

The UMW at Ely United Methodist Church  
Wednesday, November 15, 2023 10-11:15 AM

President Margie Olson opened the meeting at 10:04 AM with a prayer from our study book and then led us in a unison reading of the UMW pledge. Ten UMW members were present: Lucy Diesslin, Marge Forsberg, Linda Hane, Gail Haney, Sharon Luthens, Paula Mattila, Margie Olson, Lorie Poulson, Janice Tessier, Jeanne Tomlinson. Pastor Craig also attended.

**Minutes:** The minutes from the October 18, 2023 meeting were read and approved as read. Motion to approve by Lucy Diesslin; second by Gail Haney. Motion passed.

**Treasurer's Report:** Sharon Luthens reported that the Highland Bank had not yet resolved the issue with the \$20.08 "account analysis" charge and that there was an additional \$18.76 service charge in the latest statement. She spoke again with a Highland Bank employee who said she'd take care of it. The October pasty deposit was \$6,615. Sharon paid the 70% to the Building Fund which came to \$3,300.59 and the Zups bill for \$1,620.81 for a net of \$1,693.60 going to the UMW checking account. She also paid \$150 for cleaning. The current balances are \$6,682.79 for checking, \$1,637.37 for savings, \$10,000 in a CD. Linda Hane moved we accept the Treasurer's Report; second by Paula Mattila. Motion passed.

### Old Business

- **Mission for knitted/crocheted baby hats:** This was tabled again since Susan Laine is still not available.
- **Highland Bank:** Marge Olson said that we need to get new check stamps for the four church accounts. Jeanne Tomlinson offered to take care of this. She'll need to get the account information from Margie & Mark.
- **Pasty Dough Rolling Machine:** Pastor Craig reported that he'd be driving down to Alexandria after church on Sunday and he will take about a dozen dough balls and one of the O-rings with him. On Monday morning, he'll meet with the lady who will work on setting up the machine with the proper rollers for us and Craig will pick up the machine on his way back after Thanksgiving.
- **Advent Study:** Margie reported that the study is going well. About 15 women have been attending the weekly event. Sharon Luthens indicated she'd not yet received the receipt for the Oct 29 luncheon; Margie will follow up with Sherie Rue.
- **Thank You to Brian & Betsy Forsberg for donation of coffee:** Jeanne Tomlinson couldn't remember if she'd sent a note or not, so she'll make sure she does one this time. Margie Forsberg relayed a message from Brian that we should let him know when we need more.
- **Emma Norton Donation:** After some discussion, Lucy Diesslin moved that we donate \$300 to Emma Norton to be used where it is needed. Second by Janice Tessier. Motion passed.
- **Thank you to Ron Forsman:** Margie had taken care of the sending Ron the note and the check for \$50. The check has been cashed so it's confirmed that he received it.

## New Business

- **Christmas Luncheon:** We decided to try for December 13 as the time for our annual Christmas Luncheon. Jeanne called the Grand Ely Lodge to verify availability. The Events person was not available but will call back. December 6 was suggested as an alternate date. If neither of those are available we'll need to do an "email discussion" to determine another day. Paula Mattila offered to make special ornaments again and Linda Hane offered to take care of the nut cups. Jeanne will ask Patty Rusco to take care of a short devotion.
- **Northwoods Partner donation:** Sharon Luthens reminded us that we hadn't decided yet on our annual donation to Northwoods Partners (in lieu of doing a wreath or tree). Jeanne Tomlinson moved that we give \$100; second by Marge Forsberg. Motion passed.
- **Lap Quilts:** With Donna Rusco having resigned from handling an annual donation of lap quilts and prayer shawls to the Boundary Waters Care Center and Carefree Living residents, Paula Mattila asked if there was any way to know how many are needed. She showed us some of the lap quilts she'd made – many by using fabric from Tootsie Loe. Paula agreed to speak with Donna Rusco to get more information and then contact the two facilities. Paula invited anyone who sews to come to her house and help make more.
- **Carefree Living "Giving Tree":** In the course of our lap-quilt discussion it was mentioned that Carefree Living usually puts up a tree with "gift idea" tags for unnamed residents. Jeanne will check with Carefree to see if they'll be doing that again this year.

We adjourned the business meeting at 10:50 AM and read chapter 8, "Rich in Friendship" in our study book, *Rich in the Things that Count the Most*. This chapter was based on the story in Mark 2:1-12 of the four friends who were determined to get their paralyzed friend to Jesus and ended up lowering him down through the roof of the home where Jesus was to make it happen.

Our December gathering will be our Christmas party. Our next regular meeting will be on Wednesday, January 17, 2024 at 10 AM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jeanne Tomlinson, Secretary