

Parish News • April 30, 2021

Ely United Methodist Church Members/Friends,

Greetings from Pastor Craig! I've sure enjoyed several days during the past week when the sun came out from behind a cloud and temperatures almost reached the average daily high for this time of year in Ely. But it still seems to me, anyway, as though we're stuck in "limbo-land," mired somewhere between winter and spring.

It feels as though we're in a different sort of limbo-land as we enter the second year of Covid-19. There are so many positive signs out there and some semblance of normality is returning as one aspect of our society after another begins to open up.

Yet it also appears as though many people are not venturing out yet, preferring to take a wait and see approach. Maybe it's that some of us are making lifestyle adjustments, whether out of:

- Caution: "I'll get out there eventually, but I'm not ready yet;"
- Newly-discovered-preferences: "I'm enjoying a different side of myself and my life that I never noticed before;"
- Or resignation: "I'm just too overwhelmed with everything that's happened and I don't have the energy to re-engage with my life as I did before. I'm going to stay hunkered down."

I think I understand at a pretty deep level all three above three responses. Why? Because I've found myself experiencing each one of them off and on during the past year. The way I'm trying to live my life right now, however, is to move prudently back to the way it was before; fully engaged, but doing so out of the place of silence and quietness that's settled on me since a year ago.

The following extended quote from the recent biography of Eugene Peterson describes this "life posture" in a manner that makes sense to me.

"I get up at 5:50, go to the kitchen and prepare the morning coffee for Jan and me. I turn on the radio to the NPR station to orient myself to the world's idea of what is going on: I grind African grown coffee

beans – either from Kenya or Zimbabwe. While they are brewing in a French press, I walk down to the lake shore and perform my morning miqvah – purificatory prayer ... in anticipation of following Jesus for the next 18 or so hours. The so-called news is fairly predictable: the death of some world leader or celebrity; war casualties; political scandal or infighting – conspicuously deficient in person, in beauty, in goodness, in truth. There is no sign of transcendence. The coffee is done in 6 minutes. I pour 2 mugs into an aluminum coffee flash and take it to Jan. I pour myself a mug and take it to a bench overlooking our mountain lake. I sip it, pray the Psalms, meditate the presence word of God, pray....." (from "Burning in My Bones" by Winn Collier. p. 249.)

This description may sound very unfamiliar to you – you don't grind your morning coffee, listen to NPR, take an esoteric Jewish purification bath in the lake each morning, etc.... But you do have spiritual patterns in your life. And your relationship with God does have a distinct shape.

So, then, how will you re-engage with your life as before, but do it out of the deep well of your faith, your relationship with God?

Item #1: We are still working to resolve the connectivity issues with our camera, which did not allow us to stream our worship service last week on Facebook Live. We hope to figure this out between now and Sunday.

If not, our Plan B is to broadcast using my new MacBook Pro from close range. This means it will still be a quality live-stream, although not the superior video and audio we've become accustomed to with our camera. We encourage you to tune in.

This is Communion Sunday, so those of you at home can join in with us if you have bread and grape juice handy.

Item #2: Our Board of Trustees will meet on Wednesday, May 5th at 7:00 p.m. in the church basement.

We are looking for people to mow the church lawn this summer. If you are interested, please call the church at 218-365-3355 or Margie Olson at 218-365-4319 or 218-235-0220, leaving a message at any of those

numbers, if necessary. Thank you!

Item #3: Please find the Administrative Council minutes from our April 21st meeting, either enclosed or attached.

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.

Hear now these words from **Psalm 121**.

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 God's blessings and my very best wishes,

Pastor Craig Haberman

The Ely United Methodist Church

Prayer Wall

April 30, 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.

Psalm 17: 6



“I call on you, O God, for you will answer me; give ear to me and hear my prayer.”

We lift up the following in prayer...

- **Joe Barmess & wife, Judy** – Close friends of Jeanne & Jay, Joe is in the ICU and on a ventilator receiving blood and plasma transfusions. Please pray for recovery and comfort.
- **Linda Frisell’s family & friends** – Her brother, Todd, passed away. Pray for comfort and peace.
- **Deanie Kuehl’s sister, Terri** – Had surgery last week. Pray for comfort and full recovery.
- **Kay Ojala** – Her kidney transplant surgery went well and she and the donor are both recovering at home
- **Debbie Granberry & family** – Jeanne’s and Jay’s college friend, who lost both her husband to Alzheimer’s & her mother within 6 days last week. Pray for comfort and peace.
- **Mary Leonas** – Kathy Brandau’s mother, Mary Leonas, is not doing well. Pray for healing.
- **Marla Tezek** – Linda Hane’s sister-in-law had back surgery and needs prayers for recovery
- **Earl Bulinski family & Friends** – Earl passed away. Pray for peace and comfort
- **Art Hane** – Bill Hane’s brother is dealing with Parkinson’s and is now at home. Prayers for comfort
- **Darryl Johnson** – Don Johnson’s brother is recovering from receiving 1 stent with 2 more to be inserted
- **Jeff Close** – Sheri Rue’s brother, Jeff, is having some health issues. Please pray for healing.
- **Lee Tessier family & friends** – Lee passed away from complications after surgery.
- **Rod & Tootsie Loe** – Rod and Tootsie are living together at Carefree Living. Rod is back from hospital
- **Robert Buckner** – Marge Olson’s brother fell and broke his hip and is need of healing prayers
- **Mike Haney** – Mike is struggling with his loss of strength and treatments for brain cancer.
- **Emma Smrekar** – Carolyn Fendt’s great granddaughter is receiving chemo and radiation treatments
- **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, May 2, 2021
10:00 a.m.

Welcome
Prelude

Pastor Craig
Susan Germek

*Hymn #577 God of Grace and God of Glory

Verses 1, 3, and 4

Opening Prayer

Children's Time

Epistle Reading I John 4:7-21
Gospel Reading John 15:1-8

*Hymn #509 Jesus, Savior, Pilot Me

Meditation

Pastor Craig

Prayer Wall
Pastoral Prayer

Offertory
*Doxology

*The Great Thanksgiving (see insert)

*The Lord's Prayer
Communion

*Hymn #369 Blessed Assurance, Jesus is Mine

Ringing of the Bell
Benediction
Postlude

Leading worship: Pastor Craig Haberman
Accompanist: Susan Germek
Liturgist: Patty Rusco

God of Grace and God of Glory

1. God of grace and God of glo - ry, on thy peo - ple
 2. Lo! the hosts of e - vil round us scorn thy Christ, as -
 3. Cure thy chil - dren's war - ring mad - ness, bend our pride to
 4. Save us from weak res - ig - na - tion to the e - vils

pour thy power; crown thine an - cient church -'s sto - ry;
 sail his ways! Fears and doubts too long have bound us;
 thy con - trol; shame our wan - ton, self - ish glad - ness,
 we de - plore; let the search for thy sal - va - tion

bring her bud to glo - rious flower. Grant us wis - dom,
 free our hearts to work and praise. Grant us wis - dom,
 rich in things and poor in soul. Grant us wis - dom,
 be our glo - ry ev - er - more. Grant us wis - dom,

grant us cour - age, for the fac - ing of this
 grant us cour - age, for the liv - ing of these
 grant us cour - age, lest we miss thy king - dom's
 grant us cour - age, serv - ing thee whom we a -

hour, (of this hour) for the fac - ing of this hour.
 days, (of these days) for the liv - ing of these days.
 goal, (king - dom's goal) lest we miss thy king - dom's goal.
 dore, (we a - dore) serv - ing thee whom we a - dore.

SANCTIFYING AND PERFECTING GRACE

509

Jesus, Savior, Pilot Me

1. Je - sus, Sav - ior, pi - lot me o - ver
 2. As a moth - er stills her child, thou canst
 3. When at last I near the shore, and the

life's tem - pes - tuous sea; un - known waves be - fore me
 hush the o - cean wild; bois - terous waves o - bey thy
 fear - ful break - ers roar 'twixt me and the peace - ful

roll, hid - ing rock and treach - erous shoal. Chart and
 will, when thou sayest to them, "Be still!" Won - drous
 rest, then, while lean - ing on thy breast, may I

com - pass came from thee; Je - sus, Sav - ior, pi - lot me.
 sov - ereign of the sea, Je - sus, Sav - ior, pi - lot me.
 hear thee say to me, "Fear not, I will pi - lot thee."

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING FOR EASTER DAY OR SEASON

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).

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.
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,
brought us to a land flowing with milk and honey,
and set before us the way of life.

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.
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.
By your great mercy we have been born anew
to a living hope through the resurrection of your Son from the dead
and to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading.
Once we were no people, but now we are your people,
declaring your wonderful deeds in Christ,
who called us out of darkness into his marvelous light.
When the Lord Jesus ascended, he promised to be with us always,
in the power of your Word and Holy 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.

On the day you raised him from the dead
he was recognized by his disciples in the breaking of the bread,
and in the power of your Holy Spirit your Church has continued
in the breaking of the bread and the sharing of the cup.

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.

Blessed Assurance

1. Bless - ed as - sur - ance, Je - sus is mine!
 2. Per - fect sub - mis - sion, per - fect de - light,
 3. Per - fect sub - mis - sion, all is at rest;

O what a fore - taste of glo - ry di - vine!
 vi - sions of rap - ture now burst on my sight;
 I in my Sav - ior am hap - py and blest,

Heir of sal - va - tion, pur - chase of God,
 an - gels de - scend - ing bring from a - bove
 watch - ing and wait - ing, look - ing a - bove,

born of his Spir - it, washed in his blood.
 ech - oes of mer - cy, whis - pers of love.
 filled with his good - ness, lost in his love.

Refrain

This is my sto - ry, this is my song,

prais - ing my Sav - ior all the day long;

this is my sto - ry, this is my song,

prais - ing my Sav - ior all the day long.

ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL – MINUTES

Wednesday, April 21, 2021 - Virtual meeting via Zoom

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

Attendees (10): Lucy Diesslin, Craig Haberman, Linda Hane, Dan Johnson, Carol Linneman, Margie & Mark Olson, Keith Rue, Jay & Jeanne Tomlinson.

Opening: Pastor Craig talked briefly about all the adjustments we've successfully made through this past year and how we have more to be looking at. He then opened the meeting with a prayer.

Minutes: The March 17, 2021 Ad Council minutes, as previously distributed to Ad Council members and via *Parish News*, were approved. Motion to approve by Lucy Diesslin; second by Margie Olson. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: Mark Olson briefly talked about the March 2021 Treasurer's. He reported that our donation to the Ely Food Shelf was \$100 more than we had approved because a summer resident had seen the item in the Ad Council minutes and wanted to contribute that additional amount. Receipts for the month were \$10,630; disbursements were \$8,136.51. The account balances are: General Fund \$33,597.18; Memorial Fund \$9,941.24; Building Fund \$4,375.58. Jeanne Tomlinson moved that we accept the Treasurer's report as submitted, second by Lucy Diesslin. Motion passed. Jay moved that we transfer \$2,000 from the General Fund to the Building Fund to help cover upcoming expenses. Second by Margie Olson. Motion passed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- **Trustees:** Margie Olson reported the following work that needs to be addressed: ○ Parking lot crack-filling and resealing which will also require line re-painting
- Sewer pipe work to resolve recurring blockage problem
- Lawn repair

Dan Johnson, Landscape Committee Chair, reported that Liddy Sheppard had done some clean-up work on the flower beds and Margie Olson mentioned that Norm Rusco had done some raking on the lawn but there are dead spots on the lawn that will need to be addressed. He will be working on that.

Pastor Craig mentioned there were some issues with the parsonage lawn having a lot of gravel, primarily from snow plowing.

Margie mentioned that since our worship attendance has increased she is having the cleaning service come in weekly instead of monthly.

- **Worship:** Linda Hane had sent in a report commenting that the Palm Sunday, Good Friday and Easter services all went well and were meaningful and well-attended. We had 51 people for Easter, all seated safely in the sanctuary. Pastor Craig mentioned that there is now a Liturgist Sign-up Sheet on the bulletin board at the back of the sanctuary.

OLD BUSINESS

1. **Church computer:** Dan Ely had sent in a report with details of where they are now in their investigation into the office computer replacement. (See Attachment 1 below). The Ad Council will leave it up to the ad hoc committee to make a recommendation among the options and present that at the next meeting.

2. **Worship service possible changes:** Pastor Craig briefly reviewed a list of possible changes that he and the Worship Committee had been discussing. (See Attachment 2 below). It was decided.

to table these items for now to allow for more specific discussions to occur with the various parties impacted by the possible changes. Jeanne Tomlinson asked that we consider discontinuing having folks call in to sign up and allow fully vaccinated folks to be seated together, if they are willing, possibly setting aside a section in the church to allow for that. It was felt that there are too many issues with that so will continue as we are for at least this next month.

3. Local police officer (Chief Chad Houde) support: Dan asked about the status of this. Craig will contact Chief Houde to let him know what we will be doing and will then let Jay know to proceed with doing the interview. This will be shared with the congregation along with ideas for supporting him.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Celebration of Life Committee: Margie Olson reported that the committee will be meeting in the next week or so to discuss details for Celebrations of Life for upcoming funerals. We briefly discussed some of the complications that could arise if the event will be open to the public and if the mask mandate and other restrictions are still in place.

Items of Information

1. Next Ad Council meeting: Wednesday, May 19, 2021 at 7 PM.

The meeting adjourned at 8:12 PM with Pastor Craig leading a recitation of the *The Lord's Prayer*.

Respectfully submitted,
Jeanne Tomlinson, Ad Council Secretary

Attachment 1: (Old Business - Church Computer)

Microsoft Office vs. Office 365:

- Office is a one time cost of 150.00 vs. 100.00/year for 365
- 365 will require connection to the internet but will always be updated with the latest and greatest.

Computer Purchase:

- Windows comes with "Defender" which is an antivirus : (Validate that this is free per line item below)
- We spoke about a machine that would last about 7 years. You will see an estimated year row below.
- 16gb of RAM is what windows can address at this time. No need to go higher for what we are doing. 8gb should work for all we do.
- The most expensive option has greater long term flexibility but at a cost.

Attachment 2: (Old Business – Worship Service possible changes)

Items to consider in the next month or so, and longer-range items. Some may be easily resolved by consensus (although with some modifications) others may require a formal motion.

First, the more immediate issues primarily have to do with bringing the focus of our Worship Service more "into the room" for the people worshipping in-person without lessening the impact of our Facebook Live broadcast. Seeking to return our Worship Service to some semblance of how it was before without leaving the Facebook Live worshippers behind. Some possibilities here.

- Begin the service at 9:55 with a greeting from Pastor Craig and then one or more hymns of choice (first and last verse) with Bev leading the singing.
- The prelude follows the hymns and may conclude on or after 10:00, depending on how long the hymn-singing takes.
- Turn the microphone toward the congregation for the other hymns so that the focus of the hymn singing is the organ (or piano) and the people. Our congregational worship will be shared with those worshipping online.
- Pastor Craig orient his preaching and other worship leadership more toward people in the sanctuary, without ignoring the Facebook Live worshippers.
- Less camera movement/zooming.
- Offering?

Second, more mid-range issues.

- Do we move the camera so the fellowship room becomes the fellowship room again? Perhaps into the area where the ushers pew is now.
- Are we at the point of resuming meetings in-person in general? Or with a Zoom option?
- How about one parking lot worship service (worship in cars/lawn chairs) per summer - announced well in advance?

Third, longer range issues.

- Establish a technology committee to enlarge the number of people trained to run the camera. These people on the committee might be interested in helping us with the next bullet item.
- Also to consider future technology needs for all areas of our church