



The Salt Shaker

October 2020

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

FROM THE PASTOR

For over three months our congregation worshipped exclusively online through Facebook live streaming (mid-March – June). Then for three months starting at the beginning of July, we added outdoor worship through FM radio and broadcasting and gathering under the trees.

Now, as the weather turns colder, we prepare to open the building to in-person worship on October 4 following COVID-19 guidelines. Some folks are extremely excited. Some folks are apprehensive. Some will attend. Some will stay at home and tune in by live streaming. Some will stick to their vehicle and listen.

Regardless of where your seat will be, you will be part of the church family. Even separated by physical space, whenever we worship, we worship together. And so, we begin our third three-month season living with COVID-19. This period leads up to Christmas. (We will figure out how to do that too.)

In all challenges we face, we will remain true to God and seek to be as faithful as physically, mentally, emotionally, and spiritually possible. God's blessings to you!

In Christ,
Pastor Julie

THANK YOU FOR THE SOUP/KOLACH DRIVE THROUGH

To all the volunteers who made this year's Soup and Kolach Event a one-of-a-kind experience: THANK YOU! We have learned in 2020 to be flexible and creative in accomplishing our hopes and goals. Blessings to you all.

CHICKEN NOODLE SOUP AND KOLACH SUPPER REPORT

From a faithful guest: "We enjoy your dinner every year. Glad you are still making the soup and kolaches available."



From a church member: "So happy we are doing something for the Soup Supper. It would be a shame to skip the Supper this year."

From me: When we voted to continue our Soup Supper at the Annual Meeting in January, who would have guessed the challenges to make, bake, and serve for our guests this year. I am so grateful for the support of our church members for this Soup Supper experiment. It seems to be going well. I am happy that we can provide some semblance of normalcy – it is comforting. Kolaches and Chicken Soup for the Soul -- to go! Joanne

To be continued in the November Salt Shaker with the results.

A THANK YOU TO OUR SOUPER WOMEN!

The camaraderie of cooking and baking together is alive and well. It is certainly different than years past - with masks, hairnets, and gloves, and distancing! But, the joy of working together came through with our Soup Team. Please thank: Viola Zahradnik, Eleanor Burke, Karen Zacek, Bonnie Fencel, Jean Kolek, Becky Grenis, Barb Horak, Sue Feyerabend, Diane Reist and Joanne Chadima for making chicken and broth. It was cooked at the church, cooled, then frozen. Matt Zacek provided the containers and freezer space. Karen Zacek made and applied ingredient labels. The soup sales for our Carry-Out Soup Supper is going very well.

Thanks again to all who contributed to this endeavor!

WORSHIP & PROGRAM

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

October 4: Worldwide Holy Communion
Matthew 22:34-46: His Guiding Principle

Liturgist: TBD

If you are at home and would like to participate by Facebook livestreaming, please have a symbol of bread to eat and a symbol of wine/juice to drink. If you are on church property, an Elder will have a prepackaged communion kit for you, or you may bring your own.

Begin indoor access to worship. Continuing Facebook livestreaming and FM broadcasting in parking lot.

October 11: Matthew 22:1-14: Where's the Party?

Liturgist: Becky Grenis

October 18: Matthew 22:15-22: A Closer Look

Liturgist: Matt Zacek

October 25, Reformation Sunday: Exodus 20:1-4,
7-9, 12-20: Generations

Liturgist: Angie Ehle

Accessibility from home:

Zoom at home fellowship: Sundays after worship-
10:30 a.m. Note: this time is limited when Sunday
School meets.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/681162913?pwd=UXNYZFdxXVVMYtVTjBqeG9DUFUUrQT09> Meeting ID: 681 162
913 Passcode: 309550

HANDBELL PROGRAM UPDATE

The handbell program has begun with some adjustments. Two groups are meeting weekly on Wednesdays: Beginners at 6:00 and Intermediate/Advanced at 7:00. We still need a few more participants to make sure all the bells are covered, so please think about attending. If you have any questions, please contact Stephanie at office@elypres.org or 319-389-6765.

SPECIAL MUSIC

Special music this fall looks a bit different as group singing is still highly discouraged. We continue to ask for volunteers to provide special music this fall. Please let Joanne, Sharon or Stephanie know if you would like to provide music during a service this fall.

CHURCH BUSINESS

WARNING: WEAR SUNGLASSES WHEN APPROACHING THE CHURCH

Our church building and manse have been professionally washed, and they gleam in the sunshine. The work was done before and after the Derecho. The wash water was treated to inhibit green moss growing on the north sides. Looks great!! Thanks to church members for donations so that this could be scheduled yet this autumn. The contractor, J's Exterior, is a locally owned Fairfax small business.

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.



SESSION NOTES

AUGUST 20, 2020 VIA ZOOM VIDEO CONFERENCE



The August 10 derecho left church property without electricity or water August 10-16. Manse property continued without electricity August 16-24. Initial insurance assessment made on August 17 with damage to building and shed roofs, damage in cemetery including two broken gravestones, two shifted gravestones, destroyed back porch door, minor siding damage to buildings, two church road signs snapped off, downed trees and limbs throughout, and some personal property damage of pastor's family.

Fourth grade Bibles will be presented in September.

Motion approved to invest the Water's Estate into an 18-month CD with 0.35% interest and the Skripsky, Hynek and Modracek estates into the Funds checking account. Motion approved to renew the \$10,000 Adult Education CD (maturing on September 9) with 0.35% for 18-month term.

Discussion concerning refreshments after worship. Refreshments can be served (not self-serve) with social distancing and additional cautions.

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance will be making a grant to the Presbytery of East Iowa for Derecho assistance. Our congregation may qualify.

The One Great Hour of Sharing offering was taken and blessed on July 26. School supply special donation were collected and donated locally.

The Custodial position has been filled by Dawn Zacek, who will begin her duties September 1, 2020. Pat Kilberger will continue bathroom and hall cleaning until Dawn takes over. Thank you, Pat!

Property – Second road treatment has been done. A lot of trees were down after the big storm, most have been cleaned up. There is still one

large tree limb in the playground area and Pat wants parents to caution their children. Two of our church road signs came down in the storm. The fascia on the church has been repaired by Dan Manders. Thank you to all the volunteers for hard work in cleaning up cemetery, church, and manse properties.

Safety and security guidelines are being investigated.

A survey will be conducted concerning worship and education to present to Session on September 10 meeting. Until that time, outside services will continue.

Youth Group has met by Zoom video conference for lessons and one boating outing. The meeting at Dan and Debbie's for ice cream was cancelled due to the derecho. A can collection is underway for the youth group fund.

Other Business – Soup Supper: After much discussion, the motion approved to have drive-through frozen soup and packaged kolaches. Online and phone orders by late September.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

A Congregational meeting will most likely be scheduled for October 25. Details to follow about format. Agenda items: Election of new church officers and financial update.



Volunteers prepare soup for the Chicken Noodle Soup & Kolach Supper

REOPENING PROTOCOL AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH NEAR ELY (as of 10/1/20)

Staff, Members, and Guests: Anyone age 65 or older, or with serious underlying health conditions are encouraged to talk to their healthcare provider to assess their risk and to determine if they should stay home. If they are sick, then they should stay at home. Facebook live streaming will continue for worship and Wednesday morning Bible study. Sunday School and Youth Group opportunities will continue online and outdoors as possible.

For Worship:

1. Entering the building
 - a. Hand sanitizers will be located by each doorway.
 - b. Face masks will be worn.
2. In Sanctuary
 - a. Family, couple, or individual sit 2 pews apart, minimum 6 feet from neighbors
 - b. Offering in plates in back entrance. Donations are encouraged through electronic donation.
 - c. Bulletins will also be sent electronically for usage on digital devices.
 - d. Communion will be served by prepackaged kits distributed by masked and gloved Elder at beginning of worship service.
3. Restrooms: disinfect available and encouraged for each person's usage.
4. Fellowship time limited after worship (no self-serve.)
5. Regular cleaning and disinfecting of hard surfaces--before and after people enter and exit building with CDC approved procedures and disinfectants.
6. Sunday School activities will be outdoors with activities with built in social distancing. When the weather becomes

prohibitive, Sunday School will meet in the church living room and youth room with social distancing.

Procedure when COVID-19 has been reported by a member, guest, or staff within the building:

1. Church will contact all who were in the building on the date(s) by email or phone call.
2. Continue disinfectant practices in cleaning.
3. Church building will close if notification is within 2-week self-quarantine/isolation time frame and risk of contact deems prudent.

Posted at entryways at church:

Please evaluate how you are feeling before entering. If you have any of the following symptoms, please do not attend today:

- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Chills
- Repeated shaking with chills
- Muscle pain
- Headache
- Sore throat
- Loss of taste or smell
- Diarrhea
- Feeling feverish or having a temperature greater than or equal to 100.0 degrees F
- Known Close contact with a person who is lab-confirmed to have COVID-19
- Traveled outside USA in the last two weeks
- Traveled on an airplane in the last two weeks

Wear a mask.

Practice social distancing.

Thank you for watching out for each other.

FROM THE CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION (CDC, 9-23-20)

Fall Holiday Celebrations will likely need to be different this fall to prevent the spread of the virus that causes COVID-19. Avoid activities that are higher risk for spread. Consider fun alternatives that pose lower risk of spreading the virus that causes COVID-19.

Halloween: Many traditional Halloween activities can be high-risk for spreading viruses. There are several safer, alternative ways to participate in Halloween. If you may have COVID-19 or you may have been exposed to someone with COVID-19, you should not participate in in-person Halloween festivities and should not give out candy to trick-or-treaters.

Lower risk activities. These lower risk activities can be safe alternatives:

- Carving or decorating pumpkins with members of your household and displaying them
- Carving or decorating pumpkins outside, at a safe distance, with neighbors or friends
- Decorating your house, apartment, or living space
- Doing a Halloween scavenger hunt where children are given lists of Halloween-themed things to look for while they walk outdoors from house to house admiring Halloween decorations at a distance
- Having a virtual Halloween costume contest
- Having a Halloween movie night with people you live with
- Having a scavenger hunt-style trick-or-treat search with your household members in or around your home rather than going house to house

Moderate risk activities.

- Participating in one-way trick-or-treating where individually wrapped goodie bags are lined up for families to grab and go while continuing to social distance (such as at the end of a driveway or at the edge of a yard)
- If you are preparing goodie bags, wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 second before and after preparing the bags.
- Having a small group, outdoor, open-air costume parade where people are distanced more than 6 feet apart

- Attending a costume party held outdoors where protective masks are used and people can remain more than 6 feet apart
- A costume mask (such as for Halloween) is not a substitute for a cloth mask. A costume mask should not be used unless it is made of two or more layers of breathable fabric that covers the mouth and nose and doesn't leave gaps around the face.
- Do not wear a costume mask over a protective cloth mask because it can be dangerous if the costume mask makes it hard to breathe. Instead, consider using a Halloween-themed cloth mask.
- Going to an open-air, one-way, walk-through haunted forest where appropriate mask use is enforced, and people can remain more than 6 feet apart
- If screaming will likely occur, greater distancing is advised. The greater the distance, the lower the risk of spreading a respiratory virus.
- Visiting pumpkin patches or orchards where people use hand sanitizer before touching pumpkins or picking apples, wearing masks is encouraged or enforced, and people are able to maintain social distancing
- Having an outdoor Halloween movie night with local family friends with people spaced at least 6 feet apart.
- Lower your risk by following CDC's recommendations on hosting gatherings or cook-outs.

Higher risk activities. Avoid these higher risk activities to help prevent the spread of the virus that causes COVID-19:

- Participating in traditional trick-or-treating where treats are handed to children who go door to door
- Having trunk-or-treat where treats are handed out from trunks of cars lined up in large parking lots
- Attending crowded costume parties held indoors
- Going to an indoor haunted house where people may be crowded together and screaming
- Going on hayrides or tractor rides with people who are not in your household
- Using alcohol or drugs, which can cloud judgement and increase risky behaviors
- Traveling to a rural fall festival that is not in your community if you live in an area with community spread of COVID-19

FAITH DEVELOPMENT

WEDNESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

Wednesday Bible Study will continue by Facebook live streaming in October. Matthew 19+

Coffee Chat will be by zoom around 10:00 a.m. on Wednesdays.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/250060150?pwd=MHVKMU4rRWWhoOVJlbHdZcElGVHpJUT09> Meeting ID: 250 060 150 Passcode: 386508

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday School will continue outdoors as long as possible along with Zoom after worship.

Wear your yoga pants/easy to move in clothes and bring your yoga mat/beach towel. Jeff Reist and Leslie Harder will be leading us in Story and Stretch outside on church grounds (weather permitting). You may attend in person or virtually via Zoom. Each lesson will have a Bible Gospel story, game, mindfulness activity, retelling the story with yoga poses, and discussion.

Also, we will continue music for younger children (even without singing) with bells, boomwackers, and percussion. All items will be sanitized before and after. We will be careful about social distancing, mask wearing, and sanitizing procedures.

If you have questions, please contact the church. We hope to see you there!

COMMUNITY & OUTREACH

CROP WALK

Ely CROP Walk 2020: Walking Virtually

Due to COVID-19, the annual CROP Walk in Ely will not take place. We as neighborhood churches (St John Lutheran, Shueyville United Methodist, and First Presbyterian near Ely) are collecting donations in two ways:

1. Write a check to CROP Walk and hand it in with your church donation.

2. Donate online.

<https://www.crophungerwalk.org/elyia/Team/View/138803/First-Pres-Ely>

Remember, 25% of your donation remains in our community.



Hello from Youth Group!

Youth and teachers began school in late August/early

September, amid many questions and much anxiety about returning while COVID continues. At the writing of this message, many students are going to “in class” learning while others are doing “at home” learning and for some it is a combination hybrid of the two styles. We ask that you join us and continue to pray for God's protection for the safety of all students, teachers, paras, bus drivers, counselors, parents and administration as school continues in this uncertain time. Our God is sovereign and in control; Praise to Him and Thanksgiving for His Plan for each of us!

In September, youth began a series of lessons on Racism: what is it, what the Bible says about it, and how we can align our lives accordingly. We've learned that racism is sin, and God created mankind as ONE race, the Human Race. Each person is a special and unique Masterpiece, beautiful and magnificent AS IS, who represents His Love. Our capacity to love and get along with others is connected to our Love for God. We have room to grow in our desire and ability to keep His Great Commandments and be more like Jesus.

In addition, we shared 30 popular Christian music songs over the 30 days of September. it was an opportunity to listen to God's Word and message sung in fun, upbeat ways!

In October, we will continue Zoom Youth Group meetings on Sunday nights at 6pm, with a few exceptions. By the end of the month, we will begin to meet inside the church or another building, if CDC recommendations allow.

Also, **On Friday, October 23rd at 5:30pm Youth Group will be hosting a virtual Halloween ZOOM event for all ages.** This will include a slideshow “parade” of all participants in their costumes, a delivery of a Halloween treat bag to all participants, and other Halloween fun! To prepare for participation, please send **by October 21st:**

1. your email address for the zoom invitation,
2. a digital picture of you/your child in costume,
3. an address for goodie bag delivery

We continue 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 or delivery. We hope this is helpful for you and the Earth - to avoid your trip to redeem these containers, and keep them from the landfill!

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 – October 2020



Sunday, October 4th:

10:30am: outside SS - weather permitting / socially distanced inside
6pm: Youth Group via Zoom

Sunday October 11th:

10:30am: outside SS - weather permitting / socially distanced inside
6pm: Youth Group via Zoom

Sunday, October 18th:

10:30am: outside SS - weather permitting / socially distanced inside
6pm: Youth Group circle the wagons outside church / socially distanced inside

Friday October 23:

5:30pm: Kids Halloween party VIA ZOOM: wear a costume!

Sunday, October 25th:

10:30am: Sunday School in Youth Room
6pm: Youth Group

Sunday, November 1st:

10:30am: Sunday School in Youth Room
6pm: Youth Group

All youth should plan to bring a mask for ALL “at church” Events! Hand Sanitizer is provided.

First Presbyterian Church near Ely Calendar, October 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 AM Kolach baking @ Theresa Grieder's House	2 6:00 – Noon: Kolach baking @ church 9:00 – 1:00: Packaging 2:45 – 6:15: Customer P/U	3 6:00 – Noon: Kolach baking @ church 9:00 – 1:00: Packaging 2:45 – 6:15: Customer P/U
4 Food Pantry, World Wide Communion 9:30 Worship in Sanctuary/Livestream/ FM broadcasting 10:30 Fellowship Zoom 10:30 SS Outside/LS 6:00 Youth Group Zoom	5	6	7 9:30 Bible Study LS 10:00 Coffee Chat Zoom 6:00 Beginner HB 7:00 Intermediate HB	8	9	10
11 9:30 Worship in Sanctuary/Livestream/ FM broadcasting 10:30 Fellowship Zoom 10:30 SS Outside/LS 6:00 Youth Group Zoom	12 	13	14 9:30 Bible Study LS 10:00 Coffee Chat Zoom 6:00 Beginner HB 7:00 Intermediate HB	15 6:30 Session Meeting	16	17
18 9:30 Worship in Sanctuary/Livestream/ FM broadcasting 10:30 Fellowship Zoom 10:30 SS Outside/LS 6:00 Youth Group Zoom	19 Newsletter Deadline	20	21 9:30 Bible Study LS 10:00 Coffee Chat Zoom 6:00 Beginner HB 7:00 Intermediate HB	22	23 5:30 ZOOM Halloween Party	24
25 Reformation Sunday 9:30 Worship in Sanctuary/Livestream/ FM broadcasting 10:30 Fellowship Zoom 10:30 SS Outside/LS 6:00 Youth Group Zoom	26	27	28 9:30 Bible Study LS 10:00 Coffee Chat Zoom 6:00 Beginner HB 7:00 Intermediate HB	29	30	31 



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The Reformation

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SALVATION
ECCLESIASTICAL
PAGAN
MONK
THEOLOGY
EDICT
HERETIC
BULL
PAPACY
DIET
REFORMATION
PAPAL
THESES
INDULGENCES
LAITY
SACRAMENT