

Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church LLC
Regular Council Meeting for June 27, 2023

President Erich Korsten called the meeting to order at 9:08 a.m. with himself, Pastor Jeff Teeples, Donna Hawkinson, Caroline Meyer, Dennis Johnson, Dan Back in the room, and Mike Peterson and Daryl Stemm joining via Zoom. Visitors included Debbie Vinopal and Lisa Ristuccia.

Pastor Jeff opened the meeting with a devotion and prayer. Psalm 133 (NLT) Pilgrim song as they travel to Jerusalem. Harmony, being united...our call as a congregation is to work toward reconciliation and unity. Come Holy Spirit, I am a new creation.

Donna asked if there were any changes or additions to the May Council meeting minutes and the minutes from the Special Council meeting held on June 6. With no changes or additions, Dan made a motion to approve the minutes. Dennis seconded the motion. All were in favor. The motion was carried.

Daryl gave the financial update from May. A loss was recognized in May primarily due to a loss in the liquidation of funds. We'd estimated an \$18,000 loss, with actual loss being \$16,000. He recognizes giving was slightly under budget and expenses remain close to budget. If he would propose any caution, it might be in the giving area, and to be prudent regarding any discretionary or unnecessary expenses. He will be giving a short update to the congregation this next Sunday which is attached below. The stress test remains above 19 weeks. There hasn't been any progress in identifying additional members to the Finance Committee. There were no additional expenses charged to us by Healthy Home for the carpet.

Guest speaker, Lisa Ristuccia, founder of The Inspiration Academy, TIA, joined us. The enrollment for the school is doubling for the 2023/2024 year. They will be holding Kindergarten through 12th Grade in the fall beginning August 3. There will be five teachers including Lisa, and several aides on staff for the next school year. Lisa has requested use of all of the education building except for the Easter Room, Rooms 5/6. Discussion followed about space for our congregation to use during the week if Rooms 5/6 are not available. It was recognized that we will honor everyone's request for use of space by using space in the Nursery, Parlor and the office conference room. Activities of the church will not be diminished. Lisa stressed that the school is willing to work with us and will be flexible when rooms are needed. Lisa has sent the additional requests to Debbie for approval. Irrigation has been installed in the gardens and gardens have been filled with dirt. Leftover dirt can be used by church.

Pastor Jeff gave his update: A new "Get Connected" class will be held on July 16. There have been several new faces in church on Sundays. A movie event is July 5 where the church was invited to go as a group to the movie "Sound of Freedom" which is about human trafficking. The State Attorney General office has classes on internet safety for kids and parents for human trafficking, as well as how not be scammed or how to recognize a scam. Pastor & Debbie will contact them for potential dates to hold classes here for the parents of TIA students and for our congregants. The LCMC gathering is October 1-4, 2023. Pastor asked if anyone else on Council would like to go. Let him know if you would like to go with Jeff. Vacation is scheduled for July 24 – 31 when he and Kris will attend his mother's burial in Montana. Tom Ashbrook is preaching for him.

Mission/Outreach/Memorials - \$2295 from memorial money will be used for Paul Oman. Report is attached.

Worship/Education – Report is found below. It was recommended that we wait to go to one service until the second Sunday in November, the Sunday after All Saints Sunday. Dennis informed us he and Sharon are moving to Minnesota in August. Council was asked to begin to think about someone to replace him.

Property – Lisa is meeting with ADT at 11 am, Wednesday to discuss where they can put security cameras around the campus. No other actions requested. Lisa shared the school's signage she'd like to have added

to the campus. Colors and font will be adjusted to become more compatible with our signage, then reviewed with Lynn Ruby. Council approved a sign to be added to our sign in the main circle driveway, and another sign on the boulevard was approved if the city planning approves the placement.

Debbie Vinopal reported that carpet cleaning would take place this Friday, June 30, for Fellowship Hall, Youth Room and Education Building. Debbie will send a note out asking for assistance to help move furniture out and back in. Fire alarm system cannot be heard in some of the rooms used by the school. ADT will provide some insight as to what we can do, especially in the Education Building. Termites were found recently by the Fellowship Hall kitchen double doors. Debbie will work with the exterminator to work through issues.

Caroline Meyer updated that the Memorial Committee Procedure and Policy is nearing completion. Judy Konop is doing a final review over these next few weeks.

Erich reported that the final Constitution and By-law review should be ready for review by the end of next week.

A Music program committee has been set up consisting of Rose Gibson, Jeff Johnson, and Marcia Fears. They would like to set up an after-school program for a music program as those programs have been eliminated in the public school system. The committee is still looking for a music director.

The next Council meeting will be moved up one week to July 18th in the Ed Building, Rooms 5/6. That means the next Executive Council meeting will be Monday, July 10th at 5:30 pm in the office conference room.

Caroline made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Dan seconded the motion. All were in favor. The meeting was adjourned. We all closed with the Lord's prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Hawkison

Recording Secretary

approved at the July 18, 2023 meeting

Second Quarter Results (to be shared with the congregation the first Sunday in July):

Shepherd of the Hills Second Quarter Financial Update January through May 2023						
INCOME		Actual	Budget	Difference	%	
	Offerings	\$260,618	\$286,250	(\$25,632)	-9%	CAUTION
	Total Income	\$282,180	\$316,136	(\$33,956)	-11%	CAUTION
	Missions	\$26,198	\$28,625	\$2,427	8%	GOOD
	Operating Income (1)	\$255,982	\$287,511	(\$31,529)	-11%	CAUTION
EXPENSE						
	Expenses	\$257,308	\$252,736	(\$4,572)	-2%	ALMOST
NET INCOME						
	Net Income YTD	(\$1,326)	\$34,775	(\$36,101)	-104%	CAUTION
Stress Test						
	Measure of our reserves -How long we can operate without income?					
	# of weeks	19.3	GOOD			
	Cash and investments	\$609,741	GOOD			
	Major Maintenance	\$46,757	CAUTION			
	5 Project Fund	\$52,276	GOOD			
(1) Approximately 50% due to offerings below budget and 50% due to loss on investments.						

Missions:

- At the end of May we have \$39,089.06
 - We will need \$31,150 to pay all they obligations till December.
- Tithings for May were \$3264.68 (May 2022 \$6033.80), but we are going into the summer months which are normally low.
- Total tithings for the year is \$26,197.91. The Council budget was \$45,000 so I do not think that is too bad if we continue at that pace.
- The mission team approved \$1000 honorarium for the English missionary family that was being presented on June 25th to them by Pastor Teeples.
- There will be an email going out to see who on the mission team can help at Grace Respite this summer in August. They will need water and I will talk to Debbie about sending out a call for water for July and delivered in August.

Worship/Education – Dennis Johnson

Music/Worship: working with Aaron organizing and cleaning the storage room behind the altar and helping with the sound system upgrades and improvements. Helped with prepping the sanctuary for carpet in the music areas. Attending the annual conference for the AZ chapter of the American Choral Directors Assoc in Mesa. Next week attending the biennial conference of the Assoc of Luther Church Musicians in Philadelphia. (Matthew Fable)

LIFT: Lunch at Eagle Mountain with 20 attending. Next event is Bingo on July 13th. Requesting food donation. (Cindy Beck)

Stephen Ministry: Pastor Jeff held June supervision meeting. Continuing Ed cancelled for June. (Don Wirth)

Memorials:

MEMORIAL DESIGNATIONS

Undesignated: \$1496.14 (still waiting for call backs)

Designated: \$31443.16. See below where other designations are going.

Multiple supported SOTH missions	\$11,060	
Music	\$4480	
Columbarium	\$700	
Altar Guild	\$1557	(\$422 specific only altar guild)
Freezer	\$4346.16	
Five Project Fund Drive	\$6610	
Paul Oman Paint by Number Nativity Scene	\$2295	
Pastor Discretionary Fund	\$395	

Property Report – Dan Beck

Church Repairs

- The back door by the sound booth now has a new hydraulic door closer.
- Another water leak was repaired by the circle drive, an animal bit off the sprinkler head from a water line.
- The risers under the sanctuary piano were connected together and new face boards were added to make it look like it is one piece.
- The Acoustical Panels for the Fellowship Hall are now installed, The echo time was reduced by 70%. I would like to thank; Randy Bronner, Steve Faulhaber, Steve Forshier, Arn Hampel, Dennis Johnson, Jeff Johnson, and especially, Lloyd Tarr, for all the many hours they put in to install these panels. The sound in the Fellowship Hall is amazing.
- The new carpeting is now installed and looks great. Thank you everyone that helped clean up Saturday so we had a clean church for Sunday. Also a big THANK YOU to Aaron Frable for coming in Sunday at 3:00 AM to get all the sound hookups reinstalled before Sunday service.
- The AV wiring in the choir area was redone to reduce the number of cables on the floor to help reduce the tripping hazards.
- The acoustical fabric was replaced on the speakers above the choir and the speakers in the back above the usher cabinets.
- The trap and drainpipes were replaced because the old ones were leaking in the Fellowship Hall kitchen sink, with the garbage disposal attached.
- All the furnace filters were changed in all the air exchangers.
- The large tree by the rose garden was trimmed because the branches were hitting the sanctuary roof and rain gutters.