

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Exuberance, joy, and excitement, all rolled into one big package, involving a bit of effort; “WHAT, WHAT, WHAT, in the world can it be”?

Well, it could be but it is not making to another birthday celebration; well, it could be but it is not finishing the final go around of our “Pasty Making” for the 2016-2017 “Pasty Season”; well, it could be but it is not closing in on our soon to be AWESOME 125th Anniversary Celebration of the Ely United Methodist Church Family; no it is none of these things this big package of exuberance, joy, and excitement.

So, why this exuberance, joy, and excitement, all rolled into one big package, involving a bit of effort, “WHAT, WHAT, WHAT, in the world can it be”?

Indeed, “WHAT, WHAT, WHAT, in the world can it be”?

The answer to what this exuberance, joy, and excitement, all rolled into one big package is-----can you give me a “DRUM ROLL PLEASE”-----the WALLEYE fishing season has opened!!!

However, a little reminded here, and the reminder has to do with the word EFFORT!!! Yes, in order to experience a sense of exuberance, joy, and excitement, from the walleye fishing season requires a bit of EFFORT!!! Here are few examples of the EFFORT required to participate with a sense of exuberance, joy, and excitement, in the walleye fishing season, equipment preparation, rods, reels, various types of tackle, thoughtful consideration of baits, lakes, and weather conditions, and of course travel by car, truck, boat,

canoe, kayak, to name a few!!! Yes indeed, we are talking at least a wee bit of EFFORT!!!

I like the sound of, I like the idea of, EXUBERANCE, JOY, EXCITEMENT, all rolled into one big package, even if it does involve a wee bit of EFFORT!!!

So, developing high quality relationships requires a wee bit of EFFORT!!! Further, high quality relationships rooted in LOVE tend to nurture EXUBERANCE, JOY, and also EXCITEMENT in our lives!!!

I like the sound of, I like the idea of, EXUBERANCE, JOY, EXCITEMENT, all rolled into one big package, even if it does involve a wee bit of EFFORT!!! If we are going to have high quality relationships with each other, we must be willing to put in a wee bit of EFFORT!!! If we are going to develop high quality relationships with our gracious and loving GOD we must be willing to put in the EFFORT!!!

When we spend time with GOD in worship, when we spend time with GOD in prayer, and when we spend time with GOD in the Holy Bible, we are putting forth a wee bit of EFFORT which in turn creates the potential for a big package of EXUBERANCE, JOY, and EXCITEMENT!!!

May we as Children in the Family of God begin to use the various building blocks our GOD has provided to enhance our potential for consistently preparing our hearts, minds, and spirits, for developing much higher quality relationships with GOD!!! Indeed, feel the EXUBERANCE, feel the JOY, and feel the EXCITEMENT!!!

Love in Christ,

Pastor Dana

“Hearts 2 Hands”:

Motto: What we make with our two hands we give from our hearts

Our 15th year together a EUMC finds us still going strong. We have made 337 quilts for Toni’s Quilts for at-risk Kids Project. These quilts go to Ely Social Services, Virginia Foster Care, St. Mary’s Preemie Unit and, new this year, Homeless Children of Single Mothers.

Two special projects this year are the Youth Group Project in May and our annual “Pillowcase Party,” making pillowcases for St. Mary’s pediatric ward. With a little community support, we have been able to donate 762 pillow cases since we started in the fall of 2000.

Toni started making quilts for at-risk kids on “The Range” in 1998 with many wonderful people and groups helping fill the need here in the area. She has delivered over 1400 quilts since then, and what continues to keep her going is the fellowship and the continued support of the H-2-H members.

If you are interested in helping us with this year’s “Pillowcase Party” please contact Toni Floyd at 365-7420.

The **Guild/UMW** on Wednesday April 26, 2017 2-4:15 pm

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

The minutes from our March 22, 2017 meeting were read.

Sharon Luthen’s Treasurer’s Report had been called in earlier: checking \$4,663.43 without the April pastry expenses; savings \$7,514.68; CD \$10,753.25.

Old Business

- **May Friendship Dinner:** We reviewed the choices for the sides for our dinner and selected Roasted Baby Red Potatoes, Fresh Steamed Vegetables and Broccoli Cauliflower Salad. Jeanne will contact Northland to confirm the arrangements and will ask Jan Rue if she would be willing to do a dessert again.
- **Reach-Renew-Rejoice 2017 Donation:** We decided to proceed with this subject. Motion was approved to donate \$200. (M/Lucy/S/Jeanne)
- **Emma Norton donation:** We had decided to donate \$100 to the Emma Norton facility only making sure the donation was sent to UMW with the specification of where the money was to go. Lucy will contact Sharon to make sure this happens.
- **125th Anniversary:** Lucy reported that plans are moving along. We already have two banners for the event, one is hung on the front of the church, the other will go on the steeple once the weather gets better and help is available.

New Business

- Dana reported that the District is holding a **Breakthrough Renewal Institute** on Sept 14-15 and would like to see if the church can offer at least 4 scholarships for church members to attend. He specifically requested that UMW cover 2 scholarships which would come to about \$350. Motion was made & approved to do that. (M/Lucy/S/Janice).
- **Health Kits:** Lucy wanted to know if we'd be willing to put 10 kits together at our May 24 meeting if she supplied most of the items since she already has a number of the needed items. We agreed that this would be good. Lucy will hand over what she has to Jeanne who will take care of getting the rest of the items for the May 24 meeting.

We adjourned at 2:35 pm.

SAVE THE DATE!

Sunday, August 6, 2017
125th Anniversary Celebration

10:00 A.M. Worship Service
Noon –
125th Anniversary Dinner & Program

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*

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COMING

***"Break Through Renewal Institute"
Two Day Event
Sponsor Church Hubbab U.M.C.
September 14-15, 2017
Thursday & Friday***

Purpose-Refresh, Renew, & Revitalize

This is a District wide event. We are hopeful that the Ely U.M.C. will be represented with 3 or more Church Members. Hopefully, four of us could go in one car, but if we need two cars or more that would be great!!!

**Check-In 2:00-4:00 P.M. Thursday
Conference Thursday 4:00 P.M. to Friday 5:00 P.M.**

Pictures Please!

The 125th Anniversary planning committee would like to create a photo presentation of our Church's events and activities of the last 25 years, including pictures from our 100th anniversary celebration.

The committee is accepting pictures in digital formats or printed photos. Digital photos can be e-mailed to Jay Tomlinson - Tomlinson.Jay@gmail.com. Printed photos should be brought to the church office.

A brief description of the event, the date, names of individuals pictured, etc., is appreciated

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 our first promotional plug!!!

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

BAKED GOODS---to be sold

CRAFT GOODS---to be sold

COFFEE ANDS---to be shared

5 MONTHS TO PREPARE

READY, SET, GO!!!

Love Offering For Missions

June 11, 2017

Each year, churches in the MN Annual Conference take a Love Offering for missions. The theme of the 2017 Annual Conference session is “Encounter the Spirit:Live Expectantly. The funds from this year’s Love Offering will go to these three projects:

(1)The United Methodist University of Sierra Leone-School of Applied Science will receive 60% of the funds collected. The money will be used to train health care professionals which will improve the accessibility and quality of health care throughout Sierra Leone.

(2) Emma Norton Services(Twin Cities based) helps women, children, and families overcome homelessness, mental illness and chemical dependency will receive 30% of the funds and

(3) 10% of the funds will support volunteers in mission scholarships.

June 11, 2017 is the date the offering will be collected. Pray about how this offering can reach new people and heal a broken world and give whatever you have decided in your heart.

ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL – MINUTES May 17, 2017 Ely United Methodist Church

Call To Order: Chair Jay Tomlinson called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Attendees (7): Dana Thompson, Bonnie Berglund, Butch & Lucy Diesslin, Mark & Marge Olson and Jay Tomlinson

Opening: Dana provided the “Opening Thought” from *The Upper Room* (May 17, 2017 entry) followed by prayer.

Minutes: The April 19, 2017 Ad Council minutes were approved as printed in the May 2017 *FISH*. Motion to approve/Margie Olson; Second/Butch Diesslin, Unanimous.

Treasurer’s Report: The April 2017 treasurer’s report was presented and highlighted by Mark Olson. Receipts: \$10,974.28, Disbursements: \$9,374.55. End of month balances: Building Fund \$23,486.63 (with \$11,000 Undesignated and \$2,000 designated to the 125th Anniversary Celebration); Memorial Fund \$10,283.04; Parish Health Ministries \$400, R3 Project \$40, \$150 125th Anniversary, General Fund \$3,318.45. Mark commented that this was the first month that receipts were greater than disbursements. The Board agreed to move the \$2,000.00 designated funds for the 125th Anniversary Celebration in the Building Fund to the General Fund designated to the 125th Anniversary Celebration. The report was approved as submitted. Motion to approve/Butch Diesslin; Second/Bonnie Berglund. Unanimous.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Visioning Committee: After-School Instruction for Children – Aimed at grade school children, this will be a good way to feed into the Youth Group, not to mention initiating the children’s religious instruction. We are considering providing the instruction weekly on Wednesdays right after school lets out. The idea is to walk the children from school to the church, and that will likely take two adults. We would like to start at the beginning of the new school year. Our biggest challenge will be to find volunteers to give the instruction and to walk with the children. Jan has already agreed to teach. The teacher would also be one of the walkers. Background checks will be required. Many of the prospective teachers may already have them from working or volunteering at the school. Jan will see if we can get documentation for them. Those who need to get background checks can do it through the Conference “Safe Gathering” program. We will offer, but not require, additional training for safely dealing with children. The current cost for the background check and

training is \$32.50 per person. The training, if desired, can be done online.

OLD BUSINESS

1. **125th Ely UMC Anniversary:** The committee has decided on the meal and is in the process of getting bids from caterers. Butch is working on a Power Point Presentation and is still accepting photographs. Trish is working on securing give-a-way branded magnets. Jay is working on getting bids for Ely United Methodist Shirts to be made. Dana has secured give-a-way branded pens. The invitation letter is prepared as is just waiting for the additional information to be included before sending. The committee is looking into preparing give-a-way DVDs with church historical information and the power Point Presentation. The next committee meeting is scheduled for June 1st.
2. **Summer 4 Church BBQ:** The committee met and decided that the BBQ will be held on August 13th starting at 12:00 noon at Semers park. The building rent is \$80 and includes all tables and chairs. The Park has a playground, volleyball court, beach and swimming. The grill will be delivered to the park by Northland Market, and food will come from Northland Market. The churches will purchase the meats and all the condiments. The burgers will be thawed on Saturday before the BBQ and the Brats will be par boiling before the BBQ so that cooking will take less time. Set-up will take place Saturday evening. Motion by Lucy Diesslin that our church will pick up the cost of the building rental to reserve the building; Second/Butch Diesslin. Unanimous.
3. **Mail Box at the Parsonage:** Butch has agreed to take on the project. The Postmaster has already approved the placement at the same location where it was originally placed. The swing-a-way post will run as much as \$200. Butch indicated he has a Mail Box he is willing to donate. Motion by Lucy Diesslin to provide up to \$200.00 to complete the project: Second/Margie Olson. Unanimous.
4. **Love Offering:** A Free Will Love Offering will be taken on June 11th to present at the Minnesota Annual United Methodist Church Conference. An announcement to that effect will be in the Sunday Bulletin.

NEW BUSINESS

1. **Lay Minister Seminar for Break Through Renewal Institute:** Dana presented a program designed to Refresh, Renew & Revitalize

our church through a 2 day program held at the Hubbard MN United Methodist Church September 14-15, 2017. Dana would like to see at least 4 of our church members attend, ideally 2 from the Visioning Committee and 2 from the Ad Council. The UMW have allocated \$360 for two scholarships and Dana asked the Ad Council if the church would contribute 2 additional scholarships. Motion by Margie Olson to allocate \$360 from the general fund for 2 scholarships to the Seminar: Second/Bonnie Berglund. Unanimous.

2. **Background Checks for Church Volunteers Working With Kids:** Motion by Margie Olson to approve funds for background checks for all church volunteers working with kids on the after school program the Visioning Committee is preparing. Cost per person checked is \$32.50: Second by Lucy Diesslin. Unanimous.

CORRESPONDENCE

Mark reported receiving a thank you from the Northwoods Partners for the \$100 gift sent to them from funds generated at the Lenten Supper.

ITEMS OF INFORMATION

Graduation Reception Invitations to our church family have been posted on the bulletin board at the back of the church.

The Women's Friendship Dinner will be held on May 31st at 5:30 pm.

The meeting adjourned at 8:05 PM with a unison reciting of *The Lord's Prayer*.

Respectfully submitted, Jay Tomlinson, Ad Council Chair for Jeanne Tomlinson, Ad Council Secretary

Save the date – Sunday August 13, 2017!!

Once again the Ely Presbyterian, Grace Lutheran, Ely United Methodist and St. Mary's Episcopal Churches will be having a **Multi-Church BBQ/Picnic** this summer. It will be on Sunday, August 13, 2017 starting at 12 noon at **Semer's Park**. Hamburgers, brats & hot dogs, condiments, lemonade & water will be provided – it'll be potluck for everything else. You'll get more details at church as we get closer. Come join the fun!

The PPRC would like Congregation input for *Church Profile*

By Jeanne Tomlinson

For those of you who might not already know, Pastor Dana will be retiring at the end of June 2018. Although we won't ever be able to have another Dana, we need to take steps to help the bishop and the district superintendents in the appointment making process of his successor. The Pastor-Parish Relations Committee (PPRC) is tasked with completing a *Church Profile* document that will help them determine who might be the best fit for our church.

The PPRC would like your help with some of the sections of the document. We have developed a *Church Profile – Congregation Input* form that has the those sections. Printed copies of this document will be available at the church starting on Sunday, June 4 and throughout the summer. If you would rather have an electronic copy of this form, please notify PPRC Chair, Jeanne Tomlinson, at tomlinson.jeanne@yahoo.com, or if you like a printed copy sent to you, call Jeanne at (218) 235-8470. There will be instructions with the form on when and how to return it once you have completed it.

Thanks in advance to those of you who are willing to help out in this process.

SCHOLARSHIPS 4:

Did you notice the Article about "Refresh, Renew & Revitalize" your church being promoted by the North Star District and sponsored and hosted by the Hubbard U.M.C.?

September 14 – 15, 2017
Hubbard U.M.C.

Well, we would like to see at least four Lay Members from the Ely U.M.C. attend this District Wide Conference.

Thus, the U.M.W. and the Administrative Council are each providing two Scholarships this creates a total of four scholarships.

The Scholarships will hopefully be enough to cover 4 Registration Fees and 4 one night stays in a Motel in the Park Rapids area.

Additional costs to those attending would likely be the travel to and from, and one meal going to, and coming from the Conference.

Please contact pastor Dana at 365-3355 if you would like to take advantage of this great District Wide Opportunity for learning and growing.

Let's see what is going on with regards to church growth and gain new insights for possible future efforts in the Ely U.M.C.

Two Scholarships spoken for already-

Lucy Diesslin, Jeanne Tomlinson
