

Pastor's Ponderings – October 2012

Dear Sisters and Brothers:

Sometimes a big or large number is a good thing while other times a big or large number is a bad thing!

If you have a favorite football team than a big or large number of penalties in a games against your team are a bad thing, while a big or large number of touchdowns in a game for your team are a good thing!

If you had a big or large number of teeth in need of fillings, that is a bad thing for you and a good thing for the dentist, while a big or large number of teeth free of needing fillings is a bad thing for the dentist and a good thing for you.

If you have a big or large number of carp on the stringer, that is a bad thing for you (not exceeding the limit), but a big or large number of walleyes on the stringer is a good thing for you (not exceeding the limit).

If you have a big or large number of sleepless nights, that is a bad thing for you, but if you have a big or large number of peaceful and restful nights, that is a good thing for you.

Yes, sometimes a big or large number is a good thing while other times a big or large number is a bad thing!

Just this last week, something amazing happened. It had something to do with a big or large number. This big or large number was not good, no not good at all. It was – it was– it was **G R E A T!!!**

So this **G R E A T** number we are talking about here had nothing to do with football, teeth, fish or sleep. This **G R E A T** number we are talking about here had to do with our leading the *Boundary Waters Care Center* worship service on Sunday, September 16, 2012 !!!

One of our Church Family members shared a thought during our morning worship service at church on Sunday, September 16, 2012 concerning our leading the afternoon worship service at the *Boundary Waters Care Center*. The thought shared by one of our Church Family members had to do with the number of people who might come to the service and participate in the service with the residents of the *Boundary Waters Care Center*. Well the number who came, who participated with the residents of the *Boundary Waters Care Center* was big, was large, it was an amazing **18** and **G R E A T!!!**

Yes, sometimes a big or large number is a good thing while other times a big or larger number is a bad thing. On this day, this was a **G R E A T** thing, adding depth of warmth and love to our worship service experience with the residents of the *Boundary Waters Care Center*!!!

Wow, we here in the Ely United Methodist Church have had a wonderful summer worshipping as the Family of God on Sunday mornings!!! We have had a good number of people in worship Sunday by Sunday, thanks in part to our extended family of brothers and sisters who reside with us during the summer or make short term trips to Ely during the summer and yet witness to the importance of taking time to **WORSHIP** our gracious and loving **GOD** !!!

Summer has come to a close. Our summer residents have tended to leave and we will have less numbers of short termers coming through our doors on Sunday mornings. Worshipping our gracious and loving **GOD** is a **G R E A T** opportunity and experience if we open our hearts, minds, and spirits, which has the potential to become an even **G R E A T E R** experience when each of us as brothers and sisters in the Family of God add our hearts, minds, and spirits to the experience !!!

Yes, sometimes a big or large number is a good thing while other times a big or large number is a bad thing. Sometimes a big or large number is a **G R E A T** thing !!!