

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Well, it seems logical to suggest this was a surprisingly early **SPRING!!!** (Of course, spring was not technically early, but spring was early psychologically.)

Well, it seems logical to suggest that **ICE OUT** was surprisingly early this year; after all, we are talking about an ice out which occurred roughly in **MID-APRIL!!!**

Well, it seems logical to suggest **65 YEARS** came surprisingly early!!! (Of course, 65 years was not technically early, but 65 years was psychologically early, early, early. What happened to those High School years?)

Well, now with snow scheduled for this coming week and with colder temperatures scheduled for this coming week, we might not see flowers **BLOOMING** surprisingly early this year even with the expectation of “May Flowers”!!!

Ah yes, surprising and early are at times a challenging and interesting combination. One example of surprising and early combining to create interesting and challenging could be the experience of Mary Magdalene at the tomb of Jesus early in the morning on what we today now call **EASTER SUNDAY!!!**

Yes, from this one encounter of surprising and early by Mary Magdalene and her proclamation “I have seen the Lord” we have discovered a new awareness of the **HOPE** sparked by the **EMPTY TOMB** and the wonder of the **RESURRECTION!!!**

Indeed, today as we celebrate what it means to be the Church, today as we celebrate what it means to be children

in the Family of God we can also do so with a depth of **APPRECIATION** for **GOD’S** gracious **LOVE** for us!!!

After all, early on **GOD** begin to prepare humanity for a big **SURPRISE**, a surprise grounded in **LOVE!!!**

Early on **GOD** spoke through the prophets about the gift of the **MESSIAH!!!** The **MESSIAH** was the surprise!!!

GOD’S gift of the **MESSIAH** was rooted and grounded in **LOVE** for us as children in the Family of God!!! The big surprise was found in crucifixion and death on a cross that led to an empty tomb, and the **RESURRECTION** of the **MESSIAH!!!**

Hear these words from the gospel of John the twentieth chapter verses 30 and 31:

“Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.”

Yes, beginning with Mary Magdalene’s proclamation, “I have seen the Lord” a precious spark of **HOPE** for us as children in the Family of God!!!

Love in Christ,

Pastor Dana

ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL – MINUTES

April 19, 2017

Ely United Methodist Church

Chair Jay Tomlinson called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM.

Attendees (8): Bonnie Berglund, Butch & Lucy Diesslin, Mark & Marge Olson, Keith Rue, Jay & Jeanne Tomlinson

Jeanne provided the “Opening Thought” from *The Upper Room* (April 19, 2017 entry) followed by prayer.

The **Minutes** of the March 15, 2017 Ad Council meeting were approved as printed in the April 2017 *FISH*. M/Butch/S/Keith.

The **Treasurer’s Report** for March 2017 was presented and highlighted by Mark Olson. Receipts: \$7,456.55, Disbursements: \$8,334.95. End of month balances: Building Fund \$23,188.93 (with \$13,000 Undesignated); Memorial Fund \$10,281.46; Parish Health Ministries \$400, R3 Project \$40, \$500 125th Anniversary, General Fund \$1,368.72. Mark commented that this was the third month in a row that receipts were lower than disbursements. The report was approved as submitted. M/Bonnie/S/Lucy.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Marge reported that the **Board of Trustees** met on April 4. The summer lawn maintenance schedule is up. Mark Luthens will be re-varnishing the front doors. He has already installed new window wells around the building to replace the old ones. They will be looking at the parsonage this fall to assess required work to get it ready for a new minister: painting, carpeting replacement, tree and yard work, etc.

Jeanne reported that **Pastor-Parish Relations** met on April 10 to review what is needed for completing the Church Profile. They selected some questions from the profile that will be included in a special survey to be distributed to the congregation through the summer months. The results of that will be used to complete the profile in the fall and get it to the district.

Keith & Lucy reported for **Visioning** that only three attended the April 17 meeting. They briefly reviewed the Love Languages class and decided we should hold the class again in a year or two since it was well-received. They also discussed some tentative dates for future movie times. The cost of showing *Inside Out* on April 26 was discussed since the last movie “showing permit” only cost \$85 and this one is costing \$115. One reason mentioned for the significant increase might be a

different movie source since this is a Disney movie and the others we’ve shown were not.

OLD BUSINESS

1. **125th Ely UMC Anniversary:** Butch reported that the banners had arrived. One will be on the side of the building and the other will be hung from the steeple. Cost was \$350. Motion was made to approve payment from the \$500 that had been received already for the event. Payment was approved. M/Marge/S/Keith. Butch also reported he has over 100 pictures now in the Power Point he’s putting together for the event. Jay mentioned that instead of a printed program booklet with all the pictures that many people might just discard, there would be a DVD made available to all attendees. Those wanting a printed copy may then just print their own. Lucy brought up the need to allocate some additional funds for the celebration and moved to allocate \$2,000 from the previously donated \$10,000. This was approved. M/Lucy/SMarge.

NEW BUSINESS

1. **Summer Multi-Church BBQ:** Marge reported that the committee will be meeting on May 5 to discuss how to proceed. The current thought is to have it on the weekend that Grace Lutheran holds their church service at Whiteside Park which will be sometime in July. We agreed that EUMC folks would probably not be interested in attending the church service but like the idea of the picnic happening there afterwards.
2. **Lenten Supper Guest Income Distribution (\$198):** Jay asked for a decision as to how to distribute the funds received from the March 30 Lenten Supper. Lucy moved to add \$2 to the total and send \$100 to Northern Lights Clubhouse and \$100 to Northwoods Partners. This was approved. M/Lucy/S/Jeanne.
3. **Mail Box at the Parsonage:** Butch reported that he had looked into replacing the mailbox that had been destroyed shortly after Dana had moved there. He recommended we get a swing-away mount for the box. He already has a mail box that can be used. He’ll check into Post Office requirements on location before doing any of the work. The council approved the work. M/Butch/S/Bonnie.
4. **Love Offering:** Lucy asked that we decide now about the Love Offering that she will take to the June church conference since she’ll

be gone next month when we'd normally be discussing it. We approved guaranteeing \$100 for the offering if the collection is less than that. M/Lucy/S/Mark. We set June 11 as the date to take the offering.

CORRESPONDENCE

Mark reported receiving another thank you from the Northern Lights Clubhouse for the donation we made last year to them from our Lenten Supper proceeds. There was no other correspondence.

ITEMS OF INFORMATION

Ely UMC Lenten Supper – Pasties made: 130; “Extra” Pasties Sold: 62; Income: \$186; Cost \$190.97; Net Income (-\$4.97); Guest pasties served: 68; Guest income: \$198 (see above).

April Pasty Report – Pasties made: 897; Sales: \$5400; Cost: \$1,347.33; Net Income: \$4,052.67

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

Respectfully submitted, Jeanne Tomlinson, Ad Council Secretary

Women’s Friendship Dinner

Calling all gals!! Join us on Wednesday, May 31, in the church Fellowship Hall for our annual Women’s Friendship Dinner. We’ll gather at 5:30 pm; dinner will be served at 6 pm. Jeanne Tomlinson will be sharing her experiences from a Jan-Feb 2016 trip to India. Northland Market will be catering the meal and UMW will once again cover some of the cost so it will only be \$10 per person. There will be a sign-up sheet at the church starting May 7. Please sign up and turn your payment in to Lucy Diesslin by Sunday, May 28. Make any checks payable to **UMW**. We hope to see you all there!

The **Guild/UMW** on Wednesday March 22, 2017 2-3:45 pm

The Guild/UMW met at the Church with 6 people in attendance. Vice President Lucy Diesslin opened the meeting with a prayer and unison reading of the UMW Purpose.

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

Sharon Luthen’s Treasurer’s Report had been called in earlier: checking \$1,688.73; savings \$7,512.33, CD \$10,746.63.

Old Business

- **Reach-Renew-Rejoice 2017 Donation:** Tabled until more meeting participation.
- **May Friendship Dinner:** Lucy had picked up the menu options from Northland but had not received the associated prices. We decided to once again go with just the broasted chicken. We’ll discuss the side options with other people prior to our April meeting when we’ll decide on the menu. We agreed upon Wednesday, May 31 as the date for the event. Motion was made to once again have participants pay \$10 each and have the UMW funds cover the rest. (M/Jeanne Tomlinson/S/Janice Tessier) Motion carried.

New Business

- Lucy distributed copies of the March 2017 issue of North Star District (UMW) *Comment*. She pointed out the Spring Gathering will be on April 22 in Wadena which most of us had decided last year to be too far for us. She also pointed out the Emma Norton Annual Dinner & Silent Auction to be held on April 10 in Minneapolis. The North Star District had reported that it had not met its pledge partly because some churches (like us) donate directly to the Emma Norton Fund instead of giving the funds to the UMW District to donate. Since this is just a paperwork issue, Lucy will talk to Sharon about sending the funds to the UMW District with a designation of the monies going to Emma Norton Services. Lucy also mentioned one of the book reviews in the newsletter, *Same Kind of Different as Me*, which she strongly recommends. There is a copy of this book in our church library.

We adjourned at 2:30 pm.

Thank you, Pasty Team!!

We just finished another successful season of making lots of lots of pasties for the folks in the area – and helped augment our church revenue. For anyone who likes statistics, in our last 6 ‘pasty months’ we made a total of 4,415 pasties and netted almost \$19,000 for our church accounts. We have 12 callers who contact almost 300 customers in each of those months to get the orders, then a team of over 40 people who take care of the various tasks involved in getting everything ready, putting the pasties together, baking, bagging, selling, and then cleaning up afterwards.

Thank you all!!!

PASTY REPORT:

April 2017

Pasties Made- 897

Sales- \$5,400.00
Cost- \$1,347.33
Net Income- \$4,052.67

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

8 MONTHS TO PREPARE

READY, SET, GO!!!

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.

SAVE THE DATE!

Sunday, August 6, 2017
125th Anniversary Celebration

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

“BOUNDARY WATERS CARE CENTER” WORSHIP SERVICE:

Sunday May 21- 2:30 P.M.

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“CARE FREE LIVING” WORSHIP SERVICE:

Wednesday May 17- 1:15 P.M.

ALL CHURCH POTLUCK:

Sunday May 7, 2017
Following Worship

Yes, Sunday May 7th we will be celebrating our second All-Church Family Potlucks of 2017!!!

Our 1st All-Church Family Potluck was a **JOYOUS** and filling **CELEBRATION** as the Family of God!!!

Please come to our 2nd All-Church Family Potluck adding to the depth of our **JOYOUS** and filling **CELEBRATION**!!!

EVERYONE WELCOME !!!

***LENTEN SUPPER
PASTY REPORT:***

Pasties Made-	130
“Extra Pasties Sold-	62
Income-	\$186.00
Cost-	\$190.97
Net Income-	(-\$ 4.97)
Guest Pasties Served-	68
Guest Income-	\$198.00

***YOUTH GROUP (SENIORS)
RECOGNITION SUNDAY:***

Sunday May 14, 2017

Zach Dean
Izaak Nosbisch
Adam Porthan
August Richter
Anna Urbas
Evan Wognum

What a Wonderful Youth Group !!!

***MOTHER’S DAY
RECOGNITION SUNDAY:***

Sunday May 14, 2017

ALL Mother’s and Mother’s to be

COMING

***“Break Through Renewal Institute”
Two Day Event***

***Sponsor Church Hubbard 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.
