

ELY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

"The Little Church With the Big Heart"

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Parish News

June 23, 2023

Picture Directory and Joint Worship Service

Picture Directory: Our church is going to have another picture directory produced this summer, the first since 2015.

You can sign up for your sitting either at church on Sunday morning or online.

To sign up online, go to our church webpage (www.elyumc.org), click on the "Church Directory" logo at the bottom of the page. A second page will open up with simple instructions to follow.

Semer's Beach Worship:

The joint worship service we share with Grace Lutheran, St. Mary's Episcopal, and Ely Presbyterian will be held at Semer's beach at 10:00 on Sunday, July 16th. (Note: This service replaces our usual Sunday morning service.)

The format will be nearly identical to last year, with one exception. It will be a potluck dinner with hot dogs provided.

A Note from Pastor Craig

Greetings! Between June 25th and September 17th, I'll be basing Sunday morning sermons on the Apostle Paul's letter to the Romans. I'm feeling a strong pull to explore the spiritual terrain of this letter. My curiosity and energy level are pulsing for this endeavor, even though I've done the same thing a number of times across the years.

I know, this may seem like a "yawner" for you; the thought of nine sermons exploring the book of Romans may be as exciting to you as watching paint dry. Or you may feel guarded because you've heard some worrisome things about the Apostle Paul across the years.

It does turn out, however, that from the earliest days of the church, these sixteen chapters have moved the hearts and minds of people in major ways. They transformed the lives of St. Augustine, Martin Luther, and John Wesley, just to name three. In doing so, Paul's letter to the Romans gave birth to monumental moments in the Christian story.

If hearing about the lives of dead, Western-European, men who lived long ago doesn't pique your interest, how about this? Romans is an extended explanation of the abundant life that Jesus said he comes to bring. It's about life, lived each day, in this world, that simultaneously rises above life's daily cares and excitements and extends into eternity.

Consider these thoughts from Michael J. Gorman, who has recently authored *Romans: A Theological and Pastoral Commentary*.

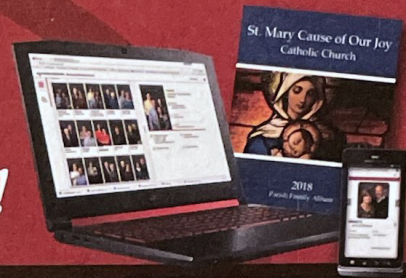
One: "Romans stresses individual and community transformative participation in Christ, especially in his death and resurrection."

Two: Paul speaks often in Romans about being 'in Christ.' "Being 'in Christ' means that Christian communities and believers are located within the presence of Christ's personal presence and power."

Three: "If fact, Romans 5 - 8 tells us about the fundamental reconstruction of our entire life, our very being, into the life of God. This happens in Christ, by the Spirit."

We've passed the summer solstice and the Fourth of July is just around the corner. This means summer is in full bloom, despite the lack of rainfall. I wish you every joy during these long summer days. Pastor Craig

Dear Church family, It's time for a New Directory!



*Celebrating faith.
Connecting families.
Sharing hope.*

When people enter the doors of our church they are looking for a place to belong. Our directory brings us together to develop new relationships, connect with our own families, and reconnect with those we haven't seen in a while. Join us for this "Connections Event" and be part of what God is doing right here at our church!

Directory Committee

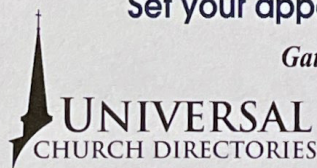
Connections Event

Our church directory will not be complete without you. Join us to celebrate faith and family with our new church family album.

- Schedule your professional photography session when you stop by the sign-up table at the church or simply go online and follow the instructions below. If we don't see your name on our list of appointments, you will receive a phone call inviting you to participate.
- Everyone who is photographed by Universal will receive a complimentary 8 x 10 portrait and a directory!
- Universal provides a complete professional portrait studio right here at our church! You'll enjoy a variety of poses, backgrounds, portrait sizes, finish and framing options AND have the opportunity to purchase portraits to give to family and friends.

Set your appointment with Universal today!

*Gathering families,
Connecting generations.*



Schedule Your Photo Appointment Online! Photo Dates Friday & Saturday, August 11 & 12

To schedule your photography appointment online, simply scan the QR code to the right. Or go to www.ucdir.com & click the "Photography Appointment Scheduling Login" button. Enter **mn390** in the "Church Code" field and enter **photos** in the "Church Password" field. **Note:** The Church Code & Password are case sensitive. Follow the prompts to schedule your family's appointment time. If you have 5 or more in your family, please use 2 time slots. The online scheduling option may not be available Saturday or Sunday because we will be doing paper sign-ups at church on selected weekends. **Appointments fill up quickly, so schedule as soon as possible to secure your preferred date and time.**



The Ely United Methodist Church

Prayer Wall

June 23, 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.

Matthew 6: 10 (NIV)



"...Thy Kingdom come; Thy Will be done..."

We lift up the following in prayer...

- **Patty Niskala** – Patty received a liver transplant and will remain in the hospital for another three weeks and then in an apartment close to the hospital for the next month for monitoring and recovery. Pray for comfort, healing and a successful transplant.
- **Ropey** – Margie Olson asked for prayers for her brother, Ropey, who is at the end-of-life stage. Pray for him and his family during this difficult time.
- **Jennifer Taylor** – Dick & Mary Taylor asked for prayers for their daughter, Jennifer, who is suffering from kidney stones.
- **Kirk Haberman** – Pastor Craig' son, Kirk, had hip replacement surgery. Pray for healing and recovery.
- **Paula & Nick Mattila** – Both Paula and Nick are having tests done: Paula for a possible blood clot in her leg and Nick for problems with his feet caused by diabetic neuropathy.
- **Mike and Lynn Lockhart** – Sheila Shultz used to work with Lynn who was a special ed teacher in the Ely schools. Her husband, Mike, has a stroke. Pray for them and his recovery.
- **Nancy Fredrick's family and friends** – Nancy, Dick and Mary Taylor's daughter-in-law Mandy's grandmother, passed away. Pray for peace and comfort.
- **Andy and Paula Hill** – Andy fell and broke his foot on a portage requiring surgery to insert a plate and pins to aid in healing and recovery. Pray for comfort and patience.
- **Thomas Hane** – **Update: Thomas is still hospitalized and not doing as well as expected.** Bill Hane's brother, Thomas, had emergency heart surgery. Pray for healing.
- **Lisa Diesslin** – Butch Diesslin's sister, Lisa, had back surgery and requires an additional back surgery.
- **Joe Oxley** – Shelley Oxley asked for prayers for her husband who is undergoing medical testing.
- **Linda Lee Tikkala** – **Update: Linda Lee is doing much better.** Linda Hane asked for prayers for Linda Lee Tikkala who is having heart tests done.
- **Arthur Hane's family and friends** – Bill Hane's brother, Arthur, died from multiple health complications including Parkinson's. Please pray for comfort for Bill and Linda and for Arthur's other family and friends.
- **Dovie and Dana Schorfheide** – Bonnie Berglund asked for prayers for two of her sister-in-laws. Dovie Schorfheide in Ripley, MN, and Dana Schorfheide in Maseoutah, IL, who were both diagnosed with metastatic breast cancer. They have already started chemo treatments. Pray for successful treatments.
- **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**