

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

So, we have those two wonderful little phrases all of us should learn how to use, one is “**PLEASE**” and the other is “**THANK YOU**”!!!

These two special little phrases come to mind, because in the coming month of **NOVEMBER** we have a special day set apart which we call “**THANKSGIVING DAY**”!!!

Therefore, let’s take a few moments to consider the second of these two wonderful little phrases, “**THANK YOU**”!!!

How do we say thank you? Well, we could rent a “sky writing plane” and put it high above for all to see in white letters behind a sky blue background; that would certainly be something to see. However, renting a “sky writing plane” might be deemed a wee bit impractical especially when we consider how often we may need to say thank you.

How do we say thank you? Well, the basics are by simply speaking from the heart and saying the words “**THANK YOU**” to one another whenever the need arises. However, there are some more dramatic ways as well that do not rise to the level of a “sky writing plane”. For example: some of the many ways we may take to say “**THANK YOU**” to one another can include, sending a card and note, giving a little gift or gift certificate, or possibly doing something for the person we want to thank.

Indeed, there are a variety of ways we can say “**THANK YOU**” to one another, the important thing is that we take the time to do so when we are truly of **APPRECIATIVE** of other people in our lives!!!

Now, at its’ core “**THANKSGIVING DAY**” is meant to have a “**GOD-CENTERED**” focus although there is often times a feast of food, football, and family involved as well!!!

Let’s take a pause to move beyond the feast of food, football, and family to **GOD**!!!

Why should we pause to say “**THANK YOU**” **GOD** each and every day and not just once a year???

Well, we could start with a big three which may include God’s gifts of life, love, and **JESUS**!!!

However, equally big could be God’s gifts of the Holy Scriptures, the Church, and the **HOLY SPIRIT**!!!

However, another group of big things might include God’s grace, forgiveness, and nurturing relationships with us!!!

Well, we are not done yet for we may want to include a sunrise, sunset, and rainbow to the mix or a waterfall, mountain stream, and forest too!!!

Why should we pause to say “**THANK YOU**” **GOD** each and every day and not just once a year, the **LIST** of reasons why may be almost endless and indeed because of **GOD’S** ever gracious **LOVE** it is an endless **LIST**!!!

Among the ways we can say “**THANK YOU**” **GOD** is through our participation in worship, our efforts to grow in relationship with God, our commitment and dedication to serving in ministry with God, and by our prayerful words of “**THANKSGIVING**”!!!

Love in Christ, Pastor Dana

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**“REACH, RENEW, REJOICE”:**

“Reach, Renew Rejoice” is the Special Campaign Drive set up by our Annual Conference to nurture the growth of the United Methodist Church here in the Minnesota Annual Conference.

Last year (2015) we *pledged* to raise \$2,020.00, which we accomplished. A very well done job!!!

This year (2016) we set a *goal* of raising \$1,000.00 to go toward “Reach, Renew, Rejoice” and here is a recent update:

Beginning 2016 we had already set aside \$	56.00
We have Received 3 gifts of	\$ 250.00
Received in September/October to date-	\$ 204.00
Total Received through 10-2-16	\$1,015.00
Needed to reach <i>goal</i> set for 2016	\$ 0.00

**CONGRATULATIONS  
ELY U.M.C.  
WELL DONE !!!**

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**ADVENT STUDY:**

Sunday November 6 & 13  
Sunday December 4 & 11  
1:00 – 2:15 P.M.

Our 2016 “Advent Study” will be based on a book by Max Lucado “Because of Bethlehem”. The four Study Sessions are titled---God Has a Face---Worship Works Wonders---God Guides the Wise---and Every Heart Is a Manger.

We will have 15 of the Hardcover Books upon which the study is based available for reading---we will need to share some on this.

We will have 25 of the Study Guides so that each person can have their own. What a JOY if we need to order more!!!

This Study is for “One and All” consider taking this journey with your brothers and sisters here in the Ely U.M.C.!

Our Study will be similar to others we have had. There will be a DVD session followed by a time of discussion and sharing with one another.

Yes, we will also have coffee and some sort of simple refreshments available.

**LOOKING FORWARD---SEE YOU THERE !!!**

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The **Guild/UMW** at Ely United Methodist Church on Wednesday September 28, 2016

The Guild/UMW met at the Church with 6 people in attendance. President Bonnie Berglund opened the meeting with a unison reading the UMW Purpose and a prayer by Pastor Dana.

The minutes from our May 25, 2016 meeting were read and approved as read.

Bonnie had not been able to reach Sharon Luthens for the Treasurer's Report so we'll get an update for the next meeting.

**Old Business**

- **Side Street BBQ:** Jeanne Tomlinson reported we had a few less people attending but it was a nice day and folks seemed to enjoy the event. The planning committee will be looking at avoiding 1<sup>st</sup> Sundays if the event is set up again next year. The bill from Northland had not yet been received.
- **North Star District Fall Conference:** Bonnie Berglund reported that we had 4 UMW members attending the Sept 17 event that was held in Hibbing. There were a total of 33 attendees at the event. Next year's is scheduled to be in Wadena so we probably will not be attending that one.
- **125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary:** A committee has been formed with Butch Diesslin as chair. It will be a Sunday affair sometime next summer. The committee is requesting our current DS, Mark Miller, to attend and is waiting to hear from him before setting a date.

**New Business**

- **Emma Norton donation:** Lucy Diesslin brought up that the Emma Norton House is celebrating 100 years. We normally send \$60 a year to the North Star

District. Lucy moved that this year we send \$100 and earmark it for Emma Norton. Jeanne Tomlinson seconded. Motion passed. Lucy will take care of notifying Sharon.

- **Festival of Trees:** Lucy has received the form for the Northwoods Partners 2016 Festival of Trees and asked if we want to participate again. Janice Tessier moved that we do a 30" wreath again at whatever the cost is this year. Donna Rusco seconded. Motion passed. Jeanne Tomlinson will call Jan Rue to see if she'd be willing to do the wreath again.
- **Meeting Day Change:** Lucy suggested that, in view of our shrinking membership, we think about possibly changing the Guild/UMW meeting from the 4<sup>th</sup> Wed to the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday and make it in place of Bible Study. We'll discuss this again at our October meeting.
- **DS visit on Oct 8:** Pastor Dana announced that our DS will be coming to our church at 2 pm on Saturday Oct 8 and it would be good to have as many church members come as possible.

We adjourned at 2:20 pm.

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***BIBLE STUDY:***  
**NOVEMBER 2016**  
Thursday 2:00 P.M.

**Thursday November 3- Philipians 1**

**Thursday November 10- Philipians 2**

**Thursday November 17- Philipians 3**

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**THANKS for GIVING  
From EUMC  
**OUTREACH****

Stanley the Scarecrow has done a great job!  
Our Church Family joined in sharing with the Ely  
Area Food Shelf.

All of the food collected and the \$345.00 received  
has been delivered.

Again this year you have shown love and concern  
for our community during this Thanksgiving season.

**Have a very**

**Blessed Thanksgiving!**

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## **Funeral Meal Help Call List**

When we have a funeral/memorial service at our church,  
we always offer a simple meal for after the service. Gail  
Haney has been coordinating these meals for the past couple  
of years and is finding that her call list is shrinking. We  
would like to add more names to this list so that the same  
people aren't being tapped every time. If you would be  
willing to serve in this ministry by either preparing food  
ahead of time or coming and helping with the serving and  
cleanup, please add your name to the sign-up list at the  
church or call Gail Haney at 235-8469. Thanks!

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## **THE GIVING TREE IS GOING UP!!**

Our Church Family has an opportunity this season  
to make Christmas special for families with children  
in our community.

By November 6th, our Giving Tree will be  
decorated with  
Children's Christmas Wishes.

Each tag has suggested items as gifts to choose  
from.

Please select a tag and enter your name and phone  
number on the clipboard next to the tag's number  
you have taken.

You may join some one else when selecting a tag if  
you wish.

All gifts need to be under the tree, unwrapped by  
November 27th.

The EUMC Outreach thanks you for your  
generosity and love you share with those in our  
community.

May the spirit of giving to God's children be with  
you always.

**MERRY CHRISTMAS!!!**

## ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL – MINUTES

October 19, 2016

Ely United Methodist Church

Number Present: 8

Vice Chairman Keith Rue called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Attendees: (9), Keith Rue, Margie Olson, Mark Olson, Butch Diesslin, Lucy Diesslin, Dana Thompson, Bonnie Berglund, Toni Floyd, Jeanne Tomlinson.

Pastor Dana Thompson began the meeting with an Opening Thought from “The Upper Room” devotional for October 19, 2016, followed by an opening prayer.

The **Minutes of the September 21, 2016 Ad Council** meeting were approved as printed. (/M/Jeanne/S/Bonnie)

The **Treasurer’s Report for September, 2016** was presented by Treasurer Mark Olson and accepted. The September end of the month account balances - General Fund: \$6,670.02; Building Fund: \$11,175.87; Memorial Fund: \$14,119.57; Parish Health Ministries 400.00; Undesignated Funds \$5,259.02. (/M/Lucy/S/Jeanne)

The **Board of Trustees** met **Monday, October 3, 2016**. The installation of the Church’s new furnaces and the required updating of some electrical wiring is complete. Replacement siding for the bell tower has been ordered, to replace the wind damaged pieces. The Church’s refrigerator-freezer condensing coils were cleaned and the defrost hoses were clamped at connections. Cleaning and inspection schedules, with instructions are on the side of the refrigerators.

The **Memorial Fund Taskforce** will be meeting November 1, 2016.

The **Finance Committee** met on October 19, 2016 and developed the Church’s 2017 Budget of \$102,670.02. The 2017 Budget was accepted (M/Butch/S/Jeanne) and will be brought to the Church’s Annual Conference for adoption.

**Outreach Committee** Toni Floyd reported that the Heart to Hands sewing group members have made and donated 100 pillowcases. Toni was able to purchase fabric and batting at a large discount during a ‘going out of business’ sale.

“**Stanley the Scarecrow**” is accepting donations for the Ely Food Shelf until October 30, 2016.

“**The Giving Tree**” with gift request tags will be in the Church ‘coffee room’, November 6-27, 2016.

**Pastor-Parish Relations Committee** met October 4, 2016. The Committee agreed upon the Pastor’s compensation package for 2017.

**Parish Health Ministries Committee** had The Ely Echo print 1,000 emergency health information sheets for the “**Files of Life**” emergency information pouches to hang on your refrigerator. The committee has distributed more than 425 **File of Life** packets to residents of the area in the past month.

**Visioning Committee** All new initiatives of the committee will be directed toward “*Advancing Passionate Spirituality and/or Need-Oriented Evangelism*”

The Church’s Care Ministries Team is waiting for the Community Care Team to complete defining its program.

Consideration of a children’s movie is under discussion for the next Church Movie.

“*Bring a Kid to Church Month*” was considered successful.

Consideration is being given to developing an Acolyte Sign-up Sheet, to encourage participation.

Advent Study books and video have been purchased.

“Study on Relationships” is planned. Will request funds to purchase the Leader Kit for “**Five Love Languages**” program.

Next Visioning Committee meeting is November 3, 2016, 7:00 P.M.

## OLD BUSINESS

1. **125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Ely United Methodist Church.** The date of the celebration will be **Sunday August 6 2017**. North Star District Superintendent, Rev. Mark Miller will be attending.
2. **Refrigerator Maintenance Plan.** Trustee, Butch Diesslin proposed having a refrigerator cleaning and maintenance recording system. Maintenance instructions and record keeping sheets are now mounted on the side of each refrigerator. Trustees will monitor and perform the cleaning and recording.
3. **Advent Study** – Advent Study books and Video have been purchased. All are invited to attend.
4. **Reach-Renew-Rejoice – 2017 Goal.** Motion by Margie: The Church's 2017 Goal for Reach-Renew-Rejoice will be \$1,000. Second by Bonnie. Approved.
5. **2016 Reach-Renew-Rejoice Payment.** Those present approved the payment of the Church's \$1,000 of collected donations be sent to the Conference. M/Jeanne/S/Toni/ Approved.
6. **Church Sound System** Concern has been expressed that the Church's sound system does not always provide sufficient amplification to the speaker in the basement Fellowship Hall. The cause of the difficulty has been identified to be a combination of the microphone mounted on the pulpit the person speaking not talking directly into the microphone. Approved a Motion to consult with Ely Custom Theaters on purchasing a microphone that is less dependent on the speaker – microphone positioning. /M/Butch/S/Bonnie/

## NEW BUSINESS

1. **Funeral Refreshments** – The Church provides a “lunch” after funerals, with the sandwiches and dessert items being made by church members. There is a calling list of members willing to provide food

items at funerals. The number of names on the calling list has diminished over time – to the point that it is difficult to provide sufficient food for a funeral lunch. Those present decided that the first step in solving the problem is to seek new food providers to add to the calling list.

2. **“Five Love Languages” Study – Leader Kit Purchase.** The Visioning Committee is planning a Study Group “Five Love Languages” on relationships and requested \$150 to purchase the Leader Kit for the Committee to check into the study. If they decide to proceed, the study will be scheduled for February, 2017. /M/Lucy/S/Bonnie/ Motion Approved.

## ITEMS OF INFORMATION

1. **Insurance Inspection** – The Church's insurance company sent an inspector to evaluate the current level of insurance of the Church building and the Parsonage. The inspector's report indicated that the appraised value of the Church has increased and the appraised value of the parsonage has declined. This will result in the cost of the Church's insurance will go up, and the cost of the Parsonage's insurance will go down – with the total insurance cost on the buildings remaining unchanged for 2017.
2. **October Pasty Report** – Made 703 Pasties. Deposit: \$4,213.00, Cost: \$1,386.87. Net Income: \$2,826.13.
3. **Pasty Making –November 14-15, 2016.** There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:26 PM. The meeting was closed by those attending reciting “*The Lords Prayer*”.

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