

ELY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

"The Little Church With the Big Heart"

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Parish News

February 4, 2022

A Note from Pastor Craig

Worship With Us From Your Living Room

We began live-streaming our Sunday worship services in the Fall of 2020. Many of you join us each week from a number of locations besides Ely; including Arizona, Lake of the Woods, Wisconsin, and a number of spots in Minnesota.

You can join us at 10:00 Sunday morning or any time later in the week by searching for our Facebook account from your Facebook personal account.

Search for our account "Eumc MN" paying attention to the case of the letters and the space between the "c" and the "M."

Then select "follow" or send us a friend request.

Email the address above if you have difficulty and I will call you to step you through

February is here - the month of the Super Bowl, Valentines Day, and President's Day weekend. Groundhog's Day will have come and gone by the time you read this note.

Regardless of the temperature outside right now, there is movement toward Spring, even if it is coming far too slowly for those of you who dislike winter. For instance, did you know there is one hour and twelve minutes more light tomorrow than on December 21st?

And there's no reason to hurry our way toward Spring anyway, because there are some neat things happening between now and then. I'm looking forward to seeing snow sculptors arrive in Ely to start working on the large blocks of snow in Whiteside Park. February and March are wonderful months for outdoor activities when temperatures are warmer. I'm hoping to snowshoe up to the pictographs in Hegman Lake sometime in the next month. March Madness awaits in four or five weeks for college basketball enthusiasts. And Spring Training for baseball fans looms if the owners and players can come to an agreement.

Similarly, in church there's no reason to hurry our way through February and March to get to Easter, because there is important ground to cover between now and then.

Epiphany is the time when we consider who Jesus is and what his birth means for the world and for each one of us. The church season of Lent follows, when we focus on Jesus' death, to discover again the important part this plays in God overcoming sin and death. Also how God puts broken lives and a broken world back together.

So, here we are Up North where lots of people in the Cities wish they were during this (or any) time of year. And we're sitting in God's presence absorbing His deep, deep love for us and for the world.

It's my privilege to make this journey with you. Pastor Craig

Congregational Fellowship

Zoom Activity

This coming Monday at 6:30 p.m., we will have an entertaining Congregational Fellowship Zoom Activity, when we'll play the Personal Anecdotes Guessing Game. Don't be alarmed, it is not intended to probe into people's personal lives. It involves funny or interesting anecdotes about yourself that you choose to share with the group, such as: When I was about 7 or 8, my brother and I hauled an old mattress home from the dump to serve as a trampoline. Having no bed spring beneath it, it worked about as well as a pile of dirty clothes.

The game works like this: players submit their anecdotes to a moderator in advance. The moderator then compiles a sheet of numbered anecdotes with names of the participants below. On game night, each participant studies the sheet and guesses which participant matches with which anecdote. When all have guessed, the moderator provides the correct answers. Depending on how many people play the game, we could go through several rounds.

Please join us. Submit 5 personal anecdotes to the moderator, Rich Floyd, at eglsnstg@frontier.com before Monday noon. You can be creative with the wording, but keep the facts true to life. If you have not already downloaded Zoom on your device, you can download it from <https://zoom.us/support/download>, then sign in shortly before 6:30 at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82475438171?pwd=amtSMTIKN25vUFYzQ2tuSForU0pKQT09>. It promises to be fun and interesting.

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 13th.

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 13th. Those of you worshipping at home may send your donation to the church, earmarking it for the Benevolence Fund.

The Ely United Methodist Church

Prayer Wall

February 4, 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.

1 John 5: 14-15 (NIV)



"This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us. And if we know he hears us – we know that we have what we asked of him."

We lift up the following in prayer...

- **Nicole Udovich's cousin Maranda** – Maranda has been diagnosed with breast Cancer. Pray for successful treatments.
- **Zeke Urbas** – Zeke will have another cancer scan in 3 months rather than annually to confirm a clear cancer scan.
- **Lisa Diessln** – Butch Diessln's sister is undergoing back surgery. Pray for successful surgery, healing, comfort and recovery.
- **Jade's friend Alissa Gauthier and her family members and friends** – Alissa's mother passed away.
- **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 & Lavern Lindholm** – Bob & Lavern are moving to the Babbitt Carefree Living facility. Pray for a smooth transition.
- **Gary Tedrick** – Gary had back surgery this week and is in a lot of pain. Pray for comfort and healing.
- **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.
- **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.
- **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.
- **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.

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.



February 2022



Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

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