

Freshwaters UMC

March, 2024

FROM THE PASTOR

Greetings and blessings dear friends in Christ Jesus, may the blessing and peace of the Holy Spirit be with you as you receive this month's newsletter!

I pray that your Lenten journey has been a good one thus far! Today as I write this article it is Ash Wednesday and Valentine's Day. I am glad these two days happen to share the same day this year! Both of these important days are about the heart, about love, more specifically sacrificial love. Saint Valentine was martyred on this day Feb 14, 270AD for sharing the Gospel of Christ with the Emperor Claudius II Gothicus. He gave his life for the sake of sharing the saving grace and love of Christ. Ash Wednesday is the day where we prepare our Lenten discipline of prayer and fasting as we walk with Jesus and the disciples to Jerusalem, the cross, and the tomb. Jesus gave his life in love for us that we might have eternal abundant life. Valentine was just following the example of Jesus and the Christians who went before him, laying down his life for the sake of love. The love that we remember tonight is a sort of sacrificial love that breaks down barriers.

Tonight I will be preaching on Mark 2 about the story of the

Sermon Series

While We Wait...

March 03

How Should We Grieve?

March 10

Is This The End?

March 17

How Do We Deal With Prosecution?

March 24

Palm Sunday

How Do We Deal With Toxic People?

March 31

Easter Sunday

He Is Risen Indeed

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

Return Service Requested

MARCH 2024

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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



Wednesday Soup Suppers and Worship continue through Lent! We will continue to have soup suppers on March 6th, March 13th, and March 20th at 5:30 pm and worship at 6:30 pm. If you are able, please sign up to bring in soup, side, bread, or dessert to share! The sign up sheet is located outside Fellowship Hall.

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.



Jingle Sunday is March 17 (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..

Freshwaters Church Sale

112 7th Ave N Princeton
 Saturday, March 23rd 9am - 3pm
 Quilts, Crafts, Bake Sale, and More
 Complimentary Beverages and Cookies
 FREE Drawing for a Spring Plant

This is a church sale so it would be greatly appreciated if anyone would like to make items or help set up that day. Items can be brought to the church on Friday, March 22nd by 4:00 pm.
 Thank you!

four men who brought their paralyzed friend to Jesus. This is a story about love, forgiveness, and healing! They loved their friend so much that they thought that if they could bring him to Jesus; he would be healed. When they got there to where Jesus was, they found their way blocked by a huge crowd that was surrounding a small house. This might have been the place they said to their broken friend “well, we tried’, ‘well, we will just have to try another day’, or perhaps ‘oh well, it was not meant to be.” But for the sake of love they did not give up, they broke through the barriers of the crowd and the little small house! They managed to get their friend on the roof top, they clawed their way through the thatch and mud roof, and they lowered their friend to Jesus! They broke through the barriers! Jesus saw this man and their faith and declared that the paralyzed man’s sins were forgiven, and to get up and walk. The religious elite were there erecting an invisible barrier of self-righteousness in that Jesus did not have the authority to forgive sins (even though he did as God). Jesus broke through their barrier with love and the man was forgiven and healed.

The key point of this story is that we as Christians ought to break down barriers so that people can meet Jesus. We should break down the visible and invisible barriers in our own lives so that people can see Christ. Our lives should not be a barrier to Christ, rather a billboard proclaiming that in Jesus we have forgiveness, newness of life, hope, joy, and eternal life! The church must break down barriers so that the message can connect with people. In short we must be like those four friends who tore through the barriers to bring their friend to Jesus! May we do likewise – In Christ’s Name! Amen!

OPPORTUNITIES FOR PRAYER	
Those Who Are Sick, Hurt, And Suffering	Those Who Are Mourning The Loss Of Loved Ones
Our Nation	Barb H
Bobbie H	Bob B
Elaine M	Mag D
Phyllis W	Alma B



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

LENT

a season of preparation

Soup Supper at 5:30 pm

Worship Service at 6:30 pm

Prayer Gathering After Worship

Ash Wednesday, In Community With Our Neighbor - February 14

Rev. Bill Marschall, In Community With Christ - February 21

Rev. Sheri Routh, In Community With All The Saints - February 28

Rev. Mike Pancoast, In Community With Creation - March 06

Rev. Paul Brown, In Community With Those On The Margins - March 13

Rev. Nick Franco, In Community Of The Kingdom - March 20

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

02 Aaron S

08 C.J. Z

14 Rosanne B

19 Gary M

03 Gloria W

09 Sadie H

14 Carolyn F

21 Miranda F

05 Lester G

10 Grace C

14 Wendy F

23 Isabel H

05 Joyce T

10 MaeLynn P

14 Randy H

24 Otto S

06 Syrus C

10 LeeAnn S

14 John T

25 Peggy W.Z

06 Bobbie H

11 Kelly S

16 Linda L

26 August M

06 Nancy L

11 Rich S

19 Lawrence C

26 Faith Z

08 Bob B

13 Kevin F

19 Susan K

28 Charlotte M

HAPPY Anniversary!

05 Isaac & Jenna J

26 Rosetta & Jon C

06 Jeff & Dana B

31 Lee & Shirley D

FRIDAY, March 29th

GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE

7:00 PM

SUNDAY, March 31st

EASTER SUNDAY SERVICE

9:30 AM

FRESHWATERS

Refreshing Relationships with God and Others

REAL people who worship the living God in Spirit and in Truth.

Scripture Reference - John 4:24

EMBRACING God's written word as a guide for life.

Scripture Reference - Psalm 119:105

FILLED with the Holy Spirit.

Scripture Reference - Ephesians 5:18

RESPONDING with prayer and love to hurting people.

Scripture Reference - 1 Thessalonians 5:17

EMPOWERED to share our faith walk with everyone.

Scripture Reference - Acts 1:8

STEWARDS of God's gifts.

Scripture Reference - 1 Peter 4:10

HOSPITALITY 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

- March 03** - Lingle Family
- March 10** - Pat T
- March 17** - Neu & Stoeckel Families
- March 24** - Sorenson Family
- March 31** - **NO COFFEE HOUR**

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

Ushers

- March 03** - Leider Family
- March 10** - Claassen Family
- March 17** - Gist Family
- March 24** - Thompson Family
- March 31** - Stoeckel Family

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

- March 03 & 06** - Joel C
- March 10 & 13** - Isaac J
- March 17 & 20** - Scott L
- March 24** - Isaac J
- March 29** - Joel C
- March 31** - 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

- March 03** - Angela H & Jolie C
- March 10** - Ryan & Audrey P
- March 17** - Jenna J & Amanda P
- March 24** - Hailey N & Alex F
- March 31** - **NO SUNDAY SCHOOL**

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



Thank you to the following people who helped deliver meals with Meals Ala Car in February...

- Phil and Sue Lingle
- Mark and Nancy Brander
- Isaac, Jenna, Ron, Henry, and Elliott Jenson

This is such an important ministry helping deliver food to those who need it. Thank you for taking a bit of your time to make a difference for

Easter Memorial Garden

Purchase flowers in honor or memory of loved ones to decorate the church for Easter.

- **Easter Lily** \$14
- **Begonia** \$15
- **Cyclamen** \$15
- **Tulips** \$12
- **Hyacinths** \$12
- **Mums** \$20



Order forms are inside the weekly bulletin. Last day to order is Sunday, March 3rd. Contact the office if you have questions at 763-631-1185.



Faith Fest is coming on June 1st, 2024 from 12-6 pm at the Mille Lacs County Fairgrounds! We are in need of MANY volunteers for this event - some on committees to help with planning and many more the day of the event. Various committees/volunteer spots are: security, parking, set-up/clean-up,

first aid, children/youth activities, silent auction, and many more. Some will involve walking, some just sitting at a table. Sign up sheets will be posted in the Fellowship Hall. We also have some exciting fundraisers coming up:

March 7th at Papa Murphy's - we will get a percentage of sales from the day

March 26th at Clyde's from 5 - 8 pm - need volunteers and we will get a percentage of sales during that time

April 2 Pizza Barn 4 - 8 pm - will have merchandise there for sale and we will get a percentage of sales during that time

If you have any questions, please contact Myla at 651-955-3877 or email at mylatolmie@rocketmail.com





March 03 - At Pastor Kevin's House
March 10 - At Pastor Kevin's House
March 17 - At Pastor Kevin's House
March 24 - At Pastor Kevin's House
March 31 - NO YOUTH GROUP

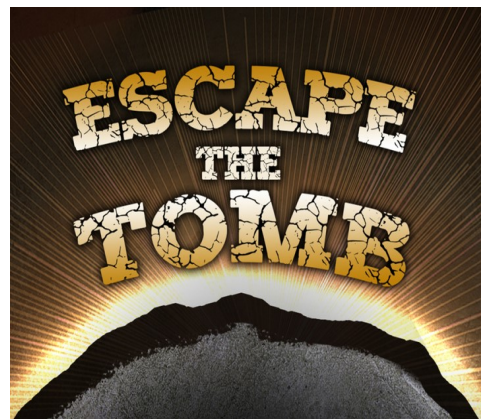
Youth Group is open for all kids in 6th grade — 12th grade. We meet at Pastor Kevin's house on Sundays from 6:00—7:00 pm. We bless one another, play games, grow in our faith, and fun. Contact Pastor Kevin for more info at 651-414-1132 or revfox1738@gmail. 13822 2nd Ave N Princeton, MN



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.

March 03 - Mark 15:21-47, The Crucifixion

March 10 - Mark 16:1-8, Jesus Is Alive



March 17 - John 19:28-30, 20:1-18 & John 3:16-17, The Death And Resurrection Of Jesus & God So Loved The World

March 24 - Easter Recap And Crafting

March 31 - NO SUNDAY SCHOOL



Freshwaters March 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 - 9:30 AM Worship & Sun. School - 6 PM Youth Group	4 7 PM BSA	5 9 AM Quilters	6 - 5:30 PM Soup Supper - 6:30 PM Lent Service	7 Faith Fest Fundraiser at Papa Murphys	8	9
10 - 9:30 AM Worship & Sun. School - 6 PM Youth Group	11 7 PM BSA	12 - 9 AM Quilters - 6 PM Trustee Mtg - 7 PM Single Board Mtg	13 - 5:30 PM Soup Supper - 6:30 PM Lent Service	14	15	16
17 - 9:30 AM Worship, Jingle Sun & Sun. School - 6 PM Youth Group	18 7 PM BSA	19 9 AM Quilters	20 - Newsletter Deadline - 5:30 PM Soup Supper - 6:30 PM Lent Service	21	22	23 9 AM - 3 PM Craft Sale
24 - 9:30 AM Palm Sun. Worship & Sun. School - 11 AM Easter Egg- stravaganza - 6 PM Youth Group	25 7 PM BSA	26 - 9 AM Quilters - 5- 8 PM Faith Fest Fundraiser at Clyde's	27	28 9 AM Newsletter Assembly	29 7 PM Good Friday Worship	30
31 Easter, He Is Risen!						

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