

ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL – MINUTES

Thursday, January 19, 2023 at Ely United Methodist Church

Call To Order: Chair Jay Tomlinson called the meeting to order at 5:03 PM.

Attendees (6): Rich Floyd, Craig Haberman, Mark Olson, Keith Rue, Jay & Jeanne Tomlinson

Opening: Pastor Craig read verses from Isaiah 40 and talked briefly about the contrast of the young tiring but God strengthening us so that we can “mount up with wings like eagles”. He then opened the meeting with prayer.

Minutes: December 14, 2022 Ad Council minutes were approved as distributed in the *Parish News*. Motion by Keith Rue, second by Rich Floyd.

Treasurer’s Report: The November and December 2022 reports were presented by Mark Olson. It was pointed out that the pasty sales noted in the December report should have gone into the Building Fund, not the General Fund. Jeanne will discuss this with Sharon.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. **Worship:** Pastor Craig reported that they’ll be meeting on January 30. He also reported that one of his former churches has extra Methodist hymnals and about 30 copies of the “We Sing” hymnals that they are willing to give us. We confirmed that it would be good to have them.
2. **Outreach:** Jay Tomlinson noted that we forgot to put up the apartment trees this past year. We’ll need to be sure to get it into the November agenda this fall.
3. **Visioning:** Rich Floyd reported on the current relationship initiatives. Please see the Addendum below for the details of Rich’s report. We briefly discussed the approval of \$300 to buy stamps and cards for the “Cards to people on the Prayer Wall” project. This amount had been discussed during the review of the Proposed 2023 Budget at the November Ad Council meeting by pointing out that the increase of the Outreach budget from \$900 to \$1200 had been made to accommodate the “cards” relationship initiative. The funds were officially approved when the budget was approved.
4. **Education:** Pastor Craig reported that we have received \$1,300 in two donations that is to be spent on our youth. He had spoken with Chris Urbas and she suggested that we use the money to offer church camp scholarships. We agreed that was a good idea.
5. **UMW:** Jeanne Tomlinson reported briefly on the topics discussed at the previous day’s UMW meeting: pasties prep & production & cleanup all short-staffed, prayer shawls & lap quilts delivery to the nursing home, Christmas luncheon success, “Journey into Easter” Bible study based on a book titled *Bitter & Sweet* kicking off on February 19, forming a church directory calling committee, and possibly supplementing the church camp scholarship funds.

OLD BUSINESS

1. **Church Directory Project:** Jay needs to connect with Nick Wognum to see where things stand with what Nick was going to check into. As mentioned in the UMW report, we have a committee who will help contact people in our directory to get their current name, address, phone and email information and to determine what information should and/or should not be included. Jeanne had learned that Eric Sherman is doing pictures for the local school and perhaps he might be interested in working with us on our directory.

NEW BUSINESS –

1. **Edwards Oil possible discount for congregation members:** Mark Olson visited Edwards Oil and reported that our church is currently included in the 2 year contract that St Mary's Catholic Church has with Edwards Oil but that would not extend to our individual congregation members.
2. **Meal needs for holidays for VCC students remaining in Ely:** Pastor Craig had been contacted to see if any church members would be willing to provide meals for up to 20 VCC students on days when they do not have access to on-campus meals. The primary goal is feeding the basketball players but it could include additional students. A list of the days that meals are needed was passed around. For February 4 the Helms family is planning to make a pancake breakfast but would like help. February 11 would require dropping off foods for a light breakfast of say fruit, muffins, cereal bars, etc. It was felt that our church could commit to handling the latter and we can spread the news about the February 4 need for help. Pastor Craig will get more information about location and time for February 4 and the amounts and the logistics of preparing and delivering for February 11.
3. **Opportunities to meet and greet our new bishop, Bishop Lanette Plambeck:** There are two links that have been added to our church website (www.elyumc.org) to learn about her. We can meet her in person on Saturday, February 25, 2023 at 2:00 at the Coppertop Church in Duluth.

Items of Information

1. **Pasty report:** Made 802; Total income \$6470; Total expense \$1786.99; Net \$4,683.01.
2. **Next Ad Council meeting:** Thursday, February 16, 2023 at 5:00 PM.

The meeting adjourned at 6:05 PM with a group recitation of *The Lord's Prayer*.

Respectfully submitted,
Jeanne Tomlinson, Ad Council Secretary

Attachment

Addendum

Visioning Committee Report to Ad Council

First suggested in November, the Visioning Committee has moved ahead with the idea of sending cards to people on the Prayer List. Jay ordered a selection of 84 cards, including encouragement, get well, sympathy, prayer, and thinking of you. The cost for the cards was \$30.56 including shipping. Mailings should start later this month. The outreach budget for 2023, approved by the Ad Council and the Annual Church Conference, contains \$300 for this initiative. However, it was not explicitly documented as such. The Visioning Committee requests approval of the \$300 for stamps and cards to send to people on the Prayer List.

Rich has written a solicitation for inclusion in the *Parish News* inquiring about interest in hosting and/or attending small get-togethers, perhaps lunches or dinners at participants' homes. This initiative is intentioned to help us return to our sociable and affable church environment after being fairly isolated during the pandemic. The solicitation is on hold until the first week in February to see if the holiday season gatherings had an impact on COVID cases.

Last month Patty introduced the Committee to a DVD accompanied by a book called *Journey with the Messiah*, suggesting that it might be appropriate for a study. Jay reviewed the DVD and reported to the Committee. The DVD contains images of Christ in the present day world and explanations of those images by the artist. The thought of developing a study was very well received. There are several ways in which the study could be structured, and the Committee will be discussing them at their next meeting. Regarding the timing of the initiative, it should not begin until after the currently planned 13-week women's *A Journey into Easter* study has been completed. It was also thought that this initiative will require considerable preparation and planning requiring a later target start date anyway. Patty and Jay volunteered to begin the preparation work. Others may join in as they become familiar with the materials.