

Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church, LLC
16150 E El Lago Blvd, Fountain Hills, AZ 85268
Regular Council Meeting Minutes
for October 18, 2022

President Erich Korsten called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. in the Education Building Rooms 5/6 with himself, Sue Boyle, Pastor Jeff Teeples, Bill Gest, Donna Hawkinson, Dennis Johnson and Dan Beck in attendance. Absent was Dottie Dudgeon. Guests included Vivian Tam, Jim Skivington and Roger Miller.

Pastor Jeff shared a devotion from "New Morning Mercies" by Paul Tripp. It encouraged us to remember that through all the difficulties life brings, God is standing with us ready to help.

Dennis Johnson made a motion to approve the minutes from the September 25, 2022 meeting, seconded by Sue Boyle. All were in favor. Motion was carried.

Congregational speakers: Roger Miller distributed chapters 13 and 14 of the constitution for review on Thursday, October 20, 2022 at 1:30 pm in the Education Building, Rooms 5/6.

Pastor Jeff gave his report:

- He thanked everyone for their support during his mother's passing
- Baptism of George Hanson on Oct 9.
- Discovery event has 25 registered for the daytime event, 13 for the evening/weekend event.
- November has his last vacation days during the week of Thanksgiving, Nov 20-26 to meet their new grandbaby.
- December 4, Light up the Night (grief service). Paul Rollette and his wife will be with us to share a message on December 11. Paul is a missionary from the Philippines that SOTH supports.
- Christmas Eve service times were discussed. We will try 4:00 and 6:00 p.m. services.

Dottie Dudgeon's report on Missions/Outreach was read in her absence. No action needed. A full report is attached.

Dennis Johnson gave a report on Worship/Ministries. No action needed. Dennis' full report is attached.

It was asked if we could get rid of the individual communion kits at the entrance doors, used by the Praise Team and for homebound visitation. Discussion followed regarding COVID. All were in agreement to eliminate the individual kits. Home bound visits began to use the old kits with wine and wafers in September. No motion was made. All were in agreement. Communion servers will go to the congregant if they are unable to come forward for communion.

Dan read his report on Property. As usual, many repairs of lights, toilets and irrigation systems were made. A full report is attached. He will do a walk around of the parking lot to see if there are any unaddressed issues after the resurfacing. He also brought up the use of solar power after discussions with the Baptist Church who have covered parking shade with solar power providing the shade. This will be investigated further.

Finance report was given by Bill Gest.

- Financial Highlights for September 2022 included offerings being down about \$18,000. We need approximately \$50K a month to meet the budget.
- Discussed if we should begin to pass the plate again during service or have a more substantial giving box by the doors might remind people to leave their offering.
- The Chase Bank account was finally closed successfully. We lost \$2313 in bank fees since that account

has been inactive. Balance of \$4,181 was transferred to the Wells Fargo account.

- Vivian Tam and Roger Watton have been added to the Fidelity account, with Jim Skivington and Chris Lang being removed per their request.

Debbie Vinopal gave an office update.

- She called MCSO asking them to run through the parking lot as a man with a green Honda was at the church again requesting money. They were kind enough to come into the office to ensure everything was okay. We should all be informed that he has been here several times asking the office and congregants for money.

- Chamber of Commerce representatives – Pastor, Matthew and Debbie will be our presence at their meetings and most events. They will determine who is going based on the function.

- Portico benefits are being reviewed. Debbie arranged for employees to go from a Silver Plus plan to a Gold Plus plan at no extra cost but better benefits.

- Robertson Consulting has provided an evaluation and recommendation with a level of urgency of those recommendations. Transferred Administrative PC contents to an external hard drive, so that PC is now available as an extra for volunteers to use.

- It was requested from Council to ensure we move to a next steps approach when decisions are made. If we need administration to do something, Debbie would prefer it be in an email with the next steps of what we want her to do.

- Policies are still needed to fulfill audit needs. Council will do a review of policies we have approved this year. Debbie will provide a list of other policies she feels we still need.

- She has been notified that doors have been left unlocked or open after events or meetings. Erich will talk to Bill Luzinski to get some assistance from the Peace Team assisting with a safety procedure.

Old Business:

Sue Boyle gave a TIA school update – The NFL Green Team. Edible, butterfly gardens. Replace plants in prayer walk. Raised garden behind playground. Plant some fruit trees which require a lot of water. A presentation of the Green Team will take place before any work begins.

New Business:

- Active Shooter Preparedness – Dan will look at the feasibility of Bill's plan presented last month.

- Constitution update to members – We need to find a meaningful way for those that want to review the "Revised Constitution" can do so. Ask who is interested to provide an email to send to them, as well, have a few copies available in the Narthex. Follow up with a review session in the Fellowship Hall.

Finalize the timeline to get congregation approval at the next constitution review meeting.

- 5-Project-Fund drive at \$14,060.

- Bill Gest will give a 3rd Quarter finance update at the October 30th service.

- Vivian Tam volunteered her convertible for the Thanksgiving parade.

Dan Beck made a motion to move into Executive Session. Dennis Johnson seconded. All were in favor. Motion was carried.

Bill Gest made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 12:35 p.m. Sue Boyle seconded. All were in favor. Motion was carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Hawkinson

Recording Secretary

Minutes approved November 29, 2022

Shepherd of the Hills Financial Highlights
September 30, 2022

INCOME		Actual	Budget		
	Offerings	\$17,770	\$35,000	\$17,230	
	Total Income	\$23,432	\$45,062	\$21,629	
	Missions	\$1,777	\$3,685	\$1,908	
	Operating Income	\$21,655	\$41,377	\$19,722	
EXPENSE		\$44,924	\$49,819	\$4,895	
NET INCOME	Net Income (Month)	\$23,279	\$8,443	\$14,837	
	Income YTD	\$8,202	\$25,061	\$16,859	
Stress Test	Current Assets	\$539,044			
	Minus Current Liabilities	\$347,054			
	Net	\$191,990			
	Expense per week	\$11,711			
	# of weeks	16	was 22		
		Current	Previous		
Major	Maintenance	\$53,906	\$53,906		
5 Project Fund		\$14,060	\$0		
Fidelity	Investment	\$507,385	\$563,306	\$20,000 to pay bills	\$35,921 loss
	Sold \$154,700 Stocks & Bonds on 10-17-22				
Chase Bank Account Closed		\$4,181	\$6,494	\$2,313 bank service fees	
Vivian Tam and Roger Watton added to Fidelity Account and Jim Skivington and Chris Lang removed Change Credit cards to automatically be paid to avoid late fees					

Property Report:

Church Repairs

Dan Beck repaired:

- 9 sprinkler emitter heads and the threaded connections to the PVC pipe.
- 5 (6 port) emitter heads, put new connectors on the lines and capped off the non-used ports.
- The toilet again in the women's room in the ED building
- Replaced all 17 can lights in the church's women's and men's restrooms and all the can lights in the church narthex.
- Put a new plunger in the women's restroom in the Fellowship Hall.
- Replaced the old water filter and broken water faucet in the Fellowship Hall kitchen.
- Completed the elevator monthly inspection
- Removed the firepit from behind the Fellowship Hall and used the cement plates to protect all the new emitter heads in the gravel drive along the North fence.
- Replaced the extension pipe and the trap under the sink in the Fellowship Hall Kitchen.
- Checked and tightened all the toilet seats in the church office restrooms and all the toilets upstairs in the church restrooms.

Dan Beck would like to replace the 4 wall sconces in the church restrooms with newer LED light fixtures.

Lloyd Tarr repaired:

- The women's room toilet behind the Fellowship Hall wasn't flushing properly. Lloyd found someone put several large rocks in the tank to save water. Lloyd removed the rocks, and it now flushes correctly.
- Changed the light bulbs in the women's restroom behind the Fellowship Hall.
- Supervised the installation and painting of the Stan Hinkley memorial sculpture now located outside the fellowship Hall.
- Repaired several sprinkler heads that may have been vandalized.

Parking Lot Repairs

The church parking lots were repaired, resurfaced and new lines painted, on Friday Oct 14th

Solar Energy

Lloyd contacted the First Baptist Church about their solar installation and found the following:

The company they used was Solar for Christ, a division of Depcom. They paid nothing for their solar equipment. At the time when they started the project about 2 years ago all of equipment, including the shade structures was at no cost to them. They agreed to pay Depcom 80% of the project SRP bill for the next five years. At the end of the five years they could buy the system for \$1.

Prior to the solar their monthly by averaged about \$1200 (about the same as ours). Their SRP bill after the solar was installed is about \$300 per month. The first month their total payment

for electricity was about \$1100 so they saved about \$100. After the first month Depcom change the plan and they no longer have pay the monthly 80%.. So now they own the equipment, and their monthly bill is about \$300. I have contacted Solar for Christ and asked them what the current plan is and I am waiting for a response back.

Fellowship Hall Acoustical Panels

Last Week Debbie and Lloyd did a walk through with an inspector for our insurance company. He thought that we might have to lower the sprinkler heads in Fellow Hall they would below the height of the proposed panels. I talked with Mike Winters the assistant fire chief in Fountain Hills this morning had thought as long as the panel were only an inch thick and at least 18 inches from the sprinkler we would be "OK". I have going to verify this with both the Town of Fountain Hills and ADT this week.

Respectfully submitted by
Daniel Beck

Worship/Ministry Report – Dennis Johnson

LIFT – Cindy Beck: 16 women attended October meeting; plans complete for lunch at Arizona Culinary Institute with 28 members attending; fall even "Walk on Water Faith" plans continue. Event is on November 5, 2022 in Fellowship Hall. 10am – 1:30 pm. (Hall reserved for November 4th to decorate); Linda Marchi will become VP/Secretary. Sharon Johnson will take over Treasurer role in November 2022.

Compassion – Gail Appeldorn: sent out way too many anniversary cards@ That means a lot of hurting hearts that need our love.

Music Ministry – Matthew Fable: It is that time of year when activities are re-starting. Choir rehearsals started this past week, Handbell practice starts this week, and in November, we return to 2 services each Sunday. Lots of time has been spent planning and preparing for these seasonal changes. It is going to be a good season with some really good music. Thank you for your support.

Stephen Ministry – Don Wirth: Much learning by new and existing SMs in the last two meetings. The SMs have been "practicing" Supervision using the Focus Question Sets and, not only are they enjoying learning a new form of Supervision in their care giving, but they also are learning how much Supervision keeps them focused on their caregiving by emphasizing Confidentiality and Specificity so they are very specific about details without divulging too much information about their care receiver, keeping their identity confidential. Our ongoing plan is to have Supervision the 1st Tuesday of every month and a Continuing Education (CE) class the 3rd Tuesday of each month. Our next CE class will be a study of the book by Dr. David Stoop called "Forgiving What You'll Never Forget". On a side note, Denny & Gail Hanson have made the decision to be closer to family and will be moving to Texas sometime after the first of next year. They will be sorely missed not only by all of SOTH, but especially by the SMs who they have trained with over the last 6 months.

Missions/Outreach – Dottie Dudgeon

Memorial Committee – Eileen Doench, Gail Hanson: They are trying to get a letter prepared for families that have money given in memory of their loved ones. They are working with Roger Miller to finish up policies for these memorials. Debbie has been contacted for ideas. They will get together this week with him.

Columbarium: There will be an interment of Maggie Smith on November 5, 2022 at 10:00 a.m.

Outreach: “Stroll in the Glow” was approved by the Council last meeting. FH Chamber was contacted for us to participate with sponsorship of second level. Debbie has been reached to provide necessary information regarding the event. I spoke with women at LiFT meeting for volunteer support for the evening.

Cursillo – Gail Hanson: Cursillo Secretariat will require at least ten participants for each of the weekends in Feb/March 2023. Reservations need to be made by November 1, 2022.

Friends Feed Friends: This ministry continues to support warm healthy meals, bags-to-go and clothing, toiletries and other non-perishable needs for the people at the park in Tempe. For fourteen years meals have been provided for the homeless and indigent.

Missions: The mission team has an aggressive budget. The council budget was \$56,772. Now it seems we may be \$10,000 short, but November and December always have higher amounts of tithing. Eileen will talk with Bill Gest about a realistic budget for 2023. We may have to decrease amounts given or the number of missions. Possible Mission Committee on October 30. Presently, we have \$20,80816. October to December- \$14,250 left to pay. There is a reserve of \$2,000 for Pastor Juan Benito to come to the US. The positive side is that SOTH has been blessed to support many worthy missions, but must be discerning for 2023.

Health and Wellness: CPR and AED training will be scheduled for November 11 by the FH Fire Department. A pertinent medical article will be published in the What’s Happening each month. Each article will be reviewed by two nurses for relevancy before being submitted.

Scholarships: announced the SOTH Talent Show for February 3, 2023.