

ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL – MINUTES

Thursday, November 21, 2023 at Ely United Methodist Church

Call To Order: Chair Jay Tomlinson called the meeting to order at 7:45 PM.

Attendees (10): Cathy Aldrich, Craig Haberman, Rich Floyd, Don Ingerson, Margie & Mark Olson, Sheri Rue, Jay & Jeanne Tomlinson and Pam Turnbull.

Opening: Pastor Craig shared some thoughts from I Corinthians 12 & 13 about spiritual gifts, and how love is the most important. He then opened our meeting with prayer.

Minutes: The November 18, 2023 Ad Council minutes were approved as distributed in the *Parish News*. Motion to approve by Margie Olson, second Mark Olson. Motion passed. Margie asked if the minutes could be sent out to Ad Council members just prior to the meeting to refresh everyone's memory. Jeanne Tomlinson agreed to do that.

Treasurer's Report: The November 2023 Treasurer's report was presented by Mark Olson. Current balances are \$53,225.90 in the General Fund, \$13,374.30 in the Building Fund and \$15,640.50 in the Memorial Fund. Motion to accept by Rich Floyd; second by Jeanne Tomlinson. Motion passed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- 1. Trustees:** Margie Olson reported that the Trustees are still working on the update of the Building Use Policy and are working on the Church Insurance issue (see New Business) and have completed a parsonage inspection. They will do a second inspection later to address any work that might be needed to prepare for a new pastor. Bryan Rusco will be taking over as chair in 2024.
- 2. Pastor-Parish Relations:** Sheri Rue reported Cathy Aldrich will be the new chair and that the committee is just waiting to hear about a new pastor.
- 3. Worship:** No report.
- 4. Connections:** Rich Floyd reported that the committee is still working on details for possibly holding weekly dinners, starting with holding them for church attenders and then possibly opening it up to the community based on participation numbers. He then distributed a document that the committee had worked on as a proposal for how our current rapidly-growing Benevolence Fund could be managed. After a lengthy discussion covering several issues, it was decided that there should be a special Connections meeting with interested members of the Ad Council to discuss the issues that had been brought up. The meeting is scheduled for January 10, 2024 at 5 PM.
- 5. Education:** No report
- 6. Parish Care:** No report
- 7. Memorial Fund Task Force:** No report
- 8. UMW:** Margie Olson & Jeanne Tomlinson reported that the December 6 UMW Christmas Luncheon went very well with about 22 women attending.

OLD BUSINESS

- 1. Directory Update:** Jeanne & Jay Tomlinson reported that we had just received our directory Proof and were in the process of checking it. Members are asked to review their personal entries in the directory and ok it or notify us of any corrections that need to be made.
- 2. Rule of Christ Training:** Sheri Rue reported that she'd received a nice bio from John Nowell to use for his introduction at the start of the training on January 28. Jay Tomlinson will be making a beef-barley soup for the lunch to be served with rolls. Sheri would like to send a postcard to all congregation members about the training. Margie Olson moved that we cover the of this mailing cost (no estimated cost was stipulated); second by Rich Floyd. Motion passed. Jeanne Tomlinson will send an Excel file to Sheri with the names & addresses for her to generate the postcard labels.
- 3. Remote Video Streaming:** Nothing new to report.
- 4. Pastor Craig's retirement party:** Nothing new to report.

5. **Ely All-Class Reunion:** Nothing new to report.

NEW BUSINESS –

1. **Church Insurance Policy:** Our current insurers for our church & parsonage are dropping our current policy because our church is deemed to be too old. Pastor Craig and Margie Olson have been working on gathering the information about the church and the parsonage that is needed to get quotes from other insurers. We have until February 1 to line up other coverage.
2. **Dynamite Prayer:** Sheri brought up a project that she would like to do to encourage our congregation to pray for our churches and church conference. The conference has recommended the book, *Dynamite Prayer*, as a good inspirational book to do that. Sheri would like to get a copy of the book to everyone in our congregation by January 14 for use during the next two weeks – a period designated by the conference. She has a couple helpers who are willing to hand-deliver the books to those who live near here and send the books to those who are not. The books cost \$7.95 each. We roughly calculated the total cost for this project to be about \$1500. Jeanne Tomlinson moved that we allocate \$500 that is currently still available in our 2023 budget for Outreach & Nurture/Membership towards this project; second by Margie Olson. Motion passed. Margie will approach the Memorial Committee and the UMW to cover any costs beyond that.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. Mark Olson reported that he had received a thank-you from Young Life for our \$500 donation.

Items of Information

1. On behalf of the Council, Pastor Craig thanked Jay for his leadership of the Ad Council over the last number of years.
2. **Next Ad Council meeting:** Thursday, January 18, 2023 at 7:00 PM.

The meeting adjourned at 9:15 PM with a group recitation of *The Lord's Prayer*.

Respectfully submitted,
Jeanne Tomlinson, Ad Council Secretary

ANNUAL CHURCH CONFERENCE – MINUTES December 21, 2023 at the Ely United Methodist Church

Call To Order: Pastor Craig Haberman called the meeting to order at 7:03 PM and gave a short devotion about how the church is the Body, or Rock, of Christ. He then opened with a prayer. He briefly explained to the attending confirmands what the meeting was all about. Attendees received a packet of information that included four items that needed to be reviewed and voted on: the Nominations Report, Pastor Compensation, 2024 Budget and Membership Report.

Attendees (15): Cathy Aldrich, Craig Haberman, Lucy & Butch Diesslin, Rich Floyd, Bev & Dan Johnson, Linda Hane, Don Ingerson, Margie & Mark Olson, Sheri Rue, Jay & Jeanne Tomlinson and Pam Turnbull.

Nominations Leadership 2024: Pastor Craig explained some organizational changes reflected in the report. One was the combining of the former Visioning, Outreach and Nurture & Membership committees into one called “Connections”. The second was a rework of the Finance Committee to have the Ad Council chair serve as the Finance Committee Chair, have one Financial Secretary and three “Offering Money Counters”.

The following persons were nominated for the 2024 Administrative Council:

Chairperson: Sheri Rue
Vice Chairperson: Pam Turnbull
Recording Secretary: Jeanne Tomlinson
Lay Member to Annual Conference: Jay Tomlinson
 Alternate Lay Member to Annual Conference: TBD
Lay Leader: Patty Rusco
Chairperson – Board of Trustees: Bryan Rusco
Chairperson – Pastor Parish Relations: Cathy Aldrich
Church Treasurer: Mark Olson
Program Chairpersons
 Worship: Linda Hane
 Superintendent of Sunday School: Chris Urbas
 President UMW: Margie Olson
 Parish Nurse/Care Persons: Tiffany Zemke & Devon Luthens
 Connections: Jay Tomlinson
 Memorial: Marge Forsberg

Please refer to the full Nominations Report for more details.

Jay Tomlinson moved that we approve the submitted nominations; second by Margie Olson.
Motion approved.

Pastor Craig had also pointed out that the Nominations Committee has five empty positions. He opened the floor for nominations. Rich Floyd, Mark Olson and Steve Nelson were nominated. The Nominations Committee will approach these individuals to see if they are willing. Sheri Rue moved that the current Nominations Committee bring additional names to the Ad Council for approval; second by Cathy Aldrich. Motion approved.

Pastoral Compensation: Pastor Craig briefly discussed some of the figures in the document to explain where some of the figures come from since some are not decided by our church, Sheri Rue reported that Pastor Craig's new salary represents a 5% raise since he had been without one for several years. This will probably be the minimum discussed in our new pastor salary negotiations regardless of experience since it is close to the current starting salary. Margie Olson moved that we approve the Pastoral Compensation; second by Lucy Diesslin. Motion approved.

2024 Budget: The details of the 2024 Budget document were briefly discussed. It was pointed out that subsequent to the approval of all but the pastoral compensation budget items by the Ad Council at the November 18 meeting, our current insurance company (for the church building and the parsonage) will be dropping our coverage because the buildings are too old, so the figure listed will probably not be enough. Jeanne Tomlinson moved that we approve the 2024 Budget of \$115,069 with that understanding; second by Cathy Aldrich. Motion approved.

Membership Report: Pastor Craig reviewed the report with us. We had 4 confirmands who became members (Profession of Faith) and 6 recorded deaths. Our current Full Membership total is now 195. Lucy Diesslin moved that we approve the report; second by Margie Olson. Motion approved.

State of the Church: Pastor Craig then referred us to the handout at the back of the packet containing a brief statement about the state of the church from his observations.

There was no other business required.

Motion to adjourn by Jay Tomlinson. The meeting adjourned at 7:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Jeanne Tomlinson, Ad Council Secretary