Hope Lutheran Church

Voters' Assembly Minutes

November 20, 2022

The regular meeting of the voters' assembly of Hope Lutheran Church was called to order on November 20, 2022, at 10:45 a.m. by the president, Christopher Becker; the secretary was present. A quorum was established; a list of voting members present is attached.

Christopher led the opening prayer.

It was moved by Gary Thinnes and seconded to accept Moira and Rodolpho Ferrer, Sophia Helmkamp, and Rebecca Reber into voting membership. Motion carried.

Headmaster Bryan Northcutt gave a brief report on positive developments in the school.

The July 24, 2022, minutes were approved as emailed and the September 18, 2022, minutes were approved as read.

The attached Board reports were received. During discussion of the reports, Bob Holzworth noted that we have a happy school, though it is challenged financially. Elliott's Color Box Media is marketing the school through various media. Nancy said that a dying tree in the northwest corner of the property was removed since the property report was written.

New Business

Peggy Ash moved adoption of the proposed 2023 church budget; motion carried.

Hope Lutheran Church 2023 Budget

Account	Budget 2022	Actuals thru Sept 2022	Proposed Budget 2023	% Change in Budget 2022 - 2023
Income	\$240,25 0.00	\$268,661.02	\$266,150.00	110.78%
Tithes and Offerings	\$220,000.00	\$231,474.90	\$250,000.00	113.64%
Weekly Offerings	\$220,000.00	\$231,474.90	\$250,000.00	113.64%
Other Church income	\$20,250.00	\$37,186.12	\$16,150.00	79.75%
Directed Offerings	\$15,000.00	\$35,286.87	\$15,000.00	100.00%
Interest Income	\$250.00	\$33.30	\$150.00	60.00%
Misc. Income	\$5,000.00	\$213.45	\$1,000.00	20.00%

Expense	\$344,955.00	\$290,704.02	\$346,685.00	100.50%
Finance And Administration	\$58,125.00	\$43,181.50	\$74,125.00	127.53%
Janitorial (5110)	\$10,500.00	\$8,750.00	\$10,500.00	100.00%
Utilities (5120)	\$12,000.00	\$7,080.00	\$12,000.00	100.00%
Insurance (5170)	\$8,500.00	\$7,790.00	\$8,500.00	100.00%
Telephone / Internet (5180)	\$4,200.00	\$3,171.86	\$4,200.00	100.00%
Postage (5130)	\$500.00	\$894.82	\$750.00	150.00%
Office Supplies (5140)	\$1,750.00	\$473.48	\$1,000.00	57.14%
Administration (5190)	\$1,000.00	\$789.82	\$1,000.00	100.00%
Property Taxes Paid (5195)	\$1,175.00	\$-	\$1,175.00	100.00%
LCEF Mortgage	\$9,000.00	\$9,680.67	\$9,500.00	105.56%
Mortgage Interest Paid (5196)	\$9,000.00	\$4,550.85	\$9,500.00	105.56%
Camp Perkins Assessment (5720)	\$500.00	\$-	\$1,000.00	200.00%
Day School Scholarships	\$-	\$-	\$15,000.00	0.00%

Board of Directors	\$5,000.00	\$485.65	\$3,000.00	60.00%
Advertising (5220)	\$3,000.00	\$485.65	\$1,000.00	33.33%
BOD Misc (5230)	\$1,000.00	\$-	\$1,000.00	100.00%
Safety Committee (5240)	\$1,000.00	\$-	\$1,000.00	100.00%
Properties	\$35,000.00	\$29,367.69	\$35,000.00	100.00%
Maintenance and Improvements (5310)	\$35,000.00	\$29,367.69	\$35,000.00	100.00%
Elders	\$16,600.00	\$8,644.05	\$13,850.00	83.43%
Worship Supplies (5410)	\$4,000.00	\$1,437.80	\$3,000.00	75.00%
Parish Education and Confirmation (5610)	\$500.00	\$597.28	\$1,750.00	350.00%
Book Allowance (5430)	\$100.00	\$65.99	\$100.00	100.00%
Conferences and Conventions (5440)	\$3,000.00	\$1,864.73	\$3,000.00	100.00%
Worship Accompanist (5450)	\$5,500.00	\$2,750.00	\$3,000.00	54.55%
District (5460)	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,500.00	150.00%
Elders Discretionary (5470)	\$1,500.00	\$250.00	\$1,500.00	100.00%
Outreach	\$2,700.00	\$542.50	\$2,700.00	100.00%
Evangelism Supplies (5510)	\$700.00	\$542.50	\$700.00	100.00%
Missionary Support (5520)	\$500.00	\$-	\$500.00	100.00%
VBS (5530)	\$1,500.00	\$-	\$1,500.00	100.00%
Youth	\$500.00	\$2,6 69.78	\$3,150.00	630.00%
Youth (5810)	\$500.00	\$2,669.78	\$3,150.00	630.00%
Fellowship	\$1,000.00	\$-	\$1,000.00	100.00%
Fellowship Expenses (5910)	\$1,000.00	\$-	\$1,000.00	100.00%
Salaries and Benefits	\$235,030.00	\$130,270.90	\$283,360.00	101.42%
Pastor Salary and Fuel	\$64,580.00	\$57,979.94	\$67,910.00	105.16%
Church Secretary Salary	\$15,450.00	\$13,362.70	\$15,450.00	100.00%
Church Benefits	\$50,000.00	\$26,601.28	\$50,000.00	100.00%
School Benefits	\$105,000.00	\$32,326.98	\$105,000.00	100.00%

Income less Expense \$(104,705.00) \$(22,043.00) \$(80,535.00) 76.92%

Jim Oloff, Director of the Board of Elders, read the names of people that the Elders have determined to have excluded themselves because they did not respond to phone calls, emails, or letters, could not be reached, or told us that they no longer wish to be members (this includes people now attending non-LCMS churches). Those not responding are JoAnn Bauer; Jan Baxter; Randy and Jill Crane; Douglas, Pam, Jessie, and Riley Felde; Heidi, Hailie, and David Hatt; Cale and Laura Rafferty; John, Jenny, Savannah, Jared, and Brooke Randolph; James, Lee Ann, Nickolaus, Eric, and Marko Sterbentz; Scott, Windy, and Dilynn Uhach; and Lauralee Vossler. Those requesting to be removed are David, Jenniffer, and Jackson Hentzen; Katherine Holmquist; Luke and Heather Lowe; David, Robert, and Parker Roth; Dustin, Amy, Traeley, Payton, and Conner Schwartz; and Michael Phelan.

It was moved by David Van Haaften and seconded that we nominate Rev. Dr. Matthew C. Harrison (MO) for LCMS President, Rev. Peter K. Lange (MO) for First Vice-President, and Rev. Dr. Scott Murray (TX) Regional Vice-President. Motion carried.

David Van Haaften moved, and it was seconded, that we continue the current arrangement with Pastor Pay serving Crown of Life and revisit this in the April voters meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 11:35 a.m. with the Lord's Prayer.

Myrtle Siefken, Secretary

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Officer, Board, and Committee Reports

Treasurer and Board of Finance

A status of Hope Lutheran's cash assets and liabilities is provided in the following table.

Cash Assets		
Church		
Checking		\$43,738.71
Spending		\$4,847.84
LCEF Building	а	\$19,698.22
Scholarship		\$417.41
Wealth Manag	ement ^b	\$123,727.65
	Total Church	\$192,429.83
School		
Checking		\$23,561.62
QB Checking		\$3,26 0.70
Spending		\$4,804.96
Savings		\$21,740.93
Early Childhoo	d grant operating	\$21,200.26
Booster		\$26,126.09
Scrip		\$940.86
Wealth Manag	ement ^c	\$397,955.65
Thrivent Mutua	al Funds ^d	\$90,814.56
	Total School	\$590,405.63
Liabilities		
LCEF Mortgage		\$167,447.12
	Total Liabilities	\$167,447.12

- a. LCEF account designated as building funds. November 12, 2017, voters minutes.
- b. Includes \$80K from sale of modulars "to be used for purchasing a permanent steel building." Voters minutes, May 15, 2016. The initial investment into the Wealth Management account in January 2020 included \$80,141.07 from sale of the modulars and \$23,365.40 labeled "Church Building Properties". Interest is prorated among the funds.
- c. Includes \$240,073 Phyllis Berry bequest.
- d. Two school endowment funds.

Church

The Chart of Accounts summarizes the church's unrestricted and restricted funds. The Income/Expense report compares actual financials to budget. Expenses paid through Restricted Donations for this quarter are summarized below.

- Hunter Chamberlain (Peterlin) Fundraiser \$5,370
- Security Fund: \$4,950 5 camera system around church and school
- Landscape Fund: \$2,945
- Vacation Bible School: \$2,807
- Golf Tournament: \$2,610 day school scholarships
- Properties Fund: \$2,425 rewiring sanctuary and classrooms
- LCMS Northwest District Fund: \$1,000
- Scholarship Fund: \$950 day school scholarships

Piano and Organ Fund: Organ repair and music - \$325

• IF Rescue Mission Fund: \$233

• Braille Fund: \$55

Chart of Account Balances, Hope Lutheran Church Jan 01, 2022, through Nov 3, 2022				
Account	Balance as of 2022-01-01	Balance as of 2022-11-3	Change %	
Assets	\$182,732.51	\$183,382.54	0.36%	
Checking Accounts	\$41,149.45	\$39,539.26	-3.91%	
Primary Checking (7528)	\$41,149.45	\$39,539.26	-3.91%	
Unrestricted (Primary Checking)	\$12,555.14	\$17,676.55	40.79%	
Benevolent Fund	\$287.74	\$37.74	-86.889	
Braille Fund	\$55.00	\$-	-100.00°	
Camp Perkins Scholarships	\$3,019.50	\$1,609.50	-46.70°	
Church Choir and Music Fund	\$1,259.69	\$861.46	-31.619	
Church Special Events	\$100.00	\$-	-100.009	
Day School Giving	\$9,265.00	\$1,755.00	-81.06°	
Day School Scholarship	\$(800.00)	\$875.00	-209.389	
District Donations	\$-	\$-	0.00	
Fellowship Fund	\$142.70	\$83.37	-41.58	
Golf Tournament	\$-	\$2,610.00	0.00	
LWML	\$10.00	\$-	-100.00	
LWML Mites	\$-	\$530.00	0.00	
Landscape Fund	\$2,875.08	\$3,059.85	6.43	
Missions Fund	\$360.00	\$2,876.55	699.04	
Peterlin Fundraiser	\$-	\$75.00	0.00	
Piano and Organ Fund	\$274.14	\$-	-100.00	
Praise Group	\$25.00	\$25.00	0.00	
Properties Fund	\$-	\$1,037.46	0.00	
Puerto Rico Missions Fund	\$75.00	\$1,221.00	1528.00	
Rescue Mission	\$	\$16.82	0.00	
Security System	\$3,902.86	\$102.86	-97.36	
Sunday School Fund	\$268.57	\$233.57	-13.03	
Thrivent Choice Dollars	\$-	\$142.00	0.00	
Vacation Bible School	\$2,592.57	\$393.07	-84.84	
William Ash Memorial Fund	\$930.00	\$-	-100.00	
Youth Fund and Gathering	\$3,951.46	\$4,317.46	9.26	
Savings Accounts	\$19,844.97	\$20,115.63	1.36	
LCEF Properties	\$19,663.38	\$19,698.22	0.189	
Scholarship (5275)	\$181.59	\$417.41	129.86	
Investment Accounts	\$121,738.09	\$123,727.65	1.639	
Bank of Idaho Trust Department	\$121,738.09	\$123,727.65	1.63°	
Liabilities	\$178,232.02	\$167,447.12	-6.059	
Long Term Liabilities	\$178,232.02	\$167,447.12	-6.05%	
LCEF Mortgage	\$178,232.02	\$167,447.12	-6.059	

Income & Expense, Hope Lutheran Church Jan 01, 2022, through Nov 3, 2022

Account	Budgets 2022	Actuals 2022	% of Budget
Income	\$240,250.00	\$324,850.75	135.21%
Tithes and Offerings	\$220,000.00	\$246,533.48	112.06%
Weekly Offerings	\$220,000.00	\$246,533.48	112.06%
Other Church income	\$20,250.00	\$39,517.50	195.15%
Directed Offerings	\$15,000.00	\$37,485.55	249.90%
Interest Income	\$250.00	\$52.00	20.80%
Misc. Income	\$5,000.00	\$327.45	6.55%
Scholarship Investment Income	\$-	\$1,652.50	0.00%
Giving to the School	\$-	\$38,799.77	0.00%
Pass Thru Giving	\$-	\$38,799.77	0.00%
Expense	\$344,955.00	\$315,405.38	91.43%
Finance and Administration	\$49,125.00	\$38,389.52	78.15%
Janitorial (5110)	\$10,500.00	\$9,625.00	91.67%
Utilities (5120)	\$12,000.00	\$8,436.00	70.30%
Insurance (5170)	\$8,500.00	\$8,140.00	95.76%
Telephone/Internet (5180)	\$4,200.00	\$3,523.42	83.89%
Postage (5130)	\$500.00	\$928.82	185.76%
Office Supplies (5140)	\$1,750.00	\$1,386.48	79.23%
Administration (5190)	\$1,000.00	\$821.90	82.19%
Property Taxes Paid (5195)	\$1,175.00	\$-	0.00%
Mortgage Interest Paid (5196)	\$9,000.00	\$5,027.90	55.87%
Camp Perkins Assessment (5720)	\$500.00	\$500.00	100.00%
Board of Directors	\$5,000.00	\$485.65	9.71%
Advertising (5220)	\$3,000.00	\$485.65	16.19%
BOD Misc (5230)	\$1,000.00	\$-	0.00%
SafetyCommittee(5240)	\$1,000.00	\$-	0.00%
Properties	\$35,000.00	\$30,023.44	85.78%
Maintenance and Improvements (5310)	\$35,000.00	\$30,023.44	85.78%
Elders	\$16,600.00	\$10,109.60	60.90%
Worship Supplies (5410)	\$4,000.00	\$1,894.41	47.36%
Parish Education Expenses (5610)	\$500.00	\$707.22	141.44%
Confirmation (5420)	\$500.00	\$727.25	145.45%
Book Allowance (5430)	\$100.00	\$65.99	65.99%
Conferences and Conventions (5440)	\$3,000.00	\$1,939.73	64.66%
Worship Accompanist (5450)	\$5,500.00	\$2,750.00	50.00%
District (5460)	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	100.00%
Synod and District Support (5465)	\$500.00	\$500.00	100.00%
Elders Discretionary (5470)	\$1,500.00	\$525.00	35.00%
Outreach	\$2,700.00	\$566.61	20.99%
Evangelism Supplies (5510)	\$700.00	\$566.61	80.94%
Missionary Support (5520)	\$500.00	\$-	0.00%
VBS (5530)	\$1,500.00	\$-	0.00%
Youth	\$500.00	\$2,863.76	572.75%
Youth (5810)	\$500.00	\$2,863.76	572.75%
Fellowship	\$1,000.00	\$-	0.00%
Fellowship Expenses (5910)	\$1,000.00	\$-	0.00%

School Giving	\$-	\$51,386.77	0.00%
School Giving Pass Thru (6000)	\$-	\$51,386.77	0.00%
Donations Expense	\$-	\$37,190.60	0.00%
Salaries and Benefits	\$235,030.00	\$144,389.43	61.43%
Pastor Salary and Fuel	\$64,580.00	\$63,301.60	98.02%
Church Secretary Salary	\$15,450.00	\$15,370.83	99.49%
Church Benefits	\$50,000.00	\$29,479.38	58.96%
School Benefits	\$105,000.00	\$36,237.62	34.51%
Income less Expense	\$(104,70<u>5</u>.00)	\$9,445.37	-9.02%

Church Financial Review Transmittal Email from Grace Ruiz

Sep 5, 2022

Good evening all,

Attached is the report for the review of Hope Lutheran Church's books for 2021. The report includes a summary report and attachments with detail review information, improvements noted, and status of 2020 recommendations and 2021 recommendations. The financial team has made significant improvements to the financial processes. In summary, other than the impacts of the following, balances have been reviewed and no other issues were identified:

- 1. Adjustments were needed to reconcile 2020 and prior year transactions.
- 2. Adjustments related to 2021 identified during the review were made in 2022 general ledger without making accrual entries in 2021.

I would like to express my appreciation to Whitney and Jamie for their assistance and patience during the review.

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

God's Blessings,

Grace

School

The Income/Expense report compares actual financials to budget. Designated donations spent to date are summarized below.

- Catalyst Grant: \$5,067 spent on technology
- INVEST Mentoring: \$520 spent for Headmaster mentoring
- Veritas Books: \$671 library additions

Hope Lutheran School
Budget vs. Actuals: 2022/2023 School Year - FY23 P&L
July 2022 - June 2023

July 2022	July 2022 - June 2023					
	Actual	Budget	% of Budget			
Revenue	400.000					
1000 School Tuition & Fee Revenue	\$82,353.56	\$277,990.00	29.62%			
1100 Registration	\$2,400.00	\$9,150.00	26.23%			
1200 Tuition (EC)	\$19,657.00	\$90,450.00	21.73%			
1210 Tuition (K)	\$8,228.47	\$53,100.00	15.50%			
1220 Tuition (1st-6th)	\$40,073.51	\$93,850.00	42.70%			
1300 Extended Care	\$1,595.00	\$7,500.00	21.27%			
1400 Lunch Fees	\$2,264.35	\$8,450.00	26.80%			
1420 Milk Fees		\$1,200.00	0.00%			
1460 Book Order	\$(100.00)					
1480 Late Fee	\$(140.00)					
1500 Summer Program Tuition & Fees	\$8,375.23	\$14,290.00	58.61%			
2000 Donations	\$25,072.77	\$105,000.00	23.88%			
2100 Undesignated-Don.	\$12,894.00	\$78,000.00	16.53%			
2200 Designated-Don.	\$12,178.77	\$12,000.00	101.49%			
2300 Student Scholarships		\$15,000.00	0.00%			
3000 Grant Income	\$42,970.00	\$93,500.00	45.96%			
4000 Spread Spectrum Lease	\$4,000.00	\$12,000.00	33.33%			
4100 Interest Income Earned	\$21.50					
4900 Pass Through Revenue	\$65,514.77	\$172,245.36	38.04%			
Total Revenue	\$219,932.60	\$660,735.36	33.29%			
Expenditures						
1 School CC Pass Through	\$250.07					
5000 Payroll Expenses	\$178,044.85	\$413,670.38	43.04%			
5100 Salaries	\$89,209.05	\$160,000.00	55.76%			
5200 Wages	\$49,603.84	\$178,000.00	27.87%			
5500 Benefits-School Contribution	\$21,440.48	\$33,000.00	64.97%			
5550 Employer Taxes	\$8,743.16	\$30,000.00	29.14%			
5600 Continuing Education	\$3,105.94	\$1,500.00	207.06%			
5700 Workmans Comp	\$2,472.00	\$7,700.00	32.10%			
6000 School Expenses	\$22,268.76	\$52,548.00	42.38%			
6100 Software Cost	\$2,044.48	\$7,998.00	25.56%			
6200 Classroom Supplies	\$2,632.20	\$6,500.00	40.50%			
6300 Curriculum	\$6,271.70	\$7,000.00	89.60%			
Total 6400 Lunch Program	\$5,390.20	\$13,650.00	39.49%			
6600 Technology Equipment	\$5,930.18	\$17,400.00	34.08%			
7000 Office/General Administrative Expenditures	\$37,339.37	\$61,330.00	60.88%			
Total 7100 Business	\$3,428.44	\$4,700.00	72.95%			
7200 Business Equipment	\$6,345.64	\$2,500.00	253.83%			
7300 Postage	\$187.35	\$950.00	19.72%			
7400 Office Supplies	\$476.26	\$2,000.00	23.81%			
7500 Advertising	\$10,106.30	\$13,200.00	76.56%			
7600 Janitorial Services	\$13,125.00	\$31,500.00	41.67%			
7650 Janitorial Supplies	\$2,632.60	\$4,000.00	65.82%			

7700 Maintenance Contracts	\$160.00	\$480.00	33.33%
7800 Transportation	\$877.78	\$2,000.00	43.89%
Total Expenditures	\$237,903.05	\$527,548.38	45.10%
Net Operating Revenue	\$(17,970.45)	\$133,186.98	-13.49%
Net Revenue	\$(17,970.45)	\$133,186.98	-13.49%

Hope Lutheran School Financial Review Report for January-June 2022

The school finances for the 2022 6-month fiscal year were reviewed by Melody Rosenwinkel. Bank statements, QuickBooks (our tracking software), and hardcopy files were examined. The files were found to be in good shape. Her questions/comments were resolved, and she submitted her final report to the Board of Directors. A big thank you to Melody. Her final report is printed below.

First let me say, thank you all for serving our Lord in this capacity. I am in no position to do what you do and in no way do I want to pick things apart. You are appreciated.

January started with the offages that were found in the 2021 review. Some of these were from 2020 and some from 2021. The last of these offages were corrected this week. I just looked at June again and it does balance with only the current outstanding items.

I see QuickBooks has a reconcile tab to match your books to the bank records. Does this give you a list of outstanding items? If it doesn't you may want to physically balance the bank account to the bank statement to know the outstanding items so you can do something about them and not let them carry over for a long period of time. Paper still works and you can make notes on it.

I asked about the duplicate payments made to TADS and Concordia in 2021 and they are being worked on. I do not see any adjustments to either of these companies and they are still being paid each month. Maybe, I'm incorrect about the payments??

I found the files in good shape. There is a breakdown for each month which I will give to Whitney and Jamie. If any of you want copies, I will send them. Each month has missing documentation but nothing critical.

January, February, March and April have some payroll weirdness. Some of the pay stubs do not match what was entered in QuickBooks and on the bank statements. QuickBooks and statements match. There are no notes as to why the differences. I questioned what the taxes were based on since the amounts are different.

April has an email stating that some of the staff have been approved for bonuses but the bonuses do not match the email. There have been bonuses paid during the year with no notes. I do not know what the process is for giving bonuses.

I have been in touch with Whitney about all of these and she is checking into it. She, Jamie and Ed are going to sit down and go through the folders to see what is missing and what needs to be corrected.

There is no budget entered for this time period so I could not compare that, however it is set up for July 2022 – June 2023 school year.

Blessings as you serve Him,

Melody Rosenwinkel

208-317-0132 melodylwml@silverstar.com September 30, 2022

Board of Elders

- 1. Average Church Attendance for July-October 2022: 87.2 per Sunday, one service 9:30 a.m.
- 2. Gains in Membership
 - Aaron, Maureen, Helena Miaullis: profession of faith
 - Susan Sampson: transfer
 - Hannah Howard, sons Bruce and Luke, transfer
 - Sophia Helmkamp: transfer
 - Virginia Obenchain: transfer
 - Autumn Taylor: baptism
- 3. Loss in Membership
 - Daniel Oloff: transfer
- 4. Worship Schedule
 - Advent 2022: St. John Lutheran, soup supper and worship on Wednesday evenings
 - Christmas Eve, Saturday December 24: Hope 4:00 p.m., Crown of Life 6:00 p.m., Hope 8:00 p.m.
 - Christmas Day, Sunday December 25: Bible Class, Sunday School, 8:30 a.m., Worship, 9:30 a.m.
- 5. Hope Lutheran continues to support the ministry of Crown of Life, Rigby during their time of transition.
- 6. Self-Exclusion membership list is final and will be presented for voters' approval on November 20. Pr. Pay explains the process of developing this list in the letter below.

James Oloff Director, Board of Elders

Dear Members of Hope.

You may or may not be aware, but the Board of Elders does yearly outreach to "absentee" members - those we haven't seen around in Church in a while. These outreaches generally consist of letters, emails, or phone calls welcoming folks and families back to Church - not as a guilt trip, but because we miss them and want them to know they are welcome.

There are some people, however, that either gave no response, are unable to be reached, or have told us that they no longer wish to be members. Their names fall into the category of "self exclusion." Please note this is different than "excommunication," where the Church formally removes someone against their will. "Self exclusion" is when the member by their word or inactivity (or sometimes simply moving away) has, if we are honest, made themselves "not a member" anymore.

The list of names is entirely made up of people who fall into these categories. They have either moved and not joined an LCMS congregation (so we cannot transfer them), or they have told us they no longer wish to be a member, or they have no desire or intention to come back, or we have heard no response over the years, or we have no contact information for them even after searching.

It is, of course, never fun to declare someone "not a member," but the elders are commending this list to you simply out of a desire to be honest and to be able to better serve the people who do join with us to receive the gifts of God. Each person on this list has received multiple calls, or emails this year, and each has received a letter welcoming them back and notifying them that their name is up for self exclusion if we hear no response.

If you have reason to believe a person or family should remain in membership please voice that opinion at the Voter's Meeting once you see the list; the elders are happy to discuss it. We commend the list to you that the names be removed from official membership, even as we still officially welcome them to worship with us, and we pray for God's richest blessings in Christ to be theirs.

God bless, Pastor Pay and the Board of Elders

Day School

Hope Lutheran School has added many new elementary students this year. Although our enrollment sits at about 55, these new families are active, engaged, and excited about our school and Classical Education. Growth will come by communicating to our community the quality we offer our families. We have students developing academic skills that surpass what we have been able to accomplish in the past and students who value the Christian perspective we teach. The extensiveness of our teaching integrates and exalts Christ. Our increasing quality has been supplemented by advice from other successful institutions that have come by our side to instruct us on how to improve further and succeed. We are excited about the future prospects that will come through our commitment to excellence and our valuable staff and curriculum.

Our library and classrooms have been enhanced to contain educational fiction and non-fiction that will develop the intellect and mature the character toward Goodness, Beauty, Justice, Respect, Order, Unity, Diligence, and Honesty. These Great Ideas are reinforced when reading the Great Books. Additionally, having obtained the Catalyst Grant, we are working towards creating a hybrid program that will reach out to our community and beyond, which we hope to develop into a middle school program in the near future. We are so grateful for the congregational support and reliant on it. It is through your prayers, giving, time, and moral support that we can carry on this ministry to reach the unchurched people of our community and educate the Christian children to grow into wiser, more capable citizens.

Board of Outreach

A food drive was conducted from October 24th through November 18th.

We are sharing a table at the Holiday Fair with the school and providing free outreach gifts.

In December – January we plan to collect hats and gloves and attach McDonalds coupons so church members can hand them out to people on street corners begging for money. We will ask for donations for these items.

Candidate mission projects to receive donated funds are still being investigated.

Board of Youth Ministry

Plans were made in August with Pastor and parents for the youth during the school year, 2022-2023.

"The Next Chapter" youth group led by Morgan and Jacob Pralle with students from Hope, St. John, and Crown of Life has been meeting most Mondays. Attendance varies from 4 students to

17. Bible Study, games, going to the corn maze, and carving pumpkins are some of the activities.

Five youth were trained in October to acolyte. A schedule is being followed for worship services.

Young people helped set up and take down the Holiday Fair.

Board of Property

Property Committee Members:

- Nancy Carlson Chair
- Dave Van Haaften tree & shrub care and knowledge of plumbing
- Kurt Pavlat general fixing & Day School needs
- Blake Cook electrician
- Noel Duckwitz sprinkler & grounds guru and knowledge expert on building systems
- Dave Nell working knowledge of building and general fixing skills
- Rosie Pavlat kitchen

Front of church:

Top Notch Landscaping completed the river rock placement. Noel and Cathy Duckwitz filled the planters with beautiful plants. Thanks to all who worked on this year-long project and supported it financially.

Safety/Security systems

- Peak Alarm installed a five-camera security system camera at each of the three doors
 with fob readers and two cameras in the school east-west hallway. The Safety
 Committee paid for the camera system. Property is paying the yearly maintenance fee.
- Prevent Fire completed fire extinguishers inspection and all 11 passed. Tags updated to reflect 2022 inspection.
- All CO monitors, emergency lights, and exit signs were checked on Fall Work Day; all are operational.

School upgrades

- <u>Playground maintenance:</u> Swings are completely refreshed with new hardware and swing seats. Cost was covered by PTO and Property.
- <u>Library/classroom upgrades</u>: Holden Electric upgraded the electrical system in the library. The library room is now used as a classroom in the mornings and for library research two afternoons a week; thus, overhead lighting needed to be upgraded and adequate electrical outlets installed.
- <u>Library non-fiction volume collection organized:</u> Books are organized per Dewey Decimal system into major categories for grades 3 6 student use. A separate bookcase for storybooks and non-fiction easy readers was established and organized for K-Grade 2. This completes the major commitments by Property to enhance library space for classroom and library research use. Many volunteer hours went into this effort!
- <u>Grade 3-4 and Grade 5-6 classroom transformation:</u> Project completed with professionally painted rooms, upgraded electrical, TV monitors, and new white boards Funds came from a combination of individual donations, Property and PTO funds.

General exterior building and ground maintenance

Since July the following major interior and exterior building/grounds activities were completed, this includes work done on Fall Work Day.

- Exterior south- and west-facing windows wrapped by Arrow Fencing and Siding to save wood and improve appearance.
- A-1 Pest Control continues to work with us to reduce the weeds in the fenced grounds and keep grass well fed.
- First Street Plumbing keeps our elderly plumbing and sewer system clog free they provide nearly real-time unplugging service. The west side exterior faucet was replaced and a new shut-off valve installed.
- Furnace filters in cold air returns were checked and dirty filters replaced on Fall Work Day.
- Holden Electric checked and cleaned the interior of our furnaces over the school fall break. Some were very clogged with layers and layers of dust and dirt that accumulated over many years. We should see better performance and lower utility bills now that the furnaces can breathe again. Additionally, Holden Electric prepared cost estimates for adding cooling-condenser units to two existing propane furnaces and replacing the SE gym older electric furnace with a new propane heating and AC unit.
- Our sprinkler system covering the grass footprint is reaching end-of-life with continual need to repair failing heads and lines. The sprinkler line that waters the spruce trees on 12th Street and in the island by the flagpole must be repaired as the system is leaking at the main valve in the center exit in front of the main doors. We limped along this summer with Noel's assistance, but this must be fixed in the spring. Noel had the system blown out for winter and prepared the mowers for the winter removed batteries to trickle charge over the winter and prepped gasoline. Spring will be a costly time for our sprinkler system. Bottom line our sprinkler system is old and needs to be redone which will cost \$\$!
- Even with bad weather on Fall Work Day a volunteer crew lead by Dave Van Haaften trimmed deciduous trees in front of the church. Due to poor weather conditions, the team primarily focused on trimming limbs in poor health and those touching the building, fascia, and/or roof. The balance of the trimming will occur either later this fall or in the spring.
- Blake Cook installed an LED wall-mount exterior light by the east side gym door on Fall Work Day. This completes the conversion of all exterior lights by doors to wall mount LED fixtures.

HLCS insurance policy renewed

Property, with the assistance of several members, did a complete inventory of the building contents in advance of our October 1st renewal date. And Property requested our insurance agent at Archibald Leavitt, Tyler Seymour, to prepare a new building valuation to align our coverage with the true building value. Our new insurance policy covers \$4,024,283 for building and \$480,000 for contents; thus, right sizing our replacement costs with current inventory and valuation.

Snow removal

All-Star RV Repair was contacted to confirm that our parking lot plowing is on their schedule for this winter. We are!

Strategic Planning Committee

The Strategic Planning Committee (SPC) has met several times since the July voters meeting to craft four options for the congregation to review and comment on. These four options were provided to the congregation via an open forum on October 23rd after worship. Prior to the forum, the options were emailed to all congregational members with hard copies also available. The four options consist of the following:

Option #1, Multi-purpose Building

Option #2, Classroom Building

Option #3, Pavilion

Option #4, Upgrade and Remodel Current Building

Currently, the options are available for comment and are located on tri-fold displays in the entryway just east of the sanctuary. The SPC will meet again towards the end of the month to evaluate the comments that the congregation has provided.

Upon meeting as a committee and evaluating the comments, the SPC will provide recommendations to the Board of Directors for moving forward. Based on some comments already received, it is possible that another forum will be conducted to further hear from the congregation and refine the options. Once the options are refined, the voters will be asked to vote on an option to implement.

Respectfully submitted, Kurt Pavlat SPC Chair

Safety Committee

Since the last voters' meeting, it was determined by the Safety Committee that it currently does not have the resources, in terms of personnel, to maintain the dedicated teams that were outlined in the policy manual. It was decided that the committee will continue to be an advisory committee to the Board of Directors to provide suggestions for improvements for the safety and security of all members. As part of this mission, the committee is planning to provide training to members in areas such as first aid, CPR, emergency preparedness, and verbal de-escalation. The committee plans to review the Emergency Operation Plan (EOP) for the school and draft an Emergency Operation Plan for the church.

Pastor's Report

I want to thank you all for the encouragement, service, and prayers you offer me and the saints here at Hope Lutheran. Thank you for the hearty welcomes to our new members, thank you for taking time and looking for opportunities to plug in, make relationships, and serve, but most of all, thank you for coming to receive the Gospel gifts that God has for you in Word and Sacrament!

My family is doing well and we want to have you all out to the new house to let you see the progress and thank you for helping us move - we couldn't have done it without you!

I am still serving at Crown of Life. I have enjoyed serving them and love how eager they are to learn more about God's Word and serve the community. It has been busy; I think I have done 6

funerals there in 6 months. But they are celebrating the Crown of Life Jesus won for them and their brothers and sisters who have been called to the Church Triumphant. The Call process has been greatly delayed by President Linnemann's new burden of caring for his wife as she goes through Cancer treatment (Please pray for Cindy!). However, their head elder has now began taking his first theological classes and is seriously considering taking a path to the ministry. Please pray for Kory and his family, that this might be a way the Lord will raise up a Pastor for Crown of Life.

As part of our ministry to Shut-ins, I am taking on a new Bible class at Lincoln Court and am considering hosting a Christmas Caroling outing for the nearby nursing homes. Please let me know if you are interested in some singing sometime in December.

Speaking of December... Advent services will be at St. John this year and we invite you to join us there for soup suppers and for some time in a busy season to remember the gift our Lord gives us in His Son.

As for activities at Hope, I thank you all for your support in our many music ministries, our Food Bank support, Rescue Mission ministries, and, of course, our school. I am so thankful to Kurt and Bryan for their work in our school and I truly believe we have a great product and a team that longs to share the love of Jesus with the students. Please continue to pray for and spread the word about our school.

I commend to you all the work of the Strategic Planning Committee. Please be thinking about our continued legacy in this community. Are we brave enough to build? Can God bless that? Could it be a blessing to us and provide better opportunities for us to have fellowship, classes, meetings? This could be the time to grow our ministry. Similarly, what staff could we use to help us reach out to school and community families?

We, of course, don't know how God will use us at Hope, but we do know his promised outcome for his people and his Church - victory through the death and resurrection of Jesus! So let us move forward not with "a spirit of fear and timidity, but with power, love, and self control."

Thanks be to God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Pastor Pay