

Ascension Lutheran Church – Voter’s Meeting Minutes

Littleton, Colorado

Sunday April 28, 2024

Call to Order:

Meeting called to order at 12:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall of Ascension Lutheran Church (ALC) by the President.

Opening Prayer:

Pastor John Larson offered an opening prayer.

Approval of Agenda

Approval of Agenda and Minutes

December 3, 2023, minutes were approved unanimously.

Pastor’s Report:

Pastor’s Report – Membership Changes

Date	Baptized Members	Communicant Members	Average Weekend Attendance *
1/1/2023	533	483	195 (40%)
1/1/2024	509	458	220 (48%)
Change	(24)	(25)	25 (+8%)

* The percentage of Communicant Members attending service on average. Some attendees may be guests.

Pastor’s Report

Changes in Communicant Members (down 25)

#	Description
-19	Deaths
-10	Transfers to other congregations
-15	Removed due to inactivity
<u>+19</u>	New members added (9 transfers)
-25	

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Pastor’s Report – Growing God’s Kingdom

During 2023:

- Baptized 12 children
- Confirmed 7 adults and 4 youth

Increased On-line Presence:

- We averaged 213 views for a weekend in 2023 compared to 150 views in 2022
- Reaching individuals around the world
- Questions

Treasurer’s Report:

Ascension Lutheran Church Statement of Income and Expenses For the Year Ended December 31, 2023		<u>Expenses</u>	
<u>Income</u>		Stewardship	73,000
Contributions	\$ 730,000	Elders	338,000
Facility Receipts	2,000	Trustees	186,000
Project Peter	14,000	Social Ministry	5,000
Bank Interest/Fees	9,000	Youth	3,000
		Evangelism	1,000
		Education	18,000
			624,000
	755,000	Increase in Assets	\$ 131,000

Ascension Lutheran Church Cash Balance As of December 31, 2023	
Chase Checking	\$ 140,000
Lutheran Church Extension Fund	372,000
Chase CD's	61,000
LCEF CD	206,000
	<u>\$ 779,000</u>

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Ascension Lutheran Church Extended Day Pre-School Income & Expenses For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

Income	\$ 106,000
Expenses	<u>122,000</u>
Income less Expenses	<u>\$ (16,000)</u>

Ascension Lutheran Church General Fund Expenses For the Quarter Ended March 31, 2024

<u>Expenses</u>	<u>Actual Amount</u>	<u>Budget Amount</u>	<u>Over (Under)</u>
Congregational Life	\$ 17,000	18,000	(1,000)
Elders	89,000	91,000	(2,000)
Trustees	48,000	47,000	1,000
Youth	1,000	1,000	-
Evangelism	-	2,000	(2,000)
Education	4,000	5,000	(1,000)
Total Expenses	<u>\$ 159,000</u>	<u>164,000</u>	<u>(5,000)</u>

Ascension Lutheran Church General Fund Income For the Quarter Ended March 31, 2024

<u>Income Source</u>	<u>Actual Amount</u>	<u>Budget Amount</u>	<u>Over (Under)</u>
Envelopes	\$ 165,000	157,000	8,000
Loose Collection	3,000	6,000	(3,000)
Facility Receipts	1,000		1,000
Total Receipts	169,000	163,000	6,000
Bank Interest/Fees	3,000	-	3,000
Budget Reserve	-	2,000	(2,000)
Total Income	<u>\$ 172,000</u>	<u>165,000</u>	<u>7,000</u>

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Ascension Lutheran Church
Income and Expenses
For the Quarter Ended March 31, 2024

Income	\$ 172,000
Expenses	<u>159,000</u>
Net Change in Assets	<u>\$ 13,000</u>

Ascension Lutheran Church
Extended Day Pre-school
Income and Expenses
For the Quarter Ended March 31, 2024

Income	\$ 26,000
Expenses	<u>37,000</u>
Net Change in Assets	<u>\$ (11,000)</u>

Ascension Lutheran Church
Cash Balance
January 1 vs March 31, 2024

	<u>1/1/2024</u>	<u>3/31/2024</u>
Chase Checking	\$ 140,000	186,000
Lutheran Church Extension Fund	372,000	288,000
Chase CD's	61,000	121,000
LCEF CD	<u>206,000</u>	<u>208,000</u>
	<u>█ \$ 779,000</u>	<u>█ 803,000</u>

- Motion to approve the Treasurer’s report was made, seconded, and passed unanimously

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Reports of Board Chairman & Committees

- Ladies Guild
- Board for Education
- Board of Youth
- Board of Elders
- Board for Congregational Life
- Board for Evangelism
- Board of Trustees

Reports of Board Chairman & Committees

- Ladies Guild
 - Linda Anzinger
 - Established on June 1, 1955
 - •We are not an old Ladies group; we are a group of young women and Ladies of all ages.
 - •We currently have three Circles (Groups) that provide different services in the Church where needed.
 - •100% of the funds from our yearly Craft & Bake sale are given to Missions.
 -

Our purpose is to:

- Encourage Christian service and fellowship within our congregation
- Support mission projects throughout the world
- Provide assistance and service in the Church where needed.

- Board of Education
 - Sunday School Update (Stephanie & Christa)
 - Preschool Update (Stephanie & Meg)
 - Questions
 - Children in Sunday School
 1. 15 -17 on average
 - Preschool Update (Stephanie & Meg)
 - 7 Pre-K and 3 littles for next year
 - Universal Preschool
 - Summer options, not many children signed up
 - Thank you, Pastor, Dawn, Chuck, and Stephanie,
 - Several families are not members
- Board of Youth
 - Recent and planned activities (Stephanie & Ian)
 - Strive to incorporate youth

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- Easter breakfast fundraiser \$3000
 - 1. 225 at breakfast
 - Fun events
 - Winter retreat
 - Serve in the service
 - May Christian rapper Flame
 - Mission trip end of June
 - 1. 10 high schoolers
 - Tentatively planning camping trip for back to school
 - Barna Group struggles of youth ministry
 - 1. Business of youth (86%)
 - 2. Lack of interest from the parents
 - 3. Breakdown of families
 - Questions
 - 1. What are the youths thoughts on voting and being on the board?
 - Has not been discussed
- Board of Elders
 - Who are the Elders?
 - What do we do?
 - Supporting pastor, helping with services, supporting music program, helping with communion, ushers, allocation of mission funds
 - Current activities
 - Director of contemporary ministry search
 - Working on Elders handbook
 - Always need volunteers
- Board of Congregational Life
 - Spreading Gospel within congregation
 - Involving members with their talents
 - Helping meet physical/social needs of members
 - Acclimate new members to Ascension
 - Implementing ideas
 - Revamping Welcome Center – Fresh look
 - Greeters for each worship center
 - Fellowship group targeting men's Bible study
 - Fellowship group targeting women
 - Committee to Visit Shut-ins/Homebound Monthly
 - Needs & Help
 - Volunteers needed for Worship greeters
 - Volunteers needed for visiting – monthly
 - Need small signs made – wooden
 - Need an artist to help with Scripture Stones
 - Contact Shelia Beu 720-202-4739
- Board for Evangelism
 - Our mission – To share the Good News of Jesus Christ, especially through service and connection to the community
 - Activities – includes GriefShare, Prison Ministry, Lutherans for Life, Love INC, Severe Weather Shelter Network, Life Enrichment, and the Ascension website

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- Researching ways to reach out to Little Raven Elementary School and LPS, Stephen Ministry
 - Meetings the 1st Saturday of even months at 9:30 am
 - Questions
- Board of Trustees
 - Responsibilities
 - Maintaining the Congregation’s property
 - Supervising the use of the property
 - Manage the janitorial and property staff
 - Ensure adequate insurance coverage (along with the Board of Elders & Finance Committee)
 - Columbarium Memorial Garden
 - Ongoing Activities
 - Bell Tower Demo – Completed
 1. Approved budget: \$156,000
 2. Actual spent: \$116,039
 - Heating system repairs update
 - Roof damage claim update
 - Patio committee update
 1. Overall concept
 - Increase in size by approximately 20 ft
 - Shade
 - Completion date: end of 2025
 - Questions:
 1. Include something that incorporates the Ascension of Jesus
 2. Red rock with ascension of Jesus or Jesus with children

Unfinished Business

- New Constitution and Bylaws – Approved by district
- Bell Tower Removal - Completed
-

New Business

- Coffee under the Trees Sign-up
- Comments, questions, or concerns

Announcements

- Next Council Meeting – May 14, 2024
- Next Regular Voters Meeting – December 1, 2024 (elections & 2025 budget) .
- Thank you to the Ladies Guild & the Foundation for lunch

Adjournment

- At 1:08 p.m. the meeting was adjourned.
- Meeting closed with the Lord’s Prayer

———— Respectfully Submitted by Barbara Rutter, Secretary