

THE BELL TOWER

September 2022



Emily's Chronicles

"He changes times and seasons, deposes kings and sets up kings; he gives wisdom to the wise and knowledge to those who have understanding." – Acts 14: 16-17

Greetings Brothers and Sisters in Christ of Cody UMC,

Fall is under way! School is back in session, and the relaxation of summer turns into the busyness of autumn. I enjoy summer, but I really love fall. Bible studies, Sunday school, youth group, choir, bell choir, and other groups/committees prepare to meet. The church fills up again with those who have been away on vacation. We prepare for the seasons to come and the start of the new liturgical year.

With all the usual activities and routines under way, I can't help but think about the new things that are possible. All the ways that God is doing something new. Even in the change of seasons, there are new possibilities. God can, and does, present to us the ways of growth and change. Although we know what this season brings, there are always new things that can come through.

God is constantly at work. Trying to guide us and show us the ways of peace, light, and love. We are called to dive into a deep and intimate relationship with God, to seek God's wisdom, and to show God's love to all people. This may be the season you find yourself starting something new in your relationship with God, and to see God in a new perspective. God is capable of so many things. Sometimes I think we forget just how awesome God is! We get stuck in the world and the ways of the world, that we may not fully understand all the ways that God is present and working each and every day.

For some, they may be grateful that fall is here. For others, they may be wanting more time to relax and not dive into the hustle bustle of the season. Some people may be fearful of what is to come. Others may be anticipating all the joys that fall brings. Wherever you are, whatever you are feeling - know that God is with you. God is ready to show you the wonders that God has laid out. May you find peace as you ease into this season, and may you know that God is with you.

Peace and Blessings,

Pastor Emily

Reverend Emily L. Rettinghouse

Thea's Thought:

"Just like how I
look up to all of
you, you all look
up to God!"



Cody United Methodist Church
Administrative Council Meeting - August 9, 2022

Those in Attendance- Dave Shaw, Bryan Armel, Byron Coleman, Karen Birzer, Gene Parker, Carolyn Bentzen, Carrie Sheffield, Jenny Zink, Linda Bell, Ann Armel, Pastor Emily, Kandi Parker

June 7, 2022 Minutes were APPROVED

Old Business

*Fourth of July Celebration was a success. There were 171 hot dogs served, the lawn games and activities were enjoyed, the music was very entertaining, and the public was very receptive to our hospitality. There was \$199.00 in donations collected.

New Business

*Ann Armel will be Administrative Council Co-Chair beginning in September.

Committee Reports

*Missions Committee - The Treat Project is going very well. Several adults have been very pleased and complimentary about the project. The venue changed from our church to Mentock Park and we had quite a few more kids participate (34 total). We would like to continue the program next year. The Mission Committee is also working on an Advent Project.

*Finance Committee - The 12 Step Program is making donations to the General Fund for the use of our building.

Pastor's Ordination gift, which was donations for the Yellowstone floods earlier this summer, will be Going to Disaster Relief through Gardner Montana.

The carpet fundraising is continuing through donations. Also plans for the carpet auction fundraiser are being finalized. We will use Swenson's Auction Company from Powell to conduct the auction. An information flyer will be in the bulletin.

Bryan is working on the budget and will have it for all the committees soon.

*Worship Committee - August 28th Worship Service will be held at Christ Episcopal Church. This will be a combination of 3 congregations, Episcopal, Lutheran, and Methodist.

There will be a fellowship hour after the service.

Camp Sunday went well.

*Safety Committee - is in need of more volunteers to help with safety duties. The Committee will be meeting on August 23rd to discuss options.

The Committee members will continue sanitizing protocols.

*Membership-Nurture Committee - is preparing for Charge Conference.

New members Breakfast to honor our new members will be held on August 14th. We have had 17 new members in the last two years.

*UWW - The summer picnic is scheduled for Wednesday, August 10th.

Fall meetings will begin on September 14th.

*SPR Committee- The Committee will meet August 23rd to begin the evaluation process.

*Trustees- The Trustees want to THANK Francie Audier for painting the back door of the church. It looks great Francie!

A date for the installation of the windows in the parsonage will be set soon.

September 26th the Trustees will begin preparing the parlor and the sanctuary for installation of the new carpet. We will not be able to have Worship Services at our church during that time. Thanks to the generosity of Mary Barbee, Worship Services for October 2nd, 9th, and 16th will be held at 901 Sheridan Avenue (Mary's building). THANK YOU MARY!

*Pastor Emily's Comments

Camp was great! Pastor described it as "spiritual renewal".

She will be taking vacation August 28th - September 4th.

Pastor will be attending Clergy Orders from September 28th - October 1st in Lander or virtually, whichever works for her.

A Social Principles class is being planned to share information about proposed changes to the Methodist Church.

Our Youth Group will be meeting on the second and fourth Sundays from 5 to 6:30 PM starting in September. The schedule is to meet at Trinity Lutheran Church from September through December and at Cody UMC from January through May.

Next meeting - September 13, 7:00 PM in the parlor.

Our October meeting will be either by Zoom or meeting somewhere else TBA.

Respectfully Submitted,
Kandi Parker, Recording Secretary

FROM THE TRUSTEES

The Trustees are asking for some help with work necessary to prepare the sanctuary and parlor for installation of the new carpet. This will involve clearing the parlor on September 22 & 23. Everything must be moved. We must also remove pews and furniture from the sanctuary and then repair any studs (those that hold the pews in place) that need attention. This will take place the week of September 26. If you are able to help any or all of those days please let Pat or Marcia know in the office. We appreciate any time that you can give.

Also, we would like to get a handle on who has a key to the church. If you currently have a key, would you please let Pat or Marcia know. If you have a key and don't have a need for it, would you please return it to the office.

Thank you.

A visit from a dear friend!

Reggie stopped by on his way to their new home. How we miss the Ward family! Blessings to them on their new adventure in Georgia.



Pastor Emily will be on vacation August 27—September 4.
For pastoral care/spiritual emergencies during this time, please call
Mary Barbee at 307-587-6597.

September 4, 10:00 a.m. is

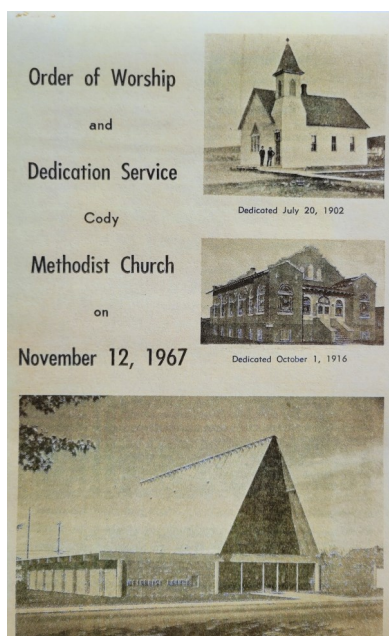
Cowboy Sunday

at Cody United Methodist Church!



Rev. Mary Barbee will lead the service, “Praise from the Prairie.” So wear your cowboy duds...plan to check your gun at the door...Let’s worship and celebrate our special part of the country heritage!

Cody UMC is celebrating its 120th birthday!



FROM MISSIONS COMMITTEE

IT'S FREE - IT'S FREE!

For six weeks in July and August, the Mission Committee decided the best way to greet and say hello to the community was to go out and mingle with them. For three weeks, on Thursday from 2-4:00 PM, we set up a table out on the lawn of the church and welcomed kids and adults as they passed by, on foot or on their bikes. We gave away snacks and water as a FREE gift from our church.

But, we weren't making too many contacts. One Thursday, it was decided we needed to be where the kids were. Where? How about Mentock Park and the water feature and playground! Well, did we ever find the kids. For the next three weeks we greeted around 30 kids and adults each time. And our shout was always "It's free, it's free!" Many "thank you's" came as kids picked out their snacks.

The last time we were there, we said hello to a family that was from New York. The kids loved our snacks and the parents were so appreciative of our mission. The grandmother, who was Jewish, said we were doing a "Mitzvah". In researching the meaning of the word, it was discovered that Mitzvah is Hebrew for doing a good deed - a conscious act of empathy and kindness.

For all of us on Missions - it was a blessing to see the smiles and laughter of the children at the water park. Simple acts of kindness are always a blessing to those who give and those who receive. We will be back next year!!!

Shalom



FROM MEMBERSHIP/NURTURE COMMITTEE:

Thank you from the Membership/Nurture Committee for participating in the Pancake Breakfast and a welcome for CUMC new members. Please continue to say hello to the following newest members of the Church: **Mary Chivers, Sharon Fech, Phyllis Lenik, Eva Morgan, Angel Almarinez, Alex Rettinghouse, Larry and Claudia Snook, Dick and Delaine Anthony, Denise Arthur, Lauren and Cameron Newton, and Susan Schmidtberger.**





**Food!
Fun!
Fellowship!
Faith!**

**United Women in Faith
Summer Picnic at
Dacken Park.**



United Methodist Women / United Women in Faith

Welcome to our first fall meeting and luncheon! We plan to meet **Wednesday, September 14, at Noon in Koelmel Hall**. This is a carry-in salad potluck.

Program: Nikki Hoellwarth from Mountain Spirit Habitat for Humanity.

Also Diane Martin from Powell UMC will lead a discussion about changes within UMW/UMF.

Mission Team will meet prior to the Unit Meeting at 11:00 a.m., September 14 in the Church Parlor.

Circles will meet:

Naomi - Monday, September 19, 6:30 p.m. in Koelmel Hall

Rebekah - Tuesday, September 20, 1:00 p.m., Skip Richardson's home



We are looking forward to being together again and warmly welcome all of our members, plus any ladies new to our church community. Come join us for food and fellowship!

Karen Birzer, UMW President

Worship Committee News:

The combined service at Christ Episcopal Church was a wonderful experience; 42 local Methodists showed up to worship, sing and socialize after the service. It was so much fun to intermingle. Ice cream and chocolate chunk chip cookies were served after the service.

Pastor Kay and Rev. Mary hosted the program and Jenny Zink and Suzanne Palmer read scripture. We also had 4 members of our choir join in the syncopated gospel anthem "I need You." Thanks to all those who helped and participated by being there.

September 4 - "Cowboy Sunday" with Rev. Mary Barbee conducting the service and communion. Remember to wear your Cowboy/Cowgirl clothes and worship committee will serve a hearty meal after the service. Courtesy of Rev. Mary Barbee, a cake celebrating our 120th Anniversary will also be served along with cookies and ice cream...so don't miss this Sunday!

Communion Stewards: Jenny Zink & Linda Bell.

Readers: September 11 - Linda Bell
September 18 - Denise Arthur
September 25 - Francie Audier

Looking ahead to **October 2, 9, & 16:** Worship Services will be held at **901 Sheridan** while we prepare the church for new carpet in the Sanctuary and Parlor. See the Sunday bulletins for announcements and details.

Have a great Labor Day weekend...Jenny Zink and Worship Committee.



BIBLE STUDY STARTING AGAIN IN SEPTEMBER:

I am happy to inform you that we now plan to meet in person in the **Grimes Home at Thomas Apostle Center with the first session Tuesday September 28 at 10:30 AM.**

Our subject for this session will be to meet the Directors at TAC, both recent graduates of the Duke University Theological College as well as to discuss what we collectively wish to study this next year.

I have invited a few others to join us and suggest we post notice of our group activity with each church bulletin as I believe we should go out of our way to be inclusive.

More details as we draw near but I did want to get this notice out early.

Enjoy life,

Wally

Cody UMC Contact for the Bible Study:
Francie Audier, 587-3300, email: faudieraix@gmail.com

Youth Group

School has started and that means that youth group is right around the corner. Our first meeting will be Sunday, **September 11, 5-6:30 p.m.** This year we have many fun new things planned. We will be combining with Christ Episcopal, Presbyterian and Lutheran churches this year. So 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 will meet the 2nd & 4th **Sundays 5 - 6:30 p.m.**

We look forward to seeing all of you very soon and please invite anyone you feel would like to come and participate.

Sunday School

We will be starting a new curriculum this year called ***Celebrate Wonder All Ages***. The format is close to the ***Deep Blue*** one room series we have done the last few years so it should have the same flow that the kids are used to. Sunday school will start back up September 11th and will be held during church service. Justin and Kywani have been a blessing by stepping in and teaching the Sunday School Program and the Nursery. Please make sure to thank them for all their hard work. If you know of any families that are new to the area or our church please invite them to come and participate with us. May this 22-23 year be a blessed one.

Love and God Bless,

Suzanne Palmer
Education Committee Chair



Choir

Our first rehearsal is September 11th after service, first performance is September 18th!

Choir will be performing the 1st and 3rd Sundays of every month (with some exceptions around holidays). Rehearsals will be every Sunday after worship and a brief time for fellowship, so roughly 11:15 a.m.— Noon. Then the choir will meet at 9:00 a.m. every performance Sunday for a rehearsal before the service.

Come join us and make a joyful noise unto the Lord!

Bells

Bell choir rehearsals will resume on Thursday, September 1st at 6 p.m. We will be discussing our playing options and schedule for the year at that time.





Jennifer McDonald	Sept.	6	Tom Cook	21
Howard Donley		10	Paula Curry	24
Hugh Hohe		12	Jack Wagner	24
Jeanne Blenkinsop		12	Paul Sheffield	28
Donald Robirds		12	Thomas Boyd	28
Mark Westerhold		15	Char Olson	28
Cameron Newton		18	Baillie Murray	29
Jake Murray		20	Evelyn Jenkins	30
Luke Murray		20		
Anissa Bree		20		




Jack & Diane Martin	6
Roger & Joy Lyons	7
Dave & Bev Shaw	15
Tom & Nancy Cook	18
Ken & Annette Stone	22

**Join us Sunday, September 18 after the service
to celebrate Tom Cook's 90th birthday!**

September 2022



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 6 pm First Bell Choir rehearsal 6 pm 12 Step	2	3
4 10 am Sunday Worship—Holy Communion & Cowboy Sunday	5 LABOR DAY OFFICE CLOSED	6	7	8 6 pm 12 Step	9	10
11 10 am Sunday Worship Youth Group 5-6:30 pm Trinity	12	13 Ad Council 7 pm	14 UMW Mission Team at 11 am UMW ~ NOON Join us in Koelmel Hall	15 Worship Committee 1:30 pm 6 pm 12 Step	16	17
18 10 am Sunday Worship Choir performs Tom Cook's birthday celebration	19 Naomi Circle 6:30 pm Koelmel Hall	20 Rebekah Circle 1 pm Skip Richardson's	21	22 1st Day of Fall <i>No meetings in church 9/22 thru 10/22 carpet install</i>	23	24
25 10 am Sunday Worship Youth Group 5-6:30 pm Trinity	26 Preparations begin for new carpet!	27 Worship Services Oct. 2, 9, & 16 at 901 Sheridan Ave 10 am	28 The Church Office will be on <u>limited</u> hours during carpet install.	29	30	

Good Samaritan Fund Update

Helping Cody families since 2018 to May 2022 = 53 months

155 families helped!

\$23,848 given to keep the utilities on, help with housing, medicine, transportation, food and emergency shelter.

That means we give approximately \$450 per month to help Cody and Park County families.

Math does not reflect the wonderful impact the Good Samaritan Fund has.

The real story is amazing! The Lord has worked miracles through your generous support! A report will be given this Fall during a Sunday Service.

“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**

church website: <https://www.codyumc.com>

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



PLACE
STAMP
HERE

Cody United Methodist Church
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Cody WY 82414