

FRESHWATERS UMC
112 N 7th Avenue
Princeton MN 55371-1599

Return Service Requested

JUNE 2023

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
PERMIT NO. 173



Greetings dear readers of the Freshwaters Current, may the blessing and peace of the Holy Spirit be with you and your families.

In Romans 12:9-21 we find Paul outlining for us how to live our faith in Christ Jesus. This is not the only letter where he does it, but this is one that is oft quoted. In this passage we see elements of our faith that we strive to do – we are called to abhor evil, stand for what is good. We should be passionate in our faith through words, deeds, attitudes, and behavior. Our love for God and one another should not be fake, but genuine. We should be hospitable to those in need. We should be a people who pray all the time; we are patient and trusting in God when times are hard; we share hope! These are great things; this is what we should be known for as Christian people. These are elements that can change and transform lives.

But then we get to verse 14 and following – where Paul tells us that we should bless those who persecute us, do not repay evil for evil, do not seek vengeance, do not be overcome by evil. This is hard, isn't it? We live in a culture of “us” versus “them” and the cultural,

Sermon Series

“COMPASS” SERIES CONT.

June 4
Sweat The Small Stuff

June 11
Sun Stand Still

June 18
Stake In The Ground

New Sermon Series Coming!

FRESHWATERS UNITED METHODIST www.freshwatersumc.org

Join us In-Person or Online on Sundays at 9:30 AM!

Kevin Fox – Pastor
651-414-1132
revfox1738@gmail.com

Office: 112 7th Ave North, Princeton
763-631-1185
Wed - Friday 8:00 am to 3:00 pm

Jenna Jenson – Office Administrator and Children's Ministry Director
admin@freshwatersumc.com

Bob Laskowski – Worship Leader
320-267-0233

Keep up to date on our website and our Facebook page
www.facebook.com/FreshwatersMN

political, societal divisions are deepening. It is easy to get swept up in this division that causes us to see one another as enemies. Paul and our Savior Jesus Christ call us to live a life that does not reflect the way of the world. Rather than respond with hate; we respond with love and prayer; we respond with honor rather than dishonor. As much as it depends on you “live peaceably with all.” I do not pretend that this is easy to do, but the way of Christ is not easy. Transformation of hearts, minds, lives is not easy – it is painful at times. What we are called to do, and I believe that this is what the world needs is a people who live counter to the culture of “us” versus “them.” As Paul says, “if your enemy is hungry feed him; if he is thirsty give him something to drink....do not be overcome by evil, overcome evil with good.”

What I appreciate about this congregation is we hold differing perspectives of the world, and yet we strive to live together in the love of Christ Jesus. This is something we can teach and reflect to the world around us. Basically, what Paul is saying is live your faith daily with love and conviction; be humble, give your hurts to God, pray, forgive, have mercy, live and act with Christ’s compassion. If we can live this every day – we can change our families, our community, indeed the very world. May we be that people – people who live with the marks of a true Christian. Amen!

OPPORTUNITIES FOR PRAYER	
Our Nation & Those Who Are Sick, Hurt, And Suffering	Those Who Are Mourning The Loss Of Loved Ones
Bob L	Jim L
Peter’s Family	Karen & Terry A
Elliott Family	Harvala Family
Stewart Family	Neu Family



Let’s bless our Seniors who are home bound or in a long term care facility. Why not pay them a visit, give them a call or send them a note to let them know you're thinking of them!
Muriel Walker, Betty Oliver, Joyce Mulder

5/9 Board Meeting Minutes

Present: Linda O, Scott L, Ryan P, Karen O, Andrew H, Susan K

Absent: Kevin F, Gene S, Darren W

1. No new items to add to the agenda.
2. Minutes from 4/15/23 were approved electronically.
3. Linda led the group in Scripture & Prayer.
4. Financial report-Susan reported that we are in the ‘black’ for our budget and that is a great positive feeling.
5. Trustees report-Andrew reported that the HVAC rooftop units will begin installation 5/10 & should be operational 5/15 or 5/16. The new units will help save on our heating & cooling electricity bill. Andrew will orient Kevin & Elim Oasis on operation of the settings for the HVAC. A monitor in the back of the Sanctuary for the Praise Band has been approved. Andrew reported that any other projects will need potential fundraising.
6. SPRC- no new business.
7. The Board reviewed our Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, & Threats and 1-5 year goals identified at the Board Retreat in April. Discussed how we can achieve our goals & leaders identified.

Linda adjourned the meeting, Ryan 1st, Scott 2nd.

Respectfully Submitted,

Karen Oudekerk

BIRTHDAYS

June 01	Darcy D	June 07	Kathy H	June 20	Mark Z
June 01	Andrew H	June 10	Sandy M	June 22	Ron J
June 01	Brady H	June 10	Jayden P	June 22	Hunter S
June 01	Debbie J	June 10	Alley W	June 23	Myla T
June 02	Kacey A	June 11	Jackie L	June 24	Brady H
June 02	Tyler L	June 12	Jean T	June 24	Michael P
June 03	Deb F	June 13	Marlys F	June 25	Andy V
June 04	Sue E	June 13	Cayla L	June 26	Sylvia C
June 05	Terri P	June 17	Brooke S	June 26	John W
June 06	Cassy M	June 18	Mike P	June 27	Tami M
June 07	Alma B	June 18	Garr P	June 30	Rosetta C
June 07	Alex F	June 19	Barb H	June 30	Melody N
		June 20	Daryle G		

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

ANNIVERSARIES

June 02	Roger & Nancy L	June 11	Barry & Norma H
June 03	Steve & Diana W	June 12	Bob & Sarah L
June 04	Jim & Kathy H	June 16	Brandon & Megan B
June 05	John & Jean T	June 23	Cassidi & Jared J
June 08	Betty & Dale B	June 24	Skip & Clarice H
June 08	Jim & Alma B	June 26	Tami & Gerald M

Happy Anniversary!



Thank you quilters for continuing to do your monthly drawing! To enter the drawing, simply fill out the slip in Fellowship Hall next to the quilt for that month. Drawing will be held the last Sunday of the month. List of past winners is located by the drawing slips!

Thank you to Jenna Jenson and to all the GREAT Sunday School volunteers who did such a great job for our children! What an amazing blessing you have been and are!



Thank you to all who helped with the Hot Breakfasts! Thank you to Pat Talberg, the youth, and all who have helped out with this ministry of hospitality! Hot breakfasts are done for the summer (normal coffee hour will continue) but will be back in September!

Thank you to all who helped with this year's Bags of Blessing! Your donations of food items or financial contributions helped us feed children on free or reduced lunches in the schools in Princeton and Zimmerman. We bagged around 1,100 bags this year! Way to go Freshwaters!



On Sunday June 11th, we will be recognizing the achievement of our 2023 Princeton High School graduates, Grace Claassen and Aubrey Harvala! Be sure to congratulate them and give them your well wishes for a bright future!

Jingle Sunday is June 18th (3rd Sunday of the month). Bring your loose change and "jingle"! All money raised goes towards our Bags Of Blessing program providing food for kids in our Princeton and Zimmerman schools.





We had so much fun this year in Youth Group! We will not be meeting this summer but will be back together in the fall! Be sure to keep your eyes open for info as it gets closer. Have a safe and fun summer!

Freshwaters June 2023

What a year for our Freshwaters Kids Sunday School! So much fun, laughter, learning, and wonderful memories! We will not be meeting during church for the summer but will resume our concurrent schedule in the fall! Be sure to keep your eyes open for info as it gets closer. Have a wonderful and safe summer!



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4 - 9:30 AM Worship - 10:30 AM Coffee Hour	5 - 7 PM BSA	6 - 9 AM Quilters	7 Jenna Out Of The Office	8	9 Deborah Kay Peters Ste- phens Memorial Service	10
11 - 9:30 AM Worship & Senior Recog- nition - 10:30 AM Coffee Hour Church Reserved	12 - 6 PM 4-H -7 PM BSA	13 - 9 AM Quilters - 7 PM Single Board Mtg	14	15	16	17 Al Taylor Memorial Service
18 - 9:30 AM Worship - 10:30 AM Coffee Hour	19 7 PM BSA	20 9 AM Quilters	21 - Newsletter Deadline Jenna Out Of The Office	22	23	24
25 - 9:30 AM Worship - 10:30 AM Coffee Hour	26 7 PM BSA	27 9 AM Quilters	28	29 9 AM Newsletter Assembly	30	

Regular Sunday Worship
In-Person and Streaming LIVE at 9:30 am

FRESHWATERS

Refreshing Relationships with God and Others

- R**EAL people who worship the living God in Spirit and in Truth.
Scripture Reference - John 4:24
- E**MBRACING God's written word as a guide for life.
Scripture Reference - Psalm 119:105
- F**ILLED with the Holy Spirit.
Scripture Reference - Ephesians 5:18
- R**ESPONDING with prayer and love to hurting people.
Scripture Reference - 1 Thessalonians 5:17
- E**MPOWERED to share our faith walk with everyone.
Scripture Reference - Acts 1:8
- S**TEWARDS of God's gifts.
Scripture Reference - 1 Peter 4:10
- H**OSPITALITY and acceptance to all persons wherever they are in life.
Scripture Reference - Hebrews 13:2

Pastor Kevin and his family will be on vacation visiting family in Hungary from July 31 - August 21. Rev Kevin Schill will be on pastoral emergency call during that time – he can be reached 651-925-6874. There will be guest speakers and a hymn sing – schedule TBA.



FAITH FEST UPDATE!! Faith Fest '23 scheduled for August 26th, 2023 has been rescheduled for Spring 2024. Yes, that's correct!!! More info to come in a later article in the next newsletter.

DIRECTORY UPDATE: If you submitted information for our new directory, you should have received next steps for submitting a picture or having your picture taken. If you have any questions, please contact Jenna in the office at 763-631-1185 Wed, Thurs, or Fri.



We are looking to decorate our Sanctuary this spring, summer, and fall with flowers from your home gardens! This is such a fun way to decorate our beautiful Sanctuary with your personal touches! When you have flowers you'd like to bring in, please have them to the office by Friday morning so they can be placed for Sunday worship. We can't wait to see our Sanctuary in full bloom!

We are looking for a VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR!

Someone who can help organize volunteers for ushering, coffee hour, communion services, sound board, snow blowing, lawn mowing, etc. Please let Linda O. know if you have any questions or if you are interested in helping out!



Dear Freshwaters Community,

Your leadership team met on April 15, 2023 to assess our ministries and set goals for the next year. Here is what we want you all to know.

A SWOT Analysis looks at our Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats

Strengths

1. Worship service that is a combined blended worship experience,
2. Talented worship leaders,
3. Talented music leaders,
4. Board leadership,
5. Pastor Kevin Fox,
6. Respectful congregation,
7. Financially stable,
8. One location,
9. Online worship,
10. Bags Of Blessing,
11. Children's program,
12. Youth involved under Pastor Kevin's leadership,
13. Quilters.

Weaknesses

1. Lack of new volunteers,
2. Lack of designated parking,
3. Difficulty connecting with the unchurched.

Opportunities

1. Opportunity to set age specific goals for children/youth ministry,
2. Growth in youth numbers,
3. Online worship expanded to Instagram, YouTube, etc.
4. Improve website content,
5. UMW (United Methodist Women),
6. UMG (United Methodist Men),
7. Coordination with other churches,
8. Building upgrades,
9. Small Groups,
10. Volunteer Coordination,
11. Cultivate new members.

Threats

1. Peoples busy schedules,
2. Keeping people engaged,
3. Denominational changes,
4. Culture of isolation (working and worshipping from home).

Here are our 2023-2024 Goals:

1 year:

- *Low intensity events (some ideas included Golf, fishing, Feed my starving Children, Football event, Christmas shoe box packing together, gather in a park after church-lunch- picnic, sledding/tubing, corn maze, Scrap booking, game night, trivia night).
- *Upgrade church directory and follow-up with members who have not responded.
- *Develop formalized youth and children's programming.
- *Volunteer Coordinator - Focus on hospitality and keep the coffee hour simple so more volunteers are willing.
- *Online worship expanded to you-tube.
- *Small group Bible Study for men, women and/or couples.
- *Faith Fest.
- *VBS with other area churches.
- *Upgrade main level nursery with technology for parents to listen.
- *Rear screen in sanctuary for musicians

2-3 year:

- *Expand youth group with strategic plan.
- *Wednesday night family night with small groups for women, men, couples, and Children's ministry.
- *Mission trip.
- *Refresh fellowship hall - ceiling, floors, lighting, walls.
- *Services on Sunday as growth would dictate

5 year:

- *Acquire Gerth property for parking

Please contact one of the leaders if you have questions/concerns about this information or if you have suggestions for how to improve our ministry.

Linda Olson, Scott Liestman, Andrew Harvala, Darren Wesloh, Susan Kettelhodt, Ryan Purdy, Karen Oudekerk, Kevin Fox, Jenna Jenson, Isaac Jenson, Myla Tolmie, Bob Laskowski



Trinity Lutheran, UCC, and Freshwaters are teaming up to present

PRINCETON COMMUNITY VBS!

When: July 24 - July 27, 2023

Who: 3 Year Olds through Incoming 6th Graders

Time: 5:30 pm Dinner, 6:00-7:45 pm VBS

Where: Freshwaters Church

All attendees must pre-register, and EARLY REGISTRATION IS APPRECIATED!

Registration BEFORE June 25:

\$10 per child or \$30 max per family

Registration AFTER June 25:

\$15 per child or \$40 max per family

You can order a music CD for an additional \$8

Paper registration forms are available at church on the welcome desk

Please remit payment with registration. Checks can be made out to Freshwaters, and please note VBS in the memo line.

MANY VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED - in the kitchen, decorating, Crew Leaders & helpers, Station Leaders & helpers, etc.

Please contact princetonvbs@gmail.com with any questions, or reach out to Jenna Jenson, Tiffany Elness, or Jackie Strandberg (VBS Directors)



Coffee Hour Hosts

June 04 - NEEDED

June 11 - NEEDED

June 18 - NEEDED

June 25 - NEEDED

Coffee Hour Hosts Needed! Beverages are provided by church, we simply need volunteers to help set-up, provide snacks, and clean up! There is a sign up sheet outside fellowship hall if you are able to volunteer. Please keep it simple! If you have questions, please contact Pat Talberg at 763-221-6344.

Sound Board

June 04 - Isaac J

June 11 - Jim H

June 18 - Scott L

June 25 - Joel C

If you are interested in helping with the sound board on Sunday mornings, please contact Pastor Kevin at 651-414-1132.

Thank you to our volunteers and committee members!! You are acting as the hands and feet of Jesus Christ, volunteering and helping your church!! Together we make our worship services a special place to be, and we couldn't do it without you!!

Ushers

June 04 - NEEDED

June 11 - Phil & Sue L

June 18 - Jim & Kathy H

June 25 - Linda O & Connie T

Sign up sheet outside the fellowship hall. If you have any questions, feel free to call the office at 763-631-1185.

Lawn Mowing

May 29-June 04: Phil L

June 05-11: NEEDED

June 12-18: NEEDED

June 19-25: NEEDED

June 26-July 02: NEEDED

Sign up sheet outside the fellowship hall. If you have any questions, feel free to call Isaac Jenson at 763-742-4583.

VOLUNTEER