

**SHEPHERD OF THE VALLEY LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**12650 JOHNNY CAKE RIDGE ROAD, APPLE VALLEY, MN 55124**  
**Minutes of Church Council Meeting**  
**Date: 12/14/2023**  
**On-Site Community Room**

**Attendees:**

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

Pastor Rick Summy  
Rachel Wermerskirchen  
Robin Robinson  
Shirl Alojado  
Merilu Narum  
Jennifer Davidson\*  
Alyssa Isaacs\* (absent)  
Kelsey Young\*

\*denotes non-voting member

**Call to Order:** President Melissa Taphorn called the meeting to order at 6:08 PM. Paul Moyer shared an opening prayer.

**Vision and Leadership Teams Reports:** Kelsey Young shared a CYF staff member is leaving the team. Have a candidate for Pre-K. Jennifer Davidson shared Call Committee has been taking a lot of time. Finance team member is leaving. Collaborating with staff on volunteer application process and incident reporting. Still working on safe and sick time for January 1 with payroll provider.

**Secretary's Report:** Bernie Zimmermann moved to approve the secretary's report of the Church Council meeting of November 16, 2023. Jon Hohenstein seconded the motion, and the council voted unanimously, 12-0, to approve the minutes of the November 16, 2023 Church Council meeting.

**Finance Report:** Jon Hohenstein moved to approve the November finance reports. Paul Moyer seconded the motion, and the council voted unanimously, 12-0, to approve the November finance reports.

Jennifer Davidson read the annual housing allowance for rostered and called leaders for the calendar year allocation. Jon Hohenstein moved to approve the annual housing allowance. Dick Rank seconded the motion, and the council voted unanimously, 12-0, to approve the annual housing allowance.

**Call Committee Update:** Melissa Taphorn shared 28 applications were received and reviewed by associate pastors and Executive Leadership Team. Names and applications were reviewed and discussed by council members. Bernie Zimmermann moved to approve the Call Committee. Robin Robinson seconded the motion. The council voted unanimously, 12-0, to approve the motion to approve the Call Committee. Jennifer Davidson will call each selected Call Committee member about selection and meeting dates in January. Commissioning of Call Committee will take place on January 21<sup>st</sup> at the 9:45 service. Will e-mail those not selected for the Call Committee.

**Interim Senior Pastor Update:** Associate Pastors and Executive Leadership Team had a Zoom meeting and met in-person with candidate yesterday. Hopeful to have this person start end of January.

**Adjourn:** Pastor Rick Summy moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:41 PM. Paul Moyer seconded the motion. The council voted unanimously, 12-0, to approve the motion to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,  
Carleen Melin, Church Council Secretary

**Next Council Meeting:**  
**January 18, 2024 at 6:30 PM, in-person, Community Room**