

*Dear Sisters and Brothers,*

*So, in the March  
“Fish” we discussed a  
new word which was  
triggered by the long  
winter we have been  
facing, that word was  
**WONDERINGMENT!!!***

*So here we are with  
May on the doorstep and  
we are still considering  
the many joys of the word  
**WONDERINGMENT** as  
a phenomenon because of  
our winter weather!!!*

*Indeed, we don't seem to be able to avoid the topic of  
winter weather. Even today as our May “Fish” is starting to  
take shape we can look outside and see yet another dusting  
of the white stuff, which is also known as “snow”!!!*

*Now, some of us were raised with a little phrase that goes  
like this in relation to March: “In like a lion and out like a  
lamb, in like a lamb and out like a lion”!!!*

*Now, some of us were raised with a little phrase that goes  
like this in relation to April: “April showers are sent to bring  
May flowers”!!!*

*Here we are coming up on the month of May forget” lions  
and lambs”, or even “showers and flowers” we are still  
dealing with that white stuff which is also known as “snow”  
coming down around us and we are left stuck with something  
called **WONDERINGMENT!!!** Indeed. The topic of the  
weather seems to be unavoidable this spring!!!*

*Well, in one of my favorite hymns which is called the  
“Hymn of Promise” #707 in our Hymnal, we find these  
words in the second half of the first verse: “In the cold and  
snow of winter there's a spring that waits to be, unrevealed  
until its season something God alone can see”. Who would  
have ever “think” it, we are looking at May knowing that  
underneath the snow there is a spring to come and we have  
found the topic of the weather to be unavoidable!!!*

*Well, when it comes to celebrating **CHRISTMAS** and  
**EASTER**, the **WONDER** of **GOD'S** gracious **LOVE** for us  
as God's Children, becomes unavoidable!!! Indeed, we can't  
bring up the topics of Christmas and Easter without bringing  
up God's love for us!!! Indeed, **GOD LOVES** us!!!*

*Indeed, God's precious gift of a little baby boy named  
Jesus born in Bethlehem to Mary and Joseph, proclaimed by  
angels, found lying in a manger by shepherds, visited by wise  
men, sparks the unavoidable topic of God's gracious **LOVE**  
for us!!! **CHRISTMAS** God's gift of love for the world, for  
you, and for me!!!*

*Indeed, God's precious gift of Jesus, the Son of God, from  
Palm Sunday, to the Last Supper, to Good Friday and the  
journey to the Cross, and the visit of Mary Magdalene to the  
“Empty Tomb”, sparks the unavoidable topic of God's  
gracious **LOVE** for us!!! **EASTER** God's gift of love for the  
world, for you, and for me!!!*

*Just as sure as “In the cold and snow of winter there's  
spring that waits to be”, we can be sure of God's gracious  
**LOVE** for us, not only on Christmas Day, not only on Easter  
Day, but **EVERY DAY!!!***

*Love in Christ,*

*Dana*

## ***The Men's Group***

Ten men of the Ely UMC congregation attended a meeting, on Tuesday April 8, to discuss and share ideas about having a men's group as a part of the Church's program. The intent of the meeting was to see if there is enough interest, and if so, to share ideas on purpose, function and activities of a men's group.

Attending the meeting were: Dan Johnson, Bob Lindholm Jim Nicholas, Mark Olson, Keith Rue, Norm Rusco, Jay Tomlinson, Barry Williams, Dana Thompson and Butch Diesslin.

The first question was: Should the Church form a men's group? The answer was a unanimous **YES**.

Next Question – What will the group be called? **The Men's Group** was the consensus. This is subject to change.

The purpose/function of ***The Men's Group*** was agreed on: ***To strengthen our relationship with God and one another as Christian men.***

The next topic of discussion was when to meet and how often. Agreement was reached that ***The Men's Group*** should have one meeting a month. The time and day of the week can vary, but try to accommodate as many as possible.

Having other special activities and functions was also agreed upon. These activities could be for the men of the Church, could be for the entire Church family, could be supportive of the Church and its program, or could be a community service project.

The final topic of the meeting was when the next – first official – meeting of ***The Men's Group*** would occur.

The First Official Meeting of

**The Men's Group** will be:

**Wednesday, April 30, 2014, 7:00 PM**

**Topic: *The Inner Light***

An inspirational video, with discussion to follow.

All men of the Church - and male guests – are invited and encouraged to attend.

Questions? – Contact one of the men listed above.

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### **PASTY REPORT:** April 2014

Pasties made 961

Gross Sales on pasties- \$5,786.00

Material Costs on pasties- \$1,871.92

Total Revenue on pasties- \$3,914.08

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### **BIBLE STUDY:**

2:00 P.M.

Thursday May 1- Genesis 37

Thursday May 8- Genesis 45 and 50

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**INSPIRATION:**

**Ecclesiastes 3: 1-14**

“For everything  
there is a season, a time  
for every matter under  
heaven:  
a time to be born, and a time to die;  
a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted;  
a time to kill, and a time to heal;  
a time to break down, and a time to build up;  
a time to weep, and a time to laugh;  
a time to mourn, and a time to dance;  
a time to throw away stones, and a time to gather stones  
together;  
a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing;  
a time to seek, and a time to lose;  
a time to keep, and a time to throw away;  
a time to tear, and a time to sew;  
a time to keep silence, and a time to speak;  
a time to love, and a time to hate;  
a time for war, and a time for peace.

What gain have the workers from their toil? I have seen  
the business that God has given to everyone to be busy with.  
He has made everything beautiful in its time; moreover he  
has put a sense of the past and future into their minds, yet  
they cannot find out what God has done from beginning to  
the end. I know that there is nothing better for them than to  
be happy and enjoy themselves as long as they live;  
moreover, it is God’s gift that all should eat and drink and  
take pleasure in all their toil. I know whatever God does  
endures forever; nothing can be added to it, nor anything  
taken from it; God has done this, so that all should stand in  
awe before him.”

A

**CELEBRATION**

**OF GREAT JOY !!!**

We here in the Ely  
U.M.C. have had an active  
“Youth Group” for the  
past **TWO** years!!!

What an **AWESOME** group of young people!!! This  
**SPECIAL** group of young people gathers weekly during the  
school year, on Wednesday nights, under the able leadership  
of Sheri Rue with an able assist from Keith Rue!!!

Today we announce with great joy that on Sunday May  
18<sup>th</sup> our Youth Group will take on the **LEADERSHIP** of our  
morning Worship Service!!!

Yes, our Ely U.M.C. “Youth Group” who meet weekly  
averaging between five and eight strong, has **JOYFULLY**  
responded to the opportunity to serve as our leaders in  
worship on Sunday May 18!!!

***WE WELCOME ALL***

***COME AND WORSHIP AT 10:00 A.M.***

***MAY 18<sup>TH</sup>***

## ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL – MINUTES

April 15, 2014

Ely United Methodist Church Number Present: 8

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 March 19, 2014 Administrative Council meeting were approved as printed in the Church Newsletter for April 2014.

**The Treasurer’s report** for March was accepted as presented, with an end of the month General Fund balance of \$1,087.56, a Building Fund balance of \$21,689.55, and a Memorial Fund balance of \$11,623.78.

**The Board of Trustees** met on April 7, 2014. Status reports for numerous projects were given. A sign-up schedule for summer lawn care will be posted. Anyone interested in planting the Church flower garden should contact Margie Olson.

**The Memorial Committee** met by telephone and approved the purchase of a new photocopier for the Church, using memorial funds.

**Education Committee** – No report.

**Finance Committee** had nothing to report.

**Nurture and Membership Committee** – No report.

**Outreach Committee** No report.

**Worship Committee** – No report.

**Pastor-Parish Relations Committee** had nothing to report.

**Parish Health Ministries** had nothing to report.

## OLD BUSINESS

1. Jay Tomlinson reported that a Brother DCP8110DN Photocopier was purchased with Memorial Funds money.

2. Jay Tomlinson reported that 42 people attended the All-Church Potluck Supper and 31 people attended the presentation by Heidi Schneider that followed.

3. The Annual free-will Love Offering from our Church will be received on Sunday May 25, 2014. This offering is taken by our Church’s delegate to the Minnesota Annual Conference, pooled with those of the other churches and used for hunger relief. The Ad Council set our Church’s goal to be \$150.

4. Ely HS All Night Graduation Lock-in Donation. The Ad Council approved the Church donate \$50. (K. Rue/M. Olson)

## NEW BUSINESS

1. Lenten Supper Proceeds. The proceeds of \$237 from our Lenten Supper are to be used for local support. The decision on the recipient Ely organization(s) was tables until the May 2014 Administrative Council Meeting.

2. April Pasty Report. Made 961 Pasties, Net income \$3,913.08.

3. Grinnell Mutual Insurance. The Church’s Multi-Peril insurance company notified the Church of some changes in fire extinguisher requirements and inflationary valuation changes. Further clarification will be sought.

## CORRESPONDENCE

### ITEMS OF CORRESPONDENCE

1. A Thank You note from Children's International for our sponsorship.
2. Dana presented an Easter Letter from our sponsored child through Children’s International.
3. A Thank You from the VCC Outdoor Club for our support of their programs.

### ITEMS OF INFORMATION

1. The Church’s Visioning Committee will be requesting some Church members to complete a Survey about the Church’s programs. The surveys will be distributed on Sunday April 27, with the request that the completed surveys be returned by Sunday, May 4.

2. The Men’s Group will meet on Wednesday, April 30, 2014, 7:00 PM. An inspirational video “The Inner Light” will be shown and discussed. All men of the Church are welcome and invited.

The meeting was closed by those attending reciting “The Lord’s Prayer”.

Respectfully Submitted, Blaine “Butch” Diesslin

**PASTY LOVIN !!!**

No we are not talking eating!!!

No we are not talking serving!!!

No we are not talking buying!!!

Yes, ***“Pasty Lovin”*** what we are talking about here is yet another **AWESOME SEASON** of service (2013 - 2014) by our **CHURCH FAMILY** with our ***“Pasty Ministry”***!!!

**THANK YOU** “one” and “all” for all the hard work, for the all dedication, and for all the service. Yes, **THANK YOU** “one” and “all”!!!

Our ***“Pasty Ministry”*** provides numerous benefits to our Church Family and to our efforts with regards to being ***“in Ministry with God”***!!!

- FINANCIAL BLESSINGS & BENEFITS**
- FELLOWSHIP WHICH CAN BE BOTH JOYOUS AND FUN**
- NURTURING OUR WORK ETHIC AND SPIRIT OF SERVICE UNTO GOD AND ONE ANOTHER**
- DEVELOPING SKILLS FOR WORKING TOGETHER**
- THANKS BE TO GOD!!!**

Yes, we have been blessed by the “one” who is you, and the “all” who is you who have helped with all the hard work, dedication, and service, in this ***“Pasty Ministry”*** during the past season!!!

Hopefully, you have noticed the mention of the “one” and the mention of the “all” to which we the Ely U.M.C. Family say a heartfelt **THANK YOU** for your precious ***“labors of love”*** among us in our ***“Pasty Ministry”***!!!

Indeed, there is “much more” involved with this ***“Pasty Ministry”*** than “meets the eye” on Monday and Tuesday; and each and every aspect of the “much more” than “meets the eye” on Monday and Tuesday which happens on Monday and on Tuesday and on many other days of the week are of vital importance to the **WHOLE!!!**

Indeed, there are many and various ***“labors of love”*** which are involved in our ***“Pasty Ministry”*** which seem to go unnoticed, “I didn’t know so and so was doing all that”? Well, so and so is doing all that and because so and so is doing all that we as God’s Children within the Ely U.M.C. Family are being blessed!!!

The 2013 – 2014 Pasty Season has been something of a **CHAMPIONSHIP SEASON** and to all those so and so individuals and church family members who have participated in this past season we say a **HEARTFELT THANK YOU** “one” and “all” for all the hard work, for all the dedication, and for all the service. Yes, **THANK YOU** “one” and “all”!!!

**PASTY LOVIN !!!**

for **“ONE”** and **“ALL”** !!!

**SENIOR CENTER WORSHIP SERVICES:**

*May 2014*

“Ely Boundary Waters Care Center” Worship Service-  
Sunday May 4, 2014 2:30 P.M.

“Ely Care Free Living” Worship Service-  
Wednesday May 28, 2014 1:15 P.M.

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**PASTOR ON VACATION:**

April 28 through May 5, 2014

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**U.M.C. MINNESOTA ANNUAL CONFERENCE:**

Lay Delegate to Annual Conference---Lucy Diesslin and

Pastor Dana Thompson

In St. Cloud for the Minnesota Annual Conference

Wednesday May 28 – Friday may 30, 2014

**LOVE OFFERING: SUNDAY, 25, 2014**

Each year, churches in the Minnesota Annual Conference take a Love Offering for missions. The 2014 Love Offering will be divided among Three missions: 1. Feed My Starving Children 2. Project Ag Grad 3. Volunteers in Mission.

Feed My Starving Children will receive 80% of the Love Offering. Life-saving meals are provided to people who need them most all over the world. The money will help pay for 1 million meals that members of the MN Conference are packing.

Project Ag Grad selects students from developing countries and supports them as they pursue an advanced degree at the U of M. Upon completing their degree the students return home to become leaders in implementing sustainable agriculture practices designed to increase food production. The Volunteers in Mission program provides opportunities for teams to spend up to two weeks working on a mission project either domestically or abroad.

On Sunday, May 25,2014 we will take this special offering. If you would like to support this conference mission please made your check to Ely UMC with memo Love Offering. An offering plate will be placed under the light switches in the sanctuary. I will then take our offering to the MN Annual Conference in St. Cloud on May 27,2014.

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**FRIENDSHIP DINNER**

WHEN: Tuesday, May 20,2014

WHERE: Church Basement

WHO: Women and Girls

TIME: 5:30 PM

DINNER: Catered by Northland Market

COST: \$10.00

PROGRAM: ????