

ELY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

"The Little Church With the Big Heart"

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Parish News

April 19, 2024

Coming Up on Sunday, April 28th

Sunday, April 28th will be an eventful day for our church.

Minnesota Annual Conference Love Offering:

The Minnesota Annual Conference takes a Love Offering each year. We will collect our contribution to the offering on Sunday, April 28th.

Make out check to "Ely United Methodist Church" and put "Love Offering" in the memo line.

Please find detailed information (in color) where the offering is going this year, either attached or included with this edition of Parish News.

AED/CPR training:

Tiffany Zemke, one of our church parish nurses, will lead our members through CPR and defibrillator training on April 28th.

The Automated External Defibrillator (AED) can save a person's life if they have a cardiac arrest. We have a unit in the rear of the church.

There will be a potluck immediately following worship with the training to follow. There is a sign up sheet at the rear of the church. Or sign up via email at elyumc.elymn@gmail.com.

A Note from Pastor Craig

One sentence from Luke's Gospel records Jesus saying: "You are witnesses of these things." What things? How he (Jesus) was delivered over to Pilate, was rejected, put to death, and raised to life on the 3rd day.

Embracing 'these things,' Jesus' followers began proclaiming them to all nations, beginning in Jerusalem. Passing this good news from person to person continues to this day throughout all the world.

The Book of Acts and New Testament letters record the improbable and inspiring spread of Christianity to all the known world.

"You are witnesses to these things." A new book was released on Tuesday (April 15) with the title "An Unfinished Love Story: A Personal History of the 1960's." The author is acclaimed American historian and Pulitzer Prize winner, Doris Kearns Goodwin.

Her husband Dick was a speechwriter to J.F. Kennedy and Lyndon Baines Johnson. He was at the center of Kennedy's preparations for the Nixon/Kennedy televised debates and assisted Al Gore in drafting his concession speech following the contested 2000 presidential election.

Kearns Goodwin for her part was a 24 year old White House Fellow during Lyndon Johnson's presidency, later working as an advisor to President Johnson, and finally assisting him with his memoir.

The book is a record of Dick and Doris's bird's eye view into the highest levels of our government during the pivotal 1960's. They started working on this memoir/love story several years before Dick's death in 2018. The book invites us into the events to which they were witnesses.

When you read the New Testament, we become inside witnesses to "The Greatest Story Ever Told." Our growth and transformation in Christ deepens as we worship, study, and pray together. Like the first Christians and others across the centuries we are in a position to share these life-changing events with the various circles of friends and acquaintances in our life. It's a story people are hungry to hear and our faith grows as we share it with others.

Pastor Craig

The Ely United Methodist Church

Prayer Wall

April 19, 2024

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.

John 15: 7 (NIV)



"Jesus said, If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be given you."

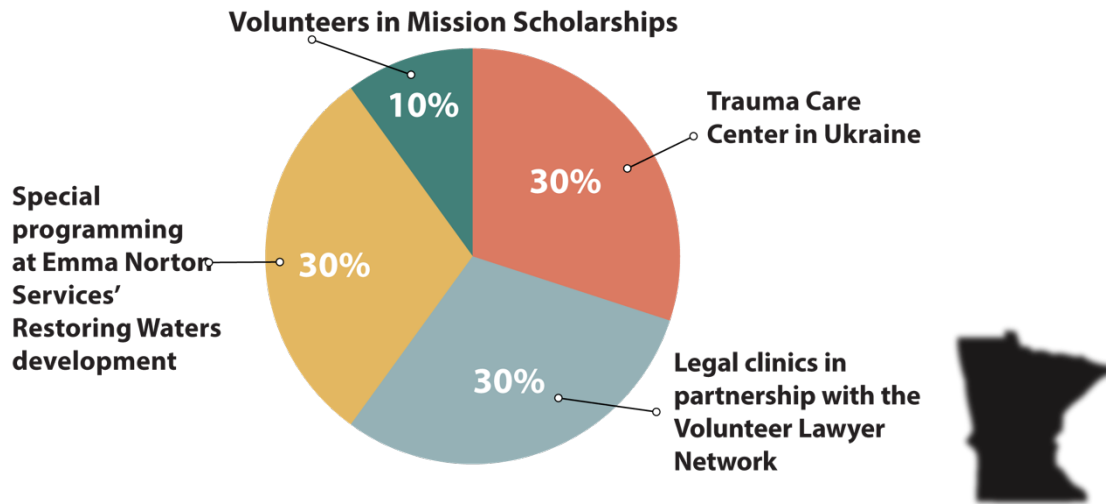
We lift up the following in prayer...

- **Glenn and Nancy Krause** – Glenn fell and cracked some ribs and now has pneumonia and Nancy is fighting a bad case of the flu.
- **Bill Hane & family** – Please pray for Bill Hane and his family as they deal with the loss of his son, Bill (Jr), after a long battle with pulmonary issues.
- **Bernie Mettler family** – Tiffany Zemke asked for prayers for the Bernie Mettler family.
- **Mary Ellen Skeesick** – Linda Hane's sister-in-law, Mary Ellen, is starting her radiation and chemo treatments for breast cancer. Please keep her in your prayers.
- **Shane** – Continued prayers for Shane, a friend of Zach & Jacob Rue's, in his battle with cancer.
- **Lucy Diesslin** – **Update: Lucy is back home and doctors will monitor her aneurysms closely.** Lucy had a transient ischemic attack. She has been diagnosed with two small aneurysms in the neck area.
- **Bruce Olson** – **Update: Bruce's hip replacement went fine and he is doing well.** Bob Olson asked for prayers for Bruce who is had hip replacement surgery this past week.
- **Mark Luthens** – Sharon asked for prayers for Mark who will start treatments for his health issues.
- **Laurie Kantonen** – Please pray for our church District Superintendent, Laurie Kantonen. She will be having surgery on April 9th to repair an aortic aneurysm.
- **Matt Rolando's family and friends** – Matt was Pat Rolando's son. He died on a family scuba diving trip.
- **Welty family** – Gail Haney asked for prayers for the Welty family – her cousin's great grandson has been killed in a car crash.
- **Candy & Gary Herberg** – **Update: Candy is improving from her infection and Gary's bypass surgery went well.** Margie Olson reported that Candy Herberg is fighting a serious infection and her brother-in-law, Gary Herberg, is having heart surgery.
- **Lynn Turnbull** – Mike Turnbull's uncle, Lynn, is having heart issues and is also dealing with cancer.
- **Logan Loe** – Please pray for Logan Loe who has been diagnosed with Crohn's disease.
- **Bob Sandilla** – **Update: Bob has bacterial meningitis. He opened his eyes, off the ventilator, unable to speak or move his left side. He will be hospitalized another 6-8 weeks.** Erin Moravitz's best friend's brother, Bob Sandilla, has multiple myeloma blood cancer and had 2 strokes and an embolism shower at the base of his brain. His lungs have collapsed, and he is intubated. Bob is married with 3 children.

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.

Where the Love Offering will go

2024 Love Offering



2023 Recap

Donations to the 2023 Love Offering totaled **\$80,143**, an 11 percent increase from the 2022 total. 60 percent of the funds will go to a grant for churches offering mental health support to their communities. The remaining

funds were divided among Mental Health Connect, Mental Health Minnesota, Minnesota Association for Children's Mental Health, and Volunteers in Mission scholarships. Thank you for your generosity!

How to support the Love Offering

Give to the in-person or online offering through your church, Designate your offering as "Love Offering."

Churches are encouraged to bring one check to Annual Conference. Churches or individuals can also give electronically at <https://www.minnesotaucm.org/loveoffering>.

If possible, please give before the 2024 Annual Conference Session, taking place May 29-30.

Thank you, in advance, for your generosity. Together we can help heal a broken world and show love to our neighbors locally and globally!

122 W. Franklin Ave., Ste. 400, Minneapolis, MN 55404

Learn more: <https://www.minnesotaucm.org/loveoffering>

Trauma Care Center in Ukraine

Special programming at Emma Norton Services'

Restoring Waters development

Restoring Waters is Emma Norton's new supportive housing development, opening in 2024 in St. Paul. It will house more than 60 individuals and small families who have experienced homelessness. By using the principles of trauma-informed design, Emma Norton is seeking to create an environment that is conducive to healing and a residence that feels like home. The Love Offering will provide funding for special programming aimed at reducing trauma, including art creation, cooking classes, gardening, meditation, and yoga/movement. Contact with nature, creative expression, community, and quiet space for reflection and spirituality are all vital aspects of healing from trauma.

Volunteers in Mission Scholarships

United Methodist Volunteers in Mission (VIM) participants of every age serve in all 50 states and more than 100 countries. Most teams from Minnesota spend up to two weeks working on hands-on projects in construction, disaster response, teaching, health care, and packing supplies for overseas shipment. Team members pay their own way, and every year, 10 percent of the Love Offering goes to help offset the cost for first-time participants. Scholarships awarded range from \$200-\$400 per application.

In response to the immense mental health impact of war, The United Methodist Church in Ukraine has plans to collaborate with the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) to purchase and develop a ministry center for trauma care near the city of Ushgorod.

This center is currently operating as a hotel. The property will be able to house internally displaced persons immediately, is well-suited for those suffering from PTSD, and is located near one of the strongest Ukrainian United Methodist congregations—thus providing synergy for volunteers. A future discipleship training center is just down the road. The Love Offering funds will be used for accessibility renovations, staff salaries, and training.

Legal Clinics in Partnership with the

Volunteer Lawyer Network

This portion of the funds will help our neighbors across Minnesota who have legal needs around immigration, citizenship, seeking asylum, and other types of humanitarian relief. The Minnesota Conference and its Hispanic/Latine Affinity Group are partnering with the Volunteer Lawyer Network (VLN) to provide legal clinics at United Methodist churches

in Worthington, Park Rapids, St. Cloud, Monticello, and Minneapolis. VLN will provide teams of lawyers and paralegals to offer individual consultation and services coupled with legal education in group

settings. Funds will help host churches promote these legal clinics in their communities, provide space and resources, and cover lodging and transportation costs.

ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL – MINUTES

Wednesday, March 20, 2024 at Ely United Methodist Church

Call To Order: Chair Sheri Rue called the meeting to order at 6:02 PM.

Attendees (14): Cathy Aldrich, Marge Forsberg, Craig Haberman, Linda Hane, Don Ingerson, Scott Meland, Mark & Margie Olson, Sheri Rue, Bryan & Patty Rusco, Jay & Jeanne Tomlinson and Pam Turnbull.

Opening: Sheri Rue asked for us to share our joys and then read from one of her devotional books about rejoicing and reflecting on the joy of trusting in God and God's commands.

Minutes: A couple minor corrections were noted in the February 21, 2024 minutes that had been distributed to the Board on Monday, March 18: (1) the number of attendees was 11, not 7; (2) in the Worship Committee report "Psalm" Sunday should be "Palm" Sunday; (3) "Memorial Fund Task Force" should be listed as "Memorial" in the Committee Reports. Mark Olson moved that we approve the minutes as corrected; second by Pam Turnbull. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: The February 2024 Treasurer's report, which is also a Year-End report, was presented by Mark Olson. Current balances are \$49,100.78 in the General Fund, \$16,745.94 in the Building Fund and \$20,887.61 in the Memorial Fund. Motion to accept by Jeanne Tomlinson; second by Cathy Aldrich. Motion passed.

Camera Project Proposal: Scott Meland distributed a printout of a Project Proposal for the purchase and installation of a new camera to replace the current one so that we can run the camera remotely and eliminate the need for anyone to stand on a ladder in order to film our services. The proposal involves allocating approximately \$2500 to cover the cost of the purchase of a BZBGear BG-Adamo-HR Full HD 1080p AI Auto Tracking PTZ Camera, a small table for holding the camera joystick device and a 15" to 17" monitor, and the cost for mounting the camera above the overflow room and running the necessary cabling. After some discussion, Jay Tomlinson moved that we approve the project as presented; second by Bryan Rusco. Motion approved. Scott Meland needs a decision about where to put the table & camera control devices before he can proceed with the actual project. Bryan Rusco offered to help with the installation. It was agreed that interested parties could go up to the sanctuary after the meeting and make a decision about where to locate the table & controls.

Church Mission, Vision and Values: Sheri Rue and Cathy Aldrich led a discussion to decide on a new Church Mission Statement that is more concise than our current one printed in our directory. We settled on "Growing in faith and sharing Christ's love with others". Jeanne Tomlinson motioned that we adopt this statement as our new mission statement; second by Jay Tomlinson. On recommendation by other council members, Jeanne modified the motion to bring the agreed upon statement to the congregation for feedback; the amendment was seconded by Jay. Motion passed. It was decided to work on Vision and Values at a later date.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. **Trustees:** Bryan Rusco reported that the committee is currently focused on the overflow room project. It has been determined that electrical work will be needed to bring us into compliance and will involve the installation of two additional circuits. Jay Tomlinson moved that we use funds from the Building Fund to cover the cost of this work; second by Mark Olson. Motion passed. The next meeting will be on April 10.

2. **Pastor-Parish Relations:** Cathy Aldrich reported that the committee will be handling Pastor Craig's Retirement Party on June 16 and will be making announcements at the March 31 and April 7 worship services to get more help with that.

3. **Worship:** Linda Hane reported Holy Week activities are all in place. Palm branches and lilies have been ordered for Palm Sunday and Easter, respectively. The committee will meet again on April 29.

4. **Connections:** Jay Tomlinson reported that the committee met on March 7. The *Journey with the Messiah* second 6-week series finished on March 12 with between 6 to 12 participants each

week. It was agreed that there should be a third series to complete the book this fall. This will be run from the last Tuesday in September into October. The committee also reviewed and updated the list of committee responsibilities for the Church Handbook. One of the responsibilities is coordinating the Love Offering. On the committee recommendation, Jay moved that a free will Love Offering be taken on Sunday, April 28 and that the church make up any shortfall if the total collected is less than \$150; second by Jeanne Tomlinson. Motion passed.

5. Memorial: Marge Forsberg reported that the committee last met on February 13 and will meet next on May 14. Memorial Sunday will again be in the Fall on All Saint's Day.

6. UMW: Margie Olson reported that the UMW met that morning and are planning on doing a rummage sale out of the parsonage garage on May 18 during the All-City Garage Sale. They are also looking at possibly doing a coffee & dessert/bake sale/cardamom bread fundraiser in the fall that will not include a crafts sale. The group is also planning a coffee time with our 4 members who currently reside at Carefree Living.

OLD BUSINESS

1. **Review & purge items in the church office:** Pastor Craig reported that they've made a good start but there is more to do.

2. **Ad Council minutes procedure:** Sheri Rue read some guidelines from the Conference on how corrected minutes should be handled: the original minutes should remain intact and corrections simply listed in the next meeting's minutes. Jeanne Tomlinson explained that she keeps the original minutes intact but creates a copy labeled "Corrected" with the approved corrections which will be a lot easier for people to read and understand than flipping back and forth from the original to the next meeting's minutes.

3. **First aid CPR training:** Sheri Rue relayed a message from Tiffany Zemke that this training has been moved to April.

4. **Church Policies/Building Use:** Pastor Craig, Pam Turnbull, Margie Olson and Sheri Rue still need to get together on this. It needs to be completed by our April 17 meeting.

5. **Church Handbook:** Sheri reminded all the committee chairs that handbook revisions need to be completed by April 17.

6. **Ely All-Class Reunion:** Pam Turnbull reported that there will be a meeting on Thursday.

7. **Benevolence Fund:** Tabled.

8. **Church Goals for 2024:** Tabled until May.**NEW BUSINESS –**

1. Ad Council Summer meetings: Sheri Rue announced that because of our transition to a new pastor the Ad Council will be meeting in June, July and August.

2. Electronic Bank Statements: Mark Olson reported that Highland Bank had sent a notice that we could save \$5 per account per month by agreeing to receive the bank statements electronically. We agreed that we should do this and that the statements should be sent to the church email: elyumc.elymn@gmail.com. Mark said he'd work with Margie Olson and Sharon Luthens to take care of this for all 4 bank accounts.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. Mark Olson reported that he had received a recognition from the Conference for our church having paid 100% of our apportionments in 2023.

Items of Information

1. **Next Ad Council meeting:** Wednesday, April 17, 2024 at 6:00 PM. Linda Hane offered to do the Opening devotion.

The meeting adjourned at 8:20 PM with a group recitation of *The Lord's Prayer*.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeanne Tomlinson, Ad Council Secretary

ELY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Administrative Council Meeting

Wednesday, February 21, 2024 • 6:00 PM

Call To Order: Chairperson Sheri Rue called the meeting to order at 6:04 PM.

Attendees (11): Sheri Rue, Margie & Mark Olson, Patty and Bryan Rusco, Pam Turnbull, Pastor Craig Haberman, Don Ingerson, Cathy Aldrich, Jay Tomlinson and Linda Hane.

Opening – Pam Turnbull did a short program regarding the beginnings of our church - from the church service being held at the Piggly Wiggly in 1891; our building being built in 1892 and services moving over to our new church building. Pam also touched on how our pasty making started. Pam will be doing a Podcast with Lacey Squire regarding the history of our pasty making.

Secretary's Report – Jay Tomlinson made the correction regarding the Connections Committee report: "2 not 3 others will be approached...". Margie Olson moved to accept the January 17th minutes with the correction, second by Pam Turnbull. Voted and Passed

Treasurer's Report – Mark Olson gave the following report: He completed the applications and paid for the new policy for our Church Insurance through Church Mutual at the cost of \$5134.11. Account balances are: General Fund: \$49,930.76; Building Fund: \$13,408.1; and Memorial Fund: \$21,612.98. Jay Tomlinson made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report, second by Pam Turnbull. Voted and passed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Board of Trustees: No meeting but Bryan Rusco reported the following:

1. A group (Bryan Rusco, Jacob Rue, Pam Turnbull, Don Clark, Sheri Rue and Patty Rusco) did work on the Overflow/Back storage room on Saturday February 17th

They cut the opening into the storage room area for the small serving kitchen, widened the doorway from the entry into the overflow room which now makes it ADA compliant and removed the middle column in the closet. They will be putting up doors to cover the book shelves which will be bulletin boards for our announcements and also serve as storage. It's a great start on the project. They will be working on the project again this Saturday February 24th

2. The Trustees are working on updating the Building Use Policy.

3. The next Trustee meeting will be on Wednesday, April 10, 2024 at 6:00pm

Pastor-Parish Relations: No meeting. Cathy Aldrich reported that she will be taking an online 2-hour training tomorrow, February 22, 2024 titled "Staff Parish Relations Committee Overview".

Worship: Linda Hane reported that the Worship Committee met on January 22nd and talked about the Ash Wednesday Service scheduled for February 14th (it went well), Liturgists are signed up thru March 17th; Psalm Sunday (March 24th) Pot Luck, and went over the Handbook of Responsibilities. Next Worship Committee meeting is scheduled for Monday April 29, 2024 at 2:30pm. Connections: Jay Tomlinson passed out the Connections Committee Responsibilities (see on file). The Facebook page will be updated by Anna Urbas. The Ad Hoc Benevolence Committee will meet on Thursday, March 7th at 3pm and the Connections Committee at 5pm.

Education: Chris Urbas made up packets for Sunday School teachers. She will be ordering 2 sets of Sunday School books for 2024-2025. One set for Chris and another for teachers who fill in when Chris isn't available.

Memorial Fund Task Force: Margie Olson reported that the Memorial Committee met on Tuesday February 13th

Memorial Sunday will be on November 5th

1. Paid \$750 to the Alexandria Community Woodfire Oven for the Pasty Dough Rolling Machine in Memory of Bob Lindholm.
2. Paid \$505 to the Universal Church Directories for the private photos submitted for our church directory and directory books . It will come out of memorials to be determined.

UMW: Meeting was held February 21, 2024 at 10am. Margie Olson reported the following:

1. Church Note Cards: The Ely Echo donated 500 note cards with the picture of the sunrise over the church. Linda Hane will be in charge of selling the cards at \$5.00 for 20 cards and the proceeds will go to the overflow room project. The Admin Council suggested 10 cards for \$5.00 so Linda Hane will do that.
2. Carefree Living: We have 3 ladies that are members of our church living at Carefree so we are planning to have a coffee get together with them as soon as we can get a date that is good for everyone.
3. We are considering after we finish with our current devotional study book to do a study with the Dynamite Prayer book.
4. Suggestions from the Admin Council was for the UMW to reconsider having a bazaar or coffee/dessert/rummage sale and even possibly sell Cardamon bread. Margie will bring this back to the UMW.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Directory Update: The directory is done and all present received their copy. Jay said Jeanne will come up with a plan to distribute them. A huge THANK YOU to Jay and Jeanne Tomlinson for coordinating this project. Well done!!
2. Dynamite Prayer: Went over very well and people are interested in getting together to discuss. Looking for someone to step forward to organize something.
3. Rule of Christ Training: John Nowell presented this on January 28th. It was well attended. He did suggest we get a shorter more to the point Mission Statement.
4. Remote Video Streaming: Scott Meland is working on a plan.
5. Pastor Craig's Retirement Party: Tabled
6. Ely All Class Reunion: Tabled
7. Benevolence Fund: Ad Hoc committee meeting at 3pm on March 7th
8. Church Policies: Tabled until April meeting.
9. Building Use Policy: Margie, Pam and Sheri are working on this policy and will present it to the Trustees and then to the Admin Council.
10. Church Mission, Vision, Values: Tabled to March Meeting
11. Church Goals for 2024:
 - a. Fellowship: After the remodeling project of the upstairs coffee area is done, we can at least have coffee every Sunday whether we have goodies or not. Encourage people to stay after church and visit.
 - b. Increasing average worship attendance by 5%: Be more welcoming, have greeters (there is a training that is offered by the conference for greeters). Wear our name tags.
12. Church Handbook: Sheri Rue asked that all the committees look at their responsibilities as written in the Handbook and make additions or corrections and

be ready to turn it in to her by our April meeting so she can update it.

13. Annual Conference Attendance: We are possibly having 3 people going to Annual Conference this year. We may have 2 Sundays (last 2 Sundays in June) that we won't have a pastor so it was suggested that on June 23rd Jay give his Report of Annual Conference as usual and the other 2 persons also give a report of their experience at Annual Conference.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Review and Purge Items in Pastors Office: Dan, Pam and Pastor Craig will do this.

2. Approval of Minutes Before Publishing: Pam Turnbull made a motion that Administration Council minutes will be sent to Board members by the Board Secretary 2 days before a Board meeting via email and will be voted on and approved with any corrections at the Board meeting before they are published in the newsletter and our church website. Cathy Aldrich seconded. Voted and passed.

3. Letter received from the All-Night Grad Party requesting a donation. Linda Hane made a motion to donation of \$50 and Pam Turnbull seconded. Voted and passed.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. None

Next Meeting: Wednesday, March 21, 2024 at 6:00 pm

Meeting Adjourned at 7:55pm with the reciting of the Lord's Prayer.

Respectively Submitted,

Margie Olson, Acting Secretary