

Parish News • January 29, 2021

Ely United Methodist Church Members/Friends,

Greetings from Pastor Craig! I'm writing this Thursday morning when we're just coming off our coldest stretch of winter weather so far; several days with nighttime lows between -20° and -30° below zero and high temperatures right around the zero mark. It's been an unpleasant cold snap, but this is a far cry from the extended stretches of -30° below zero or colder when I was growing up in Cook or my sons were growing up in Orr. I remember when it wouldn't get above zero for a week to ten days at a time. Nevertheless this short cold snap is a big change from the mild winter we've been having so far.

This Sunday marks the last day of January and each new week brings with it about 20 minutes of extra daylight from the week before, so we're slowly inching our way toward the Spring Equinox on March 21. Even though I'm enjoying cross-country skiing this year, the arrival of spring will lift our spirits as we say "goodbye" to this Covid-19-winter.

Yes, there are encouraging signs as infection rates go down here in Ely and each week more people are vaccinated. Yet, the vaccine is still in such short supply, there are snafus in delivery, and lots of confusion about just where in a given area vaccines are available. Things will feel different when spring arrives, won't they? Once again we'll be outside, there will be more possibilities to see each other safely, and opportunities to be vaccinated will only become more plentiful.

This is all my way of saying, hope is around the corner, but for now we hang tight, stay safe, keep ourselves centered in Christ, and reach out to others for the warmth of companionship when we feel lonely. Each week brings us a little closer to a better day.

Item #1: As I mentioned last Sunday during worship we're opening up our worship services for anyone who wants to attend, whether you have Internet at home or not. We're able to safely seat up to ten worshippers upstairs in the sanctuary in addition to those leading the service and ten worshippers in the basement where we have a large, high definition television mounted on the wall.

All worshippers wear masks throughout the service and are seated at safe social distances from one another.

Call Jeanne Tomlinson at 218-235-8470 if you would like to attend. Because of the limited seating available it may be several weeks before there's room for you attend.

Item #2: We will purchase a new church computer some time between now and summer. Our needs are pretty simple so it isn't going to be a difficult decision-making process, but we also want to make sure we're taking all factors into consideration.

The Administrative Council suggested a group of three people do research and bring back recommendations. If you're interested in being part of this group please talk to Pastor Craig.

Item #3: Next Sunday, February 7th is Communion Sunday. If you have some bread and grape juice on hand at home you

will be able to take communion with those of us in the church building.

The Worship Committee meets Monday, February 1 to plan worship services between now and Easter. We're tentatively planning on an Ash Wednesday service, on February 17th at 7:00 p.m.

Item #4: Please find this week's Prayer Wall either enclosed for those receiving Parish News through the mail or attached for those receiving Parish News electronically.

Note: Carol Laine asks for prayers for Stan and Lois Gray, her brother and sister-in-law, both in intensive care in McAllen, Texas and not doing well. I didn't notice an email message from Carol Laine until after the Prayer Wall for this week was printed.

Hear now these words from Genesis, known as the Mizpah Benediction. This is when Jacob and his uncle Laban were saying goodbye to each other.

"The Lord watch between you and me when we are absent from one another." (Genesis 31:49)

May God watch between each of us until we are able to safely meet again face-to-face. And may it not be too long!

With my warmest regards,
Pastor Craig

The Ely United Methodist Church

Prayer Wall

January 29, 2021

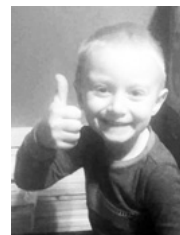
This is a guide for prayer this week. The *Prayer Wall* is a reminder of those needing prayers during devotional times. Thank you for dedicating some of your personal prayer time to lift up these requests.

Matthew 21: 22

Zeke Urbas with clear scans!



(Jesus said), "If you believe, you will receive whatever you ask for in prayer."



We lift up the following in prayer...

- **Stan & Lois Gray** – Carol Laine asked for prayers for Stan and Louis, Carol's brother and sister-in-law, who are both in intensive care in McAllen, TX and not doing well.
- **Tracy Lundeen** – Anna Urba's friend Kynze's father is now out of the ICU, but believed to have COVID-19 pneumonia effecting his heart and lungs. However, they believe they caught it early on.
- **Linda Fryer** – Linda Fryer, who had cervical spine surgery, is now home and able to walk with support
- **Emma Smrekar** – Carolyn Fendt's great granddaughter is receiving chemo and radiation treatments
- **Zeke Urbas** – Zeke Urbas's follow-up scans came out all clear. Praise God!
- **Diane Richards family & friends** – Pam Turnbull's friend, Diane, passed away from a heart attack
- **Chris McDermott family & friends** – Carol Linneman's step-sister passed away from COVID-19
- **Rich Siegert** – An Anna Urbas mentor had a severe heart attack & will receive stents when stabilized
- **Bob Niskala'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
- **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
- **Mike and Gail Haney** – Mike is having consultations in Duluth for brain and lung cancer treatments
- **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 4-week periods. The Prayer Wall is finalized each Thursday for the Sunday morning service.

Ely United Methodist Church
Sunday, January 31, 2021
10:00 a.m.

Welcome		Pastor Craig
Prelude		Susan Germek
Opening Hymn	#127 Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah	All Three Verses
Opening Prayer		
Children's Time		
Old Testament Reading	Deuteronomy 18:15-20	Pastor Craig
Gospel Reading	Mark 1:21-28	Pastor Craig
Hymn	#451 Be Thou My Vision	All Three Verses
Sermon		Pastor Craig
Prayer Wall		
Pastoral Prayer		
The Lord's Prayer		
Offertory		
Doxology		
Closing Song	#557 Blessed Be the Tie That Binds	All Four Verses
Ringing of the Bell		
Benediction		
Postlude		

Leading worship: Pastor Craig Haberman
Accompanist: Susan Germek
Song Leader: Bev Johnson

Be Thou My Vision

451

Unison

1. Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;
 2. Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true word;
 3. Great God of heav - en, my vic - to - ry won,

naught be all else to me, save that thou art.
 I ev - er with thee and thou with me, Lord;
 may I reach heav - en's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!

Thou my best thought, by day or by night,
 thou and thou on - ly, first in my heart,
 Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,

wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.
 great God of heav - en, my trea - sure thou art.
 still be my vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.

WORDS: Ancient Irish; trans. by Mary E. Byrne, 1905; versed by Eleanor H. Hull, 1912, alt.
 MUSIC: Trad. Irish melody; harm. by Carlton R. Young, 1963

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Alt. © 1989 The United Methodist Publishing House; harm. © 1964 Abingdon Press

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WORDS: William Williams, 1745; trans. from the Welsh by Peter Williams and
 the author, 1771
 MUSIC: John Hughes, 1907

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Blest Be the Tie That Binds

1. Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in
2. Be - fore our Fa - ther's throne we pour our
3. We share each oth - er's woes, our mu - tual
4. When we a - sun - der part, it gives us

Chris - tian love; the fel - low - ship of
ar - dent prayers; our fears, our hopes, our
bur - dens bear; and of - ten for each
in - ward pain; but we shall still be

kin - dred minds is like to that a - bove.
aims are one, our com - forts and our cares.
oth - er flows the sym - pa - thiz - ing tear.
joined in heart, and hope to meet a - gain.

WORDS: John Fawcett, 1782
MUSIC: Johann G. Nægeli; arr. by Lowell Mason, 1845

DENNIS
SM