

# ELY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

*"The Little Church With the Big Heart"*

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## Parish News

April 29, 2022

### A Note from Pastor Craig

#### Minnesota Annual Conference - Love Offering 2022

Each year our church takes part in an Annual Conference wide Love Offering, which is designated for mission. The offering is divided up between local, national, and international mission projects.

We will take this special offering on Sunday, May 8th. More information on the projects where the offering will be going can be found here.

<https://www.minnesotaumc.org/loveoffering>

We encourage you to make a gift by writing a check to Ely UMC and putting "Love Offering" in the memo line.

We will send the entire amount collected to the Annual Conference, with the church guaranteeing a minimum of \$150.

Greetings! I'm writing this on Thursday morning as the sun is just coming up. It looks like a beautiful day, with temperatures in the upper 40's and bright sunshine. It's still cold however; unless I'm misreading information I gleaned online, it appears as though we've broken all-time record low temperatures for these dates several consecutive days now.

Tonight is the first round of the NFL draft, a long-awaited event for some NFL fans. Friday is rounds two and three, with rounds four through seven on Saturday. All of it will be televised, each moment carefully scrutinized with pundits weighing in on each twist and turn.

I'm at a loss to grasp the hype surrounding the draft, hype which has been building now for weeks. Newspapers, radio shows, and personalities have been making "mock drafts" that shift every several days based upon new "inside information."

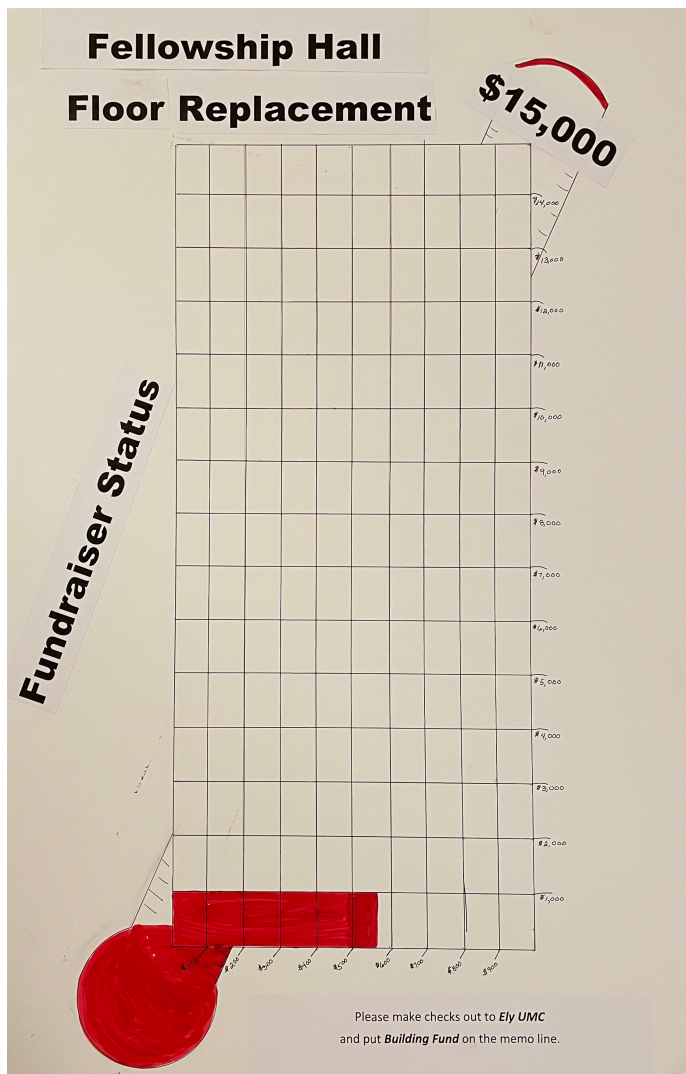
For the uninitiated (and you're the lucky ones!), a mock draft is where people try to predict which teams, will take which players, in which round, and *all in advance*. Although made by experts, it's still pure speculation.

The death and resurrection of Jesus Christ is the pivot point of history, when God defeated sin, evil, and death in ultimate terms; opening to us future eternal life and initiating a present new kingdom in our midst.

Scripture gives us a general outline of what all this will be like and Jesus' resurrection is the opening "event" in this New Story. But the precise details of when and how this will unfold are not given to us. Or are they necessary. We live each day in the light of the wonderful reality of the Risen Lord. And place our hope for the future in the hands of God, trusting in the One who raised Jesus from the dead.

So we can walk by faith in the light of a new day and live in hope without making "mock drafts." I'm grateful to be walking alongside you in this companionship with Jesus.

Pastor Craig



## New Floor in the Basement and Fundraiser

Our Administrative Council has approved a project to replace the floor in all areas of the church basement except the nursery. The existing floor is showing a lot of wear and is coming up in several spots.

The new floor, which is vinyl “planking,” will float over the existing floor. We are purchasing it from Floor to Ceiling in Virginia and hope to be on their installation schedule for early summer.

The cost of material and installation is right around \$25,000. Our church has a designated \$10,000 on hand already and will do a fundraiser for the remaining \$15,000. We will keep track of our progress on a “thermometer” in the rear of the sanctuary. Make out checks for any donations to “Ely United Methodist Church” with “Building Fund” in the memo line. Watch the amount grow on the chart at church or here each week in Parish News.

## United Methodist Women Friendship Dinner

The Ely United Methodist Church UMW invites all women and girls to our annual Friendship Dinner to be held at the Grand Ely Lodge on Wednesday, May 25, at 5:30 p.m. The cost is \$10 per person and \$5 for children 10 and under. (Write checks to UMW.)

There is a sign-up sheet on the table in the rear of the sanctuary. The deadline to sign up is Sunday, May 15th. Please contact Lucy Diesslin with any questions.

## Ely Area Food Shelf

The Ely Area Food Shelf has made some significant changes during the past year. Watch for new programs started by the Ely Area Food Shelf right here in Parish News in upcoming weeks. Here is the Ely Area Food Shelf updated website. <https://elyareafoodshelf.org/>

## **A Chance to Get to Know One Another by Sharing Anecdotes**

My brother and I once got into a fight in church! This is a true account. Who does it belong to? Does it sound like anyone you know? It was someone from our church family. Are you curious?

You will find additional anecdotes in a document attached to this edition of Parish News with the title "Stories of Our Fellow Churchgoers." There are also instructions for how to follow-up if you think you know who in our church one or more of the stories describes.

## **National Day of Prayer**

The National Day of Prayer has been observed in the United States since 1962 when it was signed into law by the United States Congress. This tradition of prayer goes all the way back to John Adams, our second president, who established days of fasting and prayer back in 1798.

The National Day of Prayer organization nationwide has established five categories for citizens to pray for: Family, Church, Business, Education, Military, Government, and Arts/Entertainment, and Media.

A National Day of Prayer committee here in Ely, including Patty Rusco from our congregation, is organizing a gathering at the Ely Senior Center on Thursday, May 5th from 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm. (The Ely Senior Center is at 27 S. 1st Avenue West.) The committee encourages you to make a commitment to attend and to invite one or two others to make the same commitment.

You can find more information and resources at <https://www.nationaldayofprayer.org/>

## **Short Survey from Northwoods Partners**

Nearly all of you are aware of Northwoods Partners and a number of you have served on their board. Northwoods Partners is a non-profit organization in Ely with the following mission: "The mission of Northwoods Partners is to provide resources that ` independence and healthy aging."

They have recently received a substantial grant from the Northland Foundation to facilitate coordination between community agencies here in the Ely area. And to make this information more accessible to area residents.

A short survey that can be completed in a few minutes is an important part of this effort. Surveys will be available in the rear of the church beginning Sunday, April 24. The surveys are designed for people over 50 years of age and should be returned before the middle of May. A copy of the survey is attached to Parish News so you can get a feel for the questions it is asking. And for how quickly it can be completed.

Northwoods Partners website is at: <http://www.northwoodspartners.org/>

## Scripture Readings for Sunday

Although there are only 12 named disciples of Jesus listed in the New Testament, there were a large number of men and women who followed him. This “cloud of witnesses” make up the first generation of the church. We live in their light and owe them a huge debt of gratitude.

Again, some of these followers are known to us by name, but the names of many more are lost to the sands of time.

Simon Peter and the Apostle Paul are two of the most prominent followers of “They Way,” but both got off to a humble and rocky start following Jesus’ death and resurrection. Simon Peter had denied Jesus three times following Jesus’ arrest. Paul, then known as Saul, was a bitter opponent of the early disciples, violently persecuting the followers of Jesus and approving of the stoning of Stephen.

The readings this Sunday from Acts 9:1-20 and John 21:1-19 are remarkable portraits of how Jesus reaches out to these two broken men, enlisting them in the work of the Kingdom. They in turn, inspire scores of others. Now centuries later the witness of Peter and Paul shines brightly with the reflected light of Jesus.

<https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Acts+9%3A1-20&version=NRSV>

<https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=John+21%3A1-19&version=NRSV>

### Senior Sunday at Ely United Methodist Church

Lauren Olson from our church is graduating from Memorial High School in Ely this Spring. Senior Recognition Sunday will be at our church on Sunday, May 8th.

Lauren is the daughter of Scott and Angie Olson, granddaughter of Mark and Marge Olson, and great granddaughter of Bob and Pat Olson.

## Stories of Our Fellow Churchgoers

In the last *Parish News*, I mentioned that I would be sending out true accounts of some of people in our church family. Here they are. Guess who they belong to and submit your guesses (number of narrative followed by guess) to Rich Floyd at [eglsnstg@frontier.com](mailto:eglsnstg@frontier.com) by Sunday night. He'll tally them up and figure out who got the most correct guesses. Be sure to identify yourself in your e-mail.

Next week we'll announce the winner and play again. We'll run out of stories soon though, so please consider sending Rich a couple of your own. Sending an anecdote gives permission to include it with others sent to the Parish news email list.

1. Several years ago, I walked over 15 miles in London England visiting several books stores to buy the complete set of the English version of the Harry Potter books for my daughter. She is a huge Harry Potter fan! No one book store had all the books.
2. I have a Master's degree in Biostatistics.
3. A shirttail ancestor of mine was Woodrow Wilson's press secretary at Versailles for the drawing up of the Treaty of Versailles bringing World War I to a close.
4. I completed MN ServSafe training for pasty making food safety.
5. For about 6-7 years, I served as the "Scout Liaison" for an Orienteering Club to keep local Boy Scout & Girl Scout troops informed about upcoming orienteering events in the area.
6. I was the token woman in all the schools I taught in.
7. When I was 6 or 7, my dad poured a concrete slab for a garage. After it started to set up, he sprinkled it with water from the garden hose to moisten the surface, a necessary step for proper curing. Later, I decided I would help. With the hose on a solid stream, I gouged up the freshly poured concrete. It wasn't a pretty sight.
8. I was the only Christian on the Jewish softball team during a pick-up game. We played a church group. Yup, Christians vs the Jews.

## The Ely United Methodist Church

# Prayer Wall

April 29, 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.

### Mark 11: 24 (NIV)



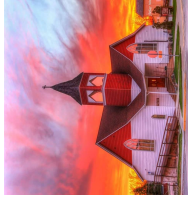
*“Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours.”*

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

- **Patti Niskala** – Patti is having some medical procedures done in Duluth. Pray for good results.
- **Mike Haney’s family & friends.** – Mike passed away Easter morning. Pray for comfort and peace for family & friends.
- **Bob & LaVerne Lindholm** – LaVerne is moving to the Ely Carefree Living from Babbit. Pray that Bob handles her move well and that he can join her in Ely very soon.
- **Carol Przybylsky’s family & friends.** – Linda Frissell’s mother, Carol, passed away. Pray for comfort and peace.
- **Zeke Urbas** – Zeke’s follow-up Cancer scans were clear. Thank the Lord!
- **Tammy** – Angela Olson’s cousin, Tammy, had a massive stroke and is now in rehab. Pray for healing and comfort.
- **Chelsea’s & Kelli’s family & friends; Sarah Mancino & college dormmates:** – Chelsea & Kelli both died in an auto accident. Pray for comfort, peace & healing for the families & dormmates. Sarah is Jeanne Tomlinson’s grand-niece.
- **Dave Aldrich** – Lucy Luthens grandfather had shoulder surgery and asked for prayers of comfort, healing and recovery.
- **David Richter** – Amy Fitzsimmons asked for prayers for David who had prostate cancer surgery. Pray for comfort & healing.
- **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..
- **Teri** – Carol Laine’s daughter, Teri, remains in a nursing home in Grand Rapids for wound care and has an appointment in Minneapolis for a consult on May 4th.
- **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.
- **The Russia / Ukraine conflict** – Pray for a world-wide lasting resolution, safety of the people, and peace.
- **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.*



# May 2022

**Sunday**      **Monday**      **Tuesday**      **Wednesday**      **Thursday**      **Friday**      **Saturday**

<p><b>1</b>  <b>9:30 AM</b> Choir Practice            10:00 AM Worship Service &amp; Sunday school  <b>Holy Communion</b>            11:15 AM Meal Served &amp; <i>I'll Push You</i> Movie to follow</p>	<p><b>2</b>  <b>6:00 PM</b>  <i>I'll Push You</i>  <b>Movie Discussion</b></p>	<p><b>3</b></p>	<p><b>4</b>  <b>2:00 PM</b>            Zoom Bible Study</p>	<p><b>5</b>  <b>6:00 PM</b>  <b>Choir Practice</b></p>	<p><b>6</b></p>	<p><b>7</b></p>
<p><b>8</b>  <b>10:00 AM</b>            Worship Service and Sunday school  <b>Senior Recognition</b> Sunday  <b>Love Offering for Annual Conference</b></p>	<p><b>9</b>  <b>6:30 PM</b>  <b>Audit Committee Meeting</b></p>	<p><b>10</b>  <b>9:00 AM</b> Pastor Craig at Ely Ministerial Association at the Oasis Int'l  <b>9:00 AM</b> Memorial Committee Meeting</p>	<p><b>11</b>  <b>2:00 PM</b>            Zoom Bible Study</p>	<p><b>12</b>  <b>5:00 PM</b> Visioning Committee  <b>6:00 PM</b> Choir Practice</p>	<p><b>13</b></p>	<p><b>14</b></p>
<p><b>15</b>  <b>9:30 AM</b> Choir Practice  <b>10:00 AM</b>            Worship Service and Sunday school</p>	<p><b>16</b></p>	<p><b>17</b></p>	<p><b>18</b>  <b>10:00 AM</b> United Methodist Women  <b>2:00 PM</b> Zoom Bible Study</p>	<p><b>19</b>  <b>5:00 PM</b> Administrative Council  <b>6:00 PM</b> Choir Practice</p>	<p><b>20</b></p>	<p><b>21</b></p>
<p><b>22</b>  <b>10:00 AM</b>            Worship Service and Sunday school</p>	<p><b>23</b></p>	<p><b>24</b>  <b>Minnesota UMC Annual Conference in St. Cloud, MN May 24-25</b>  <b>May 24 - June 4 • Pastor Craig will be in Pennsylvania and Kentucky</b></p>	<p><b>25</b>  <b>MN UMC Annual Conference</b>  <b>5:30 PM</b> UMW Friendship Dinner - GEL</p>	<p><b>26</b>  <b>6:00 PM</b> Choir Practice</p>	<p><b>27</b></p>	<p><b>28</b></p>
<p><b>29</b>  <b>10:00 AM</b>            Worship Service and Sunday school            (Dana Thompson Leading Worship)</p>	<p><b>30</b>  <b>May 24 - June 4 • Pastor Craig will be in Pennsylvania and Kentucky with</b></p>	<p><b>31</b></p>	<p><b>May 24 - June 4 • Pastor Craig will be in Pennsylvania and Kentucky with</b></p>	<p><b>May 24 - June 4 • Pastor Craig will be in Pennsylvania and Kentucky with</b></p>	<p><b>May 24 - June 4 • Pastor Craig will be in Pennsylvania and Kentucky with</b></p>	<p><b>May 24 - June 4 • Pastor Craig will be in Pennsylvania and Kentucky with</b></p>