

**RICHLAND LUTHERAN CHURCH
CONGREGATION COUNCIL MINUTES
December 12, 2023**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Pastor Steve Ernst, Sandy Steele, Kristen Imhoff, Jeanne Dillner, Brandon Wheeler, Glenn Edgemon, Vicki Glasford, Jim Lachut, Patti Miller

MEMBERS ABSENT: Fred Ball

GUESTS: Rick Budzeck, Todd Maier, Jen Ranta

OPENING

1. Devotion/Prayer – Vicki Glasford
2. Communications/Visitor Comments

REPORTS

1. President's Report – Sandy Steele and Rick Budzeck reported:
 - a. Thank you to Sandy and Patti for all of their leadership and hard work over the years on Council.
 - b. Council and Staff workshop is on Saturday, January 27 and the Council Commissioning will be on Sunday, January 28 at all 3 services.
 - c. MALT assignments and Devo/Preview assignments will be shared at the January council meeting.
2. Lead Pastor Report – Pastor Steve reported:
 - a. Staffing update
 - b. A reminder to MALTs to review the implementation of the safety & security policy beginning in January
 - c. Steve will be sending out the YouTube link to Council Training for review or an introduction to Council expectations for new members.
3. Financial Report – Jeanne Dillner reported:
 - a. Balance sheet looks healthy! Typical net operating income is low currently, but should catch up by the end of the year.
 - b. Steve and Lisa revised our balance sheets, separating budgeted expenses from other expenses, to make it easier to track and read.
 - c. We are at 92% through the year with expected giving/income at 81% and budgeted expenses at 84%. Overall, we are in a good spot!

CONSENT AGENDA (Proposed for approval without discussion): A motion was made by Kristen and seconded by Vicki. The motion carried.

1. Approve Regular Council Meeting Minutes – November 14, 2023
2. Approve Pastor Steve Ernst's 2024 Housing Allowance of \$65,000
3. Approve Erlan Leitz to serve a 3-year term on the Shalom Ecumenical Center Board
4. Approve Norene Erlandson to serve a 3-year term on the Christian Education Scholarship Committee Board
5. Approve Adam Pilger to serve on the RLC Facilities Fundraising Committee

OLD BUSINESS

1. Discuss/Approve Good News Today Media Task Force Recommendation
 - a. Mike Bettinson will serve as RLC Liaison to KVEW and continue getting ComScore numbers moving forward. This task force has completed their work and will be disbanded.
 - b. When numbers drop for KVEW viewing, that will warrant discussion of transitioning to more streaming ministry moving forward.
 - c. A motion was made by Jeanne to accept the recommendations as presented, which was seconded by Brandon. The motion carried.
2. Identify RLC Facilities Fundraising Committee Members (1-2)
 - a. Adam Pilger was approved as part of the Consent Agenda.
 - b. Council will pray on names and discuss further in January.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Approve transfer of \$7,500.00 from Outreach to Food Pantry
 - a. A motion was made by Vicki and seconded by Jim to transfer \$4,000.00 from Outreach to Food Pantry. The motion carried.
2. Approve 2023 undesignated ministries benevolence as follows (\$8,981.90): Tri-City Gospel Mission (Women's and Children's Fund) \$1,500.00, Elijah Family Homes \$2,500.00, World Relief Tri-Cities \$1,981.90, Hope House Detroit \$3,000.00
 - a. There was discussion on one ministry included in the benevolences.
 - b. A motion was made by Kristen and seconded by Jeanne to approve as recommended. The motion carried 6-1.
3. Approve removal from RLC's membership as presented in the 2023 End of Year Membership Review list (attached)
 - a. A motion was made by Kristen and seconded by Brandon to approve as recommended. The motion carried.
4. Identify new committee members for (3-yr terms):
 - a. Audit Committee (2)
 - i. Council discussed potential people for this committee and will be contacting them.
 - b. Christian Education Scholarship Committee (2)
 - i. A motion was made by Vicki and seconded by Jeanne to add Patti Miller to this committee. The motion carried.
 - ii. Council discussed potential people for this committee and will be contacting them.
5. Discuss the following as candidates for the RLC Foundation Board (3-yr term): Loren Peterson and Kelly Weissenfels
 - a. Council recommends Kelly Weissenfels as a candidate for the RLC Foundation Board.
 - b. Jeanne made a motion and Kristen seconded to remove Loren Peterson and family from RLC Membership due to inactivity. The motion carried.
 - c. Council discussed other candidates for the RLC Foundation Board and will be contacting them.
6. Discuss formation of Associate Pastor Call Committee
 - a. Council will start praying about potential people to serve on this committee.

- b. Steve will announce and advertise to gather interest from the congregation for this committee.

ADJOURN – Lord’s Prayer

This Council Meeting was adjourned with the Lord’s Prayer at 9:00 PM

Meeting minutes respectfully submitted by Council Secretary, Brandon Wheeler

INFORMATION ITEMS

1. Devotions – Brandon Wheeler January 9; _____ February 13
2. Preview Article due to Merri – Vicki Glasford December 15; Brandon Wheeler January 15
3. December MALT Meetings: Worship December 28 @ 11:30a; Spiritual Growth December 26 @ 3:00p; Christian Services December 19 @ 6:00p; Biblical Stewardship December 25 @ 5:30p (**NOTE:** Or as scheduled by MALT)
4. Council/Staff Workshop – January 27, 2024 @ 8:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
5. Council Commissioning – January 28, 2023 @ all worship services

RICHLAND LUTHERAN CHURCH
Balance Sheet
As of November 30, 2023

	As of November 30, 2023
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Bank Accounts/Cash	197,160.02
Investments	825,108.30
Total Current Assets	<u>\$ 1,022,268.32</u>
Fixed Assets	4,692,059.10
TOTAL ASSETS	<u><u>\$ 5,714,327.42</u></u>
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	
Liabilities	<u>3,259.42</u>
Equity	
30000 Opening Balance Equity	4,991,399.95
31000 Perm. Restricted Net Assets	68,160.92
32000 Funds with Restrictions	
32010 Reserve Accounts	435,355.04
32070 Eternal Flame	0.00
32075 Capital Fund - Cornerstone	175,029.16
32100 Memorials	14,754.82
32200 Christian Service Equity	78,891.88
32300 Worship Ministry Equity	3,912.51
32500 Spiritual Transformation Equity	69,397.69
32600 Biblical Stewardship Equity	107,195.32
Total 32000 Funds with Restrictions	<u>\$ 884,536.42</u>
34000 Unrestricted Net Assets	-79,222.64
Net Income	-153,806.65
Total Equity	<u>\$ 5,711,068.00</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	<u><u>\$ 5,714,327.42</u></u>

Wednesday December 6, 2023 - Cash Basis

RICHLAND LUTHERAN CHURCH
Income Statement Budget vs. Actual
November - 92%

	Total			
	November	YTD	Budget	% of Budget
Income				
41000 Tithes/Offerings	59,662.34	695,030.76	873,330.00	80%
41100 Choice Dollars Contributions		1,694.29		
41200 Checking/Savings Interest	-	46.93		
42100 Free Will Contributions	34.00	1,678.41		
43100 Payments/Fees	147.54	3,096.06		
44000 Des Contrib (Budget Items)	755.00	6,716.67		
Total Income	\$60,598.88	\$708,263.12	\$873,330.00	81%
Gross Profit	\$60,598.88	\$708,263.12	\$873,330.00	81%
Expenses				
51000 BENEVOLENCE	-	58,254.90	86,546.00	67%
52000 CHRISTIAN SERVICE	1,783.27	16,472.85	14,500.00	114%
53000 WORSHIP	1,864.21	10,637.01	13,250.00	80%
55000 SPIRITUAL GROWTH	1,064.50	8,096.81	17,480.00	46%
56000 BIBLICAL STEWARDSHIP	11,547.73	193,838.91	217,410.00	89%
56100 Property	6,749.81	131,961.40	162,100.00	81%
56200 Stewardship	-	507.61	500.00	102%
56300 Operations	891.93	17,156.87	18,710.00	92%
56400 Safety	699.76	5,460.01	7,100.00	77%
56700 Technology/GNMM	3,206.23	38,753.02	29,000.00	134%
57000 COUNCIL	110.48	2,504.14	2,000.00	125%
59000 PAYROLL	37,256.80	445,320.45	522,144.00	85%
Unapplied Cash Bill Pmt Expenditure	(63.88)	(63.88)		
Total Expenses	53,563.11	735,061.19	873,330.00	84%
Net Operating Income	\$7,035.77	(\$26,798.07)	\$0.00	
Other Income				
Adj Property	0.00	5,068.00		
Investment Return	46,514.52	67,006.89		
Restricted Gifts Inc	6,158.50	42,720.55		
Total Other Income	52,673.02	114,795.44		
Other Expenses				
Adj Property	416.70	2,793.92	0.00	
Investment Fees	0.00	11,984.06		
Restricted Gifts Exp	77,861.62	227,026.04		
Unclassified Exp	0.00	0.00		
Total Other Expense	78,278.32	241,804.02		
Net Other Income	(\$25,605.30)	(\$127,008.58)	\$0.00	
Net Income	(\$18,569.53)	(\$153,806.65)	\$0.00	

Wednesday, December 6, 2023 - Cash Basis

Notes:

1. Acct #5200 Christian Service looks over budget due to weekend lunches, however, donations received for this fund offset the expense. Such donations are recorded in Acct #4400 Des Contrib (Budget Items).
2. Acct #56700 Tech/GNMM includes \$15,250 for internet/phone upgrade. Per Council approval, monies were transferred from savings, utilizing the funds saved due to PPP distribution. This transfer is NOT reflected on the

Income Statement, but rather on the Balance Sheet.

3. Acct #5700 Council includes \$1,134 for staff search.