

## Treasurer's Financial Report

### St. John's June 2024

St. John's June YTD overall financial figures are similar to May's YTD numbers.

I don't see any significant areas of concern through June.

Total Operating Income is (\$2k) below budget for June and (\$72k) below budget YTD.

- Offering:
  - o June offering was \$7k above budget.
  - o YTD offering is (\$31k) below budget.
  - o Even though 2024 offering actuals through June are (\$31k) below budget they are still \$85k higher than the 2023 offering actuals were through June.
  - o Also, about \$300k has been received so far this year for the Sustaining Grace capital campaign.
  
- Other Income
  - o Besides the offering shortfalls mentioned in the section above, the remaining difference from budget is primarily due to the lack of funds requested and released from the Designated and Foundation Funds.

Total Operating Expenses are (\$10k) below budget for the month of June and (\$69k) below budget YTD.

- The greatest budget variances in June are for: Personnel (\$6k) and Property and Grounds (\$5k) are below budget for the month.
- The areas of below budget expenses YTD are similar: Personnel (\$24k), Benevolence (\$10k) and Property and Grounds (\$24k) and Other Expenses (\$12k)

Net Income/(loss)

- The Net Income for the month of June was \$10K above budget and YTD is (\$3k) below budget.
- There doesn't appear to be any areas of concern through June.

**Congregational Council**  
St. John's Lutheran Church  
June 25, 2024

**Members:** Pr. Pam Fickenscher, Pr. Jonathan Davis, Ellen Ellickson, Jill Enestvedt, Dan Franklin, Daniel Hanson, Andrea Hoff, Tamara Jackman, Eric Johnsrud, Judd Lohmann, Elaine Nesbit, Rob Quanbeck, Alli Walters Mode, Michelle Kramer-Prevost

**Present:** Pr. Pam Fickenscher, Ellen Ellickson, Jill Enestvedt, Dan Franklin, Daniel Hanson, Judd Lohmann, Elaine Nesbit, Michelle Kramer-Prevost, Rob Quanbeck, Alli Walters Mode, Pr. Jonathan Davis, Tamara Jackman

**Not present:** Andrea Hoff, Eric Johnsrud

**Meeting was called to order at 7:03pm.**

1. Opening: Dan Franklin opened us in prayer.
2. Motion to approve the May 28, 2024 Council Minutes made by Judd Lohmann; the motion was seconded by Jill Enesvedt; the motion passed unanimously.
3. Financial Report by Judd Lohmann, Treasurer
  - a. No change in YTD from the previous month.
  - b. Offering below budget but higher in overall offering from last year at this time.
  - c. \$390,000 in cash has come in for Sustaining Grace.
  - d. June is 5 weeks which may help offering total.
  - e. Designated funds have not been requested or spent yet.
4. Council Updates and Action Items
  - a. Staff Anniversary Celebrations
    - i. Stewardship had been planning to take on staff appreciation.
    - ii. Jill Enesvedt agreed to consult about how to proceed and work on it with the Stewardship Board.
5. Sustaining Grace Surplus Funds
  - a. How to decide where to use the surplus sustaining grace funds
    - i. A core group is needed to receive requests and make decisions
    - ii. Dan Hanson offered to make a list of Property and Grounds priorities.
    - iii. The portion designated for benevolence needs to be decided as well.
    - iv. Business Management would be involved in the disbursement of the funds.
  - b. A small group will be created including representatives from several boards (Property and Grounds, Business Management, an individual from the Sustaining Grace

campaign, etc.) Dan Franklin asked the board chairs to bring the invitation to their boards for possible members of that group. Keep in mind the theme of sustainability and safety.. The goal is to have a pool of names by the July council meeting.

6. The need for St. John's Bans Guns Signage
  - a. We have been questioned about signage since we are a polling place. Dan Hanson has researched specific requirements of the sign which have expired. Other churches do not have the sign posted. We discussed whether we want or need a sign, and whether the sign needs to be up during election time or year round.
  - b. It was decided that it is important to display the sign during the election as we are a polling site. There are also other events where it may be judicious to display the sign. We agreed that it is not necessary and perhaps not desirable to have the sign on the doors always.
  - c. The staff agreed to be in charge of deciding when to display the sign. Prs. Pam and Jonathan will make the sign. **St. John's bans guns on these premises.**
7. Youth Ministry and Education suggests release of Foundation funds to support temporary need at the KEY.
  - a. Youth Ministry would like to discuss release of Foundation funds to support short term funding for the mental health position with The Key in the \$10,000-15,000 range. Several questions were raised regarding the request.
    - i. How does the KEY plan to continue funding for this position?
    - ii. Are there other churches being considered for this need?
    - iii. Is this a possible priority for the benevolence portion of the SG surplus? We need a formal request for that to be considered by the decision making group.
  - b. Tamara will get the necessary information from the Union of Youth.
8. Scholarships to Students
  - a. Michelle moved to release ELC Scholarship funds to be divided between St. John's ELC college students. Judd seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
9. Pastors' Reports
  - a. Prs. Pam and Jonathan summarized:
    - i. VBS went well, 25 attended.
    - ii. The canoe trip is coming up. (Forty people signed up, 34 youth and 6 adults including UCC and St. Peters).
    - iii. Pam has returned from Holden Village (concluding her twelve years on the board there). Jonathan will be gone for two weeks, a week of vacation followed by the canoe trip. Nathan will be gone until July 11.
    - iv. Julie and Steve are working on the flooring for the basement.
    - v. There have been many funerals lately. We appreciate the help from Angie, who is doing a great job.

- vi. Pub Theology has been robust and well attended.
- vii. The staff is working on supervisory reviews. They have begun staff lunches for increased social connection.

10. Board Reports (included in materials submitted)

- a. Faith and Health Board:
  - i. Trainings for AED  
Staff was trained in January (every two years for CPR and AED). Planning to be continued as to how and when to do the AED training and Narcan training are made available for the congregation.
  - ii. Grief support group and caregiver support group would be valuable. Keep in mind.
  - iii. The Sacred Sights tour was wonderful.
  - iv. Kristin would like volunteers for healing prayers after communion.
- b. Adult Ministry and Education Board: Response to summer suppers signup has been “underwhelming.” The board will reach out to the new members who had requested more social connection. Highlight the deadline, Pr. Pam suggested.
- c. Stewardship Board: New dates for Ministry fair: Sunday, September 22 and Wednesday September 25.
- d. Youth Ministry and Education Board: Kristin Parlow is taking kids to the food shelf every Thursday to volunteer.
- e. Children’s Ministry and Education Board: Many children in our programs are experiencing ambiguous loss and grief. They could use support in this area.
- f. Property and Grounds/Worship and Arts Boards: Accessibility of the Choir Loft
  - i. A stairlift had been discussed last council meeting and presumed not doable. Suzanne is looking into the viability. Pam reminded us that it has been researched before and found to be very complicated and prohibitively expensive.
  - ii. Other related suggestions made: A fire drill for the choir; The choir periodically sings from the main floor. Worship and Arts will discuss.

11. New Business/Old Business

- a. Brief update on Solar Panel Insurance: There are complications with the insurance company. The panels will remain the property of AllEnergy until we make our final payment. This allows some time to look into the insurance issue. (We are covered for liability regardless).

Book Discussion: Chapter 4 of When Church Stops Working. **We will discuss Chapter 5 next month**

**Future dates:**

**Next Board Night:** Tuesday, July 9, 7pm

**Next Church Council Meeting:** Tuesday, July 23, 7pm

**Dan Franklin closed the meeting at 8:45pm.**

Respectfully submitted by Elaine Nesbit