



# THE BELL TOWER

November 2022



## Emily's Chronicles

**“Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.” – 1 Thessalonians 5:18**

Greetings Brothers and Sisters in Christ of Cody UMC,

We are in the peak of fall and preparing for all the wonderful festivities ahead of us. I'm sure you have seen all the cute and wonderful fall decorations with the prominent theme of thankfulness. This idea is not only found on mugs and signs, but in the church as well. Give Thanks with a grateful heart! Rejoice and be glad! We hear these phrases often, and I have to admit there are times where it seems difficult or even pointless to be thankful.

When life throws us more than we can handle, thankfulness seems like something only in our imagination. We are constantly seeing the things that tear us apart and make the world seem bleak and hopeless; and yet there is always Good News and much to be thankful for!

Last month I had the joy of attending a Casting Crowns concert with my mother and sister. One of the opening bands, Cain, has a song that truly resonated with me and has not left my mind or my heart. Their song “I’m So Blessed” has some lyrics that I think everyone needs to hear:

“Whether it’s your best day, your worst day, some Tuesday or your birthday, every day is a good day now let me tell you why, you got air in your lungs, you got blood in your body, you’re a child of God, come on sing it somebody- On my best day, I’m a child of God, on my worst day, I’m a child of God. Every day is a good day, you’re the reason why I’m so blessed!”

Even in a world where things are broken and chaotic, we are children of God. Even one the days we feel like there is not much to live for, we are still children of God. Even in those moments where we feel we are unworthy, we will STILL be children of God and loved infinitely! May we see God around us, with us, and in us. May we continue to be thankful and see every circumstance as an opportunity to grow in faith and love.

Peace and Blessings,

*Pastor Emily*

Reverend Emily L. Rettinghouse

*Thea's Thought*

*I'm so blessed, I  
can't stop smiling!  
Thanks be to God!*



## Finance Update

We have reached our \$18,000 fund-raising goal for the new carpet. Donations currently exceed \$18,000. Any additional donations and the proceeds from the auction will be used to offset the \$18,000 that we pulled from our endowment funds to cover half the carpet cost. Thank you to everyone who contributed. As always, our congregation comes through when we need extra help.

We are still proceeding with the auction. Swenson's auctioneers have been handling some estate auctions which have pushed back their consignment auction. The latest news is that we will be taking items to Powell in early November. You can still drop items by the church if you want. As before we will do a pickup of large items when we are finally ready to deliver. The auction will hopefully finish before the end of the year. Whenever it happens the proceeds will be used to fund the new carpet.

One final note on general fund giving. As of the end of September we are on track to meet our giving goal for the year. We also thank you for that. Normally 30 percent of our annual giving occurs in November and December. As we go into the holiday season, we ask that you keep us in mind. We know that rising inflation is impacting all of us, including our church expenses. Utility costs for the church are projected to be 20 percent higher than last year.

We thank you for all that you do to help support our church and our missions.

Bryan Armel



### **Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!**

Thank you from the Trustees to all who helped to support the carpet purchase and installation. The purchase has been made possible by those of you who have contributed and are continuing to contribute through the upcoming auction.

The installation was made seamless and smooth by those who gave of their time to help. The many hands involved made the work go quickly and easily.

### **Thank you all:**

Gene Parker	Carolyn Bentzen	Francie Audier	Dave Shaw
Duane Whitmer	Lynn Whitmer	Byron Coleman	Cameron Newton
Ron Daniels	Larry Zink	Jenny Zink	Bev Shaw
Brenda Bangert	Dave Birzer	Tim Sheffield	Alex Rettinghouse
Rick Cook	Diane Ballard	Denise Arthur	Emily Rettinghouse
Cap Bell	Linda Bell		

Gene Parker and the Trustees

## **Church Council Minutes - October 11, 2022**

**Attendance:** Pastor Emily, Byron Coleman, Gene Parker, Ann Armel, Bryan Armel, Carrie Sheffield, Suzanne Palmer, Jenny Zink, Pat Salyer, Karen Birzer, Dave Shaw, Kandi Parker.

### **Old Business**

Trunk or Treat Update - The theme for this year's Trunk or Treat is 'Video Game Characters'. So far we have three vehicles and could use a couple more. Karen Birzer, Carrie Sheffield, and Click Hunter have volunteered to help in the kitchen. There is a candy box in Koelmel Hall for candy donations.

### **New Business**

Ad Council will be hosting a farewell celebration for Pat and Howard Salyer on October 30th after Worship. Jenny and Ann will co-chair the event.

Nominations Check-in

Ann Armel reported that we are in need of volunteers to serve on committees for next year. Also a Lay Leader is needed. Please contact Ann or someone on the Nominations Committee if you would like to volunteer.

The 2022 Charge Conference will be held at 11:30 on Sunday, December 11th, after Worship. We encourage everyone to attend this important event.

### **Committee Reports**

Education - Suzanne is continuing to organize and get supplies ready for Trunk or Treat.

Our youth Group met for their first meeting at the Presbyterian Church. That meeting went well and there were 15 kids that attended. They are studying a new book this year.

The rest of the Fall meetings will be held at Trinity Lutheran Church and the Spring meetings will be held at Cody UMC.

**Finance** - Bryan reported that the committee met to go over the proposed 2023 Budget and make changes where necessary. He will be sending each Committee their proposed budget for approval.

Bryan also reported that we have exceeded our carpet funding goal! A big THANK YOU to all who donated to this project!

**Worship** - Jenny reported that our two Sunday Worship services at 901 went very well. THANKS to all who helped to make this transition go smoothly. Also a big THANK YOU to Mary Barbee for the use of 901!

Laity Sunday, a special Sunday for our congregation to be in charge of the Worship service, will be on Oct 16th. Special music will be provided by Hope Sheets, the message will be given by Char Olson and the Worship committee will organize and conduct the service and the fellowship hour that follows.

There will be a Worship Committee meeting Thursday October 27th at 10:30 to begin planning for Advent.

**Good Samaritan** - Pat gave us an update on our assistance activity so far this year. She and Pastor will be sharing this information with the congregation on October 30th during Worship. Pat also informed Ad Council that when she leaves Pastor and Kandi will be taking her place.

**Missions** - The Mission Committee will have their next meeting October 23rd, 11:15 a.m. They will discuss their duties for serving at Ann Ayres birthday party on November 13th. They also will be discussing the Bake Sale scheduled for November 20th, that benefits Spirt Mountain Hospice. The Committee is planning an Advent project of a food drive for Cody Cupboard or outreach for kids at Eastside School.

**Membership/Nurture** - Dave gave us some membership statistics including :

last years members -188

this year's members - 176

removals - 4 deaths

letters sent - 6

average attendance - 86

online viewing - 19

youth - 3 in college

Mt. Sky Conference - 4 churches closing and 6 churches are leaving the Conference

The Membership Committee is looking for someone or some committee to take over the cooking for our Pancake Breakfast.

**Safety** - Byron reported that the Committee is in need of more volunteers for weekly Worship duties. Please contact Byron if you can help out. CPR and AED recertification is needed for some of our members and Byron will talk with Suzanne about giving the class. The Safety Team will have a meeting shortly after the first of the year.

**Trustees** - Gene reported that The Carpet Project should be completed by October 14th or 15th and we can possibly meet for Worship in our church on Sunday October 16th! The Trustees are very pleased with the carpet. Pastor will take care of thank you notes. Gene also reported that the egress windows are here and he will be setting up a time for them to be installed.

**Discipling Team** - Ann reported that the Team hasn't met in a awhile and may be looking at other options. She also informed us:

Oct 24th - Social Principles class meets from 4:00 to 5:30 p.m. for the next 6 weeks (Mondays)

The class on Revelations will begin in the Spring.

During January and February there will be a WWJD Historical class offered.

**Pastor Emily's Comments** - Pastor just returned from Clergy Orders in Lander. It was a rather difficult session because of budget issues which will affect districts, certain positions, grants, different appointments etc. Annual Conference 2023 will be in Colorado Springs online or in person. More details will be available soon. Pastor reported that the recent Faith and Blue went very well. Also that Pastor has been recommended for the position of Chaplin for the police department.

Alex and Thea are doing fine too!

Respectfully Submitted, Kandi Parker, Recording Secretary

## From Missions Committee:



### Mission Bake Sale in November!

Don't miss the Annual Missions Committee Bake Sale benefitting Spirit Mt. Hospice. The sale will be **Sunday, November 20** in Koelmel Hall. All of the baked goods will be homemade and wrapped individually for safety control. Don't worry about holiday baking when you can come get all you need that Sunday and support a great cause as well. And to all you great bakers out there...we would love to have you volunteer to bring some goodies and help us raise money for Spirit Mountain Hospice. Please drop donated goodies, wrapped and labeled to the kitchen in Koelmel Hall Sunday, November 20.

*Thank you, Linda Bell, Missions Committee Chairperson*



### UMW (United Methodist Women) & Circle News

**UMW**—Unit Meeting **November 9, Noon** at Cody UMC, Koelmel Hall. The Mission Team meets at 11 a.m. Carolyn Bentzen and Jeanne Blenkinsop will co-host the Unit lunch at Noon. Our program will be “CASA” presented by Brandie Gann.

UMW will have a Cookie Stroll Fundraiser on **Sunday, Dec. 11** after the Worship Service. Fill your box and make your free will donations. There is a sign-up sheet for cookie bakers in Koelmel Hall.

**Naomi Circle**—**November 14, 6:30 p.m.** at the church in Koelmel Hall. Karen and Lynn will co-host. Kandi will share a devotion.

**Rebekah Circle**—**November 15, 1 p.m. in Koemel Hall.** Jeanne and Carolyn will co-host; Carol will share the devotion. Skip will direct the program.

Rebekah Circle has kitchen and visitation duties in November.

***The UMW Mitten Tree is up in Koelmel Hall...hoping to deliver warm clothing items to schools in late November.***

## Worship Committee News:

### READERS:

November 6     Ann Armel  
November 13    Joan Wolcott  
November 20    Lauren Newton  
November 27    Gretchen Henrich



Thanks to all those who helped with moving Worship Supplies to and from 901 Sheridan (Mary Barbee's building) for our time in October out of our Sanctuary. This was a wonderful experience and a special thank you to Jann Smith for providing the beautiful quilt for the window - it was so helpful to cover that space. This was such a smooth transition and all who attended enjoyed the experience.

October 16 - Laity Sunday was back in our church and what a great message from Char Olson. Thank you Char! The morning went very smoothly and even though we did not have a big meal - the goodies were GOOD! Thanks to all who participated and helped with the Service and Refreshments.

On October 30, we will say our farewells to Pat and Howard Salyer and enjoy the time together with a special fellowship time.

November brings us Thanksgiving and closer to the beginning of Advent. Our church will be filled with decorations of the season and much more.....

## SPR Committee News

The SPR COMMITTEE has been busy updating job descriptions and setting up our yearly Evaluations for our employees. The Evaluations will start October 25th and hopefully be completed in early November.

We also have exciting news about our new hire for the position of Assistant to Church Ministries! After a very successful interview on October 19th we hired Susan Schmidtberger for the position. Susan has been volunteering in the office when we have needed her, so she is knowledgeable about our office procedures as well as being familiar with our church. Susan is very excited about her new position and we feel blessed to have her. We are looking forward to a very smooth transition starting October 31st.

We wish Pat Salyer all the best on her exciting new journey in Michigan. Thanks Pat, for sharing these last five years with us! You have been a wonderful asset to our Church Family and certainly touched lots of lives along the way.

The SPR COMMITTEE



## From the Membership/Nurture Committee

### MITTEN TREE TIME

Watch for the mitten tree to go up in Koelmel Hall after we return to our church. Hats, scarves, mittens and coats are welcome. What is placed on the tree goes to Cody schools. **THANK YOU for your generosity.**



## YOUTH GROUP NEWS

### UMYF Meetings 2nd & 4th Sunday of the Month

This year we have many fun new things planned. We will be combining with Christ Episcopal, First Presbyterian and Trinity Lutheran churches again. There will be lots of kids from Middle School to High School coming together to have fun, learn, share, pray and most importantly eat! We are starting our study of the book, "Imaginary Jesus" by Matt Mikalotos.

We will meet the Winter meetings will be at Trinity Lutheran Church. Meetings in 2023 will be held at Cody UMC.

Questions: Call Pastor Emily or Suzanne Palmer



# November

## 2022



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>Choir Practice</b> <b>Every Sunday after church at 11:15 am</b>		1 All Saints Day	2	3  5:30 pm Bells	4	5
6 10 am Sunday Worship - Holy Communion <b>All Saints Sunday</b>	7  4 pm - Social Principles Class	8  7 pm - Ad Council	9 UMW Mission Team 11 am UMW Unit Mtg. Noon	10  5:30 pm Bells	11	12
13 10 am Sunday Worship—Bells Ann Ayres 90th birthday party Membership 11:15 UMYF 5-6:30 pm	14  4 pm - Social Principles Class Naomi 6:30 pm	15  Rebekah Circle 1 pm Koelmel Hall Finance 6 pm	16	17  5:30 pm Bells	18	19
20 10 am Sunday Worship <b>Missions Bake Sale TODAY</b>	21  4 pm - Social Principles Class	22	23	24  <b>Thanksgiving</b> Office Closed	25	26
27 10 am Sunday Worship Trustees 11:15 am UMYF 5-6:30 pm	28  4 pm - Social Principles Class	29	30			





## Happy Birthday to You!

Alexis Mann	Nov 1	Bev Shaw	17
John Long	6	Brenda Bangert	17
Jenny Zink	7	Nancy Cook	17
Mark Garrison	9	Lea Preator	20
Donna Lynn Murray	11	Mary Louise Murray	23
Sam Little	11	Linda Willis	25
Kirianne Palmer	13	David Brizer	25
Craig Olson	15	Judie McGary	28
Joanne Donley	15	Lynn Whitmer	28
Ann Ayres	16		



## Happy Anniversary

Hugh & Chris Hohe	Nov. 1
Terry & Sondra Dishong	2
Tom & Karen Duncan	15
Karl & Lynn Lampe	30

## Cody Cupboard Update

### Hours:

Monday to Friday, 1 pm to 4 pm

### Phone:

307-586-3732 or 307-899-7687 to schedule  
a same day appointment for food.

### E-mail:

[info@codycupboard.com](mailto:info@codycupboard.com)



Please drop off donations on the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of each month!

SCHOOL IS BACK IN SESSION = HUNGRY KIDS!

**THANK YOU CUMC!**

*YOUR MISSIONS TEAM*

**“Be quick to give a meal  
to the hungry, a bed to  
the homeless—  
cheerfully. Be generous  
with the different  
things God gave you,  
passing them around so  
all get in on it.”**

**1 Peter 4:9-10,  
*The Message***

**[www.codyumc.com](http://www.codyumc.com) - church website**

*Jesus said to him, “Feed my lambs.” John 21:15*



PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE

**Cody United Methodist Church**  
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