

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Time, “time marches on” and “time does not stand still” even if you need to “give it time”, you quickly realize that “time marches on”!

In the Old Testament, in the book of Ecclesiastes 3:1, we read of time: “For everything there is a season, a time for every matter under heaven:”!

Well, this week is called “Homecoming Week” in Ely, Minnesota for Ely Memorial High School.

“Time marches on” and “time does not stand still” so as I pause to consider the concept of “Homecoming Week” I realize that I am very far, far, removed from the experience of “Homecoming” and “Homecoming Week”, they are but a distant memory.

What I do remember of “Homecoming Week” way back in the day, is something about special attire days, pep rallies, unique events, a big football game, a “Homecoming King and Queen”, and a very special dance which was called the “Homecoming Dance”.

Ah yes, seasons change, summer to fall, fall to winter, winter to spring, and spring to summer. We are now entering **FALL** which also means **HARVEST!!!**

“For everything there is a season, a time for every matter under heaven:” (Ecclesiastes 3:1) and this is the beginning of **HARVEST** time and “Homecoming Week”.

Way back when, back in the day, as I vaguely recall it, “Homecoming Week” was a week for school spirit and a celebration of a community located in a school setting!

Speaking of seasons, speaking of time, speaking of weeks like seasons “time marches on” and “time does not stand still”, Sunday becomes Monday, becomes Tuesday, becomes Wednesday, becomes Thursday, becomes Friday, becomes Saturday, becomes Sunday.

“For everything there is a season, a time for every matter under heaven:” (Ecclesiastes 3:1)

**SUNDAY** is a day for developing the spirit, not within the school, but within the **FAMILY of GOD!!!**

**SUNDAY** is a day for celebrating sense of community, not within the school, but within the **FAMILY of GOD!!!**

“For everything there is a season, a time for every matter under heaven:” (Ecclesiastes 3:1) **SUNDAY** is a time for **HARVESTING** spirit and community through **WORSHIP of GOD and FELLOWSHIP** as the **FAMILY of GOD!!!**

**SUNDAY** is a gift from **GOD** to the **FAMILY of GOD** which has been set apart by God as a “Homecoming” of sorts nurturing **SPIRIT** and celebrating **COMMUNITY** with God and with each other as children in the Family of God!!!

“For everything there is a season, a time for every matter under heaven:” (Ecclesiastes 3:1) “time marches on” and “time does not stand still” even if you need to “give it time”, you quickly realize that “time marches on” and **SUNDAY** comes back around so we can participate in developing a **GOD** centered spirit while celebrating a sense of community as the **FAMILY of GOD!!!**

Love in Christ,

Pastor Dana

**ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL – MINUTES      Sept 16, 2015**  
**Ely United Methodist Church                      Number Present: 6**

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

Pastor Dana Thompson provided the “Opening Thought” by Jane Reed from *The Upper Room*, which was followed by prayer.

The Minutes of the May 20, 2015 Ad Council meeting were unanimously approved as printed in the February 2015 issue of *The Fish* newsletter. Motion by Jeanne Tomlinson, second by Bonnie Berglund.

The **Treasurer’s Report** for the months of May, June, July and August 2015 was presented and highlighted by Treasurer Mark Olson. The August end of the month account balances – Building Fund: \$ 24,369.25, Memorial Fund: \$ 11,478.91, General Fund: \$6062.41, broken down into Parish Health Ministries \$516.66, Undesignated Funds \$ 4,011.55 and the 3Rs fund of \$1,534.20. Mark pointed out that all bills for the church have been paid. Motion by Lucy Diesslin, second by Jeanne Tomlinson, that the treasurer’s report (all 4 months) be approved as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

The **Memorial Committee** reported that our Annual 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in August Memorial Service went very well, new children’s book were added to the church library and the church has a new Altar Bible.

The **Education Committee** reported that Chris Urbas and Linda Hane sent out invitation reminders to 26 youths that Sunday School has begun and that they would love to see all attend.

The **Finance Committee** reported that our 2016 church apportionment has increased from \$13,128 in 2015 to \$13,820. The apportionment is calculated by a formula using church membership, expenses and Annual Conference needs.

The **Outreach Committee** reported that 85 pillow cases were made for the ConKerr Cancer program.

The **Pastor-Parish Relations Committee** reported that the minister’s September 1<sup>st</sup> evaluation was completed, typed and sent to the District Superintendent, Mark Miller.

The **Parish Health Ministry Committee** reported that Margie Olson and Bonnie Berglund initiated a program for the community called *File Of Life* and have already distributed more than 600 magnetic holders to community members, hospital workers, nursing home workers and church members.

The **Visioning Committee** reported that the new *Welcome Pads* are in place and have been well received.

**OLD BUSINESS**

1. **New Church Directory:** October 5<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> are dates for church members who have yet to have family photos taken to schedule times for photos for the new church directory. Calls to those families to schedule photo sessions are being made. Jay Tomlinson encouraged submitting photos of church activities and groups for inclusion in the new Directory.
2. **Reach, Renew, Rejoice** (the 3Rs)– Donations during the summer months pushed the total from \$1,250.00 in May to \$1,534.20 at the end of August, just \$485.80 short of our goal of \$2,020 for the year.
3. **Side Street Barbeque** – A meeting between the coordinators of the event from all three churches needs to be arranged to resolve the expense distribution between the churches, review and evaluate the event, and determine how to improve the organization of event for future years.
4. **Sheridan Street UMC Directional Sign** – Our church directional sign on the south side of Sheridan Street is now back in place so folks coming from the west are able to see the sign directing them to our church.

**NEW BUSINESS**

1. **New Study Books:** A request was made to authorize the purchase of new study books for adult studies. The Visioning Committee recommended continuing our adult study groups both in the fall and post Super Bowl as a way to continue adult education, strengthen faith and understanding, and continue learning through fellowship. The fall Advent study group is titled *Under Wraps* and the study books are on sale at \$8.70 per book. Purchasing 30 books cost \$284.49 with shipping. The post Super Bowl study group is called *The God We Can Know* and the study books would cost \$8.00 each for a total of \$240 plus shipping for 30 books. Motion by Jeanne Tomlinson, second by Lucy Diesslin, to authorize up to \$600 for the purchase of adult study books for both the *Under Wraps* and *The God We Can Know* study groups with the funds coming from the Education budget. Mark Olson pointed out that the funds for the study books for *The God We Can Know* would come from the 2016 budget. Motion passed unanimously.

2. **2015 Church Conference:** The District Superintendent, Mark Miller, indicated that he felt our church was very stable, much more so than others, and that he felt it was not necessary for him to lead our church conference in December. Since our minister, Dana Thompson, is an Elder, he is qualified to lead the church conference. The recommendation to our District Superintendent, Mark Miller, for the date for our church conference is the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday in December, the 16<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 pm just prior to the Ad Council meeting. If approved, he will confirm the church conference date and time.
3. **The 3Rs:** Dana Thompson requested that all members of the Ad Council think on what the church commitment to the 3Rs should be for 2016 so that the Ad Council can set that commitment at a future meeting this year.

4.  
**ITEMS OF INFORMATION**

1. **Pasty Making:** Pasty preparation and production begins October 19 & 20.
2. **Church Bazaar** – A church Bazaar project day is scheduled from 10 am to 4 pm on Saturday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>.
3. Mark Olson reported that the city work crew replaced the outside water spigot.
4. **A huge REJOICE** – Dana Thompson reported that our church family has so far this year met our church budget needs and gone the extra mile in raising funds for outside giving totaling over \$10,100 including: \$655 for Zack Dean, \$216 for the Love Offering, \$1,534 for the 3Rs, \$7,300 for the Cancer Walk, \$413 toward the *News Service 2000* and we still have the Ely Food Shelf and the Christmas Tree Giving to go. Dana’s word of rejoice is ***PHENOMENAL!!!***

The meeting adjourned at 7:46 PM, and was closed with the unison reciting of ***The Lord’s Prayer***.

Respectfully Submitted, Jay Tomlinson, Chair for Blaine “Butch” Diesslin, Ad Council Secretary

**PICTORIAL DIRECTORY:**

Ely U.M.C. Family  
 “Friends are Family”

2015 Update is Coming Soon !!!

Yes, we are in the process of trying to create a new Church Directory for our Family and Friends here in the Ely U.M.C.

This new “Directory” will include “Pictures”, but we need your help. The reason for the pictures is the effort to create a strong sense of “Family”. Looking at a picture and seeing a name with that picture helps many of **US** which includes me feel much better about being able to **CALL** each other by **NAME!!!**

Again we need your help to create this “Family and Friends” friendly “Pictorial Directory”; yes, we have two more chances to be included---

**MONDAY OCTOBER 5**  
**2:00 – 8:30 P.M.**  
**MONDAY OCTOBER 12**  
**2:00 – 8:30 P.M.**

Please Contact Bonnie Berglund 365-5533  
 Please Contact Jeanne Tomlinson 365-5867

Look, I do not like having my picture taken, but I did it, I did it for the sake of **“FAMILY”** and for the sake of **“FRIENDS”** who are in actuality **“FAMILY”!!!**

**PLEASE HELP US !!!**

## **PASTY TIME:**

***Fun, Fellowship, Food, Fund Raiser***

***Look at all the extra benefits !!!***

**WOW** can I get in on all this “fun, fellowship, and food” while helping our church “financially”???

**YES** we can get in on all this “fun, fellowship, and food” while helping our church “financially”!!!

**WOW** when, where, and how is it that I can get in on all this “fun, fellowship, and food” while helping our church “financially”???

**WELL** this **GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY** begins for the 2015-2016 Season of “Pasty Time” with **OCTOBER**, and to be more specific Monday and Tuesday October 19 and 20!!!

**MONDAY:** Consists of roughly morning vegetable prep time from 7:00 A.M. through 9:30 to 10:00 A.M., peeling potatoes, peeling rutabaga’s, peeling onions (a group favorite), peeling lard, and a little dicing for a couple of people. Monday afternoon consists of making dough and dough balls we have been trying to change the time from 3:00 – 6:00 P.M. to an earlier start like 1:00 – 3:30 P.M., but we will have to wait and see.

**TUESDAY:** Consists roughly of “Making the Pasties” our start time is 7:00 A.M. and runs until completion---sales people and clean up people are often at church until 5:30 P.M.

**WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU THERE!!!**

***\*\*\*FUN, FELLOWSHIP, FOOD, FUND RAISER\*\*\****

## **ALL CHURCH BAZAAR:**

***SATURDAY NOVEMBER 7, 2015***

Ah Yes, our every other year Ely United Methodist Church Bazaar is fast approaching.

Even with the frequent reminders, it is likely some of us have left the Bazaar on the back burner---**NOW** yes now--- is the **TIME** to bring our every other year Bazaar up to the front burner.

Our Ely United Methodist Church Bazaar consists of a variety of things, such as:

A CRAFT SALE  
A BAKED GOODS SALE  
A COFFEE AND...

Crafts are crafts, which are many and varied in nature and hopefully some of you are crafty enough to provide a good supply of crafts for sale, sadly I am not.

Baked Goods are Baked Goods, which are many and varied in nature and hopefully (well I know in truth many of you have **GREAT SKILLS** in this area) and hopefully you will be able to bake providing a good supply of baked goods for sale, sadly I am not.

Crafts are crafts and baked goods are baked goods, but what of this thing called “Coffee and...”? This is the area of the sale which includes providing a cup of coffee and an extra special kind of dessert. Hummm maybe I can make the coffee.

**P.S.:**

**Saturday October 3, 2015  
is our next  
Bazaar Project Day at the Church !!!**

## **STANLEY:**

***Special, Special, Special.  
Read all about it---***

**“Stanley may Scare the Crow”  
But  
Seeks to remind us of Food Shelf  
Needs !!!**

We begin by announcing that the dates for “Stanley” and his appearance have yet to be determined. Our Outreach Chairperson and Coordinator is on vacation, joy, joy, joy.

However, it is in October and during what some might consider a harvest time of year; that we as a church family, have usually paused specifically to participate in helping to provide for the Ely Area Food Shelf.

We usually set aside two to three Sundays during the month at “Stanley’s” urging to bring in food items or money to buy food items for the Ely Area Food Shelf. We have been told often the money goes much farther than food items because the Food Shelf has access to special deals of some sort.

Today we are simply creating an awareness that our dear friend “**Stanley**” is coming soon and that “**Stanley**” seeks to encourage as to share of our bounty with those who use the **Food Shelf!!!**

## **ADVENT STUDY:**

***“Under Wraps”  
The Gift We Never Expected***

Our 2015 Advent Study is again a **Four Week Course**, which we will divide into two parts seeking to provide all of us the opportunity to participate while staying away from the two big holidays Thanksgiving and Christmas.

We will do this by using Sunday afternoons in early November and early December for the study meeting from 1:00 – 2:00 P.M. (plus if needed) on

Sunday November 1- “God Is Expectant”  
Sunday November 8- “God Is Dangerous”  
Sunday December 6- “God Is Jealous”  
Sunday December 13- “God Is Faithful

We have purchased 30 of the books “Under Wraps” and will make these books available in Mid-October free of charge, we want you to participate.

So now, the Study will involve a short DVD presentation followed by questions and discussion triggered by the book as we share our thoughts and ideas, seeking to grow and learn from each other.

\*\*\*This Advent Study and the Study we will offer after the first of the year have originated out of the efforts of our very own “**Visioning Committee**” as we continue to seek out ways to nurture spiritual vitality and growth among us, both in our individual lives and in the life of the “**CHURCH**”!!!  
We **welcome one and all**, please **participate!!!**

**BIBLE STUDY:**

**October 2015  
Thursdays 2:00 P.M.**

Thursday October 1- Luke 1: 26-56

Thursday October 8- John 21: 1-19

Thursday October 22- Acts 9: 1-22

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**SPECIAL WORSHIP SERVICES:**

Sunday October 4-  
“Boundary Waters Care Center”  
2:30 P.M.

Wednesday October 7-  
“Care Free Living” Center  
1:15 P.M.

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**REACH, RENEW, REJOICE:**

**2015 GIVING  
For  
Special Minnesota Annual Conference  
Campaign**

Ely U.M.C. Commitment Goal 2015  
Set by Ad. Council-----\$2,020.00

Gifts Received by  
September 22, 2015-----\$1,548.00

Needed to Reach 2015  
Goal-----\$ 472.00  
(Year One of Five)

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**ELY U. M. C.**

**LAWN CARE SERVICE 2015:**

We would like to pause to share a HEARTFELT word of APPRECIATION and THANKSGIVING with our very, very AWESOME 2015 lawn care service team of:

**MARK LUTHENS  
NORM RUSCO  
DAN JOHNSON**

**MARK OLSON  
BRYAN RUSCO  
JUSTIN ZEMKE**

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