

Parish News • January 1, 2021

Ely United Methodist Church Members/Friends,
Greetings and Happy New Year from Pastor Craig!

Today is the first day of 2021, so finally 2020 is in the rear view mirror. It's still bewildering to think back to this time last year, to the things that were happening in our lives, and to the hopes, dreams, and plans that were realistically on our radar, and then to recognize how quickly and completely all this changed.

It feels as though the rug was pulled out from under our feet since last March. Trips, family gatherings, the way businesses and organizations operate, community activities, work settings, health care, family and personal relationships; basically every aspect of our lives was suddenly altered, changed, or placed under threat.

Yet, we've also learned new things along the way, recognized our own strength and capacity to rise above a tough situation, and we've discovered again that we are part of families, a community, school, and church where we care for each other and want to make things better.

Item #1: Thank you for your enthusiastic participation in our Christmas Eve Facebook Live candlelight service. Our goal with each worship service

is to joyously proclaim God's gracious and loving presence in Jesus Christ and to do everything we can so each of you feel as though you are sitting in our church sanctuary, together with one another.

Our new camera has dramatically improved the audio and video quality of our services, but we have an issue with the camera's autofocus. This is why the picture becomes fuzzy and indistinct when we zoom in or out. We are working to figure this out and to make it better.

Item #2: Sunday we enter the church season of Epiphany, when we consider just who Jesus Christ, born into the world as a baby, is revealed to be. Who is Jesus and what does he mean for the world and for each of our lives?

This Sunday, January 3rd, we will celebrate Holy Communion so if you are able plan to have bread and grape juice handy to join with us at that point in the service.

Item #3: We need a volunteer to shovel the church sidewalks in January. Mark Olson has been shoveling in November and December. Please call the church if you are able, again, leaving a message if necessary.

Item #4: I want to extend a heart-felt personal "Thank You" to each of you for your expressions of

Christmas cheer – your personal greetings and best wishes, and for your cards and gifts. Your support is always encouraging and is especially so this year, so please know of my deep gratitude.

I also want to thank Ely United Methodist Church for your Christmas card, with its sentiments of thanks for my leadership this past year and for the Amazon Gift Cards.

I cherish my personal relationships with each of you and the efforts and service you make on behalf of strengthening our church and making it be the strong “Little Church with a Big Heart” that we are. In this pandemic year I am keenly grateful for you even as I miss our being able to be together as we have in the past and will be again in the future.

Item #5: Please find attached the minutes for the Ely United Methodist Church December 2020 Administrative Council Meeting and the 2020 Annual Church Conference Meeting, both held as a virtual Zoom meeting on Wednesday, December 16, 2020.

Item #6: The bulletin for the January 3, 2021 Facebook Live worship service and Prayer Wall are attached. You can also find Sunday’s bulletin out on our Facebook page.

Hear now the promise of God’s presence with you in all

of 2021, from Psalm 121. Assurance of God's Protection

1 I lift up my eyes to the hills—
from where will my help come?

2 My help comes from the Lord,
who made heaven and earth.

3 He will not let your foot be moved;
he who keeps you will not slumber.

4 He who keeps Israel
will neither slumber nor sleep.

5 The Lord is your keeper;
the Lord is your shade at your right hand.

6 The sun shall not strike you by day,
nor the moon by night.

7 The Lord will keep you from all evil;
he will keep your life.

8 The Lord will keep
your going out and your coming in
from this time on and forevermore.

With my appreciation
Pastor Craig

The Ely United Methodist Church

Prayer Wall

January 1, 2021

This is a guide for prayer this week. The *Prayer Wall* is a reminder of those needing prayers during devotional times. Thank you for dedicating some of your personal prayer time to lift up these requests.

James 5: 15-16



“And the prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well; the Lord will raise him (or her) up....The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective.”

We lift up the following in prayer...

- **Ted Schreffler** – Tricia’s father-in-law and Jim’s dad is not doing well. Pray for healing and comfort
- **Madison** – Angie Olson’s 16 year old cousin diagnosed with thyroid cancer. Prayer for healing treatment
- **Norbert Cronin** – Norbert, Linda Hane’s friend, had a stroke Dec 7 and is in rehab and his wife, who has health issues herself, visits regularly to discuss treatments. His brother passed away last week
- **Lynn Lockhart** – Lynn, a friend of Sheila Shultz, had an accident & is having numerous health issues
- **Barbara Lassila’s family and friends** – In the passing of Pat Olson’s sister, Barbara
- **Devon Richter’s family & friends** – In the sudden death of Devon, daughter of Art & Patty Richter and sister of Susie Mauser and Brand Richter
- **Marla Tezak** – Linda Hane’s sister-in-law is having a laser surgical procedure
- **Linda Fryer** – Linda fell and fractured her cervical spine requiring same day surgery in Duluth Dec 13
- **Steve Norvitch family & friends** – Sheila Shultz’s nephew, Steve, passed away from COVID-19
- **Brett Janeksela** – Donating a kidney to his cousin Jerilyn Montgomery on Dec 11, 8 weeks to recover
- **Augie Richter** – Working in the Twin Cities as a medical transcriptionist in the hospital and has seen so much death due to COVID-19. It’s been hard on him and the support staff. Please pray for his Spirit.
- **Mike and Gail Haney** – Mike is having consultations in Duluth for brain and lung cancer treatments
- **Bruce & Carol Finley family** – Deanie Kuehl’s brother Bruce passed away from COVID-19. His wife, Carol, who was still in the ICU with COVID-19 and on a ventilator passed away a few days later.
- **Jerilyn Montgomery** – Jerilyn is having a kidney transplant surgery on December 11
- **Bonnie Zupancich family, friends & especially her husband Jimmy** – Bonnie died from COVID-19
- **Emma Smrekar** – Carolyn Fendt’s great granddaughter is getting chemo treatment for stomach cancer
- **Linda Williams** – Is having health issues & is recovering in the BWCC. Please keep her in your prayers.
- **Steve White** – Charlie Berglund’s nephew is battling colon & liver cancer and after his bout with COVID-19 is now having surgery to remove half his liver. Pray for successful surgery and healing.
- **Those who have contracted the COVID-19 Virus and Family Members**
- **All essential health care workers exposed to the COVID-19 virus**

We include all the United Methodist Churches and Pastors, both active and retired, in our MN UMC Annual Conference as we work in extraordinary ways to keep our congregations and communities free from infection by the COVID-19 virus.

Prayer requests are compiled from our church prayer chain, from our Sunday morning church congregation using the prayer request forms located in the pew welcome pads, and the North Star District Prayer List. Prayer requests will remain on the Prayer Wall through four weeks unless removed earlier because the prayer is known to be no longer necessary. People may ask that prayers be renewed on the list for subsequent 4-week periods. The Prayer Wall is finalized each Thursday for the Sunday morning service.

Ely United Methodist Church
Sunday, January 3, 2021
10:00 a.m.

Welcome	at about 9:53	Pastor Craig
Prelude		Susan Germek
Opening Hymn	As With Gladness Men of Old	All Four Verses
Opening Prayer		(BCP – Epiphany Sunday)
Epistle Reading	Ephesians 3:1-12	
Children’s Time		
Gospel Reading	Matthew 2:1-12	Pastor Craig
Meditation		Pastor Craig
Prayer Wall		
Pastoral Prayer		
Offertory		
Doxology		
The Great Thanksgiving		
The Lord’s Prayer		
Communion		
Closing Song	We Three Kings of Orient Are	Verses 1,2, and 5
Ringing of the Bell		
Benediction		
Postlude		

Leading worship: Pastor Craig Haberman

Accompanist: Susan Germek

Song Leader: Bev Johnson

As with Gladness Men of Old

MATTHEW 2:1-11
WILLIAM C. DIX, 1837-1898

DIX 77.77.77.
Arr. from CONRAD KOCHER, 1786-1872
by W. H. MONK, 1823-1889

1. As with glad - ness men of old Did the guid - ing
2. As with joy - ous steps they sped To that low - ly
3. As they of - fered gifts most rare At that man - ger
4. Ho - ly Je - sus, ev - ery day Keep us in the

star be - hold; As with joy they hailed its light,
man - ger bed, There to bend the knee be - fore
rude and bare, So may we with ho - ly joy,
nar - row way; And, when earth - ly things are past,

Lead - ing on - ward, beam - ing bright; So, most gra - cious
Him whom heaven and earth a - dore; So may we with
Pure and free from sin's al - loy, All our cost - liest
Bring our ran - somed souls at last Where they need no

Lord, may we Ev - er - more be led to thee.
will - ing feet Ev - er seek thy mer - cy seat.
treas - ures bring, Christ, to thee, our heaven - ly King.
star to guide, Where no clouds thy glo - ry hide. A - men.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING
FOR NEW YEAR, EPIPHANY, BAPTISM OF THE LORD,
OR COVENANT REAFFIRMATION

This text is used by the pastor while the congregation uses A Service of Word and Table II (UMH 13-15) or III (UMH 15-16) or one of the musical settings (UMH 17-25). Either or both of the bracketed [] sections may be omitted, depending on the occasion.

The pastor stands behind the Lord's table. See 28.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts. *The pastor may lift hands and keep them raised.*

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing,
always and everywhere to give thanks to you,
Father Almighty (*almighty God*), creator of heaven and earth,
Before the mountains were brought forth, or you had formed the earth,
from everlasting to everlasting, you alone are God.
You created light out of darkness and brought forth life on the earth.
You formed us in your image and breathed into us the breath of life.
When we turned away, and our love failed, your love remained steadfast.
You delivered us from captivity, made covenant to be our sovereign God,
and spoke to us through your prophets.

And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

The pastor may lower hands.

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

The pastor may raise hands.

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ,
in whom you have revealed yourself, our light and our salvation.

[You sent a star to guide wise men to where the Christ was born;
and in your signs and witnesses, in every age and through all the world,
you have led your people from far places to his light.]

to proclaim release to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind,
to set at liberty those who are oppressed,
and to announce that the time had come
when you would save your people.]

By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection
you gave birth to your Church, delivered us from slavery to sin and death,
and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit.

The pastor may hold hands, palms down, over the bread, or touch the bread, or lift the bread.

On the night in which he gave himself up for us, he took bread,
gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said:
"Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you.
Do this in remembrance of me."

The pastor may hold hands, palms down, over the cup, or touch the cup, or lift the cup.

When the supper was over he took the cup,
gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said:
"Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant,
poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The pastor may raise hands.

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ,
we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving
as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us,
as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

The pastor may hold hands, palms down, over the bread and cup.

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here,
and on these gifts of bread and wine.
Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ,
that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood.

The pastor may raise hands.

By your Spirit make us one with Christ,
one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world,
until Christ comes in final victory, and we feast at his heavenly banquet.

Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church,
all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father (God), now and for ever.

Amen.

We Three Kings

MATTHEW 2:1-11
JOHN H. HOPKINS, JR., 1820-1891

KINGS OF ORIENT 88.44.6. with Refrain
JOHN H. HOPKINS, JR., 1820-1891

1. We three kings of Ori - ent are; Bear - ing
2. Born a King on Beth - le - hem's plain, Gold I
3. Frank - in - cense to of - fer have I; In - cense
4. Myrrh is mine: its bit - ter per - fume King and
5. Glo - rious now be - hold him a - rise, King and

gifts we tra - verse a - far, and foun - tain,
bring to crown him a - gain, King for - ev - er,
owns a De - i - ty night; Prayer and prais - ing
life of gath - er - ing gloom: Sor - rowing, sigh - ing,
God and sac - ri - fice; Al - le - lu - ia,

moor and moun - tain, Fol - low - ing yon - der star.
ceas - ing nev - er rais - us all to reign.
all men rais - ing, Wor - ship him, God on high.
bleed - ing, dy - ing, Sealed in the stone - cold tomb.
Al - le - lu - ia! Sounds through the earth and
skies.

EPIPHANY SEASON

Refrain

O star of won - der, star of night, Star with roy - al beau - ty bright,
West - ward lead - ing, still pro - ceed - ing, Guide us to thy per - fect light.

40:

Walk in the Light

I JOHN 1:7
BERNARD BARTON, 1784-1849

MANOAH CM
HENRY W. GREATOR'S Collection of Church Music, 1851

1. Walk in the light! so shalt thou know That fel - low - ship of love
2. Walk in the light! and thou shalt find Thy heart made tru - ly his,
3. Walk in the light! and thou shalt own Thy dark - ness passed a - way,
4. Walk in the light! and thine shall be A path, though thorn - y, bright:

His spir - it on - ly can be - stow, Who reigns in light a - bove.
Who dwells in cloud - less light en - shrined, In whom no dark - ness is,
Be - cause that light hath on thee shone, In which is per - fect day.
For God, by grace, shall dwell in thee, And God him - self is light. A - men.

EPIPHANY SEASON

ANNUAL CHURCH CONFERENCE – MINUTES

December 16, 2020 – Virtual meeting via Zoom

Call To Order: Pastor Craig Haberman called the meeting to order at 6:37 PM.

Attendees (13): Lucy & Butch Diesslin, Craig Haberman, Linda Hane, Bev & Dan Johnson, Jim & Joan Nicholas, Margie & Mark Olson, Keith Rue and Jay & Jeanne Tomlinson.

Devotional: Pastor Craig had a brief meditation on Romans 8:22-25 read from *The Message* about how we are “enlarged” by waiting.

State of the Church: Pastor Craig referred us to the previously distributed 2020 Annual Church Conference handout containing a brief statement about the state of the church from his observations over the past year. He drew special attention to the section describing details of our response to COVID-19 and how it was heartening & encouraging for him. He is “grateful beyond words for the resilience, patience, maturity and good humor of our congregation as we have walked this difficult year together.”

Budget 2021: The proposed budget for 2021, totaling \$106,504.22, was presented by Finance Chair Bev Johnson and was briefly discussed. The budget is approximately \$2500 less than the 2020 budget, some because of a reduction in our conference apportionments, and some because of reductions in other areas that were projected to be lower because of continued coronavirus restrictions. Linda Hane moved that we approve the proposed budget. Second by Jeanne Tomlinson. Motion passed.

Membership Report: Pastor Craig reviewed the Membership Report pointing out that he had made an error in listing our 3 confirmands under “Profession of Faith” instead of “Received from Preparatory Membership”. He will correct that before sending the report to our conference. He pointed out that he had listed Andy Baker’s death at the end of the report because he had not been a member but was a long-attending constituent. Lucy Diesslin moved that we accept the amended Membership Report. Second by Bev Johnson. Motion passed.

Leadership Nominations for 2021: Pastor Craig reported that he since a number of the Nominations Committee members weren’t able to meet virtually, it was decided to notify all persons currently holding a position that their appointment would be extended for one year unless they would prefer to discontinue in that role. If so, they should notify Pastor Craig or the Ad Council of their decision and an appointment will be made later. This has been announced in the past two issues of the *Parish News*. Positions that are currently To Be Determined are: Lay Member to Annual Conference & Alternate, Finance Stewardship Chair and a third member of the Annual Audit Committee. It was pointed out that the Ad Council has the authority to approve any later appointments. Dan Johnson moved that we approve the nominations as presented. Second by Bev Johnson. Motion passed.

Ad Council Members for 2021:

Chairperson: Dan Johnson , Vice Chairperson: Keith Rue

ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL – MINUTES

Wednesday, December 16, 2020 - Virtual meeting via Zoom

Call To Order: Chair Dan Johnson called the meeting to order at 7:15 PM.

Attendees (13): Lucy & Butch Diesslin, Craig Haberman, Linda Hane, Bev & Dan Johnson, Jim & Joan Nicholas, Margie & Mark Olson, Keith Rue, Jay & Jeanne Tomlinson.

Opening: Pastor Craig expressed his gratitude for how this church has handled the pandemic. He then opened the meeting with a prayer.

Minutes: The November 18 & 20, 2020 Ad Council minutes as previously distributed to Ad Council members were approved. Motion to approve by Bev Johnson; second by Lucy Diesslin.

Treasurer's Report: Mark Olson had previously sent out a copy of the November 2020 Treasurer's report. He pointed out a few key items, particularly that our income for the month was almost twice what it was in October which was very nice to see. He commented that the amount that had been designated for Andy Baker's expenses would be transferred to the Memorial Fund per instructions by the donor. The account balances as of the end of November are General Fund \$35,116.73; Memorial Fund \$10,038.14; Building Fund \$4,373.41. Jeanne Tomlinson moved that we accept the Treasurer's Report as submitted, second by Lucy Diesslin. Motion passed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

• **Trustees:** Margie Olson reported that no one has volunteered yet for Snow Removal for any of the months from January to April. Pastor Craig will do another plea in the *Parish News*.

• **Worship:** Linda Hane asked Pastor Craig to report the results of the December 7th Worship Committee meeting. The following had been discussed: ○ **Poinsettias:** An order for 10 had been placed with Ely Flower & Seed.

‡ **Worship Services:** There have been tweaks each Sunday to improve computer camera placement and sound in our Facebook Live broadcast. The service has been started about 10 minutes early to allow Sheri Rue, serving as a hospitality host, to do greetings as people join in via Facebook. One of the tweaks to improve the sound was for those speaking to remove their masks when talking on camera and have a longer distance from any other persons whenever doing so.

‡ **Advent Candles:** We have been using members of the "broadcast production crew" so far but would like to have someone different lighting the candles this Sunday. It was agreed to have Margie & Mark Olson.

‡ **Christmas Eve Service:** One service will be held at 5:30 PM. Sue Germek has requested that a few of her family members be allowed to attend in the sanctuary. We discussed this, along with the idea of opening up the basement to up to 10 persons who don't have the ability to attend virtually. It was a consensus that this would be ok as long as those attending understand, and will comply with the restrictions of wearing a mask,

keeping properly social distance and not singing. Jeanne will call the people who were on the call list prior to the additional restrictions.

‡ **December 27th Worship Service:** Pastor Craig repeated the plan for having a link in the *Parish News* to the Conference pre-recorded worship service.

• **Outreach:** Jay Tomlinson reported that 2 apartment trees were put up: one on the first floor of the Pioneer Apartments and one in the usual place at Sibley. The Zenith Apartment community room was locked up for the pandemic and not available. He also reported that Bonnie Berglund, working with Linda Hane, had sent out about 25 thank you notes to our local “front-line workers”.

• **Visioning:** Jay Tomlinson reported that the committee had met on December 10 to review the results of the “directory calls”. Although the initial thought was to see if anyone had any needs that the church could help with, everyone contacted felt they had adequate support for their needs. And even though the callers weren’t able to reach everyone, many of those they contacted expressed gratitude for the call, and we were able to get a number of address, phone and email updates.

• **Memorial Fund Task Force:** Margie Olson reported that \$200 had been given to Sue Germek to purchase special “singer masks” for the choir. The hope is to have the choir start up practice in the church sometime early next year once we are allowed to do so.

OLD BUSINESS

1. **Status of JVC camera:** Mauro from Custom Theater has our camera now and will be installing it shortly. Folks who need to understand how to use it should be at the church on Monday, December 21 at 2 PM. Dan recommended we do a “dry run” broadcast during that time while we have Mauro to help us if we have any issues.

NEW BUSINESS

1. **Payment to Jennifer Janekala for 2019 & 2020 garlands:** Linda Hane reported that the gal who supplies our garland for the front steps railings was paid \$70 this year for our 35 foot garland (\$2 per foot) but had not been paid for last year’s, which would have been \$50 for a 25 foot one. She apparently does not send a bill so it was missed last year. Jay Tomlinson moved we pay her \$50, second by Linda Hane. Motion passed.

2. **Choir Practice:** Dan asked if we should discuss when the choir should be allowed in the church for practice since the current conference guidelines basically state no singing in the church until the pandemic is over. This topic was tabled until the January meeting.

3. **All-Night Grad Party:** Mark Olson reported that he’s received the usual request for a donation for the All-Night Grad Party. Since we’ve already given our donation for 2020, this will be an item for the next meeting.

Items of Information

1. **Next Ad Council meeting:** Wednesday of January 20, 2021 at 7 PM.

2. Upper Room: Mark Olson reported as an FYI that the rate will be going up for our devotional booklets.

The meeting adjourned at 8:20 PM with Pastor Craig leading a recitation of the *The Lord's Prayer*.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeanne Tomlinson, Ad Council Secretary