

FRESHWATERS UMC  
112 N 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Princeton MN 55371-1599

Return Service Requested

**JANUARY 2023**

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# January 2023

FRESHWATERS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

## FROM THE PASTOR

Christmas and New Years blessings to all of you, I pray that all of your celebrations and time spent with friends and family were wonderful! Welcome to 2023! A brand new year lays before us, what stories will we write together on this big blank page of opportunities?

A couple of weeks ago while I was in my car, I heard a report that our culture is struggling with an epidemic of loneliness. As I listened to this report, I found myself agreeing with a lot of what the speaker was saying. This epidemic existed prior to the pandemic, but the pandemic only exacerbated the problem when people had to go into lock-downs, wear masks, and the like. Please note this is not a commentary on the response to Covid, but rather a consideration of the after-effects especially as it relates to loneliness. Think about this my friends with the advent of the internet, TV, smart phones, and social media we are more connected than ever before, we have more information than ever before, and yet people report being more lonely, depressed, and anxious. Why is this? At the heart of our created being is the purpose of being in relationship with God and with one another. Relationships are essential to our well-being because this is how God made us.

Sadly we live in a culture that does not foster life-giving relationships. When we look around us we see anger, division, polarization, distrust, and brokenness. All of this feeds into our relationship life. A friend of mine admitted that it is difficult to find

## Sermon Series

### Backward Living

#### January 01

Love The World Or  
Each Other  
-Guest Preacher-  
Bill Radil

#### January 08

Christmas Hymn  
Sing

#### January 15

Bursting The  
Bubble

#### January 22

A Time For  
Everything

#### January 29

Better Way To Work

### FRESHWATERS UNITED METHODIST

[www.freshwatersumc.org](http://www.freshwatersumc.org)

**Join us In-Person or Online on Sundays at 9:30 AM!**

**Kevin Fox – Pastor**

651-414-1132

[revfox1738@gmail.com](mailto:revfox1738@gmail.com)

**Office:** 112 7<sup>th</sup> Ave North, Princeton  
763-631-1185

Wed - Friday 8:00 am to 3:00 pm

**Jenna Jensen** – Office Administrator and Children's Ministry Director  
[admin@freshwatersumc.com](mailto: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](http://www.facebook.com/FreshwatersMN)

friends because you do not want to open yourself up for fear of being judged, saying the politically incorrect thing, or being hurt. So where do we turn? We turn inward and to our phones. As great as our phones can be, and the importance of connection through social media – there is nothing like person to person or God to person, person to God connections. We need these connections more than ever! We need to rediscover the importance of community for the sake of our spiritual well being.

In the book of Acts we see how the church grew because of their focus on what was important – namely the Apostle’s Teaching as a place of agreed common ground. This teaching reached across all kinds of boundaries – social, economic, racial, and sex – it brought people together! They shared together, they prayed together, they sang together, they worked together, they studied together, they ate together, and they sought God together. Because of this community life grounded in Jesus Christ, their community grew and transformed one another. It was this sort of community life that eventually outgrew the Roman Empire. It is this sort of life and faith that can transform our own lives and culture.

My hope, prayer, and vision for 2023 is that Freshwaters can address this epidemic that is surely impacting the lives of families in our community through acts of kindness, community, and outreach. One such idea that is positively impacting lives is “the Café Church” or “the Dinner Church” where people gather for a meal, worship, and pray! These churches are touching lives and countering the epidemic of loneliness. How might Freshwaters offer the refreshing grace and love of Christ to address the epidemic of loneliness? God bless you all!

OPPORTUNITIES FOR PRAYER	
<b>Our Nation &amp; Those Who Are Sick, Hurt, And Suffering</b>	<b>Those Who Are Mourning The Loss Of Loved Ones</b>
<b>Lylia H</b>	<b>Joanne V</b>
<b>Norma &amp; Barry H</b>	<b>Carver Family</b>
<b>Marian G</b>	<b>Daryle G</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, Betty Oliver, Joyce Mulder**

Wishing you all a safe, blessed, and

heart-filled new year!!

Single Board did not meet in December. See next month’s newsletter for notes from the January meeting.

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



BIRTHDAYS

Jan 01	Brian H	Jan 11	Mya B	Jan 26	Ethan L
Jan 01	Verna J	Jan 12	Luke N	Jan 26	Karen M
Jan 01	John W	Jan 12	Charlotte Y	Jan 26	Evelyn P
Jan 03	Betty A	Jan 15	Judy S	Jan 28	Brian H
Jan 05	Myra I	Jan 19	Ken S	Jan 28	Ken L
Jan 05	Scott L	Jan 21	Megan C	Jan 28	Jeremy L
Jan 05	Chuck V	Jan 21	Elliott J	Jan 28	Lonny L
Jan 06	Henry J	Jan 22	Dave H	Jan 31	Nancy CH
Jan 07	Shirley D	Jan 24	Hannah J	Jan 31	Carol G
Jan 07	Sue M	Jan 24	Kathy S	Jan 31	Keith M
Jan 07	Alex S	Jan 25	Heather S	Jan 31	Ivy W
Jan 10	Darren W	Jan 26	Bryan C	Jan 31	Shirley W



ANNIVERSARIES

No Anniversaries This Month



A heartfelt thank you to all of our worship leaders. Sawyer, Gloria, Bob, and Myla we are especially grateful for your hard work that you put into Freshwaters worship! This experience has done so much to bring us together as one people! We would not be where we are if it weren't for you and your leadership. To all those who volunteer in singing and worship leadership - THANK YOU!!

Deep appreciation and thanks to Jenna J for her hard work this past Sunday School year! What an amazing children's Christmas celebration! On Sunday December 11, we had 150 people in person attendance who enjoyed a great worship and program! Well done to our kids who made us laugh and inspired us with the story of Jesus! Thank you to all the amazing volunteers who helped, supported, and encouraged along the way!

We thank Todd & Maria K for their hard work in the preparations for the Las Posadas celebration. This is an enriching tradition that we hope grows as we welcome Hispanic people in our community. Thank you to all the volunteers who helped in this event.

Thank you Phil L for your years of dedication, service, and leadership on the Single Board. Your wisdom, knowledge, and experience has been a great blessing! God bless you!



Welcome Karen O & Gene S to the Single Board; we are thankful for the gifts, talents, experience, faith and dedication they bring! Keep them and all of the Single Board members in prayer as we ask for God's help as we look into the future.

Our amazing quilters want to share their talents with us, so they are holding a monthly drawing for a lap quilt or table topper! To enter the drawing, simply fill out the slip in Fellowship Hall. Drawing will be held 1st Sunday of each month.



ADDRESS CORRECTION!!  
The new address listed in last months newsletter for Lylas Hodgson was incorrect (sorry about that!!). Her correct address is:  
Freemont Village Senior Living  
26369 2nd St. East  
Apt 102  
Zimmerman, MN 55398



### Youth Group Schedule

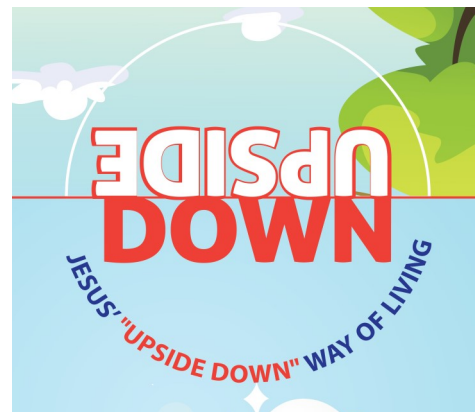
Jan 01 - NO YOUTH GROUP

Jan 08 - Youth Group at Pastor Kevin's house at 6 pm

Jan 15 - Youth Group at Pastor Kevin's house at 6 pm

Jan 22 - Youth Group at Pastor Kevin's house at 6 pm

Jan 29 - Youth Group at Pastor Kevin's house at 6 pm



Jan 01 - NO SUNDAY SCHOOL

Jan 08 - NO SUNDAY SCHOOL

Jan 15 - New Year New You! Our Freshwaters Kids will learn the best New Years resolution they can make is to put God first!

Jan 22 - Talking With God. Our Freshwaters Kids will learn that giving thanks to God is an important part of prayer.

Jan 29 - UPSIDE DOWN – Jesus' "Upside Down" Way Of Living. Our Freshwaters Kids will start a 4 week series learning that the life Jesus offers us is radically different than the one the world offers. When we go "all in" with Jesus, He turns our ordinary life upside down in the most incredible way.

# Freshwaters January 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3 Praise Band Practice	4 6:30 PM Ladies Bible Study - Virtual	5	6	7
8 - 9:30 AM Christmas Hymn Sing - 10:30 AM Coffee Hour - 10:30 AM Creative Minist. Mtg. - 11 AM Trustee Mtg. - 6 PM Youth Group	9 7 PM BSA	10 - 9 AM Quilters - 7 PM Single Board Mtg.	11 6:30 PM Ladies Bible Study - Virtual	12	13	14
15 - 9:30 AM Worship & Sun. School - 10:30 AM Coffee Hour - 6 PM Youth Group	16 -6 PM 4-H -7 PM BSA	17 9 AM Quilters	18 6:30 PM NEW Ladies Bible Study - Virtual	19	20	21
22 - 9:30 AM Worship & Sun. School - 10:30 AM Coffee Hour - 6 PM Youth Group	23 7 PM BSA	24 9 AM Quilters	25 6:30 PM Ladies Bible Study - Virtual	26	27	28
29 - 9:30 AM Worship & Sun. School - 10:30 AM Coffee Hour - 6 PM Youth Group	30 7 PM BSA	31 9 AM Quilters				

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



- Creative Ministries will meet during coffee hour on **Sunday January 08.**
- The Trustees will meet at 11 am on **Sunday January 08.**
- The Single Board will meet at 7 pm on **Tuesday January 10.**



Sunday, January 8th after the Christmas Hymn Sing we will be undecorating the Sanctuary, Fellowship Hall and Narthex – which means all the lights, trees, banners, etc. will be coming down! Please lend a helping hand if you are able, thank you so much!

**Pastor Kevin will be on vacation from December 25 - January 7.** Bill Radil will preach on January 1, and on January 8 we will have a Christmas Song “Sing-Along”. John Lloyd will be on pastoral care call while Kevin is on vacation. John Lloyd is a pastoral lay pastor who has a full time job, so if there is an emergency he will get to you as soon as he can, but it might be in the evening. John’s number is 763-670-9891



**Pastor Kevin Teaching in Spring 2023**  
Pastor Kevin is teaching World History/Western Civ at the University of Northwestern starting January 10th. 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 am-12:10 pm. If you need pastor Kevin, text e-mail, or call and leave a message and he will get back to you as soon as possible.



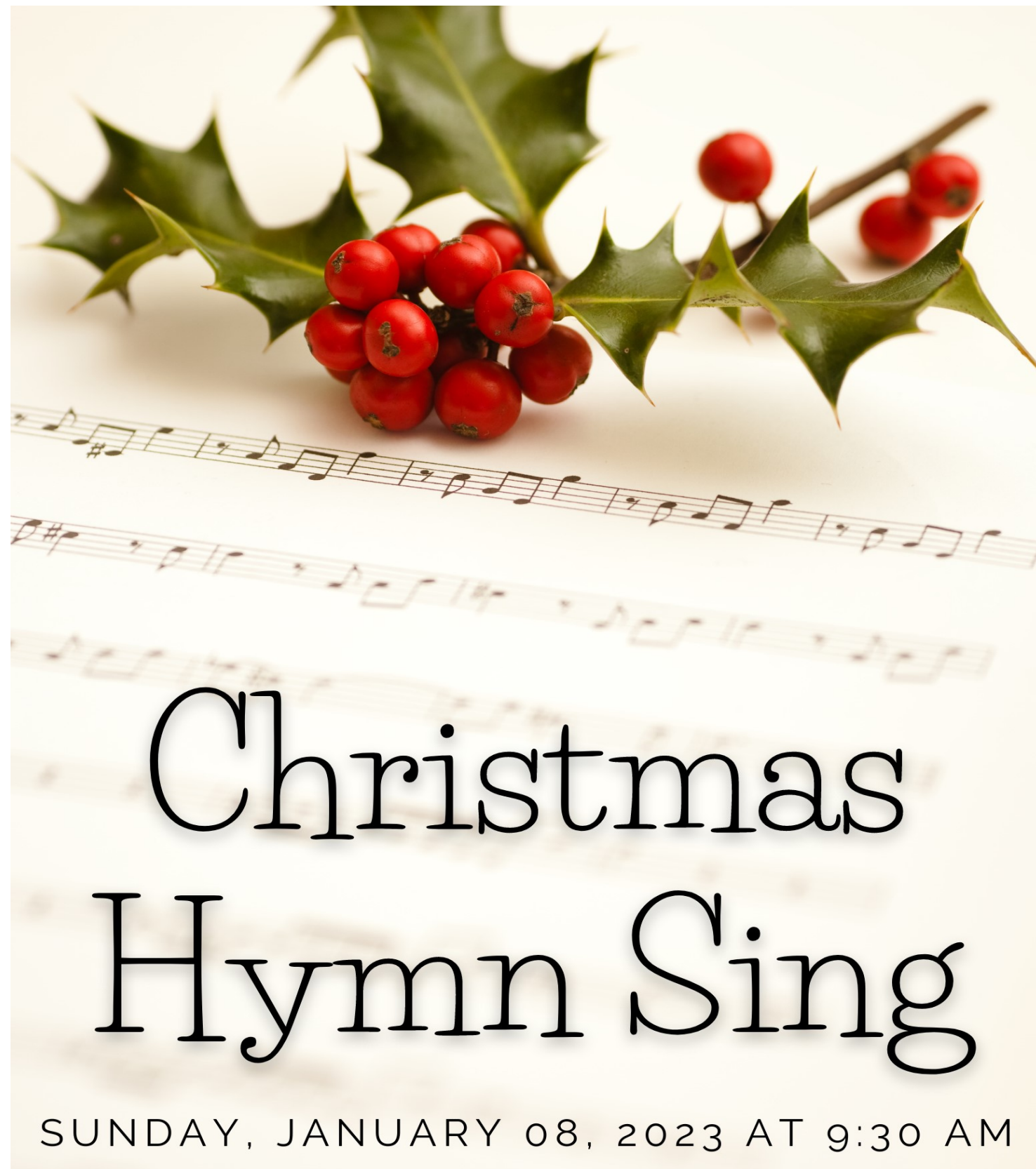
Starting Wednesday, January 18th at 6:30 pm. Linda O will be leading this Ladies Bible Study by Dalene Reyburn through Psalm 90. It will be virtual so you can join from the comfort of your own home! All materials are provided by Freshwaters through Right Now Media. **Email Linda O if you are interested in joining - lindavennolson@gmail.com**

“Wherever you find yourself on the timeline of your life, you have a choice. You can look back with regret, and look forward with fear, and live a mediocre present. Or you can take hold of the truth that Jesus redeems your past, He is real in your present, and He can position you to be ready for your future. Join Dalene Reyburn in this four-part series through Psalm 90, in which we’ll echo the prayer of Moses: ‘Teach us to number our days, that we may gain a heart of wisdom.’ “



As Pastor Kevin would tell you, the more history you know, the more interesting history becomes. That is true about most everything. The more geology you know, the more interesting a walk in the mountains (or a pile of stones) becomes. The more botany you know, the more you enjoy a walk along a country road. It’s also true of the Bible. The more you know about it, the more fascinating it becomes. Join Dick Gist on Sundays after worship as he leads Adult Sunday School class through *Mark In Depth*. You will learn about Mark (and Matthew, Luke, and the early Christian community that was fraught with divisions and debate).





Join us for a fun filled Christmas Hymn Sing during worship on Sunday January 08. Come filled with Christmas Cheer as we sing favorite songs from the Christmas season. Christmas Day may be over, but we will carry on the joy, hope, and love that the birth of our Savior brings!



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 01 - NO COFFEE HOUR**  
**January 08** - Kathy & Gene S and Kevin O  
**January 15 - NEEDED**  
**January 22** - Kathy & Gene S  
**January 29 - NEEDED**

**Coffee Hour Hosts Needed!** Beverages are provided by church, we simply need volunteers to help set-up, provide snacks, and clean up! There is a sign up sheet outside fellowship hall if you are able to volunteer. Please keep it simple! If you have questions, please contact Pat Talberg at 763-221-6344.

#### Sound Board

**January 01** - Jim H  
**January 08** - Isaac J  
**January 15** - Scott L  
**January 22** - Isaac J  
**January 29** - Joel C  
If you are interested in helping with the sound board on Sunday mornings, please contact Pastor Kevin at 651-414-1132.

#### Ushers

**January 01 - NEEDED**  
**January 08 - NEEDED**  
**January 15 - NEEDED**  
**January 22 - NEEDED**  
**January 29 - NEEDED**  
Sign up sheet outside the fellowship hall. If you have any questions, feel free to call the office at 763-631-1185.

#### Sunday School Teachers

**January 01 - NO SUNDAY SCHOOL**  
**January 08 - NO SUNDAY SCHOOL**  
**January 15** - Angela H & Amanda P  
**January 22** - Jenna J & Alex F  
**January 29** - Karen M & Jolie C  
If you are interested in helping with Sunday School, please contact our Children's Ministry Director, Jenna Jenson at 763-439-2816

