

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

My Hope Is Built #368
Easter People, Raise Your Voices #304
Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me #361
Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart #160
Your Love, O God #120

Come, Christians, Join to Sing #158
Hark! the Herald Angels Sing #240
Rock-a-Bye, My Dear Little Boy #235
I Love to Tell the Story #156
Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling #348
'Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus #462
More Love to Thee, O Christ #453
Amazing Grace #378
Silent Night, Holy Night #239

!

Ah yes, there are many hymns found in our Church Hymnal, of those hymns many may be called "CLASSICS" or at least "TRADITIONAL" hymns. Another way of saying "TRADITIONAL" is to say that these may be among the hymns we grew up with.

Many but not all of the hymns above are for me what I would call "TRADITIONAL" hymns!!! However, not all of the above hymns are "TRADITIONAL" for me, because I was trying to work out the words MERRY CHRISTMAS from Hymn Titles.

Speaking of "CHRISTMAS" there are many different "TRADITIONS" in connection with "CHRISTMAS" we may or may not follow within our families!!!

Among the many "CHRISTMAS" "TRADITIONS" we may be aware of: the Shopping Mall Santa Claus, the very famous Christmas Tree, Christmas Decorations, with a big shout out to those famous Christmas Lights, Christmas Cards, Christmas Dinners, Christmas Travel, Christmas Carolers and Carols, and of course those o so very famous Christmas Gifts!!!

Now, as wonderful as these old and new "CHRISTMAS" "TRADITIONS" can be, be they hymns or otherwise, something beautiful may become "LOST" in our celebration of a "Very Merry CHRISTmas"!!!

"CHRISTMAS" is meant to be focused on a celebration of the CHRIST CHILD'S birth regardless, yes regardless of our many and various wonderful "TRADITIONS"!!!

Ah yes, a "Baby Boy Born in Bethlehem" a celebration of the "CHRIST" in "CHRISTmas"!!!

BE-----ready
BE-----open
BE-----hopeful
BE-----filled with the wonder of God's gracious love!!!

"MERRY CHRISTmas"

Love in Christ,

Pastor Dana

ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL – MINUTES
Ely United Methodist Church

November 16, 2016
Number Present: 7

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

Attendees: (7) Jay Tomlinson, Jeanne Tomlinson, Margie Olson, Mark Olson, Butch Diesslin, Lucy Diesslin, Dana Thompson.

Pastor Dana Thompson began the meeting with an Opening Thought from “The Upper Room” devotional for November 16, 2016, followed by an opening prayer.

The **Minutes of the October 19, 2016 Ad Council** meeting were approved as printed in the Newsletter. (/M/Lucy/S/Margie)

The **Treasurer’s Report for October, 2016** was presented by Treasurer Mark Olson and accepted. The October end of the month account balances - General Fund: \$5,269.86; Building Fund: \$12,365.64; Memorial Fund: \$11,177.77; Parish Health Ministries \$400; Undesignated Funds \$4,509.86. (/M/Jeanne/S/Lucy)

The **Board of Trustees** The siding on the bell tower has been replaced. Thank you David Archambault and Dana Thompson.

The **Memorial Committee** met November 11 and the expenditure of \$1,080 for the purchase of a wireless, omnidirectional microphone

The **Parish Health Ministries** is discontinuing scheduled blood pressure checks for the winter months. Margie Olson will gladly check blood pressures for those contacting her by telephone.

Old Business

1. **Omnidirectional Microphone Purchase.** Moved by Jeanne; second by Margie; to purchase an

omnidirectional microphone with Memorial funds.
Motion Approved.

NEW BUSINESS

1. **Five Love Languages Study Books.** The instructor materials for the study have been received and are being reviewed. A decision on purchasing the student books postponed to the December Ad Council meeting.
2. Treasurer Mark Olson reported that the Church has a new Minnesota Tax Identification Number, needed for the sales tax exemption as a non-profit when purchasing items for the Church.
3. **Church Conference.** The Conference of the membership for 2017 will be at **7:00 P.M.** on **Wednesday, December 21, 2016** in the Church Sanctuary.

CORRESPONDENCE

Children’s International sent the Church an update on our sponsored child, along with Christmas Greetings to the Church and its members.

ITEMS OF INFORMATION

1. **Pasty Report for November** – Made 728, Deposited \$4,369.00, Expenses \$1,142.53, Net Income \$3,226.47
2. **Pre-Holiday “*Hanging of the Greens*” sanctuary decorating and Pot Luck Dinner.** Saturday December 3, 2016 – 4:00 PM Decorating begins; 6:00 PM Pot Luck –all are invited.

The meeting was closed at 7:27 PM by those attending reciting “*The Lords Prayer*”.

Respectfully Submitted, Blaine “Butch” Diesslin, Ad.
Council Secretary

Pasty Reports:

October and November 2016

October

Made Pasties- 703
Deposit- \$4,213.00
Cost- \$1,386.87
Net Income- \$2,826.13

November

Made Pasties- 728
Deposit- \$4,369.00
Cost- \$1,142.53
Net Income- \$3,226.47

UMW Christmas Luncheon

Calling all Methodist Women! Take a little break from the busy holiday preparations and join us for a relaxing Christmas lunch at the Grand Ely Lodge on Wednesday, Dec 14 at 12 noon. We'll each be ordering our own meal from the menu so there is no advance payment needed. But we will need to let the GEL know ahead of time for how many places to set up, so please call 235-8470 by Sunday, Dec 11 if you will be able to come.

The **Guild/UMW** at Ely United Methodist Church on
Wednesday October 26, 2016 2-4 pm

The Guild/UMW met at the Church with 8 people in attendance. President Bonnie Berglund opened the meeting with a prayer by Pastor Dana and a unison reading the UMW Purpose.

The minutes from our September 28, 2016 meeting were read and approved as read. (Motion Lucy Diesslin, second Tootsie Loe).

For the Treasurer's Report, Bonnie reported the following information from Sharon Luthens: Checking \$3059.99; Savings \$7510.44; CD \$10,739.86. The \$100 donation for the Emma Norton House had been sent as requested from the September meeting. The report was approved. (Motion Tootsie, second Lucy).

Old Business

- **Festival of Trees:** Jeanne Tomlinson reported she had contacted Jan Rue who had once again agreed to take care of the wreath. Lucy was going to touch bases with Jan about picking up the wreath from Northwoods Partner.
- **125th Anniversary:** The celebration has been scheduled for Sunday, August 6 and our DS, Mark Miller, will be attending.
- **Meeting Day Change:** We briefly discussed this again (moving our meeting date to the 4th Thursday in place of Bible Study) and decided that we need to discuss this first with the people who attend Bible Study but don't come to the Guild/UMW meeting.

New Business

- **Christmas Dinner:** We discussed the idea of once again holding a UMW Christmas Dinner but decided

that this year we should probably push the all-church Christmas Potluck that follows the Hanging of the Greens instead. It was suggested that we could perhaps have a Christmas Lunch at the GEL together instead. We'll discuss the details of that at our Nov meeting

- **Funeral Help Call List:** Gail Haney was experiencing some difficulties with getting help at funerals, possibly because her list of who she was to call has shrunk considerably. A signup sheet has been started for folks to sign up at church and a short article about it is in the November FISH. Bonnie Berglund also reported that she had discussed an idea with Gail Haney: to go through the directory and just call women who live in the area until she gets enough help. And then start with the next set of names for the next time. Bonnie had even gone through the directory to highlight names.
- **Advent Study:** Pastor Dana mentioned the 4-Sunday Advent Study we'll be doing this year on Nov 6 & 13 and Dec 4 & 11.
- **Hostesses:** Jeanne Tomlinson mentioned we still don't have anyone signed up to hostess for Feb 22 or May 24 yet. Bonnie Berglund volunteered to do May 24 since she'll be back by then and Tootsie Loe signed up for Feb 22.

We adjourned at 2:30 pm.

The **Guild/UMW** at Ely United Methodist Church on
Wednesday November 16, 2016 2-4 pm

The Guild/UMW met at the Church with 9 people in attendance. Vice President Lucy Diesslin opened the meeting with a prayer by Pastor Dana and a unison reading the UMW Purpose.

The minutes from our October 26, 2016 meeting were read and approved as read. (Motion Tootsie Loe, second Jeri Walburn).

For the Treasurer's Report, Sharon Luthens reported that we have Checking \$3059.99; Savings \$7510.44; CD \$10,739.86. She hadn't yet received the November deposits or bills. The report was approved as presented. (Motion Tootsie Loe, second Jeanne Tomlinson)

Old Business

- **Festival of Trees:** Lucy reported that the trees have been set up for decorating at the GEL and all the wreaths have been picked up. Final set up is Sunday November 20.
- **125th Anniversary:** (Aug 6, 2017) Lucy reported that the committee is looking at possibly having a catered dinner, to be held at St Anthony's since we'd need more space. She mentioned the committee may be asking UMW to help subsidize the costs to keep the per person charge to a minimum.
- **Meeting Day Change:** We tabled this topic since we haven't discussed this with the Bible Study group yet.
- **Christmas Lunch:** We decided we would have a lunch for all of the women of the church and hold it at the GEL with each participant ordering & paying for their own lunch. We set the time at 12 Noon. Jeanne will write up a short article for the FISH to let everyone know and she will also serve as the contact point for people to sign up so we can get a count in advance for making reservations at the GEL.
- **Funeral Help Call List:** We briefly discussed how we had a couple new people helping at the memorial service held on Nov 12. Gail Haney had mentioned how she's nervous calling people she doesn't know

to ask for help so Jeanne offered to contact her and offer help with that.

- **Advent Study:** This year's Advent Study is underway and going well.

New Business

- **Ecumenical Service:** Lucy reported that members of the Episcopal & Presbyterian churches are approaching other churches to perhaps do a joint service in the park. One thought was to perhaps combine it with the multi-church BBQ and move that to the park to follow the service.

We adjourned at 2:30 pm. (Motion Janice Tessier, second Donna Rusco)

2017 is Coming !!!

On the next page our 2017 Ely U.M.C. Budget !!!

Please take time to consider your 2017 **Financial Support** for your Ely U.M.C. and the Ministries of the Ely U.M.C. as we seek to walk with God and be in service with God within our community and beyond.

As we ask you to consider your 2017 Ely U.M.C. support we say a heartfelt ***THANK YOU*** to each and every one of you who provided support in ***2016*** because it looks like we will meet all of our financial obligations for ***2016*** and we have already met our ***GOAL*** for ***2016*** with regards to the Minnesota Annual Conference program called "Reach, Renew, Rejoice".

Yes, a heartfelt ***THANK YOU*** as we look forward to ***2017*** and the new opportunities ***GOD*** will provide for us !!!

BIBLE STUDY:

Thursday 2:00 P.M.

December Schedule-----

Thursday December 1- Philippians 4: 1-23

Thursday December 8- Luke 2: 1-38

Thursday December 15- John 20: 1-31

ALL CHURCH ANNUAL CONFERENCE:

Wednesday December 21, 2016 at 7:00 P.M.

Led by pastor Dana Thompson

Our Annual Church Conference will include approval of our Budget for 2017 as seen in this Newsletter, and setting our Slate of Officers for 2017, (and any other official church business which may need to be considered).

CHRISTMAS EVE

CANDLE LIGHT SERVICE:

Saturday December 24, 2016

7:00 P.M.

CHRISTMAS DAY

WORSHIP

SERVICE:

Sunday Christmas Day 10:00 A.M.

"Come and Worship, Come and Worship

“Christ the Newborn King” !!!

***ALL CHURCH TREE TRIMMING
PARTY:***

4:00 P.M. Saturday December 3, 2016

Yes, it is time to get our sanctuary trimmed out for our upcoming celebration of Christmas and the “Christ Child’s” birthday celebration!!!

All those who enjoy “Trimming the Tree” and who enjoy fellowshiping with each other ought to consider coming and participating in this joyful activity.

Actually, even if you are like me, hopeful that there is plenty of help; so, you can just be a valuable part of the peanut gallery while adding to the fellowship please come--- for the fellowship is an **IMPORTANT** aspect of the “Tree Trimming” experience!!!

***ALL CHURCH CHRISTMAS
POTLUCK DINNER:***

6:00 P.M. Saturday December 3, 2016

Yes, we are again going to have an “All Church Christmas Dinner Potluck” this year, which is being held after the “Tree Trimming” Party.

We would love to see a **HUGE NUMBER** of our Church Family members come together to celebrate an **EARLY**

CHRISTMAS meal with each other as the **FAMILY** of **GOD!!!**
