



SEPTEMBER 2021

FRESHWATERS

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

FROM THE PASTOR

Greetings, Freshwaters Family! In the name of our Risen Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, grace and peace be with you and your families.

Welcome to September 2021. The beginning of the Fall and a time of reengagement with the ministries of this church – Freshwaters. I am writing this article in the middle of August and looking forward to working with you again. In the course of this renewal leave, I have been reading, praying, reflecting, and renewing myself. It has been enriching to spend time with my wife and son. I am deeply thankful to you all for your encouragement and prayers during this time.

I have been pondering BIG events that have changed our lives – Pearl Harbor changed us as we entered into World War II; the Vietnam War changed us as a people; the Fall of the Berlin Wall in 1989; 9/11 changed us and the world; and now we are amid a worldwide pandemic. As I write, I hear stories about the Delta variant of Covid and how that might impact us once again. I do not wish to get into the politics and debates of vaccines, masks, and lockdowns. I have reflected on how these respective events shaped our lives, families, culture, church, nation, and world. As I think about Pearl Harbor, I think of that poster of Uncle Sam saying “I Want You!” or Rosie the Riveter, “We Can Do This!” There was a call to the nation to rise to the challenge of a world war. For my generation, 9/11 had a similar impact – do you remember people volunteering to give blood, offering to go to New York to help, and the spirit of unity across the country and the world? I remember it was moving and inspiring. And now we are faced with the challenge of Covid – I remember in the early days when people were helping one another, there was a spirit of unity to face the crisis. It is sad to see us

Sermon Series

September 5

The Shift from
Me to You

September 12

The Shift from Slave
to Child

September 19

The Shift from Seen
to Unseen

September 26

The Shift from
Consumer to
Steward

October 3

The Shift from
Sheep to Shepherd

October 10

The Shift from
Me to We

now in bitter polarization.

To me, this points to a challenge – a spiritual crisis of worldwide proportions – the need for people to experience the transforming love of God in Jesus Christ. Jesus gave his church (of which Freshwaters is a humble but vital part) a mission: to go, to teach, to bless, to heal, to love, to tell His story to broken people. We are broken people, but we have a gift – the healing love of community gathered in Jesus' name. That is our mission. That is our purpose. To go to the places of brokenness and offer Christ. Jesus is saying, "I Want You, I Need You, We Can Do This!" My friends, Jesus seeks to rouse us into action! Freshwaters family, you are needed! We need courageous people willing to lead small groups. We need people to share their Christ stories with friends and neighbors. We need people to pray daily for this church. We need people to tithe and give from what God has blessed them so we can bless others. We need leaders who desire to reach the next person with Jesus' saving grace. My friends, if a storm hit Princeton or Zimmerman, would we not want to do everything we can to help? There is a spiritual storm raging around us where people are dying in broken relationships, addictions, fear, anger, hatred, depression. Jesus is saying, "I Want Freshwaters" to be my disciples, to feed my sheep. Why? Because of love, His love! Let us join together as the body of Christ to get this job done for Jesus!

Pastor Kevin

Pray this daily – “Lord Jesus Christ break through to us, break through to our hearts that we may see with your eyes, and love with your heart our neighbors. Help Freshwaters Church, Lord Jesus, to have your heart filled with love overflowing. What would you have us do? Who are we called to ministry? Where are you, and where would you have us be? Lord, we cannot do this without your wisdom and guidance! Break through all that holds us back from being the church you are calling us to be! Lord Jesus, hear our prayer! Amen!”

Amen!”

Pastor Kevin Fox

A Word of Thanks

Thank you to Freshwaters Church for the opportunity to take a time of renewal. During this time, I reconnected with my family – a very precious resource in my life. This season has taught me that I need to balance family, faith, and work. It has brought me to a place of prayer and communion with God. It has helped me know how much I love this congregation and for people to know Jesus Christ through all of you. Thank you all for this great gift!

A Word of Challenge

As I have attended Single Board meetings, I can see the determination of these diligent women and men to see our congregation growing, healthy, and strong. Of course, we have had to face the challenge of coming together in one location, only to be followed by the pandemic. As you can imagine, worship attendance and giving have suffered. I know that we are all stretched in many ways these days, and I can tell you the one thing pastors hate doing is asking for money. But I come to you in Christ's love, asking you to consider your giving to the church. We accept offerings in-person, through the mail, and online. I ask you to pray for provision for our church and ask you to please consider increasing your giving so that we can continue to do the work in the areas of worship and children's/youth ministry. We love Christ and want all of our community to know of His healing love and grace. Blessings to you all!

A Word of Thanks

Thank you to all the persons who have worked on the technological improvements for our in-person and online worship experience. Thank you to everyone who helped lead worship, the place where we can all come to meet Jesus. We are very blessed to have you all offering our gifts!

Thank you, Kevin Schill

Thank you, Pastor Kevin Schill, for sharing the Word of God with us during Pastor Kevin's time of renewal. Your gentle spirit and good humor blest us all. Thank you to Sawyer Carey and Linda Olson for offering us God's Word at the beginning of July.



FRESHWATERS FALL SCHEDULE

Reverent and Joyful Blended Worship

STARTING SEPTEMBER 12, 2021

9:30 AM Worship | 10:30 AM Fellowship

10:45 AM Sunday School for All Ages



WWW.FRESHWATERSUMC.ORG

Finally, brothers and sisters, rejoice! Strive for full restoration, encourage one another, be of one mind, live in peace.

And the God of love and peace will be with you.

2 Corinthians 13:11

GRIEF SHARE

GriefShare will start on Thursday, September 16th. In light of such a need in our community, we welcome those struggling with loss to join us for a 13-week small group. Grief Share provides a safe, compassionate, confidential, and caring place to walk through grief. Freshwaters will be hosting a GRIEF SHARE group, to be led by Pastor Kevin Fox. There is no cost for the class. The group begins on September 16th from 6 PM-8 PM and continues for 13 weeks. Please RSVP by contacting the church office at 763-631-1185 or admin@freshwatersumc.com.

Prayer Questions

Connection with Holy Spirit is the key to see renewal in our congregation and in our city -- the vehicle for that is daily prayer. I ask you to pray individually, in groups, and as a gathered community these prayers:

Lord Jesus help us to see where you are needed in Princeton and Zimmerman -- where is the brokenness that needs your healing?

Lord Jesus help me/us to forgive _____ for what was said and done that caused hurt.

Lord Jesus help us as Freshwaters to move beyond "campuses and congregations" to see each other as one body, one family, sisters and brothers together.

Lord Jesus help me/us to set aside "what I want" "my preference" for the sake of growing your Kingdom....may I/we be willing to lay down my life for my sisters and brothers, as you laid down your life for us.

Lord Jesus send financial blessing and provision to fulfill your Kingdom work; bless our worship of you that it inspires us to go out and reach "the next person."

Help me/us to see that empty space is a reminder to reach out to someone new, someone that I have not seen a while.

Amen

Freshwaters Single Board Minutes

Freshwaters Single Board Minutes August 9, 2021

Linda Olson called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm. Members present were Linda Olson, Andrew Harvala, Dave Halverson, Carla Lusche, Susan Kettelhodt and Philip Lingle. The Boy Scouts were added to the agenda.

Minutes from 7/12/21 had been previously approved.

Linda recited a prayer.

The book "Vital Churches" was discussed. Topics discussed were the importance of Lay Leaders and how to engage them, creating a sense of excitement within the church, having ushers again.

Linda presented the Web program Right Now Media. This subscription program has ready to use help for small group leaders, youth programs and Sunday school teachers. It will cost \$59/month. Since our emphases is on these subjects a motion was made by Phil and seconded by Andrew to purchase this for a 6 month period. Motion passed. We will encourage Cory Wallace to utilize this service to help engage others and become more of a manager of the youth activities.

Andrew reported on continuing repairs to the church. Bids will be let for ceiling and lighting upgrades.

Susan presented the financial report. We continue to have lower giving than a year ago, although with Covid it is difficult to make comparisons year to year. We have special funds to enable repairs to the church, but giving must increase if we are able to maintain programs such as youth director.

We received a letter from the Conference recommending we do not continue any kind of sponsorship of a Boy Scout group. We may lease the building but do not want any further liability. Although we have not had any supervision or management of the Scouts in the past, our sponsorship may have created a liability in their ongoing sexual misconduct lawsuit.

The next meeting will be Sept. 13, 2021.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:30

Submitted by Phil Lingle

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

A poster for Rally Sunday at Freshwaters UMC. The background features a blurred image of colorful stained glass windows. The text is arranged in a clean, modern layout with a mix of white and light green colors on a dark background.

FRESHWATERS UMC

RALLY SUNDAY

SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR ALL AGES

**SUNDAY
SEPTEMBER 12**

9:30 AM SERVICE
10:30 COFFEE HOUR
10:45 SUNDAY
SCHOOL PREVIEW
POTLUCK TO FOLLOW

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5 8:30 AM Men's Prayer @ McD Worship 10 AM	6 6 PM Worship 7 PM BSA	7 9 AM Quilters 6:30 PM Kids Ministry Meeting 6:30 PM 4-H	8	9	10	11
12 9:30 AM Worship 10:30 AM Coffee Hour 10:45 AM Sunday School 11:30 Potluck	13 6:30 PM Trustees 7 PM One Board/ BSA	14 9 AM Quilters	15	16	17	18
19 9:30 AM Worship 10:30 AM Coffee Hour 10:45 AM Sunday School	20 7 PM BSA	21 9 AM Quilters	22	23	24	25
26 9:30 AM Worship 10:30 AM Coffee Hour 10:45 AM Sunday School	27 7 PM BSA	28 9 AM Quilters	29	30		

Regular Sunday Worship
In-Person and Streaming Live at 9:30AM

Freshwaters September 2021

SEPTEMBER MINISTRY NOTES

BIRTHDAYS

September 03 **Wanda M**
 September 03 **Jackie Y**
 September 06 **Kandy H**
 September 06 **A.J. W**
 September 07 **Paul M**
 September 08 **Jim L**
 September 11 **Jerry M**
 September 12 **Aubrey H**
 September 12 **Dee H**
 September 12 **Phil L**
 September 12 **Lowell Y**
 September 13 **Shelbi V**
 September 14 **Megan B**
 September 14 **Jeremy W**
 September 16 **Ginny E**
 September 17 **Bryson B**
 September 18 **Addison H**
 September 23 **Becky O V**
 September 24 **Lee D**
 September 24 **Jay F**
 September 24 **Matthew H**
 September 25 **Norma H**
 September 26 **Jon F**
 September 27 **Pat N**
 September 28 **Ryder B**
 September 28 **Wendy T**
 September 30 **Trudi A**

ANNIVERSARIES

September 03 **David & Joanne V**
 September 07 **Scott & Carla L**
 September 10 **Mark & Nita L**
 September 11 **Al & Sandy M**
 September 12 **Amber & Benjamin E**
 September 12 **Bruce & Barb H**
 September 12 **Ron & Debbie J**
 September 14 **Eric & Christine P**
 September 14 **Frank & Darla S**
 September 20 **Scott & Jackie L**
 September 22 **Dick & Norma G**
 September 22 **Garr & Amanda P**
 September 26 **Ben & Dani Z**
 September 28 **Gene & Kathy S**
 September 28 **Diane & John W**

PRAYER AND MINISTRY

OPPORTUNITIES FOR PRAYER

Charlotte & Lowell Y **Hans & Gloria**
Betty & John O **The Joyce Mattson Family**
Val V **Elaine M**
Skip H **Mary V**

Bob and Rosanne B are both recovering at home after recent surgeries.

Let's bless our Seniors who are home bound or are unable to get out much. 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

Sunday Fellowship Hosts

September 2021

September 5th – Needed

September 12th – Worship Committee

September 19th – Needed

September 26th – Needed

Complete instructions are available in the kitchen, or are available from the church office, or from Myla T (651-955-3877).

Sound Schedule

September 5 - Scott Liestman
 September 12 - Jim Hennessy
 September 19 - Isaac Jenson
 September 26 - Slayter Carey

Bags of Blessing! We will be 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 with the schools in Princeton and Zimmerman. Be on the look out for the sign up sheets as we see what the needs are in the coming year!

Sunday Morning Fellowship

We are now having a sign-up for Sunday Morning Fellowship beginning Sept. 19th. A signup sheet is located on the table in the Narthex. At this time we are allowing members to bring items from home. If, because of Covid guidelines, that changes we will continue to have Fellowship but refreshments/treats will be supplied by the church. To not make this a burden on congregation members who are signing up, please limit your treats to 1 or 2 types of cookies and treats for the kids (chips, cheese sticks, etc.) There will also be a basket by the serving table so please consider donating each Sunday. The church still supplies coffee, juice/lemonade, and paper supplies.

LOOKING TO MAKE AN IMPACT ON OUR CHILDREN AND YOUTH? JOIN THE FAITH FORMATION COMMITTEE ON TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 7TH AT 6:30 PM TO HELP PLAN EVENTS FOR THIS YEAR.



rightnow MEDIA

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pumpkin spice and
jump into some
leaves

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Get Started



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

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SEPTEMBER 2021

FRESHWATERS UNITED METHODIST

www.freshwatersumc.com

Join us In-Person or Online on Sundays at 10 AM!

Kevin Fox – Pastor

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revfox1738@gmail.com

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763-631-1185

Mon, Wed, Fri: 9 AM – 5 PM

Bethany Moos – Office Administrator

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Sawyer Carey – Worship Leader

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Cori Wallace – Children/Youth Leader

freshwaterschildren@gmail.com

Keep up to date on our website and our Facebook page

www.facebook.com/FreshwatersMN