11am Soup Kitchen Fundraiser @ noon	23	24 Office Closed 4pm Family Service 7pm Candlelight Service	25 Office Closed 	26	27	28
29	30	31	Office Closed			

Susan Shurtz	December 04
David Fall	December 12
Wanda Fox	December 12
Michelle Miller	December 13
Margaret Chase	December 17
Janet Czapla	December 24
Gerald Baker	December 26
Tom Kremer	December 28



Art and Marge Tarno	December 11
Bruce and Carol Bowersox	December 16
Frank and Charla	December 19
Jeff and Tracy Wasserburger	December 31