

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Think about this, when you are 5 years old, 5 years is a long time; when you are 5 your parents help you across the street, 5 years later you own the streets with your bike.

Think about this, when you are 10 years old, 10 years is a long time; when you are 10 you are living at home operating on house rules, 10 years later you are off to work or college making your own rules as you go.

Think about this, when you are 20 years old, 20 years is a long time; when you are 20 you are trying to figure out what your life might be like, 20 years later you are in the midst of all that makes life happen.

Think about this, when you are 40 years old, 40 years is a long time; when you are 40 you are immersed in a career path, 40 years later you are immersed in something called the “Golden Years” or possibly retirement.

Think about this, when you are 80 years old, 80 years is a long time; **NO, NO, NO** please **STOP** before reaching 160 years old!!!

Well how about 125 years old, when you are 125 years old, 125 years is a long time; even for a church like say the **ELY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH!!!**

Actually, 125 years for an individual church may be a long time, even the Ely U.M.C.; but for **GOD’S CHURCH** living as the Family of God a 125 years is not even as long as the **“BLINK of an EYE”!!!** For with **GOD** and the Family of God there is the potential for the **ETERNAL!!!**

Yes, even as the Ely U.M.C. celebrating with great **JOY** the opportunity to share in ministry with **GOD** for what is now over 125 years, we can look upon this as **“JUST the BEGINNING”!!!**

But, and this is a **“BIG BUT”** how do we at 125 years old maintain a **YOUTHFUL VITALITY???**

Well, we as the Family of God here in the Ely U.M.C. can maintain that youthful vitality in the **“BLINK of an EYE”** by simply holding fast to the wonder of **GOD’S** gracious **LOVE** for us as the Family of God!!!

Indeed, it is our gracious and loving **GOD** who is by nature **ETERNAL** who can provide us with that youthful vitality we need to not only celebrate a 125 years of being in ministry with God already but can provide us with that youthful vitality we need to look forward to the next 125 years as well!!! **LOVE, GOD’S LOVE** for us is the energy that can drive the vitality of our ministry with **GOD**, today, tomorrow, and **ALWAYS!!!**

Yes, as long as we, as the Family of God, here in the Ely U.M.C. continue to keep our hearts, minds, and spirits focused of our gracious and loving **GOD, GOD’S LOVE** will enable us to continue sharing in ministry with **GOD!!!**

Yes, there is no **“BUT”**, **“BIG”** or otherwise that can limit us as the Family of God, as long as we prayerfully focus on **GOD** and **GOD’S** will for us as the Family of God, here in the Ely U.M.C.!!!

Love in Christ,

Pastor Dana

**AFTER SCHOOL
MID-WEEK
YOUNG FOLKS FELLOWSHIP:**

Our little church with a big heart is hoping to start an after-school program of religious instruction for grade school children.

It would be a wonderful way to start or continue their introduction to Christian beliefs and values.

It might also entice them to transition into our Youth Group when they grow older.

Tentatively, it would occur weekly. Children would be escorted from the school to the church when school lets out on Wednesdays. To make this happen, we need volunteers to instruct and to walk with them from school to church. Many hands make light work, so if you could help out, even just occasionally, we'd love to hear from you. Please contact Jan Hotaling, Rich Floyd, or Reverend Thompson.

*Optimistically- Wednesday Afternoon's
after school until 5:00 P.M. ???
Starting Next Fall*

**CHURCH BAZAAR:
2017**

Yes, this is the year 2017 when we again hold a **BAZAAR** event, during the month of **NOVEMBER!!!**

Our Ely U.M.C. **BAZAAR** is an every other year, very, very **SPECIAL EVENT** sponsored by and hosted by our Ely U.M.C. Women's Group the **U. M. W.!!!**

This very **SPECIAL BAZAAR** is a great help in the financial support of our participation in God's Ministries here in the Ely U.M.C.---it has been a very **RELIABLE FUND RAISER** for many years now!!!

We **INVITE EVERYONE, WOMEN and MEN** to take some time and consider how they can enhance our 2017 **CHURCH BAZAAR!!!**---This is one of our **last** promotional plugs!!!

We **INVITE EVERYONE, WOMEN and MEN** to think about:

BAKED GOODS---to be sold

CRAFT GOODS---to be sold

COFFEE ANDS---to be shared

2 MONTHS TO PREPARE

READY, SET, GO!!!

The **Guild/UMW** on Wednesday May 24, 2017 2:10-3:30 pm

(Prior to the official start of the meeting, Guild/UMW members helped Pastor Dana with the Summer 2017 FISH mailing and then put together the 10 Health Kits from supplies that Lucy Diesslin had provided. Lucy will take the kits to the Annual Conference at the end of June.)

The Guild/UMW met at the Church with 7 people in attendance. President Bonnie Berglund opened the meeting at 2:10 with a prayer by Pastor Dana and unison reading of the UMW Purpose.

The minutes from our April 26, 2017 meeting were read and approved as read.
Bonnie gave the Treasurer’s Report: checking \$3,311.29; savings \$7,514.68, CD \$10,753.25.

Old Business

- **May Friendship Dinner:** Jeanne reported that she arranged for catering with Northland Market and will call them after Sunday May 28 to confirm the count. Jan Rue agreed to do desserts again. We talked about decorations. It was suggested that Margie Olson might be willing to help on that. Bonnie will contact her.
- **125th Anniversary:** There was nothing special to report. It was suggested that we read the Ad Council minutes in the newest FISH for more details.
- **Breakthrough Renewal Institute:** Dana reported that he has 4 scholarships for the Sept 14-15 retreat. He has two participants signed up already already.

New Business

- **2017-18 Hostess Schedule:** We each selected a month for next year’s meeting schedule; we’ll work on getting volunteers for the other months at our September meeting.
 - Sept 27 – Jeanne Tomlinson
 - Oct 25 –
 - Nov 15 –
 - Jan 24 – Jeri Walburn
 - Feb 28 –
 - Mar 28 – Janice Tessier
 - Apr 25 – Donna Rusco
 - May 23 – Bonnie Berglund

We adjourned at 2:30 pm.

BRING A CHILD TO

CHURCH MONTH:

Begins on Sunday September 10 2017 we look forward to seeing our young people in worship with us!!!

Our young people who have already received “The Jesus Story Book Bible” will receive a daily devotional book titled “Jesus Is Calling You”!!!

Yes, Sunday School Begin Anew !!!

125th ANNIVERSARY

CELEBRATION:

Yes, on August 6, 2017 the Ely U.M.C. set aside time to celebrate 125 years of ministry with God, as the Family of God in the Ely U.M.C.!!!

Let us use one word to describe this celebration, just **ONE**, yes just **ONE**, and the word is **AWESOME!!!**

We do know that 127 people were gathered for worship and Holy Communion which was richly inspired by our own Ely U.M.C. Choir and the fine preaching of our District Superintendent Mark Miller!!! What a blessing from **GOD**, to begin our celebration with an **AWESOME** worship experience!!!

However, we were not done as **GOD** continued to bless us that day as we moved on, over to St. Anthony's Catholic Church for an **AWESOME** meal!!!

We give thanks to St. Anthony's Church who were very gracious, giving us the free use of their facility for the day's events!!!

We also give thanks to Butch Diessler who put hours into developing a **AWESOME** little Power Point Program of about 15 minutes highlighting the 25 years of our ministry together with **GOD** which has taken place in the Ely U.M.C. since our 100 year celebration!!! We also give thanks to Jennifer Taylor, Mary Taylor's daughter and Mason Burd's

granddaughter, who at the last minute graciously added the music to the Power Point Program!!!

Again we give thanks to our Ely U.M.C. Choir for richly adding to the celebration with an **AWESOME** reminder for us to "Reach Out to Jesus"!!!

We also give thanks to Margie Olson who took the lead and spent hours planning the celebration décor, anyone who saw it just might say **AWESOME!!!** However, we would also like to say that Saturday night there was an **AWESOME** crew of "Busy Beavers" who turned the décor plan into a reality; yes an **AWESOME** crew and we thank you!!!

Finally, we need to say thank you to the group of people who did the work, to make this whole 125th Anniversary Party a reality that could be described in one word as being an **AWESOME** experience!!! Yes, we are talking about the committee, the committee that took care of the planning right down to the **AWESOME** clean-up crew of more "Busy Beavers"!!!

**BONNIE BERGLUND
BUTCH DIESSLIN (CHAIRPERSON)
LUCY DIESSLIN
LINDA HANE
MARGIE OLSON
TRICIA SCHREFFLER
JAY TOMLINSON (SECRETARY)**

Yes, each of our **AWESOME** committee members took on individual responsibilities while also being active with the whole and we your Church Family say thank you!!!

AWESOME is our "amazingly gracious" **GOD** who has blessed us over these past 25 years!!! Let's **PRAISE GOD!!!**

DOES THE ELY U.M.C. KNOW HOW

TO PARTY ???

Just ***ONE*** short week after our 125 party the Ely U.M.C. Family was found to be partying yet again; however, this time we were at Semer's Park with a number of other churches at the "Multi-Church Summer BBQ"!!!

Although, the official "early bird" sign-ups looked bleak there was a wonderful turnout for the Semer's Park "Multi-Church Summer BBQ"!!!

Indeed, this was a wonderful experience shared with brothers and sisters in the Family of God from across our community with plenty of good ***FOOD*** and richness of ***FELLOWSHIP!!!***

So, we as a Church Family would like to share a special word of ***THANKSGIVING*** with the two many coordinators from our Church Family here in the Ely U.M.C., they were ***MARGIE OLSON*** and ***JEANNE TOMLINSON!!!***

So, at a "BBQ" it is likely that there will be some grilling done, and in this case there was no exception, burgers, brats, and hot dogs. Clearly, someone had to stand in the breach and take the heat, a special thank you to our own Church Family members ***JAY TOMLINSON*** and ***DAN JOHNSON*** for taking the heat!!!

Yes indeed, this "Multi-Church Summer BBQ" was a huge success thanks be to ***GOD*** who richly blesses us!!!

September is Bring a Kid to Church Month

Ely U.M.C.'s "Bring a Kid to Church Month" is starting, come September. We will start on the second Sunday; yet we love seeing our children in worship with us year round or each and every Sunday!

Each child (or group of siblings) will get a copy of *The Jesus Story Book Bible* if he or she did not get one last year.

Children who did participate last year and received the *Bible* will instead get a book entitled *Jesus is Calling You*. But that's not the main reason for participating. Having more children than usual attending service presents a wonderful opportunity to start, or further, children on their spiritual journeys. We sure hope to see you and your child or children there.

EARLY SUNDAY SCHOOL

BEGINS:

Coming soon, when soon? How about the second Sunday in September?

Yes, Sunday September 10

9:00 A.M.

Our early morning Sunday School is a wonderful way to begin to focus in **HEART**, **MIND**, and **SPIRIT**, on **GOD** and the coming morning worship service, at 10:00 A.M.!!!

Indeed, as we did last year, we will use our early morning Sunday School time for a bit of reflection and sharing around the Scripture Reading which will be used in the morning worship service!!!

Our early morning Sunday School is a wonderful opportunity for **LEARNING**, **SHARING**, and a bit of **FELLOWSHIP** between brothers and sisters in the Family of God!!!

Everyone is welcome, give it a try, it is yet another way that we as the Family of God can journey together along the road of life seeking to nurture **FAITH** development in our lives and in the lives of one another!!!

CONGRATULATIONS

M and M'S:

No, we are not talking about that candy with the “hard candy shell with the chocolate inside that melts in your mouth” as good as that may be; actually, we are talking about something even better!!!

The **M** and **M'S** we are referring to here are none other than the “Methodist Milers”!!!

Who are the “Methodist Milers”? The “Methodist Milers” has long been the name used by our Ely U.M.C. Family Members who have participated in the every other year “Relay for Life” Fund Raiser for Cancer!!!

We give a special THANK YOU shout out to LUCY DIESSLIN who yet again served as our Team Captain and **AWESOME** leader!!! We as a Team do not always realize that means going to meetings and a lot of running around before and after the “Relay” takes place!!!

We also give a special THANK YOU shout out to each and every Team Member and all the Reserves who stepped in to help out the **M** and **M'S**!!! The rumor is that we as a Team walked the most laps during the “Relay” and that we did achieve **GOLD** with regards to fund raised for the “Relay”!!!

Yes, **THANK YOU EVERYONE** who participated in leadership, in team membership, as reserves, and with donations to the awesome job done by the “Methodist Milers” or **M** and **M'S**!!!