



The Salt Shaker

July 2020

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH NEAR ELY
11100 Spanish Road, Ely, Iowa 52227
www.elypres.org and on Facebook
319-848-4624 office@elypres.org

WORSHIP UPDATES

WORSHIP SERVICES: BACK TO THE FUTURE

The future of “back-to-normal” church is still elusive. The Session continues to consider guidelines that are required as they evolve.

However, our “on-line” worship services, Bible Study, children’s and youth activities, and Zoom chats and meetings have been successful and productive. The survey that was sent out to our church members indicates that out of 52 family responses, 88% have access to our live-streaming. **Starting** in July (5, 12, 19, 26), we will have “**drive-in**” church in addition to live streaming. The service will be transmitted on 90.1 to your car radio in an area right around the church. A big thank you to Tom Vavra for making this possible.

COME – stay in your car, bring lawn chairs and socially distance by your cars, bring your own coffee, and enjoy worshipping “together”. It will be wonderful to see you!!!

(The church will be open ONLY for restroom use.)

WORSHIP SURVEY

Thank you for the terrific response to the survey. The Session and Worship and Program Planning Committee are using the information to move forward more confidently with our worship services and program planning.

SPECIAL SUMMER MUSIC

We miss our music – but luckily, our terrific Sharon Furler has come to the rescue with beautiful piano offerings. We have had lovely special music, and are looking to fill the summer with more special music to enhance our worship. If you have something to offer or can ask your children or grandchildren to play or sing – this would add so much to our services. Just contact Sharon Furler or Joanne Chadima for scheduling.

SOME THANK YOU

To Steve Schuett and Verne Svec for keeping the lawn at the church & cemetery looking good.

To Barb Horak for tending to the wild flower area north of the church.

To Daniel Schuett for being the technical helper for Pastor Julie’s live streaming.

To Diane Reist and Leslie Harder for commitment and creativity to reach our Sunday School and VBS audience.

To Angie Ehle for keeping the older youth engaged in Youth Group activities.

To Pastor Julie for her amazing guidance, and adaptability to the tech challenges.

To Dan Chadima for keeping the Session up-to-date on the financial report.

To Phil Huedepohl for updating the Session on the funds report.

COMMUNION, SUNDAY, JULY 26 Let Us Break Bread "Together"

Many of you are very comfortable accessing our worship service with the live streaming on Facebook. Our last Communion service went well on line and with a few coming to the church to be served in their vehicles. July services will also be broadcast on your car radio if you join us in the area around our church property, offering another way to celebrate Communion "with" your church family.

Live stream the service in your home – provide your own elements of bread and wine/juice, and partake with Pastor Julie during the service.

Come to the church and access the broadcast in your car – provide your own elements, and partake with Pastor Julie during the service.

We do have the prepackaged elements now available if you want to come to the church, either hearing the service as a broadcast or just accepting the elements as a drive through.

Our survey indicated that members would be in favor of the at-home Communion or coming to the church to be served in their cars.

More details will be sent out as we near the date.



Congratulations to Betty Buresh who has decided to retire after faithfully serving as our church custodian for 30 years! We appreciate all of her years of hard work and dedication more than words can express.

We will give her a proper thank you when we can all be together again!!

Thank you Betty - we love you!!

"CHICKEN NOODLE SOUP AND KOLACH SUPPER?"

YES, still OCTOBER 3, 2020

How can one plan for an event 3 months in the future when the future is so uncertain?! Joanne Chadima, Matt Zacek, and Pastor Julie tackled the question at a recent Zoom meeting. We are proposing a two-part plan.

1. With all the restrictions currently in place for serving food – we are planning a pick-up event. It would involve preorders of Kolaches and Noodle Soup. This would take much more planning ahead and advertising.

Since Matt is in the food business – he has been getting all of the latest updates on food service. One restriction at this time is: **No Country Store**. So, to indicate to all who contribute so much to the Country Store – we will just cancel that part of our Supper this year. It makes me sad, but that is best at this time. And **no musical groups** will participate this year, again a sad time for musicians.

2. What if the virus disappears and everyone is comfortable attending a supper such as ours? Well, hallelujah!! Then we will have our Supper as usual.

(3. There may even be something in-between.)

Help is needed to figure this out. I, Joanne, am really comfortable with the baking and frozen soup prep, but I am nervous about the computer aspect of this – pre orders, etc. Is there someone who could help with this? I am praying for helpers! Let me know.

Viola Zahradnik referred me to the St. Ludmila website and their kolach sales plan. It is a good one. There are many ideas out there. We (so far, just Matt and Joanne and Pastor Julie) are open to ideas!!!! Joanne Chadima

jkchadima@southslope.net

SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

The session received the Scholarship Committee recommendations and approved the following scholarships:

The Pokorny Scholarship will be awarded to Cole Huedepohl and Matthew Walter.

The Carson Scholarship will be awarded to Lauren Reist.

The Motycka Scholarship will be awarded to:

- Calvin Chadima
- Morgan Eadie
- Grace Ehle
- Nathan Harder
- Cole Huedepohl
- Luke Huedepohl
- Madison Kilberger
- Lauren Reist
- Matthew Walter

We wish these students all the best.

STEWARDSHIP NEWS

DIGITAL ways to donate to church:

1. Through church website.

2. Smart phone and tablet app:
GivePlusChurch

3. QR Code

Thank you for your continued generosity in these last months. The program, worship, mission, and fellowship of the church continue by your participation and commitment. God has been praised at our church for 160+ years. We have roots in the past, life in the present, and continued hope in the future of our faith family together. God bless you in these trying days.



CONNECTING Opportunities

Wednesday Mornings Bible Study in July on Facebook Live streaming at 9:30 a.m. in Matthew 16+

Wednesday morning Coffee Chat at 10:00 a.m. join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/250060150?pwd=MHVKMU4rRWhoOVJlbHdZcElGVHpJUT09>

Meeting ID: 250 060 150 Password: 386508
Dial by phone: (312)626-6799

Zoom Sunday Morning Fellowship continuing for those at home, 10:10 a.m.

<https://zoom.us/j/681162913?pwd=UXNYZFdxXVXMytVTjBqeG9DUFUrQT09>

Meeting ID: 681 162 913 Password: 309550
Dial by phone: (312)626-6799.



Pastor Julie preaching as seen from the congregation at home



Sophia Chadima and Sharon Furler provide special music during virtual worship



SESSION NOTES

MAY 31, 2020 Zoom SESSION

1. Clerk's Report: Facebook live streaming. Log on devise numbers / views (as of May 19, 2020) April 19: 58 log in / 641 views; April 26: 57 log in / 329 views; May 3: 61 log in / 283 views; May 10: 48 log in / 227 views; Mother's Day May 17: 55 log in / 241 views. Membership as of April 30, 2020 = 196
2. Treasurer's Report: The church now has digital giving access through the Presbyterian Foundation with a 2% processing fee through online giving, QR code and phone app. PPP loan/grant the CARES Act for \$20,000 (3 months)(75% payroll replacement and 25% other payroll expenses) The church has received a three-month waiver on Board of Pensions dues (one month at a time).
3. Christian Education: VBS will be held virtually on Wednesdays in July after the July 4th weekend. Putting some kits together for families, or possibly scavenger hunt or Bible Bingo, or word puzzles. Sunday School counts have been 6-10, with Zoom 2-6.
4. Mission: Food Pantry Sundays seem to be going well. At least 11 households the last time it was collected. Monetary donations also received and passed on to the Linn Community Food Bank. Secondly, Pastor Julie's 50th birthday celebration received well over 100 items to be donated and Rachel Manders delivered to the Linn Community Food Bank.
5. Welcoming and Evangelism: Ely St John and Shueyville United Methodist are closed until further notice. 150 Easter postcards were sent out to church neighbors mostly on gravel roads. No

current news on Ely's Fourth of July activities.

6. Worship: Some great success, some great trouble in logging on and staying on through Facebook live streaming. Suggestion to record on Saturday for broadcast on Facebook Sunday. Maybe we are reaching some limits. Discussion concerning live music. Worship survey to be composed and shared seeking congregational feedback. Communion for Pentecost, May 31 discussed. Tom Vavra is working on a system to broadcast through radio to parking lot area of church property.
7. Youth Report: Youth Group is planning to attend Montreat Youth Conference until further notice.

FAITH CHALLENGE BINGO SUMMER 2020

You'll find a Bingo Card with activities on the back cover of this month's Salt Shaker for you to challenge yourself with each week. Complete challenges to earn a Bingo Square. Get 5 in a row to win the Bingo Challenge Prize for the week. Have Fun!!!!



HEIFER PROJECT INTERNATIONAL

Younger students are also having a reading challenge this summer that can include a readathon fundraiser for Heifer Project. To donate, write a check to Heifer Read to Feed, or go to link: <https://fundraise.heifer.org/team/300458>



STORY CLUB

Friday Mornings at 11:00 a.m. on church's Facebook live streaming

and simultaneously on Zoom--

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89173720755?pwd=RW9xYkFRcmtlVjJlQWFvV01sRTNnUT09>

Meeting ID: 891 7372 0755 Password: 964475

Start with a story (also live streamed on Facebook) and then continue with conversation (both on Zoom!) All picture books published by FlyAway Books and affiliated with PC(USA) Publishing House.

Date	Theme	Title	Description
July 3	Character and acceptance	<i>Brian the Brave</i>	Every sheep is different. Some white, some black. Some striped, some spotted, some with hats! They're all still sheep, and they can all play together. At least that's what Brian thinks—until the other sheep say they can be friends only with sheep that are just like them.
July 10	Bible Story	<i>Who Is My Neighbor?</i>	Blues and Yellows just don't mix, and that's how it's always been. No one remembers why. But then comes the day Midnight Blue takes a tumble along the road. His friends Navy and Powder Blue don't even stop to help! It's only when a Yellow comes along that everything changes—forever.
July 17	Growing up and emotions	<i>Bruno's Hat</i>	Sergio said that my best friend Bruno's hat was weird. When I told him to stop, he called me a weirdo! If I had kept playing with Bruno, Sergio would have kept teasing me, too. But now I miss my friend terribly. What should I do? Told from the point of view of Bruno's best friend, Peter, this insightful children's book explores bullying—especially the choices children face in defending others who are bullied.
July 24	Character and acceptance	<i>The Story of And</i>	Poor "and": the word everyone takes for granted. So tiny, so common, so easily

Date	Theme	Title	Description
			overlooked. Yet if it weren't for and, so much would fall apart! Who knew such a little word could make such a big difference? When an array of opinionated shapes just can't find common ground, AND comes to the rescue. AND is the link that helps each pair of shapes overcome their differences, teaming up to create something entirely new.
July 31	Growing up and emotions	<i>Where Is Home, Daddy Bear?</i>	Evie Bear and Dad are moving. But as they leave their old home behind and set off on their long drive toward the new, Evie Bear is full of questions. "What if I don't like it there?" she worries. "How will I make new friends?" But her dad reassures her with wise and comforting words, and by the end of their journey, Evie Bear comes to realize that she can feel at home anywhere, as long as Dad is with her.



SUMMER FAITH CHALLENGE KiDS CLUB 2020

Pick and choose your challenges...

1. Summer Reading Program
2. Faith Challenge BINGO in June
3. Read and Feed (This overlaps with the Reading Program. It is a readathon with sponsorship pledges by family and friends. At the end of the program students pool their funds to select animals for families in need around the world through Heifer Project International)
4. Story Club on Friday mornings at 11:00 a.m.
5. VBS in July (Virtual VBS 11:00-noon or 6:30-7:30 p.m. July 8, 15, 22, 29)

Who can participate? Any student! How do I sign up? Let Pastor Julie know what you will be participating in so that you are counted!
(pastorjulie@elypres.org)



2020 VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL *In Virtual Reality*

Dates: Wednesdays, July 8, 15, 22, and 29.

Mornings 11:00-Noon **OR** Evenings, 6:30-7:30

Register at:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSehs4kMSEOpHaN3mTBpcP1DMXfpxepvkT7TNg2TX3qsqiLa2A/viewform?usp=sf_link

Fun virtual activities including crafting, cooking, creating. Receive a kit from your VBS crew and be ready to go on a Home Scavenger hunt for your activity supplies. Email or call the church office to sign up by July 1.

Even better—invite a friend, neighbor, or cousin to be part of it too!

Theme: The Church Family Gathers for Summer

July 8: Fireworks: Jesus creates excitement in his healing, Mark 5:21-43

July 15: Camping: Elijah camps and hears the whisper of God's voice, 1 Kings 19:1-13
July 22: Summer Storms: Jesus Calms the storm, Mark 4:35-41

July 29: Out on the Water: Jesus walks on water, Matthew 14:22-33



ULTIMATE SUMMER 2020 CHALLENGE

Complete 4 out of 5 of the faith challenges in the Summer Faith Challenge Club and choose one of these prizes. (Let Pastor Julie know which one you are working toward and it will be ready for you when you finish your challenges.) She will send you a list of prizes for you to choose from.

PRESBYTERY BOARD OF PENSIONS STATEMENT ON RACIAL JUSTICE, June 18, 2020

He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the LORD require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

— Micah 6:8 (NRSV)

History is full of watershed moments — those moments when we remember things as being either before that specific moment or after it. In the wake of the unrest following the tragic killing of George Floyd, America is at such a watershed moment.

George Floyd has joined a long, unbroken line of African American people who have died at the hands of police officers who failed to uphold their oath to protect and serve. Others have been murdered by self-appointed keepers of the status quo. Former President Barack Obama says of this moment, "The waves of protest across the country represent a genuine and legitimate frustration over a decades-long failure to reform police practices and the broader criminal justice system in the United States." We, The Board of Pensions of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), have become keenly aware of these frustrations, and we share them; they should be the frustrations of every American.

The Stated Clerk of the PC(USA), the Reverend Dr. J. Herbert Nelson II, has challenged the Church by stating, "No longer can we hide behind not being controversial." The President of the Board of Pensions, the Reverend Frank Clark Spencer, echoes the admonitions of Rev. Nelson and President Obama, stating, "Deep pain and suffering among Black Americans is in plain view. As an agency of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), the Board of Pensions is committed to the goal of dismantling structural racism."

By taking tangible, intentional steps and working together within our spheres of influence and beyond, we will be an active ally for change, and we will see the realization of this goal. From lament to hope, from hope to real change. The change begins now.

The Board stands in support of racial equality, and against deeply ingrained prejudices against Black

Americans and other people of color simply because of the color of their skin.

We continue to keep our country and the families and loved ones of all those suffering, directly or indirectly, from the events arising from this watershed moment in our thoughts and prayers. Please join the Board and the whole PC(USA) in the pursuit to be an ally for change.

The foregoing statement was drafted by 15 of our black colleagues. In February of 2020, the Board of Pensions formed a Diversity, Equality, and Inclusion Leadership Council (DEILC), which is developing a strategy and a plan of action, to live into the call of the Church to dismantle structural racism. That Council unanimously endorsed this statement and presented it to the agency's Executive Team and Board of Directors. With full support of all at the Board, we share this statement with you.

RESOURCES

Racial Justice Resources from the Presbytery can be found at <https://www.pcusa.org/racial-justice-resources/>

FUNNY MOMENTS FROM FIRST PRES

When you're attending Church online...
...but you normally sit in the balcony.



As for me and my house, we will stay where we at.
-1st Isolations 24:7



Hello from Youth Group!

We pray this note finds you well, healthy, and

safe! Each Wednesday and Sunday, Youth have been meeting via Zoom: studying a lesson, playing games and showing off their silliest hat or tropical garb. We look forward to the day when we can gather with you all again!

I am so proud of these youth: they have finished a semester of school like no one has ever experienced, without classroom time and teachers, doing the best they can learning from home! During these uncertain times, and battling stress and anxiety of change and isolation, Jesus reminds us that, **We are the vine and branches: when we continue to stay connected to God, we bear good fruit and experience Peace, Joy, and Love, no matter what the circumstances.** How are you staying connected to God?

Polling the youth last month, they listed some needs and desires including: more entertainment, haircuts, going back to school, and being outside more. We often have no control of what happens in our lives, but we do have control over what we put in the center of our lives. **When we put Jesus in the center, good stuff happens; the Fruits of the Spirit flow out of our lives.** How can you put Jesus in the center of your life?

Due to COVID-19 and the difficulty finding mission projects for youth groups right now, we have postponed Local Immersion activities until further notice. Due to the limited size of groups allowed during this pandemic, our Montreat Youth Conference was also cancelled for July. Youth have also been missing other opportunities for fundraising activities, like the Linn County Fair and Kernels Cleanups. We would like to offer the opportunity for any church member or friend of Youth Group who would like to **“donate” refundable beverage cans or bottles** to text or call Angie at 319-899-1223 for pickup - we will pick up, count, and take your discards to the can shed to help fund upcoming Youth events. Thank you for your consideration.

In July, and until we can gather again, we will continue Zoom Youth Group meetings on Sunday nights at 6pm, with a few exceptions, see calendar. Youth are encouraged to participate in Vacation Bible School on July 8, 15, 22, 29th at 6:30pm. Be sure to register in advance so you get all the materials for the four weeks! Youth will try a socially distanced activity; families, please watch for emails as this will be an effort that needs your support for driving, chaperoning, and supplies!

Please let me know if there are any questions about youth programming (phone 319-899-1223 or email: angelaehle3@gmail.com), and thank you for your continued support!

Blessings,
Angie



YOUTH SCHEDULE

Tentative, based on Social Distancing requirements

Wednesday, July 1st:

6pm: Youth Group via Zoom

Sunday, July 5th:

6pm: Youth Group via Zoom

Wednesday, July 8th:

6:30pm-7:30pm: VBS

Sunday July 12th:

12 noon: Hiking at Palisades-Kepler State Park

Wednesday, July 15th:

6:30pm-7:30pm: VBS

Sunday, July 19th:

6pm: Youth Group via Zoom - Montreat theme

Wednesday, July 22th:

6:30pm-7:30pm: VBS

Sunday, July 26th:

6pm: Youth Group via Zoom

Wednesday, July 29th:

6:30pm-7:30pm: VBS

First Presbyterian Church near Ely Calendar, July 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 9:30 Bible Study LS 10:00 Coffee Chat Zoom 6:00 Youth Group Zoom	2	3	4 
5 Food Pantry 9:20 Park & Worship 9:30 Worship Livestream 10:00 Fellowship Zoom 6:00 Youth Group Zoom	6	7	8 9:30 Bible Study LS 10:00 Coffee Chat Zoom 6:00 Youth Group Zoom	9	10	11
12 9:20 Park & Worship 9:30 Worship Livestream 10:00 Fellowship Zoom 6:00 Youth Group Zoom	13	14	15 9:30 Bible Study LS 10:00 Coffee Chat Zoom 6:00 Youth Group Zoom	16 6:30 Session Meeting	17	18
19 9:20 Park & Worship 9:30 Worship Livestream 10:00 Fellowship Zoom 6:00 Youth Group Zoom	20 Newsletter Deadline	21	22 9:30 Bible Study LS 10:00 Coffee Chat Zoom 6:00 Youth Group Zoom	23	24	25
26 9:20 Park & Worship 9:30 Worship Livestream 10:00 Fellowship Zoom 6:00 Youth Group Zoom	27 6:30 TBD Ladies' Night Out	28	29 9:30 Bible Study LS 10:00 Coffee Chat Zoom 6:00 Youth Group Zoom	30	31	



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Faith Challenge Bingo Summer 2020

Complete a Bingo each week for a surprise prize for each Bingo, and four Bingos by the end of the summer for an ice cream cone at Dan and Debbie's!

Complete the 5 Minute Challenge Pray 1 min. Read Bible 3 min. Pray 1 min.	Attend church this week	Name the 12 apostles	List 3 things for which you are thankful	Do something kind for someone in your family
Send a note or card to someone in our church	Memorize Philipians 4:4	Write a positive message in chalk on the sidewalk for others to see	Leave a friendly note for your mail carrier	Make a meal and sit with your family to eat it
Jesus died on a cross. Gather things from the yard to make a cross	Bake a treat and deliver it to someone who works to keep us safe	FREE SPACE	Say a prayer for our congregation while we aren't able to be together	Memorize the Books of the Bible https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i7ZkWRSC7E
Complete the 5 Minute Challenge Pray 1 min. Read Bible 3 min. Pray 1 min.	Pick up litter in your neighborhood or a local park	Memorize Psalm 118:24	Do your chores without being told	Sing one of your favorite songs from church or church camp
List 3 people for whom you are thankful	Memorize Genesis 1:1	Do one extra chore today	Complete someone else's chore for them	Memorize Deuteronomy 6:5