

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Ah yes, time to pull out that old but familiar saying, which goes something like this: “April Showers bring May Flowers”!

Ah yes, there is a song written by Brenda Lee and Tammy Wynette that states: “I never promised you a rose garden along with the sunshine there’s gonna be a little rain sometime...”!

Ah yes, “April Showers bring May Flowers”, and with the rain and sunshine comes that beautiful “Rainbow”!

Easter has come and will be gone and that is no kind of “April Fool’s Joke”! Indeed, Easter is being celebrated on March 31 this year.

After, the “April Showers” begin to fall the expectation of “May Flowers” will soon follow; after, the Rains begin to fall and the Sun breaks through the clouds there will often be a beautiful Rainbow that follows; after, “Easter” which could be called about the most ultimate statement of God’s gracious love for us, what is there?

Well, the answer to the above question, what follows “Easter”, much like the flowers, and much like the rainbow, what follows the celebration of “Easter” is more “Easter” or more ultimate love from God, for us!!!

Just think about it “Easter” is all about being “ALIVE”, and “Easter” highlights just how “ALIVE” God’s LOVE is for us!!!

Yes, with “Easter” we celebrate the “Empty Tomb” and the “Resurrection” of JESUS the CHRIST, our precious LORD and SAVIOR!!! Yes, with “Easter” we celebrate “ALIVE”!!!

Beyond “Easter” and “ALIVE”, beyond the ultimate statement of GOD’S GRACIOUS LOVE for us; more “Easter” and more of God’s LOVE for us “ALIVE”!!!

God’s LOVE for us “ALIVE” beyond “Easter”, is found in God’s gracious gift of the Holy Spirit to nurture, comfort, and guide us, as we seek to walk with God and grow our relationships with God, as children in God’s Family!!!

God’s LOVE for us “ALIVE” beyond “Easter”, is found in God’s gracious gift of the Church where we as brothers and sisters in the Family of God can gather to worship God and to fellowship with one another as Family, while growing our relationships with God and with one another!!!

God’s LOVE for us “ALIVE” beyond “Easter”, is found in God’s gracious gift of the New Testament Scriptures which combined with the Old Testament Scriptures empower a powerful statement of “Promises Made” and “Promises Fulfilled” by our amazing God!!! The God promises, God has provided out of LOVE for us, so that we might grow our relationships with God and with one another!!!

God’s LOVE for us “ALIVE” beyond “Easter”, is found in God’s gracious gift of witnesses old and new who continue to proclaim the wonder of God if we will pause and open our ears to hear!!!

So, just as “April Showers” are followed by “May Flowers”; just as the Rain and Sun combine to allow the beautiful Rainbow to follow; “Easter” is about God’s gracious LOVE for us “ALIVE” through the Holy Spirit, the Church, the Scriptures, and the Witness Made, these are among the precious things that follow “Easter”!!!

Love in Christ,

Dana

ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL – MINUTES March 20, 2013
Ely United Methodist Church Number Present: 11

Chairman Jay Tomlinson called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Pastor Dana Thompson began the meeting with an Opening Thought from “*The Upper Room*”, followed by an opening prayer.

The Minutes of the February 20, 2013 Ad Council meeting were approved; with two typographic corrections; to the minutes printed in the Church Newsletter for March.

The **Treasurer’s Reports** for February, 2013 was presented by Treasurer Mark Olson. The report was highlighted. The February, 2013 end of the month account balances - General Fund: \$4,392.12; Building Fund: \$5,197.91; Reserve Fund \$5,004.19; Memorial Fund: \$10,439.78

The **Board of Trustees** will meet on April 1, 2013.

The **Memorial Fund Task Force** will meet on May 7, 2013.

The **Outreach Committee** arranged for 10 quilts to be sent to male Alzheimer’s sufferers.

Old Business

1. **Church Insurance Agency Corp.** – A quote request was requested. None has been received.
2. A **Pasty Making Cleaning Task Schedule** was written by Butch Diesslin. The schedule was shared with those present. This schedule will be posted during pasty making.

New Business

1. This year’s **Lenten Supper** proceeds were \$318.
A motion by Lucy Diesslin/Linda Hane to send \$159 to the **Ely Food Shelf** was approved.
A motion by Bonnie Berglund/Keith Rue to send \$159 to **Northwoods Hospice Respite Partners** was approved.
2. Jay Tomlinson reported the **March Pasty Making** produced 680 pasties, with net income of \$2,715.74.
3. Dana Thompson made a request that the Church replace the existing answering machine and two wired telephones with a new answering machine and 3 cordless phones. Those present approved a motion by Lucy Diesslin/Bonnie Berglund to make the purchase from the Church’s General Fund.

4. Those present approved a motion (Toni Floyd/Lucy Diesslin) authorizing the **Memorial Fund Task Force** to use monies from the memorial fund to purchase new metal folding chairs; to replace the old and worn gray folding chairs currently in the Fellowship Hall.
5. Bonnie Berglund showed everyone **Pocket Crosses** made by the Prayer Shawl Ministries members. These Pocket Crosses will be offered to those attending Easter Sunday Worship Service.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. Children’s International requested an increase of \$3/month of our child sponsorship. Request approved.
2. Children’s International requested our donation to purchase our 4 gifts (Birthday, Christmas, Easter, Parasite Treatment) to our sponsored child be increased. Approved increasing gift amount by \$10 per gift.

ITEMS OF INFORMATION

1. **Pasty Callers** are reminded to contact Jeanne Tomlinson [(218) 235-8470] by Friday, April 12 with counts. Jeanne is accepting new customers – contact Jeanne with names and phone numbers.
2. Those making **Baby Hats** are reminded the hats must be completed by March 27.
3. Toni Floyd announced the **Outreach Committee** will be accepting “*Change for Chicagami*” during the month of April. The proceeds will be allow children with needs to attend Camp Chicagami on Half Moon Lake south of Eveleth this coming summer.
4. Lucy Diesslin announced the **Annual Conference Love Offering** will be collected on Sunday, May 26.
5. Linda Hane expressed **Appreciation and Thanks** to our Sunday School for their volunteer service to the children of the Church. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:13 PM. The meeting was closed by those attending reciting “*The Lords Prayer*”.

Respectfully Submitted, Blaine “Butch” Diesslin

INSPIRATION:

Psalm 25: 1-12

“To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.
O my God; in you I trust;
do not let me be put to shame;
do not let my enemies exult over me.
Do not let those who wait for you be put to shame;
let them be ashamed who are wantonly treacherous.
Make me to know your ways, O Lord;
teach me your paths.
Lead me in your truth, and teach me,
for you are the God of my salvation;
for you I wait all day long.
Be mindful of your mercy, O Lord, and of your steadfast love,
for they have been from of old.
Do not remember the sins of my youth or my transgressions;
according to your steadfast love remember me,
for your goodness’ sake, O Lord!
Good and upright is the Lord;
therefore he instructs sinners in the way.
He leads the humble in what is right,
and teaches the humble his way.
All the paths of the Lord are steadfast love and faithfulness,
for those who keep his covenant and his decrees.
For your name’s sake, O Lord,
pardon my guilt, for it is great.
Who are they that fear the Lord?
He will teach them the way that they should choose.”

Change for Chicagami:

Camp Chicagami is located a few miles south of Eveleth. Its mission is to make the joys and lessons of a camp experience available and affordable for all children of Northern Minnesota. It is especially focused on educational and summer camp programs to serve children from across the Iron Range. The experience has impressive outcomes. In a recent survey a vast majority of campers’ parents reported a noticeable, positive change in their children after the experience. They reported that their children had become more confident and independent, happier and more enthusiastic, and more socially interactive and comfortable with peers.

Serving local children since 1922, Camp Chicagami is an independent, local, nonprofit organization overseen by a volunteer board of directors. They strive to make their programs available to as many children as possible on an equal opportunity basis, regardless of a family’s ability to pay the full cost of camp. To that end Camp Chicagami raises funds throughout the year to provide scholarships to children who receive free or reduced-price lunches at school. They also work with outside agencies and individuals to provide financial assistance to at-risk youth, children with disabilities or special needs, and children with special family circumstances.

During the month of April, Toni Floyd will have a jar labeled “Change for Chicagami” in the sanctuary to collect donations for this worthwhile endeavor. Please help the children of Camp Chicagami by emptying your pockets.

SPECIAL WORD OF :

APPRECIATION AND THANKSGIVING !!!

WOW !!! WOW !!! WOW !!! Yes, three times the **WOW** for each and every **PERSON** who participated in helping our Ely U.M.C host the Lenten Supper on March 14,2013 at St. Anthony's Catholic Church !!!

We again started working together at 1:00 PM in our church basement --- turns out --- we had so much **AWESOME** and **WONDERFUL** help --- we have decided to start at 2:00 PM next year when we host one of the 2014 Lenten Suppers for our community !!! **WOW !!!**

Well, before we ever started on Thursday March 14,2013 there was planning --- planning --- yes planning !!! People had to order pasty product, prepare butter, create a sign-up board of various responsibilities, and people had to sign-up for those responsibilities and follow through !!! **WOW !!!**

Well, after we finished making the pasties on Thursday March 14, 2013 there was much more to do --- setting up, dishing out, serving up, picking up and clean up !!! **WOW !!!**

What a **TREMENDOUS**, **AWESOME** and **WONDERFUL** display of service was provided by the Ely U.M.C. Family that **DAY !!!**

With **APPRECIATION** and **THANKSGIVING** to **ALL !!**

WOW !!! WOW !!! WOW !!!

A SEPERATE PASTY REPORT

Yes, we all like to see
The numbers,
Yes, we want to increase
Our customer base,
But, this report is not about
Our numbers or our customers !!!

This is a “Separate Pasty Report” giving **THANKS** for each and everyone who is a part of what we will call here the “Pasty Crew” !!! To you, the “Pasty Crew” we say **THANK YOU** and **WELL** done !!!

Set us give **THANKS** today for the vegetable crew, the dough making crew, the mixing crew, the dough rolling crew, the clomping crew, the crimping crew, the baking crew that is also the bagging crew and washing crew most of the time !!! yes, let us give **THANKS** for all these different **PASTY CREWS** and the many people who participate on **MULTIPLE** crews !!! We have been **BLESSED** by some very **AWESOME SERVICE** from our “pasty Crews” !!!

However, let us also give **THANKS** for the **DID YOU KNOW CREW:**

- did you know people sweep and mop floors, before, during, After
- did you know people fill potato buckets with water half Way up
- did you know people actually volunteer to haul garbage And waste
- did you know people bare the cold breezes of winter to sell
- did you know people manage all the forgotten pasties that Did not sell
- did you know people set-up the room for pasty production Day
- did you know people clean the ovens

- did you know people turn the butter into those squared Cubes
- did you know people reflect, consider, discuss how we Might do it better
- did you know people call the pasty lists
- did you know people create the pasty lists

Ah yes, the DID YOU KNOW crew is an AWESOME crew too, for which we say THANK YOU!!!

Sometimes we come to Pasties, we do our THING, whatever our THING may be, but in truth there are many, many LAYERS to this ministry of “Making Pasties”; for mopping floors, for hauling garbage, for cleaning ovens, for crimping and so much more, we say THANK YOU for caring, for sharing and for participating ONE and ALL!!!

BIBLE STUDY:

April 2013
Thursdays at 2:00 PM

Thursday, April 4	Acts 2:1-42
Thursday, April 11	Acts 4:1-31
Thursday, April 18	Acts 7:1-60
Thursday, April 25	Acts 8:1-40

SPECIAL WORSHIP SERVICES:

Sunday April 7 at 2:30 P.M.
“Boundary Waters Care Center”
Wednesday April 10 at 1:00 P.M.
“Care Free Living” Facility

SAY WHAT ???
CAN YOU IMAGINE ???

We here in the Ely U.M.C. will be CELEBRATING yet again this coming November.

SAY WHAT ???
CAN YOU IMAGINE ???

This seems all so ... this seems all so BAZAAR!!! Ah yes, every other year we have a fund raising event that we call our Ely U.M.C. Bazaar!!! This is the year 2013, so lets get ready to CELEBRATE:

Crafts, crafts, crafts,
Bake table, bake table, bake table,
Coffee ands, coffee ands, coffee ands

This is just a little reminder to those of you who may be crafty or can be helpful or who can help out in other ways. The Bazaar is Saturday, November 9, 2013.

TWO PASTY REPORTS

Lenten Supper Pasty Report:
189 pasties made
107 people attending Lenten Supper
106 paid for \$318.00
114 pasties served
75 pasties sold separately \$225.00
Future start time 2:00 PM

March Pasty Financial Report:
680 pasties made
\$4,066.00 Deposited
\$1,350.26 product and supply costs
\$2,715.74 Net Income

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

A NEW: “Matter of Balance” class
SPONSORED BY: “Northwoods Hospice Respite
Partners”
HELD AT: ”Ely United Methodist Church”
(basement)

BEGINS ON: “April 17,2013” ...8 weeks
TIME OF: 10:00 AM – 11:45 AM
COST OF: \$20.00 – Scholarships available

Do you have concerns about falling? “A Matter of Balance” manages concerns about falls. This class may be for you.

Yet again “Northwoods Hospice Respite Partners” will be host to “A Matter of Balance” classes at our Ely U.M.C. beginning April 17, 2013

If you are interested in attending this class or have some questions about this class, please contact the “Northwoods Hospice Respite Partners” offices at (218) 365-8019 or see the poster located in the Church overflow/coffee room and the bulletin board located there.

(Church basement in use 9:00 AM to 12:15 PM)