



FROM YOUR PASTOR

Greetings to you all dear friends and family of Freshwaters – I pray that you are all well and blest as we make our way from spring into summer.

We have just finished with Sunday School and soon our confirmands will be receiving the blessing of confirmation. Confirmation is their time, their decision of saying yes to that which was begun at their baptism as babies. The baptism by water symbolizes the washing away of our sins which of course was achieved through the cross of Jesus Christ. It is also a moment when parents and the church surround the child in a community of faith and nurture in a partnership with God that the seed takes root through childhood. Now our youth are entering into a time of discernment for themselves – do they believe and accept for themselves this faith in Christ? During confirmation I stress to them --- even to my own son; this is YOUR decision, do not do it because your parents want it; or whoever might want it – **do you** believe it, and why? In the course of our time together we talked about the Bible as a reliable trustworthy source of our faith; we looked at how our Christian faith is reasonable and evidence based; and how it can and does sustain us in all times and

Sermon Series

Wind And Fire

June 01
**Spirit Of Adoption
Graduation
Sunday**

June 08
**Confirmation
Sunday**

June 15
Godly Fatherhood

June 22
**Guest Preacher
John Talvitie**

June 29
**Guest Preacher
Ryan Purdy**

moments of our lives. But at the end – the decision is theirs. Just like Jesus asking Martha – “do you believe this?” On Confirmation Sunday Daniel, William, Evelyn, August, and Elliott will, in their own words, tell us that they have and why. I invite you to come and consider your faith – where is it, what you believe and why.

This is an important thing for us as Freshwaters – because when we commit to Christ, we also commit to a community – to support it with our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service and our witness. This is the promise we made at our confirmation, this is the promise we made when we joined the church. This promise is like the promise made at a marriage or when soldiers swear to defend the constitution against all enemies foreign and domestic. I pray that this confirmation service will inspire us to remember our commitment. Why do I say this? During the summer months we shift into vacation mode, and there is nothing wrong with vacation time. But this is when we forget about the church, especially our giving and our attendance and these things are critically important! As wonderful as it is to attend online, we need you there in person. And as we understand the pinch of these economic times – we see it in the offering plate and in the increasing bills and sadly they are moving in the opposite direction, if you catch my meaning. This is a friendly prayerful appeal to encourage all of us to pray for Holy Spirit’s out pouring of provision; to pray for Freshwaters church daily; a call to be there on Sunday morning to raise your voices together in song and praise; to encourage one and all to give where you can. Pentecost is coming – Come Holy Spirit Come! Revive us Lord for the work you have called us to do! Amen!

Pastor Kevin Fox



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	Those Affected By Severe Weather Across Our Nation
Bobbie & Gary H	Paul & Sandy W
Finnegan	Celeste H
Norma H	Scott L
Mag D	Rachel G
Gene S	Pettitt Family
Walker Family	Lusche Family
Oudekerk Family	Mostad Family

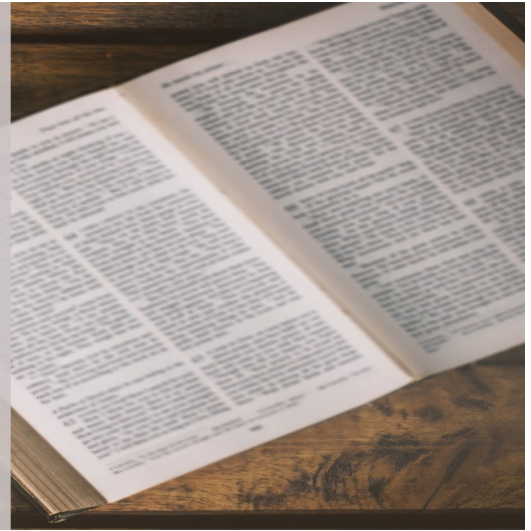
BIBLE STUDY

When: Wednesday Nights
6:00 - 7:00 pm

Where: Freshwaters UMC

What: A Journey Through The Bible;
each week we will discuss one
book of the Bible alternating
between the Old Testament
and the New Testament

Who: Led by Pastor Kevin, open to
anyone and everyone



We will have our last Bible Study on Wednesday, June 4th. We will take a break for the summer and resume in the fall. Start up date TBD!



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!

Jingle Sunday is June 15 (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.



**Vacation
TIME!**

Pastor Kevin on vacation June 18 – July 3. While
Pastor Kevin is on vacation, Pastor John Talvitie will
be on pastoral care emergency call in the event of
any emergencies, should they arise. Pastor Talvitie
served in Chaplaincy at Elim Home and has also
preached here at Freshwaters and Elim Oasis (now
Open Circle). His phone number is 763-389-4718.

Jenna J – Stepping Down as Administrative

Assistant and Children’s Ministry Director.

Jenna has been a great servant leader of Freshwaters over the past 3 years. She has felt the call of God to serve in other areas, and we wish her well in that calling. She will continue to serve until August. We will recognize and bless her in an August Sunday service! In the meantime – let the search begin! The SPRC will meet soon to begin to work on developing probably two positions – an office assistant and a children’s ministry director. We ask you to begin praying as we start the important task of filling these critical positions!

**IMPORTANT!
INFORMATION!**





Youth Group News – Freshwaters and Eternity Church will be sharing a youth pastor/leader. This will be a trial relationship to see how this goes. Eternity Church, like ours, has a small youth group and has hired a part time youth group leader. *The youth will meet during the summer 12:00-1:30 pm all Sundays at Eternity*

Church – except Father's Day (June 15) and August 10 when the Youth Director's sister is being married. Eternity Church is extending this invitation to us with no cost to us. The purpose of the group is to build Christian youth fellowship and relationships with one another. Our Freshwaters Youth can and will have youth activities within our congregation from time to time, to foster relationships already built through confirmation and youth. ***There will be a special Meet and Greet at Eternity Church 12564 303rd Ave, Princeton, MN 55371 on June 1 to meet the youth leader Hayden, a light lunch will be provided.***



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.

June 01 – NO SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR SUMMER

June 08 - NO SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR SUMMER

June 15 - NO SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR SUMMER

June 22 - NO SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR SUMMER

June 29 - NO SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR SUMMER

Princeton Community VBS Presents



When: Sunday, July 27 - Thursday, July 31

Who: 3 year olds - incoming 6th graders

Time: 5:30 - 8 pm

Where: Immanuel Lutheran Church
401 8th Ave S. Princeton



Scan the QR code to register and/or volunteer!



Hosted by Freshwaters UMC, Trinity Lutheran, and Immanuel Lutheran. VBS will be held at Immanuel Lutheran this year!. Many volunteers are needed to help with stations, crews, set up, take down, dinners, etc. Register and/or sign up to volunteer by scanning the QR Code.

Confirmation Sunday is June 8th! We celebrate the confirmation in the Christian faith of Daniel F, Evelyn H, William H, August M, and Elliott S. Continue to surround them in prayer that their faith may grow and strengthen in the course of their lives.



Graduation Sunday

We will celebrate the achievement of Owen O and Lana S on June 1 as they graduate from High school and enter into a new phase of their lives. God bless them in their journey of faith and life!

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



Worship Committee Notes: Easter has come and we are reveling in our Risen Lord!! Praise Be to God! Next we celebrate Pentecost – a Christian holiday that commemorates the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Disciples. We will celebrate Pentecost on Sunday, June 8th along with Confirmation. The church colors for Pentecost are red – Red is a color of fire, symbolizing the Holy Spirit. After Pentecost, the liturgical colors return to green – Green is a color of growth. Except for special days, the color will remain green until Advent. If anyone has flowers they would like to place on the altars during the summer months, please contact Myla. There are vases, drip trays, and pots in the narthex. Feel free to use any of them to help make our sanctuary beautiful over the summer months and share some of God's creations with all of us.

Members of the Praise Band may be taking a few Sunday's off during the summer months for much needed vacations. Please let Bob or Myla know if you have any special requests for songs that you would like us to sing. A special thank you to Bob for leading our Praise Band, Ryan for his always willing to take the lead when Bob cannot be there, Duane and Owen for sharing percussion duties and the whole, wonderful Praise Band for always giving it their best. Freshwaters is extremely lucky to have these talented musicians/singers in our congregation which so many congregations do not have. Please take a moment to thank each one of them for the outstanding job they are doing.

Freshwaters June 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 Graduation Sunday - 9:30 AM Worship	2 7 PM Boy Scouts	3 9 AM Quilters	4 - 6:00 PM Bible Study - 7 PM AA Meeting	5	6	7
8 Confirmation Sunday - 9:30 AM Worship	9 7 PM Boy Scouts	10 - 9 AM Quilters - 12 PM UMW Mtg - 7 PM Single Board Mtg	11 7 PM AA Meeting	12	13	14
15 9:30 AM Worship	16 7 PM Boy Scouts	17 9 AM Quilters	18 Newsletter Deadline - 7 PM AA Meeting Kevin On Vacation	19	20	21 Faith Fest
22 9:30 AM Worship Kevin On Vacation	23 7 PM Boy Scouts	24 9 AM Quilters	25 7 PM AA Meeting	26 9 AM Newsletter Assembly	27	28
29 - 9:30 AM Worship Kevin On Vacation	30					



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

June 01 – **Hohlen Family**

June 08 – **Potluck – Bring a snack or treat to share – volunteers needed to prep/serve/clean up**

June 15 - **NEEDED**

June 22 – **Hohlen Family**

June 29 – **Muffin Morning**

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

Ushers

June 01 – **Thompson Family**

June 08 – **Sullivan Family**

June 15 - **NEEDED**

June 22 – **Lingle Family**

June 29 – **Liestman 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

June 01 – **Daniel F**

June 08 – **Jim Hennessy**

June 15 – **Daniel F**

June 22 – **Scott L**

June 29 – **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

June 01 – **NO SUNDAY SCHOOL**

June 08 - **NO SUNDAY SCHOOL**

June 15 - **NO SUNDAY SCHOOL**

June 22 - **NO SUNDAY SCHOOL**

June 29 - **NO SUNDAY SCHOOL**

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

VOLUNTEER

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

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

HAPPY Anniversary

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

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



FAITH FEST
PRINCETON, MN
FREE COMMUNITY EVENT

JUNE 21, 2025
11AM-7PM
PRINCETON, MN



Benson Family Singers



Dinah Lillian



Greg Hager



Connor Flanagan

Live Music & Vocal Competition,
Vendors, Free Prize Drawings,
Children's Activities and more!



www.faithfestmn.org MILLE LACS COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS
1400 N 3RD ST, PRINCETON, MN 55371

Faith Fest '25 Updates:

Faith Fest '25 is coming alive! We are really excited to present second annual event happening at the Fairgrounds on June 21st. Doors open at 11:00 AM. We need VOLUNTEERS for this event. There are numerous "sit down" type of positions open – guest services, family rest area, first aid, bathroom attendant, merchandise sales, volunteer rest area; other positions available – parking / security, vendor / community resources, setup / clean up, and many others. We are also looking for youth who are willing and able to assist in areas as needed. All volunteers will receive a free t-shirt, breakfast and various food servings during the day. More information will be coming out at a later date on how to sign up, what time to report, etc. Please see Myla if you are able to volunteer. We also encourage our youth to volunteer for this exciting event. Thank you in advance to anyone who is able to volunteer and assist at our second, exciting event.

Entertainment this year will be: **the Benson Family** (Christian bluegrass), **Dinah Lillian** (Christian Contemporary), **Greg Hager** (Christian country) and **Connor Flanagan** (Christian hip-hop). We will have free prize drawings, popcorn, water, cotton candy, children's ministry / activities, provide a rest area for families as needed, a prayer area supported by area pastors and others, first aid, food sales provided by area 4-H, merchandise sales, family friendly vendors and community resources, and other activities. So, everyone please come to this FREE community-wide event.

Faith Fest Mission Statement: Faith Fest is a faith based group of churches committed to bringing Faith, Hope, and Love to area residents. Through music, spoken word, community resources, children's activities, Faith Fest welcomes one another as Christ welcomed us.

Financial Letter To Congregation

I, Scott Liestman, recently gave an update on our church finances during the May 4th church service. I was asked if we could put the update in the newsletter? That was such a good idea that the board agreed for me to do that. Here it is!

First of all, thank you to everyone for your giving. Our giving has remained steady and is at about where we were last year. The problem is, everything has gone up more than our giving. Year to date we are about \$6000 behind in our general budget. We ask that you please consider a cost of living increase to the church this year over what you have been giving in the past.

Now if you look at our overall financial picture, it looks very strong. The problem is, most of the money we have is not available to be spent. There are seven buckets of money. It looks like this:

General Checking: Approximately \$22,000. This is where all the giving comes in and the expenses go out. We have about one month in reserve. We would love to see this reserve higher but rarely does it happen.

Youth Account: \$12,818. This is money that was given with the intent that it be used for a youth mission trip. It cannot be used for the general budget.

Bags of Blessing Account: \$9,000. This money is meant for bags of blessing supplies only. This is one account that currently has had a very good cash flow. Thanks to everyone that makes that happen.

Missions Account: \$4875. This money is not intended to be used for the general budget.

Parking Lot Account: \$55,785. This money is used to make the payments to the Phil Gerth property that we bought back in December of 2023. We have a total of 42 remaining payments of \$1,666.67 per month until we are paid off by November of 2028. Where has this money come from? Some of it is from giving from you. Several people have adopted one payment per year. Most has come from what we call our Growth Account, which I will talk about soon. At first glance it would look like we are pretty flush in this account, but there is much that must be done with these funds. We must continue to make the payments. We must demolish the old house once Phil has moved out. And we need to put in the parking lot. So as you can see, there is much spending that will happen here yet. We pray for your continued support of this project. None of this money is available for the general budget.

Endowment Account: \$145,800. These are monies that have been given to the church with strict rules about what it can be used for. We can never touch the original principal of this

account which is \$124,500. The earnings are available but only at the discretion of the trustees for the upkeep of the church. It cannot be used for the general budget.

Growth Account: \$516,350. This is the proceeds from the sale of the Zimmerman campus. Again, we have strict rules as to what we can do with this money. The bishop has allowed us to use only the growth above the original \$500,000. This is at the discretion of the single board. Someday we could have access to original principal, but only for a major remodel or new church. Without this account we would not have been able to purchase the Gerth property. To date we have taken \$122,067.26 from this account to make the \$68,000 down payment on the property and put the rest into reserve in the Parking Lot Account. The problem with this account is that we cannot touch the account if it drops below \$500,000. So far we have been very blessed to have this account. But we all know that the markets can go down as well as up. We need to be realistic in our expectations of what this account can continue to do for us. We will definitely face a period of time when there is no access to this account.

As you can see, there is a lot to keep track of. We need to be self sufficient for our general budget and not be reliant on anything but our giving. Please take a look at your personal finances and pray about what more you can give to the church.

If you would like to “adopt a payment”, make a gift of a “highly appreciated asset”, or give from an IRA to avoid some taxes, please reach out to me or your financial advisor or tax professional for advice. Feel free to ask questions, I can be reached at 763-498-4902.

Thank you, Scott Liestman

05/13/2025 Single Board Meeting Minutes

Present: Andrew H, Scott L, Michele E, Linda O, Kevin F, Gene S (via phone call)

Absent: Karen O, Mark B, Bob L

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM by Linda O.

1. The meeting agenda was approved
2. Minutes from the April 12 meeting were approved electronically
3. Financial Report – Michele reported that giving is down and expenses are up
4. Investments – Scott gave a report on the investments – He will provide an update to the congregation in the next newsletter
5. SPRC – Jenna J, our administrative assistant and children's ministry director, has resigned effective August 15. This position may need to be 2 positions. SPRC will be advertising and interviewing candidates.
 SPRC will also be providing a clergy review for the Minnesota Conference which is due June 15
6. Trustees are working on a routine maintenance list. Andrew will be securing bids for the demolition of the Gerth home. Mr. Gerth is to vacate the home by December 1.
7. Pastor Kevin lead us in prayer
8. Next Meeting will be June 10, 2025
9. Andrew made a motion to adjourn and Gene seconded. Motion carried

Respectfully Submitted – Linda Olson Board Chair

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

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

Return Service Requested

JUNE 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

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