

Parish News • November 5, 2021

Members and Friends of Ely United Methodist Church,

Greetings from Pastor Craig!

Deer season is upon us once again! I went partridge hunting in high school and with my younger son when he was in high school, but have never gone deer hunting. Nevertheless, I have so many memories of deer season all across Minnesota.

- I recall when we lived in Cook fifty-plus years ago how there were wall tents with wood stoves up and down back country roads between Orr and Kabetogama. If memory serves, this was before hunters wore blaze orange, but were festooned in deep red garb.
- Once in the late 1980's, I was out running on my favorite five-mile route outside Verndale during deer season and suddenly being filled with panic thinking: *"What am I doing out here?!"*
- I was a regular customer at Fleet Farm between April 2016 and July 2018 when I lived in Alexandria. Several nights before deer season opened, I dropped in to pick up a few things, having not been there for a week or so. One corner of the store was so filled with blaze orange clothing of all types it almost hurt my eyes. The atmosphere that evening was festival-like as hunters and non-hunters alike moved through the store in high anticipation of the next several weeks.

It's all my way of saying this is a fun time of year for Minnesotans, an unofficial end of fall and a bridge between Halloween and Thanksgiving. I hope you have a productive, memorable, and safe hunt – a time to catch up on old memories and make some new ones.

Item #1: November 7, one from this Sunday, the worship service will be one of memory, thanksgiving, and celebration. The Sunday is known as All Saints' Day on the Christian calendar. We will:

- Recognize memorial gifts received and who they were given in memory of between July 2019 and the present, with the ringing of our church bell.
- Read a list of people who have been members of Ely United Methodist Church for 60 plus years, 50 plus years, and 40 plus years.
- Offer people attending worship in-person or online an opportunity to write the name(s) of loved ones who have died since July 2019 on slips of paper provided. Ushers will bring these names forward to be read as part of the Great Thanksgiving in our Communion Service.
- We'll take Holy Communion together.

Please join us online or in-person for this joyous Sunday if you're able. We invite those of you worshipping at home to have bread and grape juice handy to take communion with us.

Those who worship online can forward the names of loved ones you would like read during the Great Thanksgiving in one of two ways – either in the comments section of the Facebook Live broadcast as the service begins or to our church Gmail account at elyumc.elymn@gmail.com. We encourage you to add your relationship to the person or persons you list.

Those of you on a deer stand in the pre-dawn darkness can be a part of our gathering by remembering and giving thanks for those who have gone before and what they meant to you and your families.

Item #2: We'll resume making pasties on Monday and Tuesday, November 15th and 16th for the first time since we shut down for the pandemic. Please talk to Jay or Jeanne Tomlinson if you're able to help. There are a wide variety of tasks – peeling eyes off machine-peeled potatoes, rutabaga peeling, weighing dough balls, rolling out pasty dough, mixing ingredients together, and crimping. We prefer workers be vaccinated due to the length of time we'll be together and our proximity to each other.

Item #3: Advent and Christmas are still a ways off, but we are making plans now for activities that will be upon us even before Thanksgiving.

You can purchase poinsettias in memory of loved ones. These will be part of our Christmas Eve service and probably Sunday, December 19th as well. You may take them with you following the Christmas Eve service if you wish. The cost for poinsettias is \$14.00 and the deadline to sign up is November 23rd. There will be a sign-up sheet at the rear of the sanctuary beginning this Sunday and an envelope for cash or check. Or you may mail the church at 305 E. Camp Street, Ely, MN 55731. Please mention who or whom you want the poinsettia to be in memory of.

We will be decorating the church for Christmas on Sunday, November 21st immediately following worship. There will be sign-up sheets in the rear of the church for people to indicate you're able to help and which area of the church you would like to assist decorate.

We're also going to be participating in the Ely Community Resource Giving Tree this year, which provides Christmas gifts to youth and children in the Ely community. There will be fifteen tags on the small Christmas tree in the rear of the sanctuary, each one signifying the gift and age of the recipient.

Item #4: Here is a UMW update from the minutes published last week. Our Christmas Luncheon at the GEL had to be changed to Monday Dec 13 since the original date listed in the minutes couldn't be accommodated. Sign up sheet will be at the church or call Jeanne (218/235-8479).

Item #5: This week's Prayer Wall is attached or included.

Our Scripture Reading for All Saint's Sunday is from the Book of Revelation where we see the vision given to the Apostle John of a new heaven and a new earth descending upon our present world. This vision symbolizes our hope and belief that the future is in God's hands and that there will be a time when death, tears, suffering, and evil will be no more.

This hope is what sustains saints of all times and places; rejoicing in God's presence in our world now and holding fast in all things to what God will do through Jesus Christ in the future, when God makes all things new.

Revelation: 21: 1-6

The New Heaven and the New Earth

¹ Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. ² And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. ³ And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,

“See, the home^[a] of God is among mortals. He will dwell^[b] with them; they will be his peoples,^[c] and God himself will be with them;^[d] ⁴ he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away.”

⁵ And the one who was seated on the throne said, “See, I am making all things new.” Also he said, “Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true.” ⁶ Then he said to me, “It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life.

With God’s blessings and my very best wishes,

Pastor Craig

The Ely United Methodist Church

Prayer Wall

November 5, 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 (NIV)



“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...

- **Jeanne Nelson** – Jeanne fell and broke her pelvis (hip). Pray for comfort and healing.
- **Janet Rasmussen’s brother Jim** – Jim has been moved onto hospice. Pray for comfort.
- **Dick & Mary Taylor** – **Update:** Dick’s back surgery to reduce pain & increase mobility went well & he is standing tall again!
- **Dave Rue** – Keith’s brother was hit in the eye with a pressurized hose damaging his iris, eyelid & pupil. **Update:** Surgery to Dave’s eye to relieve pressure & remove the lens went well. Prognosis for full recovery after inserting a new lens in 3 months looks very good.
- **Bobbi Hodges** – Cathy Aldridge’s friend is beginning radiation treatments. Pray for comfort and healing.
- **Nan Starzecki** – Butch Diesslin’s sister had a pulmonary embolism. **Update:** Nan is doing much better now.
- **Dennis Minier** – Nick Mattila’s friend has lung cancer and is not doing well. Pray for effective treatments.
- **The Wernet family** – Still struggling from the passing from COVID of her husband and father of 4 children.
- **Susan Burland’s family & friends** – Sheila Shultz’s sister, Susan, has passed away. Pray for comfort to family & friends.
- **Danielle** – Suzette Tedrick’s cousin, Danielle, is hospitalized with COVID. Pray for a quick and full recovery.
- **Kurt Klein** – Kurt is the son of Linda Hane’s good friend, Linda Tikkala, and is undergoing cancer chemo treatments.
- **Ollie** – Bonnie Berglund’s great nephew was born missing 2 arteries to his heart. **Update:** Ollie is off the ventilator now.
- **Cheri Ann** – Lee Tessier’s sister is having knee surgery. **Update:** Surgery went well, pray for comfort and healing.
- **Tootsie Loe** – Pray for her strength and comfort as she has discontinued further treatments.
- **Diane** – Carol Linneman’s friend undergoing strenuous cancer treatments for a type of cancer that can not be cured, but can be limited. Pray for successful treatments in limiting the cancer.

- **All the Fire Fighters and their families fighting forest fires in Ely and elsewhere**
- **All essential health care workers exposed to the COVID-19 virus and the Delta variant**

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.