

ELY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

"The Little Church With the Big Heart"

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Parish News

May 19, 2023

A Note from Pastor Craig

Senior Sunday and. Minnesota Annual Conference Gathering

Senior Sunday is this coming Sunday May 21, 2023. We invite you to attend in-person or online to celebrate with Logan Loe, Ambrose Richter, Lily Tedrick, and their families. The church will present them with tie-blankets for wherever they may live next. Cake, coffee, and juice will be served following the service.

Minnesota Annual Conference Gathering. Lay Delegate Jay Tomlinson and Pastor Craig will travel to St. Cloud for the Minnesota Annual Conference meeting from May 30 through June 1.

There will be worship services, workshops, and we will vote on a 2024 budget and a number of legislative items.

We will bring our church's Love Offering Gift and the Personal Dignity Kits that you have assembled. Jay will give a report shortly after our return.

Greetings! I'm glad to be drafting a newsletter for this edition of Parish News after several weeks of not being able to on account of my schedule. I appreciated the opportunity to make presentations to both the Southern Prairie and North Star District Licensed Local Pastors. Yet, as always following times when I've been away, it's delightful to return to you (the Ely United Methodist Church congregation), the Ely community, the beauty of the surrounding area, and the parsonage up on Beacon Hill here in town.

Well, "Spring has Sprung," as they say during the past several weeks. The "for certain" origin of this phrase is unknown, but one possibility I stumbled across during an internet search is this silly childhood poem, where "boidies" refers to birds; "boid," bird; "absoid," absurd, and "hoid," means heard."

Spring has sprung, the grass iz riz,
I wonder where da boidies iz?
Da boid iz on da wing! Ain't that absoid?
I always hoid da wing...wuz on da boid!

In any case, the past week to ten days has been simply lovely. The temperatures have gone back up to where they belong for this time of year, the ice is rapidly leaving the lakes, the sun rises earlier every day and sets later in the evening, grass is turning green, and trees are sprouting buds.

With this delightful turn of the seasons I find myself saying out loud for me alone and for others - "This is why we live up here." And this comes from someone who (mostly) enjoys winter.

This Sunday is Ascension Sunday (when Jesus ascends into heaven) and next Sunday is Pentecost (when the Holy Spirit "descends" upon the gathered believers). We now enter "Ordinary Time," the time of year when the church year turns over.

Not "ordinary" as in "commonplace," for nothing about the Good News of Jesus Christ is ho-hum or routine, but "ordinary" as in the "ordinal numbers" - i.e. first, second, third, fourth, and so on.

We trace the events of Jesus Life during the seasons from Advent through Pentecost. Now we examine in detail how these astonishing events shed light on the rest of the Scripture Story. It's a wonderful time of year in the great out of doors. And even "ordinary time" is a grand journey in terms of our life with God and living as followers of Jesus Christ. Pastor Craig

The Ely United Methodist Church

Prayer Wall

May 19, 2023

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.

Psalm 62: 8 (NIV)



*"Trust in him at all times, O people;
pour out your hearts to him, for
God is our refuge."*

We lift up the following in prayer...

- **Marcus Allen** – Marge Forsberg's cousin, Marcus, requires a heart transplant surgery and has been waiting for a compatible new heart. Pray his wait is short and the surgery is successful.
- **Doris Bay** – Kathy Nelson's cousin-in-law, Dori, fell and broke her pelvis. She also requires hip replacement surgery. Pray for healing and a successful surgery.
- **Megan Brandau** – Kathy Brandau's daughter-in-law, Megan who is a dental hygienist, requires carpal tunnel surgery on both hands. Pray for patience and quick healing.
- **Kaye Denning** – Kaye is the mother of Bev and Dan Johnson's daughter-in-law, Shannon. Several years ago, Kaye had breast cancer but has been cancer free for more than 10 years. However, recent scans have revealed that she likely has bone cancer. She is in the early diagnosis stage, but please pray for successful treatment.
- **Frank Brula's family & friends** – Jesus came for Frank on April 25. He did not suffer. Prayers of comfort and peace for Frank's family and friends.
- **Mike Morrow** – Linda Hane's 2nd cousin, Mike Morrow, had shoulder surgery on his left shoulder.
- **Patsy Gibney** – Patsy is having some health issues. Pray for healing and recovery.
- **The Pecchia family and friends** – April Lynn Pecchia from Eveleth and her 11 year old daughter were killed in an auto accident on Hwy 169 on April 19th. Pray for comfort and peace for family and friends.
- **Betty Rhein** – Betty had surgery on April 24th and needs prayers of healing and recovery.
- **Kira Buckawitz** – Jade Buckawitz's aunt Kira was sent to the hospital with pregnancy issues. Mother and baby are expected to be fine. Jade is Linda Hane's granddaughter.
- **Diane Nelmark** – Sheri Rue's friend, Diane, needs prayers of healing and recovery. She was in a head-on auto collision and suffered broken bone, but fortunately, no head injuries.
- **Duane** – Sheila Shultz's friend, Bev, has asked for prayers for her son Duane who has just been diagnosed with cancer. Bev has already lost her husband and a daughter to cancer, so please pray for Bev too.
- **Cheryl Hegman** – Linda Hane's friend, Cheryl Hegman, had hip replacement surgery on Friday. Pray for healing and a successful recovery.
- **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.