

# ELY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

*"The Little Church With the Big Heart"*

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**Parish News**

**April 1, 2022**

## A Note from Pastor Craig

### Last Chance to Sign Up for Easter Lilies

We are extending our annual invitation to purchase Easter Lilies in memory of your loved ones. There is a sign-up list with a clipboard on the table in the rear of the sanctuary. This Sunday, April 3 is the deadline for signing up. The price is \$15.00.

There is an envelope with the clipboard for you to put cash or a check with "Easter Lilies" in the memo line. You may also send a note and payment to Ely United Methodist Church at 305 East Camp Street, Ely, MN. 55731.

Greetings! Today is April Fools' Day, but the snow earlier this week was no joke. It's just part of living in Northern Minnesota. Yes, we do grumble about it, don't we? But when all else is said and done, would we really want it any different? I recently read a Facebook post by a friend of mine who lives south of Orr, where he said: "My wife and I decided some years ago that we would never again live where the snow isn't white." Also, we don't have to contend with hurricanes, frequent tornados, poisonous snakes, termites, calamitous flooding, alligators - well, you get my drift.

Our church is hosting an event at the end of April and beginning of May that our Visioning Committee and Administrative Council have been planning for a long time. We're going to show the video "I'll Push You" two different Sunday afternoons after worship, followed by a discussion the next day, Monday evening.

The video is about two friends who hike the entire 500 mile Camino de Santiago pilgrimage trail in Spain. More accurately, one friend pushes the other friend, who is wheelchair-bound each step of the way, as well as caring for him in motel rooms and so on. Here's a movie trailer that's really well done. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W7gKD3qo-Vo>

We will show the video following worship on Sunday, April 24th. A light lunch will be provided beforehand. A group discussion led by Keith and Sheri Rue will be held Monday evening at 6:00. There will be a second showing/discussion the following Sunday and Monday (May 1/2nd) for folks unable to attend on April 24th and 25th. We aren't publicizing this event outside our church, but encourage you to invite family members and friends.

I hope you're able to attend. One of my daughters-in-law says she could watch it over and over again. It's a compelling story of friendship and service. It will also be wonderful to have a meal together again!

Meanwhile, Holy Week, Easter, and our April pasty-making session are on the horizon.

God's blessings to you and your family!

Pastor Craig

## Events between Now and Easter

We have just turned the calendar to the month of April, which means that Easter is just around the corner, but between now and then are the most important worship services of the year, Christmas Eve aside.

**Sunday, April 10** is Palm Sunday, when we commemorate Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem riding on a donkey. People in the large crowd lay cloaks on the road for him to pass over, wave palm branches, and shout "Hosanna! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the Highest!" This is a day of joyous celebration as the people recognize Jesus as the Messiah, God's Chosen One.

**Thursday, April 14** is our Holy Week service at 7:00 p.m. Traditionally churches would have services on Thursday and Friday. Both are solemn services commemorating stark events with great meaning. The service on Thursday recalls the Last Supper Jesus spent with his 12 disciples and the service on Friday commemorates his arrest, trial, crucifixion, death, and burial.

We will combine both services together, first with the Scripture reading from the Gospel of John describing Jesus' washing his disciples feet. Then we will partake of Holy Communion together. Finally we'll hear the account of the last hours of Jesus' life, again from the Gospel of John.

The Confirmation class and teachers will assist Pastor Craig in leading the service as they did on Ash Wednesday. We invite you to join us for both our Palm Sunday and Holy Week worship service.

### Scripture Readings for Sunday

Both Scripture Readings for Sunday concern people who deeply love Jesus. Mary of Bethany anoints Jesus' feet with perfume worth a year's wages. Judas, the disciple who will soon betray Jesus, objects. Jesus tells Judas to leave her alone because his followers won't always have him with them.

<https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=John+12%3A1-8&version=NRSV>

In the reading from Philippians Paul eloquently says that he has given up everything in order to know Christ. "I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

<https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Philippians3%3A4b-14&version=NRSV>

With Mary of Bethany and Paul we see how the love of God and grace of Jesus Christ can soften each of our hearts, changing us slowly over time from the inside out to be tender and yet strong in our love for God, for ourselves, and for others.

## Outreach to the Ukraine

Arresting news reports and startling images from the Ukraine have been flooding news outlets of all kinds since the Russian invasion began on February 22, 2022. The intensity of the bombardment and the tenacious resistance of the Ukrainian military and civilians remind those old enough to remember of the Battle of Britain waged by the Nazis over the skies of London.

There haven't been any requests officially come before our Administrative Council for a special collection for assistance to the Ukraine, but several individuals have approached me with ideas.

The United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) is always an excellent choice for directing relief donations because 100% of the gift is directly used for disaster relief. The financial overhead is covered by the apportionments that each United Methodist Church pays.

There's information for how to make a financial contribution through UMCOR in the blue box above. Here's a link to make a contribution online. <https://umcmission.org/advance-project/982450/>. (Note: Online contributions go into a global international general disaster recovery fund. Contributions directed to the Ukraine must be made by check as mentioned above in the blue box.

One of our Minnesota United Methodist pastors served for almost ten years at a campus ministry in the Ukraine.

There are also options for humanitarian aid to the Ukraine through well-established and reliable organizations. There are a list of organizations on the left that may be recognizable to you.

The Ukrainian people benefit in two ways from outside aid - the aid itself and the knowledge that they are not alone in their struggle for national autonomy and membership in the family of nations.

**World Central Kitchen/ Chef Andre**  
providing food for refugees at the border

<https://wck.org>

**Global Empowerment Mission**

Medyka, Poland, using donations to buy refugees train and plane tickets to help them reach any family or friends they may have in Europe.

<https://www.globalempowermentmission.org>

**Razom for Ukraine – working for democracy**

<https://razomforukraine.org/about-us/our-story/>

### **You can help the church in Ukraine provide for neighbors**

UMCOR will provide assistance as possible to United Methodists in Ukraine by responding to the needs of internally displaced persons through its International Disaster Response and Recovery (IDR) fund. Gifts to support the people of Ukraine can be made in the following ways:

- Online at <https://umcmmission.org/advance-project/982450>
- By toll-free telephone: 888-252-6174
- By check made out to Global Ministries/UMCOR with "Advance #982450-Ukraine" written on the memo line, either mailed and addressed to Global Ministries/UMCOR, GPO, P.O. Box 9068, New York, NY, 10087-9068 or given at or through any United Methodist church

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### **Razom for Ukraine – working for democracy**

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### **Aid for refugees at Polish border**

<https://fundly.com/support-ukrainian-democracy>

### **International Red Cross**

<https://www.icrc.org/en/document/statement-icrc-president-peter-maurer-conflict-ukraine>

### **Save the Children**

<https://www.savethechildren.org>

# The Ely United Methodist Church

## *Prayer Wall*

April 1, 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)



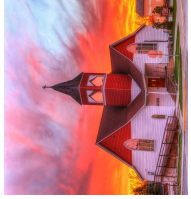
*“And the prayer offered in faith  
will make the sick person well; the  
Lord will raise him (or her) up....  
The prayer of the righteous is  
powerful and effective.”*

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

- **Lee Bailey** – Erin Moravitz co-worker’s husband, Lee Bailey, has bladder cancer and requires chemo treatments and will eventually have to have his bladder removed..
- **Dee** – Linda Hane’s friend, Dee, had stem cell transplant surgery 4 months ago and is doing well. However, she has contracted pneumonia and on antibiotics and in low spirits.
- **Kevin Richards** – Kevin has been helping friends in Kuwait. He is home but plans to return. Pray for his success and safety.
- **Teri** – Carol Laine’s daughter, Teri, has been hospitalized in Grand Rapids with a very serious sepsis infection that is not improving. Carol is very close with her daughter and is hoping to have her moved to the cities for new treatments.
- **Michelle** – Janice Tessier’s daughter, Michelle, has been diagnosed with MS. Pray for effective treatment and comfort.
- **Tim Donovan’s family & friends** – Tim’s wife passed away recently. Tim is friends of the Nelson’s.
- **Dave & Kris** – Dave’s Parkinson’s Disease symptoms, Lisa Porthan’s father, are getting far worse and Lisa’s mother, Kris, is exhausted trying to care for him. She has her own health issues as well. Please keep Dave & Kris in your prayers.
- **Marilyn Brandau’s family & friends** – Mike Brandau’s mother, Marilyn, passed away after being hospitalized with pneumonia in Arizona. Please keep her family in your prayers.
- **Dylan** – Anna Urbas’ roommate’s cousin, Dylan, is diagnosed with cancer, and was in a serious snowmobile accident breaking his spine in two places, his ribs, and several other bones.
- **Marla Dusich – Update:** Marla still has some back pain, but is now back home from the ER. Pray for healing and comfort.
- **Tony Pecha’s family & friends** – Deven Luthens asked for prayer for Tony’s family & friends. Tony passed away.
- **Anne Swenson’s family & friends** – Nick Wognum’s mother and icon of Ely, Anne Swenson, passed away.
- **The Russia / Ukraine conflict** – Pray for a world-wide lasting resolution, safety of the people, and peace.
- **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.*



# April 2022

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

						1	2
<p><b>3</b></p> <p>9:30 AM Choir Practice</p> <p>10:00 AM Worship Service and Sunday school</p> <p>Holy Communion</p>	<p><b>4</b></p> <p>6:30 PM Worship Committee Meeting</p>	<p><b>5</b></p> <p>9:30 AM Pastor Craig at Range Clergy Cluster Meeting</p>	<p><b>6</b></p> <p>2:00 PM Zoom Bible Study</p> <p>6:00 PM Trustees Meeting</p> <p>7:00 PM Confirmation Class</p>	<p><b>7</b></p> <p>6:00 PM Choir Practice</p>	<p><b>8</b></p>	<p><b>9</b></p>	
<p><b>10</b></p> <p>10:00 AM Worship Service and Sunday school</p> <p>Palm Sunday</p>	<p><b>11</b></p>	<p><b>12</b></p> <p>9:00 AM Pastor Craig at Ely Ministerial Association at the Ely UMC</p>	<p><b>13</b></p> <p>2:00 PM Zoom Bible Study</p>	<p><b>14</b></p> <p>5:00 PM Visioning Committee</p> <p>6:00 PM Confirmation Class</p> <p>6:00 PM Choir Practice</p> <p>7:00 PM Holy Week Service</p>	<p><b>15</b></p>	<p><b>16</b></p>	
<p><b>17</b></p> <p>9:30 AM Choir Practice</p> <p>10:00 AM Worship Service and Sunday school</p> <p>Easter Sunday</p>	<p><b>18</b></p> <p>7:00 AM Pasties Veggie Prep</p> <p>1:00 PM Dough Ball Prep</p>	<p><b>19</b></p> <p>7:00 AM Pasties Production &amp; Sales</p>	<p><b>20</b></p> <p>10:00 AM United Methodist Women</p> <p>2:00 PM Zoom Bible Study</p>	<p><b>21</b></p> <p>5:00 PM Administrative Council</p> <p>6:00 PM Choir Practice</p>	<p><b>22</b></p>	<p><b>23</b></p>	
<p><b>24</b></p> <p>10:00 AM Worship Service and Sunday school</p> <p>11:15 AM Light Meal Served &amp; I'll Push You</p> <p>Movie to follow</p>	<p><b>25</b></p> <p>6:00 PM I'll Push You</p> <p>Movie discussion</p>	<p><b>26</b></p>	<p><b>27</b></p> <p>2:00 PM Zoom Bible Study</p>	<p><b>28</b></p> <p>6:00 PM Choir Practice</p>	<p><b>29</b></p>	<p><b>30</b></p>	