



THE BELL TOWER

December 2025



Isaiah 9:6-7 (CEB): "A child is born to us, a son is given to us, and authority will be on his shoulders. He will be named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace. There will be vast authority and endless peace for David's throne and for his kingdom, establishing and sustaining it with justice and righteousness now and forever."

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Can you believe it's already Advent? As we enter into this sacred season, we prepare our hearts and minds for the coming of the Christ Child.

This time of the year holds a special place in our hearts. We light the Advent candles every Sunday, sing "Silent Night" on Christmas Eve, and share gifts with our friends and loved ones. Nothing compares to the feelings of joy and peace this season brings, as Advent often provides much-needed spiritual renewal.

Many scriptures tell the story of Christmas. However, these verses from the Prophet Isaiah are some of the most powerful. He shares with us that the Messiah will come as a gift from God to the world. A child, a son, given to us out of love and grace. A gift beyond compare. As Isaiah shares the news of the coming Messiah, he also tells us about who this Christ Child will be.

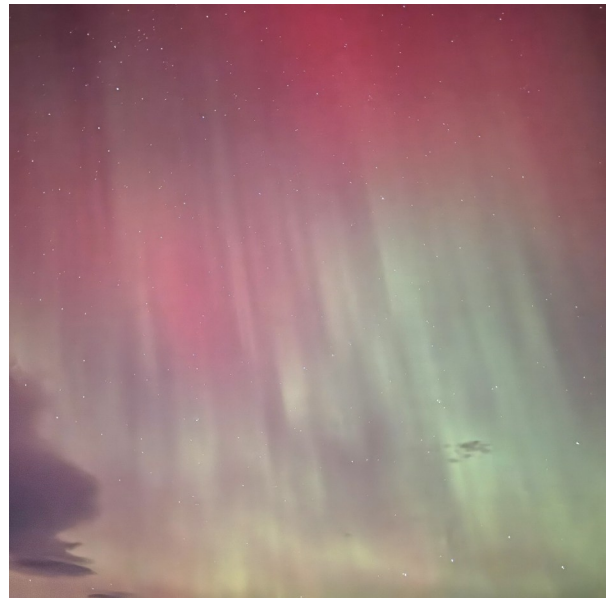
The Messiah will hold authority with justice and righteousness. While Isaiah shares the Messiah's character, he also presents four distinct names: "Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, and Prince of Peace." Throughout Jesus' ministry, all four of these titles are fulfilled in numerous ways. This prophecy describes the entirety of the work Jesus came to do. During the four weeks of Advent, we will explore these titles in depth.

This Advent, I invite you to prepare your heart for the coming of the Christ Child. Reflect on what these names mean and pray about how the coming of Christ might encourage you to live out your faith boldly. May this season bring you deep joy, peace, and a renewed faith.

Grace and peace,

Rev. Alex Hunnes

Rev. Alex Hunnes





Advent Series 2025

The Coming Messiah

November 30th

December 21st

December 7th

December 14th

Isaiah 9:6

“He will be named Wonderful Counselor,
Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace.”



Cody United Methodist Church

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service



December 24th @ 6:00 PM

1405 Beck Ave



Worship Committee News



Readers for December: 7th Diane Ballard
14th Linda Bell
21st Francie Audier
28th Jenny Zink

Thank You to Jann Smith for bringing flowers and arrangements for the Altar throughout the summer and fall... it was lovely to see the Horn of Plenty (cornucopia) display Jann set up for November and we recognize how many Blessings we have with our Church family.

Thank You to Lu Shuler for making the bread for the communion table each week. How fortunate we are to have fresh baked bread at our communion service.

If you ordered a Poinsettia, they will be displayed for Sunday December 21st and Christmas Eve. You may take your poinsettia after the Christmas Eve service on December 24th or on Sunday December 28th. Those not retrieved from the sanctuary will be left in the Narthex for 1 more week and then moved to the Hospital and the Assisted Living facilities.

We decorated on Sunday, November 23rd after church with all the elves... many thanks to the team that helped turn our Sanctuary, Narthex and Koelmel Hall into a festive display for Advent and Christmas. We will enjoy this for several weeks until we enter into Epiphany in January 2026.

Our Christmas Eve Service will be at 6:00pm with lay members assisting Pastor Alex within the service. The music will be filled with Choir, Bells, and Morning Glories along with special music from our soloists. Advent is a time to reflect and rejoice the coming of Christ. Let us all be glad!

Merry Christmas and a Wondrous New Year Greeting from the Worship Committee.

Ann Armel, Carolyn Bentzen, Nancy Cook, Sandy Mercer, Kandi Parker, Jann Smith, Claudia Snook, Lynn Whitmer and Jenny Zink.



UWF United Women of Faith & Circle News

UWF—Unit Meeting **December 10th, Noon** at Cody UMC, Koelmel Hall. Christmas Gathering, Carry-in.

Cookie Stroll Fundraiser on **Sunday, December 14th** after the Worship Service. Fill your box and make your free will donations. Cookie chefs, if convenient, please bring plated cookies to church on Saturday December 13th from 2 - 3:30 pm. Please label the cookies and if they contain nuts please indicate what kind.

Stanta will be here for the Cookie Stroll.



Report on the mitten tree: 25 hooded coats, 45 sets of gloves and mittens and 5 hats. These were taken to Eastside school for all the elementary schools. Thank you all for your generous donations.

Alliance Stamp Ministry

United Women in Faith are asking for your support of this ministry.

How: look at the upper right hand corner of any envelope and trim around the stamp leaving a border of 1/4 inch. Why: The proceeds of the sale of these cancelled stamps are used to create Spanish language Sunday school curriculum. Where: More than 50 lesson series have been published and are being used in churches in Spanish-speaking countries in Latin American, Spain and the USA.

Leave in the container in Koelmel Hall next to the Pop Tops Container.

Thanks for your Support



Naomi Circle - **December 15th, 6:00 pm** at the church in Koelmel Hall this is the Christmas Gathering Carry In .

Rebekah Circle - **December 16th, 1 pm** at Diane Martin's. This is the Christmas Gathering Carry In.



From Missions Committee:



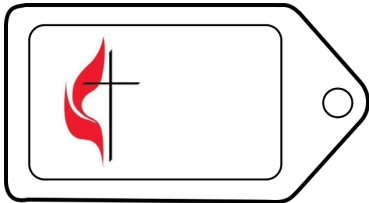
Thank You Thank You Thank You for a very successful Missions Bake Sale!

Your kindness and generosity will be greatly appreciated by Spirit Mountain Hospice.

We all know how important it is to have such a beautiful facility.

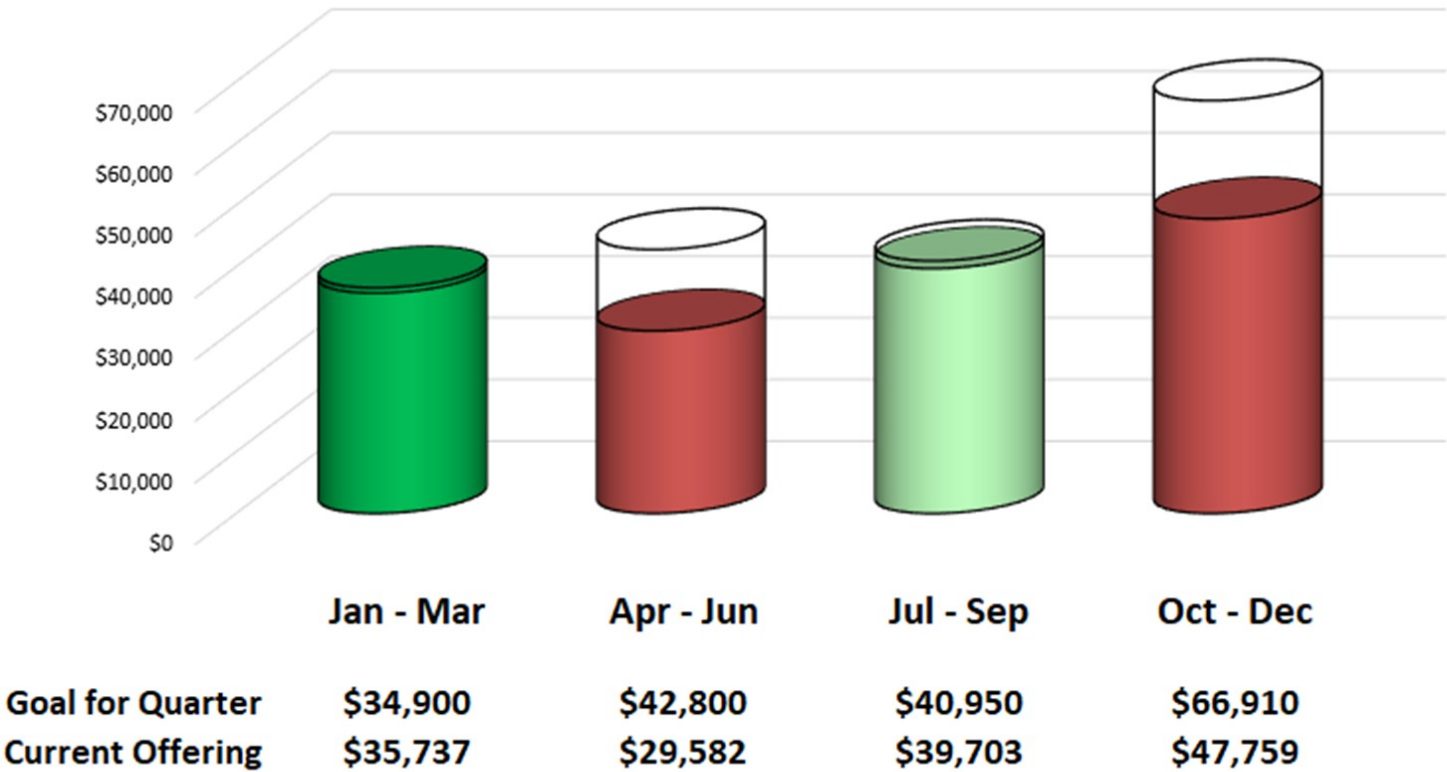
Membership/Nurture Committee

The membership/nurture committee is delighted to welcome 2 new members to CUMC. Josie and Melody Griebel. Josie was also baptized. Please take the time to welcome them. It also helps the new members if we all wear our nametags. If you need a new nametag please contact membership or the office for ordering.



General Fund Quarterly Offering Progress

11/25/2025



Notes: Quarterly Goals are based upon 6 years of historical giving patterns.
2025 Annual Goal is \$185,560



Join us after the Christmas Eve Candlelight service for a
time of fellowship!



Desserts and hot chocolate provided



Bakers Requested!

After the Christmas Eve Candlelight service this year, we will be having a time of fellowship and sweets. Any and all dessert items are welcome. If you would like to bring a dessert item for this event, please do so!
Thank you!



Don't forget to sign up for refreshments for fellowship. The sign up sheet is in Koelmel Hall next to the kitchen door.



CUMC Ad Council
Meeting Minutes
November 12, 2025

MEMBERS ATTENDING

Pastor Alex Hunnes, Bryan Armel, Gene Parker, Kandi Parker, Carolyn Bentzen, Joan Wolcott, Ann Armel, Karen Birzer, Byron Coleman, Kris Coleman, Linda Bell, Dave Shaw, Jenny Zink, and Carrie Scheffield

VISITORS

District Superintendent Mark Calhoun (by Zoom)

WELCOME - Ann

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Names of those who have not been active for a long time were raised up. We raise them up two times before taking them off our membership roll. This is the first time for Eric Quaschnick, Steve Yekel, and Starla Yekel.

2025 CHARGE CONFERENCE WITH DS MARK CALHOUN BY ZOOM

District Superintendent, Mark Calhoun, joined us to vote on Pastor's compensation, leadership names, and membership rolls.

PASTORS COMPENSATION REPORT

Pastor Alex explained this report.

VOTES

It was moved and seconded that we approve the 2025 Membership Report, motion passed.

It was moved and seconded that we approve the 2025 Nominations Report, motion passed.

It was moved and seconded that we approve the 2025 Pastor's Compensation Report, motion passed.

DS Mark reminded us that he will be attending our Church Conference on December 14 when attendees will vote on the 2025 Lay Leadership Report. We will also celebrate our committees.

The Cookie Stroll will be held at this conference which DS Mark was very happy to hear.

This concluded the 2025 Charge Conference.

OLD BUSINESS

It was moved and seconded that we approve the last meeting minutes, motion passed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE

Bryan reported that finances are on track and doing well. There is a new graph in the fellowship hall showing progress.

GOOD SAMARITAN

Pastor Alex reported that he is chairman of the committee. There have been a few requests that are being processed as they come in. There will be a Good Sam meeting soon to review policies. Christmas donations are going to the good Sam programs.

MEMBERSHIP/NURTURE

Carolyn reported that we have three new members, Paula Smith, Melody Griebel and Josie Griebel. There is a possibility of a few more who are interested in joining.

MISSIONS

Linda reported that our donations to the animal shelter filled a whole pickup truck. She also reported that the bake sale will be on November 23 in the Fellowship Hall. The proceeds will go to Spirit Mountain Hospice. The committee is also working on an Advent Prayer Mission. More information will be provided later. Linda stated that the committee is very appreciative and thankful for all the support they receive from the congregation.

SAFETY

Byron reported that the first aid training will be on November 15 at the church. There will be a safety meeting after the first of the year.

TRUSTEES

Gene reported that the drainage problems have been solved and that work is complete including gravel next to the building. The gravel looks good. The sprinkler system will be redone in the spring. The tree removal project was discussed. There has been an offer to help pay for the funding of this project. Gene, Karen Birzer and Pastor Alex will be doing a walk through of the parsonage in December which is required by the conference.

WORSHIP

Jenny reported that Christmas decorating for the church will be on November 23 after worship. The committee will have a meeting next week. There will be a meet and greet after the Christmas Eve Service with cookies and hot chocolate for all. Christmas Eve Service will be at 6:00 on December 24.

SPR

Karen reported that SPR appreciates Pastor Alex and all that he does. We officially have a new music director who will start November 16. Mary Caucutt did very well officiating our worship service while Pastor Alex was out of town. The committee is working on staff evaluations and job descriptions.

UWF – reported by Joan Wolcott

United Women in Faith

Meeting November 12, 2025 in Koelmel Hall

Lunch: Sandwiches, pineapple cake, cookies, salads

Program: the women who influenced General George S. Patton, presented by Stan Wolcott

Nurture & Outreach: Delivered 25 coats and 45 pairs of mittens to Eastside Elementary

Mission Education: Continue to collect cancelled stamps

Cookie Stroll: December 14th, please bring cookies on the 13th at 2:00

UWF will continue to send cards, do visitation, and clean the kitchen

PASTORS REPORT

Pastor has been working on plans for Christmas Eve Service including special music, hymns, scriptures, a message, prayers, the traditional candle lighting, and fellowship after the service. He is working on messages about giving for this month during worship. Pastoral care is going well with visitations, thank you notes to members, and visiting with members that drop in to the church during the week. Pastor Alex expressed his excitement seeing new people at worship, new members, and Baptisms.



Next Meeting December 10, 2025, in the parlor @ 5:30

Respectfully Submitted,

Kandi Parker, Secretary

December 2025



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 AMS 4pm	2 Good Sam 10:30am Trivia 6pm	3 12 Step 8am JSR 5:45pm Vespers, Powell Church of God 5 & 7pm	4 Bells 5:30pm	5	6
7 10am Worship Service and Holy Communion 2nd Sunday of Advent	8 PEO 1-3pm AMS 4pm	9 Trivia 6pm	10 12 Step 8am UWF HMFC 4pm Ad Council 5:30pm JSR 5:45pm	11 Music Club 5-9pm Rehearsal	12 Music Club 10am-4pm Silver Tea 2:30- 3:30pm	13
14 10am Worship Service and Holy Communion 3rd Sunday of Advent	15 AMS 4pm Naomi Holiday Gathering Carry-in 6pm	16 Rebekah at Diane Martin's Carry-in 1pm Trivia 6pm	17 12 Step 8am Worship 1pm	18 Bells 5:30pm	19	20
21 10am Worship Service and Holy Communion 4th Sunday of Advent	22 AMS 4pm	23 Trivia 6pm	24 Christmas Eve Candlelight Service 6pm 	25 Christmas 	26	27
28 10am Worship Service and Holy Communion	29 Office Closed	30 Office Closed	31 Office Closed			

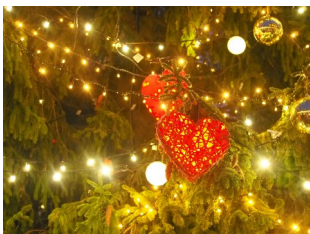


Happy Birthday to You!

December

Tim Sheffield	5	Kathy McDonald	15
Click Hunter	5	Norleen Robirds	18
Howard Salyer	6	Gabe Bree	18
Paige Ballard-Young	7	Suzanne Palmer	19
Stan Wolcott	9	Sharon Ball	19
Susan Schmidtberger	9	Howard Thompson	23
Kevin Knotek	13	Ronald Reachard	29
		Jim Landers	30

Happy Anniversary



Howard & Pat Salyer	Dec.	9
Scott & Cindy Aune		21
Duane & Lynn Whitmer		28
Larry & Jenny Zink		31



Cody Cupboard Update

1st Quarter 2025

January	27	Pounds
February	66	Pounds
March	171	Pounds

Total 1st Quarter 2025 264 Pounds

2nd Quarter 2025

April	67	Pounds
May	100	Pounds
June	67	Pounds

Total 2nd Quarter 2025 234 Pounds

3rd Quarter 2025

July	43	Pounds
August	65	Pounds
September	94	Pounds

Total 3rd Quarter 2025 218 Pounds

4th Quarter 2025

October	55	Pounds
November	124	Pounds
Thanksgiving Week	186	Pounds

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

Please drop off donations on the 1st 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 - church website

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



PLACE
STAMP
HERE

Cody United Methodist Church
PO Box 1416
Cody WY 82414