SHEPHERD OF THE PRAIRIE LUTHERAN CHURCH

A Growing Church for Growing People

Congregation Council

Shepherd of the Prairie

Monday July 20, 2026

6:00 PM

Shepherd of the Prairie Lutheran Church
Council Meeting Agenda
July 20, 2026 @ 6:00 P.M.

1. **Call to Order**
2. **Opening Prayer –** Pastor Mark
3. **Devotions – Sue Sroka**
4. **Welcoming Church –** discussion – creating a place where all are welcome. Living our statement of purpose – Jim Puls
5. **Approval of Minutes**
    1. *Recommendation: To approve the Congregation Council minutes June 15, 2026, as presented.*
6. **Congregation Council and Ministry Team Reports**
    1. Finance and Treasurer Highlights – Bob
        1. *Review and Receipt of the June 2026 Treasurer and Financial Reports.*
        2. *Update on Audit.*
7. **Current Business**
    1. Children, Youth and Family Update – Pastor Ryan
        1. VBS Update
        2. Youth Ministry Coordinator Update
    2. Constitution update – Jim S
    3. HR Policy – Approval of Special Ministry Production Bonus Policy.
        1. *Recommendation: To approve the Special Ministry Bonus Policy, as presented.*
8. **Other Business**
    1. Next Council Meeting Aug 17, 2026 @ 6:00 PM (devotions – Kathy McGuine)
    2. For August – Guest speaker - Schweda
9. **Unfinished/Tabled Business**
    1. Memory Garden Proforma and Fee Review – Finance Team
10. **Closing Prayer –** Pastor Ryan
11. **Adjournment**

July 20, 2026

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Shepherd of the Prairie Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes

June 15, 2026 @ 6:00 P.M.

Members present: Kathy McGuine, Jim Puls, Bob Mollis, Lisa Wondriska, Jim Stancl, Pastor Mark Boster, Pastor Ryan Mackey, Sue Sroka

1. **Call to Order at 6:00 PM**
2. **Opening Prayer –** Pastor Mark
3. **Devotions – Bob Mollis -** inspired by the song Oceans - all about trusting God during uncertainty
4. **Welcoming Church –** discussion – creating a place where all are welcome. Living our statement of purpose – Jim Puls
    1. Guest Ashlyn Rankin - ways to reach youth
    2. Review Council retreat agenda
5. **Approval of Minutes**
    1. *Recommendation: To approve the Congregation Council minutes May 18, 2026, as presented*. Motion moved by Pastor Mark Boster. Seconded by Sue Sroka. Passed unanimously.
6. **Congregation Council and Ministry Team Reports**
    1. Finance and Treasurer Highlights – Bob - moving to new insurance - Erie Insurance - effective the end of June 2026
       Audit results were great - no concerns noted
        1. *Review and Receipt of the May 2026 Treasurer and Financial Reports.*
7. **Current Business**
    1. Children, Youth and Family Update – Pastor Ryan - reposted position for youth leadership position online
       In the process of getting together a "youth" leadership team to help guide the path for the youth of Shepherd of the Prairie.
    2. The money approved (up to $28,000) for the potential August 14th concert (Josh Baldwin) will be kept aside for a possible later date for Josh Baldwin to perform or to go towards a different concert at a different time by a different artist.
    3. **Let the record show that a motion was made by:** The Finance Team formally moves that the Church Council approve this change in insurance agent changing SOTP's insurance agent and carrier from Lamb Insurance Services and Guide One Insurance to Next Level Insurance Agency and Erie Insurance Company. Motion was made by Carrie McCabe, seconded by Pastor Mark and passed via email vote.

        This recommendation follows a thorough review led by the Finance Team, with input from members possessing significant commercial insurance expertise. After careful evaluation and discussion, the Team unanimously supports this change.

        The proposed Erie coverage closely matches our current policies across all key areas—property, liability (including D&O), umbrella, workers' compensation, and non-owned auto—while improving service responsiveness and delivering an estimated annual savings of approximately $9,000. Erie is also highly rated, comparable to or slightly exceeding our current carrier.

        Given prior service concerns with Lamb and consistent premium increases from Guide One, this change represents both a fiscally responsible and operationally sound decision.

4. **Let the record show that a motion was made to:** Increase the contingent amount approved in May to $28k. with the same contingencies in place. Motion was made by Bob Mollis, seconded by Carrie McCabe and passed via email vote.
5. **Let the record show that a motion was made to:** Replace multiple valves that have met the end of their lifespan. These valves are now slowly leaking and causing the sprinkler system to have air leaks. The valves replacement quote is about $3199. They will use funds from their reserve account to cover the cost. Motion was made by Pastor Ryan, seconded by Lisa Wondriska and passed via email vote.

8. **Other Business**
    1. Memorial Garden Update – Kathy

       Our 72-niche Columbarium has 11 available for sale. Presently there are 4 families considering the purchase of a niche. We could be down to 7 or less by the end of the year. We are in the process of getting prices on 4 additional 24 niche Columbarium's that would be placed on the outside edge of the concrete pad. There would still be room for 3 additional 24 niche Columbarium's. The estimated cost for the 4 Columbarium's would be nearly $60,000.00. We have enough in our account to handle that amount. We are going to proceed with the shed to be placed near the Memory Garden and the cost will be under $600.00.
    2. Next Council Meeting July 20, 2026 @ 6:00 PM (devotions – Sue Sroka)

9. **Unfinished/Tabled Business**
    1. Memory Garden Proforma and Fee Review – Finance Team
10. **Closing Prayer –** Pastor Ryan
11. **Adjournment** Moved by Bob Mollis at 7:45. Seconded by Jim Puls. Approved unanimously.

TREASURER'S REPORT SUMMARY
FOR THE PERIOD ENDING June 30, 2026

UNRESTRICTED GENERAL FUND	MONTHLY ACTUAL	MONTHLY BUDGET	MONTHLY ACTUAL VS. MONTHLY BUDGET	YEAR TO DATE ACTUAL	YEAR TO DATE BUDGET	YTD ACTUAL VS. YTD BUDGET	ANNUAL BUDGET	YTD PERCENT RECEIVED	YTD PERCENT EXPENDED
June 1, 2026 Beginning Balance	$ 433,268.85								
Monthly Income	$ 73,072.88	$ 87,802.00	$ (14,729.12)	$ 538,829.18	$ 526,312.00	$ 12,517.18	$ 1,059,057.00	50.88%	
Monthly Expenses	$ 76,151.87	$ 84,754.00	$ (8,602.13)	$ 505,309.39	$ 528,433.00	$ (23,123.61)	$ 1,059,057.00		47.71%
Income vs. Expenditures	$ (3,078.99)	$ 3,048.00		$ 33,519.79	$ (2,121.00)				
June 30, 2026 Ending Balance	$ 430,189.86								
Average Monthly Expenses (Budgeted)	$ 88,254.75								
Approx. Months Covered by Fund Balance	4.87								

MORTGAGE SERVICE FUND	MONTHLY ACTUAL	MONTHLY BUDGET	MONTHLY ACTUAL VS. MONTHLY BUDGET	YEAR TO DATE ACTUAL	YEAR TO DATE BUDGET	YTD ACTUAL VS. YTD BUDGET	ANNUAL BUDGET	YTD PERCENT RECEIVED	YTD PERCENT EXPENDED
June 1, 2026 Beginning Balance	$ 76,361.36								
Monthly Income	$ 16,604.44	$ 18,807.00	$ (2,202.56)	$ 124,330.58	$ 112,842.00	$ 11,488.58	$ 225,684.00	55.09%	
Monthly Expenses	$ 18,807.00	$ 18,807.00	$ 18,807.00	$ 112,842.00	$ 112,842.00	$ -	$ 225,684.00		50.00%
Income vs. Expenditures	$ (2,202.56)	$ -		$ 11,488.58	$ -				
June 30, 2026 Ending Balance	$ 74,158.80								
Average Monthly Expenses	$ 18,807.00								
Approx. Months Covered by Fund Balance	3.94								

TEMPORARY RESTRICTED FUNDS	MONTHLY ACTUAL
June 1, 2026 Beginning Balance	$ 302,777.25
Monthly Accounts + Activity	$ 11,300.59
Monthly Accounts (-) Activity	$ 17,170.79
Net Monthly Acounts Activity	$ (5,870.20)
June 30, 2026 Ending Balance	$ 296,907.05

RESERVE FUNDS	MONTHLY ACTUAL
June 1, 2026 Beginning Balance	$ 198,746.41
Monthly Accounts + Activity	$ 5,394.49
Monthly Accounts (-) Activity	$ 8,906.90
Net Monthly Accounts Activity	$ (3,512.41)
June 30, 2026 Ending Balance	$ 195,234.00

PERMANENTLY RESTRICTED FUNDS	MONTHLY ACTUAL
June 1, 2026 Beginning Balance	$ 14,761.60
Monthly Accounts + Activity	$ -
Monthly Accounts (-) Activity	$ -
Net Monthly Accounts Activity	$ -
June 30, 2026 Ending Balance	$ 14,761.60

June 30, 2026 Total Ending Balance ALL FUNDS	$ 1,011,251.31
Prepaid Pledges	$ -
Total Current Assets	$ 1,011,251.31

Respectfully submitted, Robert Mollis, Treasurer

SOTP FINANCE TEAM
DRAFT Monthly Minutes
July 13, 2026
Convened 7:30p via Zoom

Members Present: Bob Mollis, Dave Shotick, Devin Burg, Cliff Dungey, Bill Ball
Members Excused: Joe Anderson

I. **Without objection, the April Minutes and June 2026 Report were declared approved.**

II. **Accounting Administrator's Report**
   a. Income/Expenses through June 30, 2026
      i. June GF income of $73,073 was $14,729 less than the budgeted amount of $87,802.
      ii. June GF expenses of $76,152 were $8,602 less than the budgeted amount $84,754.
      iii. Overall, GF 2026 Performance: YTD Revenues exceed YTD expenses by $33,520 compared to a budgeted deficit for June of $2,121 and a breakeven budget for the year.
   b. Balance Sheet through June 30, 2026
      i. Total Current Assets $1,011,251
      ii. Total Fixed Assets $7,333,907
      iii. Total Assets $8,345,159
      iv. Total Current Liabilities $0
   c. Highlighted Restricted Funds Detail Review through June 30, 2026
      i. Account 3.140.000 Mortgage Service Fund is $74,159
      ii. Account 3.175.000 Memorial Fund balance is $37,289
      iii. Account 3.250.000 Good Samaritan Fund balance is $4,772
      iv. Account 3.330.000 Adult Music Ministry Fund balance is $57,316
      v. Account 3.332.000 Artist Series Fund balance is $30,248
      vi. Account 3.417.000 Youth Mission Trip Fund balance is $10,903
      vii. Account 3.675.000 Memory Garden Fund Donation balance $12,338
      viii. Account 3.676.000 Memory Garden Fund Brick Donation balance is $3,722
      ix. Account 3.677.000 Memory Garden Fund Niche Agreement balance is $92,232
   d. General Comments
      i. June 2026 GF Member Contributions were $70,275 compared to the budget of $85,010 for June 2026 and compared to June 2025 Contributions ($70,172) and June 2024 Contributions ($77,665).
      ii. June Mortgage Service Fund contribution income was less than budget: $16,604 vs. the $18,807 monthly payment. YTD MSF Revenue exceeds YTD MSF expenses by $11,489.

iii. The Congregation remains very generous and supportive of the SOTP ministries. The "watchword words" continue to be "thoughtful caution". We all recognize that it is difficult at the start of the year to ascertain where the year is headed and 2026 is no exception. Unlike past years, contributions were very strong in January, February and April but are now weak in June. However, despite significant unbudgeted maintenance expenses, the General Fund YTD is not only in surplus but well ahead of a small, budgeted deficit for June.

The surplus to budget is likely due to the timing of QCD contributions. As we have discussed, with the use of IRA Qualified Charitable Distributions (QCD), monthly data is difficult to assess because QCD donors often donate multiple months or even a full year's contribution in a single month. Moreover, these donations can occur at any time in the year. There is evidence that this year we received QCD's ahead of when they have been contributed in the past. This then suggests continued caution in managing expenses and recalling that 2026 is budgeted as a breakeven year. Importantly, Staffing expense will be closer to budget moving into the latter part of the year with the new benefits for full time salaried staff and the imminent hiring of a youth coordinator.

Encouragingly, the weak MSF revenue in June is tempered with the recognition that QCD's influence these funds as well. Importantly, the strong YTD surplus (from January, February and April surpluses) may be an indication that as in 2025, we will finish 2026 at breakeven or better.

III. Treasurer's Report of Activity & Council Actions/Discussions

a. GF balance is $430,190 which is approximately 4.9 months of reserves.
b. MSF balance is $74,159 which is approximately 3.9 months of reserves.

IV. Recommendations to Council

V. Old Business

a. The Endowment Fund continues to seek SOTP members to constitute the initial Fund Committee.
b. The principal 2026 issues were briefly reviewed: the June 2027 mortgage interest rate reset and the updating of the SOTP Financial Manual.
c. SOTP, in June, switched insurance carriers from Guide One to Erie Insurance at a savings with comparable insurance.
d. It was noted that since May of 2026 the Finance Team has recommended by email voting between meetings the following items for Council approval:
    i. Artist Series Contract (Jersey Tenors) 5/29/2026
    ii. Nelbud Fire Suppression System Repair 5/5/2026
e. The Team was advised that the financial review by Capin Crouse is going very well and a discussion draft of the closing letter is being circulated to the Audit

Team. The Finance Team discussed that SOTP needs to adjust its balance sheet reporting to conform with recent changes to accounting standards and practice guidelines. This will also involve producing a new monthly "Statement of Fixed Assets and Equipment" – a draft of which was reviewed as well. The updated report formats will be reviewed with the Audit Team and Council in conjunction with the receipt of the closing letter.

VI. New Business

a. **Motion Adopted: To invest $110,000 in a 12-month CD (maturing in July 2027, FDIC insured and non-callable) to be held at Fidelity in anticipation of the July, 2026 maturity of a 12-month CD.** Explanation: This investment is in anticipation of the maturing of the CD currently held at Fidelity and maturing in July 2026. Prior to the adoption of the motion, the Team reviewed thoroughly SOTP's financial situation including but not limited to SOTP's current and future cash needs (Motion by Cliff Dungey)
b. The next Finance Team meeting will be Monday, August 10, 2026 @ 7:30 PM on Zoom.

VII. **The meeting was adjourned at 8:45p without objection and with prayer.**

Respectfully submitted,
Bill Ball, Chair

Shepherd of the Prairie Lutheran Church - Huntley IL
Balance Sheet as of June 30, 2026

Account #	Account Name	YTD Balance	Period Activity	Previous Period Balance
Assets				
Current Assets				
1.100.000	Heartland Bank Checking	111,427.78	(11,655.78)	123,083.56
1.200.000	Mission Plus Building Fund Checking	729.02	0.24	728.78
1.200.100	Mission Investment Fixed Term	10,000.00	0.00	10,000.00
1.210.000	Fidelity Investments	881,525.37	1,054.16	880,471.21
1.250.000	HBT/LPL Investment Account	425.69	0.00	425.69
1.500.000	Donations Holding Account	387.06	(738.25)	1,125.31
1.600.000	FNBO Checking Boy Scout Troop 200	5,058.41	(2,890.39)	7,948.80
1.650.000	BMO Checking Cub Scout Pack 467	1,697.98	(434.14)	2,132.12
	Total Current Assets	**$1,011,251.31**	**($14,664.16)**	**$1,025,915.47**
Fixed Assets				
1.300.000	Building & Grounds	7,203,136.61	0.00	7,203,136.61
1.300.100	Garage Building	41,717.68	0.00	41,717.68
1.300.200	Memory Garden	89,052.93	0.00	89,052.93
	Total Fixed Assets	**$7,333,907.22**	**$0.00**	**$7,333,907.22**
	Total Assets	**$8,345,158.53**	**($14,664.16)**	**$8,359,822.69**
Liabilities				
Current Liabilities				
	Total Current Liabilities	**$0.00**	**$0.00**	**$0.00**
Long Term Liabilities				
	Total Long Term Liabilities	**$2,843,669.71**	**($9,417.21)**	**$2,853,086.92**
	Total Liabilities	**$2,843,669.71**	**($9,417.21)**	**$2,853,086.92**
Fund Balances & Equity				
Unrestricted Fund Balances				
3.100.000	General Fund Balance	430,189.86	(3,078.99)	433,268.85
	Total Unrestricted Fund Balances	**$430,189.86**	**($3,078.99)**	**$433,268.85**
Temporary Restricted Fund Balances				
3.170.000	Special Services Fund Balance	240.20	100.00	140.20
3.175.000	Memorial Fund Balance	37,287.77	455.00	36,832.77
3.180.000	Grafton Food Pantry Fund Balance	491.08	(401.08)	892.16
3.220.000	AV Ministry Fund Balance	39.53	0.00	39.53
3.250.000	Good Samaritan Fund Balance	4,772.04	(526.95)	5,298.99
3.260.000	Community Outreach Fund Balance	3,122.13	155.00	2,967.13
3.270.000	Holiday Flowers Balance	(146.52)	0.00	(146.52)
3.300.000	*Music Ministry Fund Balance*			
3.330.000	Adult Music Ministry Fund Balance	57,315.53	(2,243.03)	59,558.56
3.345.000	Childrens Music Ministry Fund Balance	6,692.13	0.00	6,692.13
	Total Music Ministry Fund Balance	*$64,007.66*	*($2,243.03)*	*66,250.69*
3.340.000	Artist Series Balance	30,247.82	(2,468.60)	32,716.42
3.350.000	Prairie Crafters Fund Balance	636.07	0.00	636.07
3.380.000	Continuing Education Fund Balance	1,605.98	0.00	1,605.98
3.390.000	Children & Family Ministry Balance	943.94	0.00	943.94
3.400.000	*Youth Ministry Fund Balance*			
3.410.000	Youth Leader Programs Balance	12,500.00	0.00	12,500.00
3.415.000	Youth Ministry Balance	629.31	327.76	301.55
3.417.000	Youth Mission Trips Balance	10,902.96	0.00	10,902.96
	Total Youth Ministry Fund Balance	*$24,032.27*	*$327.76*	*23,704.51*
3.500.000	Little Lambs Fund Balance	4,971.22	(1,289.21)	6,260.43
3.600.000	Prayer Shawl Ministry Fund Balance	252.95	0.00	252.95

Shepherd of the Prairie Lutheran Church - Huntley IL
Balance Sheet as of June 30, 2026

Account #	Account Name	YTD Balance	Period Activity	Previous Period Balance
3.650.000	Quilters Ministry Fund Balance	2,055.02	0.00	2,055.02
3.675.000	Memory Garden Fund Balance	12,338.34	0.00	12,338.34
3.676.000	Memory Garden Bricks Fund Balance	3,721.57	0.00	3,721.57
3.677.000	Memory Garden Niche Fund Balance	92,231.65	2,250.00	89,981.65
3.700.000	Church Events - Funded Balance	(1,347.64)	939.36	(2,287.00)
3.720.000	Disaster Relief Fund Balance	200.00	0.00	200.00
3.725.000	Miscellaneous Outside Charities Fund Balance	200.00	0.00	200.00
3.730.000	ELCA World Hunger Fund Balance	702.58	156.08	546.50
3.735.000	LSSI Fund Balance	275.00	0.00	275.00
3.750.000	Seminary Scholarship Fund Balance	7,270.00	0.00	7,270.00
3.800.000	Boy Scout Troop 200 Fund Balance	5,058.41	(2,890.39)	7,948.80
3.850.000	Cub Scout Pack 467 Fund Balance	1,697.98	(434.14)	2,132.12
	Total	**$296,907.05**	**($5,870.20)**	**$302,777.25**
3.140.000	Mortgage Service Fund Balance	74,158.80	(2,202.56)	76,361.36
	Total Temporary Restricted Fund Balances	**$371,065.85**	**($8,072.76)**	**$379,138.61**
Reserves				
3.950.000	Barnabas Reserves Balance	3,455.65	0.00	3,455.65
3.971.000	Roof Repairs/Replacement Balance	68,480.04	575.00	67,905.04
3.972.000	Playground Maintenance Reserves Balance	0.00	(2,605.00)	2,605.00
3.973.000	Parking Lot Seal/Repair Reserves Balance	19,561.28	650.00	18,911.28
3.974.000	Lawn & Landscaping Reserves Balance	16,566.33	333.33	16,233.00
3.975.000	Maintenance Reserves Balance	5,053.89	810.10	4,243.79
3.976.000	Carpeting Crossroads/Hallways Reserves Balance	3,302.00	0.00	3,302.00
3.977.000	Carpeting MP Room/Classrooms Balance	32,859.94	133.33	32,726.61
3.979.000	Outside Audit Reserve Balance	40.04	(3,680.00)	3,720.04
3.980.000	Equipment Reserves Balance	13,352.42	250.00	13,102.42
3.981.000	Bells Maintenance Reserves Balance	2,611.52	20.83	2,590.69
3.985.000	Sabbatical Reserves Balance	9,950.89	0.00	9,950.89
3.990.000	Future Staffing Reserves Balance	20,000.00	0.00	20,000.00
	Total Reserves	**$195,234.00**	**($3,512.41)**	**$198,746.41**
Permanently Restricted Funds				
3.940.000	Endowment Fund Balance	14,761.60	0.00	14,761.60
	Total Permanently Restricted Funds	**$14,761.60**	**$0.00**	**$14,761.60**
	Total Equity	**$4,490,237.51**	**$9,417.21**	**$4,480,820.30**
	Total Fund Balances & Equity	**$5,501,488.82**	**($5,246.95)**	**$5,506,735.77**
	Total Liabilities and Fund Balances & Equity	**$8,345,158.53**	**($14,664.16)**	**$8,359,822.69**

Shepherd of the Prairie Lutheran Church - Huntley IL
Treasurer's Report as of June 2026 for General Fund

Account #	Account Name	Period Activity	Monthly Budget	YTD Balance	Budget YTD	Over/Under YTD+(-)	Annual Budget
Income							
4.100.000	Member Contributions	70,275.22	85,010.00	517,845.97	502,236.00	15,609.97	994,613.00
4.150.000	Loose Plate and Growth	1,381.00	1,881.00	9,076.29	13,106.00	(4,029.71)	30,000.00
4.155.000	Other Donation Income	286.79	43.00	286.79	258.00	28.79	515.00
4.200.000	Fees and Registrations	0.00	214.00	979.00	1,288.00	(309.00)	2,575.00
4.250.000	Flower Income	50.00	120.00	176.00	720.00	(544.00)	1,442.00
4.300.000	Interest Income Heartland Bank	25.71	34.00	212.06	204.00	8.06	412.00
4.310.000	Investment Income Fidelity	1,054.16	500.00	10,253.07	8,500.00	1,753.07	29,500.00
	Total Income	**$73,072.88**	**$87,802.00**	**$538,829.18**	**$526,312.00**	**$12,517.18**	**$1,059,057.00**
Expenses							
Connections Ministry							
	Connections Mininstry	**$0.00**	**$41.00**	**$260.32**	**$246.00**	**$14.32**	**$500.00**
Mission Ministry							
	Mission Ministry	**$7,645.88**	**$9,118.00**	**$54,836.14**	**$54,708.00**	**$128.14**	**$109,408.00**
Outreach Ministry							
	Outreach Ministry	**$1,592.43**	**$734.00**	**$3,211.79**	**$4,404.00**	**($1,192.21)**	**$8,800.00**
Fellowship Ministry							
	Fellowship Ministry	**$0.00**	**$167.00**	**$0.00**	**$1,002.00**	**($1,002.00)**	**$2,000.00**
Adult Education Ministry							
	Adult Education Ministry	**$35.25**	**$140.00**	**$343.23**	**$840.00**	**($496.77)**	**$1,680.00**
Youth and Education Ministry							
	Youth and Education Ministry	**$575.95**	**$758.00**	**$4,140.80**	**$4,548.00**	**($470.62)**	**$9,100.00**
Children and Family Ministry							
	Children and Family Ministry	**$1,143.93**	**$809.00**	**$2,677.65**	**$3,700.00**	**($1,022.35)**	**$7,400.00**
Music Ministry							
	Music Ministry	**$210.38**	**$171.00**	**$729.41**	**$1,026.00**	**($296.59)**	**$2,050.00**
Worship Ministry							
	Worship Ministry	**$188.98**	**$651.00**	**$2,090.82**	**$3,906.00**	**($1,815.18)**	**$7,800.00**
Audio Visual							
	Audio Visual	**$1,573.00**	**$2,179.00**	**$10,092.41**	**$13,074.00**	**($2,981.59)**	**$26,150.00**
Facilities							
	Facilities	**$2,743.69**	**$8,284.00**	**$54,396.96**	**$55,114.00**	**($717.04)**	**$107,024.00**
Office Expenses							
	Office Expenses	**$3,898.13**	**$3,131.00**	**$17,478.84**	**$18,786.00**	**($1,307.16)**	**$37,575.00**
Staffing Ministry							

Thursday, July 9, 2026

Account #	Account Name	Period Activity	Monthly Budget	YTD Balance	Budget YTD	Over/Under YTD+(-)	Annual Budget
Spiritual Ministry Staff							
	Spiritual Ministry Staff	**$36,500.80**	**$36,673.00**	**$231,499.11**	**$234,664.00**	**($3,164.89)**	**$469,335.00**
Support Ministry Staff							
	Support Ministry Staff	**$11,715.72**	**$11,718.00**	**$72,601.23**	**$75,743.00**	**($3,141.77)**	**$151,488.00**
Shared Staff Expense							
	Shared Staff Expense	**$2,025.77**	**$2,506.00**	**$14,745.92**	**$16,028.00**	**($1,282.08)**	**$32,059.00**
	Staffing Ministry	**$50,242.29**	**$50,897.00**	**$318,846.26**	**$326,435.00**	**($7,588.74)**	**$652,882.00**
Other Church Expenses							
	Other Church Expenses	**$3,489.47**	**$4,862.00**	**$19,329.82**	**$23,772.00**	**($4,442.18)**	**$52,938.00**
Providing for the Future							
	Providing for the Future	**$2,812.49**	**$2,812.00**	**$16,874.94**	**$16,872.00**	**$2.94**	**$33,750.00**
	Total Expenses	**$76,151.87**	**$84,754.00**	**$505,309.39**	**$528,433.00**	**($23,187.03)**	**$1,059,057.00**
	Difference	**($3,078.99)**	**$3,048.00**	**$33,519.79**	**($2,121.00)**		**$0.00**

Shepherd of the Prairie
General Fund Giving

	2022	YTD	2023	YTD	2024	YTD	2025	YTD	2026	YTD	'26 vs '25 YTD
January	110,130	110,130	108,149	108,149	103,930	103,930	115,331	115,331	125,820	125,820	9%
February	67,528	177,658	60,799	168,948	63,895	167,825	60,614	175,945	97,273	223,092	27%
March	64,999	242,657	77,926	246,874	75,564	243,389	82,438	258,382	63,769	286,862	11%
April	65,407	308,064	68,959	315,833	75,752	319,141	85,886	344,268	84,250	371,112	8%
May	67,639	375,703	59,978	375,811	57,567	376,709	54,423	398,691	76,459	447,571	12%
June	89,038	464,741	73,629	449,440	77,665	454,374	70,172	468,864	70,275	517,846	10%
July	72,011	536,752	64,756	514,196	76,549	530,924	78,167	547,031			
August	63,162	599,914	89,060	603,256	65,087	596,011	61,573	608,604			
September	59,793	659,707	64,574	667,830	70,412	666,422	84,808	693,412			
October	75,583	735,290	78,457	746,286	91,563	757,985	66,631	760,043			
November	64,402	799,691	70,048	816,335	77,377	835,362	92,466	852,509			
December	83,809	883,500	89,223	905,558	84,315	919,677	78,828	931,337			

SHEPHERD OF THE PRAIRIE
LUTHERAN CHURCH

Operations Report
July 2026

Facility
- Sign team
    - Meeting based on new sign dimensions and quotes coming up
    - Putting together a proposal to show to council in August meeting
- Property Team
    - All items in building seem to be working fine
        - Air conditioning struggled a little during VBS

HR
- We have found a candidate
    - Found a candidate for hire and will have her start on 8/10/26

Branding/Website/Apparel/Social Media
- Michelle to start working on Website improvement
    - Started with rotating slides
    - Matt and Michelle to work with JSinger for website updates

Planning Center / Canva
- We are looking at texting options through Planning Center
- We are looking at Member Directory as well
    - Tabled, too complex at the moment
- Michelle to begin looking at App creation
- Matt and Michelle to take a day or two to review all forms and update them based on our current needs.
    - Happening next week with Josh to make sure our operational process is going well

SOTP Youth, and Family Team Meeting
July 13, 2026

Meeting Start Time: 7:05 pm

Present: Jess Panella, Dan Wichtendahl, Monika Wichtendahl, Carrie McCabe, Pastor Ryan

Guest:

Absent: Marisa Wielgos, Tim Torkelson

Meeting End Time: 7:55 pm

Old Business

- Establish a new Youth Council
  - Members officially recruited
    - Emma Stegge - 7th Grade
    - Max Wondriska - 8th Grade
    - Zachary Serpe - Freshman
    - Daphne Shaw - Sophomore
    - Andrew Padget - Junior
    - Lucas Monson - Senior
  - First meeting set for July 21
    - Name Tags and Photos
    - Establish Roles
    - Develop a Plan

New Business

- Verbal Agreement with a new Youth Ministry Coordinator
  - HR Process will unfold, this week and next, to officially hire Megan “Mia” Larkin
- Survey will be sent out to families of high school youth to determine best time for Sunday Youth Experience
  - 2-4pm
  - 4-6pm
  - 6-8pm

Brief Ministry Check-in

- Confirmation
  - Team is set for 2026-27 year
  - Curriculum tweaks
- Youth Group
  - Looking ahead to end-of-summer celebration
  - Shift to Sunday continues to be explored

Upcoming Events

- Pool Party at McCabes’ - August 9
- New Sunday Youth Experience Launch - August 16

Ideas for Future Events

- Trivia Night Fundraiser
- Pub Trivia USA – Host Ryan ($350 cost)
- Musical / Show for middle school and high school youth
- Possibly have a youth group for 6th - 7th grade if enough volunteers. (Summertime)

Mission Team Minutes – July 13, 2026

Attendance: John Witt, Patti Witt, Carl Hupert, Sandy Hupert, Elizabeth Trout, Annette Petersen, Carrie Gundersen, Marty Jacobson, Vik Berkeris, Becky Wright, Rick Miller, Shirley Ulmer, Valerie Ulmer, Deanne Byers

John opened the meeting with a reading from *Matthew 25:35* and a prayer.

Old Business

1. Approval of Minutes: Sandy moved and Vik seconded a motion to approve the June minutes. Motion carried.
2. ELCA World Hunger / Disaster Relief: We have completed our 2nd weekend Christmas in July. The monthly goal is $5000..
3. Grafton Food Pantry: On Tuesday, July 21st, Grafton will have an information and donation table set up at Huntley Square for the concert on the square event. Annette informed the team that Grafton is actively seeking volunteers for multiple areas. A thank you letter was received for recent SOTP donations.
4. WARP Corp / Steven's Home – Lunches for Homeless: WARP Corp will be handing out sleeping bags later in July for a camping event. The Lunch program has been modified and requires purchased food instead of food prepared by the team. Vik to request a synopsis of the program moving forward for evaluation by the team.
5. AARK Garden: Vik reports produce is now available. He will make it available to the congregation on Sundays. Donations are welcome.
6. Northern IL Food Bank: Potential dates for another 2026 session need to be evaluated.
7. Exodus: No news to report.
8. Habitat for Humanity: The ReStore volunteer opportunities are being revisited to clarify Wednesday and Thursday recurring needs. There is potential for Monday ad hoc sessions to be available for any interested SOTP members. Carl to report next month.
9. Turning Point: No news to report
10. LSSI: No news to report
11. FMSC: Thank you letter received for June donation. Next session in November to be a collaboration with Youth and Family Ministry
12. Missionary Support: No news to report
13. Joshua Project: No news to report
14. Community Crisis Center – Elgin: Team discussed options for running with the men's heavy winter coat and glove drive throughout the months of September and October. The consensus for this first year is to collect new/gently used items from the congregation. In a future meeting, we will evaluate the need to purchase additional items to supplement our donation. John and Carrie to review the form required for a table and box set up for receiving donations.
15. Budget: **$8,446.00** available in Local Missions. Annette advised that this equates to $1,689 in monthly donations that can be allocated during our August – December meetings.

New Business

1. Prayers of Joy and Concerns**:** Led by Rick.
2. Motion to Adjourn: Becky moved and Sandy seconded a motion to adjourn. Motion carried.

John Witt

Fellowship Team Minutes – July 13, 2026

Present: Roz & Jeff Eckhardt, Judy Below, Susan Blumer, Diane Mollis, Donna Kelly

Fellowship Team met to start plans for Annual Picnic. We went over any changes we needed to make from 2025 and assigned duties to members.

We adjourned with prayer.

Donna Kelly
Team Leader