

ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL – MINUTES

Wednesday, December 18, 2024 at Ely United Methodist Church

Growing in faith and sharing Christ's love with others.

Call To Order: Chair Sheri Rue called the meeting to order at 6:01 PM.

Attendees (10): Cathy Aldrich, Marge Forsberg, Linda Hane, Dan Johnson, Mark & Margie Olson, Sheri Rue, Jay & Jeanne Tomlinson, Pam Turnbull.

Opening: Sheri Rue shared an Advent reading from *The Greatest Gift*.

Minutes: The November 20, 2024 minutes had been distributed previously to the Ad Council members. Margie Olson moved that we approve the minutes as distributed; second by Pam Turnbull. Motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: Mark Olson presented the November 2024 Treasurer's report. Account balances are \$66,257.49 in the General Fund, \$23,772.39 in the Building Fund and \$19,445.59 in the Memorial Fund. Motion to accept the report by Jay Tomlinson; second by Linda Hane. Motion passed unanimously.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Pastor-Parish Relations:** Cathy Aldrich reported that the pulpit supply is complete through the end of February. Steve Nelson will be the new chairperson in 2025. The committee thanked Cathy for all her hard work.
- Worship:** Linda Hane reported that the various slots in the sign-up sheet for Worship Service roles is complete for December but there are still openings in January and beyond. Dan Johnson will be the new chairperson in 2025. The committee thanked Linda Hane for all her work over the lengthy time she has served as Worship Committee Chair.
- Connections:** Jay Tomlinson distributed a report with details about their meeting on December 5. At our next two worship services, Linda Hane will be announcing the details of the Ely Food Shelf initiative of providing cash/check donation baskets at each of our quarterly potlucks. This will start with our first potluck of 2025 on January 5. The Connections Committee will be doing the worship message on January 26 and will talk about the current initiatives and ministries and asking for more volunteers to step up and help. Jay also reported that a new initiative was suggested to consider arranging dates & times for all in our congregation interested in participating in a house to house caroling initiative for the next Christmas season. Marge Forsberg reported that she had contacted the VCC Food Shelf and they are very interested in having us make food donations and provided a list of the items needed after January 13 since the campus will be closed until then. The committee will discuss next steps for this initiative at their next meeting on January 2.
- Memorial:** Marge Forsberg reported even though the committee did not have a regular meeting but they had discussed the request to use Memorial Funds for the new sound system and have determined that there were adequate "undesignated funds" to cover the request and have approved that. Their next scheduled meeting is on February 11, 2025 at 9 AM.
- UMW:** Margie Olson reported that the UMW Luncheon was held on Tuesday, December 17 at the Grand Ely Lodge with 24 attending. It was deemed successful. The next meeting will be held on January 15, 2025 at 10 AM.

- 6. Nominating Committee:** Pam Turnbull reported that the new slate of officers for 2025 is almost complete. They are still working on a possible new process for the Money Counters involved a team of counters taking turns and possibly leaving the money in the safe for Monday morning if necessary.

OLD BUSINESS

- 1. Charge Conference:** Sheri Rue reminded everyone that the Charge Conference will be held on Sunday, December 29 right after the worship service – or perhaps during it depending on the attendance. Jay Tomlinson is preparing the packet.
- 2. 2025 Budget:** Sheri Rue reported that Laurie Kantonen had recommended we might possibly get a pastor with a family and should budget accordingly. The health insurance is about \$10,000 more for a family. Mark Olson moved that we amend the budget for the increased amount; second by Jay Tomlinson. Motion passed unanimously.
- 3. Audio System:** Sheri Rue will connect with Curt Laine to get the details and contact information for the company we'll be purchasing the new audio system from. Jay is handling the licensing. We briefly discussed whether we'd really need a second hand-held microphone and decided we'd wait and see if it is needed after all the other planned microphones are in place.
- 4. Benevolence Fund:** Jay Tomlinson reported that he had contacted Frandsen Bank and the Ely Credit Union and both offer the type of checking account we'll need except that the credit union requires an additional savings account. Margie Olson moved that we go with Frandsen Bank; second by Mark Olson. Motion passed unanimously.
- 5. Christmas tree set up (Sibley, Zenith, Pioneer):** Sheri Rue reported that they had 15 youth and parents helping set up the 5 trees and it went well except for accidentally taking the Giving Tree box instead of one of the apartment tree boxes. They all enjoyed the pizza and ice cream in the church afterwards but Sheri felt it was a bit expensive and recommended going with something a little less expensive next year.
- 6. Northern Lights Clubhouse:** Pam Turnbull reported that she spoke with someone from the Clubhouse and learned that the house they are still setting up that is near our church will be just one of two since they plan to have one for men and one for women.
- 7. Building Use and Church Policies:** Margie Olson, Pam Turnbull and Sheri Rue are still working on it.
- 8. Cloud storage for church records, pasties, audit information etc:** Sheri Rue is still researching this.
- 9. Church Secretary position:** Sheri Rue again asked that each committee provide her with a list of tasks that they would like to have handled by a Church Secretary if we had one. She would like this list by the Ad Council meeting in February.
- 10. Church Handbook 2025 – Tabled**
- 11. Church Vision and Values – Tabled**
- 12. Church Goals for 2025 - Tabled**

NEW BUSINESS –

1. **State Paid Leave program:** Mark Olson had received information from the State of Minnesota about the implementation of the Paid Leave Law that had been passed and how our church will be probably be required to pay into this program. This is scheduled to be implemented starting in 2026 so we should get more information later.

Correspondence - None

Items of Information

1. **Next Ad Council meeting:** Wednesday, January 15 at 6:00 PM. Linda Hane offered to do the Opening devotion.

The meeting adjourned at 7:30 PM with a group recitation of *The Lord's Prayer*.

Respectfully submitted,
Jeanne Tomlinson, Ad Council Secretary