

Parish News • July 16, 2021

Members and Friends of Ely United Methodist Church,

Greetings from Pastor Craig! We've now reached the halfway point of summer, on the calendar anyway, and a few more items are showing up on the Ely community calendar.

A somewhat-reduced Blueberry Festival is just around the corner. The ely.org web page lists September 10 – 12 as dates for the 2021 Harvest Moon Festival. The date for the Ely Marathon and associated events is the weekend of September 24 – 26. Ely Marathon organizers mention how race participant numbers are way up, including 26 canoe entrants so far. And this week I saw a Winter Festival pin for sale at an Ely business. All of this is heart-warming after a year of mostly staying at home.

But I'm getting ahead of myself just a little bit aren't I? We've still got summer to go. We continue to pray for rain to lower fire danger and we are also grateful for firefighters who are doing everything humanly possible to keep us safe.

Item #1: We received this email message from Joan and Jim Nicholas, longtime members of Ely United Methodist Church, on Monday, July 5, the day after Pastor Dana Thompson preached here.

"A prayer of thanksgiving for how well Pastor Dana prepared us for his departure, for how Pastor Craig without jealousy of our love for Dana brought in his own talents and so became loved himself, and for all of you in Ely who have helped make such a smooth transition possible."

Love from Cincinnati to our brothers and sisters in the Ely UMC.

Joan and Jim Nicholas

From Pastor Craig: Thank you Joan and Jim for summarizing so well the delightful relationship Dana and I have with each other, with the Ely UMC congregation, and the congregation with each of us. This is something we marvel at often. Thanks be to God.

Item #2: Our many committed leaders have been one of the strengths in our church across the years. During the last fifteen months I'm grateful for the ways we have stretched ourselves to learn new skills and experiment with doing things differently; as have people in schools, businesses, local organizations, and health care systems.

Jay Tomlinson, Sheri Rue, Zach Rue, Lily Tedrick, and Anna Urbas have operated our camera to stream services on Facebook Live. Sheri Rue and Keith Rue have been online hospitality persons and Facebook greeters for our services. Last week

Vicki Podomonik filled in at the last minute in this role.

Even with this large cadre of skilled and willing volunteers, however, we still find ourselves shorthanded some Sundays because we're also such an active bunch of people and there are so many wonderful leisure activities here in Ely during our already-too-short summer.

Please talk to Pastor Craig or Jay Tomlinson if you're able to help us out in any of these or other ways with the technology at our church. Note: It probably works best for our online greeters/hospitality persons to fill this role while streaming the worship service live at home.

We're going to be establishing a Technology Committee this fall that will help us to assess our future technology needs and how best to equip our church to remain a strong God-based church for people of all ages as the world changes around us.

Another surprise during the past year is how a small, but growing and devoted group of people from Minnesota and all around the United States are participating in our Facebook Live worship services. I am delighted to see who is tuning in to worship with us. If you're one of those persons, please say "hi" in the comments section whenever you view our service so we can greet you!

Item #3: This is out there a bit on the calendar, but here's an early reminder that our congregation is sponsoring another Jumpin' Jehosaphat's concert on Monday, August 23rd at 5:00 at the bandshell in Whiteside Park.

There isn't any cost to our congregation for this event, but we are responsible for all publicity. We haven't received any materials for this yet. Also, we'll want to talk this up with our friends and attend ourselves. One aspect of this concert will be celebrating Susanne Mades' retirement from pastoral ministry. Susanne was our pastor from 1984 – 1987.

Item #4: Thank you to Gary Felder for mowing the church lawn and trimming recently. Dan Johnson has worked long hours trying to rehabilitate our front lawn that was suffered from a fungus two summers ago. So, thanks to Dan, and also to Liddy Sheppard, Bobbi Gruwell, and Sandra Lee who are helping out with our flower beds.

Item #5: Please find the prayer wall attached.

There is a little extra room this week so I'm including a longer Psalm. Psalm 104 rejoices in the beauty and variety of creation. Today naturalists accurately catalogue in a scientific manner how each item in the plant and animal kingdoms fit together. Twenty-five hundred years ago the psalmist described this in theological terms; how this is also a result of the handiwork of God.

With my gratitude,

Pastor Craig

Psalm 104 God the Creator and Provider

¹ Bless the Lord, O my soul. O Lord my God, you are very great. You are clothed with honor and majesty, ² wrapped in light as with a garment. You stretch out the heavens like a tent, ³ you set the beams of your[a] chambers on the waters, you make the clouds your[b] chariot, you ride on the wings of the wind, ⁴ you make the winds your[c] messengers, fire and flame your[d] ministers. ⁵ You set the earth on its foundations, so that it shall never be shaken. ⁶ You cover it with the deep as with a garment; the waters stood above the mountains. ⁷ At your rebuke they flee; at the sound of your thunder they take to flight. ⁸ They rose up to the mountains, ran down to the valleys to the place that you appointed for them. ⁹ You set a boundary that they may not pass, so that they might not again cover the earth. ¹⁰ You make springs gush forth in the valleys; they flow between the hills, ¹¹ giving drink to every wild animal; the wild asses quench their thirst. ¹² By the streams[e] the birds of the air have their habitation; they sing among the branches. ¹³ From your lofty abode you water the mountains; the earth is satisfied with the fruit of your work. ¹⁴ You cause the grass to grow for the cattle, and plants for people to use,[f] to bring forth food from the earth, ¹⁵ and wine to gladden the human heart, oil to make the face shine, and bread to strengthen the human heart. ¹⁶ The trees of the Lord are watered abundantly, the cedars of Lebanon that he planted. ¹⁷ In them the birds build their nests; the stork has its home in the fir trees. ¹⁸ The high mountains are for the wild goats; the rocks are a refuge for the coney. ¹⁹ You have made the moon to mark the seasons; the sun knows its time for setting. ²⁰ You make darkness, and it is night, when all the animals of the forest come creeping out. ²¹ The young lions roar for their prey, seeking their food from God. ²² When the sun rises, they withdraw and lie down in their dens. ²³ People go out to their work and to their labor until the evening. ²⁴ O Lord, how manifold are your works! In wisdom you have made them all; the earth is full of your creatures. ²⁵ Yonder is the sea, great and wide, creeping things innumerable are there, living things both small and great. ²⁶ There go the ships, and Leviathan that you formed to sport in it. ²⁷ These all look to you to give them their food in due season; ²⁸ when you give to them, they gather it up; when you open your hand, they are filled with good things. ²⁹ When you hide your face, they are dismayed; when you take away their breath, they die and return to their dust. ³⁰ When you send forth your spirit,[g] they are created; and you renew the face of the ground. ³¹ May the glory of the Lord endure forever; may the Lord rejoice in his works— ³² who looks on the earth and it trembles, who touches the mountains and they smoke. ³³ I will sing to the Lord as long as I live; I will sing praise to my God while I have being. ³⁴ May my meditation be pleasing to him, for I rejoice in the Lord. ³⁵ Let sinners be consumed from the earth, and let the wicked be no more. Bless the Lord, O my soul. Praise the Lord!

The Ely United Methodist Church

Prayer Wall

July 16, 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...

- **William** – Pastor Dana’s week-old grand nephew is having ‘dusky episodes,’ periods of not breathing, and is being transferred to Children’s Hospital. Pray for him and his parents Sarah (Dana’s niece) and Josh.
Update: William has been home for a week with an oxygen supplement and is doing much better
- **Christina & Ryan Ackerman** – Sheri Rue’s best friend’s son & daughter, pray for healing
- **Bonnie Berglund** – Last Sunday, Bonnie fell receiving a back compression fracture, treated at hospital.
Update: Bonnie is in Virginia going through rehab therapy.
- **Charlie Jonas family and friends** – Charlie passed away recently
- **Robbie** – Bonnie Berglund’s brother had aortic valve replacement surgery, needs prayers of healing
- **Bonnie & Jim Howe** – Carol Linneman’s neighbors lost their daughter suddenly and unexpectedly
- **Mike and Lou Morrow family & Friends** – Linda Hane’s cousins lost their nephew in a tragic way
- **Dick & Mary Taylor** – Dick has been diagnosed with possible kidney stones. They are traveling back to IL for treatment. Prayers for healing and safe travels.
- **Marsha** – Linda Williams sister, Marsha, is scheduled for open heart surgery, pray for healing
- **Zach Rue** – **Update:** Feeling much better, but still in the process of a diagnosis
- **Paul DieKoff** – **Update:** Linda Hane’s brother-in-law is having additional surgery to his leg
- **Lisa Porthan** – **Update:** Lisa’s home recovering from colon surgery and will not require chemo
- **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
July 18, 2021
4th Sunday after Pentecost

Welcome

Pastor Craig

Prelude

Susan Germek

Choral Introit

“ “

***Hymn #73**

O Worship the King

Opening Prayer

Almighty God, the fountain of all wisdom, you know our necessities before we ask and our ignorance in asking: Have compassion on our weakness, and mercifully give us those things which for our unworthiness we dare not, and for our blindness we cannot ask; through the worthiness of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. *Amen.*

Children's Time

Choir Anthem

Old Testament Reading

II Samuel 7:1-14a

Gospel Reading

Mark 6:30-34, 53-56

Sermon

Pastor Craig

***Hymn #2203**

In His Time

Prayer Wall

Pastoral Prayer/ The Lord's Prayer

Offertory

***Doxology**

***Hymn #509**

Jesus, Savior, Pilot Me

***Ringing of the Bell**

***Benediction**

***Choral Benediction**

Postlude

Accompanist:

Susan Germek

Liturgist:

Scott Meland

II Samuel 7:1-14a

7 Now when the king was settled in his house, and the LORD had given him rest from all his enemies around him, ²the king said to the prophet Nathan, "See now, I am living in a house of cedar, but the ark of God stays in a tent." ³Nathan said to the king, "Go, do all that you have in mind; for the LORD is with you." ⁴But that same night the word of the LORD came to Nathan: ⁵Go and tell my servant David: Thus says the LORD: Are you the one to build me a house to live in? ⁶I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent and a tabernacle. ⁷Wherever I have moved about among all the people of Israel, did I ever speak a word with any of the tribal leaders^[a] of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, "Why have you not built me a house of cedar?" ⁸Now therefore thus you shall say to my servant David: Thus says the LORD of hosts: I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep to be prince over my people Israel; ⁹and I have been with you wherever you went, and have cut off all your enemies from before you; and I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. ¹⁰And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may live in their own place, and be disturbed no more; and evildoers shall afflict them no more, as formerly, ¹¹from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel; and I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover, the LORD declares to you that the LORD will make you a house. ¹²When your days are fulfilled and you lie down with your ancestors, I will raise up your offspring after you, who shall come forth from your body, and I will establish his kingdom. ¹³He shall build a house for my name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. ¹⁴I will be a father to him, and he shall be a son to me.