

Riverton United Methodist Church

"Receiving the Bread of Life to Give the Bread of Life"

1116 W. Park Ave Riverton, WY 82501
Phone: (307) 856-2544
E-mail: rivumcoffice@wvoming.com
Website: www.rivumc.com
Facebook: www.facebook.com/RivUMC



JUNE 2017

Volume 12, Issue 6

DANCE, CAR SHOW, AND BARBECUE!



Dig out your poodle skirts and saddle shoes and get ready to have some fun! **On Saturday evening, June 24th**, we will hold a **Nifty Fifties Dance and Barbecue in the Fellowship Hall**. Live music will be by the O.G.'s playing mostly fifties rock and roll. We hope to have a display of classic cars in the parking lot beginning at 4:00 p.m., with hamburgers, hot dogs and the fixin's, drinks, and ice

cream available, prepared by Rowena Bland and her crew. Admission price for the dance is \$15.00 for single, \$25.00 a couple (and \$30 if you don't come!!). Proceeds will be for the benefit of the church. For further information and tickets, call the church office, Carolyn Hunter, 856-9802, or Jay Frank, 856-7986.

BOY SCOUT TROOP 44 2016-2017 HIGHLIGHTS

Troop 4044 has been sponsored by the Riverton United Methodist Church for 34 years. The Troop meets Monday nights from 6:30 until 8 PM from during the school year. There are currently 11 boys registered in the troop that range in age from 12 to 17.

Most summers the troop will have a number of boys spend a week at one of the summer camps operated by the local or adjoining Scout Councils. Other summer highlights included Scouts helping out with the Cub Scout Day Camp and members of the Troop working with one of the Scouts to completing his Eagle Scout project,

In September, the Scouts held their annual popcorn sale fund raiser. The troop sold \$3500 worth of Popcorn the proceeds of which are used to offset registration and operating fees. The Troop attended the Council Fall Camporee in Thermopolis.

In early February, the troop held an Eagle Scout Court of Honor to recognize the latest in a long line of Eagle Scouts from Troop 44. The District Merit Badge University was held in Lander in March allowing several of the Scouts to earn merit badges which will help them advance in Scouting. The Spring Camporee was scheduled for April, but because of deep snow the event was cancelled. In April the Scouts went camping at Sinks Canyon. It turned out to be a snowy wet, cold weekend, and the Scouts learned a lot about what it takes to be comfortable in the outdoors. BE PREPARED, takes on a whole new meaning when your socks are soaking wet and you don't have a spare pair.

The final campout of the school year was held the weekend May 19th and 20th at the Wind River Canyon Campground. The weather was beautiful, and the Scouts had the opportunity to work on cooking and Scout Skills. Plans for the summer include: participating in putting flags on the veteran's graves at the Mountain View Cemetery on Saturday of Memorial Day weekend, being the Color Guard for the annual Veteran's Day Ceremony at the grave yard, participating in the Church clean-up day on June 9th, helping out with Cub Scout Day Camp, and we have one Scout who will be joining the Council Troop attending the National Scout Jamboree, a gathering of over 40,000 Scouts which will be held at the National Jamboree Bechtel Scout Center in West Virginia.

The Scouts and Leaders of Troop 44 would like to express their sincere appreciation for the faithful support of the members of the Riverton United Methodist Church to the young men in whose lives have been enriched by the opportunities that Scouting has presented.

CUB SCOUT PACK 4044 2016-2017 HIGHLIGHTS

We have 21 scouts currently enrolled in Cub Scouts. We offer a complete program for Tigers age 6, Wolves age 7, Bears age 8 and Webelos age 9-10. Starting in the fall, we will be having a new den called Lions for 5-year-olds. Each scout earns belt loops to advance to the next level. Advancing the last meeting of the year, they can start in their new dens when school starts up again.

Scouting starts up in August when school starts up. Each September the cub scouts start out with a camporee in Thermopolis with cub scouts from around the state. They enjoy a night or two camping out in Hot Springs State Park learning from Boy Scouts the fundamentals of scouting, such as fire starting, orienteering, knot tying and much, much more. They get instruction on BBs and archery as well.

Two Webelos this year earned the Arrow of light, the highest award in Cub Scouts, and graduated over to Troop 44 Boy Scouts. They graduated over at our Blue and Gold banquet where we had the largest turnout of family supporters we have ever had. This year Day Camp will be in Lander on June 23-24 with 14 of our scouts attending.

The past 3 years we have worked with the VFW to put flags out on Veterans' graves the Saturday prior to Memorial Day Monday. Each year the Pinewood Derby is a highlight for the pack, and this year we had 17 boys race their cars.

If you have a boy who is interested in cub scouts or if you'd like to volunteer to work with the Cub Scouts, please contact the pack through Cub Master, Heidi Knowles at 307-709-1317 or Committee Chairman, Mickey Martin at 307-851-5260.

MISSION TEAM ARRIVAL - The Mission Team from Central Baptist Church of Newnan, Georgia will arrive Saturday evening, June 10. This 20 person team will have both youth and adults, including two of their pastors, Rev. Daniel Nance and Rev. Katie Faison. This is the second year this great Christian group will be with us. They are organizing and leading our Vacation Bible School, as well as renovating some of the rooms at Eagle's Hope Transitional Housing. They will be housed in our classrooms and will be preparing meals in our kitchen. They will be special guests at our June Fellowship Barbeque meal on Sunday. The folk from St. James Episcopal Church [one of our VBS partner churches] will provide an honoring meal for the team on Wednesday night, June 14. Be sure to extend an extra warm welcome and appreciation for these servants of God!

HAVE YOU ROUNDED UP THE KIDS IN YOUR LIFE FOR THIS YEAR'S VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL?

Be sure to get them registered now for our "Hero Central" VBS being held Monday – Thursday, June 12 -15, from 9:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. It is open to kids age 4 through entering 5th grade. Lunch will be served. Registration and information is available on the church's website and in the church entry area. If you would like information and a registration form mailed or emailed to you, please contact the church office. [Contact Pastor Deb if you might be able to assist with checking kids in on Monday, serving snacks, or being part of the onsite-whatever-support-is-needed team for one or more of the days.]



*Bibles were presented in worship on May 21 to our upper elementary and middle school youth:
Adelyn Anderson, Shelby Kisling, Alexis Taylor, Laura Witt and Skyler Witt.
Congratulation to these youth and their parents.*

PASTOR'S CORNER

"We ought never to fear truth, nor become trapped in our own preconceived ideas, but welcome new scientific discoveries with an attitude of humility" -- Pope Francis, May 12, 2017

Just a few weeks after my Sunday message on science and faith {remember the bubbles in the aisle}, Pope Francis presented a message on the same topic. I was gratified knowing we two are on the same track theologically around this.

Then again, what Pope Francis shares on many areas of life and faith, resonates with me. I confess he is one of my spiritual guides. It is good to know who are the people and resources who influence your pastor.

In his Easter address at the Vatican, Pope Francis addressed a concern of so many people that if the Lord is risen, how is it that there is so many bad things happening in the world. *"The Risen Shepherd goes in search of all those lost in the labyrinths of loneliness and marginalization. He comes to meet them through our brothers and sisters who treat them with respect and kindness, and helps them to hear his voice, an unforgettable voice, calling them back to friendship with God,"* he shared.

We can all be inspired with these words, put in a simple and profound way. Don't be surprised if some of the guidance I glean from Pope Francis pops up now and again in messages on Sunday, or in other ways we might connect. What a blessing to be among various faith expressions and church approaches where there is so much to share and learn from. Thank be to the God of us all!

Blessings,

Pastor Deb

TRUSTEES REPORT - MAY 2017

- **Landscaping** – Considering white rock in the front underneath the cross and in front of the classrooms.
- **Sewer Project** –Progressing and almost complete!
- **Shower Project** – Full steam ahead with the sewer project almost completed. New sinks and countertop will be installed in the ladies bathroom along with a new toilet and urinals in the men's bathroom.
- **Pre-school** – Annual contract renewed.
- **Spring Clean Up:** The annual Spring Clean-up is scheduled for June 3rd. Please come and help clean up around and in the church after this construction.
- **Parsonage-** Miscellaneous maintenance work is continuing on the parsonage.
- **Sunday Transportation-** May 21st will be the last Sunday for WRTA bus, the following Sundays will be handled by church member volunteers. Thank you to those volunteers!

CORRECTED MARCH 2017 FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Budget income to date :	\$48,985.50
Actual income to date:	\$41,315.29
Budgeted expenses to date:	\$50,073.54
Actual expenses to date:	\$37,907.53

APRIL 2017 FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Budget income to date :	\$65,314.00
Actual income to date:	\$58,092.05
Budgeted expenses to date:	\$66,764.72
Actual expenses to date:	\$51,278.05

JUNE LOOSE CHANGE OFFERING -- ABBA'S HOUSE

Abba's House has been providing assistance to the residents of Fremont County as a Pregnancy Help Center since 1993. In 2016 Abba's House served 559 clients, including 313 new clients and 246 return clients. In just the first 4 months of 2017 Abba's House has already served 166 clients and held 66 parenting classes. Two new services include parenting classes which began in August 2016 and Ultrasound testing, started in October 2016. These were added to the services already provided which include free pregnancy testing, one on one counseling, post abortion counseling, as well as maternity and baby items. Educational materials and services are also provided on topics, such as pregnancy, adoption, sexual abstinence, STDs, and referrals for medical and financial assistance. Looking forward, Abba's House plans to begin testing and treating clients for STDs and counseling on healthy living. All services at Abba's House are offered as a ministry -- extending the love of Jesus to those experiencing challenging circumstances. All services are confidential and free of charge. Besides our loose change offering we can help support Abba's House by filling a baby bottle with change or bills. Bottles will be collected the last Sunday of June.

May Loose Change Offering

May 2017 Loose Change Offering Project was **Relay for Life**. The total offering received to date in support of this mission to date is **\$283.12**. Thanks to everyone who so generously contributed to this month's project.

SPECIAL MUSIC FOR WORSHIP DURING SUMMER MONTHS - Do you know of someone, of any age, who would be willing to bring special music to our worship during the summer months? It can be vocal or instrumental. It does not need to be religious, just uplifting and inspirational. It can be of any style. We would be blessed by all! Please contact Carolyn Hunter at 850-5502.

UPCOMING EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

FELLOWSHIP BARBEQUE AFTER CHURCH ON JUNE 11 - The James Brothers Men's Group will provide the hamburgers, hot dogs, fixings and drinks. The rest is a pot-luck of salad, desserts or other picnic dishes. We will also be hosting 20 youth and adults from Georgia, so please plan on making a bit extra.

TEEN CAMP, JUNE 7-10 AND TWEEN CAMP, JULY 23-26 AT CIRCLE J RANCH - Get the teens and tweens out of the house, and away from their cell phones! Send a teen or tween to Circle J's life-changing camps. There will be campfires, s'mores, beads, tubing, swimming, volleyball, painting, archery, hiking, and a treasure hunt. Teen Camp is 6th - 8th grade and Tween Camp is 4th - 5th grade. Each camp is 3 nights and the cost is \$150. All meals included. Circle J Camp is located at 3338 Highway 16 E, Ten Sleep, WY . For more information, contact Sandy at sandy@circlejretreatcamp.com or [314-280-1469](tel:314-280-1469).

OUR CUSTODIAN WILL BE GONE JUNE 1-15 [including during VBS & the Georgia mission team]. We will appreciate the extra care to the facility each of us will need to give during this time. For something needing particular attention, please contact the church office, Craig Cooper, or Pastor Deb.

UPCOMING EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS (Continued from page 4)

RV CAMPING MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND AT CIRCLE J CAMP, JULY 14-16 -- Bring your RV, trailer, tent camper, or even your tent (please specify when registering), and enjoy 3 days of growing closer to your spouse in this beautiful canyon setting. Situated 6.4 miles east of Ten Sleep, Wyoming on Highway 16, Circle J Retreat Camp is 200 acres of forest, hiking trails, dashing waters and the retreat of Ten Sleep Canyon. There is limited space! Register early. For more information and to register, go to the national United Methodist Marriage Encounter website and look for the "RV ME Circle J" under their weekend dates.

REMINDERS FOR EVERYONE

- ◆ All items for the Annual Conference UMCOR collection are due Sunday, June 4.
- ◆ Christian Food Storehouse -- Remember the first Sunday in the month, June 4, is bring-a-food donation Sunday.
- ◆ Boxes are needed for VBS! Please bring your empty cardboard boxes, broken down, from about 2'x2' to 4'x4' and place in the library. Thanks!
- ◆ Equal Exchange products will be sold Sunday, June 25. this will be your opportunity to stock up on coffee, coca, chocolates, teas, hot chocolate, organic raisins, and olive oil.
- ◆ May-June upper room Publications are available in the narthex. Please feel welcome to take one with you.
- ◆ Have you considered remembering the church in your will?

THANK YOU'S

- **Thank you** to our choir and bell choir for their wonderful ministry of music during this past program year. We look forward to having them back beginning September 10. We greatly appreciate the leadership provided by Janet Nyberg, Carolyn Hunter, and Rita Larson. We also thank Eddie Amend, back-up choir director, and Lori Morrow, and Rita, back-up keyboardists.
- **Thank you** to these folk who served as Scripture readers during worship in recent weeks: Pat Sack, Rebecca Mesa, Lexi Taylor, Bob Schlicting, Ginny Ratke, Craig Blumenshine, and Leda Lester. [Please let Pastor Deb know if this is a ministry you are willing to help with.]
- **Thank you** to Connie Gaskell, Jan Erhart, and Noreen Parkhurst who kindly volunteered to assemble the May newsletter.

PICTURES APPEARING ON THE CHURCH WEBSITE OR ON FACEBOOK PAGE -- People enjoy seeing pictures of various church activities, groups and special worship occasions on our website or Facebook page. Our current practice is to name the activity or group in the picture, and avoid naming individuals. If you desire we not post a picture which might include you, or your children, on the website or Facebook page, please let the church office know.

CHURCH CONTRIBUTIONS AND EFT -- In 2015 our church began offering electronic funds transfer service (EFT) as an optional method of contributing to the church. Many of us are already using a method like this to pay utilities, mortgages, or other monthly expenses, and some of our members now make their contributions to the church using this EFT method.

This automatic funds transfer service can be a benefit to many individuals in the fact that no longer do they have to write checks, no longer have to worry about keeping up with their tithes and offerings while on vacation or traveling, and now they have one less item on their "to-do" lists.

If you would like to have the convenience of an EFT for your church contributions, simply come by the church office and pick up a registration form or complete the form at the office. You may also go on the church web site and follow the link to "Online Giving" which will take you to the secure server at VANCO services and complete the process. If you register online, it is helpful to call the church office first and get your Donor Number which is requested on the web site. The form allows you to have funds deducted from your checking/saving account each month.

Also, if you have questions about the electronic funds transfer process, call the church office, 856-2544, or drop by the office. Mary Lynn will be glad to answer any questions you might have and/or help you register.

FOLLOW-UP ON THE "MEET THE PASTOR" COFFEES' SURVEY

Part of the "Meet the Pastor" coffees held in March and April was asking those who attended to complete a short survey. It was on areas they felt the church, as a whole, should be connecting out into the community with. Participants could only choose up to six areas from the thirty-two areas listed. All the areas are ones of concern for most of us, and many of us are involved in individual service in them. The guideline provided was: What are the top areas you believe our church ministries should be focusing on, given that we have only so much energy and resources?

The areas receiving the most responses were ministries with:

- Older adults
- Children and youth
- Food banks and food for students
- Hospice and health related areas
- Eagles Hope transitional housing

The next level of responses were ministries around:

- Meditation, spiritual practices & Bible Studies
- Veterans
- Help Center emergency assistance
- Skills workshops
- College age

Pastor Deb appreciates the input shared. She is looking forward to incorporating it into broader discernment with church leaders in the months and years ahead for ministry development and resource allocation. Blank copies of the surveys are available on the narthex table.

Riverton United Methodist Church
1116 W Park Ave
Riverton, WY 82501

U.S. Postage
Paid
Riverton, WY
82501
Permit No. 5
NON-PROFIT
ORGANIZATION

EVERY WEEK HAPPENINGS

SUNDAY
WORSHIP SERVICES, 8:00 AND 10:30 A.M.
ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL, 9:15 A.M.

TUESDAY
FARMERS' MARKET, 4:00-6:00 P.M.
BIBLE STUDY ON PSALMS, 3:00-4:00 P.M.
(Homestead Assisted Living Facility)
SURVIVORS OF SUICIDE LOSS SUPPORT
6:30-8:00 P.M.

WEDNESDAY
JAMES BROS., 6:30 A.M. Meet for breakfast
(Trailhead Restaurant)

JUNE EVENTS

JUN. 3, SATURDAY: CHURCH SPRING CLEAN-UP, 9:00 A.M. - 12:00 P.M.
JUN. 3, SATURDAY: RELAY FOR LIFE, 4:00 P.M. - MIDNIGHT
JUN. 6, TUESDAY: MISSIONS COMMITTEE, 7:00 P.M.
JUN. 7, WEDNESDAY: RUMCOR, 9:30 A.M.
JUN. 7, WEDNESDAY: AD COUNCIL, 7:00 P.M.
JUN. 8-10: YELLOWSTONE ANNUAL CONFERENCE, BILLINGS, MT
JUN. 10, SATURDAY EVENING: MISSIONS TEAM ARRIVES
JUN. 11, SUNDAY: FELLOWSHIP BARBEQUE, 11:30 A.M.
JUN. 12-15, MON.-THURS.: VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL, 9:00 A.M.-12:30 P.M.
JUN. 15, THURSDAY: FINANCE COMMITTEE, 7:00 P.M.
JUN. 20, TUESDAY: TRUSTEES MEETING, 7:00 P.M.
JUN. 24, SATURDAY EVENING: NIFTY FIFTIES DANCE, CAR SHOW, & BARBEQUE