

Freshwaters UMC

JANUARY

2024

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

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION
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JANUARY 2024

FROM THE PASTOR

Greetings and blessings in the name of our Lord and Savior. May Jesus Christ be upon you and your friends and family. Welcome to 2024 – Happy New Year!

What is your dream or hope for this new year? I will tell you what is my dream – my dream is that what Dr. Martin Luther King shared from the steps of the Lincoln Memorial in 1963. King's speech was not so much a speech as it was a sermon to a nation divided by race and politics. It was an appeal grounded in scripture to move beyond the teachings of "this world" to one where we see one another as sisters and brothers created by a loving God. It was a message of hope, not despair. I want to share the parts of the speech that inspire me. *"I have a dream that one day this nation will rise up and live out the true meaning of its creed: "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal." I have a dream that one day on the red hills of Georgia, the sons of former slaves and the sons of former slave owners will be able to sit down together at the table of brotherhood. I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin but by the content of their character...one day right there in Alabama*

Sermon Series

Living the Future, Today!

January 07
Healthy Habits

January 14
Choosing Healthy Relationships

January 21
Resist Temptation

January 28
Be Generous

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

The Single Board did not meet in December. Stay tuned next month for January meeting minutes.

little black boys and black girls will be able to join hands with little white boys and white girls as sisters and brothers. I have a dream that one day every valley shall be exalted, and every hill and mountain shall be made low, the rough places will be made plain, and the crooked places will be made straight; "and the glory of the Lord shall be revealed and all flesh shall see it together."

Dr. King's speech is a message I take into 2024 because we are living in a time of deep divisions – racial, social, political, cultural, religious. What I see in the speech is the Christian message which is one of forgiveness, mercy, and hope. What I hear in King's message is an echo of Galatians 3 which says "So in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith, for all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. If you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise." In Christ Jesus the things that divide us from one another ought to fall away and no longer matter. We become a family that loves and cares for one another because we are sisters and brothers in Him. In the coming year, I pray that we as a congregation we will show our community what it means to live into the truth of this promise of Christ that inspired Dr. King.

May your New Year be filled with the love, peace, hope, and joy that only Christ can bring us! May your lives be filled to overflowing with abundant eternal life! Amen!

OPPORTUNITIES FOR PRAYER	
Those Who Are Sick, Hurt, And Suffering	Those Who Are Mourning The Loss Of Loved Ones
Our Nation	Bernie W
Harvala Family	Jim L
Elaine M	Oliver Family
Pratt Family	Chuck V
Mag D	Phyllis W
Scott L's Father	Rhonda M

Please note: Committee Minutes are drafted and approved by the committees and the church office does not make changes beyond formatting.



Jingle Sunday is January 21st (3rd Sunday of the month). Bring your loose change and "jingle"! This ministry is fun for our children and blesses our bags of blessing ministry in the schools within the Princeton and Zimmerman school districts..

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.



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



Our Mission: **to reach people who need personal faith in Christ through music, speakers and resources**

Faith Fest '24 is coming – Saturday, June 1, 2024 at the Mille Lacs County Fairgrounds starting at 12:00 – 6:00 PM. We will be offering: food, prayer area, children activities, special musicians and guest speakers, community resources, and other activities. We are seeking **VOLUNTEERS** – both to

serve on committees and help with the planning and also the day of the event. There will be sign up sheets posted after January 1st, 2024 in the Fellowship Hall, listing the various committees. **PLEASE** we need your help with this event. This year we are focusing on children, youth and young adults but anyone is welcome to attend. We, the Faith Fest group, feels that our children and youth are struggling and searching for something to believe in. We want them to know that they can believe in Christ and that he will see them through.

We have guest musicians that will be appearing – 7 Song (tells the story of the Bible in 7 songs and sponsored and paid for by Eternity Church), Jennifer Marie (Christian contemporary and also give testimony - \$1500); guest speakers – Jason Fath (Sponsored and paid for by Eternity Church), and other guest speakers, some of whom are not charging to appear.

We will have area resources available: health and wellness, veterans, addiction support, Red Cross, financial services, housing and other services that are available in the area.

Cross of Life church will be providing all paper products for the food area and also will be giving a cash donation. We are reaching out to other area businesses asking for their financial support. We have received a commitment from Crystal cabinets for \$350.00.

We are also having a Sing O gram event on Wednesday, February 14, where will be delivering candy grams, cookies, or flowers to resident in the area nursing homes and assisted living facilities in Milaca, Princeton and Zimmerman. All orders will be placed online and will be delivered between 9-12 and 1-4pm on February 14th. Youth groups from participating churches will be making heart shaped cookies that will be free, and to anyone who signs up in advance. We are working with Princeton Floral to supply flowers or small bouquets. If anyone want to sign up to sing or help with this fundraiser please do so on the sign up sheet in the Fellowship Hall.

We are also looking in to having another fundraiser – possibly in early April. More info will be posted on that event as we get the plans completed.

The most important thing is that we need VOLUNTEERS for this event. If, for some reason you feel you cannot physically help we would accept financial donations and your prayers to make this event successful.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

- | | | | |
|--------------|----------------|--------------|--------------|
| 01 Brian H | 10 Darren W | 24 Kathy S | 28 Ken L |
| 01 John W | 12 Charlotte Y | 25 Heather S | 28 Jeremy L |
| 05 Myra I | 15 Judy S | 26 Bryan C | 31 Nancy C-H |
| 05 Scott L | 21 Megan C | 26 Ethan L | 31 Carol G |
| 05 Chuck V | 21 Elliott J | 26 Karen M | 31 Ivy W |
| 06 Henry J | 22 Dave H | 26 Evelyn P | 31 Shirley W |
| 07 Shirley D | 24 Hannah J | 28 Brian H | 31 Keith M |
| 07 Sue M | | | |

HAPPY Anniversary!

No Anniversaries This Month

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



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

- January 07 -
- January 14 - Vanderhoff Family
- January 21 -
- January 28 - **NEEDED**

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

Ushers

- January 07 - Mark & Nancy B
- January 14 - Gene & Kathy S
- January 21 - Purdy Family
- January 28 - Jean T & Michele E

If you have any questions or are interested in volunteering for coffee hour, ushering, or snow removal, please contact our Volunteer Coordinator Tina Vanderhoff at 763-318-5095.

Sound Board

- January 07 - Joel C
- January 14 - Jim H
- January 21 - Scott L
- January 28 - Isaac J

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

Sunday School Teachers

- January 07 - **NO SUNDAY SCHOOL**
- January 14 - **NO SUNDAY SCHOOL**
- January 21 - Hailey N & Kait A
- January 28 - Jenna J & Jolie C

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

- Pastor Kevin will be on vacation December 25th—January 6th. Linda Olson will be preaching on December 31st
- Pastor Kevin teaching World History/Western Civ at the University of Northwestern starting January 19. 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.



- We wish to say a BIG THANK YOU to the following...
- Jenna and all the Sunday School volunteers who helped put on an amazing Children's Christmas program!
 - Todd & Maria K for donating the Christmas Pinata for the kids after the Christmas program!
 - All the volunteers who helped decorate the sanctuary for Christmas!
 - All our wonderful musicians who inspire us through song and music!
 - All the volunteers who help put together and fold the newsletter each month!
 - All the volunteers who usher, do coffee hour, and take care of the yard!

Everlie Lyn Carey will be baptized on Sunday, January 14. Be sure to join us in celebration as we baptize our newest sister in Christ!



Lenten Soup Suppers and Worship are coming! Ash Wednesday will be on Valentines Day, February 14th, 2024. We will have soup suppers at 5:30 pm and worship at 6:30 pm. We will be doing round robin style worship again with the local churches and pastors! Please be on the look out for a sign up sheet to bring in soup, side, bread, or dessert!

Dick Gist is looking to form a read-and-discussion group after worship beginning on January 14th. He will be focusing on a book by Lynne McTaggart titled The Bond. It has to do with the New Science and the spiritual journey. Please contact Dick for more details and to express your interest in participating in this group 763-389-2320.





- January 07** - At Purdy's House
- January 14** - At Pastor Kevin's House
- January 21** - At Pastor Kevin's House
- January 28** - At Pastor Kevin's House

Hear ye, hear ye! The first youth group meeting of 2024 will take place Sunday, January 7th from 6:00 - 7:00 pm at the Purdy House (26164

24th St. W, Zimmerman, MN 55398). Come one, come all for devotions, games, fellowship, and of course, snacks. Youth Group will then return to the Fox's Den (Pastor Kevin's House) the following week!



Freshwaters Kids Concurrent Sunday School is open to all kids ages 3 years - 5th grade. Everyone starts worship together at 9:30 am and the kids are dismissed to Sunday School from there.

- January 07 - NO SUNDAY SCHOOL**
- January 14 - NO SUNDAY SCHOOL**
- January 21** - Take Me To Your Leader, Matthew 14:22-33
- January 28** - Unspeakable Incident, Luke 1:8-25, 57-68



Virtual 6 Week Adult Bible Study - Jesus's Farewell Message. We will gather virtually Wednesday nights beginning January 3rd at 6:30 pm. **All materials and virtual gatherings done through Right Now Media, free from Freshwaters!**

Do you know Jesus? It's one thing to know facts about him, but to experience his love, wisdom,

and guidance in your life is what it means to follow him. In this 6-part series, Francis Chan dives into John 13-17, a passage rich in promised, commands, and eternal truths. He'll remind us we aren't called to a part-time faith - we were made to know, walk with, and commune with God. Contact Linda O with questions or if you are interested in participating 612-963-8429.

rightnow MEDIA

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Scan the QR code to create your free account and start browsing.



Freshwaters January 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Kevin on Vacation	2	3 6:30 PM Virtual Adult Bible Study	4	5	6
7 - 9:30 AM Worship - 6 PM Youth Group	8 7 PM BSA	9 - 9 AM Quilters - 6:30 PM Trustee Mtg - 7 PM Single Board Mtg	10 6:30 PM Virtual Adult Bible Study	11	12	13
14 - 9:30 AM Worship - 6 PM Youth Group	15 7 PM BSA	16 9 AM Quilters	17 - Newsletter Deadline - 6:30 PM Virtual Adult Bible Study	18	19	20
21 - 9:30 AM Worship & Sun. School - 6 PM Youth Group	22 7 PM BSA	23 9 AM Quilters	24 6:30 PM Virtual Adult Bible Study	25 9 AM Newsletter Assembly	26	27
28 - 9:30 AM Worship & Sun. School - 6 PM Youth Group	29 7 PM BSA	30 9 AM Quilters	31 6:30 PM Virtual Adult Bible Study			

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