

Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church LLC
Regular Council Meeting
January 23, 2024

President Erich Korsten called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm in the Education Building, Rooms 5/6. Those present were Erich Korsten, Caroline Meyer, Donna Hawkinson, Dan Beck, Mike Peterson and Sue Terlecki. Daryl Stemm was absent. Guests included Debbie Vinopal, Eileen Doench, Sue Bye and Dwaine Abbe.

Pastor Jeff opened with a devotion from Colossians 1:16-20 which speaks to Jesus's love for the church. It reminds us that Jesus is the head of the body, the church, so that in everything He is first; He is the beginning and He is to be first in everything. We, the Council, shall do His will following His plan.

The December 2023 minutes were reviewed. With no changes noted, Caroline made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Dan. All were in favor. Motion was carried.

Congregation speakers were Eileen Doench and Sue Bye, representing the Missions Team. Eileen reviewed the 2023 outcomes for missions, as shared below, along with the plan for missions to be supported in 2024, noting their plan does go over the budgeted amount, but relying on God's grace, we will be able to uphold the plan. Donna made a motion to approve the planned mission budget with Mike seconding the motion. All were in favor. Motion was carried. The next missions meeting will be held on March 6, 2024 at 1:00 pm in the Education Building, Room 5/6. Sue Bye shared that a Missions & Ministry fair would be held on Sunday, March 17, immediately following the church service in the Fellowship Hall.

Pastor Jeff gave updates on activities of the church. They include:

- Grief Share Group has 16-18 people, and will be adding two more facilitators to help with this size group. Two-thirds of the attendees are from the community with the remainder being from our congregation. This is a wonderful ministry to the community.
- All-Church Christ Connect groups will be formed this week after the facilitator training is completed. Seventy-two have signed up to attend a small group. Group times will be shared this Sunday for people to choose.
- The prayer room preparation was put on hold over the Christmas holiday. Painting and setup will begin soon.
- Pastor Jeff is the president of the FH Ministerial Association for 2024. The group continues to coordinate and work with the Will Graham Foundation. They are planning a "Lift Up" event at the Community Center on March 19, 8:30 am to 4:00 pm. All are invited to attend. Breakfast and lunch will be served. All churches within a 15-mile radius have been invited to attend. This will begin the launch of the "Look Up" event to be held in Fountain Park in 2025.
- We have begun to hire pianists for the Praise Team from the "Worship Support Network" while the music search team continues to finalize job descriptions for 2 to 3 positions.
- Pastor would like to hold one Easter service. Discussion followed. Most of the council thought one service would be enough for over 300 people, so we will be holding only one service on Easter Sunday.

Daryl was not available to present the December 2023 Financial Summary. It was briefly reviewed by Erich with the only notation being we ended on a very healthy note due to many generous donations in December. The summary can be found below.

Mike Peterson thanked Sue and Eileen for their presentation and the work they have been doing on Missions. There was nothing to update from the other groups he supports.

Sue Terlecki reviewed updates from Stephen Ministry and LiFT. The full report is attached below. The whole congregation will be invited to this event. She also shared she had been approached requesting the pew pads be placed back in the pews for Sunday morning services. This would be a way to keep track of who was regularly attending services in person. She has two volunteers that are willing to help with the pew pads. After some discussion, Debbie said she would pull together Lynn Ruby from the Welcome Home team, Sue and the two volunteers for a meeting to discuss how we might roll this out and how it works in conjunction with the Welcome Home cards. Pastor asked if we could include prayer cards and other information in the pew pads.

Dan Beck reviewed his full report which is attached below. There was discussion about the drain pipe leak. Dan felt the estimates were high, and requested that the property team find a plumber that could help them open the wall and fix it ourselves. His wish was approved. The skylight repair was approved by Debbie for immediate repair. The skylight will be replaced completely. Council was okay with that approval.

Debbie shared that new directory photos would be taken beginning on Sunday, January 28th by Lloyd Tarr with the assistance of Cindy Gilbert.

Old business: The minister of music team is meeting again this week to finalize the job descriptions. A draft of the annual report was shared and reviewed. Minor changes were recommended. We thank Debbie for her hard work on preparing the annual report in such a professional format.

New business: Debbie brought the current list of members for our review. After much disjointed discussion, a couple more names were asked to be reviewed. There are approximately 180 voting members. The list is being finalized for the annual meeting this Sunday. Council meeting dates and times were discussed. We will continue to meet on the fourth Tuesday of each month unless determined otherwise due to holidays, with Executive Council meetings being held at 10 am the Wednesday prior to a regular meeting. A council retreat will be held on Saturday, February 17 at 9:00am to 2:00pm at the home of Erich Korsten. This retreat will bring new council members up to speed with policies, procedures and affairs of the church.

President Korsten adjourned the meeting at 8:20 pm. We closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Hawkinson

Recording Secretary

Approved February 27, 2024

Financial Summary, December 2023, Daryl Stemm

Shepherd of the Hills Monthly Financial Review		December 31, 2023						
		Current Month			Year-to-Date			
		Actual	Budget	Difference	Actual	Budget	Difference	
INCOME	Offerings	\$317,333	\$75,400	\$241,933	\$798,675	\$607,502	\$191,173	
	Total Income	\$331,344	\$81,036	\$250,308	\$868,433	\$674,954	\$193,479	
	Missions/Other	\$211,733	\$7,540	(\$204,193)	\$259,773	\$60,751	(\$199,022)	
	Operating Income	\$119,611	\$73,496	\$46,115	\$608,660	\$614,203	(\$5,543)	
EXPENSE	Total Expense	\$48,410	\$51,998	\$3,588	\$583,850	\$614,215	\$30,365	
NET INCOME	Net Income	\$71,201	\$21,498	\$49,703	\$24,810	(\$12)	\$24,822	
Stress Test		12/31/2023						
	Current Assets	\$748,080						
	Minus Current Liabilities	\$502,788						
	Net	\$245,292						
	Expense per week	\$11,228	Based on 2023 actuals			\$11,228		
	# of weeks	21.8						
		Current						
	Major Maintenance	\$38,832						

5 Project Fund	\$180,000	<---Reserved Surplus
Fidelity Investment	\$647,611	Approximately 85% Cash (\$551,563)
	Notes:	Notes:
	Giving > budget ~\$241,900	Giving > budget ~\$191,200
	Other income > budget ~\$8,400	
	Mission Benevolence > budget ~\$24,200	Mission Benevolence > budget ~\$19,000
	Reserved Surplus > budget ~\$180,000	Reserved Surplus > budget ~\$180,000
	Expenses versus budget:	Expenses versus budget:
	Insurance > budget \$3,200	
	Compensation/benefits < budget ~\$5,100	
	Property (maintenance) < budget ~\$1,000	Property (maintenance) < budget ~\$23300
	Music < budget ~\$1,100	Music < budget ~\$7,100

Property Report, Dan Beck

Church Repairs

Dan Beck was recuperating from surgery all of December, so Lloyd submitted these updates.

Drain Leaks:

NuFlow, a company that puts an epoxy lining in pipes, came out and did a free camera inspection of the drainpipes on the flat overhang roof on the east side of the sanctuary. They found and quote, "Upon inspection it was discovered that the sewer lines are ABS plastic, compromised with offsets and cracking."

They proposed three options:

1. Clean and line both the standard drain and the overflow drain from the roof to where they exit the building for a cost of \$28,200.
2. Do the same thing but only for the horizontal portion of the drainpipes for a cost of \$21,723.
3. Do the same thing but starting where the drain starts and going only to the middle of the drainpipe. This would cover the area where the current damage was found for a cost of \$10,300.

Need Council input on how to proceed.

Sanctuary/Narthex Glass Doors:

Custom Mirror and Furniture, the company that services the glass doors came out to determine why the doors are binding. They confirmed that the beam over the doors has settled and there is nothing they can do to the doors to fix the problem. I have contacted a structural engineer who did the engineering on the elevator installation and has done work for Bill Gest who recommended him. He will be out hopefully the week of January 22nd to evaluate what is going on and make recommendations on how we can fix the problem.

Sofit and Skylight:

There is a soffit board on the southwest side of the Sanctuary that has come loose and needs to be put back in place.

The skylight located above the Narthex and Sanctuary is cracked and maybe leaking. It is possible that the sagging beam, if it is wood may be due to water leaking in from the skylight.

There is no visible signs of water leaks.

The cost to fix the soffit and replace the skylight is \$2,588.

Misc.

The Advent Mural was taken down and stored in the lower-level storeroom.

Furnace filters have been replaced per quarterly schedule.

Southwest Ground Control treated most of the desert areas with a pre-emergence spray/weed kill to eliminate most the weed growth that normally happens in early spring.

Missions, Memorial, Scholarship & Columbarium Report, Mike Peterson

Thank you for trusting us to be discerning with God's money. We believe SOTH's mission "To Know Christ and Make Him Known" was not only in the 2023 decisions (which is attached) but in the 2024 missions being presented to you this evening for approval. Our mission group met January 3rd 2024 to discuss your predicted budget for us of \$55,710 for 2024.

We have an amazing Church that always steps up to bless others. As you were aware, financial support was pretty tight in November, but we knew we had enough money to meet our commitments but did not expect much of a surplus moving into 2024. God always laughs as he surprises us with miracles. We will move into 2024 with a sizeable surplus and bless more in sharing Christ.

Benevolence:

1. January 1, 2023 Started with \$35,031.15 (end of December 2022 dollars).
2. YTD Tithings as of December 31,2023= \$60,139.94.
3. YTD Mission money at the end of December after paying our missions=\$58,830.74. Roger and I are off by \$249.28, so I will take his number that gives us more money of \$59,080.02. I am sure quick books will figure it out.
4. YTD dedicated money still left to be paid being carried over to 2024 for Nicaragua is \$7763. Now that we are able to get money going into the country, we will add more money to their monthly support to bring that dedicated money down to zero.

Discussion at our last meeting.

1. Sue Bye will be planning another great Mission Fair on March 17, 2024. The last one was in 2022. We have had new members and new missions and it was felt that **we needed to** show the congregation where their money is going. Plus, we would like to inspire people to get involved in missions.
2. Attached is the Tax Dollar Qualifying Charitable Organizations if you would like to include this in the What's Happening, it includes The Inspiration Academy.

Respectfully submitted, Eileen Doench

2024 Mission Budget Proposal

MISSION BUDGET 2024 PROPOSAL			
	FY 2024	Pay mo.	
Proposed SOTH Mission Allocation 10% benevolence	\$55,710		
Proposed Mission Projects:			
Grace Lutheran Summer Respite	\$1,000		
Grace Lutheran Summer Food Respite	0		
SOTH Quilters	\$300		
Nicaragua Mission - Juan Benito - travel expense	*\$2000		
Nicaragua Mission - Juan Benito - dedicated money left	*\$5763		
Amazing Grace Lutheran Church	\$6,000	\$500	
Amazing Grace Lutheran Church - Women's halfway	\$6,000	\$500	
American Indian Christian Ministry	\$6,000	\$500	
ALWM -Dr Han/ Vietnam	\$7,200	\$600	
ALWM Cambodian Mission (Pastor Sam)	\$7,200	\$600	
Englshes in Africa(Monrovia Liberia)	HOLD	HOLD	\$1,800
House of Blessings	\$3,600	\$300	
Mathew 25 (Friends Feeding Friends)	HOLD	HOLD	\$3,600
Nicaragua- Pastor Juan Benito	\$3,600	\$300	
Paz de Cristo	\$3,600	\$300	
Peace Lutheran-Holbrook Az	\$3,600	\$600	
Philippines- Pastor Paul Rollet	\$7,200	\$600	
Arizona Hunger	\$1,000		
Pastor Bill Moberly-one time Honorarium	\$1,000		
The Webb Family -Africa	\$1,000		
Blankets for the homeless	\$1,800		
Total Mission Proposed Spending	\$60,100		\$65,500
Reserve 10% ?	\$5,571		
Total Mission Proposed Spending + 10%	\$65,671		
SOTH allocations minus Mission Proposed spending	(\$9,961)		
Surplus from previous years budget 2023	\$58,830.74		
Total unused surplus	\$48,870		
*dedicated money	(\$7,763)		
Total surplus going into January 2024	\$41,106.74		
TBD= To Be Determined			

No Report for Memorial, Scholarship or Columbarium

Ministry Reports, Sue Terlecki

From: Don Wirth (dandjwirth1@msn.com)

To: slterlecki@yahoo.com

Date: Sunday, January 21, 2024 at 01:55 PM MST

Sue,

Below is the report for Stephen Ministry for December, 2023 through January 9th 2024.

Stephen Ministry Report for Council

We have had a busy December and early January for Stephen Ministry. December was busy with annual SM Social held at Ruby & John Bjornholts home December 5th and the "Remembrance Service" on December 10th which all the Stephen Ministers participated in. We did not have a Continuing Education session on December 19th. January 2nd was our Supervision Session for January with all the Ministers in attendance. The Good Grief sessions started in January and 2 Stephen Ministers are assisting with the sessions.

Blessings,

Don

From: Cindy Beck (csb1957.cb@gmail.com)

To: slterlecki@yahoo.com

Date: Thursday, January 18, 2024 at 01:34 PM MST

Hi,

Lift is planning the March 9th event.

Our annual Feb. "Share the Love" campaign will benefit Jacob's Hope in Mesa. It is a speciality nursery for babies born with opioid exposure.

Respectfully,

Cindy Beck