

**SHEPHERD OF THE VALLEY LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**12650 JOHNNY CAKE RIDGE ROAD, APPLE VALLEY, MN 55124**  
**Minutes of Church Council Meeting**  
**Date: 4/18/2024**  
**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  
Pastor Peter Harrits\*

Pastor Rob Carlson  
Rachel Wermerskirchen (absent)  
Robin Robinson  
Shirl Alojado  
Merilu Narum  
Jennifer Davidson\*  
Alyssa Isaacs\*  
Kelsey Young\*  
\*denotes non-voting member

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

**Book Study:** Kelsey Young guided the council through a discussion of Chapter 6 of the book *Growing Young: Six Essential Strategies to Help Young People Discover and Love Your Church*. Council will discuss the Chapters 7 and 8 in May.

**Vision and Leadership Teams Reports:** Highlighted a few decisions that have been made: no Christmas Craft Boutique and reimagined Lenten fellowship/soup lunches. Online viewership data is being reviewed and analyzed. Bernie Zimmermann moved to engage in the Stewardship for All Seasons and make the financial commitment. Paul Moyer seconded the motion, and the council voted unanimously, 11-0, to engage in the Stewardship for All Seasons and make the financial commitment.

**Secretary's Report:** The council reviewed the minutes to the March 21, 2024 Council Meeting. Jon Hohenstein moved to approve the secretary's report of the Church Council meeting of March 21, 2024. Dick Rank seconded the motion, and the council voted unanimously, 11-0, to approve the minutes of the March 21, 2024 Church Council meeting.

**Call Process:** Paul Moyer shared brief updates regarding the call process. The call committee began going through the MSP. He noted there is much trust and camaraderie amongst the call committee members.

**Finance Report:** Dick Rank provided an overview of the March financials. Reported expenses are down and actual is better than budget. Discussion around upgrades/replacements that are needed (AV in rooms 20-22, sprinklers in sanctuary around organ work timeframe for bidding and HVAC is being bid). List of items that need replacing was requested for finance meeting April 30<sup>th</sup>. Jon Hohenstein moved to approve the March finance reports. Shirl Alojado seconded the motion, and the council voted unanimously, 11-0, to approve the March finance reports.

**Nominations:** Merilu Narum presented Emily Bremer for HR Leadership Team. Melissa Taphorn moved to approve Emily Bremer for HR Leadership Team. Bernie Zimmermann seconded the motion and the council voted unanimously, 11-0, to approve Emily Bremer for HR Leadership Team.

**New Business:** Synod Assembly is May 10 and 11, council received an e-mail invitation. May 11 is the opportunity to vote.

**Adjourn:** Jon Hohenstein moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:14 PM. Melissa Taphorn seconded the motion. The council voted unanimously, 11-0, to approve the motion to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,  
Carleen Melin, Church Council Secretary

**Upcoming Meetings:**

**May 16, 2024 at 6:30 PM, in-person Council Meeting, Community Room**

**June 9, 2024 at noon, in-person Congregational Meeting, Sanctuary**

**June 20, 2024 at 6:30 PM, in-person Council Meeting, Community Room**

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

