

SHEPHERD OF THE VALLEY LUTHERAN CHURCH
12650 JOHNNY CAKE RIDGE ROAD, APPLE VALLEY, MN 55124
Minutes of Church Council Meeting
Date: 1/18/2024
On-Site Community Room

Attendees:

Melissa Taphorn, President

Paul Moyer, Vice President

Dick Rank, Treasurer

Carleen Melin, Secretary*

Amber Kocemba

Bernie Zimmermann

Jon Hohenstein

Melissa Tapper (absent)

*denotes non-voting member

Rachel Wermerskirchen

Robin Robinson

Shirl Alojado

Merilu Narum

Jennifer Davidson*

Alyssa Isaacs* (absent)

Kelsey Young* (absent)

Pastor Lindsey Bina*

Call to Order: President Melissa Taphorn called the meeting to order at 6:33 PM. Rachel Wermerskirchen shared an opening prayer.

Book Study: Pastor Lindsey Bina guided the council through a discussion of Chapter 3 of the book *Growing Young: Six Essential Strategies to Help Young People Discover and Love Your Church*. Council will discuss chapter 4 in February.

Vision and Leadership Teams Reports: Jennifer Davidson shared an update on columbarium (10 niches to hit next milestone) and leadership position vacancies upcoming. Tied in with Nominations, opening on the following teams: Columbarium, Properties, HR, Finance teams. Questions about bench installation and entryway revamp.

Secretary's Report: Shirl Alojado moved to approve the secretary's report of the Church Council meeting of December 14, 2023. Dick Rank seconded the motion, and the council voted unanimously, 10-0, to approve the minutes of the December 14, 2023 Church Council meeting.

Call Process & Interim Senior Pastor: Pastor Rob Carlson will be starting February 1st. Communication will go out tomorrow and bulletin this weekend. Will be in place through call of Senior Pastor. Longer article in February *News for the Flock*. Call Committee met last night for first meeting. Orientation with Bishop Lull in February. Scheduled weekly meetings, have a Chair and Secretary.

Finance Report: Dick Rank provided an overview of the December financials. December was a good month, better than budget. Actual to Prior Year is very close. Forecasting to be down in January and February. Will review additional mortgage payment in January (end of quarter). Finance did not have a quorum, will approve financials in February.

Jennifer Davidson reviewed the Corporate Signature Resolution, removing Pastor Rick Summy, adding Pastor Julie Wright. Jon Hohenstein moved to approve the Corporate Signature Resolution. Bernie Zimmermann seconded the motion, and the council voted unanimously, 10-0, to approve the Corporate Signature Resolution.

Jennifer Davidson read the housing allowance for called leader for allocation. Paul Moyer moved to approve the housing allowance. Shirl Alojado seconded the motion, and the council voted unanimously, 10-0, to approve the annual housing allowance.

Nominations: Merilu Narum shared her team would be happy to review applications and open leadership team positions.

New Business: Jennifer Davidson shared about fundraiser for Tanzania. Set to take place last weekend in January during Tanzania worship with fundraising effort for lab and final furnishings of lab – goal is \$5-7K. Jon Hohenstein moved to approve the fundraiser at Tanzania worship weekend. Melissa Taphorn seconded the motion and the council voted unanimously, 10-0, to approve the fundraiser at Tanzania worship weekend.

Jennifer Davidson shared Mark Ertl will be taking a sabbatical. 12 week leave within timeframe of May-August. Organ project will be starting after Easter, Mark will need to be available. Subs and musicians are available the during time. Sabbatical was approved by Pastor Rick Summy and HR Leadership Team. Shirl Alojado moved to approve Mark Ertl's sabbatical. Bernie Zimmermann seconded the motion and the council voted unanimously, 10-0, to approve Mark Ertl's sabbatical.

Pastor Lindsey Bina asked for feedback and discussion regarding Saturday summer evening worship. This has been a topic of conversation since 2019. There are staffing, soloist, cost and attendance considerations. One of few churches in the area that offer Saturday night service. Options to experiment with not having worship Saturday night Memorial Day – Labor Day. Not looking to make permanent changes and decide before April. Is it all or nothing? Every other week (keep communion weekends)? Saturday worship is already as scaled back as it can for it still to be meaningful. Conversation was split, save the money vs. worshipers are children of God and have meaningful connections to the church.

Adjourn: Bernie Zimmermann moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:12 PM. Dick Rank seconded the motion and the council voted unanimously, 10-0, to approve the motion to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,
Carleen Melin, Church Council Secretary

Next Council Meeting:

February 15, 2024 at 6:30 PM, Community Room

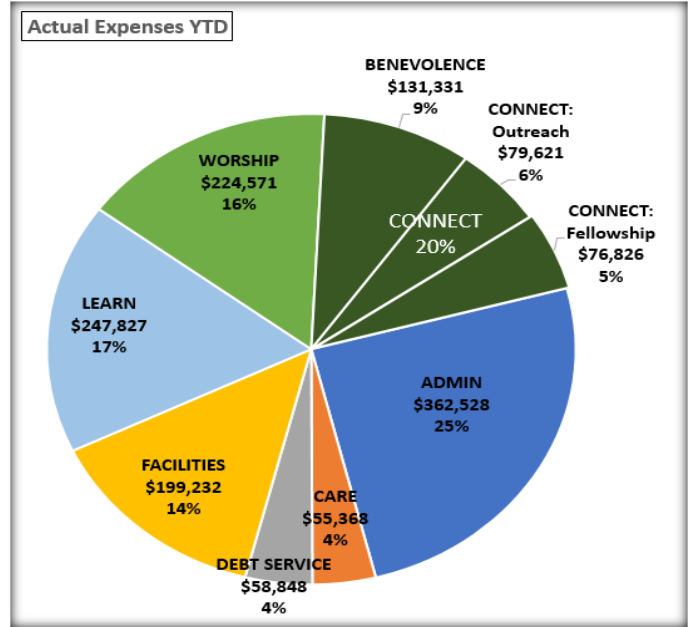
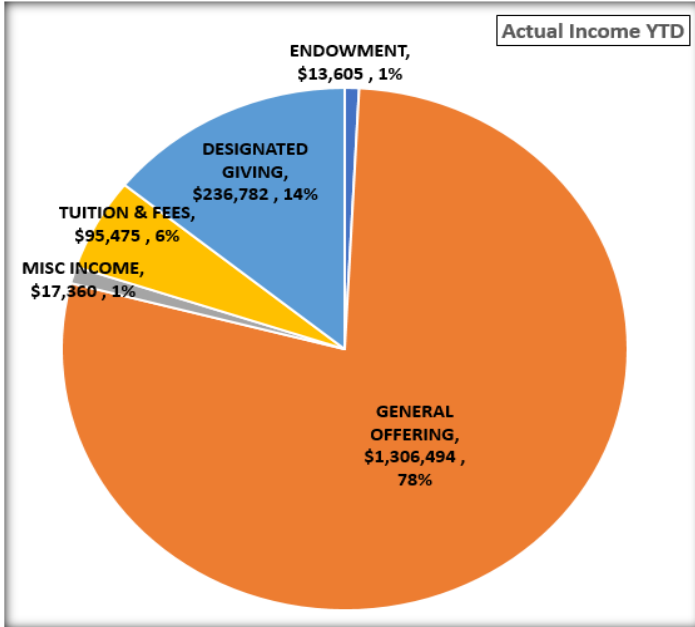
March 21, 2024 at 6:30 PM, Community Room

Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church

Financial Summary for Church Council
For the 6 months ending January 31, 2024

This Month					<u>General Fund</u>	Year to Date				
Actual	Prior Year	Variance	Budget	Variance		Actual	Prior Year	Variance	Budget	Variance
\$211,640	\$186,938	\$24,703	\$193,146	\$18,494	Income	\$1,323,854	\$1,726,722	(\$402,868)	\$1,322,732	\$1,122
\$12,146	\$18,423	(\$6,277)	\$18,650	(\$6,504)	Tuition/Fees	\$95,475	\$115,039	(\$19,564)	\$121,860	(\$26,385)
\$212,115	\$230,313	\$18,198	\$233,655	\$21,540	Expenses	\$1,297,618	\$1,451,915	\$154,297	\$1,438,167	\$140,549
\$11,672	(\$24,952)	\$36,624	(\$21,859)	\$33,530	Net	\$121,711	\$389,846	(\$268,134)	\$6,425	\$115,286

Income & Expenses (all funds) - actual YTD



Key Metrics

Total Fund Balances	Close of 7/31/2023	Close of 1/31/2024	YTD Increase (Decrease)	Minimum Balance	Above/(Below) Minimum
Designated	\$366,634	\$467,022	\$100,388	N/A	
Endowment	\$261,658	\$273,122	\$11,464	N/A	
General	\$863,981	\$961,846	\$97,865	\$472,000	\$489,846
TOTAL	\$1,492,274	\$1,701,991	\$209,717	\$472,000	\$489,846
Months of Cash (general fund)		4.07			
Key Assets & Liabilities	Balance on 7/31/2023	Balance end of Prior Month	Current Balance 1/31/2024	Monthly Incr/(Decr)	YTD Incr/(Decr)
Cash (incl. Endowment)	\$1,492,274	\$1,682,590	\$1,701,991	\$19,401	\$209,717
Investments (Vanguard)	\$261,658	\$270,815	\$273,122	\$2,307	\$11,464
Current Liabilities	\$23,866	(\$682)	\$20	\$702	(\$23,846)
Mortgage Balance	\$710,219	\$679,355	\$673,085	(\$6,270)	(\$37,134)
Current Liabilities Detail					
Accounts Payable	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	
FSA/VLI/Vision/Cobra	\$24	(\$682)	\$20	\$702	
Prepaid Income	\$23,843	\$0	\$0	\$0	
TOTAL	\$23,866	(\$682)	\$20		