

**SHEPHERD OF THE VALLEY LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**12650 JOHNNY CAKE RIDGE ROAD, APPLE VALLEY, MN 55124**  
**Minutes of Church Council Meeting**  
**Date: 4/20/2023**  
**On-Site Community Room**

**Attendees:**

Melissa Taphorn, President  
Paul Moyer, Vice President  
Dick Rank, Treasurer  
Carleen Crouse, Secretary\* (via Zoom)  
Amber Kocemba  
Bernie Zimmermann  
Jon Hohenstein  
Melissa Tapper

Pastor Rick Summy  
Rachel Wermerskirchen (absent)  
Robin Robinson  
Shirl Alojado (absent)  
Alyssa Isaacs\*  
Jennifer Davidson\*  
Kelsey Young\*  
\*denotes non-voting member

**Call to Order:** President Melissa Taphorn called the meeting to order at 6:32 PM. Paul Moyer shared an opening prayer.

**IDI Exercise:** Melissa Taphorn led an interactive exercise building upon the IDI sessions Pastor Peter Harrits facilitated with the Council this fall/winter.

**Vision and Leadership Teams Reports:** Pastor Rick Summy shared Lisa Marie Odeen the new Communications Director started. Maundy Thursday was not super well attended. Good Friday was well attended. 2800+ in person attendance for Easter, felt full with 3 services offered. Less rushed compared to when it was on the hour. Staff and volunteers planning to park off-site and shuttle. \$233K pledged for Planting Hope campaign. April 30<sup>th</sup> Planting Hope celebration. 103 \$1,000 pledges, 24 above \$1,000. 340 pledges overall. Almost \$80K received already. Over \$200K pledged, Council will need to decide what to do with the extra money. \$65K has been pledged (this amount has been received) to the Synod. Kelsey Young shared CYF has been in fall planning mode and looking at staffing structure without a middle school director. Early June registrations will open so decisions will need to be made soon. Last day for Sunday programming is May 7 and last day for Wednesday programming is May 10. Leaning into summer programming, VBS work day May 20<sup>th</sup>, open to all ages. There is an event on the SOTV website to register to help. Spaces are starting to fill up for summer programs. Alyssa Isaacs shared she is onboarding Lisa Marie into role and hoping to take on full role of Director of Ministry. Hoping to clarify some systems within this big organization that is SOTV. Looking at volunteerism as first area to dig into. Sitting on Equity leadership team. Working with others on third Thursday all staff meetings, to implement team building, training, brainstorming. Looking at evaluation system to ensure programs and events are speaking to our values and needs of the congregation, also looking for ways to collect feedback from congregation. Jennifer Davidson shared the big focus is on the budget. Has been working with staff, Finance team is meeting regarding the budget specifically. There's about \$123K that gap. Continued work on reviewing expenses and structures to balance the budget. The first draft of the new budget does not include additional principal payments above and beyond the monthly mortgage payment. The Finance Leadership Team has been reviewing principal payments since the refinance of the mortgage. Rather than budget monthly principal payments in the new year, the team will evaluate the ability to make principal payments each month. Continued budgeting areas include evaluating the impact of the Planting Hope campaign and giving impacts in the new year.

**Secretary's Report:** The council reviewed the minutes to the March 16, 2023 Church Council meeting. Bernie Zimmerman moved to approve the secretary's report of the Church Council meeting of March 16, 2023. Jon Hohenstein seconded the motion, and the council voted unanimously, 9-0, to approve the minutes of the March 16, 2023 Church Council meeting.

**Finance Report:** Dick Rank provided an overview of the March financials. March was our best month yet, about \$30K is from Planting Hope campaign. Year to date is at about \$2.3M against expenses of \$1.9M; there are some savings on expense side compared to budget. Jon Hohenstein asked how people give, recurrent gifts, etc. Forecasting is difficult because people give weekly, monthly, at the end of the year. Offering is down compared to last year and behind year to date. Recommending \$65K is paid to the Synod, before the end of this fiscal year as the funds are received. Projecting to be down \$500K at the end of the year for offering. A discussion was had about giving trends and theorizing about why giving is down. Additional conversation including RIC designation. Paul Moyer moved to approve the March finance reports. Jon Hohenstein seconded the motion, and the council voted unanimously, 8-0, to approve the March finance reports.

**Nominations:** Jennifer Davidson shared they have been working to update team lists, it appears there are updates to be made and some corrections to dates along with missing information. Will review teams and constitution. Current need is to recruit a Council Leader with the connection to Nominations leadership team. Melissa Taphorn will need to be reelected to Council at the Congregational meeting in June. Please be thinking about people who would be good for the Nominations lead.

**New Business:** Sign up for Volunteer appreciation event May 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>. Congregational meeting May 7<sup>th</sup> at noon, RIC voting. Planting Hope celebration on April 30<sup>th</sup>, register online. Congregational meeting June 4<sup>th</sup> at noon to elect Council members. E-mail from Pastor Lindsey Bina with invitation to join Synod meeting. Rachel Wermerskirchen previously volunteered to lead the opening prayer for the May meeting.

**Adjourn:** Pastor Rick Summy moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 PM. Jon Hohenstein seconded the motion. The council voted unanimously, 8-0, to approve the motion to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,  
Carleen Crouse, Church Council Secretary

**Next Council Meeting:**  
**May 18, 2023 at 6:30 PM, in-person, Community Room**

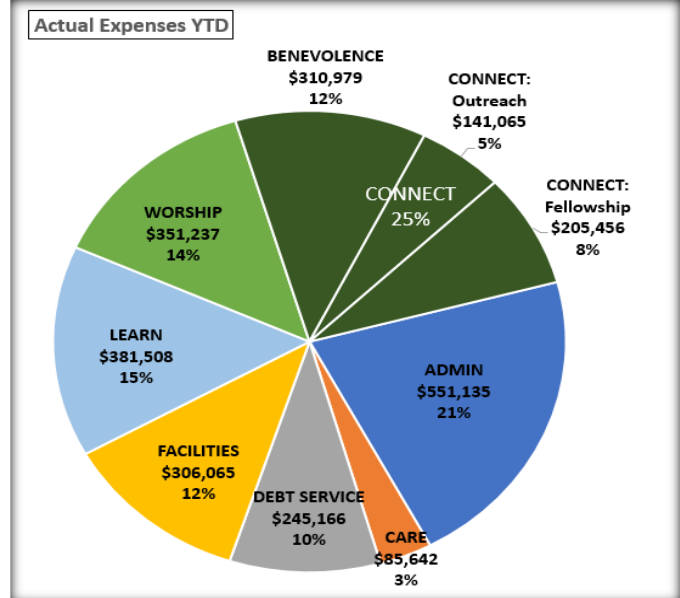
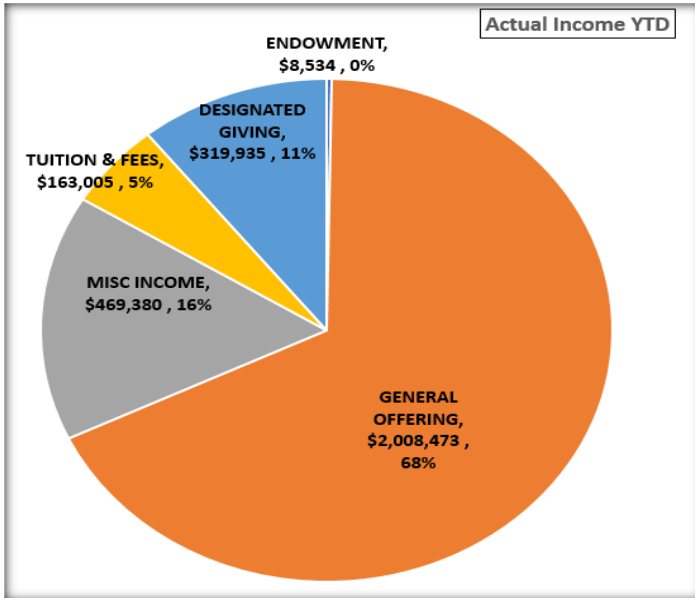
# Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church

Financial Summary for Church Council

For the 9 months ending April 30, 2023

<u>This Month</u>					<u>General Fund</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>				
Actual	Prior Year	Variance	Budget	Variance		Actual	Prior Year	Variance	Budget	Variance
\$306,249	\$290,862	\$15,387	\$320,151	(\$13,902)	<b>Income</b>	\$2,477,853	\$2,153,893	\$323,961	\$2,417,292	\$60,561
\$13,998	\$11,803	\$2,196	\$16,875	(\$2,877)	<b>Tuition/Fees</b>	\$163,005	\$146,616	\$16,390	\$172,225	(\$9,220)
\$289,609	\$260,344	(\$29,265)	\$260,243	(\$29,366)	<b>Expenses</b>	\$2,207,368	\$2,207,941	\$574	\$2,414,140	\$206,772
\$30,638	\$42,320	(\$11,682)	\$76,783	(\$46,145)	<b>Net</b>	\$433,491	\$92,567	\$340,924	\$175,377	\$258,114

## Income & Expenses (all funds) - actual YTD



## Key Metrics

Total Fund Balances	Close of 7/31/2022	Close of 4/30/2023	YTD Increase (Decrease)	Minimum Balance	Above/(Below) Minimum
Designated	\$501,860	\$456,232	(\$45,629)	N/A	
Endowment	\$240,408	\$243,619	\$3,211	N/A	
General*	\$546,052	\$961,649	\$415,596	\$442,000	\$519,649
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1,288,321</b>	<b>\$1,661,499</b>	<b>\$373,179</b>	<b>\$442,000</b>	<b>\$519,649</b>
Months of Cash (general fund)		3.56			

\*Includes Employee Retention Credit (ERC) funds received in the amount of \$440,911.

Key Assets & Liabilities	Balance on 7/31/2022	Balance end of Prior Month	Current Balance 4/30/2023	Monthly Incr/(Decr)	YTD Incr/(Decr)
Cash (incl. Endowment)	\$1,288,321	\$1,628,704	\$1,661,499	\$32,796	\$373,179
Investments (Vanguard)	\$240,408	\$240,306	\$243,619	\$3,313	\$3,211
Current Liabilities	\$25,971	\$6,511	\$8,077	\$1,565	(\$17,895)
Mortgage Balance	\$941,936	\$768,658	\$745,554	(\$23,104)	(\$196,382)
<b>Current Liabilities Detail</b>					
Accounts Payable	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	
FSA/VLI/Vision/Cobra	(\$414)	(\$1,406)	(\$231)	\$1,175	
Prepaid Income	\$26,385	\$7,918	\$8,077	\$159	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$25,971</b>	<b>\$6,511</b>	<b>\$7,846</b>		