



THE GATEWAY

First United Methodist Church, Sheridan WY

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All Shook Up

“In a little while I will once more shake the heavens and the earth, the sea and the dry land. I will shake all nations and the desired of all nations will come and I shall fill this house with glory”, says the Lord Almighty. Haggai 2:7 ... After the Sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. Suddenly there was a great earthquake. Matthew 28: 1

What a great image. Before Elvis got all shook up, God was already shaking things up. How do you feel when you get ‘All Shook Up?’: excited, stirred, enthused, inspired, motivated, thrilled, energized? I believe God is shaking things up here at First United Methodist Church of Sheridan. In 2015 we increased our mission and outreach ministries. Participation in worship and other activities has increased. There are more people in Sunday School and other small groups. Thanks to our reserve fund we more than met our budget paying all our local expenses, Conference Mission Shares, as well as giving to all the denominational offerings and paying our dollar per member asking. We are seeing new people in worship on a regular basis. The Vitality Task Force is paving the way for vitalized worship experiences and our building modernization is slightly ahead of schedule and below budget.

On that first Easter, there was an earthquake that shook up the world with the good news, “He is risen!” I believe God wants to shake us up even more in 2016 so we proclaim the Good News in ways that ‘this house may be filled with glory.’ I pray God will touch and shake up each of us so we get excited, stirred, enthused, inspired, motivated, thrilled and energized about our church, our ministries, our building modernization, our outreach and service, our fellowship and our Lord so His house will be filled with God’s glory. If you have not worshipped at FUMC for a while, I implore you to join us. I invite you to tell others about your church (brag us up) and invite folks who have no church home to join you in yours. I urge you to keep up with your pledged financial support so we can continue with our varied and exciting ministries. And, most of all, I ask you to pray to the one who shakes up the heavens and the earth, the sea and the dry land, to shake us until we are excited, stirred, enthused, inspired, motivated, thrilled, energized and filled with God’s glory.

Pastor Don

CARES CONCERNS CELEBRATIONS



PRAYERS ~

- ... for **Carty Bennett**.
- ... for **Eyvonne Cotton**.
- ... for **Bob Kautz**.
- ... for **Jean Loback**.
- ... for **Sally McGary**.
- ... for **Mac McKinny**.
- ... for **Ann Jackson's Family**.

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

On Sunday, March 6th we will receive a special offering for the One Great Hour of Sharing. This is one of the six denominational special offerings. It is used to make the love of Christ real for individuals and communities around the world who suffer the effects of disaster, conflict, or severe economic hardship, and for those who serve them through gifts of money and time. Today, **projects are underway in more than 100 countries**, including the United States and Canada.

Facebook
Twitter
Hashtags
Instagram

Social Media! What does it all mean to the church?

How do you become a part of the social media of 2016? We are offering an information session and a short training on social media, beginning with Facebook, on **March 6th** in the mini kitchen after fellowship.



Welcome Eileen Kiloren

This is a moment to visit with one of our newer friends...Eileen

Killoren. Reared in the Los Angeles area but a confirmed Wyoming gal, she formerly lived in Dubois for nine years but moved to Sheridan this past April. Although she has no family in Sheridan, she does have two brothers, in Durham, CA and Pella, IA respectively, plus one sister in Dallas. She has an interesting vocation, supplying technical support for medical software for the State of California, a job that is fortunately home-based. **Her hobbies are** quilting, playing with her dog "Luke", (an Australian Shepherd of 5 years), an avid book reader delving into the Civil War period up to 1950; and lastly, a curiosity as to her forefathers. In that regard, her Great Grandfather was an owner of several mines in the Black Hills! And in the process of researching her Great Grandfather, she came across the information that his bride was a "mail-order" bride from Ireland. Eileen is thrilled to find our Church. In fact, what drew her to us was our website. She couldn't say enough good things about our web pages... Eileen had major surgery some months back and is still in the recuperative stages but every day is making excellent progress. In fact, she has volunteered to help with the publication of the "Gateway". It's so nice to have you with us Eileen!

EMPTY BOWL SOUP



On **Monday March 28th** the annual Empty Bowl soup dinner fundraiser for the Homeless Shelter will be at the YMCA starting at 5:00pm.

Building Update



O'Dell Construction continues to make good progress in both the basement and on 2nd floor. Basement sheet rocking is now underway.

Here is an update of our God's Plans, Our Hands (GPOH) fundraising campaign through the end of January.

GPOH Pledges (rounded):	\$640,000
Pledges Received:	\$404,141
Non Pledges Received:	\$ 19,601

We **recently received some very good news**. The ladies in the Closet have decided to donate funds from their operation to purchase the new dishwasher and icemaker in the kitchen. The bill on this is just under \$18,000. Thanks ladies for your service to the community, hard work and of course, your donation.

Another indirect non-pledge income we benefited from recently is a reduced cost to purchase title insurance through Wilcox Title Company. We were given a 50% discount, which amounts to about \$1200.

We are extremely appreciative of all contributions whether they are pledged or not, large or small, because they all accumulate to move us forward together in realizing and paying for the modernization.

Please continue to ask God to lead and help us as we progress through this modernization.

Holy Week and Easter Schedule

Sunday **March 20:**

Palm / Passion Sunday - Choir Cantata

Thursday **March 24:**

Maundy Thursday – 12:00 Community Communion Service at First Christian Church at 102 South Connor
7:00pm Worship at First UMC

Friday **March 25:**

Good Friday – 12:00 Community Worship at St. Peter's Episcopal Church – 1 Tschirgi Ave
7:00pm Worship at First UMC – Tenabra

Sunday **March 27** Easter:

Sunrise 6:30am Kindrick Mansion
9:30 a.m. regular worship followed by Fellowship and Easter Egg Hunt