

MAY 2021

# FRESHWATERS

## UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

◆ ◆ ◆ In-Person & Streaming Live on Sundays at 10 AM

## FROM THE PASTOR

Greetings dear Freshwater friends, sisters and brothers, in Christ. I pray that you are all well as we look forward to the month of May.

I am sitting here writing this newsletter article while our state is going through a very difficult time – Covid, the Derek Chauvin trial, and the tragic death of Duante Wright. Over the course of these past months, we have seen much pain, suffering, struggle, anger, frustration, and perhaps even hopelessness. On the religious front, there was a report that church membership and attendance have dropped dramatically. Scripture tells us in the latter days there will be much violence, despair, brokenness, and yes even people falling away from the faith. These are the birth pains that scripture describes which presage the return of Christ. We do not know the day or the hour of his return, and so until the time when God decides we have work to do.

Our mission, purpose, and reason for being Freshwaters is to offer the life-giving water of Christ through real refreshing relationships with God and others. Never has this been more real than now! God is calling our congregation to step forward to be the “well of Christ’s living water” so that people may experience abundant life and love for their lives. This is the time when we need to take a prayerful and serious look at our community to see where is the pain, where is Christ needed, where are we called to show up to be Christ’s heart, hands, and feet. We need to look at the book of Acts to see the church at the beginning and begin to do the same. Your single board is reading a book called “Autopsy of a Deceased Church” where it is frank and honest about what is required to keep a congregation alive and thriving. The Covid pandemic has made it even more real that we need to find new fresh ways to connect with people. Not to keep our congregation alive, but rather to connect people with Jesus Christ.

## Sermon Series

### THE MASKS WE WEAR

**May 2**

The Mask to Hide Depression

### PRESSURE COOKER

**May 9**

When Turbulence Strikes

**May 16**

When Temptation Comes Your Way--  
(Confirmation Sunday)

**May 23**

When God Seems Silent

**May 30**

When Our Faith Seems Weak

As you know, I love John 4 with the woman at the well story; it is a compelling and inspiring story. You have a woman that is burned out with life, she has broken relationships, she is isolated, alone, angry, frustrated – does she not sound like many of us right now? She encounters Jesus at the well and in the course of that connection, her life is transformed. Her life is so radically transformed that she goes to invite others to experience what she herself has experienced! When I look at that story – I want that to be our story, repeated again and again and again!

Over the course of these next months, we will strive to pray and prepare for a Fall relaunch. We ask you to pray daily for Freshwaters, for leaders, for our community; we ask you to listen to your neighbors as to what is on their hearts, what do they see as unmet/felt needs of our area? Who is God calling us to reach? Pray for our worship leaders that they are encouraged and inspired as they lead worship! We have a hurting world to reach with the message of Christ; God is calling Freshwaters to be bold and courageous these days! May the Holy Spirit revive us for this important moment!

In Christ! 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 which is filled with love overflowing. What would you have us do? Who are we called to ministry to? 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!”***

## MEDIA UPGRADES AND VIRTUAL CAMPUS

Technology upgrades – very soon you will see some much needed technical enhancements to our worship experience. In place of the screen you will see flat screen TVs which will make things much easier to read. We will have a new camera in place so that those online will have an improved experience. Also we will have new software so that we will be able to see the words to hymns and songs as well as enjoy watching the worship leaders. All these things are designed to help us in our outreach to our neighbors as well as bless those who attend.

If anyone would like to volunteer to help with this critically important online presence ministry, please let pastor know so that we can get you trained and equipped!

## MEALS ALA CAR

A special thanks goes out to Richard & Norma Gist, Jeremy & Jessica Laskowski, Phil & Sue Lingle, and Roger & Nancy Leider for delivery of Meals Ala Car from the individuals receiving the meals during the month of March. Our next delivery will be October 2021. Anyone interested can call the church office at 763-631-1185 or Skip Harman at 763-389-1845.

## STUDENT ZOOM MEETING

Kids and youth are invited to join Cori on Wednesday nights at 6 PM for a Bible lesson and games. This is a great chance for our students to grow their relationship with God and with others!

Zoom Meeting ID: 979 5072 4582

Passcode: 721841

## SUNDAY SCHOOL

Join Freshwaters Kids in-person during the Sunday Worship service as they learn about the Books of the Bible. All kids preschool to 6th grade are welcome to join the fun!

# Freshwaters Board Minutes

April 12, 2021

The meeting was called to order by Linda Olson at 7:00 PM. Present were Linda Olson, Carla Lusche, Philip Lingle, Kevin Fox, Darren Wesloh, Susan Kettelhodt, Andrew Harvala, Scott Liestman and Dave Halverson.

The agenda was approved and the minutes from 3/9/21 were approved electronically.

Two books by Thom Rainer were discussed to help discern our path forward as we reopen our church post Covid. 5 types of people who won't return and Autopsy of a Deceased Church were discussed. We feel the board is cognizant of the dangers of stagnation and are trying to position ourselves for the future with the streaming updates, youth programs and worship styles. We realize much more has to be done to engage the community at large and grow attendance.

Andrew updated us on the A/V updates, and exterior painting will begin with warmer weather.

Susan reviewed the financial reports. Giving is down \$4000 compared to last year, but expenses are also down \$7000. Expenses aren't expected to change drastically now that we have one building to maintain, but we will monitor them as we restart activities and building use.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 PM.

Submitted by Philip Lingle

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

## From the Quilters

We meet from 8:30am-12:00pm on Tuesday mornings, and would like to invite anyone who is interested to join us! Not all of us are sewers or quilters, but there are always things you can do to help. Some people iron, cut fabric, organize, match fabrics, or just relax and enjoy the company! If you are interested in learning to sew or quilt, we do have people willing to teach you as well. We have people who do crafts, needlework, knit & crochet,... and we are always open to ideas and new projects. If we have a craft item to work on, we do that as well. Come join this great group of people!

During COVID, many of us made projects at home and brought them in to donate. Since most of us are vaccinated, we are meeting again and wearing masks, so stop by. We created a little area downstairs where you can browse and shop anytime. We are planning a Sidewalk Sale in September to sell some of our items, so watch for more details.

We also donate many quilts every year, and we recently had a quilt bought to be donated to the Navajo Nation in Arizona. Another quilting group, *Material Girls*, had people making a trip to AZ with quilts and fabric that would go to the Navajo quilters, who make and disperse quilts to those in need. We donated 2 child quilts, a large quilt, and some additional fabric.

We also donated to a little Princeton girl who wrote a letter to Santa for 6 blankets for her family. Though it wasn't that they were in great need, we loved the thoughtfulness and lack of selfishness she displayed. It touched our hearts, so we donated a quilt to the little girl and 2 plush blankets.

Every year we donate a quilt to the high school senior party, to homeless and shelters, Project Linus, and Pastor Kevin has access to quilts to donate to people in need. We are now giving a baby quilt to new babies who are baptized at Freshwaters.

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

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

Return Service Requested

**MAY 2021**

**FRESHWATERS UNITED METHODIST**

**[www.freshwatersumc.com](http://www.freshwatersumc.com)**

**Join us In-Person or Online on Sundays at 10 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

Mon, Wed, Fri: 9 AM – 5 PM

**Bethany Moos – Office Administrator**

[admin@freshwatersumc.com](mailto:admin@freshwatersumc.com)

**Sawyer Carey – Worship Leader**

[sawyer2of7@gmail.com](mailto:sawyer2of7@gmail.com)

**Cori Wallace – Children/Youth Leader**

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

**Keep up to date on our website and our Facebook page**

**[www.facebook.com/FreshwatersMN](http://www.facebook.com/FreshwatersMN)**



# MAY MINISTRY NOTES

## BIRTHDAYS

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

## ANNIVERSARIES

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

## PRAYER AND MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES FOR PRAYER

<b>Charlotte &amp; Lowell Y</b>	<b>Hans &amp; Gloria</b>
<b>Jacob K</b>	<b>Celeste H</b>
<b>Betty &amp; John O</b>	<b>Jim K</b>
<b>Joyce M</b>	<b>Skip H</b>
<b>Val V</b>	<b>The Ruth Hein Family</b>

**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!

<b>Muriel Walker</b>	<b>Irene Galbrecht</b>
<b>Bernice Johnson</b>	<b>Joyce Mattson</b>

(Gracepointe Crossing)

## Thank you to all who have made worship this month wonderful!

Gloria W, Sawyer C, Myla T, Ryan P, Jim H, Dawn G, Nancy R, Tammy S, Kathy W, Ildiko F, Bethany M, Slayter C, Cori W, Owen O, Karen O, Bob L, Jeremy G, Jenna J, Hannah J, Bryan C, Sylvia C, Isaac J, Duane K, Scott L, Jeff S, Ken S, Leah C, Joel C

## Sound Schedule

May 2 - Scott Liestman  
 May 9 - Jim Hennessy  
 May 16 - Isaac Jenson  
 May 23 - Slayter Carey  
 May 30 - Scott Liestman

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 <b>Communion</b> <b>Sunday School</b> <b>Worship</b> <b>10 AM</b>	3 7 PM BSA  6 PM Media/ Worship	4 9 AM Quilters  6:30 PM 4-H	5 6 PM Student Zoom Meeting	6	7	8
9 <b>Sunday School</b> <b>Worship</b> <b>10 AM</b>	10 7 PM BSA  7 PM One Board	11 9 AM Quilters  6:30 PM Trustees	12 6 PM Student Zoom Meeting	13	14	15
16 <b>Confirmation</b> <b>Sunday School</b> <b>Worship</b> <b>10 AM</b>	17 7 PM BSA	18 9 AM Quilters	19 6 PM Student Zoom Meeting	20	21	22
23 <b>Sunday School</b> <b>Worship</b> <b>10 AM</b>	24 7 PM BSA	25 9 AM Quilters	26 6 PM Student Zoom Meeting	27	28	29
30 <b>Sunday School</b> <b>Worship</b> <b>10 AM</b>	31 <b>Memorial Day</b> Office Closed					

**Regular Sunday Worship**

**In-Person and Streaming Live at 10 AM**

# Freshwaters May 2021