

Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church, LL
Regular Council Meeting
December 19, 2023, 6:00 pm

President Erich Korsten called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm. Those present were Erich Korsten, Donna Hawkinson, Caroline Meyer, Daryl Stemm, Sue Terlecki, Dan Beck and Mike Peterson via Zoom. No one was absent. Guests included Debbie Vinopal.

Pastor Jeff opened the meeting with a devotion and prayer. Pastor read Psalm 98 and shared that “Joy to the World” is actually about the second coming of the Lord, and the curse referenced in verse 3 is regarding the curse of Adam, sin. In that same verse, Jesus came to where thorns infest the ground referring to this earth.

Dan B made a motion to approve the November meeting minutes. Daryl S seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Pastor Jeff gave his report:

Christmas Eve services are at 3:30 and 5:00 pm with no Sunday morning services. Christmas Day service is at 10:00 am. New Years Eve service will be at 9:30 am, Sunday, December 31.

We’ve had approximately 35 attending Advent services. Light up the Night had about the same number attending.

Fifty-four members have signed up with RightNow Media. The program will be opened up to the Christmas Eve and Day guests.

Grief Group begins January 8, from 2:00 – 4:00 in the Easter Room.

Pastor and Kris are hosting a staff party on January 5th.

Instead of going to two services in January, it was determined to stay with one service until the size of attendance increases where needed.

Pastor reviewed the Christ Connect (adult education) programs. The RightNow Media kickoff was to be January 21, but Pastor Moberly will be here that day and would like that 45 minutes to share his mission. January 28 is the annual meeting, so he suggested we hold off on the kickoff until the first Sunday in February. All agreed that was a good plan.

January 14 Christ Connect is open, as well. There’s been money set aside for the Nicaragua mission, mostly for Juan Benito to travel to the U.S. to share his mission. After discussion, Donna made a motion to invite and pay for Pastor Benito’s travel expenses so he would be available the weekend of January 14th. Daryl seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Music Search Team met with a husband-and-wife team. She plays the organ, and he plays trombone and directs choir. The search team has recommended we hire them for a temporary assignment, January through April, to subsidize our music program. Daryl made a motion to offer the couple the positions of organist and director for a maximum of \$600 per week from January through the end of April with the option to discontinue services at any time. Dan seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion was carried.

Daryl reviewed the November 2023 financial summary, and the 2024 budget summary with Council. After discussion, Daryl made a motion to approve the budget to present at the annual meeting, January 28th. Dan seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion was carried.

All Member at Large Reports are attached. No additional actions or approvals are required at this time.

All were asked to remind their ministry teams that annual reports are due to Debbie on Monday, January 15th. Those ministries suggested to provide reports are: Stephen Ministry, LiFT, Scholarship, Missions, Finance, President, Pastor, Memorial and Columbarium.

The Council reviewed the draft Annual meeting agenda and approved the content.

The next Executive Council meeting will be held on January 17 at 10:00 am in the office conference room, and the next Regular Council meeting be held on January 23 at 6:00 pm (note time change) in the Ed Building, Rooms 5/6.

President Erich adjourned the meeting at 7:59 pm. We closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Hawkjinson

Recording Secretary

Approved January 23, 2024

SOTH December 2023 Property Report — Dan Beck

Church Repairs

Dan Beck was out of town all of November so Lloyd submitted these updates.

Delays

- NuFlow, the company that is coming out to use a video camera to check out the leaking drainpipe in the overhang roof of the east side of the Sanctuary, has been hit hard with Covid and have basically been shut down for two weeks. We should be at the top of their list. They only have one person skilled enough with the video to do the long run that we have.
- Custom Mirror was supposed to be out the week of November 20th to try to get the trim raised so the glass doors in the Sanctuary so they do not rub on the trim. I had not heard from them to set up a date and time I called Lance, the owner, said that I hadn't responded to his email to authorize the work. When they checked on it they found that even though they my email on the account it went to julia@soth.com. The quote is for \$750 and I got the approval and sent the authorization back to them on December 12th. I am still waiting for a date from them.
- After the Council's recommendation to only use registered contactor, I contacted Fredy's Lawn Services and found they are not registered or licensed, but they are insured. I discussed this with Erich and we decided for landscaper that insured would be enough. They are to have their insurance agent send a copy of their policy to Debbie.
- With a lot of the known leaks fixed and the setting up of a new watering schedule and for the weeks of November 26 through December 3rd we used 11,373 gallons of water with estimated cost \$51.30. The new monthly bill with these changes should be approximately \$300. The grass portion of this is \$136.74. Waiting to see our bill with all of these changes made. I am recommending that we reconnect the water for the just west of the main driveway, the plants at the east end of the handicap parking and the area by the steps to keep our campus looking nice. This would be an estimated annual cost increase of \$23.46. The summary of this data is attached.
- Arn is putting new plants by the columbarium along with the necessary water lines.
- Arn is working with John and the landscaper to keep the rest of the property maintained.

New Property Team Members:

Randy Bronner and Ron Dase have agreed to join the property team.

Mission, Memorial, Outreach – Mike Peterson

Scholarship-no updates

Columbarium-one double niche sold and an interment of two urns. Marilyn Maegdlin and Marcia Schrage changed out the flowers with a winter of white display.

Missions: There was a Mission meeting on November 13, 2023 in the Education building 5/6, to discuss present and any new projects. Because the budget had yet been determined we were told to stay with \$45,000-\$50,000. We tried to cut as much as we could, but still felt very determined those that were left needed to stay as supported this past year. At this time, we are at \$56,000 as we await word from Council what amount we should realistically work with for a budget.

We will meet again on January 3rd to finalize our mission support and bring that to Council for their January 2024 meeting. There is a letter going out in December to let the missions know that this month is their last check from SOTH, till we see where our budget stands and who we can support.

1. Benevolence

1. January 1, 2023 Started with \$35,031.15 (end of December 2022 dollars)
2. **YTD Tithings as of November 30,2023= \$48,039.94**
3. **YTD Mission money at the end of November after paying our missions = \$30,070.56 (Roger and I are off by \$150.01 and will be meeting December 18th to go over our figures.)**
4. **YTD dedicated money for missions yet to be sent is \$21,416. That will leave about \$8654.56 (we will have a better figure at the end of December)**

2. \$10,000 was an undesignated gift that was given to missions in February. We decided to wait till this meeting to decide where that money will go. This is the designation of that money.

1. Deanne Grabill Wycliffe (Mozambique) one-time	\$3600
2. The Vernagens Wycliffe (New Guinea) one-time	\$1200
3. Vital Links – Ultrasound machine one-time	\$1500
4. Nicaragua	\$2500
5. Dr Paul Rollet – Philippines	<u>\$1200</u>
TOTAL	\$10,000

Memorials: Undesignated money is \$1546.14 (Roger and I will be meeting December 18th to coordinate our figures).

- The report in October indicated where all the money went, and what is still designated.
- Judy Konop will take over January 1, 2024 and I will turn my report over to her.

Worship Report – Sue Terlecki

Sue,

Just a brief report for this month's Council meeting. We had our "Light up the Night" Service on December 10th. That service is meant for people who are suffering the loss of a loved one and the service is focused on handling their grief during this holiday season. It was a wonderful service with the Stephen Ministers participating and Stephen Ministers also available for prayers after the service with those requesting prayers. We also had our Stephen Ministry Christmas social on December 5th with the Bjornholts hosting. That is all and Stephen Ministry will resume a regular schedule of Supervision and Continuing Education in January.

Peace,

Don

LIFT Council Report

December 2023

- No Business Meeting was held in December.
- Christmas lunch outing to be held 12/19/23.
- The Angel Tree campaign successfully collected gifts for 50 children.
Praise to God for the generous spirit of SOTH member
- Planning continues for "Share the Love" collection drive held in FEB.
- Planning continues for LIFT's all congregation event on March 9th, 2024. *Sacob's Hope*
Chili Cook off

Michael Veech had no news - just busy working on the music.

November Financial Summary

Shepherd of the Hills Monthly Financial Review		November 30, 2023					
		Current Month			Year-to-Date		
		Actual	Budget	Difference	Actual	Budget	Difference
INCOME							
	Offerings	\$44,269	\$56,400	(\$12,131)	\$480,992	\$532,102	(\$51,110)
	Total Income	\$48,643	\$62,405	(\$13,762)	\$536,739	\$593,918	(\$57,179)
	Missions	\$4,574	\$5,640	\$1,066	\$48,040	\$53,210	\$5,170
	Operating Income	\$44,069	\$56,765	(\$12,696)	\$488,699	\$540,708	(\$52,009)
EXPENSE							
	Total Expense	\$42,977	\$51,387	\$8,410	\$535,390	\$562,217	\$26,827
NET INCOME							
	Net Income	\$1,092	\$5,378	(\$4,286)	(\$46,691)	(\$21,509)	(\$25,182)
Stress Test							
		11/30/2023					
	Current Assets	\$468,265					
	Minus Current Liabilities	\$293,631					
	Net	\$174,634					
	Expense per week	\$11,391	Based on 2023 actuals		\$11,391		
	# of weeks	15.3					
		Current					
	Major Maintenance	\$35,366					
	S Project Fund	\$2,466					
	Fidelity Investment	\$435,711	Approximately 79% Cash (\$344,500)				
		Notes:			Notes:		
		Giving < budget ~\$12,100			Giving < budget ~\$51,100		
		Mission Benevolence < budget ~\$1,100			Mission Benevolence < budget ~\$5,200		
		Expenses versus budget:			Expenses versus budget:		
		Staff < budget ~\$2,000					
		Property (maintenance) < budget ~\$2,600			Property (maintenance) < budget ~\$22,300		
		Music < budget ~\$1,400			Music < budget ~\$6,000		
		Outreach (LCMC/Scholarships) < budget ~\$1,200			Outreach (LCMC/Scholarships) < budget ~\$2,700		

Shepherd of the Hills
Budget Summary
Year Ending December 31, 2024

	24 Budget	23 Budget	YTD Nov 23	Difference 24 v 23 Budget
Revenue:				
Offerings	\$ 557,100	\$ 607,500	\$ 482,467	\$ (50,400)
Outreach - from Restricted Funds	\$ 25,000		\$ -	25,000
Miscellaneous	\$ 61,780	\$ 47,300	\$ 47,061	14,480
Program	2,150	2,151	2,746	(1)
Interest Income	20,000	18,000	20,040	2,000
Realized Gain or loss	-	-	(13,905)	-
Total Income	666,030	674,951	537,050	(8,921)
Mission Benevolence	55,710	60,750	48,040	5,040
Net Revenue	610,320	614,201	489,010	(3,881)
Expense:				
01- Insurance	14,591	10,967	8,863	(3,624)
02- Compensation & Benefits	370,296	375,154	343,626	4,858
03- Office Expense	42,500	36,125	36,716	(6,375)
04- Property	93,800	98,501	68,045	4,701
05- Worship	17,518	14,200	14,342	(3,318)
06- Music	9,282	17,960	10,474	8,678
07- Fellowship	2,300	2,000	2,039	(300)
08- Outreach	9,850	10,501	6,557	651
09- Education	4,525	3,350	2,009	(1,175)
10- Youth Ministry	350	100	11	(250)
12- Stewardship	265	200	-	(65)
13- Care Ministry	1,300	2,450	2,653	1,150
14- Health & Wellness	675	650	-	(25)
16- Member Ministry & Discipleship	1,000	1,000	934	-
5510- Advertising and Technology	6,968	6,700	6,593	(268)
5511- Welcome Home	6,300	6,346	5,807	46
6200- Marketing Implementation	28,800	28,001	26,400	(799)
Other	-	1		1
Total Expense	610,320	614,206	521,869	3,886
Net Income (Loss)	\$0	(\$5)	(\$32,859)	5

(\$18,954)

Not counting loss on stocks