

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

Return Service Requested

MAY 2023

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FRESHWATERS

Real. Refreshing. Relationships.



MAY 2023

Greetings and blessings be upon you all my dear friends and readers of the Freshwaters Current; grace and peace in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!

Today as I write this newsletter article, I am watching the last elements of snow melt away from last week's freak snow storm. What a contrast of weather we have experienced in the space of a week! We went from Spring, to Summer, and back to Winter in the space of a few days. I was preparing my lawn mower as I was watching the grass begin to green, only to wake up the next morning to a snow covered yard and driveway. Out came the snow blower once again to do battle against the elements. Weather, like life, is always changing and there is little we can do about either. Change happens whether (no pun intended here) we like it or not, our challenge is how do we respond to that change?

I have been wrestling with this very question as I look at our cultural, political, spiritual, and denominational landscape. I feel overwhelmed by all that I see, hear, and experience. I suspect that you do as well. The news social media throws at us changes every single day. One news item comes, only to disappear in a few days. Technology is rapidly changing so much that there is concern about Artificial

Sermon Series

"FOR" SERIES CONTINUED

May 07
For The Captive

May 14
For The Sick

"COMPASS" SERIES

May 21
True North

May 28
Cross The River

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 Jensen – 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

Intelligence (AI) and what that might mean for us, and the future of humanity. Institutions that were once held in high regard are now looked upon as politicized, corrupted, unworthy of trust or respect. It is not easy to gather our thoughts or perspectives in the face of all this; especially as we face change in our own lives. Ildiko and I are watching our boy Daniel growing into a teenager. We love him through each stage of growth, but we look back with awe and tenderness at videos and pics of him as a 5 or 6 year old. We miss those moments of cute and cuddle. Change happens, and as changes happen we must face them with courage, conviction, truth, confidence, and in community.

I draw strength from God’s Holy Word, and the promise of scripture which said in Hebrews 13:8 “*Jesus Christ [is] the same yesterday, and today, and forever.*” Jesus said of himself that He “*is the Way, the Truth, and the Life.*” (John 14:6) And God said to the prophet Malachi 3:6 “*for I am the Lord, and I do not change.*” The Word of God for me is the source of Truth, guidance, and direction in a world and culture that seems to be spinning out of control. I know it can be for you too. Pulling together friends and family for a time of prayer and Bible study can do wonders to strengthen our weary souls. In those moments God reminds us that we are not alone, that He is with us and He is for us! Come to worship, be refreshed and be renewed! May God bless you all and your families! Pastor Kevin

OPPORTUNITIES FOR PRAYER	
Our Nation & Those Who Are Sick, Hurt, And Suffering	Those Who Are Mourning The Loss Of Loved Ones
Bob L	Jim L
Peter’s Family	Karen & Terry A
Charlotte Y	Sandberg Family
Chuck & Mary V	Neu Family
	
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	

4/15 Board Meeting

Present: Susan K, Linda O, Kevin F, Andrew H, Gene S, Ryan P, Karen O, Scott L, Darren W

1. Agenda was approved.
2. Minutes from 3/15 Board Meeting were approved.
3. Financial report- Susan K reported our Net Income is up and we are on budget-keep up the good work Freshwaters!
4. MN UMC Cabinet response to our requests for change in use of investments from the sale of Zimmerman property
 - Growth account financial statements were reviewed. Kevin reported the Cabinet approved Freshwaters to move Growth funds to a different firm. As for use of the principal -- there is openness so long as we create a ministry plan explaining why and how this parking lot and new entrance is part of a larger picture toward congregational growth. We also need to show what momentum we have now and how this capital improvement would further that momentum toward greater growth and congregational vitality.
 - Gene S made a motion that the Freshwaters Growth Account move to Edward Jones & Scott L will implement this & choose the investments. Linda O 2nd the motion, carried unanimously.
5. Trustees Report-Andrew H reported that the rooftop heating & cooling unit will arrive approximately in the next 2 weeks & work will begin.
6. SPRC Report- Ryan P reported the church profile was submitted. No other new SPRC business to report.
7. Locked doors/Elim-Linda O spoke again with Mary of Elim. Church doors will remain open during business hours.

Gene S made a motion to adjourn, Scott L 2nd.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Oudekerk

BIRTHDAYS

May 01	Bonnie G	May 13	Joel T	May 22	Tom B
May 01	Kaydence E	May 15	Al M	May 22	Dylan M
May 01	Jean W	May 16	Dale B	May 22	George P
May 03	Jake B	May 16	Ryan F	May 23	Brian M
May 04	Scott L	May 16	Richard F	May 23	Michele W
May 05	Lily A	May 17	Bruce H	May 24	Doug H
May 07	William H	May 18	Dave C	May 26	Linda A
May 08	Laurie R	May 19	Kassandra C	May 27	Haley H
May 11	Erin T	May 19	Ryan P	May 27	Gregg R
May 11	Muriel W	May 20	Karen A	May 29	Duane K
May 12	Vera E	May 20	Tammy S	May 30	Skip H



ANNIVERSARIES

May 06	Joel & Molly O	May 18	Ken & Tammy S
May 06	Darren & Michele W	May 19	Tim & Darcy Derrick
May 13	Heidi & Joe L	May 21	Andrew & Angela H
May 15	Walter & Dee H	May 25	Audrey & Ryan P
	May 31	Chip & Wendy F	



Jingle Sunday is May 21st (3rd Sunday of the month). Bring your loose change and “jingle”! All money raised goes towards our Bags Of Blessing program providing food for kids in our Princeton and Zimmerman schools.

Thank you quilters for continuing to do your monthly drawing! To enter the drawing, simply fill out the slip in Fellowship Hall. Drawing will be held the last Sunday of the month. List of past winners is located by the drawing slips!



Hot Breakfast Sunday will be May 7th, and it’s a great day to invite a friend! Hot breakfast will resume in September 2023. Thank you to Pat Talberg, the Youth Group, and all who have helped with hot breakfasts!

We are seeking donations of food items or financial contributions to help in our efforts to feed children in Princeton and Zimmerman school districts on the free or reduced lunch program. This is a great ministry of connection between our congregation and the schools in Princeton and Zimmerman. Check out the sign up sheet in the entry way for requested donation items.



The funds from this year’s offering will to go to a grant for Minnesota Conference churches to begin or expand a mental health partnership project (60 percent), Mental Health Connect (10 percent), Mental Health Minnesota (10 percent), Minnesota Association for Children’s Mental Health (10 percent), and Volunteers in Mission Scholarships (10 percent). The last day to give to this years Love Offering is Sunday, May 21st.



Youth Group is open to kids 6th grade and older, and is held Sunday nights from 6 pm –7pm at Pastor Kevin’s house. We do Bible study, watch videos, play games, eat treats, and have lots of fun!

We are wrapping up our Youth Group year and will not have Youth Group through the summer. We would love to have your help during VBS, please let Jenna Jenson know if you are able to volunteer. Keep your eyes open for our Fall Kick- Off info when fall gets closer!

SPECIAL YOUTH GROUP DATES

- May 07 - 8:30 AM Helping with Hot Breakfast
- May 14 - NO YOUTH GROUP
- May 21 - LAST NIGHT OF YOUTH GROUP FOR SUMMER



Freshwaters Kids Sunday School is open to kids 3 years old through 5th grade. Every Sunday we start worship together in the Sanctuary and then the kids are dismissed to Sunday School during the service.

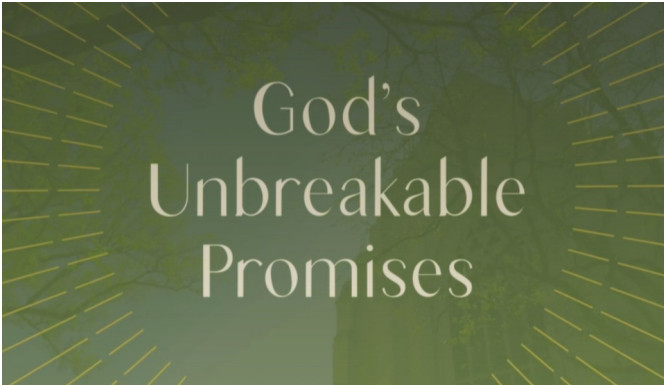
We are wrapping up our Sunday School year and will not have Sunday School through the summer. Be sure to join us for VBS and keep your eyes open for our Fall Kick-Off info when fall gets closer!

- May 07 - Acts 16:16-34, Paul & Silas in Prison
- May 14 - Something Special For Mom
- May 21 - LAST DAY OF SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR SUMMER

Freshwaters May 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 7 PM BSA	2 9 AM Quilters	3 6:30 PM Ladies Bible Study Jenna Out Of The Office	4	5	6
7 - 9:30 AM Worship & Sun. School - 10:30 AM Coffee Hour - 6 PM Youth Group	8 - 6 PM 4-H - 7 PM BSA	9 - 9 AM Quilters - 7 PM Single Board Mtg	10 6:30 PM Ladies Bible Study	11	12	13
14 - 9:30 AM Worship & Sun. School - 10:30 AM Coffee Hour	15 -7 PM BSA	16 9 AM Quilters	17 - Newsletter Deadline - 6:30 PM Ladies Bible Study	18	19	20
21 - 9:30 AM Worship & Sun. School - 10:30 AM Coffee Hour - 6 PM Youth Group	22 7 PM BSA	23 9 AM Quilters	24	25 9 AM Newsletter Assembly	26	27
28 - 9:30 AM Worship - 10:30 AM Coffee Hour	29 7 PM BSA	30 9 AM Quilters	31			

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



LADIES BIBLE STUDY

When: Wednesday Evenings at 6:30 pm

Duration: 6 Weeks, April 12 - May 17

Where: Freshwaters UMC

Cost: Free! All materials provided by Freshwaters UMC on Right Now Media

How can you trust that God is good? Through this study, featuring teaching videos from Jennie Allen, Lauren Chandler, and Jada Edwards, you will discover:

- The story of God throughout the Bible, and what it means for you now.
- That God always keeps His word, even if we don't.
- That God never fails, even when His people do. God always keeps His promises.

Thank you to Jenna Jenson and all the GREAT Sunday School volunteers! You made this past year so fun and meaningful for our Freshwaters Kids, it wouldn't have been possible without each of you. What an amazing blessing you have been and are!



On Sunday June 11th, we will be recognizing the achievement of our 2023 Princeton High School graduates, Grace Claassen and Aubrey Harvala! Be sure to congratulate them and give them your well wishes for a bright future!

We are looking to decorate our Sanctuary this spring, summer, and fall with flowers from your home gardens! This is such a fun way to decorate our beautiful Sanctuary with your personal touches! When you have flowers you'd like to bring in, please have them to the office by Friday morning so they can be placed for Sunday worship. We can't wait to see our Sanctuary in full bloom!



Elaine Munson has a new phone number! She would love to hear from you, please update your contact info and call her at 763-340-0816.

Freshwaters Church Values

Refreshing Relationships with God and Others

JOHN 4 - The Woman at the Well

REAL people who worship the living God in Spirit and in Truth
John 4:24 "God is spirit, and true worshipers must worship in spirit and in truth"

EMBRACING God's written word as a guide for life
Psalms 119:105 "Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path"

FILLED with the Holy Spirit
Ephesians 5:18 "Be filled with the Spirit"

RESPONDING with prayer and love to hurting people
1 Thessalonians 5:17 "Pray without ceasing"

EMPowered to share our faith walk with everyone
Acts 1:8 "But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you; and you shall be my witnesses..."

STEWARDS of God's gifts
1 Peter 4:10 "Each one should use whatever gift he has to serve others"

HOSPITALITY and acceptance to all persons wherever they are in life
Hebrews 13:2 "Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by so doing some have entertained angels without knowing it"



Trinity Lutheran, UCC, and Freshwaters are teaming up to present

PRINCETON COMMUNITY VBS!

When: July 24 - July 27, 2023

Who: 3 Year Olds through Incoming 6th Graders

Time: 5:30 pm Dinner, 6:00-7:30 pm VBS

Where: Freshwaters Church

All attendees must pre-register, and EARLY REGISTRATION IS APPRECIATED!

Registration BEFORE June 25:

\$10 per child or \$30 max per family

Registration AFTER June 25:

\$15 per child or \$40 max per family

You can order a music CD for an additional \$8

Paper registration forms are available at church on the welcome desk

Please remit payment with registration. Checks can be made out to Freshwaters, and please note VBS in the memo line.

MANY VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED - in the kitchen, decorating, Crew Leaders & helpers, Station Leaders & helpers, etc.

Please contact princetonvbs@gmail.com with any questions, or reach out to Jenna Jenson, Tiffany Elness, or Jackie Strandberg (VBS Directors)



Coffee Hour Hosts

May 07 - UMW & Youth Group

May 14 - Gloria W

May 21 - Jim & Kathy H

May 28 - **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

May 07 - Isaac Jenson

May 14 - Jim Hennessy

May 21 - Isaac Jenson

May 28 - Scott Liestman

If you are interested in helping with the sound board on Sunday mornings, please contact Pastor Kevin at 651-414-1132.

Ushers

May 07 - **NEEDED**

May 14 - Scott & Carla L

May 21 - Joel & Wendy T

May 28 - Mark & Nancy B

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

May 07 - Ryan P & Audrey P

May 14 - Angela H & Alex F

May 21 - Jenna J & Audrey P

May 28 - **NO SUNDAY SCHOOL**

If you are interested in helping with Sunday School, please contact our Children's Ministry Director, Jenna Jenson at 763-439-2816

VOLUNTEER