

ELY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

"The Little Church With the Big Heart"

elyumc.elymn@gmail.com

218-365-3355

www.elyumc.org

Parish News

November 3, 2023

Our All Saints' Observance at Ely United Methodist

All Saints' Sunday has become one of my favorite in the Christian year, trailing only Easter, Christmas Eve, Pentecost, and Ash Wednesday. It's a profound day, deserving our joyful participation.

There is some background to exactly what All Saints' Day is in the note just to the right of this sidebar.

So how will we observe All Saints' Sunday at Ely UMC?

You'll find a small sheet of paper included with your bulletin. You are invited to list the name of any loved one(s) who have died in the last year and their relationship to you. We will read their names during the communion liturgy.

We will mention Ely UMC church members who have died in the last year as well as 60, 50, and 40 year members.

We will dedicate memorial gifts to the church in the last year.

There will be coffee and cake following the service.

A Note from Pastor Craig

The arrival of our first measurable snowfall in Ely and a plunge in temperatures coincided with Halloween this year, which also means November (think deer season and Thanksgiving) comes next.

What then, is this All Saints' Sunday that we are observing in worship on November 5th? Some of you may be thinking "I don't remember ever talking about this when I was growing up." Me neither; these newer services became part of our United Methodist Church calendar about the time I graduated from seminary in the mid 1980's.

They were part of a larger movement within United Methodism to incorporate some of the rich liturgical heritage of the Roman Catholic and Lutheran traditions into our evangelical DNA. I've always deeply valued both of these strands of our denomination - we are evangelical (emphasizing being "born anew/born again") and also part of a worship tradition that extends back through the centuries right into the Upper Room where Jesus gathered with his disciples for the Last Supper.

The Roman Catholic Church celebrates All Saints' Day on November 1st and All Souls' Day on November 2nd. What's the difference? All Saints' remembers and give thanks for those who lived and died in faith and are now in glory. All Souls' Day is linked with the Roman Catholic doctrine of purgatory and is a time when we pray for the faithful departed who await future glory, following their intervening time in purgatory.

N.T. Wright an evangelical Anglican churchman and New Testament scholar suggests it is more scriptural to combine the two and I agree. Why? The obvious reason is purgatory isn't part of our belief system. Equally important, to do so assumes the heroes of our faith were so different from us when they were alive; which just isn't the case. Wright puts it this way: "What makes the 'great ones' great is precisely that they, too, knew human grief and frailty." (For All the Saints: Remembering the Christian Departed. p.49)

What makes "the saints" so remarkable isn't the gifts/abilities they were given at birth or the supreme efforts they made throughout their lives. No, rather, they became who they were as a result of what they allowed God to do in and through them. Their joy came as they trusted God completely and followed where God led. With much gratitude for them and for you,

Pastor Craig

The Ely United Methodist Church

Prayer Wall

November 3, 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.

James 5: 15-16 (NIV)



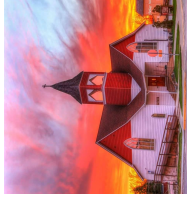
"And the prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well; the Lord will raise him (or Her) up... The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective."

We lift up the following in prayer...

- **Nancy Olson** – Linda Hane asked for prayers for her neighbor, Nancy Olson, who broke her leg and is currently in rehab in Duluth. Pray for healing and regaining her strength and mobility.
- **Lauren Olson** – Margie Olson asked for prayers for her granddaughter, Lauren Olson, who is having her tonsils removed. Please pray for successful surgery and quick healing.
- **Jon Morrow's family & friends** – Linda Hane's cousin, Jon Morrow, passed away on his 52nd birthday from congestive heart failure. Pray for peace and comfort for his family and friends.
- **Terry Bosch's family & friends** – Paula & Nick Mattila's neighbor, Terry Bosch, who was on hospice has passed away. Please pray for peace and comfort for his wife, Joni, and her family and friends.
- **Linda Prosen** – Nancy Markwardt's friend, Linda Prosen, was travelling with her 92 year-old mother to Sweden for a last visit with relatives when her mother had a stroke 2 days after arriving. Doctors have said no travelling for a month. Linda is feeling overwhelmed dealing with insurance and making unplanned living and travel arrangements. Please pray for Linda and her mother's recovery.
- **Wes Weisinger** – Vicki Wagner asked to have her nephew, Wes, back on the Prayer Wall as he has been placed on hospice. He has been struggling with liver cancer and surgery.
- **Bill & Linda Hane's family and friends – Update: Bill has now lost yet another sister – Patty. This is the third sibling Bill has lost in the past three weeks and the fourth recently.** Bill lost two siblings within 24 hours. His older sister, Wanda, and his younger brother, Dicky. Both passed away under different circumstances. Pray for Bill's family.
- **Bonnie Berglund – Update: Bonnie is now at the Boundary Waters Care Center.** Please keep her in your prayers for healing and full recovery. Bonnie fell and broke a vertebra in her back.
- **Deanie Kuehl – Update: Deanie had her surgery and is now home and has to be extremely careful. Pray for her full recovery.** Deanie is having cornea and cataract surgery done in Duluth this week.
- **The Russia / Ukraine conflict • Political Unrest in Africa • The People of Israel & Those Involved in the Current 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.



November 2023

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

			1	2	3	4
<p>9:30 AM Choir Practice</p> <p>10:00 AM Worship Service</p> <p><i>Holy Communion</i></p> <p>District Superintendent Laurie Kantonen leading the Worship Service & meeting with PPRC following the service</p>	<p>6</p> <p>7</p> <p>6:15 PM – 8:00 PM Shadow Light Study</p> <p>November 6 – November 11 • Pastor Craig will be in Washington DC for continuing education</p>	<p>8</p> <p>6:00 PM Trustees Meeting</p>	<p>9</p> <p>6:00 PM Choir Practice</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11</p>	
<p>12</p> <p>10:00 AM Worship Service and Sunday School</p>	<p>13</p> <p>5:30 PM Finance Committee Meeting</p> <p>7:00 PM Special Session of the Minnesota UMC Annual Conference</p>	<p>14</p> <p>9:00 AM Ely Ministerial Association</p> <p>6:15 PM – 8:00 PM Shadow Light Study</p>	<p>15</p> <p>10:00 AM United Methodist Women</p> <p>4:30 PM Nominating Committee Meeting</p>	<p>16</p> <p>6:00 PM Choir Practice</p> <p>7:00 PM Ad Council Meeting</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p>
<p>19</p> <p>9:30 AM Choir Practice</p> <p>10:00 AM Worship Service and Sunday School</p>	<p>20</p> <p>November 20 – November 24 • Pastor Craig will be on vacation with family in Sioux Falls, South</p>	<p>21</p> <p>6:15 PM – 8:00 PM Shadow Light Study</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23</p> <p>Thanksgiving</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p>
<p>26</p> <p>10:00 AM Worship Service and Sunday School</p> <p>Set up Christmas decorations following the service</p>	<p>27</p> <p>6:15 PM – 8:00 PM Shadow Light Study</p>	<p>28</p> <p>6:15 PM – 8:00 PM Shadow Light Study</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p> <p>6:00 PM Choir Practice</p>		