

Parish News • May 28, 2021

Ely United Methodist Church Members/Friends,

Greetings from Pastor Craig!

Another week has come and gone with more changes than I've experienced in a long time, and on just about every front.

- We're coming up on Memorial Day weekend, which for some people is the unofficial beginning of summer. June is on the doorstep, but we are being greeted by freeze warnings the next three nights! Then nightly lows are forecast to jump into the middle 40's for several days before climbing into the 50's. I'm glad I planted my marigolds and petunias in large pots that can be moved into the garage overnight if necessary.
- Yesterday United Methodist pastors in Minnesota had a day-long Zoom meeting where we stepped through the items of business and communication, which we typically handle at Clergy Session during our Annual Conference meeting in June. Our Annual Conference session is when clergy and lay delegates from all United Methodist Churches in Minnesota gather together for worship, workshops, fellowship, decision-making, and approving a 2022 Annual Conference budget. This gathering is another beginning for me, both for summer and for another year of serving a church as pastor. This summer I'll be completing my third year as the pastor of Ely United Methodist Church and am looking forward to beginning year number four! (Note: Jay Tomlinson and I will attend the Minnesota Annual Conference on June 22-24. The first and last day are online, the middle day is at Peace United Methodist Church in Virginia.
- I went to the Ely Public Library on Monday for the first time since it closed down in March of 2020. While still inside I picked up my phone and texted my family and some friends saying: "I'm at the Ely library for the first time in fourteen months and ready to check out a book. There simply aren't words....." The speed with which things are opening up Covid-19 ebbs in Minnesota is astonishing; life seems to very quickly be returning to normal. Two articles in the Minneapolis Star Tribune this week contained very promising news about the effectiveness of vaccinations.

These changes bring joy and hope along with them. What a wonderful time of year and what a difference a year can make as we enter summer with the isolation and uncertainty of the past fifteen months beginning to recede. You will find some important updates in the items below.

Item #1: Our Administrative Council held an unscheduled meeting on Wednesday of this week to consider the single agenda item: To consider changing our present mask and social distance policy for Sunday morning worship services. Here is the motion the Administrative Council passed.

Moved, seconded, and passed that "We follow the Minnesota governor's decision to remove 'all capacity and social distance requirements, as well as the indoor mask mandate.' This means wearing a mask during worship services for our church will be left up to the individual's discretion."

Full minutes of the specially-called Administrative Council meeting (May 26, 2021) are attached for those receiving this electronically and a paper copy is included for those who have *Parish News* delivered to them by U.S. Mail.

This means you no longer need to call Jeanne Tomlinson if you wish to attend worship on Sunday morning. Thank you, Jeanne, for coordinating this for so many weeks. And thanks again to each of you for your patience with all the adjustments you've had to make this year.

Item #2: We will live-stream the service this Sunday from our new Facebook account: "Eumc MN," so please go there to tune in. We will also include directions to our new Facebook account on our previous Facebook page where you've been tuning in since we began live-streaming. Those streaming without a personal Facebook account should go to http://www.facebook.com/Eumc_MN/live. Note there is a space between the "c" and the "M."

Thank you for your patience as we navigate this unpleasant interruption in live-streaming our worship services with our high-quality camera. We're grateful for your interest in participating in our

services online. We will continue to live-stream them even when the pandemic is over.

Item #3: Eight families have responded to our Birthday Club by emailing us the birthdays and anniversaries of family members. Bravo! We'll run this invitation for you to do the same for two more weeks.

We Need You! The Little Church with a Big Heart is starting a birthday club. The purpose of the club is to strengthen the bond that our church community already has, by recognizing individuals in writing on their birthdays. In order to do that, we need to know your birth dates (month and day only—year if you wish. The information will be stored in our Directory Roster spreadsheet. Please e-mail your birth date, and with their consent, those of your family members, to elyumc.elymn@gmail.com. If you do not use e-mail, you can mail the information to the church at 305 East Camp Street, or you may drop it in the collection plate. Once our Birthday Club is running smoothly, we may expand it to recognize anniversaries, so if you are married, please include the date of your wedding, too—again, month and day, year if you wish.

Item #4: Please find attached or included minutes of our regularly-scheduled Administrative Council Meeting held on May 19, 2021.

Item #5: 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 traditional words of benediction from **Numbers 6:24-26**.

²⁴ The Lord bless you and keep you: ²⁵ The Lord make his face to shine upon you, and be gracious to you: ²⁶ The Lord lift up his countenance upon you, and give you peace.

In gratitude,
with God's blessings,
and my very best wishes,

Have a wonderful Memorial Day weekend!

Pastor Craig Haberman

Ely United Methodist Church
Sunday, May 30, 2021
Trinity Sunday

Welcome
Prelude

Pastor Craig
Susan Germek

***Call to Worship** #761 Responsive Psalm 29

***Hymn** #64 Holy, Holy, Holy

Opening Prayer

Almighty and everlasting God, you have given to us your servants grace, by the confession of a true faith, to acknowledge the glory of the eternal Trinity, and in the power of your divine Majesty to worship the Unity: Keep us steadfast in this faith and worship, and bring us at last to see you in your one and eternal glory, O Father; who with the Son and the Holy Spirit live and reign, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

Children's Time

Old Testament Reading Isaiah 6:1-8

Gospel Reading John 3:1-17

***Hymn** #189 Fairest Lord Jesus

Sermon

Pastor Craig

***Hymn** #593 Here I Am

Prayer Wall

Pastoral Prayer/The Lord's Prayer

Offertory

***Doxology**

***Hymn** #717 Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory

vs. 1,4 and 5

***Ringing of the Bell**

***Benediction/Postlude**

Accompanist: Susan Germek

Liturgist: Bev Johnson

The Ely United Methodist Church

Prayer Wall

May 28, 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.

Mark 11: 24



“Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours.”

We lift up the following in prayer...

- **Vonda Schreffler** – Tricia Schreffler asked for prayers for her mother-in-law who is not doing well
- **Lisa Porthan** – A large mass was discovered during her colonoscopy and she is seeing a specialist in Duluth for further diagnosis and treatment
- **Wally & Jeri Walburn** – In the unexpected loss of their nephew Brian Walburn. Pray for peace and comfort to Brian’s family and friends.
- **Steve Harbaugh** – Steve is Glenda Biebl Harbaugh’s husband and is having numbness and pain in his legs and is having trouble walking. Doctors have not been able to diagnosis the problem yet.
- **Pam Turnbull** – Pam is undergoing carpal tunnel surgery, prayers for healing
- **Ruth Ryberg family & friends** – Her brother, Bobby, passed away. Pray for comfort and peace.
- **Linda Frisell’s family & friends** – Her brother, Todd, passed away. Pray for comfort and peace.
- **Deanie Kuehl’s sister, Terri** – Had surgery last week. Surgery was successful and she is doing well.
- **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.
- **Rod & Tootsie Loe** – Rod and Tootsie are living together at Carefree Living. Rod is back from hospital
- **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.

Psalm 29

Charles Wesley

RESPONSE (*Baptism of the Lord, Trinity & General*)

John Hatton

With joy the Lord of Hosts pro - claim;
ex - tol the great al - might - y name.

R

- 1 Ascribe to the Lord, O heavenly beings,
ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.
- 2 **Ascribe to the Lord the glory of his name;
worship the Lord in holy splendor.**
- 3 The voice of the Lord is upon the waters;
the God of glory thunders,
the Lord, upon many waters.
- 4 **The voice of the Lord is powerful,
the voice of the Lord is full of majesty. R**
- 5 The voice of the Lord breaks the cedars,
the Lord breaks the cedars of Lebanon.
- 6 The Lord makes Lebanon to skip like a calf,
and Sirion like a young wild ox.
- 7 **The voice of the Lord flashes forth flames of fire.**
- 8 The voice of the Lord shakes the wilderness,
the Lord shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.
- 9 The voice of the Lord makes the oaks to whirl,
and strips the forests bare;
and in his temple all cry, "Glory!"
- 10 The Lord sits enthroned over the flood;
the Lord sits enthroned as Ruler for ever.
- 11 **May the Lord give strength to his people!
May the Lord bless his people with peace! R**

64 Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty

1. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Lord God Al - might - y!
 2. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! All the saints a - dore thee,
 3. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Though the dark-ness hide thee,
 4. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Lord God Al - might - y!

Ear - ly in the morn - ing our song shall rise to thee.
 cast - ing down their gold - en crowns a - round the glass - y sea;
 though the eye of sin - ful man thy glo - ry may not see,
 All thy works shall praise thy name, in earth and sky and sea.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Mer - ci - ful and might - y,
 cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim fall - ing down be - fore thee,
 on - ly thou art ho - ly; there is none be - side thee,
 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Mer - ci - ful and might - y,

God in three per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!
 which wert, and art, and ev - er - more shalt be.
 per - fect in power, in love and pur - i - ty.
 God in three per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty.

Fairest Lord Jesus

1. Fair - est Lord Je - sus, rul - er of all na - ture,
 2. Fair are the mead - ows, fair - er still the wood - lands,
 3. Fair is the sun - shine, fair - er still the moon - light,
 4. Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior! Lord of all the na - tions!

O thou of God and man the Son, thee will I cher - ish,
 robed in the bloom - ing garb of spring: Je - sus is fair - er,
 and all the twink - ling star - ry host: Je - sus shines bright - er,
 Son of God and Son of Man! Glo - ry and hon - or,

thee will I hon - or, thou, my soul's glo - ry, joy, and crown.
 Je - sus is pur - er, who makes the woe - ful heart to sing.
 Je - sus shines pur - er than all the an - gels heaven can boast.
 praise, ad - o - ra - tion, now and for - ev - er - more be thine.

593

Here I Am, Lord

Unison

1. I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my peo-ple cry.
 I who made the stars of night, I will make their dark-ness bright.
 2. I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my peo-ple's pain.
 I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love a-lone.
 3. I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame,
 Fin-est bread I will pro-vide, till their hearts be sat-is-fied.

1.
 All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save.
 Who will bear my light to them?
 I have wept for love of them. They turn a-way.
 I will speak my word to them.
 I will set a feast for them. My hand will save.
 I will give my life to them.

2. *Refrain (Harmony)*
 Whom shall I send? Here I am, Lord.
 Whom shall I send?
 Whom shall I send?

WORDS: Dan Schutte, 1981 (Is. 6:8)
 MUSIC: Dan Schutte, 1981, adapt. by Carlton R. Young, 1988

HERE I AM, LORD
 77-74 D with Refrain

Is it I, Lord? I have heard you call-ing in the

night. I will go, Lord, if you lead me.

I will hold your peo-ple in my heart.

CALLED TO GOD'S MISSION, see further:

07. For the Fruit of This Creation 650. Give Me the Fruit Where God Dwells

717 The Battle Hymn of the Republic

1. Mine eyes have seen the glo - ry of the
 2. I have seen him in the watch - fires of a
 3. He has sound - ed forth the trum - pet that shall
 4. In the beau - ty of the lil - ies Christ was the
 5. He is com - ing like the glo - ry of the

com - ing of the Lord; he is tram - pling out the
 hun - dred cir - cling camps, they have build - ed him an
 nev - er call re - treat; he is sift - ing out the
 born a - cross the sea, with a glo - ry in his
 morn - ing on the wave, he is wis - dom to the

vin - tage where the grapes of wrath are stored; he hath
 al - tar in the eve - ning dews and damps; I can
 hearts of men be - fore his judg - ment seat; O be
 bos - om that trans - fig - ures you and me; as he
 might - y, he is hon - or to the brave; so the

WORDS: Sts. 1-4, Julia Ward Howe, 1861; st. 5, anon.

BATTLE HYMN OF THE REPUBLIC

loosed the fate - ful light - ning of his ter - ri - ble swift sword;
 read his righ - teous sen - tence by the dim and flar - ing lamps;
 swift, my soul, to an - swer him; be ju - bi - lant, my feet!
 died to make men ho - ly, let us die to make men free,
 world shall be his foot - stool, and the soul of wrong his slave.

Refrain

his truth is march - ing on.
 his day is march - ing on.
 Our God is march - ing on. Glo - ry, glo - ry, hal - le -
 while God is march - ing on.
 Our God is march - ing on.

lu - jah! Glo - ry, glo - ry, hal - le - lu - jah! Glo - ry,

glo - ry, hal - le - lu - jah! His truth is march - ing on.

ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL – MINUTES
Wednesday, May 19, 2021 - Virtual meeting via Zoom

Call To Order: Chair Dan Johnson called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM.

Attendees (7): Lucy Diesslin, Craig Haberman, Linda Hane, Dan Johnson, Margie & Mark Olson, Jeanne Tomlinson.

Opening: Pastor Craig talked briefly from Psalm 90:12 about “numbering our days” and continuing to savor all that we have realized is precious during the pandemic. He then opened the meeting with a prayer.

Minutes: The April 21, 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 April 2021 Treasurer’s. Our receipts were actually very close to our disbursements but the report appeared to show a shortage of income because of the transfer of \$2,000 from the General Fund to the Building Fund which had been approved at the previous meeting. A gift of \$700 had been received for lawn maintenance expenses. It is currently being held in the General Fund and we discussed briefly whether it should be there or in the Building Fund. Jeanne Tomlinson moved that we transfer the \$700 to the Building Fund; second by Mark Olson. Motion passed. Receipts for the month were \$8,221; disbursements were \$10,185.06. The current account balances are: General Fund \$31,633.12.18; Memorial Fund \$9,992.47; Building Fund \$6,376.13. Jeanne Tomlinson moved that we accept the Treasurer’s report as submitted, second by Lucy Diesslin. Motion passed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

† **Trustees:** Margie Olson reported the following work is being handled: ○ Parsonage leak in the basement was examined by Margie Olson, Norm Rusco and Pastor Craig and determined to be a leak in the pipe leading to the external faucet. Norm repaired it.

- Parsonage master bath light & outlet are not working. Cunningham Electric has been contacted to come check it out.
- Gutters are being considered over the back door.
- Parsonage could use a motion light over the garage door since there is no street light and it is very dark for any visitors during the winter. It was suggested to have Cunningham look into installing one while he is there.
- The church parking lot needs cracks refilled & the lines repainted. The estimate for this work is \$1200.
- Handrails for the stairs between the parking lots need to be put back. Phil Hegfors built another sleeve.
- Mark Luthens stained the handicap ramp.
- Jer Niskala checked the A/C to get it ready for the summer.
- BJ Rusco will be fixing the sewer line. He blew out the blockage earlier and measured for the pipe he would need for the repair. Norm Rusco will find out when BJ is planning to do the work. It needs to be done before we do pasties again.
- Organ has been repaired – it needed a new relay switch.

† **Worship:** Linda Hane reported that the committee met on May 6. Liturgists have been signing up, some after Linda approached people. May is full but there are still some needed for June. The committee decided that one of our summer services will be an outdoor service to be held in our parking lot; more like a “camp meeting” with lots of music. A date hasn’t been determined yet but it will be flexible and moved indoors if rainy. The choir is planning to start back up on June 6 and will be in the choir area behind the piano and

singing without masks since all the members are now fully vaccinated. Pastor Craig will be gone between June 27 (leaving after the service) to July 10 with Pastor Dana covering for July 4.

† **Visioning:** Jeanne reported that the Birthday Club will be started up at the next Visioning Committee meeting. The committee is in the process of collecting birthdays and anniversaries.

† **Memorial Fund:** Carol Linneman had sent in a report to Dan prior to the meeting. Memorial Funds had been spent on choir music (\$50.40), some of the new technology purchased for live-streaming (\$3000), choir masks (\$200) and materials cost reimbursement to Marshall Monthei for the new choir music table (\$150). They decided to have a “double Memorial Sunday” this year (two years worth) - since the scheduled May 2020 could not happen, It will be in conjunction with the outdoor church service. Rather than a sheet cake, cupcakes will be served after the service. Cost will be about \$140 for 7 dozen.

OLD BUSINESS

1. **Church computer:** The committee met with Voltz and **they** recommended the “mid-line” option. Jeanne Tomlinson moved that we allocate \$1,250 to proceed with purchasing the recommended computer and peripherals. Second by Linda Hane. Motion passed.

2. **Tweaking of indoor service; status of Facebook streaming:** We are almost ready to start using the camera again for streaming our worship service. Pastor Craig believes that we now have enough “friends” for the new Facebook account that a direct access for non-Facebook users should be possible, but he wants to run another check after Jay is back so we’ll broadcast from the laptop computer again this coming Sunday. We discussed possible changes to our mask requirement with the latest CDC announcement saying vaccinated folks don’t need to wear masks and also our Conference’s move to “Blue” allowing for us to open up our services to full capacity although keeping within “comfort levels” on mask requirements. It was felt that we should continue to do what we are doing since we are already putting people closer than 6 feet apart and asking folks about comfort level in sitting with vaccinated people. We discussed setting a target, perhaps of a local “positivity rate” of under 1, to help us determine when we will allow worshippers to not wear masks. One suggestion was to allow people to remove their masks once seated if they are vaccinated, but to have everyone wear masks while singing since that activity has a very high transference risk. We’ll probably need to have some email exchanges through the summer as we start to feel it is time to change what we are currently doing.

3. **Establish a Technology Committee:** Pastor Craig expressed his thoughts that we should really have a Technology Committee to not only take care of installing the new computer but to address future technology issues such as shared data collection & storage and added visuals in the sanctuary. After much discussion, Lucy Diesslin moved that we establish an ad hoc committee to handle the installation of the new computer and then meet through the summer to develop a job description for a permanent committee and present the results to the Ad Council at our September meeting. Second by Jeanne Tomlinson. Motion passed. Dan Johnson recommended Pastor Craig work on recruiting more members for the ad hoc committee.

NEW BUSINESS

1. **Jumpin Jehosaphats:** Pastor Craig had been contacted by Elton Brown about a possible *Jumpin Jehosaphats* concert on August 23 (a Monday) as to whether our church would be interested in helping out with it again. They’re planning on starting a “world tour” with this and it would also be celebrating Suzanne’s retirement (a former EUMC pastor). There would be no monetary commitment although they might be asking for church members to house and feed some of the band members that don’t currently live in the area. They would once again be taking a free-will offering and this time it would go to *Habitat for Humanity*. It was felt that we would like to help out but would like more information. Pastor Craig and Linda Hane will follow up.

Items of Information

1. **Next Ad Council meeting:** Wednesday, September 15, 2021 at 7 PM.

The meeting adjourned at 8:34 PM with Pastor Craig leading a recitation of *The Lord’s Prayer*

Respectfully submitted,
Jeanne Tomlinson, Ad Council Secretary

ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL – MINUTES
Wednesday, May 26, 2021 - Virtual meeting via Zoom

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

Attendees (8): Lucy Diesslin, Rich Floyd, Craig Haberman, Dan Johnson, Margie & Mark Olson, Jay & Jeanne Tomlinson.

Opening: Pastor Craig expressed his thoughts about how well we've been doing handling the pandemic and all the constant changes. He then opened the meeting with a prayer.

SPECIAL MEETING BUSINESS

1. **Response to requests to no longer require masks:** With Governor Walz's recent announcement regarding masks, we've had questions from parishioners about whether we could discontinue our worship service mask requirement. We discussed the pros and cons of just requiring masks for non-vaccinated people, having all folks wearing masks when moving around or singing, or just wearing a mask if you want to. After some discussion on these possibilities, and complications of asking folks about vaccinations, Jay Tomlinson moved that we follow the MN governor's decision to remove "all capacity & social distance requirements, as well as the indoor mask mandate". This means wearing a mask during worship service for our church will be left up to the individual's discretion. Margie Olson seconded the motion. Motion passed. Pastor Craig will announce this decision in the *Parish News* as well as preparing a sign for our front door saying "Wear a mask at your discretion". He will also emphasize we will continue our current policy of no official "greet your neighbors", special communion distribution, no offering collection at the pews, and no coffee fellowship after worship.

The meeting adjourned at 7:34 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Jeanne Tomlinson, Ad Council Secretary