

FRESHWATERS UMC  
112 N 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Princeton MN 55371-1599

Return Service Requested

**SEPTEMBER 2023**

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

# FRESHWATERS

Real. Refreshing. Relationships.



## September 2023

### FROM THE PASTOR

Greetings and blessings dear readers of the Freshwater Current! May the Lord bless and keep you as we look ahead to the Fall with an exciting restart of ministries!

I am excited about this coming Fall as people come back for worship and children into Sunday School! This is an exciting time to extend an invitation to friends and neighbors to experience Freshwaters. I hope that you have been in prayer for that ONE PERSON! Now is the time to invite that one person to come and experience our amazing worship! As many of you know we have a great worship team, we have a great Sunday School, and we have amazing people to offer hospitality to our guests. We are all in this together to welcome but not overwhelm guests – we want them to experience the amazing love of Jesus Christ!

If they might wonder how Freshwaters might make a difference to their spiritual life – here are some examples. When there is someone in need, we help! I heard an amazing story recently of one member who needed help clearing out some

### Sermon Series

#### Tell Me The Stories Cont.

**September 03**  
Naomi And Ruth

**September 10**  
Daniel And The Lion's Den

**September 17**  
Shadrach, Meshach, And Abednego

**September 24**  
Jael And The Tent Peg

**FRESHWATERS UNITED METHODIST**  
**[www.freshwatersumc.org](http://www.freshwatersumc.org)**

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

**Kevin Fox – Pastor**  
651-414-1132  
[revfox1738@gmail.com](mailto:revfox1738@gmail.com)

**Office:** 112 7<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto: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](http://www.facebook.com/FreshwatersMN)

things. A couple of our members helped her, but this was not just a clearing out of “things” but a helpful means to walk through grief and healing! How awesome is this how we care and bear one another’s burdens. We offer worship – we have a worship that uplifts the spirit to Jesus Christ through praise and tradition. Our worship is authentic, from the heart, genuine, not fake! We offer humor! We need to laugh more in this grim, angry world – the messages are filled with humor, and light-heartedness. Our worship offers Truth! We believe that God’s Word is the inspired God-breathed Word that guides our lives toward eternal life! Do we not want to be known as a community that is focused on the Truth of God and that we are not afraid to proclaim it? I think in a world that is filled with chaos, confusion, and delusion – we long to find grounding in the Truth. Think about that for our kids who are bombarded through social media about things that are spiritually deadly to the body, mind and the soul! We offer caring spirits! I look around and see some of our elderly ladies go around and bless the children with smiles, greetings and hugs.

I could go on and on! Our community of Freshwaters has a lot to offer a family, a lot to offer single people, to senior citizens, to everyone! September is a great time to invite someone to worship, and then invite them to fellowship or out to lunch after! Let’s start growing the Kingdom of Jesus Christ one life at a time! We can do this! God bless and keep you!!

<b>OPPORTUNITIES FOR PRAYER</b>	
<b>Those Who Are Sick, Hurt, And Suffering</b>	<b>Those Who Are Mourning The Loss Of Loved Ones</b>
<b>Our Nation</b>	<b>Bernie W</b>
<b>Karen &amp; Terry A</b>	<b>Mulder Family</b>
<b>Elaine M</b>	<b>Bob L</b>
<b>Joanne V</b>	<b>Hartfiel Family</b>
	
<p><b>Let’s bless our Seniors</b> 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!</p> <p><b>Muriel Walker and Betty Oliver</b></p>	

No meeting minutes were submitted for August. See next month’s newsletter for notes from September’s Single Board meeting.

## BIRTHDAYS

September 03 <b>Jackie Y</b>	September 20 <b>Lindsey B</b>
September 06 <b>Kandy H</b>	September 24 <b>Jay F</b>
September 06 <b>A.J. W</b>	September 25 <b>Norma H</b>
September 08 <b>Jim L</b>	September 27 <b>Pat N</b>
September 12 <b>Aubrey H</b>	September 28 <b>Asher O</b>
September 12 <b>Phil L</b>	September 28 <b>Wendy T</b>
September 16 <b>Ginny E</b>	September 30 <b>Trudi A</b>

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**

## ANNIVERSARIES

September 03 <b>David &amp; Joanne V</b>	September 12 <b>Ron &amp; Debbie J</b>
September 07 <b>Scott &amp; Carla L</b>	September 20 <b>Scott &amp; Jackie L</b>
September 10 <b>Mark &amp; Nita L</b>	September 22 <b>Dick &amp; Norma G</b>
September 11 <b>Al &amp; Sandy M</b>	September 22 <b>Garr &amp; Amanda P</b>
September 12 <b>Amber &amp; Ben E</b>	September 28 <b>Gene &amp; Kathy S</b>
September 12 <b>Bruce &amp; Barb H</b>	September 28 <b>Diane &amp; John W</b>

*Happy Anniversary!*

*Thank you*

- Thank you Bruce Hoeft family for again generously donating corn (picking and delivering!) for our Harvest dinner. The corn is in the freezer ready to go, thanks to all the volunteers who on short notice came to shuck, clean, cut, cook, and package the corn. Thank you to all!

Crystal Cabinets and Immanuel Lutheran, we were able to pack and give out 157 backpacks FULL of school supplies!

- Thank you to our Meals Ala Car delivery drivers - Phil & Sue Lingle, Becky Garay, Roger & Nancy Leider, Linda Olson, Nancy & Mark Brander, Ron Jenson, Isaac & Jenna Jenson.

Jingle Sunday is September 17th (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.



**Bags Of Blessing**  
Packed with LOVE by the  
people of Freshwaters!

We are seeking donations of food items or financial contributions to help us in our efforts to feed children on free or reduced lunches in Princeton and Zimmerman schools. This is a great ministry of connection between our congregation and the schools. Keep an eye out for the sign up sheet in the entry way.

Pastor Kevin will be teaching World History/Western Civ at the University of Northwestern starting August 31. His schedule will be as follows –

Tuesday and Thursday mornings Pastor Kevin will be at the university for office hours and then class which is at 10.30-12.10pm. Once class is over, Pastor will return to the office for the afternoon.







Youth group will start meeting again Sunday, Sept 10th, 6-7 pm at Pastor Kevin's house... Youth Group is open to 6th grade and up, and we will have great games, Bible lessons, building relationships in Christ, and more!

Concurrent Sunday School will begin meeting again September 10th! Everyone will start worship together and the kids will be dismissed from worship to Sunday School. Sunday School is open for all kids 3 yrs old through 5th grade. Keep your eyes and ears open as more details will be coming soon!



### “Jesus Within Historical Context”

Pastor Kevin will offer a historical look at the world that Jesus grew up into, that the disciples like Peter and Paul taught, and the church began to grow. We will look at the Rise of the Roman world as a precursor to the time of Jesus. The class will be after worship (10:45 am) starting on September 17th in the Elim Oasis class room. The class will be several sessions... Hope to see you there!



6 week Adult Bible Study beginning on Wednesday September 13th! We will meet at church Wednesday nights at 6:30 pm to learn with Dr. Tony Evans using Right Now Media. Let Linda Olson know if you are interested or have questions.

“The Holy Spirit plays the incredible role of both empowering the individual believer and the church—and as we study the Trinity’s third member, we gain a clearer understanding of our omnipotent triune God.”



# Freshwaters September 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 - 9:30 AM <b>Worship</b> - 10:30 AM <b>Coffee Hour</b>	4 7 PM BSA	5 9 AM Quilters	6	7	8	9
10 - 9:30 AM <b>Worship &amp; Sun. School</b> - 10:30 AM <b>Coffee Hour</b> - 6 PM <b>Youth Group</b>	11 7 PM BSA	12 - 9 AM Quilters - 7 PM Single Board Mtg	13 6:30 PM Adult Bible Study at Church	14	15	16
17 - 9:30 AM <b>Worship &amp; Sun. School</b> - 10:30 AM <b>Coffee Hour</b> - 6 PM <b>Youth Group</b>	18 7 PM BSA	19 9 AM Quilters	20 - Newsletter Deadline - 6:30 PM Adult Bible Study at Church	21	22	23
24 - 9:30 AM <b>Worship &amp; Sun. School</b> - 10:30 AM <b>Coffee Hour</b> - 6 PM <b>Youth Group</b>	25 7 PM BSA	26 9 AM Quilters	27 6:30 PM Adult Bible Study at Church	28 9 AM Newsletter Assembly	29	30

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



**COMING SOON!**

Looking Ahead! Our Annual Harvest Roast Beef Dinner is Wednesday, October 25th! Watch for a "Reverse Offering" a little later in the fall to help supply the ingredients for baking pies. Apple season is nearing and we will be *looking for a supply of apples* for pies. If you or you know of someone willing to donate some for the dinner, please talk to Kathy Hohlen, 763-389-3697 or Pat Talberg, 763-389-2095.

Are there any persons who are ready for confirmation? Pastor Kevin is putting out an inquiry to see if there are confirmation age persons (6th to 8th grade) who feel ready for confirmation this year. Please contact Pastor Kevin by phone at 651-414-1132 or by e-mail at revfox1738@gmail.com.



A Charge Conference will be held at the next Single Board Meeting on Tuesday, September 12th. This will be for the board to vote YES or NO to the proposal of purchasing the property next door. See insert with proposal information and contact information for the Single Board if you have any questions or concerns.

## FRESHWATERS CHURCH FALL SALE

**SATURDAY OCT 7TH 9AM - 3PM**

Quilts, Crafts, Bake Sale, and More!

Complimentary beverages and cookies will be provided.

This is a fundraiser for the church and the proceeds will go to mission projects and church projects. We greatly appreciate it if people would donate items such as baked goods, canned goods, and/or craft items of all kinds. Quilters

will have quilts, runners, wall hangings, etc.

Bring items for sale to the church by 3:00 pm on Friday Oct 6th. We also welcome anyone who would like to help set up on Friday and help the day of the sale. We can make this a fun time!



### TAKE A CHANCE QUILT

Tickets will go on sale starting Sept 10th after church. Suggested donation is \$1.00 per ticket.

## 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



## Proposal to purchase the house next to the church from Phil Gerth

Why does the church desire to purchase this property?

History: It was the desire of the previous owners of the property that Freshwaters Church be given the first option to purchase the home. At that time, Freshwaters did not have the resources or feel it was the right time. Mr Gerth purchased the property several years ago. As you can see, the property is in disrepair. Over the years, the Freshwaters Board has seen the property as an opportunity to have our own parking lot. We have been in conversation with Mr. Gerth for some time.

Now, Mr. Gerth wants to sell the property to the church but wants to remain living in the home for 2 more years.

What are the terms of the purchase?

We would purchase the property for \$168,000 under contract for deed.

There would be an initial payment of \$68,000. Then, payments of \$20,000 for 5 years without interest, There would not be any realtor fees. Closing costs for Freshwaters Church would be approximately \$1500. Mr Gerth would remain in the home until fall 2025, paying insurance and any taxes. We would not charge him rent.

How would we pay for the purchase?

We have investment funds from which the earnings can be accessed to make the down payment.

The leadership of the church feels now is the time to purchase this property to plan for a parking lot. With this property acquisition, in the future, it may be possible to renovate the side (west) entrance to make it the main entrance for the church.

We are bringing this proposal to the congregation for comment and for discussion with the leadership. Please direct all your comments and questions to one of the board members.

Linda Olson, Board Chair 612-963-8429

Susan Kettelhodt, Treasurer 763-607-7895

Scott Liestman, Investments 763-498-4902

Andrew Harvela, Trustees 763-486-6295

Karen Oudekerk, Secretary 612-803-4504

Ryan Purdy, SPRC Chair 707-225-7733

Darren Wesloh 763-229-6937

Gene Stockel 763-218-3723 or 763-389-1318



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!!

### Coffee Hour Hosts

**September 03** - Elliott/Brander/Vanderhoff

**September 10** - UMW & YG Hot Breakfast

**September 17** - Jim & Kathy Hohlen

**September 24** - Vanderhoff Family

**Coffee Hour Hosts Needed!** Beverages are provided by church, we simply need volunteers to help set-up, provide snacks, and clean up!

If you are interested in volunteering or have any questions, please contact Tina V at 763-318-5095.

### Ushers

**September 03** - Spencer & Jolie Carey

**September 10** - **NEEDED**

**September 17** - **NEEDED**

**September 24** - **NEEDED**

If you are interested in volunteering or have any questions, please contact Tina V at 763-318-5095.

### Sunday School Teachers

**September 03** - **NO SUNDAY SCHOOL**

**September 10** - Jenna J & Amanda P

**September 17** - Angela H & Alex F

**September 24** - Ryan P & Audrey P

If you are interested in volunteering or have any questions, please contact Jenna Jenson at 763-439-2816

### Sound Board

**September 03** - Scott Liestman

**September 10** - Jim Hennessy

**September 17** - Scott Liestman

**September 24** - Isaac Jenson

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

# VOLUNTEER