

ELY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

"The Little Church With the Big Heart"

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Parish News

May 24 , 2024

A Note from Pastor Craig

Two weeks ago, I mentioned in this space how a deep immersion in nature brings us closer to God as we stand amazed before the beauty of God's Creation. I also mentioned the necessity in our lives for the Church, which is the living Body of Christ in the world. Finally, I wondered if perhaps God's Creation (nature) and the Church complement each other in the lives of disciples of Jesus Christ.

I think they most certainly do. What follows here is a brief summary of the consensus that has emerged within Christian tradition after many centuries of prayerful reflection.

First, God can only be known if, when, and how God chooses to be revealed to us. We cannot climb a ladder to God, so to speak, to know God or the ways of God.

Second, God's gracious revelation comes to us in two ways - General Revelation and Special Revelation. I'll mention more about each in the paragraphs below, but before that I want to mention one exception to General and Special Revelation, rare but significant, nevertheless.

Unitive Experience refers to those moments when a person finds themselves in a brief altered state of consciousness that is not a result of any event in the natural world - internal or external. While each experience is unique, there are common threads - an awareness of being filled with peace and love, time and place drop away, and one feels united with all humankind. These moments of Unitive Experience come unexpectedly, generally in unguarded moments, and can never be engineered by ourselves.


Back to General Revelation and Special Revelation. General Revelation is the way that God is made known to all people everywhere through nature and nature's laws, through human reasoning, and through our inner conscience. In other words General Revelation is knowledge of God through natural means. This knowledge of God is broader than Special Revelation; it has a universal aspect in that it is found everywhere.

Special Revelation, on the other hand, is the way God has chosen to be made known through supernatural means. "Supernatural" quite simply means "beyond natural means." Special Revelation includes God's revelation through Scripture, the person and ministry of Jesus Christ, the inward witness of the Spirit, and in the presence of Baptism and Holy Communion in the church.

Special Revelation is more detailed than General Revelation; it's as if we are seeing God "from the inside" rather than at an arm's length. In nature we see the grandeur of God. In Scripture, in Jesus Christ, we see right into God's heart and mind, and come face to face with God in a personal way. We see God's purpose for each of us and for God's Creation. We tangibly experience ourselves in the living and breathing Body of Christ, along with the cloud of witnesses of all who have gone before. May you experience both the grandeur of God in nature and the personal presence of God in your life. Pastor Craig



Above: Tammy and Matthew Johnson on Senior Sunday, when we celebrated Matthew's upcoming graduation from Memorial High School in Ely, MN.
Right: Publicity for upcoming Healthy Aging Expo.



NORTHWOODS PARTNERS HEALTHY AGING EXPO

For the Health of it!

... An event dedicated to
 Older Adults' Healthy Lifestyles,
 Education and Caregiver Support

9:00 am to 3:30 pm

**THURSDAY,
MAY 30TH**

Grand Ely Lodge


FREE

Includes
light
Lunch


Presenters and Topics:


- Angela Lunde, How to Lower your Risk of Alzheimer's •
- Molly Edwards, Mental Health and Aging •
- Georgia Lane, Age-Friendly MN •
- Jess Langer, Planning Ahead •
- Kristen Parendo, Elder Law •
- EBCH, Outpatient Services, Healthcare Hot Topics •
- EBCH, Heart Health Meds & Cardiac Rehab •

Presenters and topics are subject to change



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New Video Camera Update

Last Sunday we were able to successfully livestream with our new and improved camera, after some difficulty with the tracking. Thank you for your patience. We've received feedback that the audio quality - both clarity and volume - are much improved.

We think we've solved the problem with automatic tracking and now have a video tracking setup that includes four separate zones. So we're slowly figuring it out. And it's going to be amazing when we're done. Thank you for your patience!

Minnesota Annual Conference Meets May 28 - 30

United Methodist laypersons will converge on Bloomington during next week for the Minnesota Annual Conference gathering. The Annual Conference will be held at the Double Tree Hotel and Conference Center.

We will worship, hear reports, browse through displays of United Methodist ministries, visit with fellow United Methodist Christians from around the state, vote on legislation, and adopt a 2025 Annual Conference budget.

Wednesday evening will be a Celebration of Life as Clergy worship service at Hennepin Avenue United Methodist Church, which will include a Memorial Service, Retiree Celebration, and Ordination Service.

The Ely United Methodist Church

Prayer Wall

May 24, 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.

Mar 11: 24 (NIV)



"Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received it and it will be yours."

We lift up the following in prayer...

- **Please pray for the victims, rescuers, searchers and families of the tragic accident at Curtain Falls on Iron Lake in the BWCA where two paddlers are still missing.**
- **Trace Thome family & friends** – Pam Turnbull asked for prayers for the Trace Thome family. One student that Mike coaches just lost his brother, Trace, who died suddenly.
- **Gavin** – Jade's nephew, Gavin, had surgery to remove his tonsils and adenoids to improve his breathing. Pray for a smooth recovery. Jade is Linda Hane's granddaughter.
- **Ken Clausen family & friends** – Pam Turnbull asked for prayers for the Ken Clausen family, Mike Turnbull's uncle, who passed away on Friday May 10th.
- **Cheryl Childers** – Shelley Oxley asked for prayers for Cheryl Childers in Cleveland, OH, who has cancer.
- **Lennie Cersine** – Please pray for Lennie Cersine who is having multiple health issues.
- **Bobbi Gruwell** – Bobbi fell and broke her arm and will not be able to come to Ely until mid-August.
- **Tony Santaferarro** – Nancy Markwardt asked for prayers for Tony Santaferarro, her brother-in-law, who had heart surgery on May 6th.
- **Duane Beiber – Update: Duane is back in Ely rehabbing in BWCC to regain strength and visitors are welcome.** Duane has pneumonia and was intubated and moved to Duluth. He has been placed in an induced coma and has also been diagnosed with Covid.
- **Bob Hinman – Update: Bob is continuing to improve and is scheduled to return home on May 30th. Bob has been moved to rehab. He is able to move his legs weakly and has regained some vision.** Kevin Laine, Carol Laine's son, is asking for prayers for his neighbor, Bob Hinman, who has meningitis and has lost his vision and the use of his legs.
- **Curt Nobbe** – Erin Moravitz's close family friend, Curt Nobbe, was diagnosed with prostate cancer. Curt's wife, Sally, is Erin's best friend and her brother is Bob Sandilla who has bacterial meningitis and is also on our prayer wall below. They have a lot going on in their lives right now.
- **Curt Laine – Update: Curt has cancer and is at Mayo in Rochester for the next 5 weeks. Please pray that Curt's treatments are successful. Curt Laine, 215 15th Ave SW, Rochester MN 55902.** Curt had oral surgery on May 3 to remove 3 teeth before starting 6 weeks of radiation which started on May 13th.
- **Bob Sandilla – Update: Bob is now at the Shirley Ryan Ability Lab in Chicago. He has a long road ahead for recovery. Please keep him in your prayers.** 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. Bob is married with 3 children.

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.



June 2024

Sunday **Monday** **Tuesday** **Wednesday** **Thursday** **Friday** **Saturday**

30 10:00 AM Worship Service							1
2 9:30 AM Choir Practice 10:00 AM Worship Service <i>Holy Communion</i> Pastor Craig will leave after	3 5:30 PM Connections Committee Meeting	4 5:30 PM Connections Committee Meeting	5 11:00 AM Ely Ministerial Association	6 6:00 PM Choir Practice	7	8	8
9 10:00 AM Worship Service	10 11:00 AM Worship Committee Meeting	11	12 11:00 AM Ely Ministerial Association	13 6:00 PM Choir Practice	14	15	15
16 9:30 AM Choir Practice 10:00 AM Worship Service Pastor Craig's Retirement Celebration	17	18	19 Pastor Craig's permanent move to StouxFalls 6:00 PM Ad Council Meeting	20 6:00 PM Choir Practice	21	22	22
23 10:00 AM Worship Service Reports from the MN UMC Annual Conference	24	25	26	27 6:00 PM Choir Practice	28	29	29

2nd and will be in Sioux Falls returning on Saturday June 8th