

ELY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

"The Little Church With the Big Heart"

elyumc.elymn@gmail.com

218-365-3355

www.elyumc.org

Parish News

January 27, 2023

Getting to Know Our New Bishop

Reverend Lanette Plambech, our new bishop, arrived in Minnesota January 1st. She will live in the Episcopal Residence in Eden Prairie, MN, but will also serve as the bishop for the Dakota's Annual Conference.

You can find a brief written biography of Bishop Plambech here.

<https://www.minnesotaumc.org/meet-the-bishop>

She introduces herself in a ten minute, nineteen second video, immediately below the written biography on the same page.

We will have the opportunity to meet her in person at the Copper-top Church in Duluth. The date/time is Saturday, February 25, 2023 from 2:00 to 4:00.

Register to either attend in-person or to live-stream at the following link. <https://mnumc-reg.brtaapp.com/BishopsGatherings>

Questions? Talk to Jay Tomlinson or Pastor Craig.

A Note from Pastor Craig

Greetings! It's sunny out, with bright, blue skies, for the first time in about three weeks, as I write this on Thursday afternoon. Yes, it's also cold, but the sun feels so good, doesn't it?

The sun is higher in the sky than it was at Christmas, which makes sense since we're a full month past the shortest day of the year. There are 54 minutes more of daylight now than on December 21st.

Close observers of the out-of-doors are rewarded twelve months out of the year by the large and small changes happening right before our eyes - shifting patterns in the types of clouds and the amount of cloud-cover; fluctuations in the temperature; when particular birds arrive, depart and their activity while they are here; and birds, plants, leaves, and grasses blooming, growing and dying.

The calendar year not only brings delight for us northern Minnesotans, enabling us to experience four full seasons, but it also grounds us in the fullness of the natural world. Each season is unique and has a beauty all its own. The seasons are one of God's rich gifts to us.

So, too, is the church year, with its tapestry of various seasons. Although the church seasons of Advent, Christmas, Epiphany, Easter, Pentecost, and Kingdomtide aren't mentioned in Scripture as such, we find the themes of each from the front cover of the Bible to the back cover.

The church year gives us a framework to experience again the events of Jesus' life, as well as fully immerse ourselves in their deeper meaning. We see the salvation story, God's gracious purposes in history, as we walk through the church seasons annually one by one.

Advent through Christmas moves us from Hope to Joy. We see more fully who Jesus is during Epiphany and make a decision to walk in "the Way" that leads to life, abundant life now and forever. Lent through Pentecost moves us from Ashes (recognizing the depths of our need for Christ - Lent) through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ (Easter) and to Pentecost (the gift of the Holy Spirit as our companion and guide forever).

Deeply entering the seasons of the church year, I more fully appreciate the seasons of winter, spring, summer, and fall; and vice-versa.

God's blessings to you and your family as February begins! Pastor Craig

Crafty Volunteers Needed - for Northwoods Partners Project

Calling all crafty volunteers...our area seniors need your help!

We are again teaming up with the AVIS Project to create Valentines for the older adults in our community. We're in search of 20 volunteers who would be willing to take a kit home, then from the comfort of your own home, let your creativity flow.

Each kit contains an assortment of materials; enough to make ten cards. There is even a sheet of fun verses you can use if you are at a loss for words. All you need to get started is your imagination!

Please note that these cards are coming from you, so please be sure to SIGN all the cards you make with your name.

Simply stop by the Northwoods Partners office and pick up a kit at your convenience. The kits are hanging on the NP office door. Return the cards to our office by **Wednesday, February 1st**. We will address and deliver the cards you created to our seniors.

Like we always say, You Guys are Amazing, Thank You!

20 kits @ 10 cards each = 200 happy, smiling area older adults

Ely UMC to Provide Breakfast for VCC Men's Basketball Team

The Vermilion Community College Men's basketball team recently reached out to churches in Ely, inviting us to supply the team with meals on weekends, when the college food service isn't open. Our Administrative Council voted to respond in two ways.

First, to provide Saturday breakfast items for their February 11th road trip. Second, to join with Will Helm and Mary Groeninger in frying and serving pancakes at St. Mary's Episcopal Church (715 Sth Central Ave.) on Saturday, February 4th from 9:30 to 12:30.

We are to supply four dozen granola type bars, three dozen muffins, one bag clementines, and two bags of apples. There will be a sign-up sheet in the rear of the church on Sundays, January 29th and February 5th. You may also email the church at elyumc.elymn@gmail.com to signup via email or leave a message on the church answering machine at 218-365-3355. Someone from our church has already volunteered to deliver the food to the college Friday afternoon.

Please email Mary Groeninger at helmsafamily5@gmail.com if you have questions about helping them fry/serve pancakes on Feb. 4th and/or to let them know you are available to assist.

The Ely United Methodist Church

Prayer Wall

January 27, 2023

This is a guide for prayer this week. The *Prayer Wall* is a reminder of those needing prayers during devotional times. Thank you for dedicating some of your personal prayer time to lift up these requests.

Matthew 6: 10 (NIV)



"...Thy Kingdom come; Thy Will be done..."

We lift up the following in prayer...

- **Delores Hujanen** – Delores fell attending her husband's funeral breaking her ankle requiring surgery to implant a steel plate and pins to help with her healing..
- **Pastor Jim Johnson** – Pastor Jim Johnson of the Motley United Methodist Church is suffering from vertigo..
- **Cindy Hagen (Coombes) family & Friends** – Cindy passed away unexpectedly. She was Mark Olson's classmate.
- **Logan Monk** – **Update: Sadly, Logan passed away from his injuries. Pray for peace and comfort for his family & friends.** Anna Urbas's friend, Jordan Huntbatch, asked for prayers for her cousin, Logan, who is 17 and was in a head on car accident with a school bus. He has very bad head trauma with multiple broken bones and doctors aren't sure he will make it. Pray for a miracle.
- **Jim & Kellie Viikansalo** – Jim just lost his sister-in-law unexpectedly. Kellie has COVID and Jim is also down with a cold.
- **Mary Taylor** – **Update: Mary is back home and feeling better.** Mary is recovering in the hospital for a health issue.
- **Don & Marge Markwardt** – **Update: Don is back home and is recovering. Marge has back fracture(s) and has great pain. Pray for their quick healing and recovery.** Don has had a pacemaker inserted and Marge is having back issues.
- **Sandra's family & friends** – Linda Hane's friend, Caroline Hammond, lost her daughter, Sandra, from a heart attack leaving work. Please pray for comfort and peace for Sandra's family and friends.
- **Laureen** – Kathy & Steve Nelson's son-in-law's (Rob) aunt, Laureen, had cancerous brain tumor surgery.
- **Kevin Laine** – **Update: Kevin is now walking and driving without assistance.** Carol Laine's son, Kevin, had hip replacement surgery. Pray for comfort and healing.
- **Jeff & Kelly Close** – Sheri Rue's brother, Jeff, struggling with his health. Pray for strength and peace.
- **Ropey** – **Update: Ropey's health is weakening.** Ropey is now in Aurora and in fragile health. Margie Olson's brother, Ropey, is on hospice care and is in the hospital. Pray for comfort.
- **The Russia / Ukraine conflict** – Pray for a world-wide lasting resolution, safety of the people, and peace.
- **All essential health care workers exposed to the COVID-19 virus and the Delta & Omicron variants**

We include all the United Methodist Churches and Pastors, both active and retired, in our MN UMC Annual Conference as we work in extraordinary ways to keep our congregations and communities free from infection by the COVID-19 virus.

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

The UMW at Ely United Methodist Church Wednesday, January 18, 2023 10-11:25 AM

Vice-President Donna Rusco opened the meeting at 10:06 AM with a unison reading of the UMW. Pastor Craig later offered a prayer for us as we proceeded with the meeting. We had 6 UMW members attending: Marge Forsberg, Linda Hane, Sharon Luthens, Paula Mattila, Donna Rusco and Jeanne Tomlinson. Pastor Craig also attended.

Minutes: The minutes from the November 16, 2022 meeting were read and approved as read.

Treasurer's Report: Sharon Luthens reported that she had paid \$320 & \$400 for November & December church cleaning, respectively. November pasties brought in \$6,546 with expenses of \$1,064.68 paid out. From the net, \$3,461.72 was transferred to the Building Fund and the UMW retaining \$1,419.60. She also paid an additional pasties expense of \$559.60 (a year's worth of "doggie bags"). Checking balance is \$3,826.92; savings balance \$11,628.88. The Treasurer's Report was accepted as submitted.

Old Business

- **Pasties:** Jeanne reported that we made 802 pasties and brought in about \$6400 for our January sales. We had smaller crews than normal for prep, production and cleanup. We'll emphasize the need for help again when announcing the February 20 & 21 pasties.
- **Prayer Shawls:** Donna reported that the Prayer Shawl cash & records have been transferred to the UMW. We had circulated a card for Joyce Mattila at the Christmas luncheon for people to sign to let her know we were thinking about her. Paula Mattila & Gail Haney took the majority of the prayer shawls and lap quilts that had accumulated to the Boundary Waters Care Center, keeping just a few for any immediate need that might arise.
- **Christmas Luncheon:** We had 21 attending the luncheon at the GEL on December 7. We all agreed that it went well. Special thanks to Paula Mattila who had taken care of the party favors that included a lovely quilted star ornament for each attendee and to Patty Rusco, Gail Haney, Linda Hane & Paula for a nice luncheon program.
- **Northwoods Partners Appreciation Reception on Nov 30:** None of those attending this UMW meeting had been able to attend and didn't know if anyone else did.

New Business

- **Bible Study:** A UMW event will be held from February 28 to Easter called "Journey into Easter", based on a book titled *Bitter & Sweet*. It will kick off with a light lunch on Sunday, February 19, to be followed by a weekly study on Tuesdays at 6:15-8 PM, with one exception on Wednesday March 22.
- **Pasties:** February pasties will be on the 20th & 21st.
- **Church Directory Calls:** Jeanne reported that Jay is hoping to work with Nick Wognum for

printing and possibly a local photographer or two in getting pictures taken in order to produce a much delayed church pictorial directory. Jeanne asked for volunteers to help contact people on our current directory to get up-to-date addresses, phone numbers, email addresses, etc. as well as permissions to include which information. Donna, Paula, Linda and Marge offered to help. We won't start contacting people until there's a more definite plan on the photography and production so that the information we collect will be as up-to-date as possible.

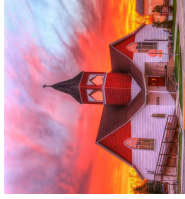
- **Church Camp Scholarships:** Linda reported that \$1300 had been donated to the church to be used specifically for providing scholarships for kids wanting to go to summer church camp. She suggested that the UMW could perhaps add some money to this fund. It was decided we need more information and costs and possible interest before determining any amount but the consensus was that this would be a good thing for us to do.

Our next meeting will be Wednesday, February 15, 2023. We adjourned the business meeting at 10:30 AM.

For our devotional time, we read Chapter 3 of *Rich in the Things That Count the Most*. This chapter was about being "Rich in Church" and 3 reasons the author, James W. Moore, loves the Church: because it introduced him to (1) the Christian lifestyle, (2) the power of hope and (3) Jesus. We shared thoughts of what the Church has meant to each of us in our own lives.

Thank you, Linda, for providing cookies and preparing coffee in advance.

Respectfully submitted, Jeanne Tomlinson Secretary



February 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 7:00 PM Confirmation Class	2 6:00 PM Choir Practice	3	4
5 9:30 AM Choir Practice 10:00 AM Worship Service and Sunday School <i>Holy Communion</i>	6	7 9:00 AM Ely Ministerial Association	8 7:00 PM Confirmation Class	9 5:00 PM – Visioning Committee Meeting 6:00 PM Choir Practice	10 Providing Food Items for VCC Basketball Team Breakfast on February 11, 2023	11
12 10:00 AM Worship Service and Sunday School	13	14 9:00 AM Ely Ministerial Association	15 10:00 AM UMW Meeting	16 5:00 PM Ad Council Mtg 6:00 PM Choir Practice	17	18
19 9:30 AM - Choir Practice 10:00 AM Worship Service and Sunday School After Service - Women's Bible Study Kick-off <i>A Journey Into Easter</i> Based on the book <i>Bitter and Sweet</i>	20 7:00 AM Pasties Veggie Prep 1:00 PM Dough Ball Prep	21 7:00 AM Pasties Production & Sales	22 7:00 PM Ash Wednesday Worship Service	23 6:00 PM Choir Practice	24	25 2:00 PM Meet & Greet our new Bishop: Lanette Plambeck Copper-Top Church Duluth MN (Also Live Streamed)
26 10:00 AM Worship Service and Sunday School	27 6:15 – 8:00 PM Women's Bible Study <i>A Journey Into Easter</i>	28				