Parish News • January 15, 2021

Ely United Methodist Church Members/Friends,

Greetings from Pastor Craig! We are now halfway through January and those who find the cold of northern Minnesota winters oppressive are breathing a sigh of relief. Those who love winter sports, however, are longing for some measurable snowfall. Maybe the rest of winter will be both warm and snowy!

Our prayers are for the stability of our nation as we approach President-elect Joe Biden's inauguration on Wednesday, January 20th.

Some leaders of totalitarian nations would like to see the United States fail and fall into anarchy, but deep down all of us love our country and our system of government. As theologian Reinhold Niebuhr said in the middle of the previous century: "Man's capacity for justice makes democracy possible; but man's inclination to injustice makes democracy necessary."

And so we hope and pray. As one folk song says: "The struggle's long, but hope is longer."

Item #1: Last Sunday we had three couples and two individuals attend the worship service in person, in addition to the seven of us leading the service. Please aive Jeanne Tomlinson a call at 235-8470 if you wish

We are able to seat ten people upstairs and ten people downstairs, where the service is displayed on a large high quality television. If more than ten people express interest in attending worship in person, we plan to rotate those attending upstairs and those downstairs from week to week in order to give everyone a chance to worship in the sanctuary.

All worship attendees will be required to wear masks and will be seated by an usher at ample distances from one another.

We realize this is a very personal decision for each of you to make in consultation with your families. While we encourage you to attend in person if you wish, we want you to feel comfortable and safe in doing so.

Item #2: Nick and Evan Wognum have also volunteered to shovel the church sidewalks in February. Thanks Nick and Evan!

Item #3: We have a Zoom Bible Study on Wednesday afternoons at 2:00 where we learn from the Scripture reading or readings for the upcoming Sunday. Presently we have between three and six households participating. Please email me (Pastor Craig) at <u>sandpointhabes@gmail.com</u> if you are interested in participating. We meet nearly every week and people attend as their schedule allows. I email out the Scripture readings and a Zoom invitation on Monday or Tuesday so people have a chance to look them over. The format of the study is open discussion.

We have a good group, but would love to add additional members, so if you're interested shoot me a note!

Item #4: We received the following thank you note from Young Life for our \$500 donation to the Ely chapter in December. "Please forgive the lateness of this note to thank you for your generous donation in support of the work of Ely Young Life."

"Now more than ever our youth need the encouragement and Gospel message that Young Life provides. And Young Life in Ely is grateful for the support that continues to enable it to provide this outreach."

"Thank you for caring – Mike Keller and the committee and staff of Ely Young Life."

Item #5: The bulletin for the January 17, 2021 Facebook Live worship service and Prayer Wall are attached. You can also find Sunday's bulletin out on 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

Prayer Wall

January 15, 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.

Philippians 4:6



"Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God."

We lift up the following in prayer...

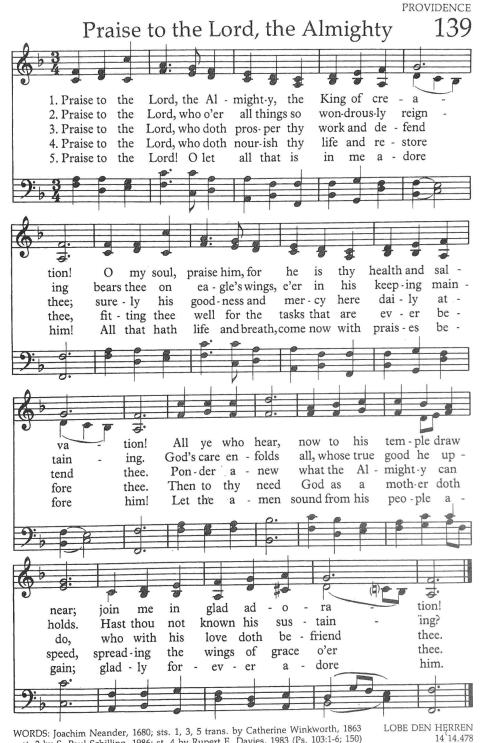
- Zeke Urbas Chris Urbas requested prayers for Zeke who goes for follow-up scans, May scans be clear
- Bob Niskula's family & friends Bob, Jer's brother, passed away unexpectedly. Prayers of comfort
- Bonnie Berglund Fell on the ice bruising her hip and elbow, no broken bones, but pray for healing
- Dan LaTourell Pam Turnbull requested prayers for her cousin Dan LaTourell
- Tom Ferrell family & friends Tom passed away last Saturday, January 9th, friend of Pam Turnbull
- Ken Wright Ken, a former Tomlinson neighbor, fell down stairs & had emergency spinal surgery but remains paralyzed and is in poor spirits. Doctors are not sure if he will recover motor control.
- Ted Schreffler Tricia's father-in-law and Jim's dad is not doing well. Pray for healing and comfort
- Madison Angie Olson's cousin's 16 year old daughter was diagnosed with thyroid cancer. Prayer for healing treatments
- 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
- 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's kidney transplant is postponed until summer. She is on dialysis now.
- 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.
- 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

Ely United Methodist Church Sunday, January 17, 2021 10:00 a.m.

Welcome Prelude		e -	Pastor Craig Susan Germek
Opening Hymn Opening Prayer	#139	Praise to the Lord, the Almighty	Verses 1,4,5
Children's Time			
Old Testament Re Gospel Reading	eading	l Samuel 3:1-20 John 1:35-51	Pastor Craig Pastor Craig
Hymn	#400	Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing	All Three Verses
Sermon			Pastor Craig
Prayer Wall Pastoral Prayer The Lord's Praye	r		
Offertory Doxology			
Closing Song Ringing of the Be Benediction Postlude		Here I am, Lord	Verses 1,2
Leading worship: Accompanist: Song Leader:	Susar	r Craig Haberman 1 Germek ohnson	



WORDS: Joachim Neander, 1680; sts. 1, 3, 5 trans. by Catherine Winkworth, 1863 st. 2 by S. Paul Schilling, 1986; st. 4 by Rupert E. Davies, 1983 (Ps. 103:1-6; 150) MUSIC: Erneuerten Gesangbuch, 1665; harm. by William Sterndale Bennett, 1864

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PERSONAL HOLINESS



