

ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL – MINUTES

Thursday, February 16, 2023 at Ely United Methodist Church

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

Attendees (6): Craig Haberman, Don Ingerson, Margie & Mark Olson, Jay & Jeanne Tomlinson

Opening: Pastor Craig talked about how there are numerous varieties of pasties but they are all pasties; and similarly there are many varieties of Christianity, often reflecting cultural differences. He then opened the meeting with prayer.

Minutes: The January 19, 2023 Ad Council minutes were approved as distributed in the *Parish News*. Motion by Margie Olson, second by Mark Olson.

Treasurer's Report: The January 2023 Treasurer's report was presented by Mark Olson. It was pointed out that the November pasty sales money had been transferred to the Building Fund as discussed at our January meeting but that the same thing has happened with the January pasty sales. That money has also been transferred to the Building Fund and that will be documented in the February report next month. Jeanne has discussed this with the Financial Secretaries and hopefully this has been resolved. Current balances are \$49,845.79 in the General Fund, \$10,011.17 in the Building Fund and \$11,436.32 in the Memorial Fund. The report was accepted. Motion by Jeanne Tomlinson; second by Margie Olson.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. **Trustees:** Margie Olson reported that
 - The parsonage hot water heater has now been replaced.
 - Brian Rusco & Pastor Craig are working on the Fellowship Hall ceiling tile replacement project.
 - We need a shoveler for March. Mark & Margie will be gone for a couple weeks in March. We suggested perhaps a specific plea in the *Parish News* might help.
2. **Pastor-Parish Relations:** Pastor Craig reported that they have will next meet after Easter. They are working on an updated Church Profile for the new bishop.
3. **Worship:** Pastor Craig reported the committee met on January 30 and
 - Set the following dates & times: Ash Wednesday Service Feb 22 at 7 PM; Holy Week Service April 6 at 7 PM; Confirmation May 7 during worship; Advent decorating on November 26. Advent begins on Dec 3 this year so on Sunday, December 24, we will have our regular worship at 10 AM and the Christmas Eve service at 5:30 PM.
 - 60 palm branches have been ordered for Palm Sunday.
 - Special Palm Sunday and Easter bulletins have been ordered.
 - New tapers for our altar oil candles have been ordered because of problems with our current ones.
 - We'll soon be receiving enough *Faith We Sing* books from Crane Lake Chapel so that when there is a hymn from that book scheduled to be sung during worship we'll pass those books out instead of having to include a photocopy of the hymn in the bulletin.
 - The Feb 10 *Parish News* included a note encouraging people to sign up for Coffee Fellowship and Pastor Craig noted some new sign-ups on Sunday.

4. **Outreach:** Jay Tomlinson reported that our church had provided meals for the local college travelling basketball team on February 11 and that Jeanne had helped prepare a brunch for those students on February 4 at St Mary's Episcopal Church.
5. **Visioning:** Rich Floyd had sent a report as follows:
 - The initiative of sending cards to people on the Prayer List is up and running. As of last Thursday, 14 cards had been sent. We've spent about \$93 of the \$300 allocated for this purpose, and our current supplies should get us through at least most of the summer months. The number of cards sent is just above the monthly calculated average from last year.
 - We had insufficient response for organizing small group dinner gatherings of 4 to 6 people, but the response time was severely limited, as was the advertising. We will try again in a few weeks, leaving more time to respond and promoting it more widely.
 - Planning for the small group study using the *Journey with the Messiah* images continued. There are a number of tools that might be available, most notably an on-line *Guide Book*. We may also incorporate the background of the author, Michael Belk, and of others who extraordinarily demonstrate Christian values. We are tentatively planning on having the study in the September-October time frame.
 - Finally, we discussed resuming regularly-scheduled potlucks at the church. We decided to try two annually-scheduled events: one on Palm Sunday (April 2) and one on the Sunday prior to Thanksgiving (November 9).
6. **Memorial Fund Task Force:** Margie Olson reported that the *Bitter & Sweet* books for the coming *Journey to Easter* Bible Study were paid for with designated memorial funds.
7. **UMW:** Margie Olson reported that the UMW voted to donate \$1,000 to the Boundary Waters Care Center, our local non-profit nursing home which is having financial difficulties and has asked the public for help keep it open. She also reported that the Celebration of Life for Linda Williams on February 4 went well. We had a number of people joining the service on-line and the luncheon afterwards went smoothly.

OLD BUSINESS

1. **Church Directory Project:** Nick Wognum contacted Eric Sherman, a local photographer, and Eric has agreed to take pictures for our directory. The Ely Echo will print it. Jeanne has a committee ready to start making phone calls to get the directory information updated but is waiting for a schedule to be set up for pictures so the information collected can be as up to date as possible.

NEW BUSINESS –

1. **Meals for Veterans on the Lake for Saturday, March 25:** Pastor Craig had been contacted by Jeanette Marie Cox to see if any church members would be willing to coordinate serving meals to veterans participating in a mural project called "Story Portage" at the resort. Anne Humphrey, an artist, is being brought in to coordinate the creation of the mural with the veterans. It was felt we needed more information on the logistics before we can commit to anything.
2. **Order church envelopes:** Pastor Craig mentioned that he's down to just a couple weeks' worth of church envelopes. We agreed that we should order 3 more boxes from the Echo. Mark will take care of it.

3. **Church computer accounts & log-ins:** Pastor Craig had compiled a list of the various computer accounts that have been created for the church that he is currently using along with the names of who knows the password for each. We each received a copy of the list.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. We received a thank you note from Young Life for our donation.
2. We also received a notice from Boundary Waters Bank which will become a Highland Bank. The note assures us that the transition should not have any notable affect on our current accounts.

Items of Information

1. **Opportunity to meet our new bishop:** Bishop Lanette Plambeck will be at the Copper Top UMC in Duluth on Saturday, February 25th at 2:00 PM. Pastor Craig, Jay and Jeanne are planning to attend. We could arrange a car pool if others are interested in attending.
2. **Next Ad Council meeting:** Thursday, March 16, 2023 at 5:00 PM.

The meeting adjourned at 5:54 PM with a group recitation of *The Lord's Prayer*.

Respectfully submitted,
Jeanne Tomlinson, Ad Council Secretary