



FROM YOUR PASTOR

Greetings and blessings in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ as you receive this newsletter for the month of March. I pray as you receive this newsletter that you and your family are well!

We are once again entering into the season of Lent, a season of self-reflection and introspection as to the state of our faith, soul, life, and relationship with God, with those around us and ourselves. It is during this time we reflect upon Jesus' journey into the desert to resist temptation or his journey toward Jerusalem where he would be betrayed, denied, abandoned, mocked, condemned and crucified (although he was innocent). Both of these respective journeys of Jesus are important for us to reflect upon during this Lenten season as we consider our own walk in faith, our own battle with temptation and sin, and to pause to consider our relationship with God.

A couple of weeks ago I gave a rather impassioned sermon about our relationship with God and how very important it is; especially when it comes to our gathering together in worship. I wish to touch upon that again because it is

Sermon Series

Influence

March 02

**What Does It Mean
To Be A Hero**

Red Flag Penalty

March 09

Anger

March 16

Pride

March 23

Discontentment

March 30

Dishonesty

essential considering our mission and purpose of our calling as a church. We are the missional body of Christ that is set to proclaim the Good News of Christ, to baptize, to teach, to heal, to make a lasting positive impact, to touch the souls of the people in our area for Jesus! God did something really amazing in the creation of this vast universe; God did something truly incredible to provide for us this planet that we inhabit; despite that we humans screwed it up, God sent us a Savior who lived, who died, and who rose for us; and who will come back for us! God did that for us, you and me! During this interim time however, God has called you and me through His Son Jesus Christ to a great purpose and mission to reach people, to make disciples, to grow the Kingdom one person at a time! In this year of 2025 it is my prayer and intention that we begin to work together as a unified congregation called Freshwaters toward that which God is calling us to do. From the consolidation through COVID, God has called us to work on healing and rebuilding ourselves, but now the time has come to get out of the building and into the community in a real and intentional way!

I ask you to be praying for each other, to be praying for the leaders of our congregation, to be praying for the communities of Princeton and Zimmerman, to be praying our eyes and hearts to be open to where is Jesus calling to go and be; to be praying over the seats of the people who are not here YET; to be praying for the courage to invite; and to be praying for an awesome spirit of welcome and hospitality. We have a great congregation, lets share it! We have an awesome Savior in Jesus – let’s connect him to people who need him! Amen!



Those Who Are Sick, Hurt, And Suffering	Those Who Are Mourning The Loss Of Loved Ones
The War In Ukraine / Gaza	Those Struggling With Addiction
Future & Vision Of Freshwaters	Our Nation
Ketchel Family	Johnson Family
Gary H	Celeste H
Sandy W	Muriel W
Norma H	Alec V
Mag D	Rachel G

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



Jingle Sunday is March 16 (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.



AA – Recovery group meeting Wednesdays – 7-8pm Fellowship Hall led by Jake Brander.... Glad to have them here, let us be in prayer as this awesome ministry takes place within these walls!

**LENTEN SOUP
SUPPER & WORSHIP**

**5:30 PM SUPPER
6:30 PM WORSHIP**

Wednesday, March 5 – Wednesday, April 9

FRESHWATERS UMC

Wednesday Lenten Soup Suppers start March 5 and run through April 9 at 5:30pm. Please sign up (outside Fellowship hall) to bring a soup, bread, or dessert! **Wednesday Lenten Worship** starts March 5 with Ash Wednesday at 6:30pm, and runs through April 9. During these Wednesday night services we will reflect on a hymn that was written about the sacrifice of Jesus.

LENT

a season of preparation

Soup Supper at 5:30 pm

Worship Service at 6:30 pm

Ash Wednesday, A Journey I Must Take - March 05

And Can It Be That I Should Gain - March 12

O Sacred Head Now Wounded - March 19

When I Survey The Wondrous Cross - March 26

Were You There - April 02

The Old Rugged Cross - April 09



Confirmation 5-6 pm and Youth Group 6-7 pm at Pastor Kevin's House on Sundays. There we will bless one another, lay games, learn, and have fun! Contact Pastor Kevin for more info or if you have any questions at 651-414-1132 or revfox1738@gmail. 13822 2nd Ave N Zimmerman, MN 55398.



Freshwaters Kids Concurrent Sunday School is open to all kids ages 3 years - 5th grade. We will begin meeting again September 15th! Everyone starts worship together at 9:30 am and the kids are dismissed to Sunday School from there.

The Epic Easter Trivia Show – Kids will experience the Easter story as never before as they become contestants in the ultimate game show to discover the **ULTIMATE** Final Answer!

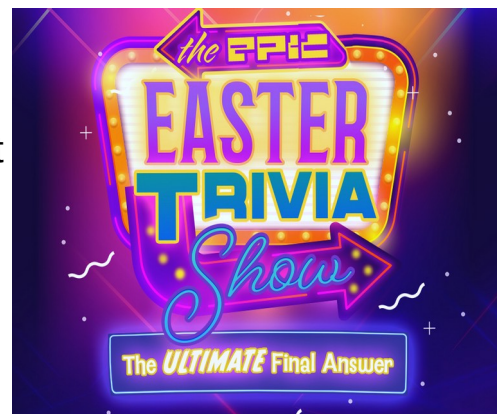
March 02 – Acts 6:8-15 & 7:54-60; Stephen

March 09 – Acts 9:1-19; Saul's Conversion

March 16 – Luke 19:28-48, The Triumphal Entry and Jesus At The Temple

March 23 – Luke 21:1-4 & Luke 22:1-6; The Widow's Offering & Judas Agrees To Betray Jesus

March 30 – Matthew 26:6-13 & John 13:1-17; Jesus Anointed At Bethany & Jesus Washes His Disciples Feet



THERE WILL BE
NO WEDNESDAY
NIGHT BIBLE
STUDY DURING
LENT.





Freshwaters Worship Committee: Have you ever wondered if it is appropriate to clap in church?

A lot of churches do clap and a lot of others do not. The idea behind not clapping is that the glory belongs to God and NOT the performers. Here are some questions to ask about applause:

Why applaud, or not? Whom are we applauding – God or the performers? Is applause a needed emotional release? Should we applaud children and not adult? Does applause signify entertainment?

Here is a scripture about clapping: Psalms 47:1 Come, everyone! Clap your hands! Shout to God with joyful praise!

Talking with Pastor Kevin , he has no problem with clapping in church. It signifies joy in the Lord and the joy in the God-given talents of our congregation: Pastor, Praise band, readers, media persons, ushers, greeters, youth, teachers and all others. Because we all have God-given talents and we are praising and thanking the Lord for these talents. So, if you feel like clapping, go ahead.

Connections Memory Cafe: A gathering for those with dementia/alzheimers and other memory loss diseases and their care partners to connect with others over refreshments and fun activities in a relaxed environment.

We meet the first Thursday of each month at the North Civic Center, 503 N 9th St, Princeton from 10:00-11:00 am. No reservations or cost. Questions? Call 763-290-2228

*Connections
Memory Cafe*

Freshwaters Church Sale

Saturday, April 12th
we will have our
Spring Quilt And
Craft Sale, so be
sure to mark your
calendar! More
information coming
soon.



Freshwaters March 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1 Wesloh Zins Reserved For Baby Shower
2 - 9:30 AM Worship & Sun School - 6 PM Youth Group	3 7 PM Boy Scouts	4 9 AM Quilters	5 - 5:30 PM Soup Supper - 6:30 PM Ash Wed Worship - 7 PM AA Meeting	6	7	8
9 - 9:30 AM Worship & Sun School - 6 PM Youth Group	10 - 7 PM Boy Scouts - 7 PM Single Board Meeting	11 - 9 AM Quilters - 12 PM UMW Meeting	12 - 5:30 PM Soup Supper - 6:30 PM Lent Worship - 7 PM AA Meeting	13	14	15
16 - 9:30 AM Worship & Sun School - 6 PM Youth Group	17 Newsletter Deadline 7 PM Boy Scouts	18 9 AM Quilters	19 - 5:30 PM Soup Supper - 6:30 PM Lent Worship - 7 PM AA Meeting	20 Jenna Out Of The Office	21	22
23 - 9:30 AM Worship & Sun School - 6 PM Youth Group	24 7 PM Boy Scouts	25 9 AM Quilters	26 - 5:30 PM Soup Supper - 6:30 PM Lent Worship - 7 PM AA Meeting	27 9 AM Newsletter Assembly	28	29 Open Circle (Elim Oasis) Open House
30 - 9:30 AM Worship & Sun School - 6 PM Youth Group	31 7 PM Boy Scouts	Regular Sunday Worship In-Person and Streaming LIVE at 9:30 am with Concurrent Sunday School				



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 02 – **Gloria W Family**

March 09 – **Irish Dinner**

March 16 – **Lingle Family**

March 23 - **NEEDED**

March 30 - **NEEDED**

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

Ushers

March 02 – **Gist Family**

March 09 – **Thompson Family**

March 16 – **Sullivan Family**

March 23 - **NEEDED**

March 30 – **Brander 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

Sunday

March 02 – **Joel C**

March 09 – **Jim H**

March 16 – **Daniel F**

March 23 – **Scott L**

March 30 – **Daniel F**

Wednesday

March 05 – **Scott L**

March 12 – **Isaac J**

March 19 – **Joel C**

March 26 – **Scott L**

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 02 – **Hailey N & Jolie C**

March 09 – **Angela H & Alex F**

March 16 – **Jenna J & Amanda P**

March 23 – **Christina R & Kait A**

March 30 - **Angela H & Jolie C**

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

VOLUNTEER

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	Jon & Rosetta C
06	Jeff & Dana B	31	Lee & Shirley D

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

2/11/25 Single Board Meeting Minutes

Present: Andrew H., Scott L., Michele E., Gene S., Mark B., Karen O., Bob L., Linda O., Kevin F.

Absent: None

1. Meeting Agenda was approved.
2. Minutes from 1/14/25 Board Meeting were approved electronically
3. Kevin led the group in prayer
4. Financial Reports-Michele reported that Income is down from where we were last year this time.
 - Elim Oasis Funds-Andrew made a motion to invest these funds into the Missions/Youth category of the Edward Jones Money Market Account. Scott 2nd, 8 Board members approved, 1 Board member opposed, Motion carried.
 - Giving to Missions/Those suffering from disasters-there was discussion on how best to manage giving to Missions. Discussion included developing a list of who Freshwaters would donate to, how that would happen, and by when/frequency. Some organizations could include Local, National, UMCOR. A suggestion was made to start donating quarterly to UMCOR-further discussion about this item at a future meeting.
 - Andrew made a motion to move Bags of Blessings fund to the Edward Jones Missions Money Market account. Scott 2nd, All approved, Motion carried.
 - Andrew made a motion to rename the Edward Jones Mission & Youth account to the Edward Jones Mission Account. Michele 2nd, All approved, Motion carried.
5. Investments-Scott provided updates on Freshwaters Investments.
 - Scott made a motion to forgive \$1000 of the \$3000 that Freshwaters loaned to Faith Fest. Linda 2nd, All approved, Motion carried.
6. SPRC-Gene provided updates on SPRC issues
7. Trustees Report-Andrew reported that the focus will be on repairing the lights in the 'Elim' classroom. Trustees will discuss what the next major projects will be and would like input from the Board regarding this.
8. Inherent Dream status-Linda reported our current status with Inherent Dream and discussion occurred relative to future advertising needs. Linda will touch base with Trevor Brown.
9. Signage request from Elim Oasis-Linda reported that an additional sign (new name of Elim Oasis) will be added to the NW Freshwaters corner sign, and a 'Loading Area' type sign in front of the church. Linda will talk with Jenna regarding a sign for the Kitchen door.
10. Board Retreat-this will occur on 4/12/25 and Scott Leistman has graciously offered to host once again-Thank You!
11. Keys for Church-Kevin reported that Kathy Kraft has requested a key to the church to work on Faith Fest related items. It was agreed that she may have a key for the church excluding the Offices area.
12. Eternity Church Youth Group-Kevin reported that Pastor Phil of Eternity Church recently hired a Youth Pastor and is interested in FW and their youth groups sharing time together.
13. Study Area Data-Kevin distributed documents for the Board to digest, take notes, and prepare for discussion at the upcoming Board Retreat.
14. Recap of Parking Lot-Scott reported he is still planning to provide an update to the Congregation after the Board Retreat in April.
15. Aldi Smart Kids-Scott reported this might be a future Missions option. This option would provide an opportunity to support our mission to feed hungry children.
16. Next Meeting will be Monday, March 10, 2025
17. Andrew made a motion to Adjourn the meeting, Bob 2nd, All approved, Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted, Karen Oudekerk

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

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

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

Return Service Requested

MARCH 2025

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