

## ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL – MINUTES

January 22, 2020

### Ely United Methodist Church

**Call To Order:** Chair Dan Johnson called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

**Attendees (9):** Lucy Diesslin, Craig Haberman, Bev & Dan Johnson, Margie & Mark Olson, Keith Rue, Jay & Jeanne Tomlinson.

**Opening:** Jay Tomlinson provided the “Opening Thought” from *Poems and Philosophies* by Walter J. Kent. **Christians Are People:** Heard a Preacher over the radio say, “You can’t go to Heaven by being good.” Maybe not, but you can bring a lot of Heaven to earth by so doing.

**Minutes:** The December 8 Ad Hoc Ad Council meeting minutes, and the December 18, 2019 Church Conference & Ad Council minutes, were approved as printed in the January *FISH*. Motion to approve by Jay Tomlinson; second by Lucy Diesslin. Motion passed.

**Treasurer’s Report:** Mark Olson presented the December 2019 Treasurer’s Report which included the 2019 totals for comparison to the budget. He commented how the December receipts were the highest he could ever remember. Receipts & disbursements for December were \$16,543.48 & \$10,625.21, respectively. Total receipts & disbursements for 2019 were \$114,366.32 & \$109,063.59. He pointed out that for the year our receipts exceeded disbursements by \$5,302.73. We did have a delayed fuel delivery that would normally have been delivered and paid for in December but wasn’t done until early January. Although some line items were over budget, many were well under budget so we ended up under budget for our 2019 budget items by \$3,956.45. Ending balances were: Undesignated Funds \$21,091.02; Building Fund \$4,112.49; Memorial Fund \$10,35.92; Parish Health Ministries \$340; Gift of Giving Project \$7.81. Motion to accept by Jeanne Tomlinson, second by Bev Johnson. Motion approved. Mark also asked if it was ok to go ahead and pay the annual amount for our Church Multi-coverage Insurance. Since it saves money to pay annually rather than monthly, and we have the funds, we agreed he should do that.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS

- **Trustees:** Margie Olson reported they hadn’t had a meeting but that they are hoping to address the large snow piles in the lower parking lot that could cause problems for the neighbors. She’s going to approach Phil Hegfors about possibly removing a lot of the snow before it gets too packed down. She also reported there was a minor toilet problem at the parsonage and Pastor Craig took care of it.
- **Worship:** Bev Johnson reported that the committee met on January 7 to discuss the Christmas decorating and the decorations. It was felt the turn-out was good for the decorating and take down and the process that was used to assign people to different groups and having the “experienced” folks do more guiding than doing worked well. The tree tinsel will be replaced with something that is more uniform and the red bows will be replaced with red balls. All the greenery garlands with older bows will get new bows to match those made for the garlands in the front of the church. We discussed the problems some people had with the candles at the Christmas Eve service and decided that this year we should use 4 ushers for speeding up the lighting and turn off the fans since that makes the candles burn a lot faster. She reported that so far folks are signing up for ushering, scripture readers & refreshments. She’ll continue to put the

reminder in the bulletin about signing up. For Lent we'll be having an Ash Wednesday service and a Tenebrae service on Maundy Thursday as was done last year.

- **Outreach:** Jay Tomlinson reported the *Gift of Giving* project was a success again. They were able to purchase more gifts this year by taking advantage of Black Friday sales. They could have used more gift distributors at Boundary Waters. There weren't many who came to help at Carefree Living either but the space was very limited so it worked out. Tricia Schreffler will be coordinating the project this year. Jay also reported the *Keep Warm* project, a multi-church project coordinated in our church by Paula Mattila, went very well. They distributed ~150 coats, 69 hats, 35 scarfs, 56 gloves/mittens, 36 socks, 45 boots and a few more items to 78 students, who were very appreciative.
- **Visioning:** Jay Tomlinson reported that Kid's Club has been changed a little for this year, having more activities like cooking and visiting nursing homes rather than lessons. Sharon & Devon Luthens have been helping Jan Rue with this. In response to a suggestion made at the previous Visioning Committee meeting, three members each reported on churches they had visited. Jay also reported they are still discussing the more detailed results of the survey but don't have any new ideas yet to address areas that were "below average". One discussion item is how to encourage congregation members to "tell their story". The Small Group sessions that Jay and Lucy are holding address that.
- **UMW:** Lucy Diesslin reported that the UMW had just met earlier in the day and had discussed the changes being made to handle funeral hospitality by a "Celebration of Life Committee". Marge Olson will be the primary contact for that committee who will then contact the persons responsible for different areas: Patty Niskala for Table Set-up; Patty Rusco for Kitchen Crew & Servers; Carol Linneman for Clean-up and Pam Turnbull as a backup where needed. It was decided we'll serve sandwiches, potato chips, pickles and bars. Volunteers will be asked to bring bars. The sandwiches will be made in the kitchen just prior to the service with supplies purchased at the store.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

1. **All Night Grad Party:** Mark Olson brought up the request he had received in 2019 from the All Night Grad Party committee for a donation. Mark moved that we donate \$50 as we have in the past; second by Bev Johnson. Motion passed. We have two seniors graduating this year: Luke Olson & Lauren Porthan.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

1. **Updates needed on web site:** Dan Johnson commented that he had recently reviewed our church web site and noted that a number of pieces are out of date. He asked Ad Council members to each do a review and make a note of pieces that need to be changed and bring back the results to the February Ad Council meeting.
2. **Need for a third checkbook signer:** Mark Olson reported that he and Butch (Blaine) Diesslin are the only signers for the General Fund checkbook and that they will both be out of town for a stretch later this year. He recommended we add another signer. It was moved that Jay Tomlinson be added as a third signer, making three official signers: Mark Olson, Blaine Diesslin and Jay Tomlinson. Motion by Bev Johnson; second by Margie Olson. Motion passed.

3. **Confirmation Sunday:** Pastor Craig reported that he has been having regular confirmation classes with Matt Johnson, Lauren Olson and Lily Tedrick with help from Keith and Sheri Rue and they will be ready for Confirmation by this spring. He would like to schedule it for late April, early May. He'll discuss timing with the families keeping in mind that Memorial Sunday will be May 11.
4. **Directory 2020:** Jeanne Tomlinson commented that we normally do a new church pictorial directory every 5 years and it is time to do another one. She asked if it was ok to contact *Lifetouch* who has done our last few directories to get the process in motion. The group agreed for her to do that.
5. **Community Bible Study:** Pastor Craig reported that Chris Maroni will be holding a 12 week community Bible Study. It will be on Thursdays from 11:30 AM to 1 PM in our Fellowship Hall starting January 23. This study is about the early Christian church and will be open to anyone who is interested.

**Correspondence** - None

**Items of Information**

1. **January Pasty Report:** We made 699; deposits were \$4,221; cost was \$1,506.67; net income was \$2,714.33.
2. **Next meeting: February 19, 2020 at 7:00 PM**

The meeting adjourned at 8:48 PM with a unison reciting of *The Lord's Prayer*.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jeanne Tomlinson, Ad Council Secretary