

# ELY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

*"The Little Church With the Big Heart"*

elyumc.elymn@gmail.com

218-365-3355

www.elyumc.org

**Parish News**

**October 28, 2022**

## All Saints' Memorial Service November 6, 2022

All Saints' Day, the first Sunday in November, is when Christian churches express our gratitude and give thanks to God for faithful followers of Jesus Christ in our midst; both those living and the "newly departed."

We will read the names of church members who have died in the last year, recognize people who have been members of our church for 40, 50, and 60, years, and dedicate memorials received in the last 12 months.

On All Saints' Sunday you will receive small slips of paper in the bulletin when you arrive at church. You may write names of loved ones who have died in the last year on the slip and pass it forward following the offering.

We will read their names during the Communion Prayer.

## A Note from Pastor Craig

This week while I was browsing my bookshelves for a book whose title I don't remember now, my eyes fell on a slender volume with the evocative title: *Days Like Smoke: A Minnesota Boyhood*. This unpublished manuscript by Jon Hassler, a beloved Minnesota novelist, was found in his papers after his death.

The first half of the title comes from a sentence fragment in Psalm 102, wrongly identified on the title page of the book as from Psalm 101: "*Hear my prayer, o Lord, Harken to me speedily, for my days vanish like smoke.*"

Psalm 102, the fifth of seven penitential Psalms, is summarized by one commentator as "A Prayer of the Lowly." The Psalmist is experiencing deep personal distress, perhaps from a significant illness. This distress brings home just how fragile and fleeting are our days - they are like smoke. This theme is repeated in a variety of ways across the 28 verses of the Psalm.

But as scholar James L. Mays reports, there is also another strand to Psalm 102; namely God is an everlasting king who will rebuild Zion. This restoration will be "a revelation of his rule to all the nations and as an answer to the prayer of the destitute." (Mays, p. 323)

The chapter titles of Hassler's thin memoir guide his memories with gratitude to the houses, movies, churches, photos, lessons, and groceries that formed his life. The six categories are, in large part, an opportunity for Hassler to introduce the host of good and caring people who surrounded and nurtured him, an only child who had no sibling companions of his own. Not so incidentally, Hassler was a practicing Catholic all his life.

But this is really the point of Psalm 102, isn't it? In the midst of life, buffeted by forces beyond our control, we are carried by God, the good people who love us, and the enduring community of the servants of the Lord. Or as Mays reminds us: "It is in the everlasting time of the Lord's reign that the lowly one seeks the answer to his or her incomplete time." (Ibid, 325)

In autumn, as days shorten and the earth goes to sleep, we are reminded up close and personal that our days are, in fact, like smoke. But we can and do lean on the everlasting arms of God and one another. And like the Psalmist, we affirm that even in the face of affliction, this is enough. Pastor Craig

## The Ely United Methodist Church

# Prayer Wall

October 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.

### Philippians 4: 6 (NIV)



*“Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.”*

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

- **Jack Hautala’s family & friends** – Bill Hane’s brother-in-law, Jack, passed away. Prayers of comfort for family and friends.
- **Isaac** – Pray for Isaac and his mom and dad. Isaac is 16 and struggling with everyday life. He is receiving psychiatric help. Isaac’s parents are close friends of Dale & Connie Peterson.
- **Jan Lekatz family & friends** – Jan, who was a teacher in the local school district and who was in hospice care, has passed away. Pray for peace and comfort for her family and friends.
- **Red Nied** – **Update: Nancy Markwardt’s brother is not doing well & the next step is hospice care.** Pray for comfort & peace.
- **Magnolia Raye** – **Update: Magnolia Raye is doing fine, up to 2.2 lbs and is eating well, but mom had additional surgery for internal bleeding.** Linda William’s grandson, Dylan, and his wife, Mallory, welcomed their new daughter, Magnolia Raye, after a difficult birth born at 25 weeks weighing only 1 lb 12 ounces. She’ll be in the NICU for a while. Both mother and daughter are doing fine, but welcome prayers of continued good health and development.
- **Nancy** – Butch Diesslin’s sister broken her shoulder 3 months ago and it has not healed. She now needs shoulder replacement surgery. Pray for healing and a successful outcome.
- **Dave & Kris** – Lisa Porthan’s dad, Dave, is struggling with his Parkinson’s disease & is falling frequently & depressed. Her mom, Kris, is exhausted trying to care for him at home. It’s heartbreaking watching them struggling.
- **Jason King** – **Update: Jason is still in the hospital.** Jason is improving but now needs to be in a care facility that includes a rehab center. Jason is out of the ICU & gaining abilities but faces a long recuperation ahead. Lucy Diesslin’s cousin, Jason, suffered a brain aneurysm.
- **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.*

## ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL – MINUTES

Thursday, October 20, 2022 at Ely United Methodist Church

**Call To Order:** Chair Jay Tomlinson called the meeting to order at 5 PM.

**Attendees (10):** Bonnie Berglund, Lucy Diesslin, Rich Floyd, Craig Haberman, Don Ingerson, Carol Linneman, Margie & Mark Olson, Jay & Jeanne Tomlinson

**Opening:** Pastor Craig showed a stack of all the political mailings he'd received in a week and talked briefly about we need to be good citizens of both God's kingdom and where we live, so be sure to vote! **Minutes:** The September 14, 2022 Ad Council minutes were approved as distributed in the *Parish News*. Motion by Bonnie Berglund; second by Carol Linneman.

**Treasurer's Report:** Mark Olson presented the September 2022 Treasurer's report. Receipts were \$10,436.25, disbursements were \$7,369.41. The current account balances are: General Fund \$48,195.57; Memorial Fund \$13,110.71; Building Fund \$6,265.05. Jeanne Tomlinson moved that we accept the Treasurer's report as submitted, second by Rich Floyd. Motion passed.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. **Trustees:** Margie Olson reported the following:

- We need snow shovelers for this winter. Ger Niskala is having shoulder surgery so he won't be able to do it this time.
- Cunningham Electric has been approached to install a motion light in the parsonage garage.
- The next project for the basement is replacing the ceiling tiles. Bryan Rusco & Pastor Craig are in charge. This will be done next spring after pasty season. Carol Linneman has volunteered to paint the two poles in the basement after the ceiling tile work is done.
- BJ Rusco cleaned the furnace.
- The rain gutter on the west front of the church is leaking. Bryan Rusco will fix it.
- The outside entrance light has been cleaned by Mark Olson.
- Mark Olson will patch the hole near the floor on the north wall of the nursery.
- The parsonage garbage disposal is still causing problems with plugging the drain. Pastor Craig will just not use it as a temporary solution.
- Pastor Craig has purchased a new kitchen faucet and is working on replacing it since the old one doesn't work anymore.
- Huge thank you to all the volunteers that helped with the flooring project and for the awesome response to the \$15,000 fundraiser. Margie was very gratified to see how almost every church member participated in some way.
- The Trustees will meet next on April 5, 2023.

2. **Pastor-Parish Relations:** Pastor Craig reported that the committee is working on evaluations. He'll be meeting with Sheri prior to the next committee meeting scheduled for November 7.

3. **Worship:** Pastor Craig reported that advent decorating will be done on Sunday, November 20 after church with a "coordinated potluck" afterwards. The advent readers will be from the Sunday School families or Patty Rusco will coordinate other readers. Sue Germek is out of town for Christmas so Sharon Luthens will play. Sunday School families have agreed to provide ushering on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of each month.

4. **Visioning:** Rich Floyd reported that the committee did not meet this month due to a mix-up. He'll email the committee to set up a new meeting time.
- 
5. **Education:** Pastor Craig reported that Dan Johnson had done a short acolyte training for the Sunday School students this past Sunday. Dan bought an advent wreath for the Sunday School.
  6. **Parish Care:** Tiffany Zemke had asked about starting up "Health Tips" and wanted guidance on location & frequency. Jeanne moved that a monthly tip in the *Parish News* would be best. Second by Margie Olson. Motion approved.
  7. **Memorial Committee:** Carol Linneman mentioned that Sunday, November 6 All Saints Day, would also be Memorial Recognition Sunday.
  8. **UMW:** Margie Olson reported that
    - o The basement closet shelving has been installed and crews will finish organizing & cleaning the basement before pasties.
    - o We will be donating \$100 to the Northwoods Partners Festival of Trees
    - o We would like to start up Coffee Fellowship again in November. The Memorial Committee will be handling it on November 6. Jeanne Tomlinson volunteered to put up a sign-up sheet.
    - o We are doing a devotional study using the book *Rich in the Things That Count the Most*. o Our next meeting is November 16 at 10 AM.

#### **OLD BUSINESS - None NEW BUSINESS**

1. Church Directory Project: Our last church directory was done in 2015. Rich Floyd moved that we plan on doing a pictorial directory in 2023. Second by Margie Olson. Motion passed. Jeanne Tomlinson will contact the company we used last.
2. Giving Tree: Pastor Craig asked if we wanted to participate in this again, taking 15 Gift Tags. Margie moved that we do this. Second by Bonnie Berglund. Motion passed.
3. Service hours: Pastor Craig had been approached by someone in the community to see if we have any work that can be done to earn "service hours". We suggested snow shoveling and helping set up the apartment trees if the snow shoveling doesn't add up to enough hours.
- 4.

#### **Items of Information**

1. **Next Ad Council meeting:** Thursday November 17, 2022 at 5:00 PM.
2. **Finance Committee meeting:** Tuesday, November 8, 5:30-7 PM
3. **EUMC Church Conference:** Wednesday, December 14 at 6 PM with Ad Council to follow.
- 4.

The meeting adjourned at 5:40 PM with a group recitation of *The Lord's Prayer*.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jeanne Tomlinson, Ad Council Secretary

The UMW at Ely United Methodist Church Wednesday, October 19, 2022 10-11:30 AM

President Margie Olson opened the meeting at 10:02 AM with a unison reading of the UMW pledge and a prayer by Pastor Craig. We had 10 UMW members attending: Lucy Diesslin, Linda Hane Gail Haney, Beverly Johnson, Sharon Luthens, Crystal Nickerson, Patty Niskala, Margie Olson, Donna Rusco, and Jeanne Tomlinson.

**Minutes:** The minutes from the September 20 meeting were read. Motion to approve by Linda Hane; second by Beverly Johnson. Motion approved.

**Treasurer's Report:** Sharon Luthens reported that she had done the \$5,000 transfer from savings to checking and had made a first payment of \$240 to Nikki (Dreschler) Collins for church cleaning. She had two other bills she paid from Zup's and Sullivan's but had no receipts for those so she didn't know what they were for. Jeanne identified the Sullivan's bill as probably the banquet roll that had been ordered with other items for pasties earlier in the year but had been backordered and just recently received. We assume the Zup's bill was for some sort of church supplies. Checking balance is currently \$5,315.69 and savings has \$11,622.91. Patty Niskala moved we accept the Treasurer's report; second by Crystal Nickerson. Motion passed.

## Old Business

- **Fellowship Hall floor replacement:** Margie reported that the new floor project is almost complete. We just have items that need to be put away, mostly into the closets, as well as a final cleaning. Patty Rusco, Pam Turnbull and Jeanne had already offered to work on putting things away. Linda Hane and Donna Rusco also offered.
- **Nursery changes:** Margie reported that the nursery has been cleaned out as previously discussed. Some of the books and a few toys & games are being retained in the bookshelves and on the wire shelves on the east wall. Margie had taken the rug home and cleaned it.
- **Closet racks:** After our September meeting, Margie had learned that the two sets of the new shelving that we had approved to buy would cost over \$1,000 and would take 6-8 weeks to arrive. She found an alternative at Menards that would have particle board shelves but with the same weight ratings and would only cost \$90 each. This was discussed via email and agreed that we should go with this alternative. She & Mark picked them up at Menards and Mark put them together so they are now ready. The cost for the shelves was \$201.38. They also bought a couple of small rugs with the 11% rebate for the basement back door entrance area. Margie thanked Crystal Nickerson for putting away all the dishes after they were washed and dried.
- **Supplies/Organization of Supplies:** Jeanne reported that she'll send out an email to the volunteers mentioned earlier to select a date over the next week or so to complete the supplies re-organization and storage.
- **Final clean-up of basement:** This needs to be done before pasties in November. We'll set a date after the supplies storage/reorganization is completed.
- **Pasties November 14 & 15:** Jeanne reported that new pasty calling lists have been distributed to all the callers. She stressed the importance of keeping her informed of any changes to the lists, especially phone numbers, since she frequently must call customers directly. She explained that we won't have any per customer maximums, but that if the total orders come to more than 800, the customers with the largest orders will be contacted about an order reduction. Callers need to

inform their customers that the new cost is \$8 and that we are also planning on making them as before from January through April so there shouldn't be a need to "stock up". Customers should also be reminded that pasties must be picked up between 9:30 AM and 5 PM.

## New Business

- **Trustee report on ceiling tiles:** Margie reported that Bryan Rusco and Pastor Craig had volunteered to coordinate this project starting next spring.
- **Head usher (Dan Johnson) questions/requests:** Beverly brought up the following to be discussed on Dan's behalf:

○ The Choir room is so packed only one person at a time can enter: Margie indicated that

she's planning on having the chair rack removed and doing some other reorganizations. This should help relieve the space issue. Crystal mentioned that it would be helpful to have a working 3-prong extension cord plugged into the wall under the shelves to eliminate having to crouch down to plug in the coffee machine.

○ Choir robes in the upstairs clothes closet need to be moved to make room for coats as the cold weather arrives: Margie proposed we remove the cabinet that is stored on the left-hand side of the closet since it is not needed and then the choir robes can be pushed back out of the way into that area.

○ Bathroom supplies checks: Dan has been making sure the tissues & bathroom cups are being replaced in the two bathrooms and has used up the re-stock supplies: Jeanne will take care of restocking the supplies and will make sure that the bathrooms are checked as part of routine supplies checks.

- **Painting basement poles:** Carol Linneman has volunteered to repaint the poles in the basement.
- **Festival of Trees:** Lucy had received the form from Northwoods Partners asking for

participation in this year's *Festival of Trees* by purchasing & decorating a tree or wreath or making a direct donation. Linda Hane moved that we make a direct donation of \$100; second by Gail Haney. Motion passed.

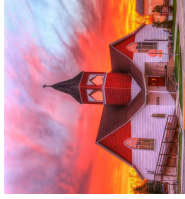
- **Coffee Fellowship:** We discussed resuming after-worship Coffee Fellowship. The Memorial Committee will be providing it for November 6 as a part of Memorials Recognition Sunday which happens to also be to All Saints Day. Jeanne offered to make a Coffee Fellowship sign-up sheet to go up on the bulletin board as well as taking care of it on November 13. Crystal offered to do November 20. Lucy will do a Sunday in December. Bev will put a short notice in the Sunday bulletin asking folks to sign up. It was mentioned that we need to stress that, unless you are really eager to go all out, coffee fellowship should be kept simple: coffee and a simple snack or two.
- **Kitchen work still needed:** Screws need to be put back in the kitchen sink to attach it to the wall. Also, we'll need to decide if we are going to hang any of the other shelves that we took off the kitchen walls.
- **Basement flooring project volunteers:** Margie expressed her thanks to all the many volunteers who helped out with the basement floor replacement project. She'd tallied up a list of all the workers and was amazed and gratified at how many different people had helped out.

Our next regular meeting will be on Wednesday, November 16, 2022 at 10 AM. We adjourned the business meeting at 11 AM.

For our devotional time, we read Chapter 1 of *Rich in the Things That Count the Most*. We read about being “Rich in the Scriptures” because the Bible teaches us to ...

- Love God Because He First Loves Us
- Love Other People for God’s Sake
- Love Life Because it’s God’s Gift to Us

Respectfully submitted, Jeanne Tomlinson Secretary



# November 2022

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

			1 October 30 – November 5 • Pastor Craig will be on vacation with family in Sioux Falls, SD	2 NO Zoom Bible Study 10:00 AM Visioning Zoom Committee Mtg	3 6:00 PM Choir Practice	4	5
6 9:30 AM Choir Practice 10:00 AM Worship Service and Sunday School Holy Communion	7 6:30 PM Pastor Parish Relations Committee Meeting	8 9:00 AM Ely Ministerial Association 5:30 PM Finance Committee	9 2:00 PM Zoom Bible Study 7:00 PM Confirmation Class	10 6:00 PM Choir Practice	11	12	
13 10:00 AM Worship Service and Sunday School	14 7:00 AM Pasties Veggie Prep 1:00 PM Dough Ball Prep	15 7:00 AM Pasties Production & Sales	16 10:00 AM UMW Meeting NO Zoom Bible Study 7:00 PM Confirmation Class	17 5:00 PM Administrative Council 6:00 PM Choir Practice	18	19	
20 9:30 AM Choir Practice 10:00 AM Worship Service and Sunday School Christmas Decorations	21	22	23 NO Zoom Bible Study	24 Thanksgiving Day	25	26	
27 10:00 AM Worship Service and Sunday School Sheri Rue Worship Leader Nov 21 – 29 • Pastor Craig will be on vacation in PA	28	29	30 2:00 PM Zoom Bible Study 7:00 PM Confirmation Class	6:00 PM Choir Practice			