

ELY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

"The Little Church With the Big Heart"

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Parish News

March 29 , 2024

In this Edition

Pastor Craig

Appointment Update:

Pastor Craig will serve a small church near Sioux Falls 1/4 time in retirement. The letter announcing this is on page two.

Note from Cathy Aldrich, our Pastor Parish Relations Committee

Chair: Cathy Aldrich added a personal note about Pastor Craig's appointment. This is on page three.

Ely UMC Mission

Statement: Our church is updating its mission statement. Our invitation for your feedback is on page three.

A Note from Pastor Craig

The recent snowstorm was a whopper for us in Ely, wasn't it? It's the highest snowfall total for a single snowfall this year. It's also one of the larger accumulations of snow since I moved to Ely six years ago.

North Country residents are experiencing a variety of emotions. Winter enthusiasts are overjoyed, of course. Others not so much, especially those who may have removed plows from their trucks and tucked them away for the summer. Or people having to travel to the Range for work or medical appointments. This is a headache.

For some older adults, especially those who live alone, the storm brought a heavy cloud of discouragement in its wake. They were longing for the arrival of Spring to lift their spirits and reduce feelings of isolation after a long winter. Now it may seem as though Spring may never arrive.

Spring will arrive, of course, but who knows now when lakes will be ice free? (Half Moon Lake south of Everett was mostly open when I drove by at the end of last week. And summer is so short here Up North to begin with.

There is a positive spin on the snowfall from a faith perspective. Easter is often experienced as synonymous with Spring for people in northern climes and it's easy to see why. Winter is long and dark, so the Easter

message and the sudden onrushing arrival of Spring reinforce each other. Life has returned - sunshine, green grass, flowers blooming, birds returning, plans for summer. The two seem to fit closely together, don't they? Almost like hand and glove.

They are different, however, and in profound ways.... Through Jesus' death and resurrection God has initiated a New Creation. Sin, evil, and everlasting death have been defeated and overcome. These promised events have happened once and for all, although the we still await the final completion of the New Creation and complete vanquishing of evil. On the other hand, fall and winter will return once again. And in what will seem like short order. "He is Risen! The Lord is Risen, indeed!" I wish you and your family and joyous Easter! And the arrival of Spring as well.

Pastor Craig



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March 24, 2024

Bishop Lanette Plambeck intends to appoint The Reverend Craig Haberman to the Magnolia United Methodist Church, one-quarter time, and I have affirmed this decision. The appointment will begin upon his retirement from full-time ordained ministry on July 1, 2024.

Bishop Plambeck, District Superintendent Laurie Kantonen, and the entire Cabinet diligently and prayerfully continue their discernment in searching for and appointing the next pastor, who will meet and fill the unique needs and possibilities for Ely United Methodist Church.

Sincerely,

Reverend Craig Haberman
Ely United Methodist Church

The Little Church with a Big Heart!

When we make changes in our lives such as retirement, we make plans on how we intend to spend our time. Some of us will take up new hobbies or travel, others choose volunteer work or part-time employment, or a combination of these. We want to do something we are passionate about. In his retirement, Pastor Craig is being afforded an opportunity to do this.

This move is not a reflection on Ely United Methodist Church. This will be a ¼ time position that will allow Pastor Craig to continue doing what he loves without the administrative work. He will be able to focus on his continuing faith journey and sharing the message and love of Christ.

Let us support him as he takes on this fabulous new opportunity in Christ. Please join me in prayer.....

Heavenly Father, Thank you for sending Pastor Craig to Ely UMC. We pray that you will bless him during his remaining tenure at Ely UMC and allow us continuing enrichment of our faith as he shares your message with us. We ask that Pastor Craig be blessed with great success and joy in his new pastoral role. We pray this in Jesus 'name. Amen.

Ely UMC Mission Statement Announcement and Invitation for Feedback

During the Rule of Christ training, it was mentioned our mission statement is not easy to remember and many in attendance didn't know where to find it or what it says. The mission statement is located on our church website and in the new church directory. It says:

Our Ely UMC congregation seeks to add to and pass on the spiritual enrichment and strength for living in Christ that we have received and to share the love of Christ with others.

And as with any organization it is good to periodically review mission statements and update them as needed.

In addition to the adults, we also want our mission to be easy for the children in the congregation to be able to remember. At the last Administrative Council meeting we worked very hard as a team to revise our mission statement into a clear, concise, and easy to remember statement. After very open discussion and suggestions, it was determined:

Our mission at Ely United Methodist Church is: *"Growing in faith and sharing Christ's love with others."*

And we ask you to share your thoughts with members of the administrative council or Pastor Craig on how *Growing in faith and sharing Christ's love with others* captures what we do at Ely United Methodist Church.

The Ely United Methodist Church

Prayer Wall

March 29, 2024

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...

- **Dick Taylor** – Dick is having back surgery on Monday, April 1st for pain relief and stabilizing his scoliosis. Please keep Dick in your prayers for a successful surgery and subsequent recovery.
- **Welty family** – Gail Haney asked for prayers for the Welty family – her cousin's great grandson has been killed in a car crash.
- **Candy & Gary Herberg** – Margie Olson reported that Candy Herberg is fighting a serious infection and her brother-in-law, Gary Herberg, is having heart surgery.
- **Lynn Turnbull** – Mike Turnbull's uncle, Lynn, is having heart issues and is also dealing with cancer.
- **Logan Loe** – Please pray for Logan Loe who has been diagnosed with Crohn's disease.
- **Bob Sandilla** – **Update: Bob has bacterial meningitis. He opened his eyes, off the ventilator, unable to speak or move his left side. He will be hospitalized another 6-8 weeks.** Erin Moravitz's best friend's brother, Bob Sandilla, has multiple myeloma blood cancer and had 2 strokes and an embolism shower at the base of his brain. His lungs have collapsed, and he is intubated. Bob is married with 3 children.
- **Linda Lee Tikkala** – **Update: Linda's health issue was due to medication not a heart issue.** Linda Hane's friend, Linda Lee Tikkala, is hospitalized with heart issues. She is currently stable.
- **Bonnie Berglund** – Bonnie fell and has a hairline fracture in her left shoulder. Pray for comfort & healing.
- **Peggy Koschak** – Paula Mattila's sister, Peggy Koschak, has a bad cold requiring her to go back on oxygen. Please pray for healing.
- **Kris** – **Update: Kris had her eye removed and is hospitalized for severe pain. Pray for comfort and healing.** Lisa Porthan's mother, Kris, will have one of her eyes removed due to a childhood injury.
- **Derwood's family & friends** – **Update: Lisa Porthan's uncle Derwood passed away.** Pray for comfort.
- **Dick Reinhardt** – Vicki Wagner asked for prayers for her brother Dick Reinhardt, for multiple health issues.
- **Curt Laine** – **Update: Curt Laine has started treatment for his cancer at Mayo.** Susan Laine's husband, Curt, has been diagnosed with cancer of the lymph node behind his tonsils.
- **Keith Rue** – Keith is suffering from ocular shingles. Pray for patience, strength and relief from pain.
- **Shane** – Continued prayers for Shane, a friend of Zach & Jacob Rue's, in his battle with cancer.
- **Tyler** – A friend of Bryan Rusco who had an unfortunate accident requiring surgery. Pray for healing.
- **People of Gaza** – Pray for people in Gaza remembering the 32,000 women & children who have been killed.
- **Lisa Porthan's father & mother** – Lisa's mom & dad are struggling with the progression of his Parkinson's.
- **The Russia / Ukraine conflict • Political Unrest in Africa • The Military, Humanitarian & Political Crisis in the Middle East** – Pray for a world-wide lasting resolution, safety of the people, and peace.

**Ely United Methodist Church
Easter Lily List
2024**

Nick and Liddy Sheppard

Helen and Nick Sheppard
Betty Minehardt

Norm/Donna Rusco

Our parents and grandson

Butch and Lucy Diesslin

Ruth, sister
Loren, brother

Nick and Paula Mattila

Noah, grandson

Vicki Wagner (2)

Elmer and Inga Knudtson
Richard and Laurette Reinhardt

Bob and Pat Olson

David, son

Mike/Kathy Brandau (3)

Lloyd and Marilyn, Mike's parents
John Leonas, Kathy's father
Derek Dean, nephew of Mike/Karen

Janet Tessier

Lee Tessier

Don Ingerson

Ruth Ford, sister

Craig Haberman

Dwight and Barbara, parents

Jay and Jeanne Tomlinson

Walt and Ruby Tomlinson; Keith
and Fern Hoffmaster, parents

Bruce Olson Family

Cody Olson

Barbara Weisinger, Darrin,
Stacy, and girls

Wesley Weisinger

