



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

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

Return Service Requested

NOVEMBER 2024

FROM YOUR PASTOR

Grace and peace be unto you all in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ; may the blessing of God's peace and provision surround you and your family at this time! Happy and blessed Thanksgiving!

I write these words in October looking ahead to the holiday of Thanksgiving in November. As I sit here looking out my window at a beautiful Autumn day our nation has suffered a tragedy in the wake of hurricane Helene which has devastated much of the southeastern part of our country. There is another hurricane Milton that is moving presently toward Florida as a category 5 storm. The war in the Middle East seems to be growing in size and scope. And of course our nation is poised for a significant and consequential election that has many on edge.

As I think about where we are as a nation my thoughts turn to Abraham Lincoln who was president in a time of deep strife and battle during the American Civil War. It was in the midst of that struggle that President Lincoln officially laid down in 1863 the holiday of Thanksgiving to be celebrated on the final Thursday of November. I want to

Sermon Series

It Gets Better

November 03
The Choice

What Really Matters

November 10
Love Mercy

November 17
Walk Humbly

November 24
Do Right

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

Present: Mark B, Gene S, Andrew H, Scott L, Linda O, Michele E, Darren W, Kevin F, Karen O
Absent: None

1. Agenda was approved.
2. Minutes from Sept. 10, 2024 Board Meeting were approved electronically.
3. Review Goals for this year-Linda reviewed Freshwater Goals with the group.
4. Financials-Michele reported that we are once again in the 'positive/black' for the month of September YTD. Thank you again for your generous giving.
 - Elim Oasis contract/rent-there was discussion around increasing Elim Oasis monthly rent. Andrew made a motion to increase Elim Oasis rent from \$850/mo to \$900/mo effective 1/1/2025. Mark 2nd, motion carried.
5. Scripture and Prayer-Kevin led the group in Scripture and Prayer.
6. Investments-Scott gave an update to the group about Freshwater Investments accounts.
 - Gene made a motion to reinvest \$100,000 from a CD that due 10/15/24 to the best rate available on a 2-year CD. Scott 2nd, motion carried.
 - Gene made a motion to take \$20,000 from the Growth account and put into the Parking Lot Fund. Darren 2nd. 8 in favor, 1 opposed, Motion carried.
7. SPRC-Gene gave an update that a new Janitor was hired, Roger Leider. Roger started 2 weeks ago.
8. Trustees-Gene reported that Freshwaters sent a letter to the current Spencer Brook Owner regarding the property issue-awaiting a response.
 - Andrew reported he is still working on getting the Sanctuary monitor installed in the back of the room.
 - Andrew also reported he will be ordering 2 computers for Office Staff.
9. 2025 Leadership Nominations-the group discussed potential leaders for the Single Board, Youth Ministry, Trustees, SPRC, Worship, Faith Formation, and Creative Ministries and Missions.
10. Church Conference--date of meeting to be determined.
11. Next Board Meeting Tuesday, November 12th 2024.
12. Gene made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Mark 2nd, 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.

share with you a portion of Lincoln’s proclamation: *“It has seemed to me fit and proper that they should be solemnly, reverently and gratefully acknowledged as with one heart and voice by the whole American people. I do therefore invite my fellow-citizens in every part of the United States, and also those who are at sea and those who are sojourning in foreign lands, to set apart and observe the last Thursday of November next, as a day of Thanksgiving and Praise to our beneficent Father who dwelleth in the Heavens. And I recommend to them that while offering up the ascriptions justly due to Him for such singular deliverances and blessings, they do also, with humble penitence for our national perverseness and disobedience, commend to his tender care all those who have become widows, orphans, mourners or sufferers in the lamentable civil strife in which we are unavoidably engaged, and fervently implore the interposition of the Almighty Hand to heal the wounds of the nation and to restore it as soon as may be consistent with the Divine purposes to the full enjoyment of peace, harmony, tranquility and Union.”* These are beautiful words and have so much resonance to our own present day.

As we approach November and the celebration of Thanksgiving, and December with the celebration of our dear Savior’s birth may we take a moment to be thankful, to be humble, and to share the blessing of peace and love with all those around us. No matter what happens Jesus is still Lord, and we love him as he loves us! May God bless your families and I look forward to see you all in worship! Peace my dear friends, sisters and brothers! Pastor Kevin

| OPPORTUNITIES FOR PRAYER | |
|---|---|
| Those Who Are Sick, Hurt, And Suffering | Those Who Are Mourning The Loss Of Loved Ones |
| Our Nation | Mexico |
| The War In Ukraine | Hulett Family |
| Jenny M & Family | Hill Family |
| Rachel G | Brian B |
| Celeste H | Sandy W |
| Norma H | Muriel W |
| John O | Alec V |



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



CHRISTMAS GIVING

Be on the lookout for the Christmas Giving Tree again. On that tree, there will be paper ornaments with gifts to purchase and bring back unwrapped for a local family in need.

Once the tree is delivered, please sign out any ornaments you take. All UNWRAPPED gifts are due back to church by December 13th so they can be sorted, wrapped, and delivered in time for Christmas.



Operation Christmas Child

BROCHURES ON WHAT CAN BE DONATED AND HOW TO PACK THE SHOEBOXES ARE OUTSIDE FELLOWSHIP HALL. FILLED BOXES ARE DUE BACK TO CHURCH BY SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 17TH. THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP BLESSING THESE CHILDREN NEAR AND FAR!

Empty shoeboxes are available if you need one. Please pack the shoebox with approved items only, and return them UNWRAPPED by Sunday, November 17th.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

- | | | | |
|--------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|
| 01 Nancy B | 07 Mitchell B | 16 Mark A | 21 Allison C |
| 02 Tina B | 07 Tracey H | 16 Sawyer C | 21 Aubry Z |
| 03 Clarice H | 07 Sarah L | 16 Findley S | 23 Linda T |
| 03 Beth O.H. | 08 Kay P | 16 Ed S | 27 Linda O |
| 04 Jim H | 10 Pat T | 17 Joanne V | 28 Kaitlyn G |
| 04 Gene S | 10 Nicholas T | 18 Dick G | 28 Megan S |
| 05 Rene H | 11 Val V | 18 Isla P | 30 Paul W |
| 05 Anji V | 15 Owen O | 19 Linda A | |

HAPPY Anniversary!

- 13 Terry & Karen A 19 Carol & Lester G

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



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

- November 03 - **Hot Breakfast, UMW / YG**
- November 10 - **Pat T**
- November 17 - **Sorenson Family**
- November 24 - **Lingle Family**

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

Ushers

- November 03 - **Sorenson Family**
- November 10 - **Lingle Family**
- November 17 - **Purdy Family**
- November 24 - **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

- November 03 - **Daniel F**
- November 10 - **Jim H**
- November 17 - **Daniel F**
- November 24 - **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

- November 03 - **Hailey N & Alex F**
- November 10 - **Angela H & Amanda P**
- November 17 - **Jenna J & Kait A**
- November 24 - **Christina R & Jolie C**

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



A big thank you to all who generously donated food, funds, time, and prayer towards this years Roast Beef Dinner. It takes many hands to grow and purchase the food, prepare the food, prep the fellowship hall, box take out orders, serve the dinner, wash dishes, deliver the requested meals, and much more! Profits from the dinner go right back to the church to fund our mission. Thank you all for your support!

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 November 17th (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.



COMMUNITY

Thanksgiving

SERVICE

SPONSORED BY:

- ◆ New Life Church
- ◆ Immanuel Lutheran
- ◆ Bethel Church
- ◆ Christ Our Light Catholic
- ◆ First Congregational UCC
- ◆ Trinity Lutheran
- ◆ Freshwaters United Methodist

**Wednesday,
November 27nd
7:00 pm**

**Held at Trinity Lutheran
111 6th Ave N Princeton, MN**

"In all things give thanks." – 1 Thessalonians 5:18



Youth Group is open for all kids in 6th grade —12th grade. We meet every Sunday at Pastor Kevin’s house from 6:00—7:00 pm. We bless one another, play games, learn together, grow in our faith, and have lots of 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. **THERE WILL BE NO YOUTH GROUP OR CONFIRMATION ON SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 24.**



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.

Christmas Unwrapped - The Christmas story isn’t just about the birth of a baby. It’s about the arrival of the Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, and Prince of Peace promised in the book of Isaiah. In this series, kids will explore the Christmas story and discover why “Jesus matters to me.”

- November 03 - Bonus Round Part 2; Mark 12:31
- November 10 - Wonderful Counselor; Isaiah 9:6-7
- November 17 - Mighty God; Luke 1:26-38
- November 24 - Everlasting Father; Matthew 2:1-16



BIBLE STUDY

When: Wednesday Nights
6:30 - 7:30 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



Freshwaters November 2024

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|---|--|---|--|-----|-----|
| | | | | | 1 | 2 |
| 3 - 9:30 AM Worship - Concurrent Sun School - 6:00 PM Youth Group | 4 7 PM BSA | 5 - 9 AM Quilters | 6 - 6:30 PM Bible Study - 7PM AA | 7 | 8 | 9 |
| 10 - 9:30 AM Worship - Concurrent Sun School - 6:00 PM Youth Group | 11 7 PM BSA Happy Veterans Day | 12 - 9 AM Quilters - 7 PM Single Board Mtg. | 13 - 6:30 PM Bible Study - 7PM AA | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| 17 - 9:30 AM Worship - Concurrent Sun School - 6:00 PM Youth Group | 18 7 PM BSA | 19 9 AM Quilters | 20 - Newsletter Deadline - 6:30 PM Bible Study - 7PM AA | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| 24 - 9:30 AM Worship - Concurrent Sun School - NO YOUTH GROUP | 25 7 PM BSA | 26 9 AM Quilters | 27 - 9 AM Newsletter Assembly - 7 PM AA - 7 PM Ecumenical Service - NO BIBLE STUDY | 28 Happy Thanksgiv- ing Office Closed | 29 | 30 |

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



Pastor Kevin is teaching “Historical Perspectives” on Tuesdays and Thursdays at the University of Northwestern during the fall semester.

Confirmation from 5-6 pm on Sundays at Pastor Kevin’s house. Please contact Pastor Kevin if you have any questions. **NO CONFIRMATION ON SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 24.** 651-414-1132 or revfox1738@gmail.com



AA - Recovery Group meeting on Wednesday nights from 7-8 pm, held in Fellowship Hall and lead by Jake Brander... We are glad to have them here, let us be in prayer as this awesome ministry takes place within these walls!

LOOKING AHEAD - church conference date and time is yet to be determined. It will be announced during church and in the bulletin once it is finalized.



Worship Committee Update –

The Color Purple: Why do we have purple as the color of advent? We all know that the color of purple is for the season of Lent. But did you know that purple is also the color for advent? Not green or red but purple. Purple Is the traditional color for Advent in the United Methodist Church because it symbolizes both royalty and penitence, which are fitting for the season of preparing for the coming of Christ.

Royalty: Purple represents the sovereignty of Christ and the anticipation of the coming of the King.

Penitence: Purple symbolizes the repentance and fasting, and reminds us of our need for forgiveness and salvation.

The United Methodist Book of Worship also allows blue, the color of hope, to be used during Advent.

In addition, the four candles of Advent represent: **Hope, Peace, Love, and Joy** (John-Elizabeth-Joseph-Mary)

Church season colors: Beginning Christmas Eve the color changes to **white/gold**. White and gold are joyous colors used during the Christmas and Easter seasons except on the day of Pentecost and in other days such as Baptism of the Lord, transfiguration, Trinity, All saints and Christ the King Sunday.

Green – symbolizes the color of growth and is used in season after Epiphany and After Pentecost, except for special days when red or white is used.

Red – the color of fire, symbolizing the Holy Spirit and is used when the work of the Holy Spirit is emphasized. Red is also the color of blood – the blood of Christ and the blood of martyrs.

****** Information from the UMC Book of Discipline and the UMC Book of Worship.

This year the WC hopes to have new Advent banners using the color purple as the color for Advent and representing the four Advent candles – **Hope, Peace, Love and Joy**. Diane Wesloh and the quilting group will be making new Advent candle stand paraments that will be matching the new banners. If anyone would like to donate towards the purchase of new banners please put in the offering plate and designate “banners”. Advent begins the Sunday after Thanksgiving Day - December 1st. We will be decorating the sanctuary on Saturday, November 30 at 10:00 am. If anyone would like to assist with the decorating, please come then so we can have it all decorated for the beginning of Advent. Thank you all.

Myla Tolmie, WC Chair