

# ELY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

*"The Little Church With the Big Heart"*

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## Parish News

January 28, 2020

### A Note from Pastor Craig

#### February Pasties Cancelled

We had a wonderful pasty-making session in November and had scheduled a session for February. Covid-19 infection numbers have forced us to cancel. We've scheduled a session for April 18/19. If you're a pasty caller would you pass this information along to your list? Thank you.

#### Bibles for our Children

We've purchased the New King James Version Premiere Study Bible for the pre-confirmation boys and girls in our church who are of reading age.

Like so many things recently, they are back-ordered and aren't scheduled to be shipped until early March.

We've contacted the parents of children in our church to give one to. If you haven't heard from us, would you send an email to the address above so we can make sure your child receives one?

Recently I was watching "Darkest Hour," starring Gary Oldman playing Winston Churchill, Kirstin Scott Thomas his wife Clementine, and Lily James as Churchill's secretary. This wonderful 2017 movie about how Great Britain, and especially Churchill, responded to Adolf Hitler's invasion of Europe is currently streaming on Netflix.

In one scene the King, George VI, confesses to Churchill that the Prime Minister scares him. Taken aback, Churchill responds: "What could possibly be scary about me?" To which the King replies: "One never knows what's going to come out of your mouth next. Something that will flatter, something that will wound."

Churchill then says: "My emotions are unbridled. I have a wildness in the blood that I share with my father. And my mother also."

Well, I've never been told that I have a wildness in the blood or that my emotions are unbridled. Nevertheless, despite good emotional intelligence (I think), sometimes the unprompted sentences that pop out of my mouth surprise even me, such as last week during worship when I said something like: "I think the format of our Parish News is deadly. So if you're able to help me with a new layout I'd be grateful."

I didn't mean that of course, because I know how important Parish News has been to keep us connected since the pandemic began. And each week I find out once again how carefully you do read it.

So, here's my experiment with a new layout to make things a easier on the eyes. I know how much content you have to sort through each week. Thank you for your close attention to what we're doing here at "The Little Church With the Big Heart." We'll do our best to pass along what's happening in our church and include some inspiration as well.

Your enthusiastic pastor - Craig Haberman

# Congregational Fellowship Zoom Activity

**Monday, February 7, 6:30 p.m.**

On Monday, February 7, at 6:30 p.m., the Visioning Committee is sponsoring an online group activity that promises to be both fun and interesting. It will give us a chance to socialize in a safe environment--your own home. The activity will be conducted on Zoom, an easy-to-use application on your computer, smart phone, or tablet. If you don't already have Zoom installed, all you have to

do is download the application by clicking on this link <https://zoom.us/support/download> and following the instructions for installing it. As we approach the time of the activity, I will send a link to join. The activity is intended to offer a welcomed break from the isolation we've all endured to one extent or another over the past 2 years. Please join us. The more the merrier.

## **Benevolence Fund**

### **Special Offering**

Our church has a Benevolence Fund that assists people in need of gasoline or food. The fund needs to be replenished, so the Administrative Council voted for our church to take a special offering on Sunday, February 13<sup>th</sup>.

We will divide the money we receive in half and use these amounts to purchase \$25 gift cards to Zup's and local gas stations. Pastor Craig will administer the Benevolence Fund.

We'll have a separate offering plate at the rear of the church on February 13<sup>th</sup>. Those of you worshipping at home may send your donation to the church, earmarking it for the Benevolence Fund.

## **Bring a Hymnal Home to Sing During our Facebook Services**

Maybe you are one of those folks who live-stream our services at home. You would also like to sing or simply follow along with the words of the hymns, but don't have the technology to watch the service and view the words/music to the hymns that we post on Facebook at the same time.

If so, you're in luck because we're inviting you to borrow a hymnal from the church. There are a handful of hymnals on a shelf to the right of the door that goes into the upstairs bathroom. There will be a clipboard nearby for you to sign one out.

Note: We'll want you to return the hymnal for Christmas Eve services when we need all our hymnals when our church is filled. You could then check it out again.

## Thank you to those who keep our parking lot and sidewalks clear in the winter

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It was cold and blustery when I walked into the church yesterday morning, but there was Jer Niskala sweeping the sidewalk. The parking lot at church and the driveway at the parsonage are clear following each snowfall.

Yesterday I happened to see Jer and occasionally I hear the thump of the snowplow dropping to the pavement of the driveway in the very early morning hours, but most of the snow removable at the parsonage and church goes unnoticed. But we get to appreciate it.

So a heartfelt thanks to Mark Olson and Jer Niskala who have shoveled sidewalks at the church. And to Phil, Phillip, and Blake Hegfors who handle the snowplowing duties.

## Scripture Readings for Sunday

We'll read two Scripture Readings this Sunday. The first reading from I Corinthians may be familiar because you've heard it read at weddings. You know the reading that begins "If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels, but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clashing cymbal." Then the reading ends with the memorable words, "And now faith, hope and love abide, these three, but the greatest of these is love."

Sunday we'll read these words from a contemporary translation so they'll sound quite different, but refreshingly so. We find this to be so in our Zoom Bible Study this week.

If you'd like to read these in advance of the service you'll find them here.

<https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Corinthians+13%3A1-13&version=MSG>

The second reading from the Gospel of Luke, which immediately follows what we read last week, depicts a surprising turn of events. The people listening to Jesus' first moment of teaching as Luke narrates Jesus' life are favorably impressed with what he says. We're told they "were surprised at how well he spoke.

But a few moments later we're told "that set everyone in the meeting seething with anger. What caused the sudden turn of events? We'll see on Sunday.

Here's the second reading.

<https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Luke+4%3A21-30&version=NRSV>

For those without internet who want to look the readings over, they are: I Corinthians 13:1-13 and Luke 4:21-30.

# The Ely United Methodist Church

## *Prayer Wall*

January 28, 2022

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.

### James 5: 15-16 (NIV)



*“And the prayer offered in faith  
will make the sick person well; the  
Lord will raise him (or her) up....  
The prayer of the righteous is  
powerful and effective.”*

### We lift up the following in prayer...

- **John Franklin** – Paula Mattila’s brother-in-law, John, is in hospice end-of-life care for Alzheimer’s. Pray him & his wife Jeannie
- **Bob Lindholm** – **Update:** Bob is moving to the Carefree Living facility while Lavern will be remaining in her home. Bob slipped and fell and severely bruised his ribs. Pray for comfort and healing.
- **Gary Tedrick** – Gary had back surgery this week and is in a lot of pain. Pray for comfort and healing.
- **Ginnie Nelson family members** – Multiple family members have contracted COVID. Pray for mild symptoms.
- **Carol & Jerry Norling** – Church members who moved to Duluth, Carol is battling lung cancer.
- **Frana Cherrico family & friends** – Frana, a part of old Ely’s history, has passed away recently.
- **Mark Olson** – Mark injured his knee and is unable to put weight on it. Pray for comfort and healing.
- **Emma Smrekar family & friends** – Carolyn Fendt’s granddaughter & high school senior passed away from cancer.
- **Linda Fryer family & friends** – **Update:** After emergency surgery & heart attack during surgery, Linda passed away.
- **Ina Hapala family & friends** – Irene Hatfield’s sister, Ina, passed away. Please pray for comfort for family & friends.
- **Nancy Kasa family & friends** – She is the sister of Susan Germek and Rich Floyd who recently passed away.
- **John Barich family & friends** – Patti Rusco’s dad is hospitalized with COVID and other complications.
- **Sandy (Barich) Thompson** – She is having breast cancer surgery January 21. Pray for a successful outcome.
- **Zeke Urbas** – Zeke will have his cancer check-up scans on January 25, please pray for clear scans.
- **Joan and Jim Nicholas** – **Update:** Joan is out of the hospital and in rehab within her senior village community for her fractured hip. Her complications with acute renal failure and paralytic ileus have cleared up. Thanks for all the prayers!
- **Brian Biebl** – Brian is having a tough time grieving for the recent loss of his father and his son one year ago.
- **Ray Marsnik, Bob Baier & Ryan Reid** – All received serious injuries in the same auto accidents that killed Pat Marsnik and are hospitalized. Pray for healing, comfort and peace.
- **Pat Marsnik family & friends** – Ray Marsnik’s wife, Pat was killed in a car accident. Pray for comfort for him & his family.
- **Devon Luthen’s good friend** – Devon’s good friend has learned her breast cancer has returned. Please pray for Devon’s good friend. (No name needed.)
- **Mike and Gail Haney family** – Mike is facing end of life struggles.
- **All essential health care workers exposed to the COVID-19 virus and the Delta & Omicron variants**

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.



# February 2022



Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

				<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> 2:00 - Zoom Bible Study 6:00 - Choir Practice 7:00 - Confirmation Class	<b>3</b> 1:00 - Pastor Craig - Ann. Conf. Zoom	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>6</b> 10:00 Worship Service and Sunday school Holy Communion	<b>7</b> 6:30 p.m. Congregational Zoom Fellowship Activity	<b>8</b> 9:00 - Pastor Craig at Ely Ministerial Association	<b>9</b> 2:00 - Zoom Bible Study 7:00 - Confirmation Class	<b>10</b> 5:00 - Visioning Committee 6:00 - Choir Practice 7:05 - Administrative Council	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>		
<b>13</b> 9:30 Choir Practice 10:00 - Worship Service and Sunday school Benevolence Special Offering	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> 10:00 - United Methodist Women	<b>17</b> <b>Pastor Craig on Vacation in Idaho with Twin Brother Mark</b> 6:00 - Choir Practice	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>		
<b>20</b> 9:30 - Choir Practice 10:00 Worship Service and Sunday school	<b>21</b> <b>Pastor Craig gone - Jay Tomlinson brings the message</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> 6:00 - Choir Practice	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>		
<b>27</b> 10:00 Worship Service and Sunday school	<b>28</b>		<b>March 2nd</b> Ash Wednesday 7:00 Worship Service					