

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Well, for those who work the standard work week, Monday through Friday, Wednesday has become known to some as “Hump Day” or the day on which everything starts going downhill after the climb that was!!!

Well, for those who operate with Sunday as the first day of the week and Saturday as the last day of the week in accord with many of the calendars we find Wednesday has become known as “Hump Day” or the day on which everything starts going downhill after the climb that was!!!

Well, much like weeks, seasons of the year also have something akin what we might call “Hump Days”! We have been in the grip of one amazing winter this year. Normally, I look forward to February and the “Winter Festival” dotted by numerous ice sculptures in the park. Now I may like the ice sculptures that adorn the park, but that is not necessarily why I get so very excited about the Ely “Winter Festival”. For you see, once our Ely “Winter Festival” has occurred I like to believe that we have hit “Hump Day” on the season of winter and that everything starts going downhill after the climb that was!!!

*However, this year I do not know what to expect, I am left to do a bit of (new word here) **WONDERINGMENT** about when this season of winter will start going downhill after the climb that was!!!*

*Now, as children in the Family of God we may have from time to time felt like we have been caught in the grips of a bit of some (new word here) **WONDERINGMENT!!!***

*Given a standard work week I know exactly when “Hump Day” is, given a standard calendar week I know exactly when “Hump Day” is, given this winter I am unclear about when “Hump Day” is and I am left with (new word here) **WONDERINGMENT!!!***

*When it comes to our walk with God we can be as sure about our walk with God as we can about when “Hump Day” is in relation to a standard week. When it comes to our walk with God we can avoid the kind of (new word here) **WONDERINGMENT** that has crept into our wondering about winter’s “Hump Day” for this year!!!*

*When we as God’s Children spend time in **PRAYER**, not only talking with God but listening to God we gain greater clarity with regards to our walk with God!!!*

*When we as God’s Children spend time reading from the **SCRIPTURES**, seeking to study and learn from God we gain greater clarity with regards to our walk with God!!!*

*When we as God’s Children spend time in **WORSHIPPING** God and in **FELLOWSHIPING** with each other as brothers and sisters in the Family of God we gain greater clarity with regards to our walk with God!!!*

*Let us stop the (new word here) **WONDERINGMENT** when it comes to our walk with God by building relationships grounded in prayer, scripture, worship, and fellowship, **PRAISE GOD!!!***

Love in Christ,

Dana

ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL MINUTES

February 19, 2014

Ely United Methodist Church

Number Present: 7

Chairman Jay Tomlinson called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM.

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

The **Minutes of the January 15, 2014 Ad Council Meeting** were approved as printed.

The **Treasurer’s Reports for January, 2014** was presented by Treasurer Mark Olson and was accepted. The January end of the month account balances - **General Fund: \$420.74** (Does not include General Fund revenue share from January Pasty making); **Building Fund: \$25,721.24**; (includes \$5,000 Undesignated funds); **Memorial Fund: \$11,476.45**

The **Board of Trustees** will meet in April.

The **Memorial Committee** met on February 4. Approved purchase of Choir book lights. Approved the purchase of Baptismal Towels, to be used and given to the baptized individual. Agreed the Altar Bible is in need of replacement – will explore options.

The **Pastor Parish Relations Committee** will meet March 5, 2014

Old Business

1.

January Pasty Report. Made 802 Pasties; Gross Sales \$4,797; Materials Cost \$1,470.86; Total Revenue \$3,326.14 to UMW.

New Business

1. **2014 Multi-Peril Church Insurance** – Through Grinnell Mutual Insurance; \$1,696 annual premium paid in January.

2. **Grinnell Mutual Insurance - Church Inspection** – A representative of Grinnell Mutual Insurance will be at the Church on **Friday, February 21, 2014 at 2:00 PM.**
3. **February Pasty Report** – Made 769 pasties, (15 for Alpha participants closing session); Gross Sales \$4,524; Materials Expense \$1,292.90; Total Revenue: \$3,231.10 to UMW.
4. **Undesignated Fund – Use and Access** – Those present; being concerned about cash availability in the General Fund to cover the Church’s operating expenses; approved the transfer of money to the Church Checking Account from the Undesignated Funds Account by the savings account overseer (Margie Olson); in consult with the Church Treasurer; as needed, without additional approval of the Ad Council. (M: Jeanne/S: Lucy/Approved)

Correspondence

1. Piano Dehumidifier Repair Invoice - Mark Olson reported that the humidifier for the piano was repaired February 19, 2014 at a cost of \$85.

Items of Information

1. **March Pasty Making – March 17-18, 2014**
2. **All-Church Pot Luck Dinner – 6:00 PM, Monday, March 24, 2014**
3. **Public Presentation – Heidi Schneider – “Judaism on One Foot: An Introduction to Jewish Practices” - 7:00 PM, Monday, March 24, 2014**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:42PM.

The meeting was closed by those attending reciting “*The Lords Prayer*”.

Respectfully Submitted, Blaine “Butch” Diesslin

All-Church Potluck March 24

Plan to attend our church potluck on Monday, March 24 at 6 pm in the Fellowship Hall. Please bring one dish/food item per family to share with others. Pick your specialty - appetizer, main dish, salad, vegetable, dessert, bread, etc. - we'll supply tableware and drinks. If you bring a container you want to keep, be sure to put your name on it.

At 7 pm, there will be a presentation in the sanctuary by Heidi Schneider titled "Judaism on One Foot, An Introduction to Jewish Practices". Ms. Schneider is a Minnesota lawyer and educator and mother of two. She teaches outreach classes to adult and high school audiences concerning Judaism and Israel. Her classes in Judaism include such topics as the Jewish calendar and holidays, Jewish lifecycle events, a taste of Talmud, the Jewish Sabbath, Jewish spirituality in the workplace, and Jewish prayer. She has a Master in Education from Columbia Teachers College and her law degree from the University of Minnesota. Recent audience members have called her "extremely knowledgeable," "professional and considerate," "eloquent," and "candid and balanced."

INSPIRATION: Matthew 26:36-44

“Then Jesus went with them to a place called Gethsemane: and he said to his disciples, ‘sit here while I go over there and pray.’ He took with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee and began to be grieved and agitated. Then he said to them, ‘I am deeply grieved, even to death; remain here and stay awake with me.’ And going a little farther, he threw himself on the ground and prayed, ‘My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from me’ yet not what I want but what you want.’ Then he came to the disciples and found them sleeping; and he said to Peter, ‘So, could you not stay awake with me one hour? Stay awake and pray that you may not come into the time of trial; the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.’ Again he went away for the second time and prayed, ‘My Father, if this cannot pass unless I drink it, your will be done.’ Again he came and found them, sleeping, for their eyes were heavy. So leaving them again, he went away and prayed for the third time, saying the same words.”

Verse 396 “My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from Me: yet not what I want but what you want.”

Verse 426 “My Father, if this cannot pas unless I drink it, Your will be done.”

Verse 44 “So leaving them again, he went away and prayed For the third time, saying the same words.”

LENTEN SUPPERS
2014

Yes, it is “Lenten Supper Season” yet again. Each year, the Churches in the community of Ely take turns hosting a Lenten Supper meal which includes both food for the body and good for the spirit !!!

These “Lenten Supper” meals are a WONDERFUL opportunity to build relationships and nurture fellowship with our brothers and sisters within the community of Ely !!!

The “Lenten Supper” meals of food for the body and food for the spirit begin at 5:30 PM with the cost being a recommended donation of \$3.00 per person or \$6.00 per family.

We would like to see many of you take advantage of this wonderful opportunity for being the FAMILY of GOD together, these precious moments are becoming rarer and rarer !!!

SCHEDULE FOR “LENTEN SUPERS”

- March 13 – First Presbyterian Church / St. Mary’s Episcopal Church
- March 20 – First Lutheran Church
- March 27 – Lodgerock Community Church Lutheran Church
- April 3 - Ely U.M.C. at St. Anthony’s Church
- April 10 - St. Anthony’s Church

Remaining: **“ALPHA COURSE”** schedule:

- Saturday, March 1: “Who is the Holy Spirit?”
“How can I be filled with the Holy Spirit?”
“What does the Holy Spirit do?”
- Sunday, March 2: “How can I resist evil?”
- Sunday, March 9: “Why and how should we tell others?”
- Sunday, March 16: “Does God heal today?”
- Sunday, March 23: “What about the Church?”

***To all those who have been participating in the “Alpha Course

A HEART FELT THANK YOU
For sharing in
The
JOURNEY !!!

UP COMING:

SENIOR WORSHIP SERVICES
MARCH 2014

- “Ely Boundary Waters Care Center”
Worship service Sunday, March 2, 2014
2:30 PM
- “Ely Carefree Living Center”
1:15 PM

***Please consider helping in these ministry areas!!!

FREE WILL OFFERING:
TO BE TAKEN SUNDAY, MARCH 16, 2014

FEBRUARY 2014

PASTY REPORT

We were approached about participating
In the “Gear Swap” at the Vermilion College
By having a bake sale to help raise funds for
A student group at the college called
“Outdoor Endeavors”.

Made 769 Pasties (15 donated to Alpha Course)

Gross sales - \$4,524.00
Product expenses - \$1,292.90
Total revenue - \$3,231.10 ----to be split by per cents to determine
U.M.W
Building fund
General fund

We decided as an Ad. Council to take a “free will offering” in
support of the “Outdoor Endeavor “ group on Sunday, March 16th
Rather than getting involved with the “Gear Swap” in total.

If you would like to participate in supporting the “Outdoor
Endeavor” group, we will have an offering plate under the light
switches in the Sanctuary on Sunday morning, March 16th during
worship. (Please make checks out to the Ely U.M.C. with a “memo
note” “Outdoor Endeavor” and we will send one check to the group
from the Ely U.M.C.)

BIBLE STUDY

March 2014
Thursdays 2:00 PM

Thursday, March 6 – Genesis 25: 19-34; 26: 1-35

Thursday, March 13 – Genesis 27: 1-46

Thursday, March 20 – Genesis 28:1-22; 29: 1-35

ANOTHER COMMUNITY OUTREACH OPPORTUNITY!!

Thursday, March 27 – Genesis 31: 1-55

WELL, WELL, WELL !!!

What an AMAZING winter !!!

Indeed, what an AMAZING winter !!!

Surprise, Surprise, Surprise, this is the winter we opted to go with VOLUNTERS for our sidewalk snow shoveling along with our AWESOME snowplowing VOLUNTERS !!!

Surprise, Surprise, Surprise, to all those WONDERFUL volunteers with both plows and shovels we say THANK YOU !!!

However, with regards to our sidewalk snow shoveling volunteers, we still have an opportunity for yet one more person to participate in the JOYS of the fluffy stuff --- given the month of April may also contain some of the fluffy wet, wet, wet, stuff !!!

ASH WEDNESDAY

Wednesday, March 5, 2014

OPEN COMMUNION TABLE

2:00 – 6:00 PM

The season of Lent is beginning as we in the Family of God begin to prepare in heart, mind and spirit for the WONDERFUL opportunity of celebrating EASTER !!!

We began with “Ash Wednesday” providing each of us the opportunity to come to the Sanctuary pausing in quiet and sharing with God at the Communion table.!!!

The Communion table will be open to all those who would like to begin the Season of Lent in “Communion with God” from 2:00-6:00 PM. Just stop in and spend some time with our GRACIOUS and LOVING GOD !!!

