

ELY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

"The Little Church With the Big Heart"

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Parish News

September 15, 2023

Nominating Committee Work

Each fall our Nominating Committee reviews and updates our church's leadership roster.

Three of our committees have rosters that are made up of three, three year terms, meaning that 1/3 of the committee turns over annually.

Each year some of our leaders step down to allow different people an opportunity to serve. Others because they have spread themselves too thin, still others because they are approaching a new season in their lives.

The result is our leadership turns over some each year, bringing new energy and perspectives. This also requires us to enlist new leaders. And so there is both continuity and change, as is true with all healthy life everywhere.

This year our Nominating Committee is encouraging Ely UMC church members to take the online gift inventory Pam Turnbull mentioned when she spoke. (The link is below.) You may learn something about yourself in this process!

Watch for more information in the weeks to come about our Nominating process this year.

www.tyndale.com/unfoldingfaithblog

A Note from Pastor Craig

I feel a profound sense of gratitude as I look back across nearly seventy years of life. As Psalm 16:6 says: "The lines have fallen for me in pleasant places; yea, I have a goodly heritage." (From the Revised Standard Version)

I grew up in a stable family, attended solid schools, kindergarten through seminary, where I received a well-rounded education, have been a part of vibrant churches, first as a child and young adult and later as a pastor, and have lived in civically-active communities.

The people, of course, are what is memorable in everything I mention above - wonderful, talented individuals, with large hearts, who were generous in sharing their time and abilities, pitching in to do their part.

These individuals were also interesting people who laughed often, enjoyed being together, and were creative in solving problems. There were difficulties, disagreements, misunderstandings, and conflict along the way, of course - we are all human beings after all.

What I haven't always noticed or fully appreciated, however, is the work that has gone on behind the scenes to make this happen. I thought my parents just instinctively knew what to do, but in hindsight I realize they must have talked about many things in private, behind closed doors.

The same with schools, churches, and communities - there are a host of budgetary, administrative, and programmatic decisions that are necessary for any organization to function. This is true for every organization in Ely, which number more than what you could list on a notebook page of paper.

Each organization's mission is dependent on the work that goes on behind the scenes. Specific examples would be how well a family functions and lives together, the quality of learning of students at any level, the health and opportunities in a community for people of all ages.

This is equally true for our church. Instinct and experience do contribute to worship, education, outreach, financial stability, well-kept buildings, planning for the future, and our care for one another, but careful planning is also necessary. While this happens at Ely United Methodist Church throughout the year, our committees do get more busy in the fall as we "put legs under the table" of what makes our church strong throughout the year.

I am grateful to each of you for your part in this.

Pastor Craig

JOURNEYS WITH THE MESSIAH FELLOWSHIP FILM SERIES

Begins Tuesday, Sept. 26 at 6 pm

at the Ely United Methodist Church - Downstairs

Using his unique storytelling skills, award winning fashion photographer Michael Belk invites us on an exciting journey to see and explore the timeless messages of Jesus.

Produced in the ancient city of Matera, Italy, this on-of-a-kind magnificently beautiful collection of photographs and films provides a fresh and inviting perspective of Jesus.

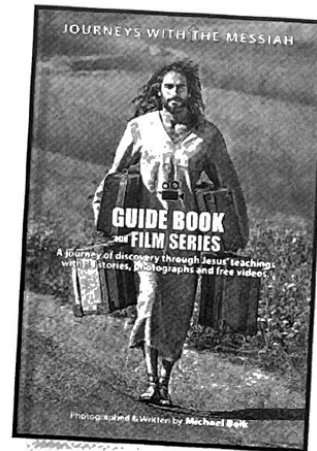
Join us, won't you? Refreshments included!

Of course, everyone is welcome!

As always, there is a sign-up sheet provided at the back of the church if you are planning to attend.

Signing up is not necessary, but we'd like to have an idea of how many will attend.

**(Questions?) Call or text
Patty (218) 349-0145**



The Ely United Methodist Church

Prayer Wall

September 15, 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.

Ephesians 6: 18 (NIV)



"Pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests."

We lift up the following in prayer...

- **Sheila Shultz – Update:** Sheila's surgery went well and she will be recovering at her granddaughter's, Harlee Myers, home. Please keep her in your prayers as she will be having a second similar surgery later. Sheila is in Duluth having 'carotid endarterectomy' surgery.
- **Wes Weisinger – Update:** Wes has been diagnosed with liver cancer and is struggling with recovering from surgery. Please keep him in your prayers. Vicki Wagner asked for prayers for her nephew, Wes Weisinger, who is having surgery soon.
- **Jan Burley – Update:** Cathy Aldrich updated Jan Burley's surgery stating that the surgery was a success and the initial report is that all the cancer was removed. Her recovery time period is about 6 weeks. Please keep Jan in your prayers. Jan is thankful for the prayers. Cathy Aldrich asked for prayers for Jan Burley who has been diagnosed with cancer and is scheduled to have surgery on September 8th.
- **Bob Oliva family & friends & Scout family** – Bob passed away from an auto accident on the Fernberg.
- **Wanda Ladwig** – Linda Hane asked for prayers for her sister-in-law, Wanda Ladwig, who is hospitalized for pneumonia and is very weak, but slowly gaining strength. She is Bill Hane's eldest sister.
- **Joe Oxley** – Shelly Oxley asked for prayers for her husband, Joe, as he undergoes more medical testing.
- **Patty Niskala – Update:** Jer thanked all for their prayers for his wife, Patty, who is now at home, but still needs prayers for continued recovery. Patty received a liver transplant and was in the hospital for three weeks before moving to an apartment close to the hospital for a month of monitoring & recovery.
- **The Russia / Ukraine conflict** – Pray for a world-wide lasting resolution, safety of the people, and peace.

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. People may ask that prayers be renewed on the list for subsequent 4-week periods. The Prayer Wall is finalized each Thursday for the Sunday morning service.