

ELY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

"The Little Church With the Big Heart"

elyumc.elymn@gmail.com

218-365-3355

www.elyumc.org

Parish News

July 22, 2022

Sunday Morning Hymns

Our church loves to sing, something I've grateful for every Sunday morning. Not all congregations "make a joyful noise unto the Lord" as enthusiastically as we do.

We are also fortunate for a church our size to have a talented organist to play our pipe organ and two spirited piano players.

Typically, I choose hymns so they both fit the worship theme for the day and are songs we enjoy singing. I try to select a variety of hymns: golden oldies and more contemporary songs; songs that are familiar and a few that are new.

We've recently purchased a license that allows us to print the lyrics to hymns that are not in our hymnal and to live-stream these songs on our YouTube platform.

Are there songs you'd love to sing on Sunday morning, whether they are in our hymnal or not? Please contact me and we'll work them into an upcoming service. If they're not in the hymnal, we'll do our best to see if we can round up the music.

A Note from Pastor Craig

Tell me the stories of Jesus, I long to hear. Things I would ask him to tell me, if he were here. These are the first two sentences from a song that we typically sing on Palm Sunday - #277 in our hymnal.

"Tell Me the Stories of Jesus" is one of my favorite hymns I remember from my childhood, not counting Christmas carols of course. "Jesus Loves Me" is obviously at the top of the list, followed by "Holy, Holy, Holy" and "O Worship the King."

I love to sing "Tell Me the Stories of Jesus" because it reminds me of my childhood in church and because I love to hear the stories of Jesus - his kindness and love for everyone; especially children and those who were sick.

I remember a childhood book my parents had with the title "Tell Me About Jesus." Sitting here over half a century later I can still recall some of the illustrations, especially one where Jesus is speaking to several people while out in a field during the grain harvest.

The pictures and accompanying text in the book communicate a simple message to children, young and old like, that Jesus loves each and every one of us. This is something that John's first letter states simply and forcefully when he writes: "God is Love." Three important words for us to always remember, along with "God Loves You."

But even though God's steadfast love is always present and is the defining characteristic of God's character, God is not a two dimensional cut-out character that can be captured completely in simple illustrations on the pages of books.

A paradox of our faith is that God is both clearly made known to us in Jesus Christ and robed in mystery beyond of ability to see. This latter trait is captured in first sentence to another hymn: *Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise, in light inaccessible, hid from our eyes*

What this means to me is I can absolutely rely on God's goodness and love toward all of God's sons, God's daughters, and all God's creation. It also means that I can never presume to know all there is to know about God. Which means that we live by faith and not by sight. But faith is enough. May you be filled with God's peace.

Pastor Craig



Basement Floor Replacement Update

Here are two pictures of the completed basement floor. It's a beautiful and durable product that will serve our church well for years to come.

The fundraising amount is now up to \$14,555 so we have less than \$500 remaining to reach our \$15,000 fundraising goal. We still have costs remaining for the baseboards and other contingencies. We'll update you when we know more.

Lots of finishing work still remains, such as installing trim, moving smaller pieces of furniture, washing walls, replacing the suspended ceiling, washing dishes, and returning items to their respective locations.

We'd appreciate any time you can volunteer to help get the basement back to where it was before we removed the old floor. We appreciate any amount of time you can volunteer and there are a wide variety of tasks that need to be done. If you're able to help, watch for announcements about what we're going to do and when. Thank you!



Upcoming Dates and Events

A Memorial Service for Glenn Biebl will be held at our church on Saturday, August 13th at 11:00 with lunch to follow at the Winton Town Hall. Glen's family invites you to come and celebrate Glenn's life.

There will be a joint Worship Service at the Semer's Beach outdoor pavilion on Sunday, August 14th at 10:00 with a hot dog lunch to follow. This service replaces our normally-scheduled Sunday Morning Worship Service. The service will be live-streamed at Grace Lutheran's Facebook page. We'll pass along more details as the 14th approaches.

The Ely United Methodist Church

Prayer Wall

July 22, 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.

John 15: 7 (NIV)



Jesus said, "If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be given you."

We lift up the following in prayer...

- **Ray Kern family & friends** – Ray, friend of Donna & Norm Rusco, was killed in a hay-baler accident. Pray for peace and comfort for the family and friends. Ray was 64.
- **Dave Archambault** – Dave hit a deer on his motorcycle & was badly scraped and bruised. Pray for quick healing.
- **Todd & Sue Schram's family & friends** – Their son, Travis, was killed in a motorcycle accident and his wife, Traci also on the cycle, suffered a broken clavicle, scapula & several ribs, but is recovering.
- **Friend of Vicki Podomonick** – Vicki asked for prayers for her friend who is diagnosed with Bell's Palsy and shingles.
- **Dick Taylor – Update:** Dick's cardiac ablation went well. Pray that his heart stays in sinus rhythm.
- **Deb** – Suzette Tedrick's friend, Deb, was badly burned at work. Pray for comfort and healing.
- **Carrie Foltz family & friends** – Carrie passed away. She grew up in Ely & her sister still lives here. Pray for comfort.
- **Nicole Udovich's family & friends** – Nicole's grandfather, Granda Ted, passed away the day after his/her 75th wedding anniversary. Pray for comfort for her family in their loss.
- **Evelyn – Update:** Linda Frisell's mother-in-law, Evelyn, has passed away. Pray for peace & comfort for her family & friends.
- **Paul Ivancich – Update:** Paul is back home from Mayo and his pain treatments are effective. He is still battling cancer.
- **Patty Niskala** – Continued prayers for Patty as she works with the doctors on the next course of treatments.
- **Ropey – Update:** Ropey broke his hip, opted not to have surgery, and is now in hospice care, but doing better.
- **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.